



IOCARIBE Agenda for Discussions with the 16th OCG Meeting

Wednesday, April 9th, 9:00 -12:45 CEST

Resource Links

Current Documents: [IOCARIBE-GOOS Working Group ToR \(2024\)](#)

Background Documents:

- [Ocean Decade TAC Roadmap](#)
- [2002 IOCARIBE-GOOS Strategic Plan \(2002\)](#)
- [2023 IOCARIBE-GOOS Recommendation](#)
- [Tropical Americas & Caribbean - Ocean Observing Forecasting System \(Endorsed Decade Project\)](#)

Ocean Decade - Vision 2030 White Papers:

- [Sustainably Expand GOOS \(#7\) pg 17-19](#)
- [Create a Digital Representation of the Ocean \(#8\)](#)

Inventory from IOCARIBE-GOOS

- [2020 Institutions Inventory](#)

[Ocean Info Hub](#) - IOCARIBE Data online hub

Aims: To engage with the GOOS Observations Coordination Group (OCG) to strengthen the emerging IOCARIBE-GOOS (Global Ocean Observing System) Program, to explore the role of GOOS OCG on implementation, mobilization, and technical guidance, and to gather insights on specific questions to aid in the development of the IOCARIBE-GOOS Work Plan to support IOCARIBE-GOOS goals 2025+

Session 1: IOCARIBE-GOOS – Past, Present & Planning the Future

09:00 – 10:30

Aims: Introduce IOCARIBE-GOOS and its foundational efforts, ongoing partnerships, Decade actions, and regional initiatives, Discuss strategic direction, user needs, and priority-setting.

Agenda:

Presentations: [Slideshow](#)



1. **Welcome & Introduction to IOCARIBE-GOOS** (Lorna Inniss – 5 mins)
2. **Overview of IOCARIBE-GOOS** (35 mins)
 - a. History & Accomplishments – Doug/Edgard (5 mins)
 - b. Present Status & Strategy (TAC-OOFS) – Doug/Devin (10 mins)
 - c. Recent Partnerships & Decade Synergies:
 - i. Tropical Americas and Caribbean (TAC) Projects- (2 mins)
 - ii. Tropical Cyclones GOOS Co-Design Exemplar [SLIDES](#) - Scott Glenn & Cheyenne S – 8 mins)
 - iii. CoastPredict (UN Ocean Decade Programme)(5 minutes)
3. **Q & A** (10 mins)

Guided Discussion (45 mins):

1. What should the initial data management framework for TAC-OOFS look like? Does it exist or does it need to be created/duplicated in the region? Need to include obs, models, products, forecasts?
2. How would you recommend to utilize / expand / integrate existing (mostly national or subregional) observing networks?
3. How would you suggest prioritizing historical data vs. real-time, short vs. long term applications?
4. Are there observing solutions / approaches specific to SIDS and TAC countries? Do you have lessons learned from other similar regions
5. How can we improve understanding of the users of ocean observations and **provide evidence of their impact**, reinforcing the need to sustain these systems in the IOCARIBE/TAC region?
6. What should the initial data management framework for TAC-OOFS look like? Does it exist or does it need to be created/duplicated in the region? Need to include obs, models, products, forecasts

10:30 – 11:00 (Coffee Break)

Session 2: Observing Networks, System Mapping & Data Utilization – 11:00 – 12:00



Aims: Understand the current observing landscape across TAC. Identify network coverage, data use, and integration gaps. Align stakeholders around common goals and shared systems.

Interactive Mapping Session (45 mins):

Led by OceanOPS – printed and digital (Miro) system maps

- Map current activity: contacts, assets, data flows
- Identify gaps, missing partners

- Discuss:
 - What is the current OCG network observing system in the Caribbean? What's working and what needs support?
 - What are the short/long term goals of the OCG networks in the region - what is planned, what support is needed to make change?
 - How can we get a more complete view of what is the 'observing system now in the Caribbean and Tropical Americas? (e.g. Caribbean Institute for Meteorology And Hydrology not recognised in OceanOPS, Sea Level gauges not well represented)
 - How are the various OCG components/networks presently represented in the Tropical Americas and Caribbean? Contacts, active countries and observations? - What is missing, are there network plans or aspirations?
 - How can IOCARIBE facilitate OCG trans-boundary access mechanisms?

Group Discussion (15 mins)

Session 3: From Strategy to Action – Building the Collective System

– 12:00 – 12:45

Aims: Translate goals and observations into a concrete, phased action plan with stakeholder buy-in.

Presentation : The Case for a Collective System (Lorna)

- Assessing how to determine feasible steps that will lead to maximum impact
 - Reporting to MEAs (Multilateral Environmental Agreements)



- Hazard forecasts & coastal resilience

- Leverage existing capacity: CARICOOS, CIMH, DIMAR, OBIS, Ocean Info Hub, etc.

Strategic Discussion- OCG Wisdom

- What are the main gaps we should tackle first that would maximize impact?
- How do we encourage Member State participation and investment?

Prioritizing and Recommendations: Based on discussions, what should IOCARIBE-GOOS do next (Add more ACTION ITEMS- Interactive)?:

- **Topic: Observations & Models:**

- Prioritize based on alignment with national/regional needs
- Inventory existing resources (CIMH, CARICOOS, Triton/Remo)

- **Topic: Data, Products, Interoperability:**

- Are there specific data sharing & best practices for SIDS, TAC, or that OCG might recommend for the TAC region? (ie. Capacity development in data, information management, OBPS)
- Data recovery: Are there legacy surveys or databases the TAC region should know about?

- **Funding & Alignment:**

- Connect to major funding & programme opportunities: (EW4All, SOFF, CREWS, OceanPredict, CoastPredict, DCC-CR Coastal Resilience, ...)
- Integrate with Decade programmes/projects (e.g., Ocean Decade Tsunami Programme, iCHEWS- affiliate project, links GOOS to CoastPredict)
- What other extra-regional partners would have alignment with TAC regional interests? How to engage?



- **Next Steps:**

- Take recommendations from the OCG session back to the IOCARIBE-GOOS Working Group to draft the Work Plan
- Conduct an in-depth stakeholder capacity and user needs survey with the member states and institutions
 - Aims: to update the existing 'Baseline Assessment Information and Inventory on the IOCARIBE Observing and Forecasting Capacities'
 - Define the priorities, needs, and capacities as defined by the member states and group of experts during this process
- Utilize Global Coast survey to gather additional insights on priorities