



The Global Ocean Observing System
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GOOS

Regional Coordination Workshop

Introduction

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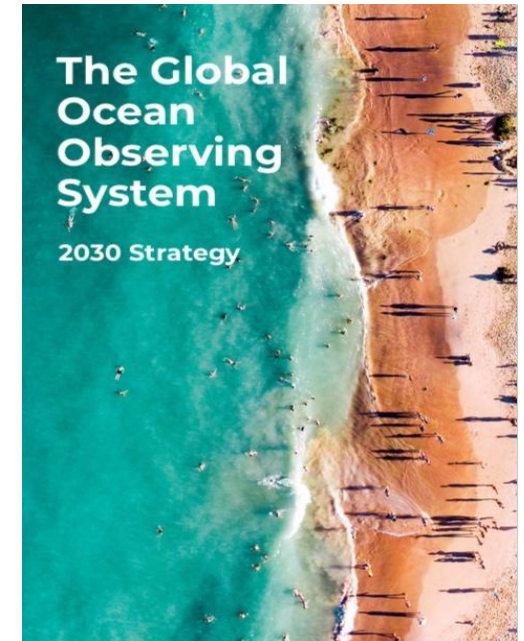
GOOS SC-10 Part 2



Key Drivers GOOS Regional Coordination Workshop

- GOOS evolution and expanding societal need
 - 2030 Strategy, Implementation Planning, last Regional Policy from 2013
- Mixed success with the current structure of GRAs
 - Some GRAs successful some not, not all regions supported
- Emergence of regional projects that are fulfilling coordination roles, what is their role in the system
- Regional systems that are doing great work, are connected to GOOS, but are not a part of GRAs

These issues have been raised at GOOS SC-9 and SC-10



Workshop is an opportunity for regional systems, regional projects and the GOOS SC to discuss the issues and identify pathways forward towards development of a thriving regional ecosystem, that supports the implementation of the GOOS Strategy

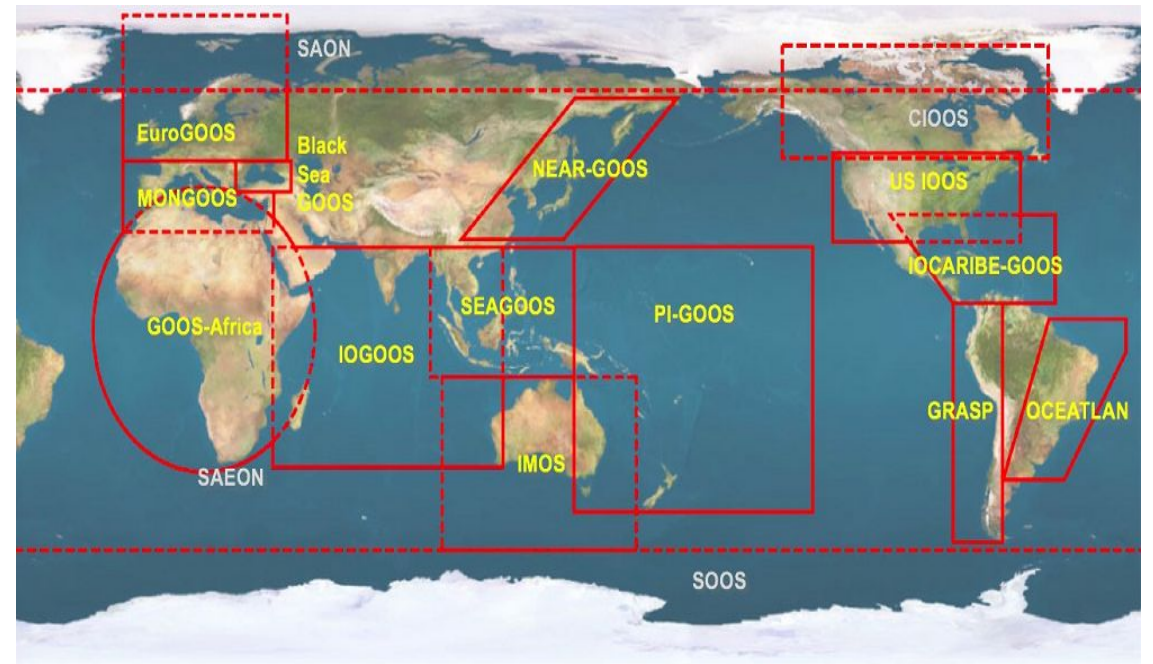
Brief History

- GRAs were formed in 1994 and 1996, and guided by the GOOS Regional Policy 2006
- Replaced by GOOS Regional Policy 2013, grew outdated after GOOS structure reform

GRAs should:

- *Uphold GOOS Principles and implement the FOO*
- *Serve as a platform for coordination and facilitation requirements, networks, data*
- *Promote/manage programmes on regional capacity*
- *Encourage development of regional and national systems*

Today there are 13 designated GRAs adopted by the IOC governing bodies: heterogeneous in structure and governance - large national systems to regional consortia that coordinate across different aspects of the mission outlined in 2013 Policy



The Global Ocean Observing System GOOS

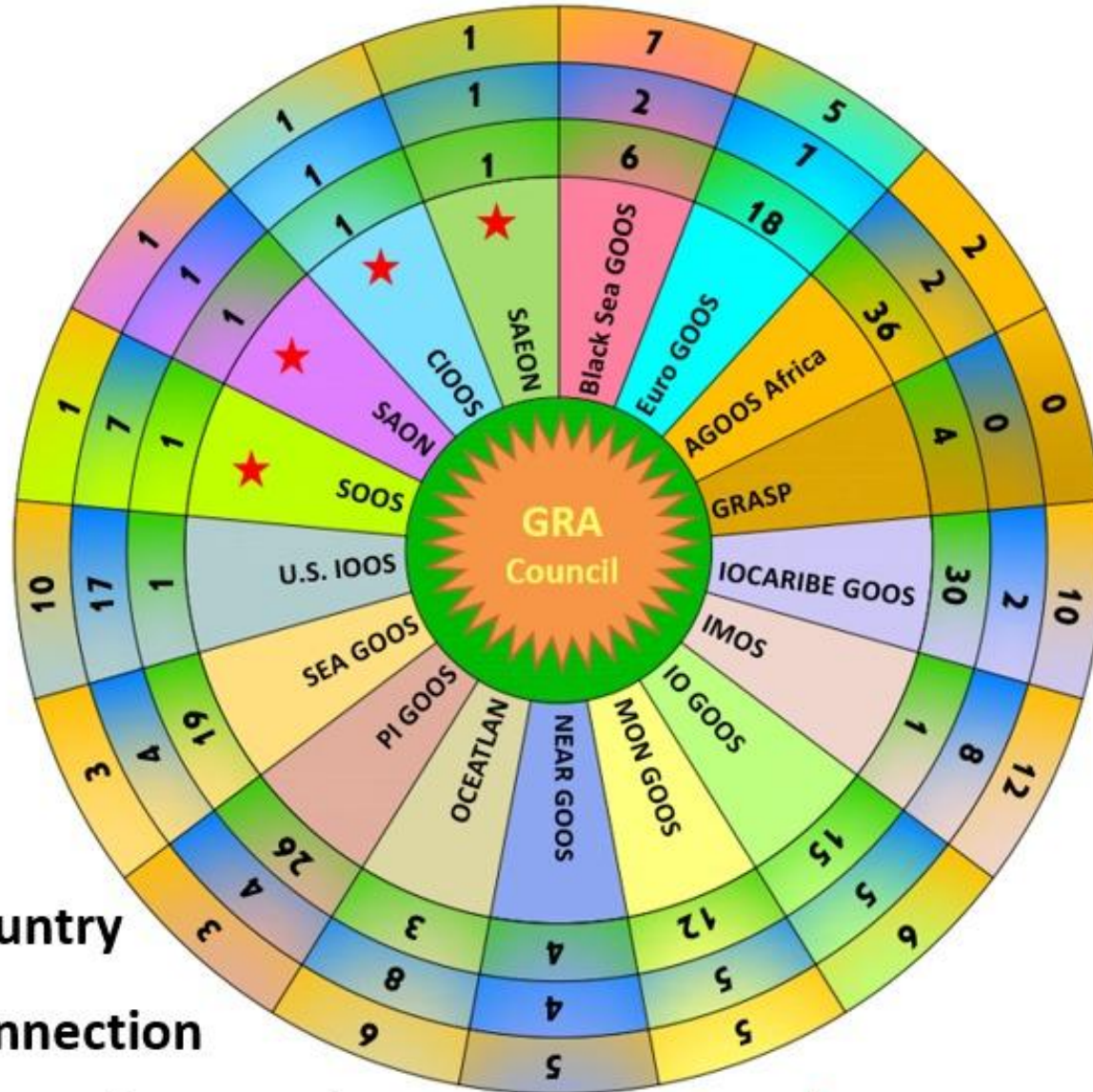
Regional Alliance Council

6 IOC sub-commissions or related intergovernmental structures.

4 memorandum of understanding.

1 international nonprofit association,

2 funded national government programs



1. IOCARIBE GOOS
2. NEARGOOS
3. SEA-GOOS
4. GRASP
5. PI GOOS
6. GOOSAfrica
7. MONGOOS
8. Black Sea GOOS
9. IOGOOS
10. OCEATLAN
11. EuroGOOS
12. IMOS
13. USIOOS

130 + Country

70 + Connection

70 + Project/Product/Societal

★ Emerging council

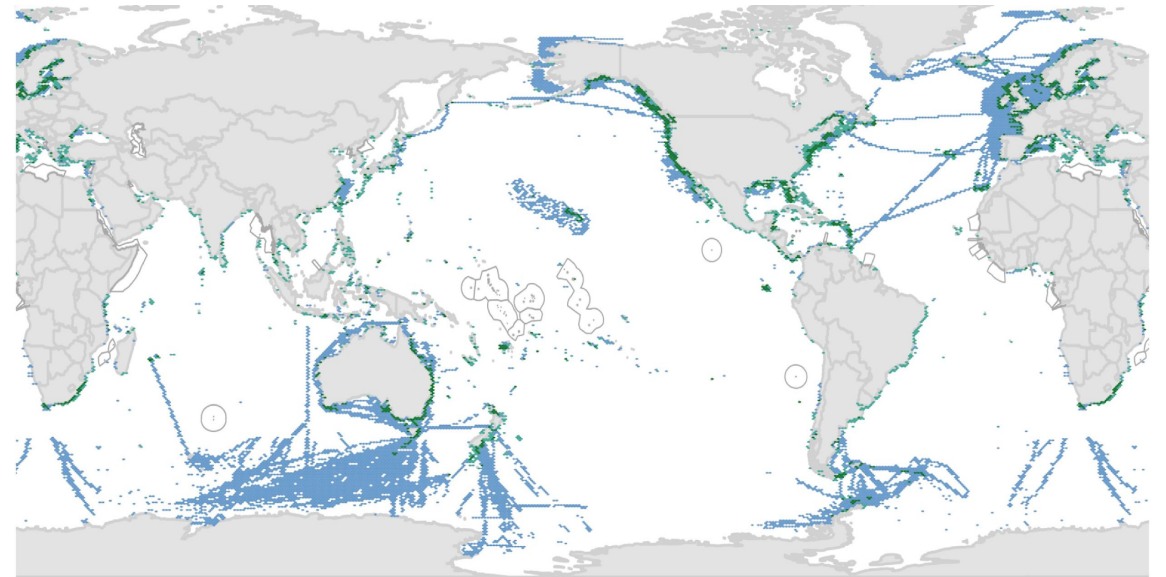


Moltmann et al. 2019 (OceanObs-19 Paper)

“A Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), Delivered Through Enhanced Collaboration Across Regions, Communities, and New Technologies” paper

2 key challenges:

1. Global coordination of additional observing networks - new EOVs for biogeochemistry (e.g., oxygen), and biology/ecosystems (e.g., zooplankton biomass and diversity, fish distribution)
2. Heterogeneity in the GRA governance and low levels of funding. Moltmann et al. (2019) argued that several GRAs are founded on governance agreements that do not easily allow the addition of new partners



GRA Forum IX - 2019

A 'soft-light' touch/approach on governance was recommended, with a key focus on improving communication and enhancing the value chain. With a charge to GRAs to explore opportunities of collaborating at national level through bilateral and multilateral agreements.

Questions raised at GRA-IX included:

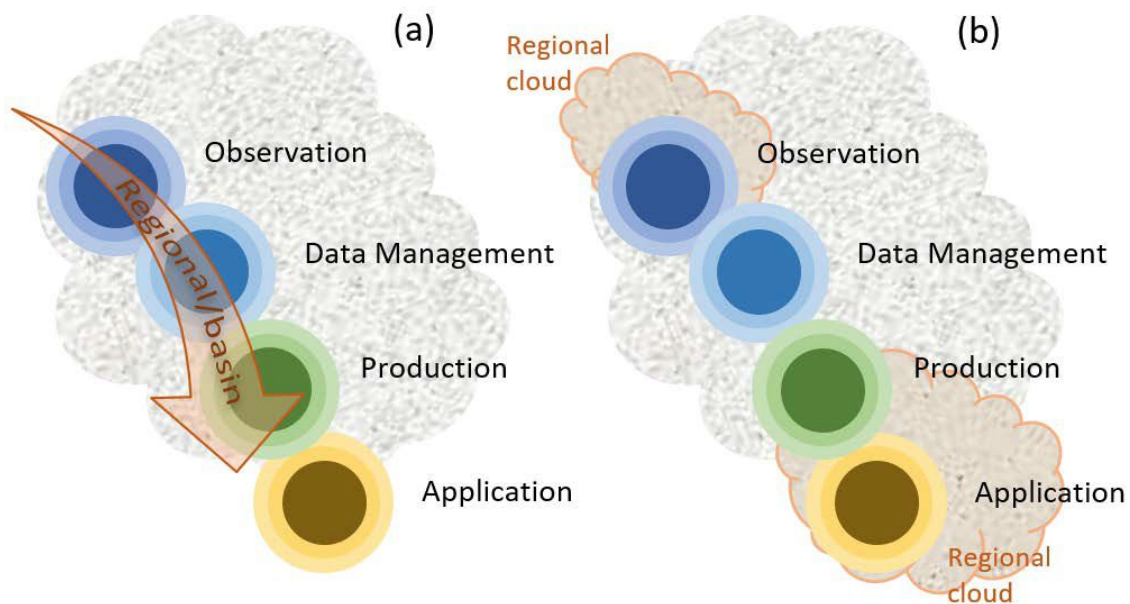
1. Can you build a GRA if there are no existing strong national programmes?
2. Should evaluation happen first at a national level?
3. Whether GRAs should be active in all areas of responsibility? There are implications for the performance and evaluation
4. Are there other regional actors that take on parts of the observing value chain further?



Smith Report (2020 – internal GOOS)

Report on the support structures for sustained ocean observing - stakeholder survey, structured interviews and correspondence

- Strong support for retaining regional structures but ROLE remains an outstanding issue
- **Recommendation:** Regional networks should be recognized as part of the support structure when and where they offered advantage and value for implementing the six pillars of the support strategy.



Identified 2 clear cases where advantage and value might prevail:

- where the region (or basin) brings unique phenomenological considerations into play, directly influencing design
- where a regional network was acting at and effective at the user/societal interface, enhancing engagement and uptake

The six pillars; (i) planning and design, (ii) coordination, (iii) tracking progress, impact, (iv) standards best practice, (v), resourcing, (vi) engagement, communication.

Input from Regional Projects

– what can GOOS do for projects / what can projects do for GOOS stakeholders

- Encourage connection from GOOS networks and national focal points - openly endorse the relevance of this regional work
- Gaps noted across the value chain, observing (incl. connection between networks), FAIR data, connection to users through thematic issues

- Encourage FAIR data, best practices, connection between modelling and observing (skilful assimilation).
- Use intergovernmental mechanism to support international cooperation in observing where this is lacking – role GRAs, IOC, WMO
- Focus on boundary regions and solving multiple issues along the value chain?

The logo for AtlantOS, featuring the word "AtlantOS" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The letter "O" is replaced by a stylized blue wave icon.The logo for TPOS 2020, featuring the letters "TPOS" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The letter "O" is replaced by a stylized orange and blue wave icon. To the right of "TPOS" is the year "2020" in a smaller, orange, sans-serif font. Below the main text is the full name "Tropical Pacific Observing System" in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font.

Tropical Pacific Observing System

GOOS National Focal Points (NFPs)

GOOS SC input

- strong coordination at national, regional and global
- Rejuvenate and revise the GOOS National Focal Point role

From GOOS SC-8

- small TT formed (GOOS SC members with dual NFP role) revised ToRs
- GOOS SC review in Sep – plan for rejuvenation – NFP forum 2022

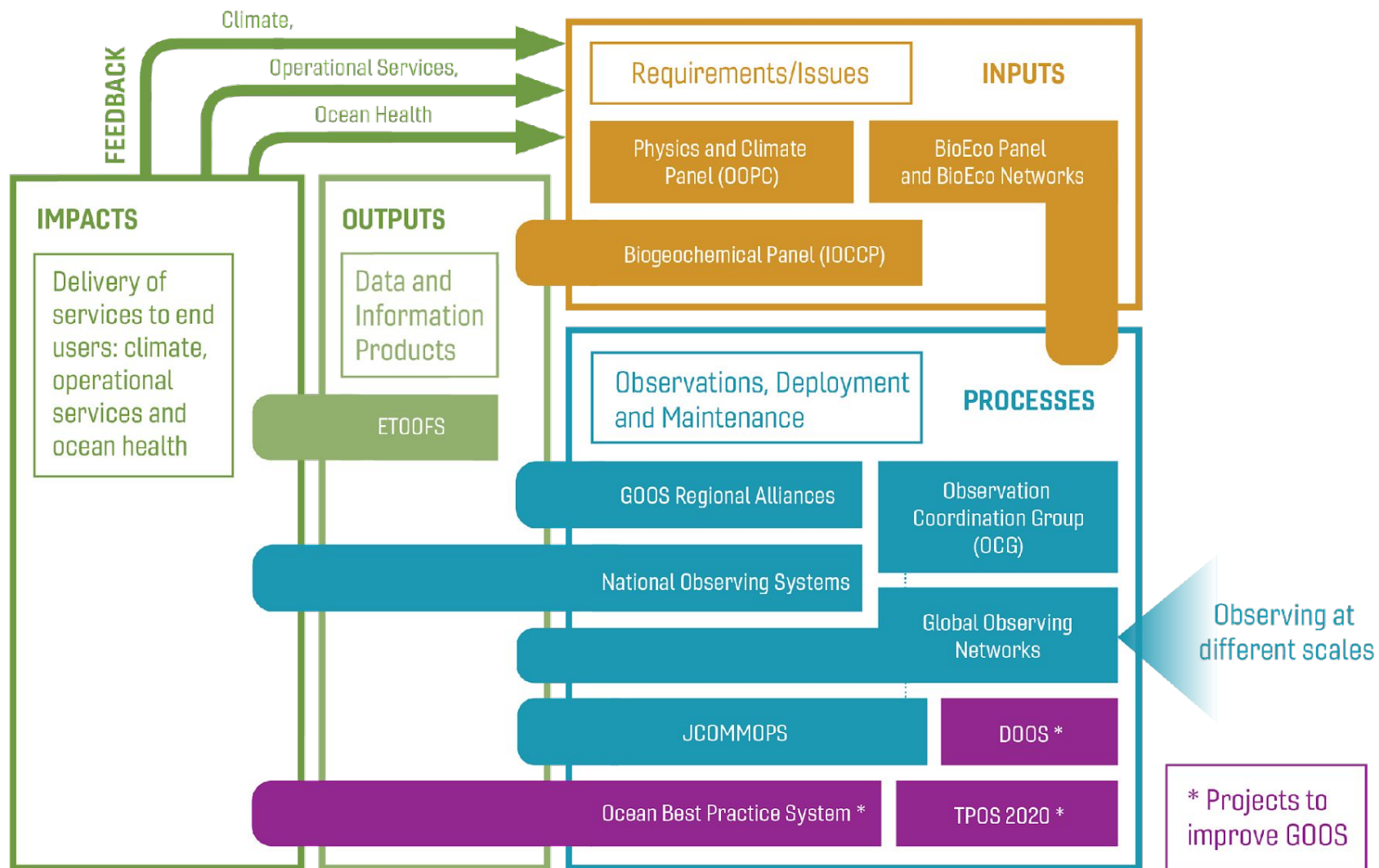
Revised GOOS NFP ToRs

- Recognise the role requires multiple connections – across observing, across value chain, regional and national entities like GRAs, IOC, WMO, UNEP
- Trend towards National Committees – have mandate from government, support multiple connections
- Role of advocacy, connection to GOOS initiatives maintained
- New emphasis on reporting and regional cooperation towards shared objectives

>> EOOS an early demonstrator of the approach – Operations Committee members are the GOOS NFP and sustained European observing infrastructure – European OceanOPS; BioEco networks



This Workshop is convened to discuss the evolution of the GOOS GRA concept, to consider what works, what does not, what and how should we evolve this regional concept to contribute more to the GOOS and to those involved at the regional level. could we gain from a more flexible and adaptable approach to what constitutes a GRA and the GRA framework?



Thank you

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