

Third SCOR Meeting on Coordination of International Marine Research Projects

Background information from GLOBEC

Data management/publication discussion

The GLOBEC IPO maintains a metadata inventory in the Global Change Master Directory, this will form part of the legacy of GLOBEC and there are plans to update it before the end of the programme. The IPO does not maintain records of GLOBEC cruises.

Education and capacity building

Throughout the programme GLOBEC has supported capacity building activities. It has funded many scientists from developing countries to attend meetings and symposia, often using SCOR sponsorship. Several of the GLOBEC programmes have been based in developing countries and BENEFIT in particular had a strong training element (a summary of the BENEFIT Research Projects has recently been published as GLOBEC Report No.25).

A template has been developed for the new GLOBEC website for an educational section for children.

Projects and ocean observations

There are several time-series stations used for GLOBEC research, including L4 in the English Channel, SAHFOS Continuous Plankton Recorder lines and grids and US GLOBEC Georges Bank. Each of these stations are funded by the individual projects. GLOBEC has links with GOOS through John Field who until recently was a member of the GLOBEC SSC.

Project publicity/visibility

GLOBEC is a mature project and its approach to publication and visibility mostly relates to the synthesis and wrap-up of the project. This is primarily achieved through the following activities:

GLOBEC Symposia

- The third GLOBEC Open Science Meeting will be held in Victoria, BC, Canada 22-26 June 2009

Publications

- The GLOBEC synthesis book, "Marine ecosystems and global change" is currently in the final stages of editing and due to be published by Oxford University Press in late 2009.
- The "Climate Change and Small Pelagic Fish" book produced by the SPACC GLOBEC Regional Programme has just been published by Cambridge University Press. <http://www.cambridge.org/uk/catalogue/catalogue.asp?isbn=9780521884822>
- There are plans to produce a book from the GLOBEC Focus 4 symposium on "Coping with Global Change in Marine Ecosystems" to be published by Wiley-Blackwells.
- There are 25 special issues of journals from GLOBEC activities, the IPO has an archive of 3 copies of each publication produced by GLOBEC and it is planned to distribute these to three libraries at the end of the programme.
- The GLOBEC IPO maintains a database of GLOBEC publications which currently contains over 3000 records.

The GLOBEC IPO maintains a website which is currently mostly used a tool for accessing information by GLOBEC scientists. A new GLOBEC website is being developed which will form part of the legacy of GLOBEC and serve as an archive of GLOBEC outputs.

Modelling

Modelling has been a strong component of the GLOBEC programme, primarily through its Focus 3 Working Group "Predictive and Modelling Capabilities".

Interactions with Intergovernmental Organizations

A proposal has been submitted for funding to produce a summary for policy makers to reach out to the user and management community. A research highlights brochure will also be produced which will be aimed at the research community. This proposal includes funds for a travelling tour to present the results at policy and scientific levels.

GLOBEC has also developed close working relationships with applied marine organisations such as the FAO, primarily by having an FAO staff member on the GLOBEC SSC and by their support to co-host the Focus 4 symposium on "Coping with Global Change in Marine Ecosystems" at FAO in July 2008.

GLOBEC has also reached out to the World Climate Research Programme community to develop links with GLOBEC's efforts to link climate models with ocean models to study the potential impacts of climate change. For this GLOBEC also has co-opted a key member of the WCRP community to serve on the GLOBEC SSC. Experience from the GLOBEC programme suggests that we have been most successful in forging true collaborations and strong interactions with these other organisations by placing one of their key members on our SSC. The same approach can be said for engaging "human dimensions" to the GLOBEC programme by adding a social scientist to the committee. Overall, GLOBEC has forged strong relationships with intergovernmental organisations by developing GLOBEC regional programmes in locations of their interests (e.g. ICES, PICES, SCAR).

Use of Conference Manager System

GLOBEC has used the Conference Manager system to organise four large symposia. This system has made receiving payments for registration fees much easier for the IPO and we have to thank SCOR for their assistance with this. It also makes collecting and reviewing abstracts for the symposium much simpler and it is very useful to have all the registration, payment and abstract information in one place. The system is not without flaws but most of the issues are minor and the benefits of using it greatly outweigh any problems.