



IMOS is supported by the Australian Government through the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy and the Super Science Initiative

## IMOS EIF UPDATE #3

Hi all.

In line with the IMOS EIF Timetable ([http://imos.org.au/eif\\_timetable.html](http://imos.org.au/eif_timetable.html)), we are now calling for Node and Facility Proposals. Proposals are due to the IMOS Office on or before 30<sup>th</sup> October 2009.

### Distribution

This email is addressed to:

- Node and Deputy Node Leaders
- nominated Regional Representatives
- expanded interests in the Bluewater and Climate Node
- Facility and Sub-Facility Leaders
- Operator representatives
- others who have (to date) expressed some interest in new Facilities/Sub-Facilities
- other stakeholder representatives, and
- members of the Advisory Board who aren't in one of the categories above.

It is expected that Nodes and Facilities will distribute this information more widely, as they see fit. If you feel we have omitted anyone from the distribution list, please forward to them and let the IMOS Office know for future reference.

### IMOS Five Year Strategy

All Node and Facility proposals will need to be developed 'in line with the agreed IMOS Five Year Strategy'. The IMOS Advisory Board approved the Five Year Strategy at its meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2009. The final version can be found at [http://imos.org.au/fileadmin/user\\_upload/shared/IMOS%20General/EIF/IMOS\\_Five\\_Year\\_Strategy\\_final\\_1509.pdf](http://imos.org.au/fileadmin/user_upload/shared/IMOS%20General/EIF/IMOS_Five_Year_Strategy_final_1509.pdf)

The approved Strategy is not markedly different from the initial and final draft versions made available earlier. The ten strategic priorities remain.

### Detailed Guidelines and Templates

Detailed guidelines have been developed, and can be found on the updated IMOS EIF web page - <http://imos.org.au/eif.html>

The guidelines include:

1. an Overview

2. Detailed Guidelines for Nodes
3. Detailed Guidelines for Facilities
4. Information on how the IMOS EIF process will be finalised after Proposals have been submitted.

The guidelines draw heavily on numerous discussions and meetings held over the last few months, as the Five Year Strategy has been developed and consultation undertaken. As such, the content should be familiar to member of the IMOS community.

One significant, recent development is that the Advisory Board has decided to begin the process of undertaking periodic external reviews of Node Science and Implementation Plans as part of the IMOS EIF planning process. The Bluewater and Climate and WAIMOS plans will be the first priorities, given that they will most strongly address the 2009 Federal budget requirement for enhanced monitoring of the Southern Ocean and extended coverage in northern Australian waters.

It should also be noted that a small number of focused workshops will be held during the next six weeks to discuss strategic priorities crossing Nodes/Facilities. Two are currently being planned - the role of Satellite Remote Sensing in the 'national backbone', and model-data synthesis. Further information will be provided as soon as possible.

The guidelines acknowledge a strong inter-relationship between Node and Facility planning. Come February 2010, when our Project Plan is to be submitted to DIISR for approval, the plans of the Nodes and Facilities will need to be in complete alignment. It is not expected that we will achieve this by 30<sup>th</sup> October 2009. Facility planning will be particularly difficult to finalise when all Nodes are forward planning at the same time. The guidelines set out a number of practical steps we can take to actively manage the potential for disconnection. This will be a test for us as a national community, but one I'm sure we'll pass with flying colours.

### **Information and Support from the IMOS Office**

As noted above, the IMOS EIF web page has been updated and contains all the relevant information and background. We will continue to provide regular (approximately fortnightly) Updates to the whole community over the coming months. This is Update #3.

Staff in the IMOS Office are ready, willing and able to guide, support and facilitate during the proposal development stage:

- Tim Moltmann, IMOS Director - I will be overseas (at OceanObs '09) from 17-28<sup>th</sup> September. Available by email and mobile.
- Jo Neilson, Executive Officer - Jo will be on well-earned leave from Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September. Available before then.
- Marian McGowen, Project Officer - Marian will be available throughout the process, and will fill-in for Jo while she is on leave.
- Katy Hill, Scientific Officer - Katy will be available throughout the process, and will be the contact point for external reviews and strategic priority workshops.
- Virginia Bowen, Administration Officer - Virginia will be available as a contact point throughout the process, noting that she works half-time (Monday, Tuesday and Friday morning).

Simon Allen, as the IMOS technical Director, will be an important resource for all Nodes and Facilities.

In summary, it's very exciting to be formally commencing the next stage of our investment planning. I look forward to working with you to make IMOS even bigger and better.

Regards, Tim

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