Meeting Summary

PacIOOS CNMI Stakeholder Workshop

Saipan, CNMI

July 19, 2010 9am-1pm

**Summary of Meeting**

1. Chris Ostrander, Zdenka Willis, and Jim Potemra welcomed everyone to meeting and gave three presentations introducing IOOS and PacIOOS, showcasing development to date in Hawaii and the insular Pacific region, and explaining a timeline for upcoming funding. Copies of these presentations are posted on the PacIOOS website.
2. Chris Ostrander facilitated the discussion of three questions regarding PacIOOS development:

 • What are outstanding model/observational needs/gaps that PacIOOS could deploy assets to address in the CNMI?
 • Are there specific data products PacIOOS should be producing? At whom should those products be targeted?
 • How can PacIOOS enhance existing projects/partnerships and increase leveraging opportunities in the CNMI?

**Question 1: What are outstanding model/observational needs/gaps that PacIOOS could deploy assets to address in the CNMI?**

A waverider buoy off the west coast of Saipan would validate wave models and provide nearshore wave data. Current method of measuring waves (eye approximation) is not sufficient. Wave data is desired between Saipan and Tinian.

Current meters for process studies are needed to develop and validate circulation models in the Saipan lagoon. Also useful to site and evaluate MPA’s and explore connectivity.

Divers need current and wave conditions at dive sites before setting out for them. Specifically west of Tinian, north of Saipan, and Naftan point.

Water quality sensors deployed around CNMI could augment and improve current DEQ efforts.

T-LiDAR surveys of priority areas in the CNMI on an annual/rotating basis would be helpful in establishing baseline shore conditions and evaluating erosions/accretion.

Sedimentation data from stream flow would help with understanding runoff and upland erosion.

Reactivate USGS rainfall and flow gauges.

**Question 2: Are there specific data products PacIOOS should be producing? At whom should those products be targeted?**

Beach safety website for the CNMI using NWS wave predictions and DEQ water quality data.

Sea leve rise projections for islands and harbors in the CNMI.

Ocean Atlas, similar to Hawaii’s, showing trends, climatologies, and regional processes for the CNMI.

Create an online resource to explore and discover past studies in the CNMI. AOOS has a database for this purpose.

Develop computer based learning modules for schools to relate to ocean data.

Data from coral program, specifically photos, would be useful for schools to learn with.

**Question 3: How can PacIOOS enhance existing projects/partnerships and increase leveraging opportunities in the CNMI?**

CRM has ~40 day use moorings already in the water---PacIOOS could co-locate sensors with these moorings.

Local Community College is a good partner for Education and Outreach as they are presently revamping their natural resource management program.

Other potential partners: Beautify CNMI, Visitor Authority, Boating Safety Department, Friends of the Monument, DFW, Commonwealth Port Authority

PacIOOS can run teach-the-teacher workshops to train instructors on accessing and using ocean data and resources. Teachers have access to computers and internet but need assistance in finding and using available web resources.