



NOAA
SCIENCE
ADVISORY
BOARD

NOAA SCIENCE ADVISORY BOARD REPORT ON PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

April 27, 2023

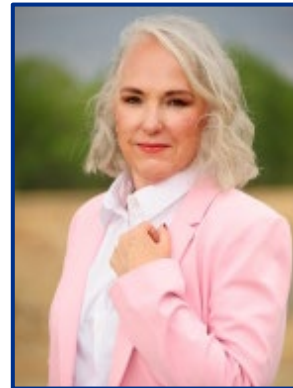
The Subcommittee



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Subcommittee Member,
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Background

- Project Proposed at December 2021 SAB Meeting
- Subcommittee made up of SAB members and one EISWG member
- Interviews and outreach
 - P3 experts from within NOAA
 - Federal P3 experts outside of NOAA
 - Private industry P3 experts
 - Exploration of other agency approaches



Recommendations

Clarify future NOAA directions so investors understand where untapped opportunities exist

Nurture external research or technology development beyond the initial investment phase

Create partnerships to standardize new technologies



Clarify NOAA's Future Directions

- **NOAA has a good history of mutual support with the private sector weather forecasting community**
 - There is opportunity to expand that model to other areas within NOAA's mission, such as Space Weather, Climate Services, and Coastal Management
- **Key to this is clarifying NOAA's future directions with specificity**
 - Enough specificity that Investors/developers understand where untapped opportunities exist
 - And where opportunity does not exist
- **Enhance engagement with partners to share information and answer questions**
 - Hold routine public meetings describing future NOAA plans and unmet needs
 - Clarify beyond what is written in Planning Documents



Nurture Fledgling Technology

- **NOAA has good mechanisms for engaging industry in early technology development**
 - But less support for identifying gems among these investments and helping them shine
 - NOAA should help its partners cross the “valley of death”
- **Assign Project Champions to facilitate adoption of successful projects**
 - Provide feedback about use case application and smooth agency introductions
- **Hold workshops to share progress with potential next-stage investors and buyers**
 - Present progress to high-level program staff and external partners
 - Introducing developers to international clients can be particularly helpful
- **Seek a mechanism, like DARPA as a Technology Accelerator, to stimulate and drive innovation in areas that align with NOAA's mission**



Partnerships to Standardize Technology

- **Widespread adoption of novel technologies is often dependent on standardization within an industry**
 - Variable results from different providers create information barriers
- **NOAA must engage many entities to achieve technology standardization**
 - Does well in coordinating with other federal agencies
 - Could do a better job with entities such as States and industry trade groups
- **NOAA should develop a programmatic approach to standardization**
 - Probably as the trusted partner that facilitates collaboration, rather than being the primary entity responsible for standards creation



DISCUSSION
