

IMOS and Sea Country Observing Partnerships

IMOS honours First Nations people as Australia's first marine scientists and carers of country, and we pay tribute to the Traditional Ecological Knowledge, wisdom, and Indigenous perspectives passed from generation to generation, and successfully applied to sustainable environmental management over thousands of years.

As IMOS evolves and grows there is an increasing need to collaborate with First Nations community to ensure we effectively engage with and deliver to all those interested in marine observations to help understand ocean and Sea Country conditions and how Sea Country is changing.

Through our Sea Country Initiative IMOS is looking to establish linkages, collaborate, and co-design with Indigenous community to deliver ocean and coastal observations on Sea Country.

The initiative encompasses the following key aspects:

- Work in conjunction with and enhance existing IMOS partner connections with Indigenous community, whilst fostering new partnerships with Indigenous community to build mutual respect and understanding, collect data and share knowledge on marine ecosystems, coastal habitats, and Traditional Ecological Knowledge.
- Identify and support Indigenous community priorities and establish clear Indigenous Cultural Intellectual Property (ICIP) protocols for IMOS to protect any sharing or use of Traditional Ecological Knowledge.
- Provide the IMOS Community with guidance and support and foster high levels of cultural competency within the program while ensuring the adoption of CARE principles for Indigenous data governance.
- Develop and implement tools to track, evaluate and improve Indigenous partnerships and engagement within the program and provide the IMOS Office advice which will inform the planning and delivery of future IMOS efforts.

IMOS is seeking to appoint an Indigenous Engagement Officer to meet these objectives.

The IMOS Indigenous Engagement Officer will work to enhance and expand the IMOS program through helping identify, develop, and maintain mutually beneficial partnerships with Indigenous community. This will include supporting new initiatives that have high relevance to Indigenous community such as coastal research infrastructure.

