

# Ocean Observations for societal benefit



## Global Ocean Observing System



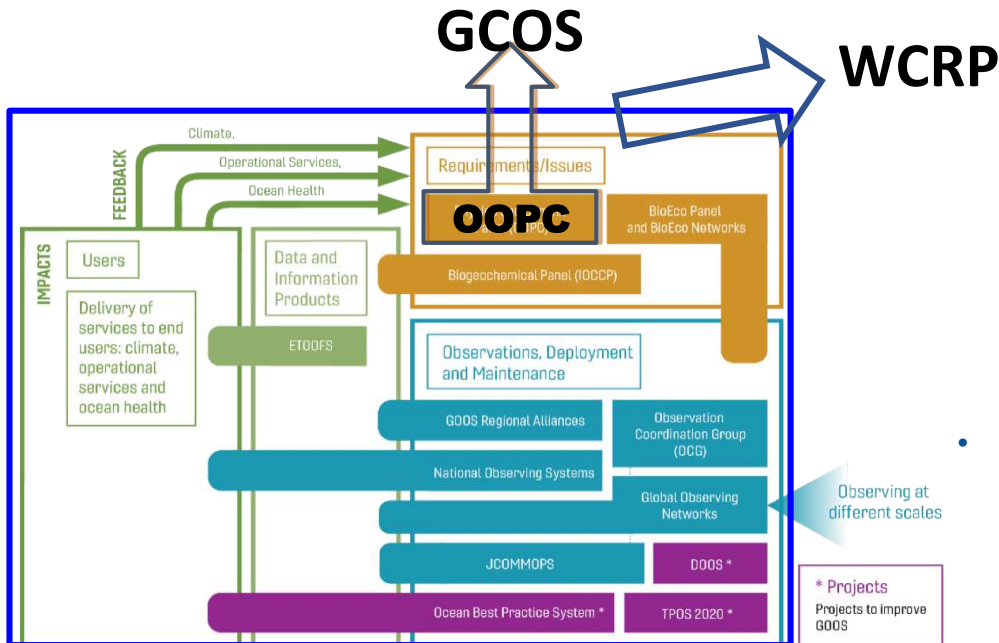
Services

Ocean Health

- the Ocean component of **GCOS** (*GOOS's cross-panel climate interface with GCOS*)
- the physical variables for **GOOS**,
- while defining sustained ocean observing requirements for **WCRP**  
Support the value chain “observation/data – science/knowledge –service/policy”

# A GOOS Expert Panel

- Conduit into all of GOOS, with structures covering parallel work in requirements for biogeochemistry and bioeco observations
- Requires wide consultation and proper planning



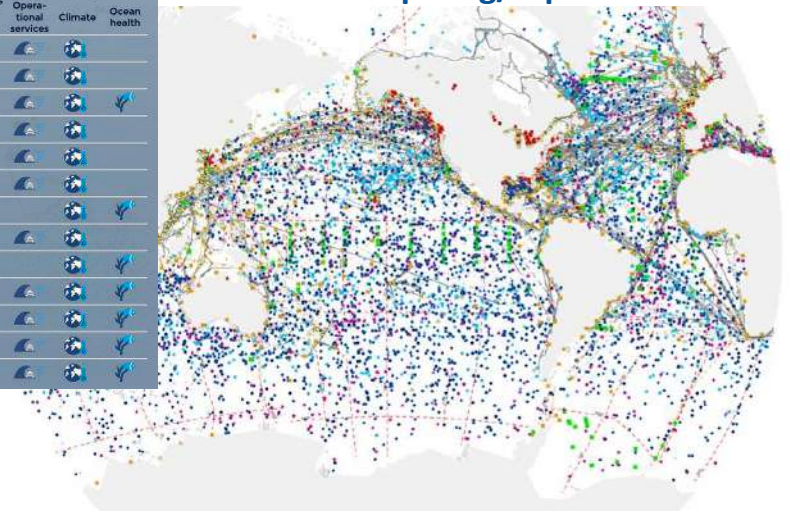
GOOS Structure

Integrating the Ocean Observing

## 1. OceanOPS network status summary versus EOVs/ECVs

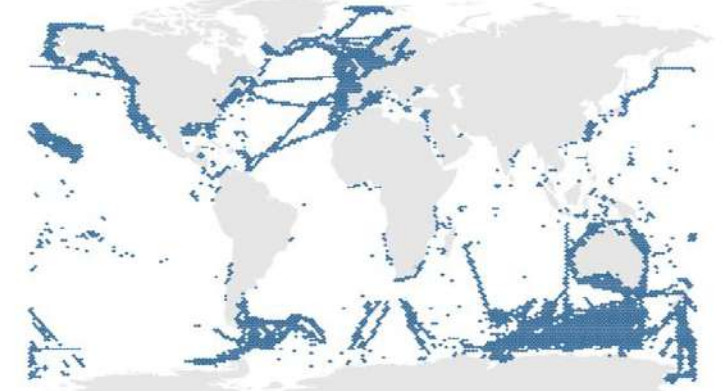
GOOS in situ networks <sup>1</sup>	Implementation Status <sup>2</sup>	Data & metadata			Best practices <sup>4</sup>	GOOS delivery areas <sup>7</sup>	
		Real time <sup>3</sup>	Archived high quality <sup>5</sup>	Meta-data <sup>6</sup>		Operational services	Climate
Ship based meteorological measurements - SOT/MS	★★	★★	★★★	★★★	★★	☁️	🌊
Ship based aerological measurements - SOT/ASAP	★★	★★	★★★	★★★	★★	☁️	🌊
Ship based oceanographic measurements - SOT/SOOP	★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	☁️	🌊
Sea level gauges - GLOSS	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	☁️	🌊
Drifting and polar buoys - DBCP	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	☁️	🌊
Moored buoys - DBCP	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	☁️	🌊
Interdisciplinary moorings - OceanSITES	★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	☁️	🌊
Profiling floats - Argo	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	☁️	🌊
Repeated transects - GO-SHIP	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	☁️	🌊
OceanGliders	Emerging	★★	★★	★★	★★	☁️	🌊
HF radars	Emerging	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	☁️	🌊
Biogeochemistry & Deep floats - Argo	Emerging	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	☁️	🌊
Animal borne ocean sensors - AnIBOS	Emerging	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	☁️	🌊

[www.ocean-ops.org/reportcard2020](http://www.ocean-ops.org/reportcard2020)



## 2. First biological “sustained” ocean observations assessment

- Biological observations - subsumed into a small number of ECVs that are important for capturing the impact of climate on the ocean;



- Sustained obs cover only 7% of surface of the ocean; only 1/3 of those are freely and openly shared;

Satterthwaite et al., in press, 2020

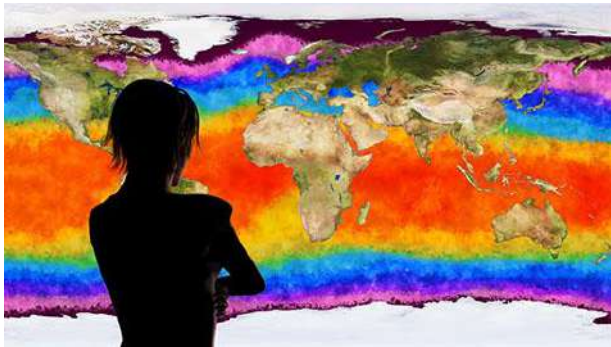
# GOOS & the UN Ocean Decade



Ocean Observing Co-Design, CoastPredict and Observing Together are the first programmes of many that will actively drive the Ocean Decade to “Ensure a sustainable ocean observing system across all ocean basins that delivers accessible, timely, and actionable data and information to all users.”



## At the heart of the Ocean Decade



**GOOS** | **Ocean Observing Co-Design**  
by The Global Ocean Observing System

Creating the partnerships, process, and infrastructure to evolve ocean observing, co-designed with key stakeholders, and delivering the data we need for the future we want.

**GOOS** | **CoastPredict**  
with The Global Ocean Observing System

Revolutionising Global Coastal Ocean observing and forecasting, co-designing the needed infrastructure and offering open and free access to coastal information.

**GOOS** | **Observing Together**  
by The Global Ocean Observing System

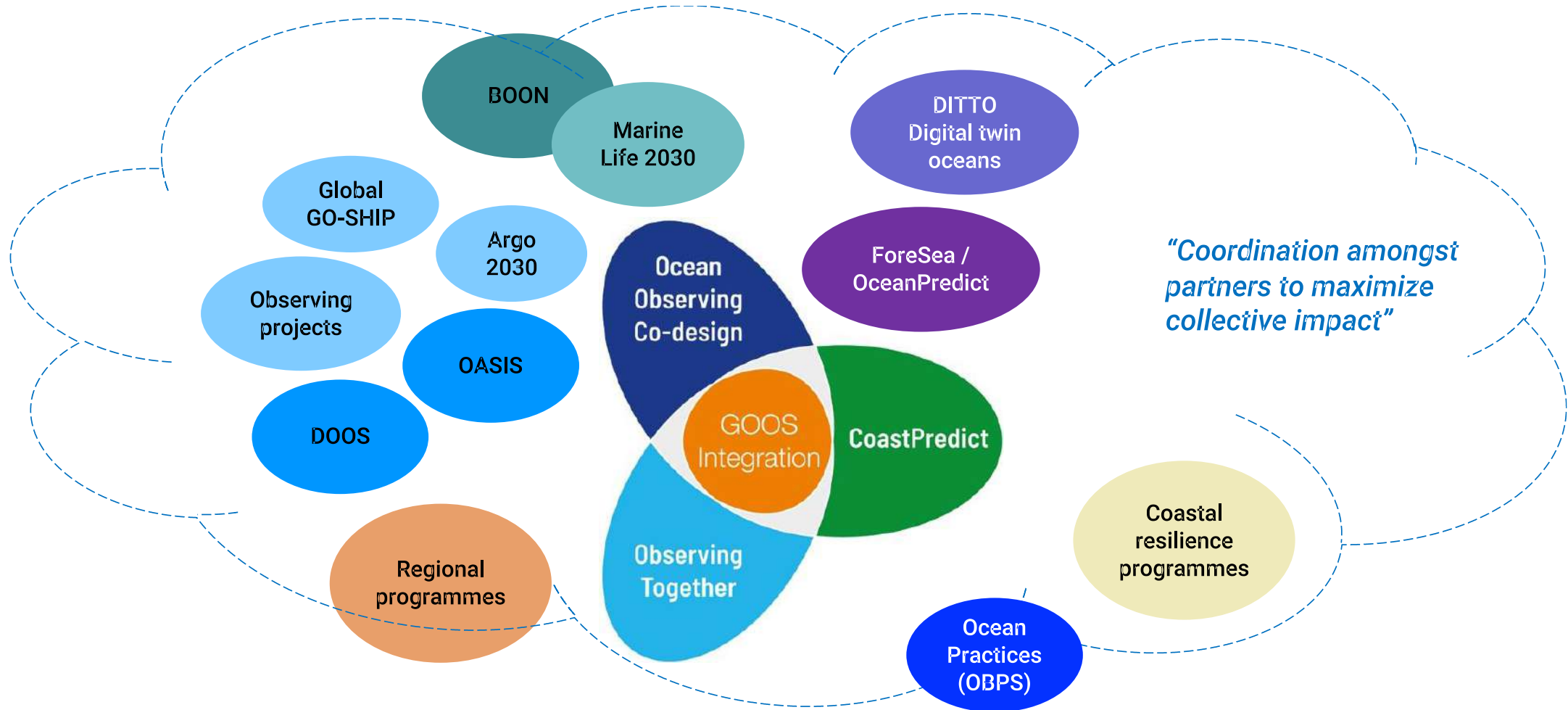
Transforming ocean data access and availability by connecting ocean observers and the communities they serve, going further to make every observation count.

# GOOS & the UN Ocean Decade



At the heart of  
the Ocean Decade

The planning process has already deepened partnerships with other organizations and endorsed Ocean Decade Programmes.





# Ocean Observing Co-Design

by The Global Ocean Observing System

## Transforming our ocean observing system assessment and design process

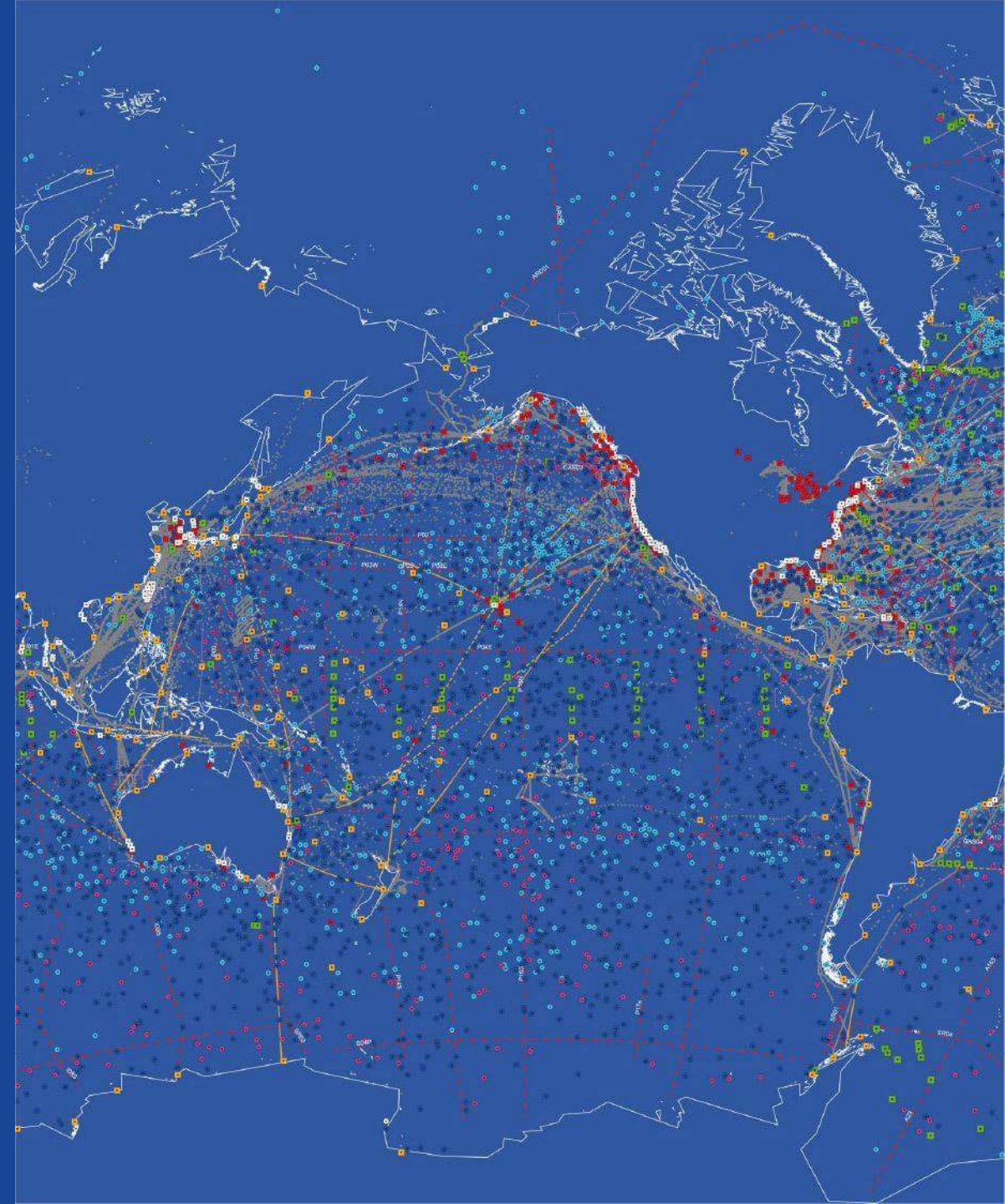
Supporting the Decade of Ocean Science

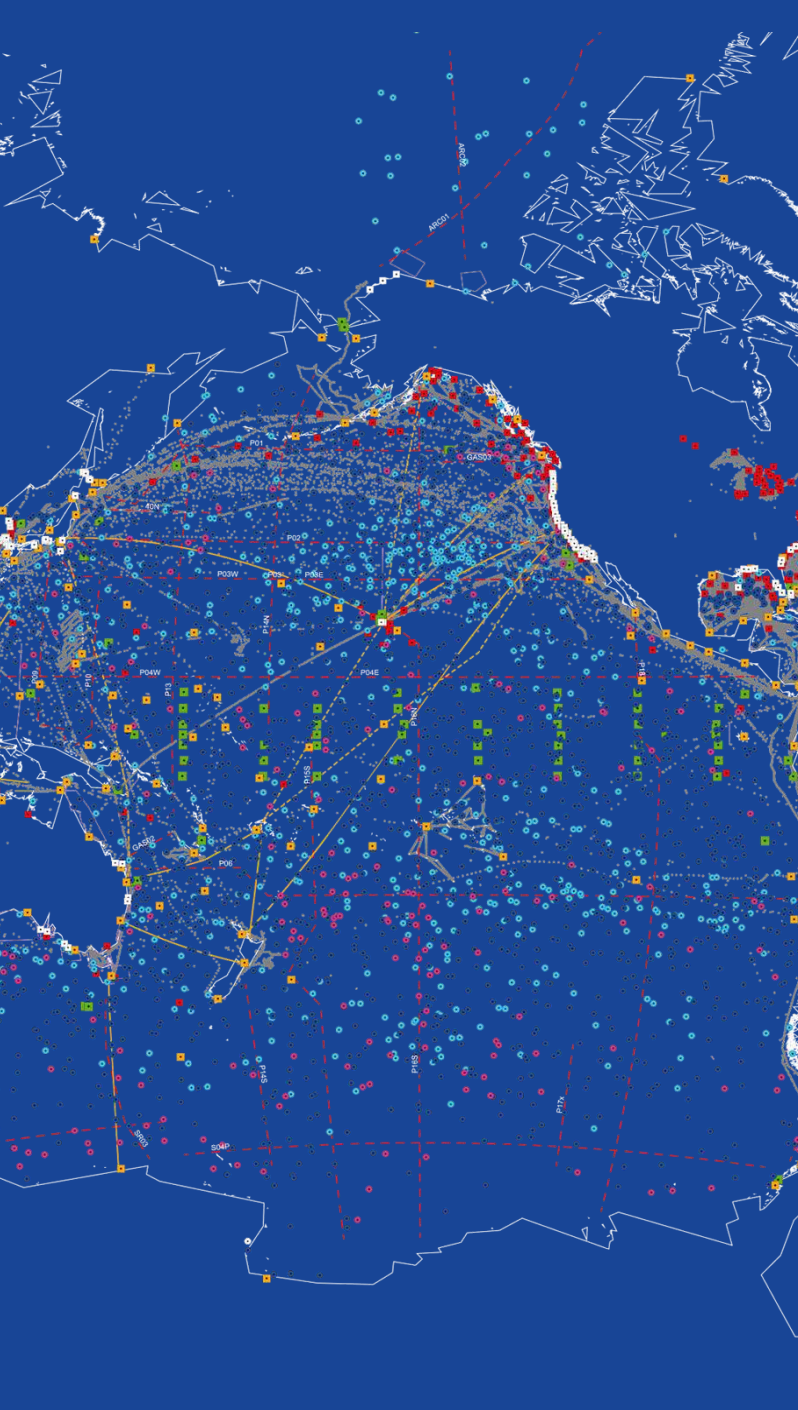
for Sustainable Development



2021 United Nations Decade  
of Ocean Science  
2030 for Sustainable Development

This programme is endorsed by the UN Decade of Ocean Science





## Aims

1. Develop a more user-focused co-design process, involving existing efforts and new technologies, and modelling, forecast and service communities
2. Establish international capacity and modular infrastructure to co-design and regularly evaluate the observing system at different scales
3. Develop system diagnostics, tools and reporting capability to better assess fitness-for-purpose

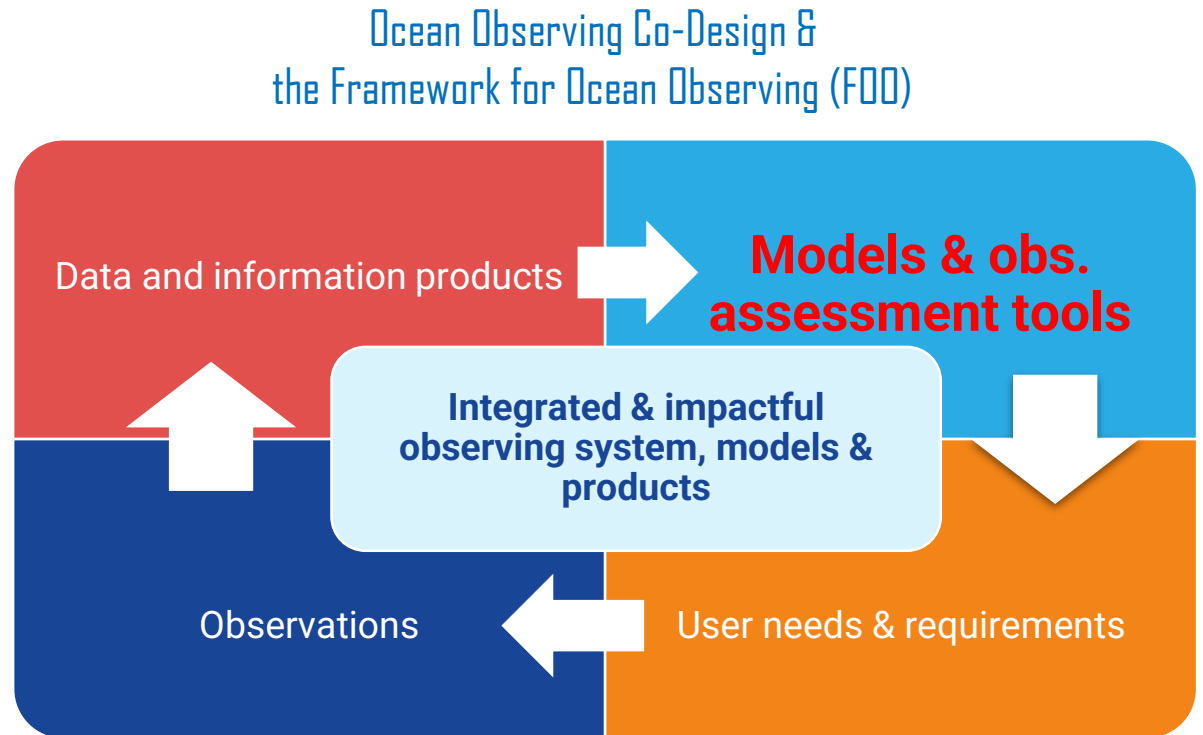
## — OUTCOME

Ocean Observing Co-Design will develop a more **user-focused co-design process** to create a truly **integrated, responsive ocean observing system**.

➔ **System diagnostics, tools and reporting capacity to better assess fitness-for-purpose based on user needs**

This will involve:

- Co-design with **end-users/stakeholders**
- Integrating with the **modelling, forecast, and services communities**
- Building upon **existing efforts & lessons learnt**



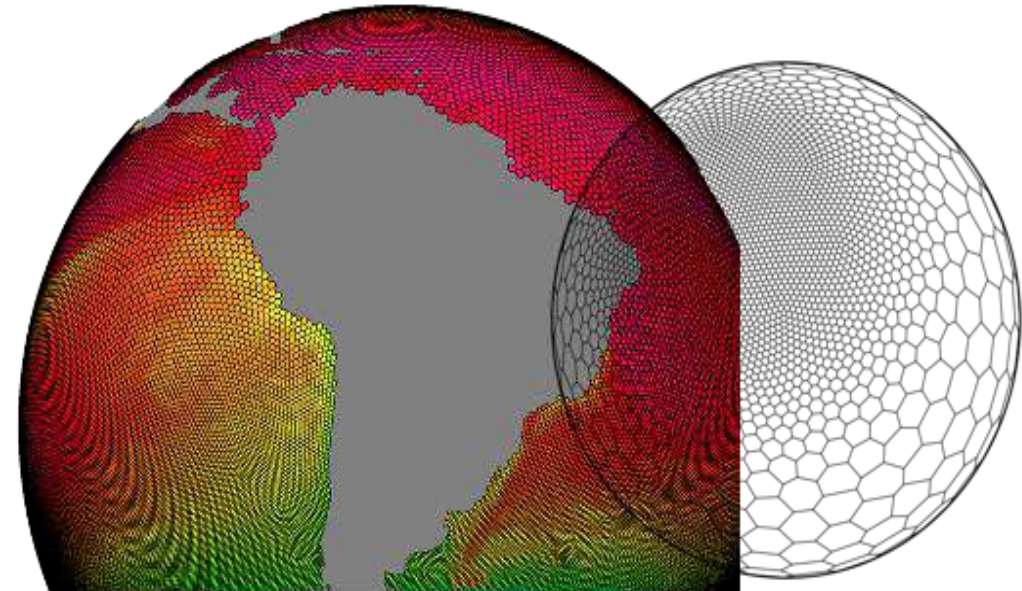
Ocean Observing Co-Design

by The Global Ocean Observing System

## Projects around 'exemplar' use areas

Examples with users

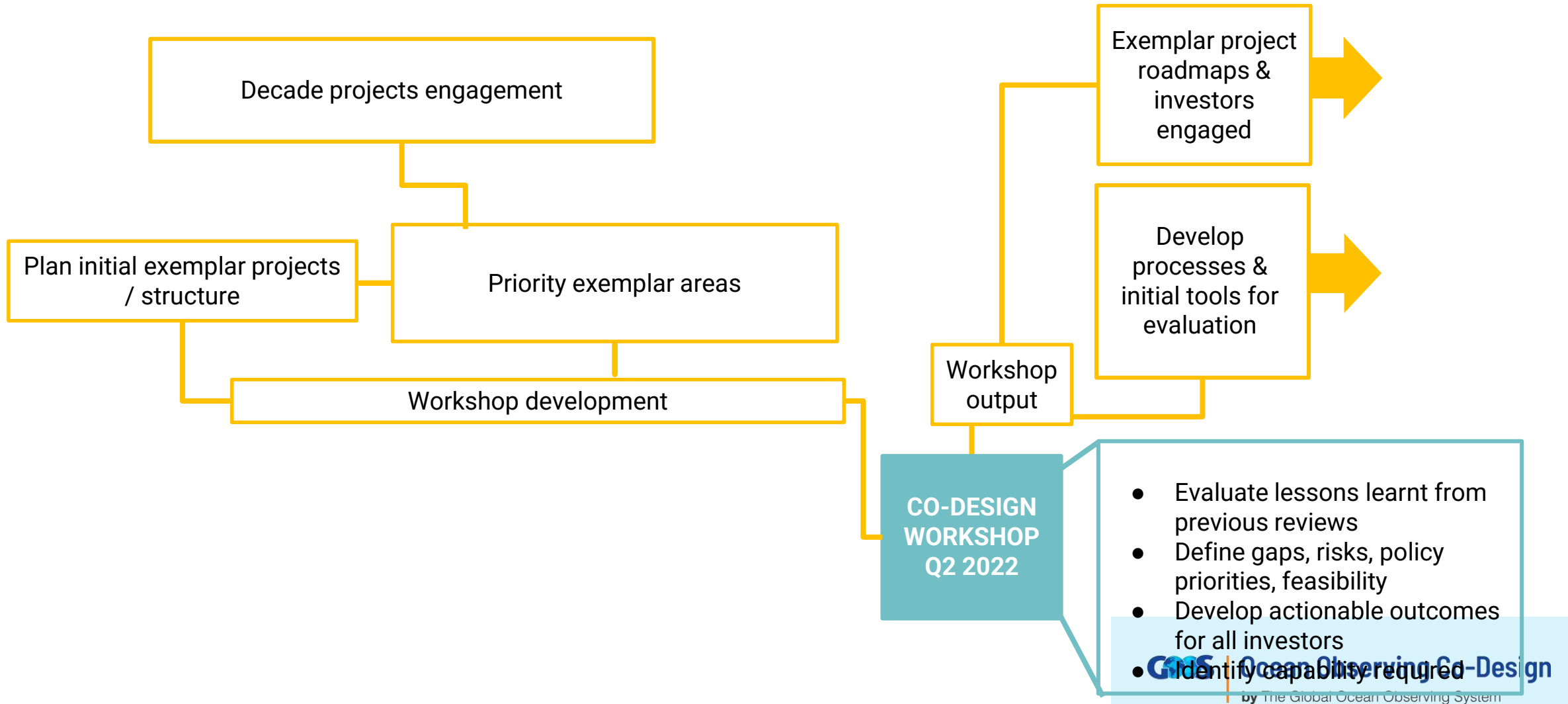
- **Carbon Budgets** - national policy makers, those assessing carbon storage
- **Heatwaves** - national weather services, industry, public
- **Coastal storm surge inundation** - coastal managers, urban planners, coastal industries & communities
- **Marine heatwaves** - aquaculture, fisheries
- **Climate assessment** - UNFCCC
- **Extreme weather events** - coastal communities, local authorities, national governments



**Different exemplar areas are more mature than others for service delivery, model and observing maturity - different levels will be addressed**



## Next in 2022





## SAVE-THE-DATE

# Ocean Decade Co-Design Workshop

June 7, 8, 9 @ UTC 1000 - 1330  
'Supporters' Forum' date TBC late June

We will hear lessons learnt from co-design across GOOS and other sectors. Teams will work on the development of co-design 'exemplar' projects, for example around providing the ocean information needed to national governments for carbon budgets, users of marine heatwave information, and improving the forecasting of hurricanes and tropical storms.

For exemplars, teams must identify key stakeholders, projects, needs in the underlying infrastructure, and ways that groups across modelling, observing and end-users can interact to develop tools and best practices for the co-design of an integrated and responsive ocean observing system. Some exemplars are already in development, we invite suggestions for other exemplars.

### GET INVOLVED

REGISTRATION WILL OPEN EARLY APRIL

Contact us now if you would like to suggest or lead an exemplar project area

[m.o-donovan@unesco.org](mailto:m.o-donovan@unesco.org)

[Event details will be published on the OceanExpert event page](#)

**Day 1: June 7, UTC 1000 - 1330** | Lessons learnt & recommendations for successful co-design

1. **Welcome & Ocean Observing Co-Design Programme introduction** 15 min
2. **Co-Design process: lessons learned**  
TPOS 2020 | IndOOS | TAOS | IOOS | ....
3. **Interactive panel discussion: Co-design use cases**
4. BREAK 15 min
4. **Value of ocean observations** | 20 min
5. **Discussion** | What will a successful exemplar look like: success / failure / recommendations / **what's missing?**
6. **Synthesis & wrap up** | 10 min

**Day 2: June 8 UTC 1000 - 1330** | Working session on Exemplar areas

1. **Day 1 Summary & guidance for Breakout Sessions**
2. **Working Sessions** | Shaping of exemplar areas

**Day 3: June 9, UTC 1000 - 1330** | Finalising of Exemplar areas under Ocean Observing Co-Design

1. **Day 2 Report back** | Exemplar recommendations from breakout teams
2. **Selection of priority exemplar areas**

**Day 4: June X, UTC 1000 - 1300** | Supporters' Forum: Presentation of Exemplar proposals to funders

1. **Exemplar areas presentations** | Outline, gaps, needed infrastructure
2. **Open discussion** | Consensus on actions

# Supportive International Context

- NOAA Statement
- G7 Statements
- UN Decade
- Canadian NACO
- IOCR
  
- G7 FSOI- IOCCP
- JPI Oceans



(3E) **Supporting the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development:** endorsing the G7 Ocean Decade Navigation Plan to drive developments in transformational ocean science to protect and further our sustainable relationship with the ocean. As part of this work we will convene scientific and policy experts to discuss the carbon absorption function of the ocean, furthering targeted and effective ocean action.

**NOAA's Role at COP26**

NOAA is committed to helping the world respond to climate change through its mission of delivering climate science, service, and stewardship.

**Science**  
**Advancing the state of the science for sea-level rise.** Collaborating with several U.S. agencies, NOAA will publish updated sea-level rise and extreme coastal water projections for every U.S. state and territory, filling gaps for rural and underserved regions. This data is key for advancing how we plan for coastal resilience, infrastructure and emergencies.

**Enhancing the World Ocean Database.** NOAA will develop and deploy a new tool within the World Ocean Database to help ocean data users easily discover and access immense volumes of globally distributed ocean information. Partnering with the International Oceanographic Commission, this investment will increase timely, high quality input for climate forecast models, as well as seasonal and longer time-scale monitoring.

**Opening a Pacific Islands ocean acidification training center.** NOAA and the U.S. Department of State are partnering with the South Pacific Community, the University of the South Pacific, and The Ocean Foundation to launch a new training center in Fiji to expand capacity for ocean acidification monitoring and research across the Pacific Islands. Understanding how ocean acidification affects local coral reefs and fisheries will enable better protection for the ecosystems, livelihoods, and economies they support.

**Launching the NOAA Blue Carbon Inventory.** In partnership with the U.S. Department of State, NOAA will provide technical support to countries to incorporate coastal blue carbon into their National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (NGGI). NOAA will focus on 3-5 geographically diverse countries, amplifying the impact of this investment through regional partnerships, interagency collaboration, and activities such as the development of guidebooks, workshops and training materials. This metric is an important way countries track progress towards achieving their climate ambitions.

**Establishing a globally operational Surface Ocean CO<sub>2</sub> Reference Network.** The network will integrate established and proposed national and regional surface ocean carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) research and monitoring efforts into a global framework, enabling countries to track changes in global ocean uptake of CO<sub>2</sub> over time. Through international engagement, NOAA will facilitate the development of the global network and produce high-value products, such as observation-based annual updates of ocean carbon uptake and changes in ocean acidification, that are critical for decision making about ocean-based mitigation options and marine ecosystem health.

[www.climate.gov/COP26](http://www.climate.gov/COP26)

**THE HILL TIMES**  
 Tuesday, December 14, 2021 | Label Page

News | Op-Eds | Foreign Policy | Politics | Policy | Legislation | Lobbying | Hill Columns | Action

**GLOBAL**

**How Canada can fix the single greatest miscalculation in climate policy**

By ANITA NADEAU | OCTOBER 26, 2021

A Canadian-led North Atlantic Ocean carbon Observatory could be Canada's most important contribution to the fight against climate change.

Former Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau, pictured in 2017. His government earlier this month that any calculations of global carbon dioxide emissions must take into account changes in the ocean. (The Hill Times photograph by Andrew Haines)

**IOCR RESEARCH**  
 Technical Series 159

**Integrated Ocean Carbon Research**

**A Summary of Ocean Carbon Research, and Vision of Coordinated Ocean Carbon Research and Observations for the Next Decade**

**Warming oceans may absorb less carbon and that could impact climate goals: scientist**

By Sarah Swire for Carbon Brief  
 Nov. 10, 2021 | 3 min read  
 © Article was published on 08. 2021

Dr. JOHN'S, N.L. - Warming oceans may be absorbing less carbon dioxide than they used to, and scientists say that could have serious implications for climate targets.

State research is disputing models on how climate change is impacting the ability of the world's oceans to absorb greenhouse gas emissions, reports Sarah Swire, a scientific director and chief executive officer of the Centre for Climate Resilience, a research partnership between the University of New South Wales, St. John's University in Newfoundland and Labrador, and the University of Prince Edward Island.

"Climate targets as laid by Paris' focus taking into account the oceans, and we urgently need to take the oceans into account or we won't be able to reach climate targets," Swire said in a recent interview from the United Nations climate change conference in Glasgow, Scotland.

"In fact, changes themselves may be warming."

Scientists are no longer able to absorb carbon may become carbon emitters, she said.



- Scoping Paper v2, June 2021-

### A Surface Ocean CO<sub>2</sub> Monitoring Network: Facilitating the development of an internationally-agreed observing strategy and coordination structure for GOOS.

In partnership with the GOOS Biogeochemistry Panel and other international and G7 Member ocean carbon programmes, catalyse and facilitate the development of an internationally-agreed strategy for monitoring surface ocean CO<sub>2</sub> globally, and build on existing observing programmes, data management structures, and coordination bodies to create a global surface monitoring CO<sub>2</sub> network capable of responding to the needs of global and regional policy drivers including the UNFCCC Global Stocktake 2023.

Action Areas 1, 3, and 4.

#### Phase 1: Strategy Development (mid-2021 to mid-2022)

Develop a G7 FSOI Task Team with partners to address Tasks 1 – 3 through an international workshop (virtual or mixed) and through regular writing team meetings to draft and circulate for extensive international review a strategy for a global surface CO<sub>2</sub> monitoring network, including a phased implementation plan (roadmap) and budget requirements.

#### Deliverables:

Workshop report of the Strategy Development meeting.

Draft strategy, phased-implementation plan, and roadmap for the development of a sustained global surface ocean CO<sub>2</sub> monitoring network.

#### Phase 2: Establishment of the Global Network and Implementation agreements (mid-2022 to early-2023)

Using the Draft strategy and roadmap developed by the Task Team in Phase 1, host a stakeholders forum and global workshop for government agencies and ministries (G7 FSOI and GOOS) to address Task 4; namely, identify existing national programmes that are elements of the global surface ocean CO<sub>2</sub> monitoring network, identify critical gaps in the observing system (including global coordination structures and data management activities), and reach agreements on priorities for coordinated investment to establish the global network.

# Official Recognition by UN Decade



INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION  
COMMISSION OCÉANOGRAPHIQUE INTERGOUVERNEMENTALE  
COMISIÓN OCEANOGRÁFICA INTERGUBERNAMENTAL  
МЕЖПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВЕННАЯ ОКЕАНОГРАФИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ  
اللجنة الدولية الحكومية لعلوم المحيطات  
政府间海洋学委员会

UNESCO - 7 Place de Fontenay - 75352 Paris Cedex 07 SP, France  
<http://ioc.unesco.org> - contact phone: +33 (0)1 45 68 03 18  
E-mail: [v.ryabinin@unesco.org](mailto:v.ryabinin@unesco.org)

Ref. : IOC/MR/21.373/JB/AC/cn

7 October 2021

Dear Mr Sanders,

It is with great pleasure that I am writing to inform you of the endorsement of your Decade Action entitled "Integrated Ocean Carbon Observing System, ID 123" as a project forming part of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development 2021-2030.

Please accept my sincere congratulations for this achievement. Let me also thank you for your engagement and commitment to the Ocean Decade vision of the science we need for the ocean we want.

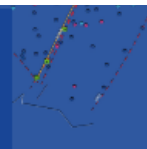
**Ocean Observing Co-Design will build a system co-designed with scientific experts in observations and forecasts, and with key user stakeholders.**

It will provide fit-for-purpose ocean observing, supplying the information required to manage the ocean we need for the future we want.



## Ocean Observing Co-Design

by The Global Ocean Observing System



# Transforming our ocean observing system assessment and design process

Supporting the Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development

Decade of Ocean Science



## Ocean Observing Co-Design

by The Global Ocean Observing System

# JPI Oceans Process

Started around 1 year ago

>50 scientific and policy experts consulted

Over 12 countries represented in consultations

7 Working Groups

**North Atlantic**

**North Sea**

**Baltic Outflow**

**Mediterranean Sea**

**Model Synthesis**

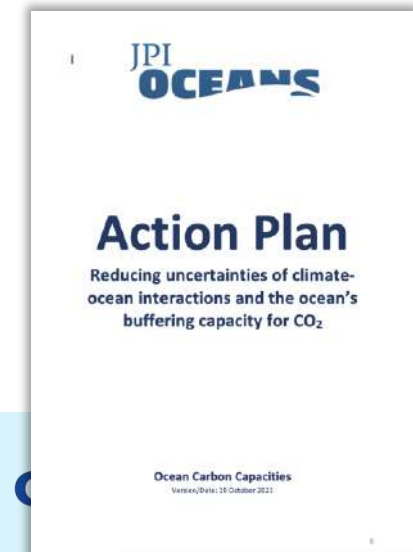
**Observing System Design/  
Infrastructure Sharing**

**Negative Emission Technologies**



## SCOPING WORKSHOP: OCEAN CARBON CAPACITIES

**Event Date:** Thursday, October 21, 2021 - 08:30 to Friday, October 22, 2021 - 16:46  
**City:** Online



# EOVs and Essential Climate Variables (ECVs)

## PHYSICS

- Sea State
- Ocean surface stress
- Ocean Heat Fluxes
- Sea Ice
- Sea level
- SST
- Subsurface temperature
- Surface currents
- Subsurface currents
- Sea Surface Salinity
- Subsurface salinity

## BIOGEOCHEMISTRY

- Oxygen
- Nutrients
- Inorganic Carbon
- Tracers
- Suspended particulates
- Nitrous oxide
- Carbon isotope ( $^{13}\text{C}$ )
- Dissolved organic carbon
- Ocean Colour

## BIOLOGY AND ECOSYSTEMS

- Phytoplankton biomass and diversity
- Zooplankton biomass and diversity
- Fish abundance and distribution
- Marine turtles birds and mammals abundance and distribution
- Live coral
- Seagrass cover
- Mangrove cover
- Microalgal canopy
- Microbe biomass and diversity (\*emerging)
- Benthic invertebrate abundance and distribution (\*emerging)

Plankton

Marine Habitat Properties

# Developing requirements for Essential Ocean and Climate Variables

## Essential Ocean/Climate Variables (EOV/ECV) Specifications (Stewardship)

- Mapping of societal drivers, applications, phenomena, EOV requirements, observing components, data streams.
- Phenomena approach; easy to draw out requirements for different applications (e.g. climate relevant phenomena)
- Seeking clarification, agreement between GCOS/GOOS on requirements setting, terms, etc before updating (see GCOS-GOOS paper).
  - Important to ensure that Panel efforts meet needs of GCOS, GOOS in link with WCRP
  - Clarity on terminology, how one maps to other particularly important for users.

