

Indian Ocean GEBCO Nippon Foundation Bathymetric Compilation

The aim of this multi-nation project is to assemble all acoustic bathymetric data from the different research cruises and hydrographic surveys undertaken in the Indian Ocean, combine them with satellite altimetry , and to publish a regional bathymetric map and grids that will also be integrated into the next world ocean map and grid by GEBCO.

The project will be undertaken by

- a combination of Nippon Foundation Scholars and senior GEBCO members, guided by an Editorial Board.
- Operations will be directed by a Project Director located at the project data center at the University of New Hampshire.
- Other researchers and data specialists in various countries will also participate
- The project shall be guided by an Editorial Board that will report to the GEBCO Sub-Committee on Regional Undersea Mapping (SCRUM).

The Editorial Board

- will be made up of members and advisors selected from GEBCO membership and from national and international organizations that provide data.
- Responsibilities will include guiding and monitoring progress, and reviewing, validating, and approving the resulting map and grid before incorporation into the GEBCO global grid.

. Project Limits

- Latitude: North of -50 degrees S
- Longitude: Cape Town to Western Australia
- Scale: To be determined, but at the best possible scale allowed by the data density

4.c Senior GEBCO members

- Other GEBCO members, who are not Nippon Foundation Scholars, will also take part in the project. They include:
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 - Project Director: Rochelle Wigley
 - To move to UNH
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 - Project Advisers:
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 - Colin Jacobs
 - Dave Monahan
 - Sue Mclean and/or Lisa Taylor (NGDC representative)
 - Martin Jacobsson (Chair of SCRUM)

18. General Procedures

- 8.a Areas
- Data will come from national sources of the nations fringing the Indian Ocean, as well as data collected by other nations in the course of scientific research cruises.
- Each coastal state will assume the responsibility for assembling and archiving proprietary and public domain data within the area adjacent to its own coastline and extending to the limits of its juridical Continental Shelf.
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- Areas seawards of the national zones will be treated on a collective basis
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- The project will respect sensitivities within national zones of interest, while promoting the free exchange of information.

8.e Outputs

- The project will develop a range of products, including:
- Digital data bases of original observations
- Digital bathymetric values distributed over a grid, with appropriate metadata
- *Printed maps that portray bathymetry in isobath and/or shaded relief form.*
- Documentation that describes the data sets

9. Management of Final Outputs

- In order to reach the stated goals of this project, it is necessary that the contributory parties be willing to consent to public release of the bathymetric data they contribute.
- If it is desired, GEBCO has facilities whereby it WILL NOT pass contributed data to 3rd parties, save as an integral part of the new Indian Ocean grid.
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- Data can be added to IHO Data Center for Digital Bathymetry (IHO DCDB) and to national data banks:
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- The final product will be distributed via the GEBCO website.

10. Outcomes

- Scholar's ability to work multi-nationally will be enhanced.
- Capacity to create bathymetric compilations, map and grids will be developed in more countries and in more organizations
- Nations will work peacefully together for the common good in the marine environment
- Knowledge of the seafloor within the Indian Ocean will be greatly increased.

11. Global Milestones for the Indian Ocean Mapping Project

- Visits to relevant Coastal States to solicit support from senior officials.
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- Meeting of GEBCO Team to determine areas of responsibility, confirm specifications, establish work plan, review progress, identify and solve problems, develop plan for next steps, report to and obtain approval from the Guiding Committee
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- Individual participants assemble data for their areas.
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- Meeting of GEBCO Team: review and approve progress, decide on final steps
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- Complete components, construct final products, document data sets and procedures.
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- Meeting of GEBCO Team to review and approve final products, recommend their release to the Guiding Committee

12. Provisional Timetable

- Hold planning meeting to refine proposal Done Stockholm May 2
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- Select data base host Done Stockholm May 2 selected UNH
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- 2a- improve project description document by circulation
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- Circulate project description to recruit Editorial Board and Scholars
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- Hold meeting / workshop on the nuts and bolts
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- Circulate project description and request for data
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- Schedule meeting of editorial board
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- N: Finish data collection; ?
- N+1: Complete data assembly and analysis ?
- N_2: Complete and publish map/datasets ?