



Introducing the Australian Integrated Marine Observing System (IMOS)

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The Integrated Marine Observing System (IMOS) is a coordinated network of marine agencies, people and equipment distributed around Australia and data-information services to support marine research and applications. IMOS supports research in both the open oceans and the coastal/shelf environments. It is an Australian contribution to the international Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS). The value from this infrastructure investment lies in the coordinated deployment of a wide range of equipment aimed at deriving critical data sets. These, in turn, become the infrastructure for a wide range of research and applications at a variety of scales. IMOS was initiated in 2007 with an investment of \$50 M by the Australian government and a nearly equal contribution in matching funds from research organizations. The range of observations includes three open ocean projects (Argo floats, enhanced ships of opportunity and a Southern Ocean mooring), three projects collecting data on coastal currents and water properties (moorings, glider floats and high frequency radar systems) and three coastal ecology projects (passive acoustic listening stations, acoustic tagging and listening screens and a wireless sensor network on the Great Barrier Reef). Here we present an overview of IMOS.