

PERTH PROGRAMME OFFICE  
IN SUPPORT OF UNESCO - IOC

# Newsletter



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



Intergovernmental  
Oceanographic  
Commission

## Season's Greetings

It has been another busy and enjoyable year for the Perth Program Office and on behalf of all of us at the IOC PPO I would like to extend our warmest wishes to all of our Western Australian, Federal Australian Government and IOC UNESCO co-sponsors, and our program partners and stakeholders for a safe and happy Christmas and festive season. We look forward to our continued engagement with you throughout 2016.



Best wishes Nick D'Adamo, Louise Wicks and Cristina Cervera Nuñez

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## IIOE-2 officially launched

The Second International Indian Ocean Expedition (2015-2020) was officially launched in Goa on Friday 4th of December on the concluding day of the very successful IO50 conference ([www.io50.incois.gov.in](http://www.io50.incois.gov.in)), co-sponsored by [NIO](#), SCOR and IOC. Senior representatives of the [Intergovernmental Oceanographic](#)

[Commission \(IOC\)](#), the [Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research \(SCOR\)](#) and the [Indian Ocean Global Ocean Observing System \(IOGOOS\)](#) Regional Alliance also took part in the launch which was officiated by India's Honourable Minister of State for Ministry of Science and Technology & Ministry of Earth Sciences, Mr Shri Y.S. Chowdary.

The closing ceremony of the Symposium included the official release of the [IIOE-2 Implementation Strategy](#), the [IIOE-2 Science Plan](#) and the [IIOE-2 website](#).



A number of presenters also outlined an exciting range of proposed national research activities and international scientific collaborations as key contributions to IIOE-2 over the next few years. Even at this early stage, we know of the intentions of many research agencies from many countries to explore the Indian Ocean over the next five years, to collect new data of relevance to future ocean/climate science research and with critical current policy and planning applications (e.g. marine spatial planning, fisheries management, safety at sea, food security, Blue Economy).

The beginning of the five-year international research programme was also celebrated and symbolized by the 4 December 2015 departure of the IIOE-2's first research cruise from Goa to Mauritius. The Indian Government Research Vessel Sagar Nidhi is currently crossing the Indian Ocean, with 18 scientists on board from India, Australia, UK, Singapore, Mauritius and Israel, and is expected to arrive in Mauritius on December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

To celebrate the completion of this inaugural IIOE-2 research cruise, a mini-symposium will be held on December 23<sup>rd</sup> in Mauritius.

Dr Nick D'Adamo, Head of UNESCO IOC's Perth Program Office (PPO) and the IOC IIOE-2 Coordinator said: "The launch of IIOE-2 also signifies the commencement of the PPO's role in the implementation of IIOE-2. The PPO looks forward to its collaborative IIOE-2 secretariat association with INCOIS, India, together forming the current two Joint Project Offices (JPO) for IIOE-2. The PPO will work closely with the Indian JPO to ensure the successful implementation of IIOE-2."



## **Annual IGOOS and associated science alliances meetings**

The Indian Ocean Global Ocean Observing System ([IOGOOS](#)) and its associated science alliances celebrated their annual meetings during 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> December 2015 in Goa. IOGOOS-12 met in conjunction with the 12<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Indian Ocean Panel of IOGOOS/CLIVAR (IOP), the 6<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Sustained Indian Ocean Biogeochemistry and Ecosystem Research program of IMBER/IOGOOS ([SIBER](#)) and the 6<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Indian Ocean Observing System Resources Forum (IRF). The integrated meetings once again provided a rich overview of the scientific research activities being undertaken through these scientific groups and also involved several strategic discussions related to the proposed future infrastructure and observational needs of the Indian Ocean Observing System ([IndOOS](#)). IOGOOS, as a co-sponsor of IIOE-2, also led discussions with its members on their proposed financial and in-kind support to IIOE-2, as well as ways in which the research activities of IOP and SIBER members will be aligned to the overarching IIOE-2 research themes, in particular identifying opportunities for international research collaborations. Some of the many key areas that received attention in the presentations were:

- The Ningaloo Nino
- Impact of the Pacific-Indonesian Throughflow on the Indian Ocean
- Advances in understanding and predictability of the Madden Julian Oscillation

and Indian Ocean Dipole

- Progress and status of the deep tropical mooring array RAMA
- Final science plan for the Eastern Indian Ocean Upwelling Research Initiative (EIOURI)
- Emerging plans for the Western Indian Ocean Upwelling Research Initiative (WIOURI)



*Meeting participants, December 2015.*



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