The Global Tropical Moored Buoy Array

Michael McPhaden[†];
[†] NOAA/PMEL, USA
Leading author: michael.j.mcphaden@noaa.gov

This poster highlights the Global Tropical Moored Buoy Array, which is a multi-national effort to provide data in real-time for climate research and forecasting.†The Array has three principal elements, one in each ocean basin. The Tropical Atmosphere-Ocean/Triangle Transocean Buoy Network (TAO/TRITON) in the Pacific Ocean is designed for improved detection, understanding and prediction of El Niño and the Southern Oscillation (ENSO). TAO/TRITON was completed in 1994 and at present is supported by a partnership between NOAA in the U.S. and the Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology. The Prediction and Research Moored Array in the Tropical Atlantic (PIRATA) is maintained via a partnership between NOAA and agencies in Brazil and France. PIRATA, completed in 2000 and expanded during 2005-07, provides data for Atlantic hurricane forecasting and for studies of ocean-atmosphere interactions that affect regional climate variability in South America and West Africa. The Research Moored Array for African-Asian-Australian Monsoon Analysis and Prediction (RAMA) was initiated in the Indian Ocean in 2004 and is still under development. RAMA was established to advance monsoon research and forecasting and is maintained through a partnership involving NOAA and other organizations in 14 Africa, Asian, and European nations.