

IODE-IAMSLIC Collaboration

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Abstract:

The programme "International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange" (IODE) of the "Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission" (IOC) of UNESCO was established in 1961. Its purpose is to enhance marine research, exploitation and development, by facilitating the exchange of oceanographic data and information between participating member states, and by meeting the needs of users for data and information products.

To promote marine information management the IOC member states have designated IODE national coordinators for marine information management (MIM) of which there are currently 39. IODE MIM products include the OceanDocs e-repository, the OceanExpert directory of marine and freshwater professionals and the OceanBestPractices repository of community accepted existing ocean best practices. IODE also hosts IAMSLIC's Aquatic Commons e-repository.

In order to further expand its MIM stakeholder community the IODE, in 2017, decided to enable any national projects, programmes, institutions or organizations, or regional or international projects, programmes, institutions or organizations (including academia) that carry out marine information management functions, to become a member of the IODE network as a "Associate Information Unit" (AIU). It is expected that this will also lead to closer collaboration with IAMSLIC. Another important priority of IODE is capacity development and more particularly continuous professional development, through the IODE OceanTeacher Global Academy. Since 2016 IODE has started the development of a global network of Regional Training Centres in Latin America, Africa, Europe, Indian Ocean region and Western Pacific region that will provide technical training related to, inter alia, data managers and marine information managers to update their skills and expertise taking into account the development of new technologies and practices.

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