



Global Ocean Observing System



Session 7: Progress on the 2025-2027 workplan

7.2 GRAs

15th GOOS Steering Committee meeting (SC-15) | 25-27 March 2026 | Hyderabad, India

Key updates

- GRA Forum March 23-24, 2026; agenda focused on improving cross-GRA coordination and informing GOOS reform, and addressing the concern that GRAs were not included in the GOOS Reform documentation.
- The Forum and the joint GRA-SC discussions on day 2 reaffirmed the need for inclusion of GRAs in GOOS structure and reporting, and recommended improvements strengthening linkages of GRAs with other GOOS components.
- Participation from some expert panels, SC members and emerging networks during the Forum appeared to be of mutual benefit and should be encouraged in future Forums. In this way, the alignment of meeting timing and venue brings value.

Day 1 (Mar 23)	Day 2 (Mar 24)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome and introduction by co-chairs and host 2. Update from GRAs - summary of reports 3. Areas of joint collaboration opportunities based on user needs <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Data exchange b. Technical advancement sharing 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Priorities and Workplan for 2026-2027 7. GRA Co-chairs Election 8. GOOS Reform and GRAs
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. (Continue) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> c. Capacity development Discussions 4. BGC EOVS Specification mini workshop (60 mins) 5. ArORA Introduction 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. GOOS Reform: Joint session with the GOOS SC 10. Site visit to INCOIS



Next steps

Continue working on [Actions](#) developed since GRA Forum XI (Barcelona 2024)

Maintain intersessional meetings, focused on specific topics and areas of interest.

Discussions generated several new action items:

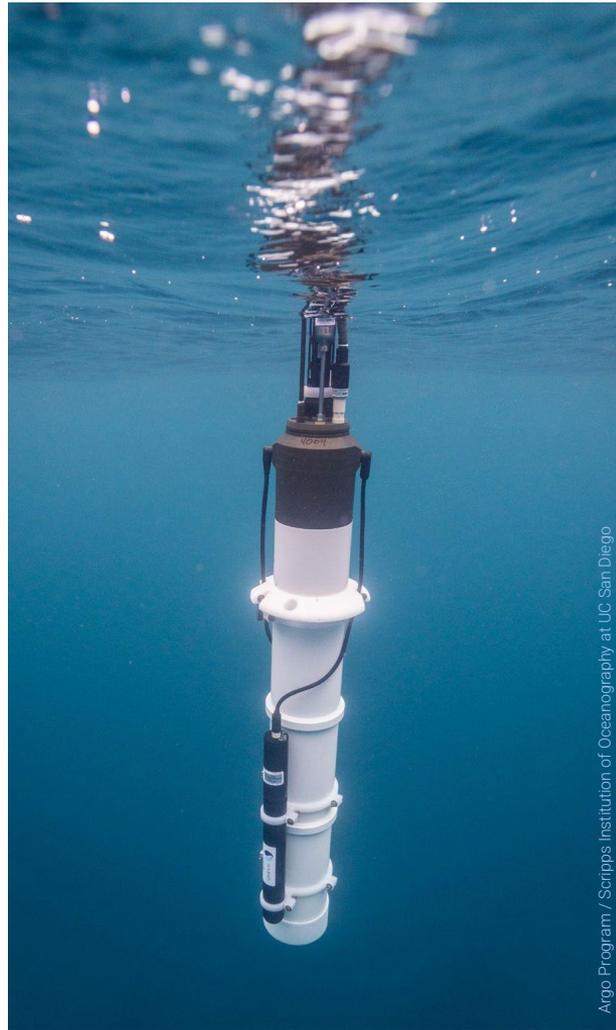
- GRAs to review vision and mission statements for alignment with GOOS; GRAs to consider how to indicate alignment through statements of commitment, adding GOOS logo on their websites, and other means.
- GOOS office to work with IODE to update information about thematic/topic expert POCs from each GRA in OceanExpert. GRAs will advertise about OceanExpert and encourage new submissions.
- More conversation needed to determine next steps for the ArORA proposal.
- Request GRAs to complete the BGC survey and consider opportunities to help 'ground-truth' BGC spec sheets
- Communications needs:
 - Ongoing: develop with GOOS a process to communicate among GRAs on opportunities to share capabilities, eg for data, technology, and capacity development.
 - Organize with GOOS a series of virtual meetings (similar to OCG roundtable format) on the above topics.
 - Work with GOOS office and OCG to improve distribution of training information, webinars, meetings, courses, etc - to and from GRAs

Key questions for the SC

- The GRA Council intends to use a template for routine reporting and updates going forward. What does the SC want to see in the GRA report? Are the elements of the [current template and report](#) helpful, what is missing, and how will the information be used?
- Will GOOS office support actions from GRAs as noted in the previous slide?
- Request GOOS SC to review the ArORA proposal and decide how to better integrate it within GOOS structure.



**Thank
you** goosocean.org



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