



INTEGRATED COASTAL AND OCEAN OBSERVING SYSTEM (ICOOS) ACT OF 2009 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

ACTIVITY: “implement a merit-based competitive funding process to support non-Federal assets, including the development and maintenance of a network of regional information coordination entities...”

ICOOS ACT REFERENCE: §12304 (c)(3)(E)

PLAN:

- **Objectives/Milestones:**
 1. Conduct FY11 competition in conjunction with National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP)
 2. Establish 5-year cooperative agreements with 11 Regional Associations, which will coordinate regional governance and observing system activities.
 3. Identify 1 partner with which to establish a 5-year cooperative agreement for national-scale sensor validation and verification activities
 4. Document business processes and institute a formal “lessons learned” collection and adjudication process

- **Execution Plan:** The U.S. IOOS[®] Program will partner with NOPP to coordinate the FY11 funding opportunity for the purpose of developing and maintaining a network of regional information and coordination entities
 - When publishing a funding opportunity aligned with IOOS strategic objectives, the federal program officer (s) will follow the “*Guidelines for the Preparation of Public Notices Announcing the Availability of Financial Assistance – Synopses, Federal Funding Opportunity (FFO) Announcements, and Federal Register Notices*” as outlined in Chapter 19 of the Department of Commerce Grants Manual.
 - When conducting a merit-based competitive funding process, the federal program officer(s) will follow the “*Merit Review, Selection, Approval, and Notification Procedures*” as outlined in Chapter 8 of the Department of Commerce Grants Manual.
 - In a new competition year, once awards are issued, IOOS staff involved in administering the grants process will document lessons learned throughout the

process. For any major issues identified, a corrective action plan will be written in order to course correct before the next FFO.

- **Dependent Activities:** President's budget allocating funds to IOOS for ocean observing system implementation
- **Additional Needs:** N/A

GROUP RESPONSIBLE: NOAA/IOOS/Regional & External Affairs Division (READ)

DELIVERABLES: Twelve five-year competitive awards from the FY11 Omnibus published July 2010; FY11 lessons learned document

DUE DATE: FY11 competitive awards (May 2011); Lessons learned (May 2011) - Completed

OUTSTANDING DECISIONS NEEDED: N/A **Action Completed**

COMPLETION SUMMARY: FY11 funding decisions are finalized and awards are in the process of being completed. Contact Regina Evans (regina.evans.@noaa.gov) in the IOOS Program for information on specific awards.