

Questions and Answers

1. How could NFP support strengthening national coordination for ocean observations?
 - a. Connect to other focal points in the country (e.g. GOOS network, WMO, IOC, GCOS, IODE, Tsunami warning representatives etc., See Annex 1).
 - b. Establish a national hub or GOOS national committee if feasible, or join as a member to another national committee to raise awareness on the importance of ocean observing (e.g. GCOS, WMO, IOC National Committee, UN Ocean Decade Committee).
 - c. Participate in NFP forums at global and regional level (in collaboration with the regional experts in [GOOS Steering Committee](#) if possible).
 - d. Use GOOS communications materials when presenting at national and other relevant meetings to advocate for GOOS and ocean observing needs at national level.

2. How could national ocean observation efforts (activities, programmes, institutions etc.) better connect and contribute to GOOS?
 - a. Work toward ensuring data and metadata from national assets (e.g. data buoys, Argo floats, gliders, scientific surveys, tide gauges and other OCG network observations) are submitted in the correct format to international data centres aligned with [IOC](#) and [WMO](#) data policies and [OCG Cross-network Data Strategy](#).
 - b. Raise awareness on the national contribution to the regional and global observing system (e.g. disseminate the Ocean Observing System Report Card annually to all national contacts).
 - c. NFPs attend and promote the [GOOS webinars](#) to other relevant scientists nationally who will benefit from the knowledge shared.
 - d. Promote the engagement and contribution to [OCG networks](#).
 - e. GOOS NFPs are encouraged to be connected to GOOS Regional Alliance ([GRAs](#)).

3. What should NFPs report to GOOS? (Q: To whom the GOOS NFP should report?)
 - a. National needs and gaps
 - b. National plan and implementation status
 - c. National investment
 - d. National responses to GOOS priorities
 - e. How many EOVs are measured in the country?
 - f.

4. How could NFPs better advocate/publicize/promote GOOS at national level?

- a. Share relevant GOOS activities sent through the NFP mailing list to national stakeholders (e.g. GCOS NFP/committee members).
 - b. Promote GOOS standards and best practices where relevant.
 - c. Identify ocean observing requirements at the national level and then work with national colleagues to explore opportunities to help build ocean observing capacity (e.g. develop business cases).
 - d. Include reference to the importance of sustained ocean observing and GOOS networks, where possible, at national level (e.g. Climate Action Plans).
 - e.
5. How does the GOOS Secretariat support NFPs to fulfill their roles?
- a. Arrange for NFP fora (online and/or in-person) twice a year.
 - b. Promote and highlight the importance of NFPs on the website and at international meetings (e.g. UNESCO-IOC and WMO meetings, etc.).
 - c. Host GOOS webinars to disseminate useful and helpful information for the GOOS NFPs.
 - d. Promote GOOS and other capacity building programmes to NFPs (including OCG and networks, OceanOPS and metadata standards; EOVS specifications; Ocean Best Practices; and etc.). Support match-making with other NFPs and/or GRAs who can assist each other.
 - e. Promote the national contribution to GOOS, e.g. through case studies on the website and the annual GOOS Report Card.
 - f. Synthesis needs and gaps from the annual national reports into actions in the GOOS workplan (annually for each GOOS panels, OCG networks, OceanOps, etc.).
 - g. Link to other relevant stakeholders in ocean observing at global level.
 - h. Help to link with OceanExpert and other GOOS components.
 - i. Provide communication toolkits (e.g. slides, EOVS infographic and icons etc.).

GOOS National Focal Points (NFP) Implementation Guidelines

Outlines (draft)

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 (new!)

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

- a. Organize GOOS NFP Forum
- b. Promote and highlight the Importance of GOOS NFP
- c. Capacity building
- d. Highlight National Contributions
- e. Synthesis national needs and gaps into actions
- f. Enhance interaction among NFPs and with GRAs
- g. Support to link with relevant stakeholders
- h. Communication support

3.2. Relevant GOOS Resources (see Annex 2)

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)

Annex 3: NFP Reporting Template

Note: National report templates for [Argo](#), [DBCP](#), [SOT](#), [GLOSS](#) and [NODC](#) have been collected and are available [here](#). A [simple analysis](#) of these report templates has been prepared with the assistance of ChatGPT. Hope they could inspire our ideas for the NFP Reporting. We need to avoid requesting duplicated information, and try to identify the areas that could supplement those reports.

Other issues can be Considered:

1. Can NFP help provide national mapping of ocean observing and monitoring? By referring EOOS National Charts on Ocean Observing and Monitoring in Europe ([Germany](#) & [Greece](#))
 - Level 1: Political responsibility
 - Level 2: Legal Frameworks, strategies and programmes
 - Level 3: Operational observation and monitoring
 - Level 4: Variables
 - Level 5: Data Storage
 - Level 6: Data Provision
2. What are the current NFPs reporting lines in their country (Reporting to whom? And report on what?)?
3. Can NFP take the responsibility to assess readiness level for national ocean observations?
 - National coordination
 - National committee/hub
 - Connection to other NFPs
 - Connections across value chain
 - Connection to GOOS networks
 - National ocean observing system (in place / used to be/ planning to have/no plan yet)
 - National data management
 - National data centre
 - National data policy
 - Open access data portal
 - GOOS's presence at national level
 - Communication (needs, capacity, gaps)
 -
- 4.

Annex 4: Abbreviations