INTERNATIONAL INDIAN OCEAN EXPEDITION-2: 2015-2025

WG 03: OPERATIONAL COORDINATION

A Progress Report

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Co-Chairs

(*acknowledging the help from Kiran Kumar, INCOIS, Hyderabad***)**

The New Terms of Reference

- ***Establish a central web-based expedition planning utility linked to the IIOE-2 website.***
- ***Establish an opportunity/volunteer vessel database of commercial-sector ships and fixed platforms available for research and observations.***
- ***Establish a database of "in-kind" resource support from institutions, national fleets and funding agencies***
- ***Establish a process for reviewing planned and developing research projects toward discovering, communicating and enabling opportunities for collaboration among PIs.***
- ***Provide access to references on recommended methods and sources for acquiring calibration materials***

Contd….

The Terms of Reference

- ***Understand the current capacity development needs of Indian Ocean countries and align these needs with the IIOE 2 Science Plan.***
- ***Facilitate increased access to existing online training courses, resources and research infrastructure including onboard opportunities***
- ***Develop an IIOE-2 Communication Strategy and related Implementation Plan to ensure that the 'IIOE-2' is effectively communicated***
- ***Develop, implement and maintain an IIOE-2 website.***
- ***Capture and build interest in IIOE-2 amongst the general public through a public event and promotional materials campaign.***
- ***Showcase and promote the relevancies of the IIOE-2 research***

Contd……

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The Terms of Reference

- ***Maintain a regular dissemination mode** of cross-cutting information and general news and specific announcements for IIOE-2.*
- ***Promotion of IIOE-2 via presentations etc***
- ***Ensure that all IIOE-2 endorsed projects identify links** with national and/or international benefits.*
- ***Estimate the societal and economic value** of proposed IIOE-2 research*
- ***Facilitate P-P-P***
- ***Provide the day-to-day underpinning resources to administer and run the IIOE-2***
- ***Providing sufficient internal (IIOE-2) resources** to support the effort of soliciting and obtaining complete and sustained financial and other support for IIOE-2.*

Progress report of the activities

The WG continues to be the interface between the PIs and the other stakeholders, primarily on account of the enormous support from INCOIS and the JPO. By and large, several of the activities under the ToR are being accomplished through and by the JPOs.

Some of the continuing activities of this WG have been

- ***Assisting the JPO-India as and when needed, in the endorsement process of the projects received by IIOE-2.***
- ***Facilitating the updation and management of the IIOE-2 website through the JPO (India Node) and the Web-Based Services Group at INCOIS, Hyderabad.***

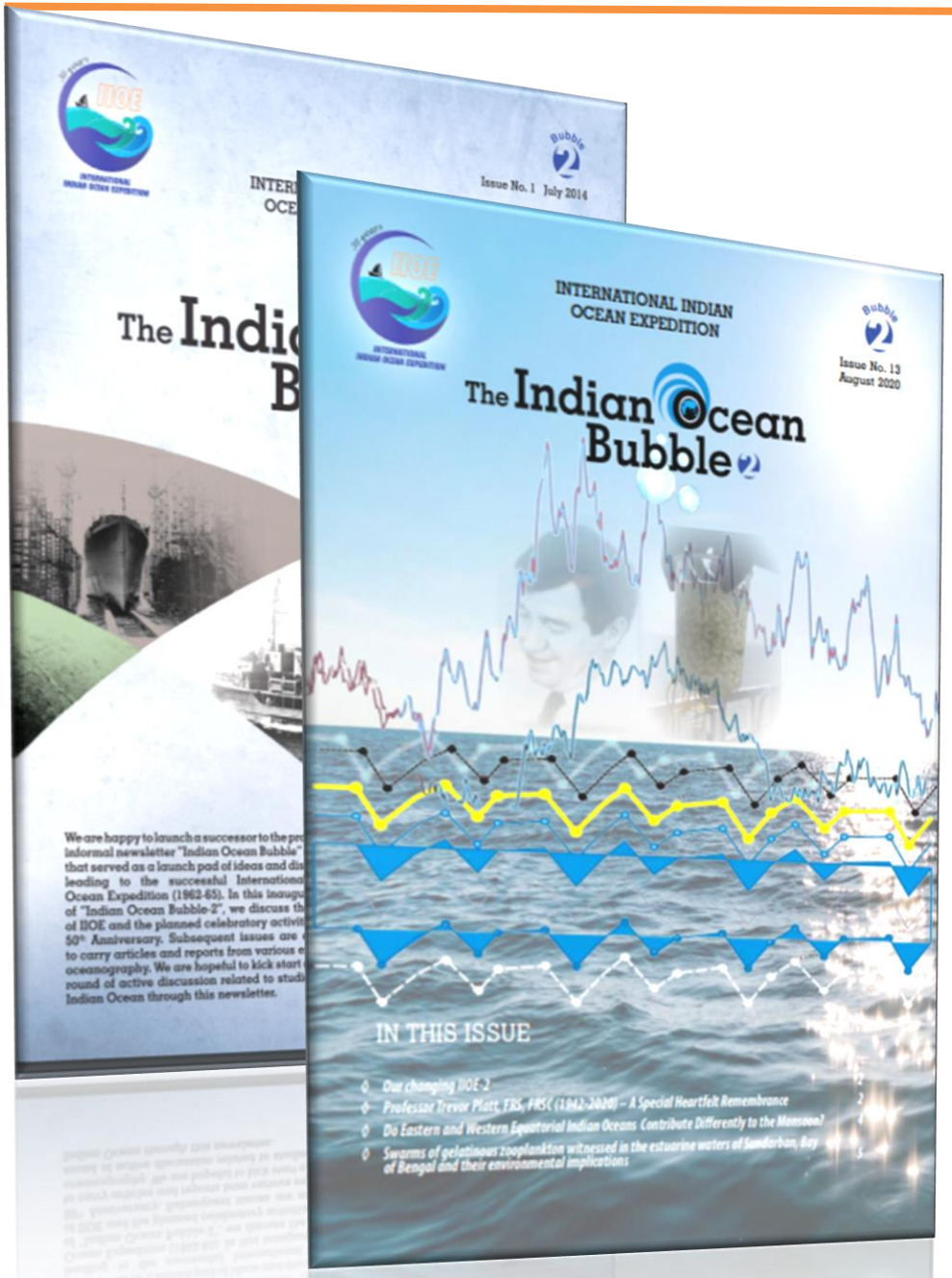
Contd.

Progress report of the activities

- ***Coordinating with the JPO in the management of the central web-based expedition planning and progress utility (http://www.iioe-2.incois.gov.in/WebGIS.html) for operational coordination and cruise archiving, linked to the IIOE-2 website.***

Contd.

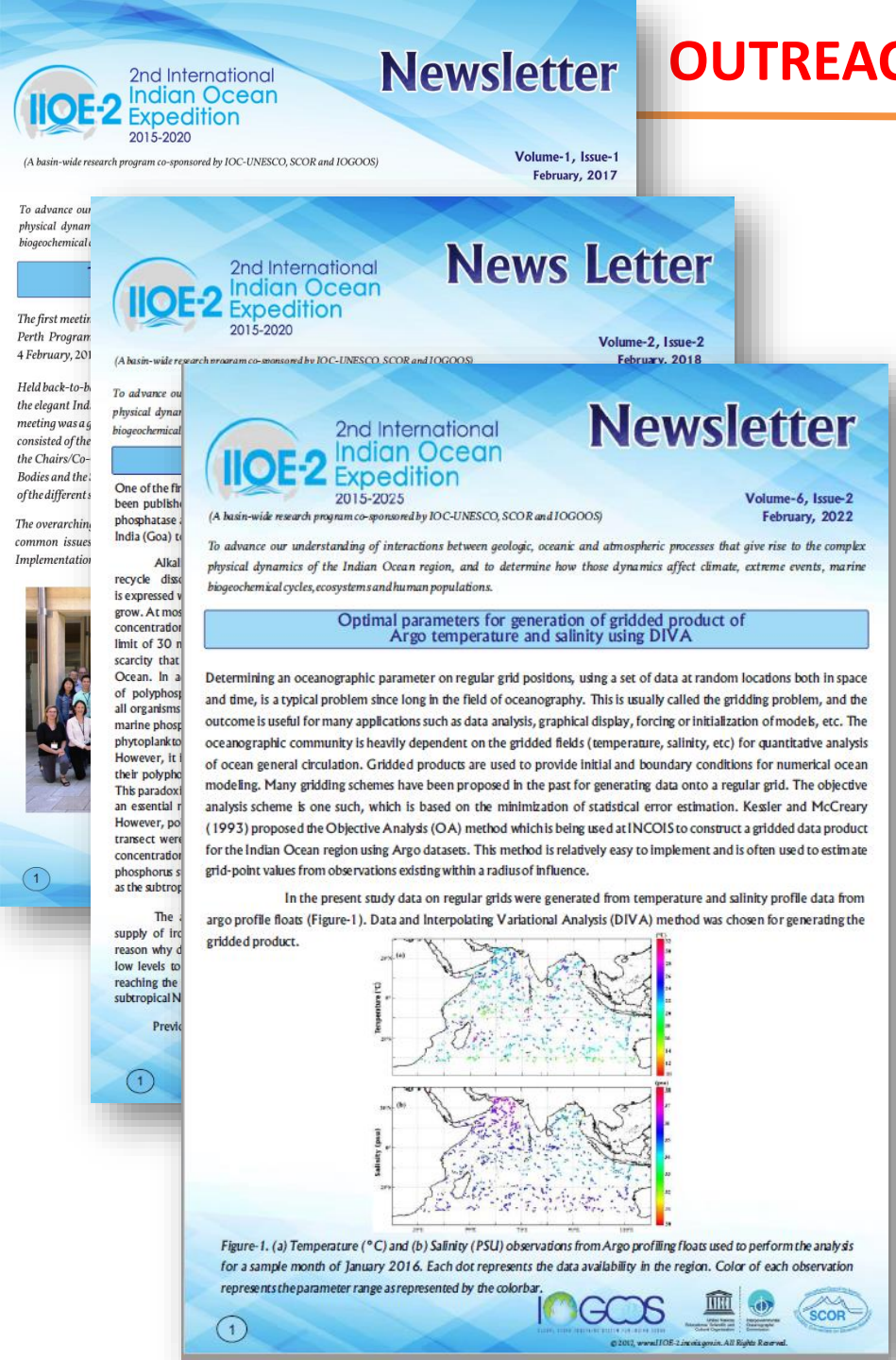
OUTREACH: Helping INCOIS with THE INDIAN OCEAN BUBBLE



Bi-annual informal newsletter providing short articles contributed by scientists with a sustained interest in the Indian Ocean studies.

e-versions reach out to nearly 1000 people.

OUTREACH: The IIOE-2 monthly newsletters



e-newsletter started in March 2017 and published on the last working day of each month highlighting the various activities in IIOE-2. As on date, 61 issues of this Monthly Newsletter have been released and mailed to nearly 900 people.

Constraints & the way forward

A major constraint in the attempts of the WG to disseminate the various achievements of the IIOE-2 to the stakeholders at large has been the non-submission of plans/ progress of studies by many of the PIs of the IIOE-2 endorsed cruises voluntarily, despite this being one of the pre-conditions of the cruise endorsements.

Contd……..

Excerpts from the Minutes of the last meeting (2021) of the SC

- **....It would be useful if data such as bathymetry data collected during cruises could be made freely available, particularly those likely to be uncontentious...**
- **.....Lynnath Beckley noted that the bathymetric data from the R/V Investigator and R/V Falkor cruises off Australia were available in the Geoscience Australia Seabed Database.**
- **.....Sateesh Shenoi noted that IIOE-2 has a template (on the website) for recording metadata from cruises and this is a requirement of endorsement *so ideally metadata should be made available immediately*, with the data to follow later once researchers have had an opportunity to publish.**

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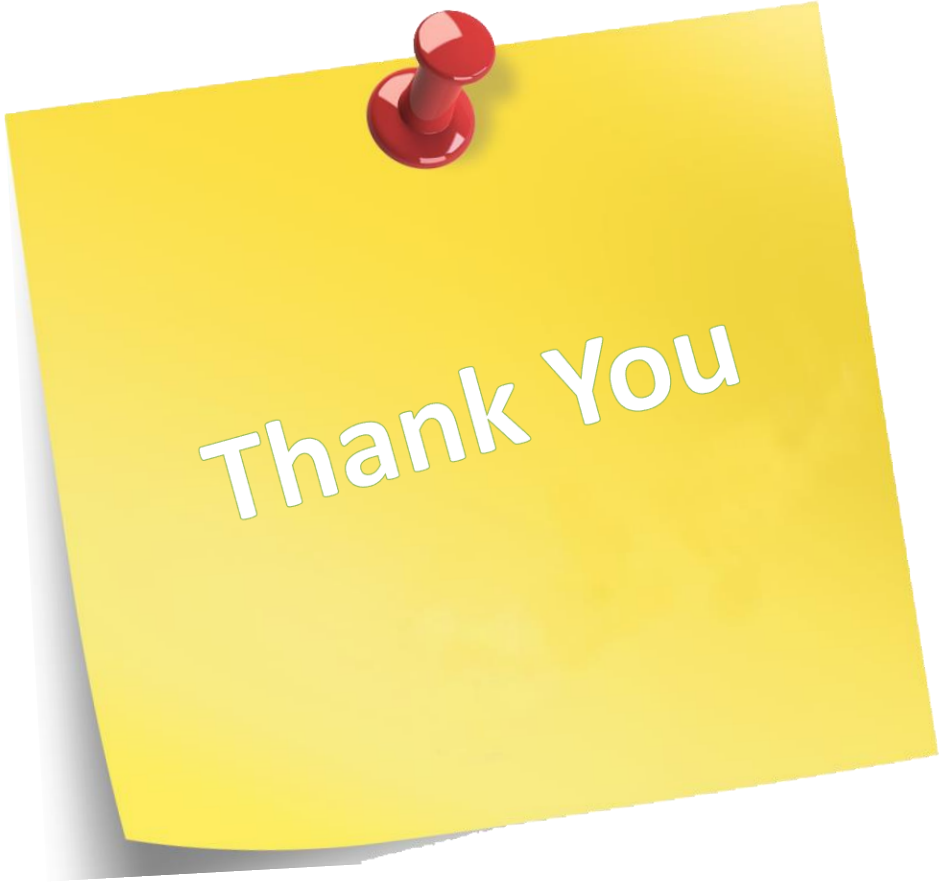
the way forward.....

It is felt necessary to strongly encourage/urge the proponents of the various IIOE 2-endorsed projects to make available to the JPO in a timely manner:

- ***their plans of implementation of the project***
- ***details of the cruises planned/under way***
- ***salient results of the studies, including data availability***
- ***publications arising out of the work carried out***
- ***availability of onboard positions if any, for the ECS in the planned cruises etc.***
- ***The scientists also need to be encouraged to maintain to the extent possible, a regular dissemination mode of information and general news specific to IIOE-2/their projects.***


Thank You