

Fixed-point time series working group - terms of reference.

A Time Series Science Team for the development of sustained time series stations under joint sponsorship of GOSS/GCOS (OOPC), research (CLIVAR OOP, JGOFS, ...) and the DEOS with the charge to:

- 1) Define an initial set of locations for a global array of long-term time series stations for multi-disciplinary observations at the sea surface, in the ocean, and on the sea bottom
- 2) Develop the rationale for establishing and maintaining each element of the array, including recommended and minimum required measurements
- 3) While initially building on existing PI-driven sites or continuing previous/existing timeseries, carry out a critical review of these and identify gaps in the network and synergy between programs (e.g. CLIVAR and DEOS)
- 4) Continually review the set of locations in the light of new requirements, insights or interests of participants and program
- 5) Consider resources, logistics, data delivery (real-time, delayed-mode)
- 6) Coordinate the implementation
- 7) Coordinate data transmission/formats/streams/management
- 8) Liaise with complementary programs (ARGO, ocean assimilation/prediction, interdisciplinary groups, etc) and ensure integration into the overall observing system
- 9) Consider funding mechanisms for sustained observations, and work, with help of the sponsoring and supporting bodies, towards national commitments for supporting sites

Some initial issues to be considered are:

- a) Calibration: uniformity, intercalibration, pre- and post-calibration, quality and accuracy (linked to ARGO and other observing system elements).
- b) Deployment and maintenance: document ship time, servicing, etc needs.
- c) Indicate the utility of select time series stations as test-beds/prototypes for the development of the program.
- d) Explore links to marine industries as a source of support and that might use Time Series sites as test-beds and/or provide instrumentation and telecommunication resources.