



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

ACTIVITY: Establish observation data variables

ICOOS ACT REFERENCE: § 12304(c)(2)(C) Establish required observation data variables to be gathered by both Federal and non-Federal assets and identify, in consultation with regional information coordination entities, priorities for System observations.

PLAN:

- **Objectives/Milestones:**
 - a. Adopt variables referenced in the IOOS Development Plan (20) and the Integrated Global Observing Strategy Coastal Theme Report (6)
 - b. Periodically review and assess list for additional variables to meet new or emerging coastal and ocean observing and societal needs.

- **Execution Plan:**
 - In coordination with identification of gaps in observation coverage, develop a report on current required and potential observation data variables in collaboration with both Federal and non-Federal entities.
 - Distribute the report widely among stakeholders throughout the Regional Associations and request feedback (or survey them on variables presently collected, and priorities for future variable collection).
 - Assign knowledgeable senior-level Federal representatives to serve as a steering committee for the variable selection process.
 - Convene a meeting with select senior-level federal or Committee representatives that will advise on variables.
 - Publish the final requirements in the Federal Register and make final required variables and associated documentation available online.

- **Dependent Activities:**
 - a. Dependent on regional implementation of variables; therefore, collaboration with non-federal associations is necessary. Dependent on identification of observation gaps; therefore dependent on ICOOS Act activity §12304(c)(2)(F).

- **Additional Needs:** N/A

GROUP RESPONSIBLE: Interagency Ocean Observation Committee

DELIVERABLES: Survey analysis (Date?); Report (Date?)

DUE DATE: N/A; Anticipated: June 2011.

OUTSTANDING DECISIONS NEEDED: Approval by the IOOC on process to establish variables; selection of Federal and IOOC members to serve at an advisory capacity.