

The Global Ocean Observing System

# **GOOS: Advancing a fit-for-purpose global ocean observing system**

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**IOC Officers Meeting Jan 2023 - Items 7.2.1 - 7.2.5**

# Why observe the ocean?



## Climate and weather

The ocean plays a huge role in the Earth's climate and weather: it absorbs 90% of excess heat and takes up 25% of anthropogenic carbon every year. At the same time, it is being affected by climate change.



## Ocean health

Life in the ocean gives us the oxygen we breathe and the food we eat. Overfishing, climate change and pollution are putting these vital natural services at risk, and their impacts are critically under-observed.



## Coastal communities

Coastal communities are in the front line facing threats posed by changing oceans. Communities in many less developed areas are particularly at risk from changing weather and ocean patterns, and increased disaster risk.

If we haven't got data underpinning our decisions, we might as well be **guessing at solutions**

# Ocean data creates opportunities



Climate and weather



Ocean health



Coastal communities

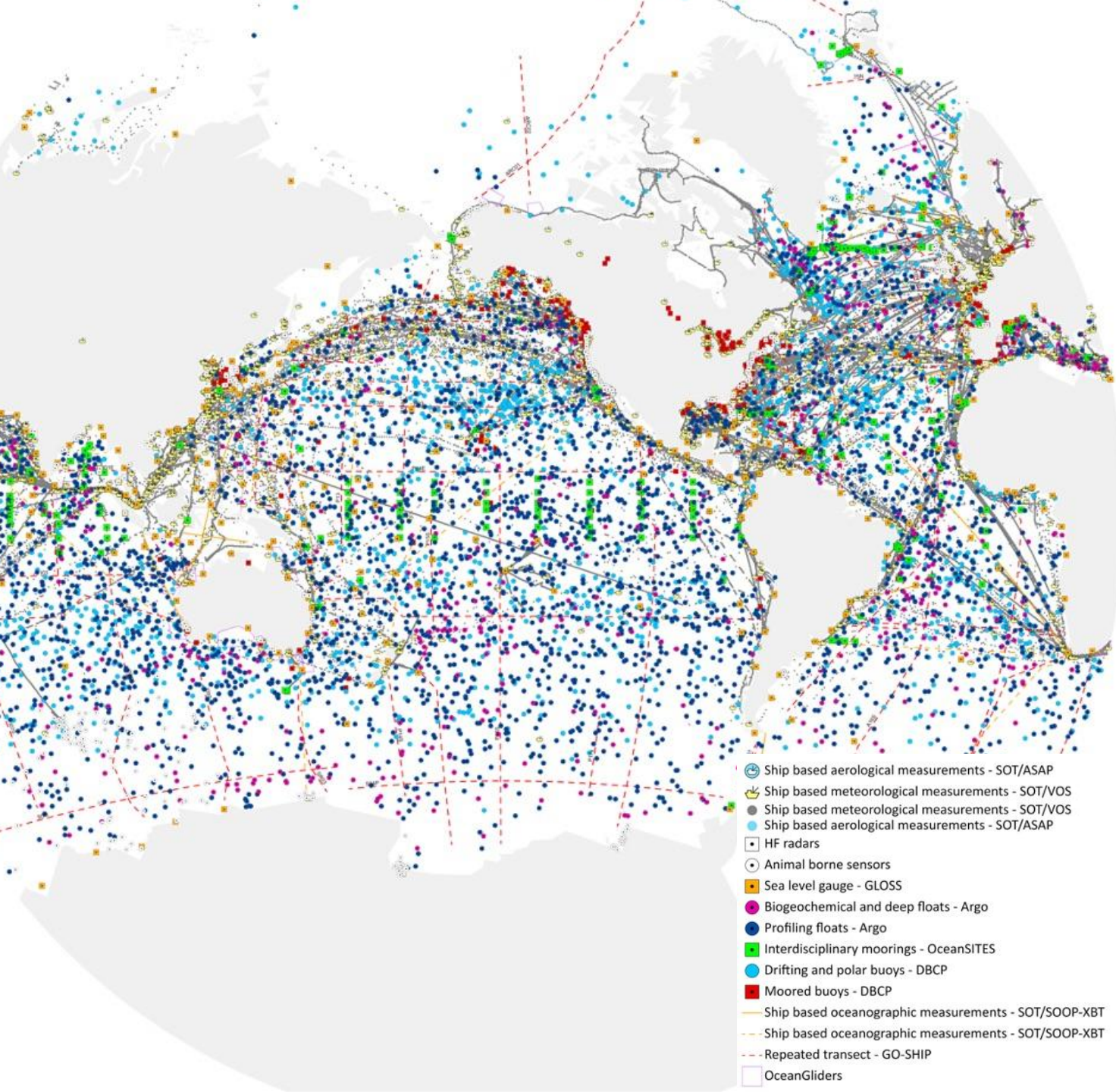


Enabling coastal communities to **evolve and flourish**

Supporting **blue economic growth**

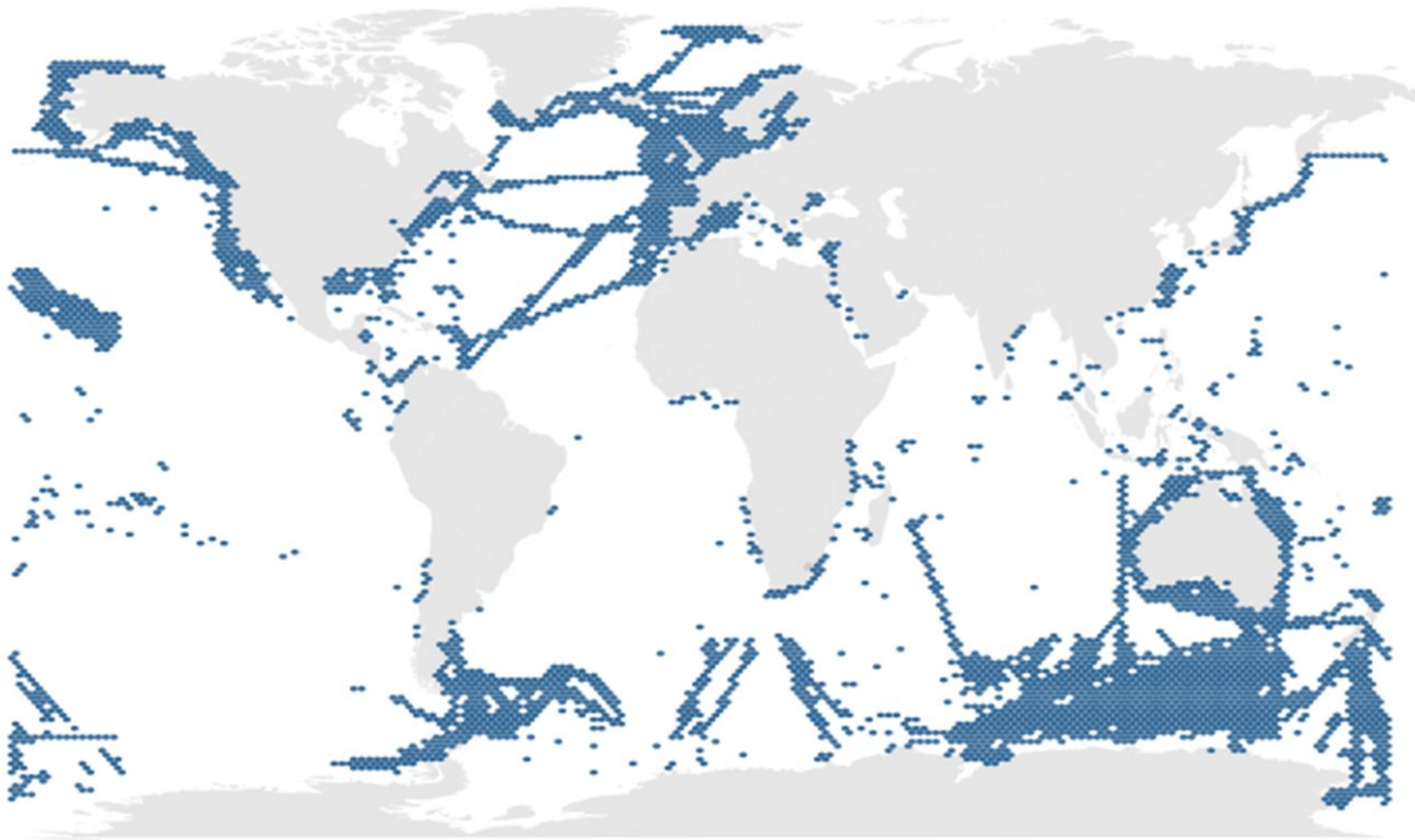
Underpinning **sustainable development**

# GOOS Today



- 84 countries, 8,700+ observing platforms, 13 global networks
- More than 100,000 observations per day - delivering an accessible, safe and productive ocean
- Global observing networks, e.g. Argo, GO-SHIP, Drifting Buoys, plus emerging networks, e.g., OceanGliders, HF Radar.

*“The weather forecasting systems will run off the rails if they don’t have the surface pressure information over the ocean to constrain them” - Lars Peter Riishojgaard, Director of the Earth System Branch WMO*



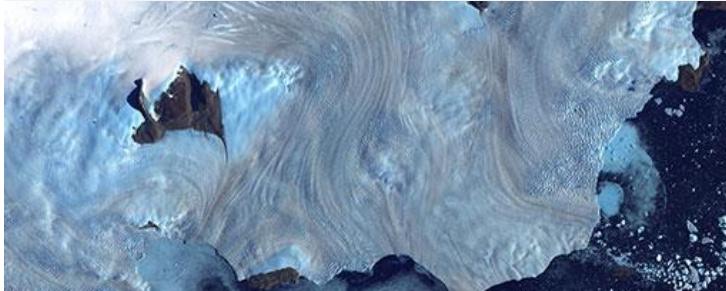
## Biological & ecological observations

- 203 active, long-term programs that systematically sample BioEco EOVs  
*...and more out there?*
- Only 7% of the ocean surface has an *identified* active monitoring program
- Some of the biggest gaps are in areas of high biodiversity and high human pressure

Satterthwaite et al. (2021) *Frontiers in Marine Science* - [GOOS news](#)

# Delivered through: Core Coordination

## GOOS Steering Committee



### Expert Panels

Ocean Observation Physics and Climate Panel (OOPC)

Biology and Ecosystem Panel (BioEco)

Biogeochemical Panel (IOCCP/BGC)



### Observing

Observations Coordinating Group (OCG)

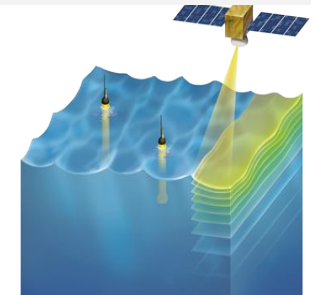
Global Regional Alliances (GRA)

OceanOPS

GOOS National Focal Points

Projects (TPOS, DOOS, OBPS, AtlantOS)

### ETOOFS



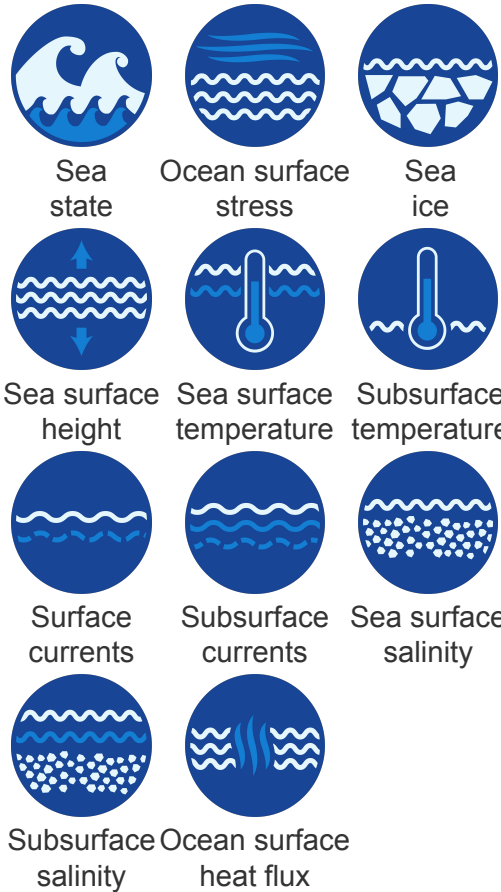
### Prediction

Expert Team on Operational Ocean Forecast Systems (ETOOFS)

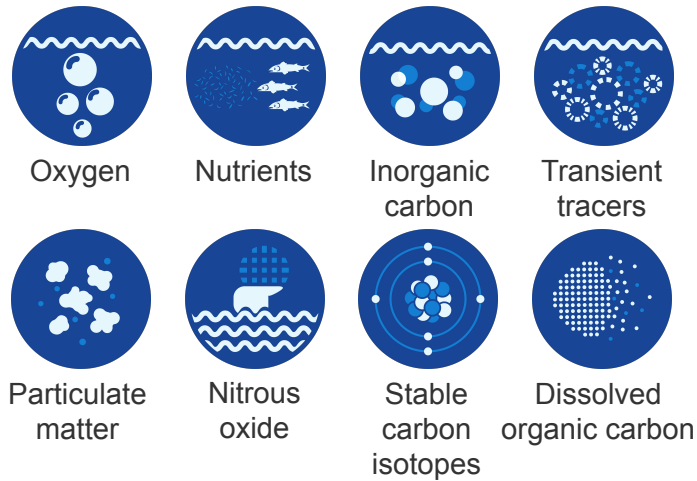
# Through: Frameworks

## GOOS Essential Ocean Variables (EOVs)

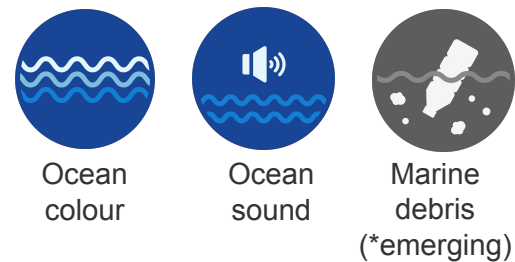
### Physics



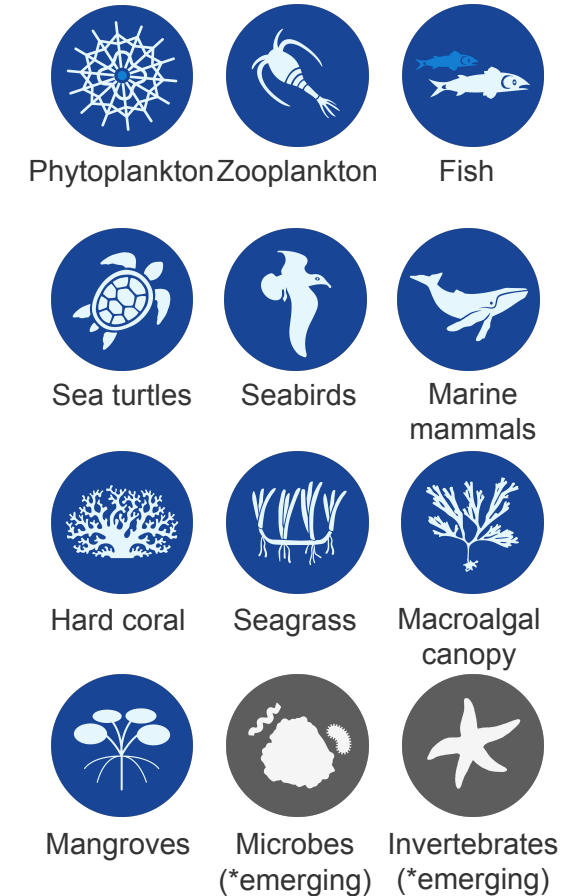
### Biogeochemistry



### Cross-disciplinary

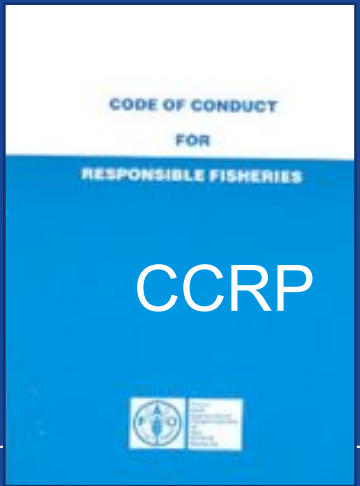


### Biology & ecosystems





New: ILBI on Plastic Pollution 2024





# Through: operational system

## Global and emerging networks



	GOOS <i>in situ</i> networks <sup>1</sup>	Implementation		Data & metadata		Best practices <sup>6</sup>	GOOS delivery areas <sup>7</sup>		
		STATUS <sup>2</sup>	REAL TIME <sup>3</sup>	ARCHIVED DELAYED MODE <sup>4</sup>	META-DATA <sup>5</sup>		OPERATIONAL SERVICES	CLIMATE	OCEAN HEALTH
	Ship based meteorological - SOT	★★☆	★★☆	★★☆	★★☆	★★☆			
	Ship based oceanographic - SOT	★★☆	★★★	★★★★	★★☆	★★☆			
	Repeated transects - GO-SHIP	★★★	Not applicable	★★★★	☆☆☆	★★★			
	Sea level gauges - GLOSS	★★★★	★★☆	★★★★	★★☆	★★☆			
	Time series sites - OceanSITES	★★☆	Not applicable	★★★	★★☆	★★☆			
	Moored buoys - DBCP	★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★☆	★★★			
	Tsunami buoys - DBCP	★★☆	★★★★	★★★★	☆☆☆	★★★			
	HF radars	★★☆ Emerging	★★☆	☆☆☆	☆☆☆	★★★			
	Drifting buoys - DBCP	★★★	★★☆	★★★	★★☆	★★★			
	Profiling floats - Argo	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★☆			
	Deep & biogeochemistry floats - Argo	★★☆ Emerging	★★★	★★★	★★★★	★★☆			
	OceanGliders	★★☆ Emerging	★★☆	☆☆☆	★★☆	★★☆			
	Animal borne sensors - AniBOS	★★☆ Emerging	☆☆☆	★★★	☆☆☆	★★☆			



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



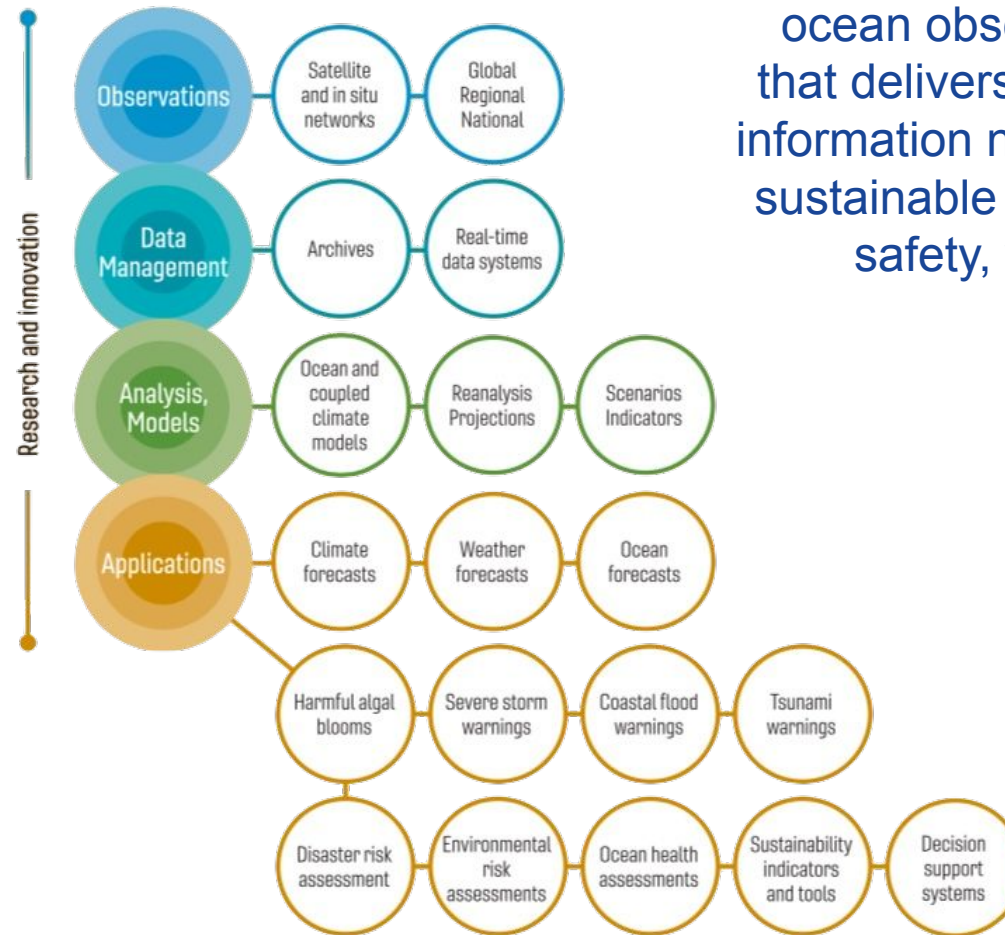
**Sufficient to meet accelerating climate impacts and societal needs?**

# The Global Ocean Observing System

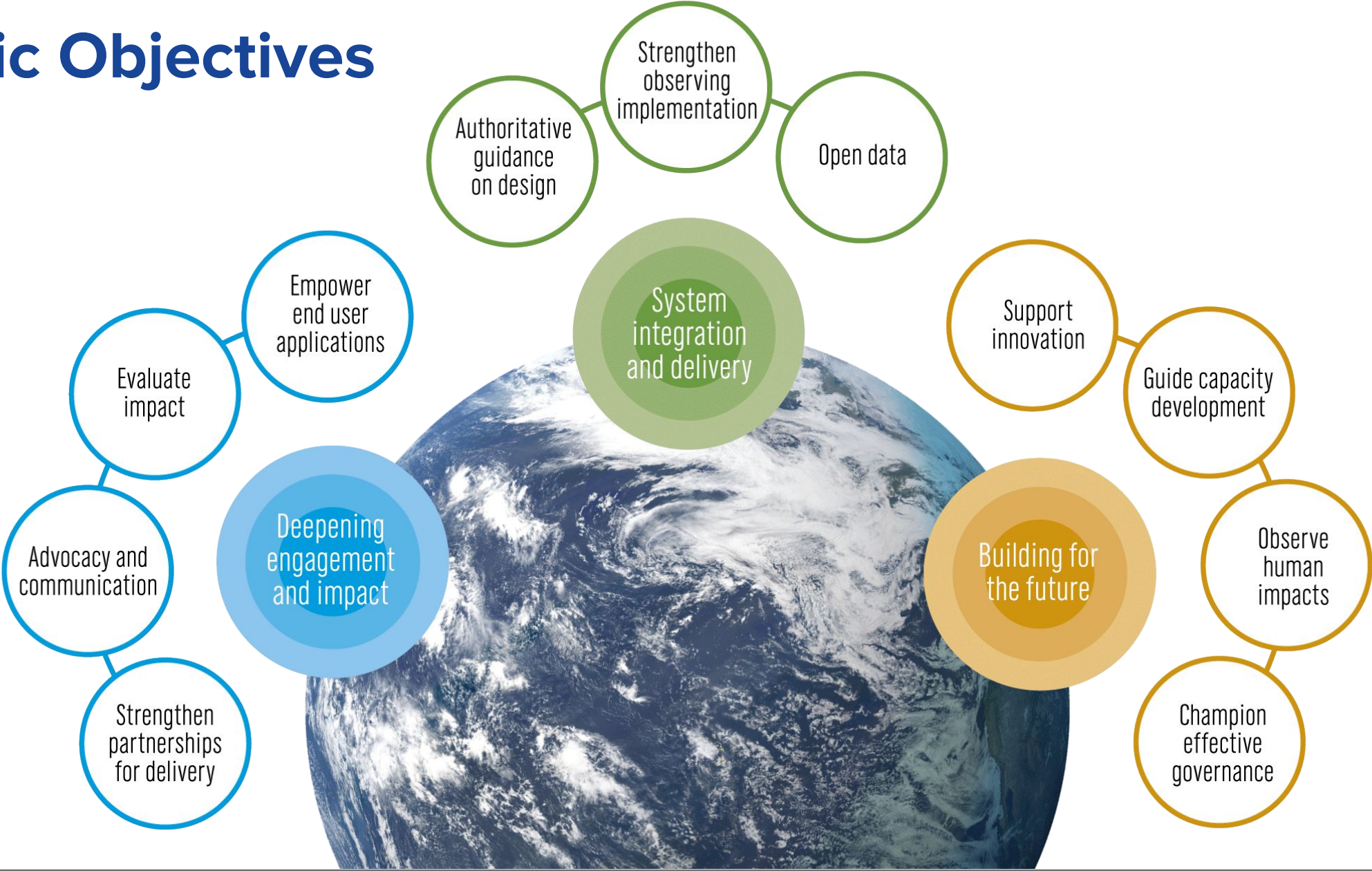
2030 Strategy

## Underpinning a wide range of applications

**Vision:** A truly global ocean observing system that delivers the essential information needed for our sustainable development, safety, wellbeing and prosperity



# 11 Strategic Objectives



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

**Need a step change...**





2021  
2030 United Nations Decade  
of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development

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



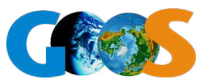


# Ocean Observing Co-Design

by The Global Ocean Observing System

## Transforming our ocean observing system assessment and design process.

- Develop a more user-focused co-design process - with scientific experts in observations and forecasts, and with key user stakeholders
- Develop tools that allow sponsors to ask key questions about cost and benefit and receive clear answers.
- Include the range of ocean observing efforts in place, actively involve new technologies, and prediction and services communities.



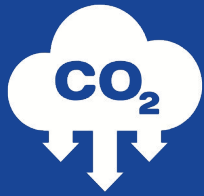
2021  
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of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development



Create a more -fit for  
purpose, integrated,  
and responsive  
system

# — THE EXEMPLARS

\*Each exemplar is at different levels of maturity



## The Ocean Carbon Cycle

Improving carbon data to inform climate targets, such as net zero



## Tropical Cyclones

Advancing tropical cyclone forecasting to save lives & property



## Storm Surge

Improving predictions to minimise impacts on vulnerable communities & natural resources



## Marine Life

Conserving marine biodiversity and supporting sustainable use of resources



## Boundary Currents

Understanding key current systems that significantly influence productivity, weather and climate



## Marine Heatwaves

Monitoring marine heatwave impacts on biodiversity and economies





## Pilot Areas

- |                       |  |                       |
|-----------------------|--|-----------------------|
| Tropical Cyclones - 3 |  | Boundary Currents - 2 |
| Ocean Carbon - 1      |  | Storm Surge - 10      |
| Marine Heatwaves - 2  |  | Marine Life - 4       |



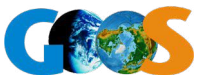
# Ocean Observing Co-Design

by The Global Ocean Observing System

**Revolutionising Global Coastal  
Ocean observation and  
forecasting and offering open  
and free access to coastal  
information**



**2021  
2030** United Nations Decade  
of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development



## Focus areas and initial projects

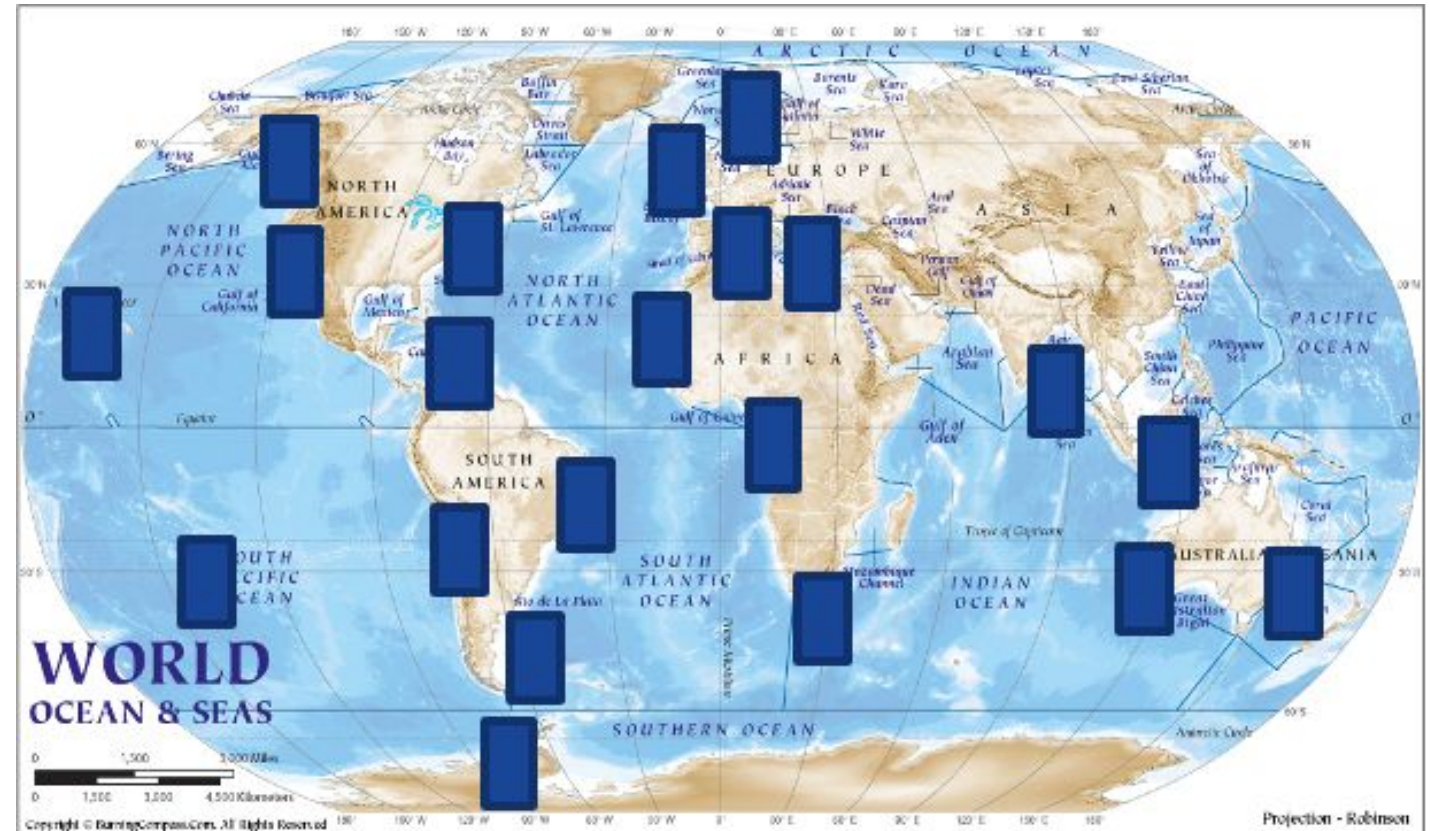


3 Core Projects endorsed  
**30** contributing partner projects endorsed

# Global Coast

Area with different coastal features, societal needs, and level of development - same backbone

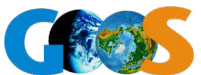
- Global Coast - 10 coastal sites selected for diversity: - coastal features, needs, infrastructure - demonstration sites for developing new technologies and services
- Making the focus area work fit for purpose for observing and predicting the Global Coastal Ocean
- Common data and best practice backbone - Focus Area 5



# From Officers meeting in Jan 2022

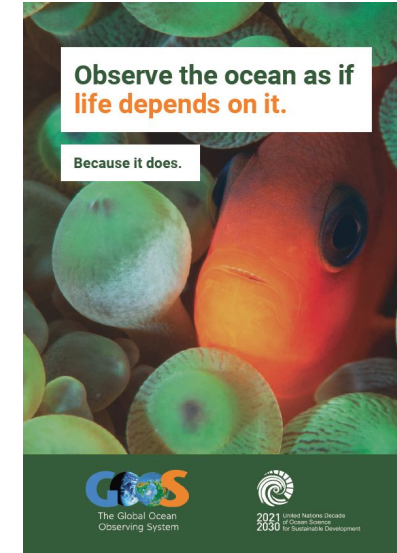
## GOOS SC priorities *(November 2021)*

- Push for national/regional engagement in **ocean carbon observatories** *(profiled at COP-26)*
- revisiting **Regional Policy** to allow for more flexibility and growth
- Start of investment in **Communications, Resourcing, and the Ocean Decade programmes** *(from Covid-19 travel savings)*
- engaging WMO *(more in next presentation)*
- Ocean Indicators *(cross-IOC)*

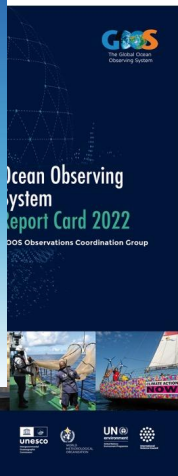
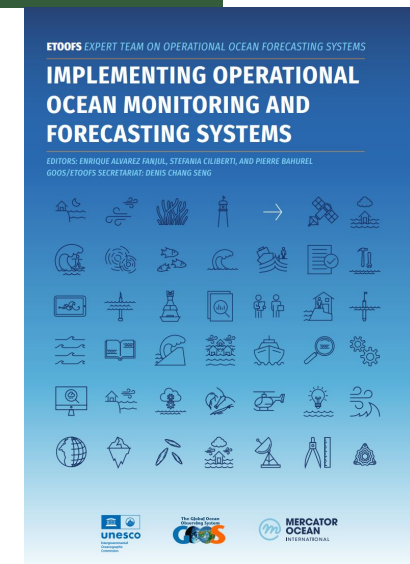


# 2022 Advances

- Raised profile ocean, ocean observing & GOOS - UN HQ Informal Consultation Process (DOALOS) June, UN Oceans Conference July, COP-27 November, and COP-15 December
- Comms Plan, 17 original content GOOS news articles (shared IOC and external news), 5 GOOS Updates (41% open rate), new theme focused media campaigns, 120 tweets
- Messaging platform philanthropic sector, supports stronger messaging
- Ocean Observing System Report Card - cross-GOOS, launched Sept - 2000 visits
- Launched BioEco Portal in July - first time search sustained BioEco observing programmes
- Release of technical guide on “Implementing Operational Ocean Monitoring and Forecasting Systems” in July, 80 contributing authors, 18 countries



**2020 UN BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE**  
**COP 15** - CP/MOP10-NP/MOP4  
Ecological Civilization-Building a Shared Future for All Life on Earth  
KUNMING – MONTREAL



# Advancing partnership

- **IOC**
  - IODE - OBPS Joint Project / OBIS BioEco Data
  - MPA - CoastPredict / Economics
  - OSS - StOR & work to do carbon and OA
  - Decade
- **WMO**
  - RRR - invited to lead ocean application areas
  - SG OOIS - functional connections
  - Support for GOOS
- **DOALOS** collaborate for observations in EEZ
- Contributed significantly to the **GCOS** Implementation Plan, launched in May 2022.
- Projects with partners **OECD** and **MTS**
- Unique hosting agreement between UNESCO and Sorbonne University - Argo support
- Attracting new talent components / secondments



# Dialogues with Industry

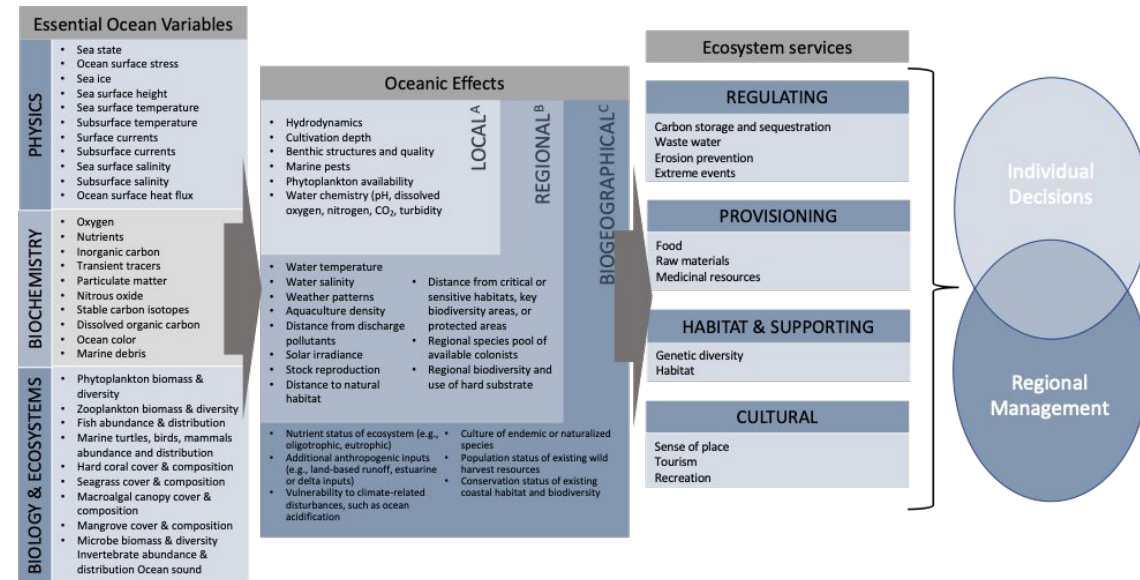
- GOOS, MTS and NOAA
- Lower barriers and increase opportunity for private sector engagement and partnership in multi sectoral observing system
- 4 sessions, ended Jan 2023
- Successfully enabled rich dialogue - government, private and international - how to grow the observing system and information services
- Synthesise key findings & recommendation in paper - work with public, private and academic





# Value of Ocean Observing

- GOOS, OECD and University of New Mexico
- Private and public sectors make use of EOVs in decisions that affect individuals' and society's use of the ocean
- Paper identifies how EOVs can have a positive impact on the choice of policy instruments, on producer production and revenue, and regulatory cost effectiveness
- Blueprint for a data informed approach to a balanced development of the Earth's oceans.



# Key challenges in 2023...

# 2023

## Immediate/practical

Small budget, Web migration, under resourced

## Resourcing

Broader range societal actors

Ocean Decade Programmes - 2023 make or break  
GOOS Core - secondments, focused fundraising

## GOOS governance evolution

IOC support and engagement

National Focal Points, Regional Policy, new  
activation in the regions

## Integrate Decade actions, DCO, DCC....

Elevated collaboration

## Expanding partnership

