



Global Ocean Observing System



**unesco**  
Intergovernmental  
Oceanographic  
Commission



WORLD  
METEOROLOGICAL  
ORGANIZATION



United Nations  
Environment Programme



International  
Science Council

# Task Teams

25th September 2025

# Task team - Projects

## Progress

- New terms of reference prepared
- Do the GOOS SC agree to the TOR?

## Questions /Next steps:

How to handle current projects?

- Have all “old” projects been officially notified - do they need to be? (Has the website been updated accordingly?)
- Do the current projects meet endorsement process criteria?
- How do we discuss outcomes and next steps with project focal points.

How to handle future projects?

- Regular announcement? / Identification process? / (Decade-style?)

Current Projects:

- **Tropical Pacific Observing System (TPOS)**
- **Deep Ocean Observing Strategy (DOOS)**
- **Integrated Marine Debris Observing System (IMDOS)**

Projects that are no longer running:

- AtlantOS

Previous GOOS projects that no longer qualify as GOOS Projects:

- OBPS is an IOC-wide system,
- SmartCables is an emerging network

# Task team - ETOOFS

Members

**ETOOFS:** Pierre Bahurel (Chair), Enrique Alvarez (Vice-Chair), Maria Hood

**GOOS SC:** David Legler, Patrick Heimbach, Caroline Cusack, Veronique Garcon, Jerome Aucan

**WMO representatives:** Albert Fischer, Yuki Honda (Note: David Richardson and David Wyatt were invited by Yuki to join the Task Team meetings)

**WCRP ESMO:** Alison Cobb (Invited by Veronique representing modelling community)

**Secretariat:** Jing Li

## Progress:

- New terms of reference prepared ([link](#))
- Any comments from SC to the ETOOFS TOR?

## Next steps:

- Prepare **overview, membership and governance and operating principles** sections to be included in the ToR (by 31 Oct 2025)
- Seek whole ToR for SC endorsement in Q4 online meeting (late Nov/early Dec 2025)
- Call for new members and seek for approval by SC (Dec 2025 - Jan 2026)
- ETOOFS kick-off meeting to develop ETOOFS Workplan 2026-2027 (Feb 2026)
- Seek GOOS SC's approval for the ETOOFS workplan (March 2026)

# Task team - ETOOFS

The Expert Team on Operational Ocean Forecasting System (ETOOFS) shall:

1. Contribute to the joint governance for the development and integration of the observing system (*in-situ* and satellite), data management, and ocean forecasting systems.
2. Contribute to the Global Ocean Observing System 2030 Strategy and its implementation, ensuring that ocean observing and forecasting systems are connected towards the delivery of services, particularly by providing advice and feedback to observing systems to identify successes and address gaps.
3. Jointly develop coordinated recommendations on technical materials, regulations, and nominative materials for IOC and WMO for ocean forecasting systems, including shared tools, standards, and recommended practices, through collaborative efforts.
4. Develop a portfolio of endorsed documentation (including an updated version of the ETOOFS guide) to support the implementation of OOFs systems and frameworks tailored to the users' needs through appropriate service delivery mechanisms.
5. Provide recommendations on tools, standards, recommended practices, and Operational Readiness Levels (ORLs) to promote interoperability and other critical advances of ocean forecasting.
6. Provide guidance on capacity building related to OOFs and contribute to outreach activities, including training.
7. Contribute to the periodic provision of an overview of active operational ocean forecasting systems.
8. Collaborate with partner programmes of IOC and WMO to ensure continuous improvement of operational ocean forecasting.
9. Provide periodic updates to the Global Ocean Observing System Steering Committee (GOOS SC) on the OOFs global status and advancements, including recommendations for its future development.

# Task team - NFP Guidelines

## Task Team Members:

Matias Sifon, Alvaro Scardilli and Caroline Cusack, Champika Gallage (WMO), Jing Li (Secretariat)

## Progress: [\(link\)](#)

- Identified the questions and possible answers to be addressed in the NFP Implementation Guidelines
- Drafted outlines and Annexes (Annex 1: List of relevant NPFs; Annex 2: List of relevant GOOS Resources)
- Prepared an analysis of other national reports related to GOOS

## Questions to be addressed in the *Guidelines*:

1. How could NFP support **strengthening national coordination** for ocean observations?
2. How could national ocean observation **better connect and contribute to GOOS**?
3. What should **NFPs report** to GOOS?
4. How could NFPs better **advocate/publicize/promote GOOS** at national level?
5. How does the **GOOS Secretariat support** NFPs to fulfill their roles?

## Questions to SC:

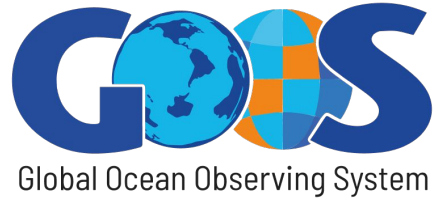
**Q1.** Is an annual report required from each NFP? Report to whom? What are the NFPs currently reporting to in their country? Should IOC-UNESCO country reps be involved in developing reporting template?

**Q2.** Would a welcome pack for new joiners be useful to the NFPs?

**Q3.** What kind of activities are expected to be accomplished by the NFPs? What does SC imagine that NFP could do, despite the Terms of Reference? Considering that the ToR could be ambitious for beginners or new NFPs.

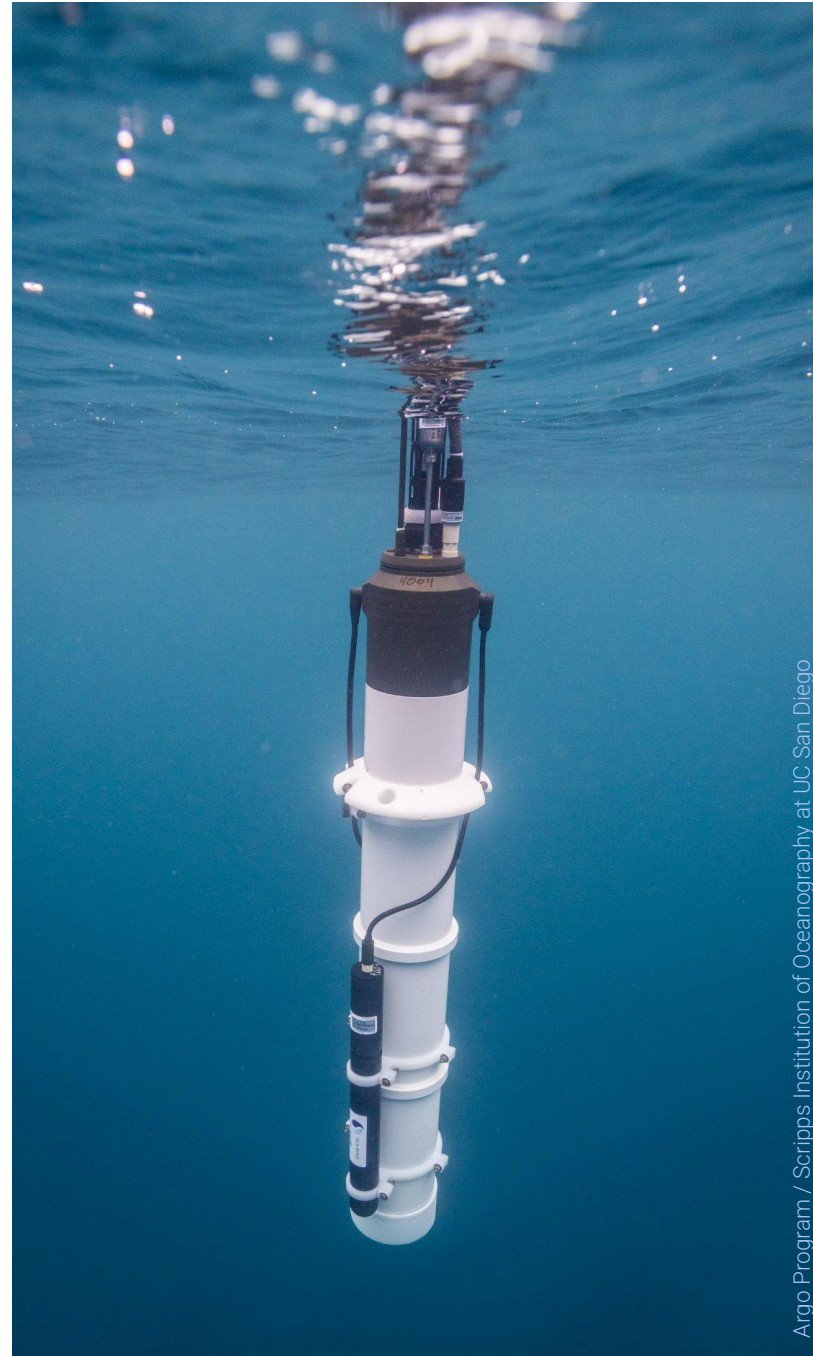
## Next steps:

1. Receiving the feedback from GOOS SC (25 September 2025)
2. Further refine the outline and share it to NFP for comments (10 October 2025).
3. Present the progress on NFP implementation Guidelines development and solicit comments and inputs from NFP during the 3<sup>rd</sup> NFP Forum (27 October 2025)
4. Prepare the draft text of the Guidelines (by 31 December 2025)
5. Seek for GOOS SC approval (March 2026)



# Thank you

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



# Draft Outlines

1. Introduction
  - 1.1. GOOS
  - 1.2. GOOS National Focal Points
  - 1.3. Purpose of the Guidelines
2. Implementation Guidelines for GOOS NFP
  - 2.1. Facilitate National Coordination
    - a. Connect to other NFPs (See Annex 1)
    - b. Establish a GOOS National Committee (hub)
    - c. Support to develop National Ocean Observing System
    - d. Link stakeholders across the ocean observing value chain
  - 2.2. Support National Connection and Contribution to GOOS
    - a. Promote Data Flow to GOOS
    - b. Advocate for national investment to Ocean Observing System
    - c. Promote the engagement and contribution to OCG and Networks
    - d. Connect to other GOOS Components
  - 2.3. Promote the work of GOOS at national level
    - a. Share relevant GOOS activities and resources
    - b. Advocate for GOOS and Ocean observing needs at national level
    - c. Develop Use Cases
    - d. Promote GOOS standards and best practices
  - 2.4. NFP Reporting (To be further defined)
    - a. National needs and gaps
    - b. National plan and implementation status
    - c. National investment (Amount, funding mechanisms, sustainability, etc.)
    - d. National responses to GOOS priorities
    - e. National data centre and data policy
    - f. How many EOVs are measured in the country?
    - g. ....
3. Resources
  - 3.1. Support from GOOS Secretariat
  - 3.2. Relevant GOOS Resources (Annex 2)

# Annexes

## Annex 1: List of NFPs or national committees of relevant networks and partners

1. IOC National Focal Point ([link](#))
2. WMO Permanent Representative ([link](#))
3. UNEP National Focal Point ([link](#))
4. National UN Ocean Decade Committee ([link](#))
5. National Argo Committee
6. NFPs for Data Buoy Coordination Panel (DBCP) ([link](#))
7. NFPs for Ship Observation Team (SOT) ([link](#))
  - Automated Shipboard Aerological Programme (ASAP) ([link](#))
  - Voluntary Observing Ships (VOS) ([link](#))
  - Ship of Opportunity Programme (SOOP) ([link](#))
8. NFPs for Global Sea Level Observing Network (GLOSS) ([link](#))
9. National representatives for IODE
  - [Oceanographic Data Management](#)
  - [Marine Information Management](#)
10. GCOS Focal Point ([link](#))
11. Tsunami Warning Focal Points (TWFPs) ([link](#))
12. Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

## Annex 2: GOOS Resources Directory

Note: This is a living document and will be subject to periodic review and updates as necessary.

1. GOOS Strategic documents
  - GOOS 2030 Strategy ([link](#))
  - A Roadmap for the Implementation of the GOOS 2030 Strategy ([link](#))
  - Framework of Ocean Observing ([FOO](#)) & FOO 2.0 System Report ([link](#))
2. NFPs related documents
  - Terms of References ([link](#))
  - List of GOOS NFPs ([link](#))
  - NFP Nomination Form ([link](#))
  - NFP Implementation Guidelines (under development)
  - NFP Reporting Template (under development)
3. Resources from GOOS relevant components
  - Essential Ocean Variables ([EOV](#))
    - EOV Specification Sheets ([link](#))
    - Guide on how to use EOV Specification Sheets ([link](#))
    - EOV-based Monitoring Tool (e.g. [GOOS BioEco Metadata Portal](#))
  - OCG and networks
    - Network Specification Sheets

[Argo](#) | DBCP ([Global Drifter Array](#) | [National/Coastal Moored Buoy Networks](#)) | SOT ([ASAP](#) | [VOS](#) | [SOOP](#)) | [GLOSS](#) | [AniBOS](#) | [GO-SHIP](#) | [OceanSITES](#) | [HF Radar](#) | [Ocean Gliders](#) | Tsunami Buoys

  - OCG Cross-network Data Implementation Strategy ([link](#))
  - Network national reports (2025): [Argo](#) | [DBCP](#) (2024) | [SOT](#) | [GLOSS](#) (multi-year)
- OceanOPS
  - OceanOPS interactive map: [link](#)
    - Tutorial – Selecting Metadata ([link](#))
    - Tutorial – Registration Wizard ([link](#))
    - Tutorial – CSV Upload ([link](#))
  - Metadata Passport (under development)
- Use Cases ([link](#))
4. Communication resources
  - GOOS Logo ([link](#))
  - GOOS Brand Guidelines ([link](#))
  - GOOS Messaging Guide (under development)
  - Ocean Observing System Report Card ([link](#))
  - GOOS Webinars ([link](#))
  - NFP LinkedIn Group ([link](#))
  - NFP Slide decks (under development)

# Analysis of other National Reports

## Common Information Asked Across Templates

1. Contact & institutional details
2. Current status of observing system
3. Planned activities
4. Technical developments & upgrades
5. Data management & sharing
6. Challenges and risks
7. Use & applications of data
8. Contributions to global agendas
9. Outreach, training, and publications

## Unique Information Asked

Network	Unique Info Asked
<b>Argo</b>	Float failures/lifetimes, DAC/DMQC progress, decoding issues, CTD reference data, RBR procurement, AST-level issues, outreach.
<b>SOT</b>	Fleet counts (VOS/SOOP/ASAP), PMO networks (ports, services, training), comms methods, data formats, OceanOPS cross-check.
<b>DBCP</b>	Buoy vandalism annex, buoy lifetimes, eco-buoys, IoT comms, new parameters, explicit EW4All contributions.
<b>GLOSS</b>	Gauge technology, GPS technology in the network, less strict format
<b>NODC/ADU</b>	National data policies (IOC, ISO, QMF), staff & budget trends, services/products (URLs), user categories & geography, contribution to IODE (time, funding, secondments).