



The Global Ocean Observing System



# Session 6a System Implementation at national and regional level

## *6.1: National Focal Points (NFPs)*

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14th GOOS Steering Committee meeting (SC-14) | 19-21 February 2025 | Paris, France

# Recent advances

## 1. The 2<sup>nd</sup> NFP online Forum (Oct. 24, 2024)

- 32 NFPs attended
- Two topics: 1) National coordination; 2) NFP-GRA connections

## 2. New NFP Survey (launched on Dec. 2, 2024)

- 1. Communication and support | 2. National coordination | 3. National Priorities | 4. NFP evolving roles and actions | 5. Advisory Group
- 34 responses | Preliminary findings

## 3. Update and call for nominations of GOOS NFP

- IOC Circular Letter sent on Feb. 4, 2025
- 4 updated, 3 confirmation and 1 new nomination

## 4. Progress on communication support to NFPs

- [NFP messaging guide](#),
- Three [use cases](#)
- NFP [LinkedIn group](#).



2<sup>nd</sup> NFP online Forum

# Existing issues

## 1. Unbalanced NFP distribution

## 2. Different levels of activeness

IOC Groups	Member States	GOOS NFPs		Reponses to survey		2 <sup>nd</sup> NFP Forum Participation	
	No. (a)	No. (b)	% (c=b/a)	No. (d)	% (e=d/b)	No. (f)	% (g=f/b)
Group I	24	19	79%	6	32%	13	68%
Group II	14	8	57%	3	38%	3	38%
Group III	30	10	33%	7	70%	6	60%
Group IV	35	16	46%	7	44%	3	19%
Group V	47	23	49%	10	43%	6	26%
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>41%</b>

## 3. NFPs lack of engagement with GOOS Components

## 4. GOOS lack of understanding of national priorities and support needed

Island states and territories

Lack of understanding of GOOS

Lack of the capacity for national coordination

Lack of communication (e.g., NFP reporting)

Lack of guidelines/support NFPs

Expectation from GOOS components

# Preliminary results from NFP Survey

## 1. Communication & support

- NFP LinkedIn group underutilized
- Strong interest in co-developing Use Cases
- Suggest to have NFP implementation guidelines, reporting, knowledge sharing and common initiatives

**2. National coordination** - 70% responding to have (23.5%) or plan to (47%) have national ocean obs. sys

**3. National priorities** – coastal areas and regional seas

## 4. NFP evolving roles and actions

- Current: national obs development & coordination, expand data collection, integrity and accessibility, connection to GOOS
- Willing to help other NFPs in case studies, CD, and best practices.

**5. Advisory Group** – strong interest from NFPs

- Focusing on: Strategic guidance, enhance collaboration and knowledge sharing , supporting to NFPs in aligning national priorities with global and regional initiative, etc.
- 5 – 10 members (1 or 2 from each IOC Group; GRA representatives)



# Next steps

## 2025

- ✓ Update and Call for Nominations for NFP (IOC CL 3024)
- ✓ NFP Survey analysis and report
- ✓ 3<sup>rd</sup> NFP Online Forum (Oct. 2025)
- ✓ NFP Advisory Group and ToRs?

## 2026-2027

- ✓ NFP implementation guidelines
  - National coordination | ▪ Connect & contribute to GOOS
- ✓ Regional interaction and collaboration of NFPs (e.g., regional NFP meetings/ trainings)
- ✓ NFP-GRA joint in-person meeting in 2026



# Risks

**‘Business as usual’ will be a risk for NFP implementation!**

## 1. NFPs may lose their interests in GOOS, if:

- No clear strategy to corporately achieve
- No clear implementation guidance for NFPs
- Lack of engagement

## 2. NFP designation and expansion

- GOOS Office is not aware of the NFP changes timely
- NFP designated is not really functional
- More NFPs in less-represented countries/regions (e.g., SIDS, south America)

# Considerations for the SC

1. What are the key activities and outcomes needed from the work of NFPs for GOOS? Can we focus NFPs to support certain areas of engagement?
2. What guidance/guidelines/capacity could be provided for NFPs?
3. NFP Advisory Group?



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# Thank you

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