



## GOOS Regional Alliance Forum XII

23-24 March 2026, INCOIS, Hyderabad, India, Hybrid

[Meeting link](#)

### Draft Agenda

#### Objectives:

1. GRA work plan 2026-2027
2. Proposal for GRA position and role in GOOS as part of reform

#### **Monday 23 March**

09:00 - 09:30 | 1. Welcome and introduction by co-chairs and host (30 mins)

09:30 - 10:15 | 2. Update from GRAs - summary of reports (Alvaro & Gabrielle) (45 mins)

**10:15-10:45 Coffee break (30 mins)**

**10:45-11:30** Discussion/feedback (45 mins)

11:30-12:30 | 3. Areas of joint collaboration opportunities based on user needs (co-chairs introduce the topic, 10 mins)

- a. Data exchange (30 mins)
- b. Technical advancement sharing (20 mins)

**12:30 -13:30 Lunch (60 mins)**

13:30-14:00 | 3. Areas of joint collaboration continued

- c. Capacity development (30 mins)

14:00 - 15:00 Discussion/feedback: opportunities for use cases involving multiple GRAs (60 mins)

**15:00-15:15 Coffee break (15 mins)**

15:15-16:15 | 4. BGC EOVS Specification mini workshop (60 mins)

*The Biogeochemical Essential Ocean Variables (BGC EOVS) mini workshop intended to seek GRAs inputs for the review and improvement of decade-old BGC EOVS specification sheets. There are two targets to be achieved during/after the workshop together with GRAs: Target 1: Assessment of the level of awareness about BGC EOVS and elements of the specification sheets, discussion on potential gaps identified by GRA practitioners; Target 2: Initial identification of a non-Atlantic region for trans-continental stress-testing of a couple of updated EOVS specification sheets. A questionnaire will be shared prior to the workshop to facilitate the discussions.*

## Tuesday 24 March

09:00-10:00 | 5. Priorities and Workplan for 2026-2027 (co-chairs)

- Review of [action items list](#)

10:00-10:30 | 6. GRA Co-chairs Election (Joanna)

### **10:30-11:00 Coffee break**

11:00 - 12:30 | 7. GOOS reform and GRAs

- Overview of GOOS Reform (Joanna; 15 mins)
- Group discussion (75 mins)
  - One potential option for GRAs in GOOS reform was to reposition GRAs as independent entities to enhance flexibility while preserving their critical role in regional coordination. GRAs would no longer operate as a standalone component within GOOS and will be recognized as independent entities
    - GRAs will not receive support from GOOS Secretariat but will take part in annual meeting with NFPs to strengthen regional coordination
    - Their core functions will remain unchanged and flexible (e.g., setting regional strategies, advocating for regions etc.)
    - Most of the GRAs will be integrated into the four IOC Sub-Commissions as standalone programmes and will be encouraged to reorganize around ocean basins for better alignment and efficiency
  - Develop questions/discussion points to guide the discussion with the SC
    - How can we increase engagement from the GRAs with other parts of GOOS, e.g. expert panels, OCG networks, OceanOps, NFPs, etc. towards consistent implementation of EOVs and data services?
    - GRAs positioned to lead strong user engagement that GOOS requires in order to be responsive to needs across sectors
    - GRAs positioned to scale up local implementation to global scale - e.g. HFR, animal tagging, HABs
    - Support link of GRA observations and data to the global data system
  - Discuss future of GRAs inside of GOOS and ways to strengthen GRA contributions to GOOS priorities and activities

### **12:30 -13:30 Lunch (60 mins)**

13:30 - 16:30 | 8. Joint session with GOOS SC

16:30 - 17:30 | 9. Site visit in INCOIS