

First Annual CeNCOOS Call for Expressions of Interest (EOI) August 30, 2013

Background

The Central and Northern California Ocean Observing System (CeNCOOS) is one of 11 regional organizations under the U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS), a national-regional partnership working to provide tools and forecasts to improve safety, enhance the economy, and protect our environment. CeNCOOS is a consortium of member organizations with a coordinating central program office and democratically elected governing council.

In order to develop and maintain a portfolio of projects of interest to member organizations and other stakeholders, CeNCOOS is issuing this call for Expressions of Interest (EOI). This call is expected to be repeated annually. EOI are a formal but flexible mechanism for suggesting new CeNCOOS projects and participants, and will serve as an index of current expertise and interest within CeNCOOS. This call is not intended to replace Letters of Intent or proposals in response to specific Requests for Proposals (RFPs) from funding agencies.

Proposed projects may include any activities that fit within CeNCOOS objectives and are consistent with the CeNCOOS mission, as defined in the CeNCOOS Framework for Decision Making (<http://www.cencoos.org/sections/about/decisionframework.shtml>). CeNCOOS priorities, as defined by the Governing Council, may be summarized as:

- Implement and operate data-assimilating coupled ocean physical-biogeochemical ecosystem **models**
- Continue long-term **measurements** of meteorological, and ocean physical, chemical, and biological parameters
- Provide a **data portal** to integrate real-time and historic long-term time-series measurements together with geospatial and other data
- Utilize data to create **products** to inform policy and decision-making

Current CeNCOOS-funded activities include:

- Operation of automated coastal water quality stations
- Operation of numerical atmospheric and ocean circulation models
- Operation of high frequency radars for measurement of surface currents
- Operation of profiling and surface gliders
- Management and communication of data, including real-time data from fixed locations, data from mobile assets and animal telemetry, and high resolution bathymetric data
- Development and provision of products integrating across multiple data types and/or involving advanced analysis of data

CeNCOOS data and products can be found on the CeNCOOS website (www.cencoos.org).

What

EOI should be 1-2 pages in length and include:

- A description of the proposed project
- Principals and organizations involved
- A statement of how the proposed activity relates to the CeNCOOS mission, vision and priorities
- The objectives, outcomes, deliverables, and end users for the project
- Approximate anticipated costs and timeline
- Relationship to currently funded CeNCOOS activities, if appropriate
- Existing and potential funding sources other than core CeNCOOS funds from the IOOS Program.

Who

EOI may be submitted by past, present and prospective data and/or information providers and users, henceforth to be called stakeholders in this context. Teams of stakeholders, particularly including both providers and users, are encouraged to collaborate on EOI.

Principal Investigators (funded or unfunded) on the current (2011-2016) IOOS award to CeNCOOS who wish to be considered for funding in the FY14 grant year (6/1/14 – 5/31/15), should submit an EOI.

How the EOIs will be evaluated and used

The CeNCOOS Program Director and Governing Council will compare the EOI with the criteria laid out in the Framework for Decision Making (Section 10, Table 3) and use them to assist with:

- Making decisions annually regarding core funds from the IOOS program
- Linking data and information providers with targeted funding sources
- Pursuit of funding sources to accomplish CeNCOOS goals
- Facilitating connections among parties with mutual interests
- Distribution of information to submitters regarding new developments and opportunities of interest

Note that those submitting an EOI are not guaranteed to receive funding through CeNCOOS.

When

While EOI will be accepted at any time, they must be submitted by November 30, 2013 for priority consideration in making decisions regarding distribution of FY14 core IOOS funding.

How to submit

EOI, preferably in MS-Word or PDF format, should be e-mailed to:

cencoos_communications@mbari.org