

J G O F S

GLOBAL
I G E P
CHANGE


International Council for Science
Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research

COMPACT
disc
DATA STORAGE

Dec. 2003

International Website
International Project Office
JGOFS

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The **Joint Global Ocean Flux Study (JGOFS)** was an international and multi-disciplinary project which studied physical, chemical, biological and sedimentological aspects of the marine environment, with participants from more than 20 nations. JGOFS was launched in 1987 at a planning meeting in Paris under the auspices of the Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR). Two years later, JGOFS became the first marine core project of the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP).

More than a decade of field studies in key regions of the global ocean, a series of process studies, a global survey of dissolved inorganic carbon parameters, and several long-term measurement programs at fixed stations contributed to a better understanding of the oceanic fluxes of carbon and associated biogenic elements. The availability of remotely sensed measurements from instruments on satellites has made it possible to extend the inferences made to regional and global scales. JGOFS developed a plan for synthesising the observations into a global picture of large-scale fluxes with the help of several modelling techniques. JGOFS was committed to the development of models that can assimilate results from field studies, produce accurate large-scale descriptions of ocean biogeochemical phenomena and predict oceanic responses to environmental changes. The JGOFS strategy's final component was a comprehensive and accessible database. Overall, JGOFS studies have brought together data on chemical fluxes, biological processes and the physical forces that constrain them, in order to increase our understanding of the pathways by which carbon moves through the ocean in various forms, organic or inorganic, in particles or dissolved in the water, and of the ways in which ocean biogeochemical systems vary over time and space.

This CD-ROM contains the final version of the International JGOFS Website, which will be maintained "as it is" at <http://www.uib.no/jgofs> for at least one year after 2003. When using contents extracted from this CD-ROM, please, include the citation below and acknowledge the contribution of the JGOFS community.

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International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (www.igbp.kva.se)



Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (www.jhu.edu/scor)

The JGOFS **Scientific Steering Committee (SSC)**, appointed by SCOR and IGBP, had overall responsibility for the design, implementation, execution and synthesis of each internationally coordinated activity. This involved decisions on main measurements to be made, the most effective use of resources, and the best ways to interact with other large-scale projects. The SSC defined the questions, formed planning and synthesis groups as well as task teams, co-ordinated the observational phase and set the timetables for each study. These working groups and task teams identified the most important processes and variables to study, the regions in which such studies will provide the greatest insight and most useful data, and the best experimental design for the studies. The SSC also set the sequence of events necessary to complete specific tasks, provided the resources and international co-ordination required for the tasks.

After January 1996, the JGOFS **International Project Office (IPO)**, which supported the SSC, was located at the University of Bergen, Norway. This office was sponsored by the Research Council of Norway and the University of Bergen. The responsibilities of the IPO were to assist the JGOFS SSC in collating information on national and regional programmes of global change research relating to the project, to prevent unnecessary duplication of effort and to ensure the effective use of existing knowledge in its analysis of processes and changes at global scales. It also served as a knowledge resource centre and a channel of communication between international scientists working on various aspects of global change research.

University of Bergen
(www.uib.no)



Research Council of Norway
(www.forskningsradet.no)

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