

Forum for Operational Oceanography

The national context – is ocean focused

- Our blue economy is currently worth \$81 billion per annum and increasing
- Our oceans are taking centre stage through a range of current initiatives and undertakings, including:
 - The United Nations Decade of Ocean Science and Sustainable Development
 - High level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy
- The National Marine Science Committee has just released a Midway Point review to outline recommendations to support our blue economy





The IMOS context

- The Research Infrastructure Roadmap is in development which sets the forward funding window for IMOS
- New research investment plans will be developed in 2022
- Regardless, we continue to work to realise our areas of societal benefit
- IMOS will continue to deliver direct and indirect benefits to industry as we move into the next tranche of NCRIS funding



Marine sovereignty,

safety & security

Food Security



Biodiversity conservation & management



Coastal Populations



Energy Security



Ongoing relevance of FOO

- Marine industries are ongoing and expanding
- The potential for offshore renewable energy and aquaculture installations is increasing
- Two marine-based Cooperative Research Centres are underway
 - Blue Economy CRC "To perform world class, collaborative, industry focused research and training that underpins the growth of the Blue Economy through increased offshore sustainable aquaculture and renewable energy production."
 - Marine Bioproducts CRC *"To transform Australia's emerging marine bioproducts sector into a globally competitive industry."*





Integration and connectivity of the FOO pillars continues to be critical









FOO Pillars

Looking to the future



A changing landscape

- The High Level Panel requires a Sustainable Ocean Plan by 2025
- New and evolving ocean-based industries (e.g. offshore energy, bioproducts)
- New and evolving technologies are coming on line (Spotter buoys, other autonomous observing)
- Increasing need for data and data availability





Continuing to honour the FOO Value Chain



Research and development

Operational oceanographic services

Enchanced industry processes

Engaged and trained staff

Enhanced decision making Improved safety and efficiency



Considering 2022

- An opportunity to meet face to face to discuss ongoing and emerging issues in operational oceanography
- An opportunity to converge with the Australian Coastal and Oceans Modelling and Observations (ACOMO) workshop
- ACOMO supports:
 - Ocean to coastal and ecosystem modelling
 - An integrated national marine observing and modelling capability for Australia
 - The co-evolution and engagement between Australia's integrated marine observing system and our national coastal and ocean modelling capability
- Operational oceanography requires models and both communities could benefit from cross-pollination





Emerging Themes for 2022

- Emerging technologies and their applications to FOO
- Changing industries and opportunities in operational oceanography (e.g. decommissioning)
- Evolution of wave and current data
- In conjunction with ACOMO, considering:
 - Modelling for heatwaves/extreme events
 - How we support for decision-making on multiple temporal scales
- Please send through any suggestions or requests for topics in 2022. Comments on format and timing are also welcome.



Oceanography

Sustaining FOO into the future

- The Steering Committee needs to be reinvigorated
- One representative from each pillar is needed
- The SC will be supported by staff in the IMOS Office to minimise SC workload
- The working groups will continue and we will continue to provide support please let us know if you have suggestions for other WGs
- We are looking for volunteers for the Steering Committee, please let us know if you are interested







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