

# Strategic Framework

PACIFIC ISLANDS OCEAN OBSERVING SYSTEM



2023-2027






# Purpose

The purpose of this strategic framework is to provide Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System (PacIOOS) staff and researchers, existing partners, potential collaborators, and funders with insight into PacIOOS’ desired future.

Informed by staff, researchers, and partners, the PacIOOS Governing Council and leadership developed this framework as a guide to articulate *why* we do what we do, our strategic direction for the next five years, and *how* we plan to achieve our goals. Ongoing and new activities within PacIOOS will align with the elements of this strategic framework.

# Guiding Principles

We will achieve our core vision and mission by adhering to our guiding principles:

- **Culturally-rooted.** We honor and affirm the lived experiences and cultural diversity of individuals and communities within the region, and value their Indigenous knowledge.
- **Science-based.** We rely on rigorous, systematic, and objective procedures with historical perspective to foster innovation and discovery while remaining policy neutral.
- **Community-driven.** We uncover, understand, and respond to the place-based, local needs of our community and stakeholders.
- **Accessible.** We strive to make data and information easy to find and understand so it may be used to inform decision-making.
- **Collaborative.** We build inclusive, genuine and enduring partnerships in order to identify opportunities for synergism and leverage. We can achieve more together.

# Thematic Areas

**Coastal Hazards**

**Marine Operations**

**Water Quality**

**Ecosystems & Living Marine Resources**

**Core Vision**

We believe that coastal and ocean information helps save lives and protects livelihoods and resources (capital, environmental, cultural).

**Mission**

To empower ocean users and stakeholders throughout the Pacific Islands by providing accurate and reliable coastal and ocean information, tools, and services that are easy to access and use.

## 5-Year Strategic Outlook

PacIOOS will continue to grow as a trusted and crucial information system and provider of coastal and ocean data and information for the Pacific Islands.

## Strategic Topic: Observations, Models and Information Services

### Strategic Topic: Engagement

- GOAL 1.** Cultivate relationships to ensure strong, diverse, and engaged partners and users that provide input on needs and feedback on effectiveness.
- GOAL 2.** Diversify and expand funding and leveraged resources to create a resilient and robust financial foundation.
- OBJECTIVE 1.A.** Regularly evaluate and improve partner and stakeholder engagement to promote innovation in ocean observing.
- OBJECTIVE 2.A.** Develop and implement a strategy for increasing funding and resources to sustain efforts and balance ocean observing coverage across the region.

- GOAL 3.** Operate an effective and efficient ocean observing system to address stakeholder needs and to optimize product consumption.
- GOAL 4.** Increase observation and model coverage to fill gaps and achieve a more balanced system across the region.
- OBJECTIVE 3.A.** Maximize the effectiveness of PacIOOS products and services.
- OBJECTIVE 3.B.** Continue to be a leader in providing coastal and ocean information and services across the region.
- OBJECTIVE 3.C.** Increase the availability and impact of PacIOOS products and services among users.
- OBJECTIVE 4.A.** Foster the capabilities for ocean observing throughout the Insular Pacific.

## OCEAN OBSERVING IN THE PACIFIC ISLANDS REGION

The Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System (PacIOOS) is based within the School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. It is one of the eleven regional associations of the U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS®), which is a federally authorized program that works with national, regional, and private-sector partners to ensure compatible and consistent ocean and coastal data collection, management, and information products across the nation.

PacIOOS is an active member of the IOOS Association, which is a non-profit organization formed by the regional associations in support of the U.S. IOOS. The IOOS Association works with the eleven regional associations, the U.S. IOOS Program Office, and other partners to address the nation's need for coastal and ocean observation information.



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