

(A basin-wide research program co-sponsored by IOC-UNESCO, SCOR and IOGOOS)

Volume-1, Issue-10
November, 2017

To advance our understanding of interactions between geologic, oceanic and atmospheric processes that give rise to the complex physical dynamics of the Indian Ocean region, and to determine how those dynamics affect climate, extreme events, marine biogeochemical cycles, ecosystems and human populations.

Mauritius hosts the Conference on Marine Spatial Planning and IIOE-2

The Secretariat of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) in collaboration with the Government of Mauritius (Department Continental Shelf, Maritime Zones Administration and Exploration) and the Department Defence and Rodrigues, hosted a two-day IORA Indian Ocean Conference on "Marine Spatial Planning - towards Sustainable Use of the Indian Ocean" on the 22-23 November 2017 in Mauritius.



Inauguration of the Conference: Left to Right, Ambassador K. V. Bhagirath, Secretary General, IORA, Sir Anerood Jugnauth, Minister Mentor, Government of Mauritius, Her Royal Highness Princess Zenani Dlamini, High Commissioner of the Republic of South Africa and representative of the IORA Chair, and Mr. Premhans Jhugroo, Senior Chief Executive, Ministry of Defence and Rodrigues.

The Conference also included a session on Data collection and initiatives under IIOE-2, wherein Nick D'Adamo and S. Rajan, Co-ordinators respectively of the two Joint Project Offices of IIOE-2 at Perth (Australia Node) and Hyderabad (India Node) made presentations on IIOE-2 and how the Science Themes and the Working Groups of IIOE-2 can leverage their activities in consonance with the MSP for the Indian Ocean region. An interesting interactive discussion on Translating Science to Society, led by Rezah Badal, the Chair of the IIOE-2 WG-06 was another highlight of the Session. Other speakers at the session included Yamkela Mngxe from the Department of Environmental Affairs, South Africa, Shigalla Mahongo from the Tanzania Fisheries Research Institute and K. Seetah from the Stanford University.

[Report with inputs courtesy Dr. Rezah Badal, Department for Continental Shelf, Maritime Zones Administration & Exploration, Mauritius; mrbadal@govmu.org]

Romola Stewart joins IOC PPO as the New Programme Manager

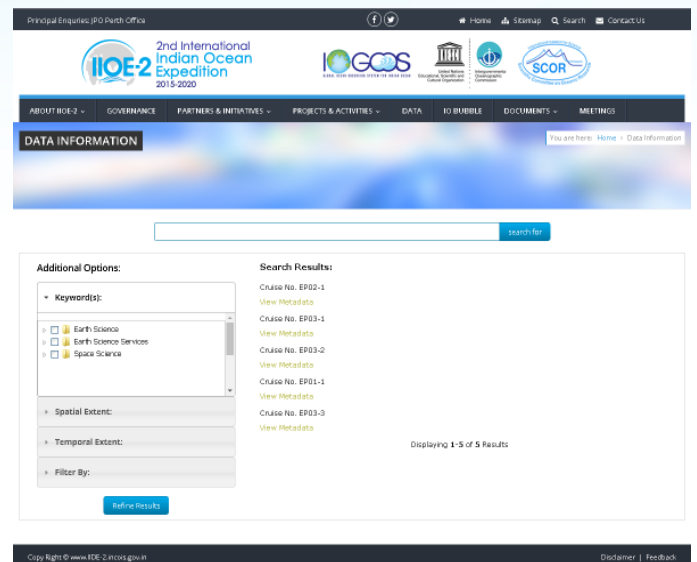
Dr. Romola Stewart ("Rom") has joined the IOC-Perth Programme Office (IOC PPO) as the new Programme Manager from 1 November 2017. Rom, who holds a Ph.D in Marine Spatial Planning comes to the IOC PPO with wide ranging fundamental and applied marine scientific experience across government, industry and academia. She would be working with Dr. Nick D'Adamao at the IIOE-2 Joint Project Office, Perth. Rom replaces Louise Wicks who has taken a promotion within the Australian Bureau of Meteorology as Acting Group Manager of the Science and Innovation Group, Global and National Science Relationships.

A hearty welcome to Rom from the IIOE-2 community and very best wishes to Louise in her new role.

A Metadata portal for the International Indian Ocean Expedition-2

A Metadata portal which facilitates the input, search and discovery of metadata of all completed and forthcoming/planned cruises under IIOE-2 has been developed by the Data Management and Web Services Groups of INCOIS, Hyderabad (<http://www.iioe-2.incois.gov.in/IIOE-2/data.jsp>).

This portal has been designed such that it can be accessed by the proponents of the cruises against their authentication for uploading the metadata of their projects. Some of the other salient features of the portal are, ISO standards - compliant representation of metadata information, GCMD Science Keywords for controlled keyword search, spatial, temporal, keyword and free text Search, and simple interface for metadata submission, update and search.



A User Guide is available at (<http://www.iioe-2.incois.gov.in/IIOE-2/pdfviewer.jsp?docname=UserGuide.pdf>)
[Report courtesy N. Kiran Kumar, INCOIS; kirankumar@incois.gov.in]

International Conference on Marine Ecosystem Assessment for the Southern Ocean

9-13 April, 2018 in Hobart, Australia. Abstracts are due by 15 December, 2017 and can be submitted at <http://www.measo2018.aq/abstracts>. Visit <http://www.measo2018.aq> for further details.

2018 Meeting Announcement - IIOE-2 Steering Committee, IGOOS, IORP, SIBER & IRF Annual Meetings

The second face-to-face meeting of the IIOE-2 Steering Committee is scheduled to be held along with the Annual Meetings of IGOOS, IORP, SIBER and IRF during 19-23 March 2018. The meetings will be hosted by the Government of Indonesia and will take place in Lombok. Watch out for further details on the IIOE-2 website: www.iioe-2.incois.gov.in

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