





Global OAE Field Research:

Request for Information

Introduction

Following Carbon to Sea's announcement of its <u>Global OAE Field Research Network</u> in March 2025, we are pleased today to be launching our first Request for Information (RFI) for researchers and potential field sites, in conjunction with the Kuehne Climate Center, MEOPAR, and the ClimateWorks Foundation as partners.

The RFI represents the first step in Carbon to Sea's process in creating a Global OAE Field Research Network. We recognize that there is a need for *considerably* higher quantity and quality of field data to build the empirical understanding of OAE's efficacy and safety in different scenarios. A network can accelerate the pace of discovery by uniting researchers and organizations into a dynamic, interconnected ecosystem of knowledge exchange and collaboration.

Figure 1: Illustrative Field Research Network with 'network' and 'site' activities

Global Network Research Site Drives research Define and prioritize research agenda innovation and Co-developed standards, methodology protocols, & metrics development Multi-site research Determines local research agenda coordination & meta-analysis of results Builds local partnerships Funding & seed grant and capacity coordination Establishes localized Political, policy, and business and funding permitting support model

This RFI invites researchers (defined broadly) and potential field sites to express interest in this network. It is intended to help gather a clearer picture of the research currently being conducted and planned, as well as potential locations, infrastructure, and institutions that can contribute to this research.

This unique combination of research requirements and site availability will help shape our hypotheses as to the type of network needed. For example, it may suggest that fewer, larger scale research hubs are needed to assemble a critical mass of funding, infrastructure, expertise / local capacity, and regulatory and community buy-in.







Alternatively it may suggest that more, small scale field sites are needed in many places around the world to replicate results under a wide variety of oceanographic conditions.

First priority for this funding and for this network will be to contribute to the scientific body of knowledge about OAE, and conduct transparent research that advances the field as a whole. While for-profit companies are encouraged to participate, this funding is not intended as a means for these companies to develop proprietary products or IP. Applicants should clearly highlight how their field site or proposed research would contribute scalable learnings beyond their community or organization.

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This RFI has 2 tracks depending on the type of organization the respondent represents: A **Researcher Track** and a **Field Site Track**.

The Researcher Track may include academics, engineers, public institution researchers, scientists from adjacent fields (geochemists, aquaculture practitioners, etc.), MRV sensor developers, or OAE developers looking for a pilot location. This track of respondents will have a research or technology development focus, but is flexible or not committed to a specific site they must conduct their research at.

The <u>Field Site Track</u> may include ocean research institutions already conducting research with interest to plug into a global network, owners of coastal marine infrastructure facilities, municipal wastewater agencies, pilot oCDR sites curious about expanding into OAE, focused research organizations or commercial field sites interested in hosting independent research, or OAE developers with an active site. This track of respondents will generally be committed to a specific site or general location.

We encourage organizations to reply to this RFI on behalf of their own organization. We recognize that some respondents will be parts of hubs / consortiums and recommend that they still reply individually and make mention of the other organizations they are collaborating with. For the RFP that will follow this RFI, these hubs / consortiums can coordinate and submit one joint proposal.

The deadline to submit responses to the RFI will be **Friday, August 15th, 2025 at 5:00pm EDT**. Detailed submission instructions can be found in the track-specific RFI Questions documents.