

The Global Ocean Observing System



# Regional needs and the GOOS Ocean Decade Programmes

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International Marine Science Conference on IOCARIBE-GOOS  
May 8th, 2023

# Ocean data creates opportunities



Climate and weather



Ocean health



Coastal communities

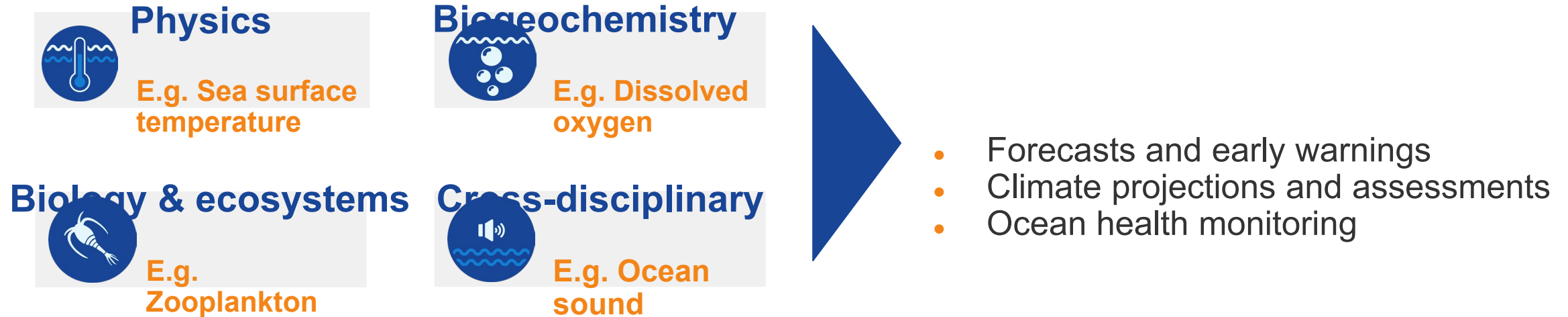


Enabling coastal communities to **evolve and flourish**

Supporting **blue economic growth**

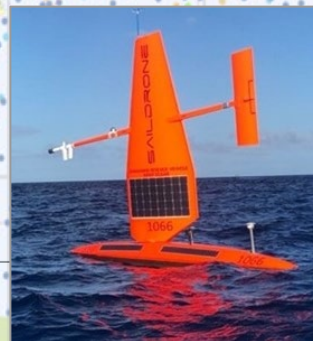
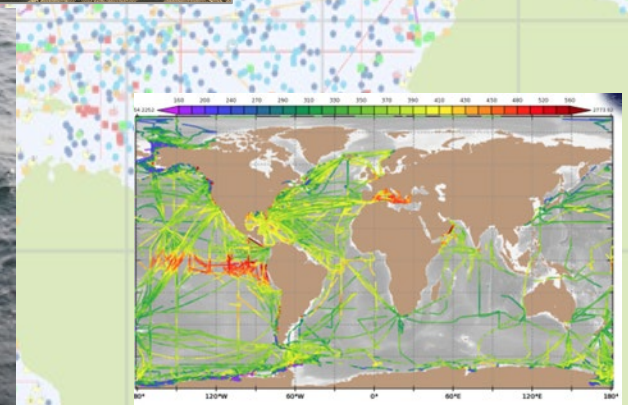
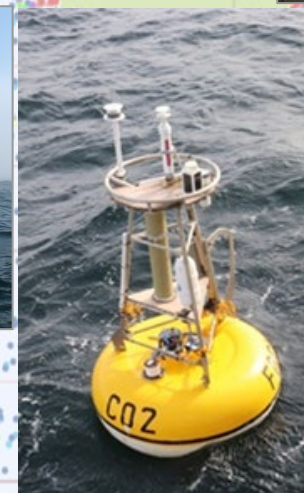
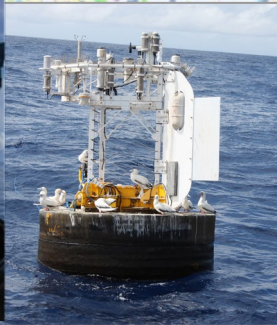
Underpinning **sustainable development**

# 34 Essential Ocean Variables (EOVs)



The majority of EOVs are also **Essential Climate Variables (ECVs)** defined by the Global Climate Observing System

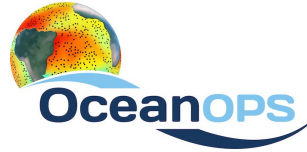
# Observing Networks



90°  
60°  
30°  
0°  
-30°  
-60°

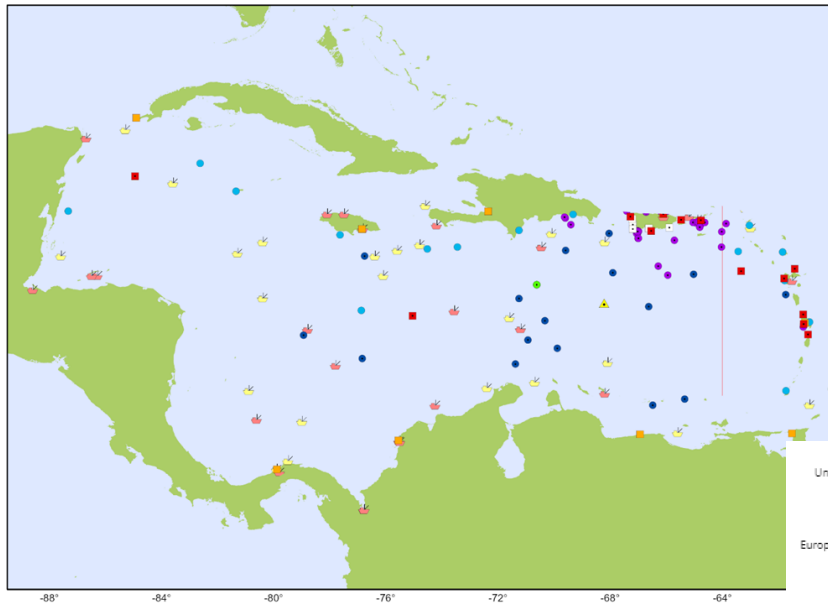
# Current global observing networks in the region

provided by



## Caribbean Sea observing system

In situ operational platforms monitored by OceanOPS



### Mobile systems

- Core floats - Argo (18)
- Biogeochemistry floats - Argo (2)
- Underwater gliders - OceanGliders (65)
- Drifting buoys - DBCP (15)

### Fixed systems

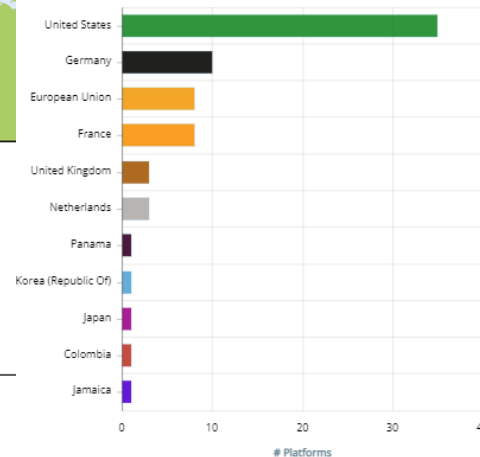
- ▲ Tsunameters - DBCP (1)
- Moored buoys - DBCP (13)
- Sea level gauges - GLOSS (9)
- High Frequency radars (5)

### Ship based measurements

- ▲ Automated weather stations - SOT/VOS (24)
- ▲ Manned weather stations - SOT/VOS (26)

### Reference lines and areas

- ↗ Repeat hydrography - GO-SHIP (1)



- Surface Drifters - good coverage
- Voluntary Ships (weather) - good coverage
- Argo floats (approx. 50%)
- 1 Glider mission active (East)
- Fixed systems good in East (Indies) low in West/South
- 1 GO-SHIP line - potential for more
- More GLOSS stations
- No XBT, HF Radar, AniBOS
- Many coastal systems are certainly missing >> **link metadata with OceanOPS**

May 2023



# Biological & ecological observations



- Many gaps - but perhaps there is more out there - connect up regional initiatives - 12 EOVs
- Only 7% of the ocean surface has an *identified* active BioEco monitoring program
- Some of the biggest gaps are in areas of high biodiversity and high human pressure

GOOS BioEco Portal (with OBIS/IODE) - [here](#)

**We face key challenges in  
expanding observations and  
enhancing fit for purpose of  
our system**

**Need a step change...**

To help achieve the Global Ocean Observing System 2030 Strategy and the Ocean Decade outcomes, GOOS has launched **3 integrated programmes** that will be foundational building blocks for the Ocean Decade.

- CO-DESIGN
- COASTAL OCEAN
- CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT



Ocean  
Observing  
Co-design

GOOS  
Integration

CoastPredict

Observing  
Together

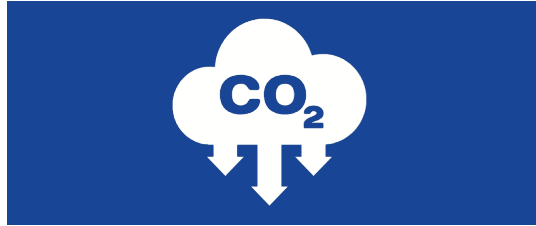


2021  
2030 United Nations Decade  
of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development



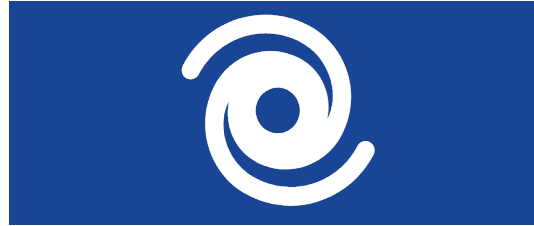
# Co-Design Exemplars

\*Each exemplar is at different levels of maturity



## The Ocean Carbon Cycle

Improving carbon data to inform targets and action



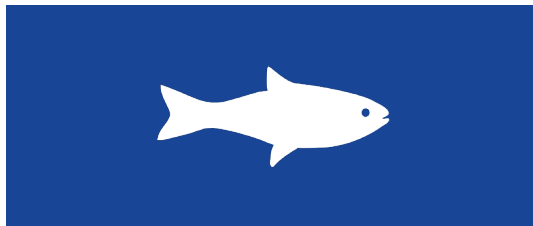
## Tropical Cyclones

Advancing tropical cyclone forecasting to save lives & property



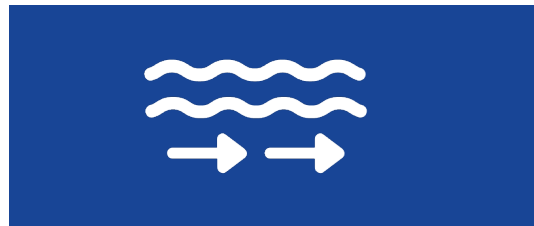
## Storm Surge

Improving predictions to minimise impact on vulnerable communities



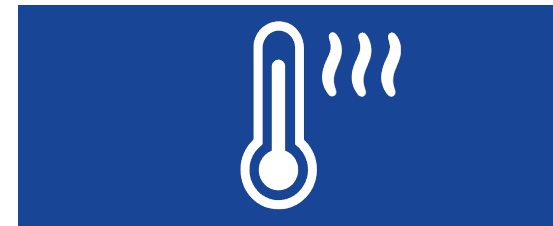
## Marine Life

Conserving marine biodiversity and supporting sustainable use of resources



## Boundary Currents

Understanding key systems that significantly influence productivity, weather and climate

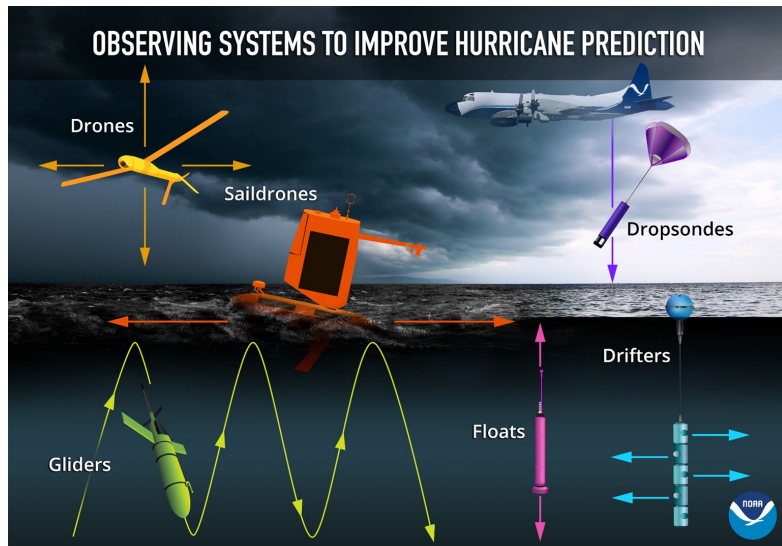


## Marine Heatwaves

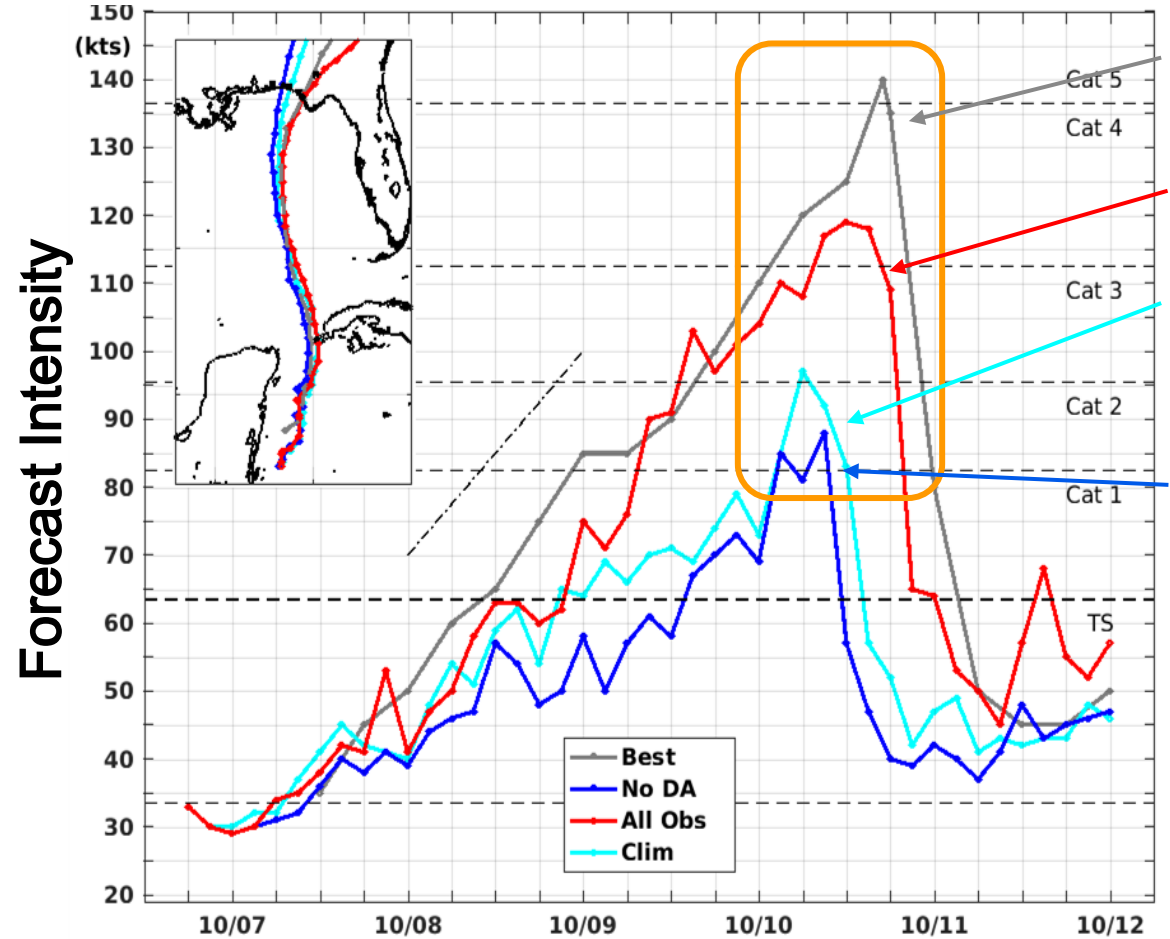
Monitoring and forecasting marine heatwaves for biodiversity and economies

# Tropical Cyclone/Hurricane Exemplar

- Ocean information directly impacts Hurricane Intensity
- NEED MORE OCEAN observations: but which ones most effective?
- Tropical Cyclone Exemplar is evaluating new ocean observing technologies



Source:  
NOAA/PMEL



Observed Intensity  
Assimilate Ocean Data  
Climatology  
Ignore Ocean Data

Le Henaff et al. 2021 | Hurricane Michael (2018)





**Pilot Areas**

Tropical Cyclones - 3

Currents - 2

Ocean Carbon - 1

Surveys - 10

Boundary

Storm

# Identify regional needs

- Blue economy:  
Coastal community resilience  
Wise tourism management  
Fisheries
- Biodiversity (30 x 30)  
Sustainable development / artisanal / local needs
- Tropical storm prediction
- Downscale climate prediction
- Sustainable ocean management - tourism, sargassum
- Sea level and inundation
- marine heatwaves
- Oil spills - other pollution
- Tsunami

*Defined priorities with national ocean observing initiatives and regional stakeholders*

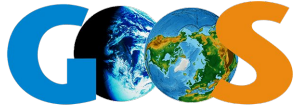


# IOCARIBE - GOOS

- **Develop Regional Strategy** for ocean observing and forecasting - based on needs, existing expertise and partners
  - map observing networks, BioEco communities, ocean forecasting capacity
  - link with regional governance structures that are important in the TAC region
  - services/access to data for users
  - encourage GOOS NFP
- Leverage opportunities for partnership and support with GRAs, Ocean Decade Programmes, joint ventures, WMO SOFF, blue/green funds, private sector







The Global Ocean Observing System

# Thank you

[goosocean.org](http://goosocean.org)



**unesco**  
Intergovernmental  
Oceanographic  
Commission



WORLD  
METEOROLOGICAL  
ORGANIZATION



**UN**  
environment  
programme

International  
Science Council

