



IMOS is supported by the Australian Government through the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy and the Super Science Initiative

IMOS EIF UPDATE #2

Hi all.

Here is the second IMOS EIF update.

It's addressed to:

- Node and Deputy Node Leaders
- nominated Regional Representatives (for NT, SEQ, Tas and Vic)
- expanded interests in the Bluewater and Climate Node
- Facility and Sub-Facility Leaders, and
- others who have (to date) expressed some interest in new Facilities/Sub-Facilities.

The address list is not meant to be exclusive, so if you want to distribute this more widely, feel free. It will be posted on the IMOS web site.

Final Draft IMOS Five Year Strategy

Thanks to everyone who provided written and verbal feedback on the Draft Five Year Strategy. The Final Draft is now available at http://imos.org.au/fileadmin/user_upload/shared/IMOS%20General/EIF/FINAL_DRAFT_IMOS_Five_Year_Strategy.pdf

The document is not radically different. Significant changes include the following:

- Increased emphasis on moving observations to real time.
- Greater clarity around the fact that although the original AusIOOS vision was intended to support both research and operational services, NCRIS/EIF as a research infrastructure program is only addressing the research component.
- Inclusion of a number of relevant initiatives in the 'Changes and Developments' section that were omitted from the first draft.
- Removal of a number of examples which some found unhelpful. This was considered preferable to adding more and more examples to illustrate particular points.
- Strengthening links to other NCRIS/EIF capabilities, particularly the Terrestrial Ecosystem Research Network (TERN) and the Atlas of Living Australia (ALA).
- Putting more emphasis on the opportunities provided by a replacement blue-water research vessel capable of operating for 300 days per annum, and to the ice edge.
- Reducing the font size on the list of acronyms and abbreviations to get it onto two pages!

The Final Draft will be considered at the IMOS Advisory Board meeting in Townsville on 10th September, and a final, approved version will be published shortly after that date.

A number of comments were made about the potential for eMII to handle non-IMOS data streams. We do need to keep eMII focused on the IMOS data, but there is no doubt that the information infrastructure they've developed is capable of handling Australian marine/ocean data more broadly. We are looking to make this happen through development of the Australian Ocean Data Network (AODN). IMOS has some seed funding to commence this development, and we are currently working with partner agencies to consider opportunities for accelerating the process via other funding mechanisms. I hope to be able to report more on this in the near future.

Timetable for IMOS EIF Planning

Just a reminder that the timetable can be found at http://imos.org.au/eif_timetable.html . Next steps are as follows:

10 Sept 2009	IMOS Advisory Board meeting, including finalisation of the IMOS Five Year Strategy and confirmation of the decision making process to develop the Final IMOS EIF Project Plan.
18 Sept 2009	Call for Proposals to enhance and extend IMOS under EIF funding, in line with the agreed IMOS Five Year Strategy. Proposals to include both Node Science Proposals (existing and new) and Facility Investment Proposals (existing and new).
30 Oct 2009	Close of Call for Proposals

Node Planning

The IMOS Office is aware of the following developments over the last fortnight:

- Planning to expand GBROOS into a Queensland Node, with activity in SEQ, is progressing well. A productive meeting was held at UQ on 25th August. Anthony Richardson and Russ Babcock are the contacts. They have a draft document on the wiki - see http://www.imos.org.au/wiki/Queensland_-_SEQ_subnode
- Further discussions were held with NSW IMOS at SIMS on 24th August, in conjunction with the AUV facility workshop (see below).
- A draft discussion paper on a Victorian Node has been developed, and consultations held with SA, NSW and Tasmania on possible joint activity. Kerry Black and Randall Lee are the contacts.
- A discussion paper on a Tasmanian Node is under development. David Smith is the contact.

A meeting of current Node Leaders and the IMOS Office will be held on 8th September. This group form a 'Steering Committee' which is part of the formal governance structure - see <http://imos.org.au/governance.html> for those not familiar with the workings of IMOS. Discussions at this meeting will provide input to the IMOS Office on the next stage of the process.

Facility Planning

The IMOS Office is aware of the following developments over the last fortnight:

- Stefan Williams convened an AUV workshop at SIMS on 24th August. This provided a chance to look at achievements to date, available capabilities and

possible future needs. The need to integrate AUV data streams into a sustained observing program addressing Node science goals was emphasised.

- The ANMN is holding a meeting on 9th September to discuss current thinking about new deployments, and about sustaining current/planned deployments. Tim Lynch is the contact.

I hope this Update is helpful. Let me know if you have any feedback or suggestions for improvement.

Regards, Tim

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