



Nippon Foundation / GEBCO Indian Ocean Bathymetric Compilation



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IOBC Project Status

The aim of this multi-nation GEBCO / Nippon Foundation Indian Ocean Bathymetric Compilation (IOBC) project is to assemble, collate, archive and publish a grid and map based on available bathymetric data from all sources within the Indian Ocean region. The project is being undertaken by a combination of Nippon Foundation / GEBCO scholars and senior GEBCO members, and is guided by an Editorial Board, with operations directed by the project director, Dr Rochelle Wigley, located at the main project data center at the University of New Hampshire.

The 8th Nippon Foundation / GEBCO class of 2011-2012 worked on Phase 1 as part of their class projects, which resulted in the identification of a number of publically-available MBES datasets. Student's laboratory visits were designed to identify and obtain data, and to generate regional bathymetric data compilations that will be included in the final IOBC grid.

The 9th Nippon Foundation / GEBCO class of 2012-2013 started development of Phase 2 and established the first work-flow procedures on downloading the identified datasets and the subsequent data processing and cleaning procedures required to prepare the data for gridding.

Building Networks

The ongoing collaborations between Nippon Foundation / GEBCO students from the nine years of the program at UNH, through meetings, workshops and ongoing communication, has resulted in the development of the first IOBC database.

One of the most important aspects in the early phases of this project has been to build the networks between the different Nippon Foundation/GEBCO scholar's years, with their home organizations and with other organizations and industries relevant to the IOBC area.

IOBC Inception Workshop in Chittagong, Bangladesh from 20-22 January 2013

The IOBC inception meeting achieved many of the Nippon Foundation objectives with scientists talking to scientist (from five different Nippon Foundation / GEBCO classes and five different countries) about the future of the IOBC project, research that were currently involved in, what they were interested in and the possibility of collaborations in the future.

13th North Indian Ocean Hydrographic Commission Conference in Yangon, Myanmar from 19-22 February 2013.

NIOHC meeting presented a good networking opportunity for GEBCO as many of the same delegates from 12th meeting in Columbo, Sri Lanka (March 2012) were in attendance.

Myanmar Maritime University – 25 March 2013

The Project Director presented the Nippon Foundation / GEBCO programs, including the regional IOBC project, to Dr. Myat Lwin, the Rector of Myanmar Maritime University, and a number of colleagues of Saw Nu Sanda Thein's (GEBCO Year 8) and Htike Htike's (GEBCO Year 9) as well as students from the Civil Engineering Departments.

Malaysian National Hydrographic Centre - 26 March 2013

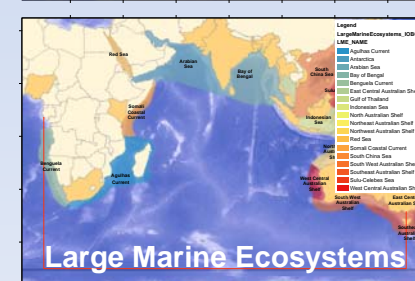
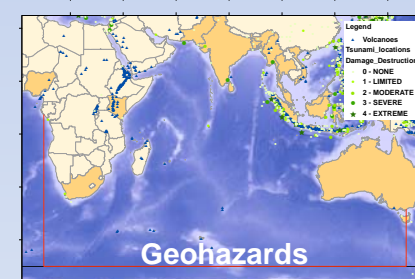
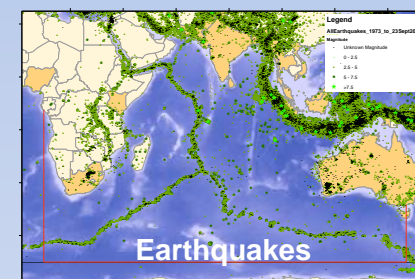
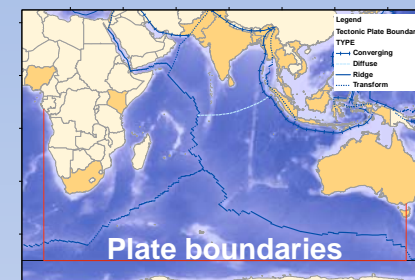
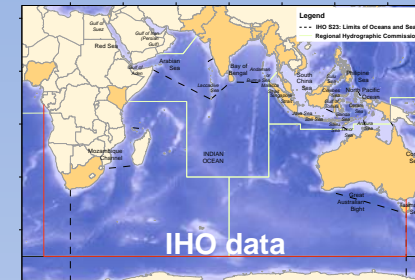
The GEBCO 9th year scholar, Cdr Norhizam Hassan, and the IOBC Project Director discussed ongoing collaborations with FADM Zaaim Hasan, Director General of National Hydrographic Centre of Malaysia. Shereen Sharma (GEBCO Year 1) was invited to Malaysia to develop the scholar's networks (GEBCO Year 1, 4, 9 & 10) and to share her skill sets with IOBC.

5th ROPME Sea Area Hydrographic Commission Conference in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from 4-6 March 2013.

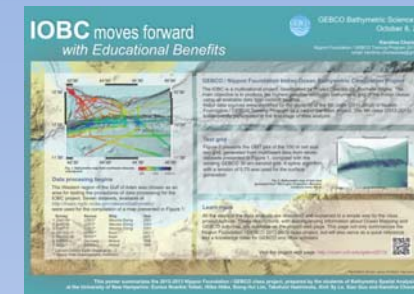
This meeting presented a good networking opportunity for GEBCO.

Acknowledgements: We gratefully acknowledge support from the Nippon Foundation.

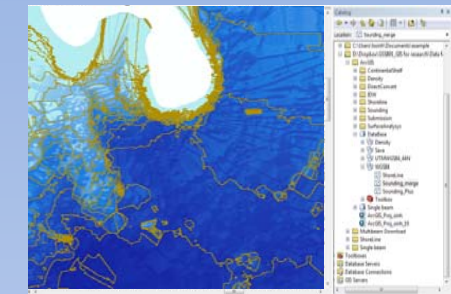
Supporting Databases



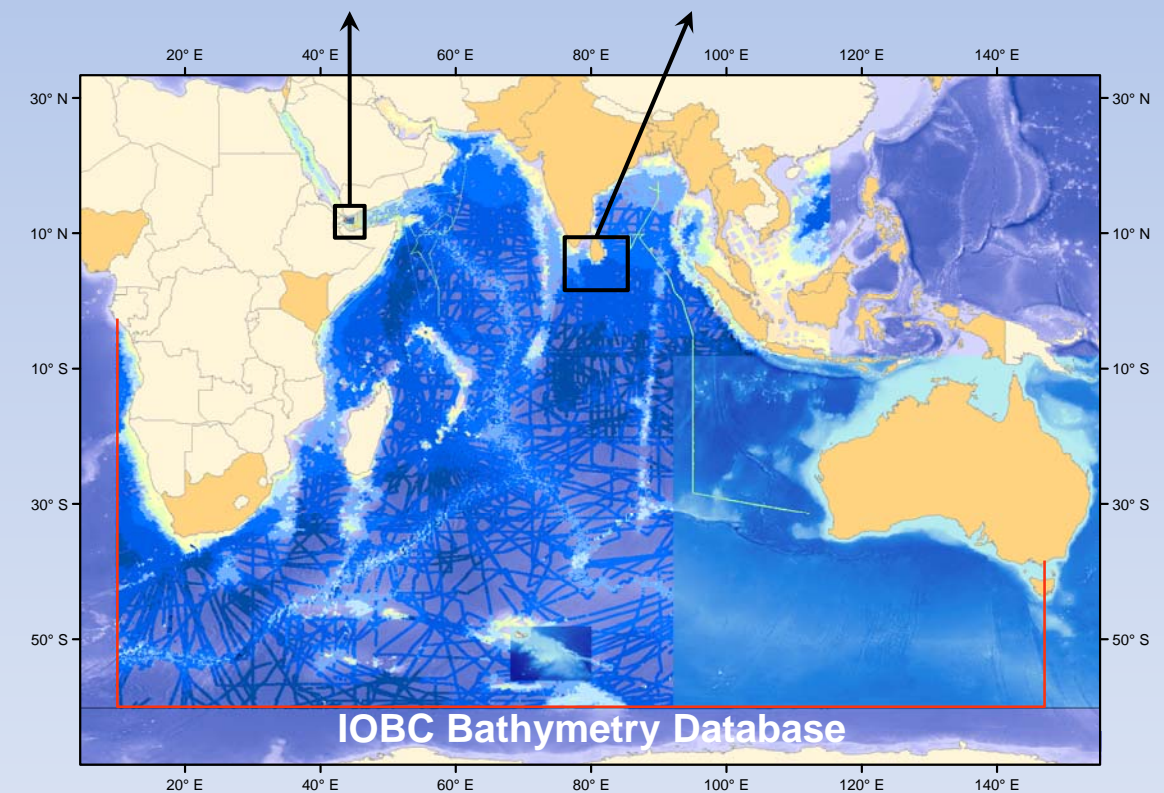
Added benefits: Focus of class and lab visit projects



GEBCO Year 9 Spatial Analysis class project worked on establishing data processing protocols (See their poster presented at Eighth GEBCO Science Day)



Xinh Le Sy (GEBCO Year 9) worked on a subset of data with James Daniell (GEBCO Year 6) and Xinh learnt how to setup a ArcGIS geodatabase and produced a "how to cook book" for the IOBC



The IOBC bathymetry (above) and supporting (central column) databases are hosted at UNH. The IOBC Bathymetry Database is currently being populated with single beam, multibeam and gridded datasets by the IOBC working group members.

