



Global Ocean Observing System



# Proposal for a Global Ocean Observing System Reform

The 33rd IOC Assembly, July 2025

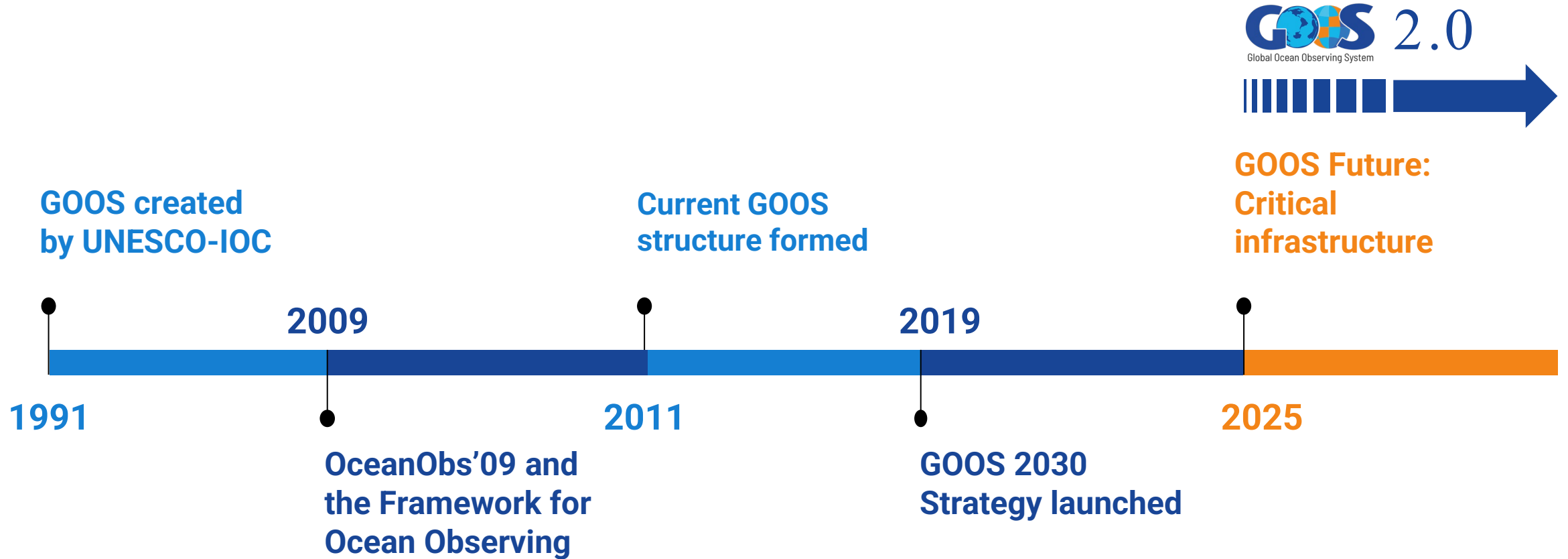
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Director, Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS)  
Acting Head, International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE)

# The Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS)



# GOOS Evolution



# Mandate

## The 32nd Assembly

- Requested the Executive Secretary to review progress with reform of GOOS governance to meet the needs of Member States, including any proposed actions
- In response to the recommendations of the Neville Smith Report (2021)
- Report to the 57th IOC Executive Council

## The 57th Executive Council

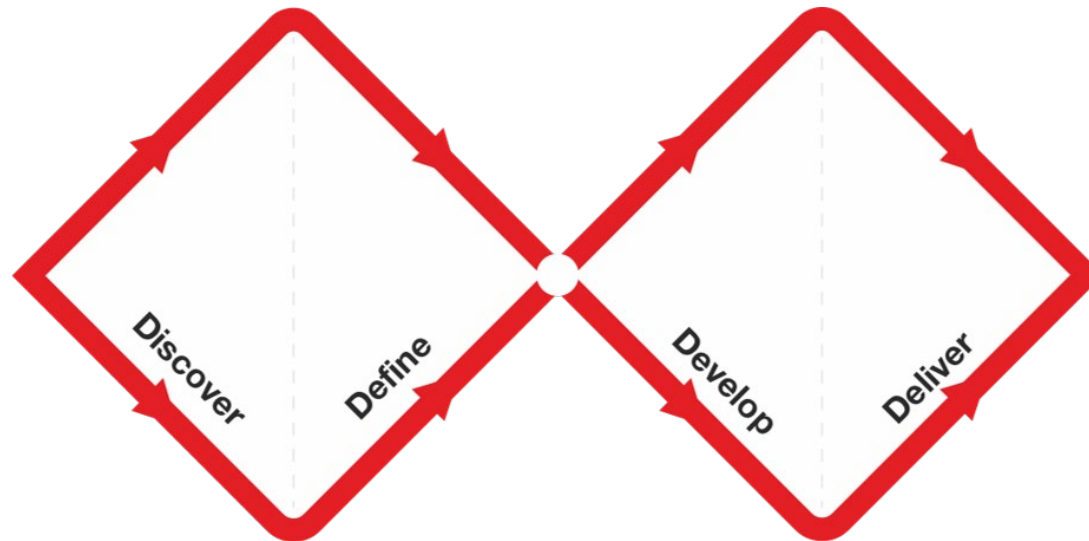
- Considered the interim report
- Invited the Executive Secretary to develop a proposal to evolve GOOS governance and present the proposal to the 33rd IOC Assembly session

## GOOS 2030 Strategy



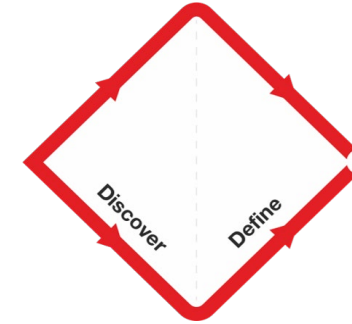
# Proposed approach to evolve GOOS

The evolution of GOOS will follow a double diamond approach



# Phase 1: First diamond

- Enable development of revised GOOS 2.0 structure aligned with GOOS 2030 objectives and addressing GOOS review (Smith report)
- Set GOOS up for better Member State engagement and overall success



## Consultancy

Identified to support implementation of Phase I  
Representatives of Member States will be interviewed as part of this process

## Workshop at GOOS SC14

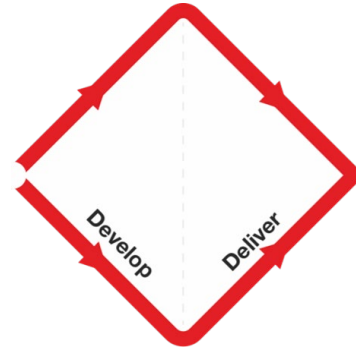
Discussed critical areas for GOOS's development, including strengthening positioning, refining messaging, optimizing organizational efficiency, and engaging key stakeholders

## Communications toolkit

Consultant developing GOOS communications toolkit to be released Q3 2025

# Phase 2: Second diamond

- Deliverables
- Next steps



## Revised GOOS

- Mission, scope, structure
- Consideration of role of regional bodies
- Revised components with unified TOR
- Clear processes, delivery and reporting mechanisms

## Focused delivery

- Proposed GOOS status report
- Basic Ocean Observing Network
- User and Uptake Strategy
- IOC Data Architecture

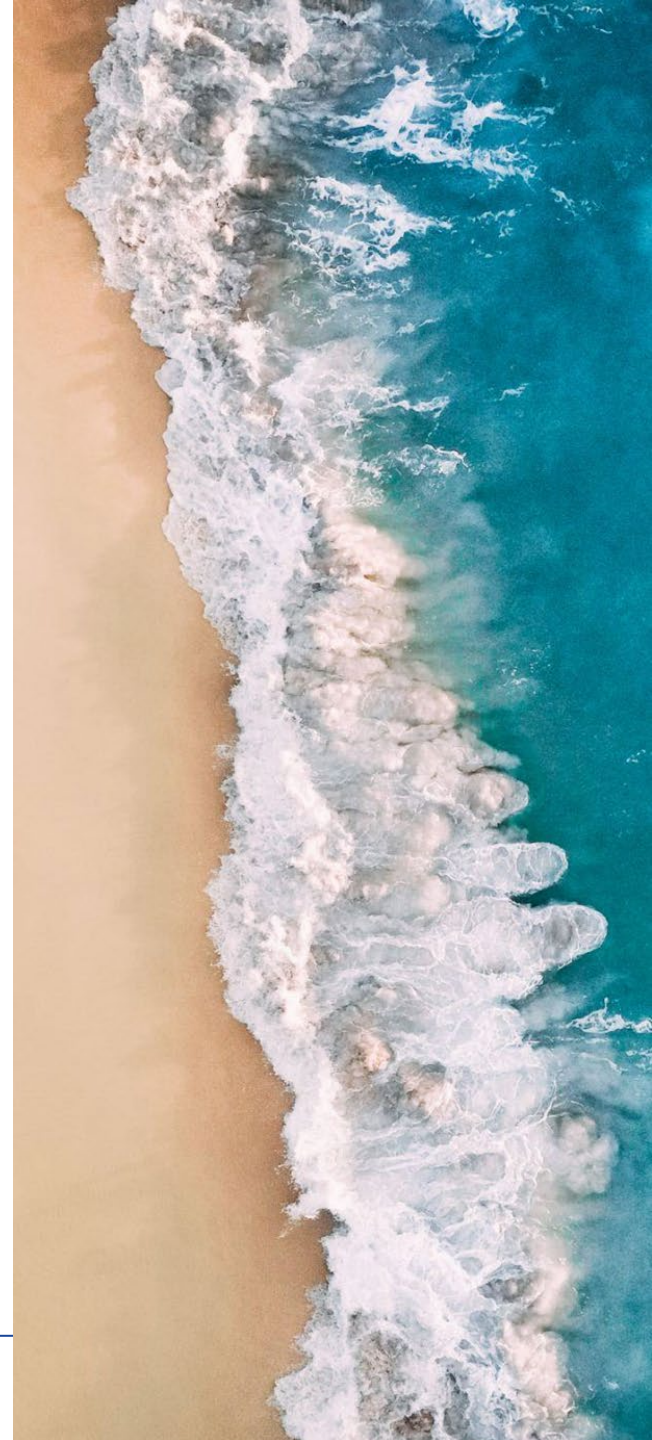
## Strategy 2030

- GOOS 2030 revised strategy and implementation plan
- Communications Plan
- Building on Decade legacy



# Financial and administrative implications

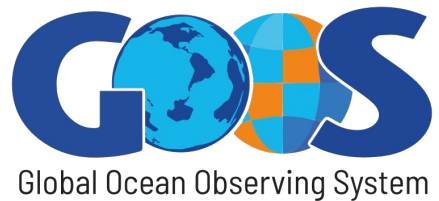
- Phase 1: Discover and define
  - Regular Budget (42 C/5)
  - Delayed due to UNESCO administrative procedures and budget freeze
  - Delivery of phase 1 at EC59 (outcomes and planning for phase 2)
- Phase 2: Development and delivery
  - Regular Budget for 2026–2027 (43 C/5)
  - Other available resources with Member States beyond the parameters of the UNESCO budget





**We have come a long way. There are challenges ahead.**

**But to fully unlock the potential of ocean observing, this system needs to be viewed as **critical infrastructure** for nations to navigate the future.**



# Thank you

[goosocean.org](http://goosocean.org)



Argo Program / Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC San Diego

