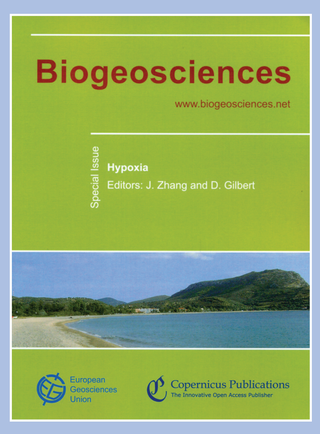
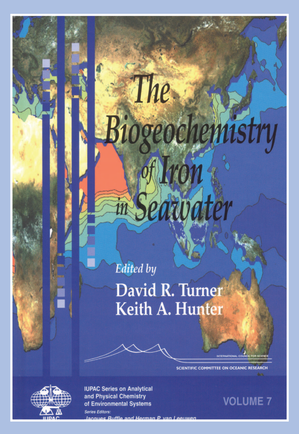
www.scor-int.org

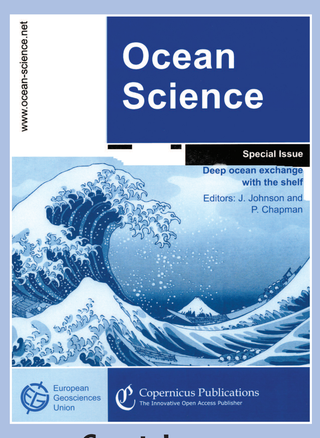
Since 1957, the **Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research** has helped ocean scientists worldwide work together to identify research priorities in ocean science, plan and carry out international ocean research projects, overcome technical obstacles to ocean research, and build capacity for ocean research in developing countries. SCOR has contributed significantly to nearly every area of ocean science, through SCOR working groups, international research projects, and committees and panels.



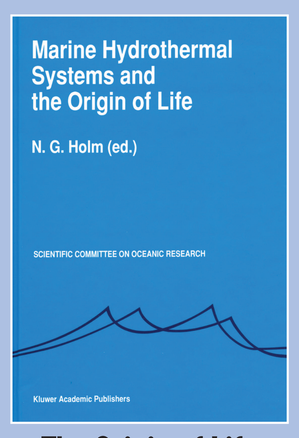
Coastal Hypoxia



Iron in the Ocean

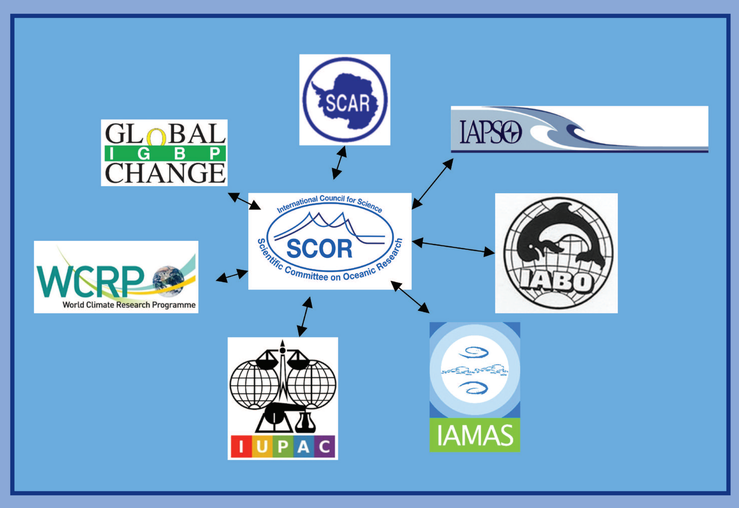


Coastal-open ocean interactions

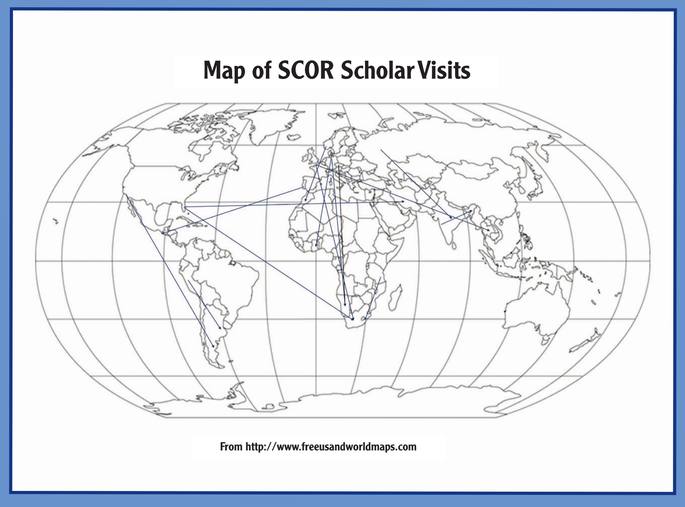


The Origin of Life

SCOR Working Groups: SCOR solicits proposals each year for new working groups, which can have a variety of different purposes: solving methodological problems, creating databases, standardizing methods, documenting the state of an area of science, and identifying priority scientific topics. Proposed groups must have global importance, be achievable in 3-4 years, and must pass review by national SCOR committees. Some examples of the products of SCOR working groups are shown above.



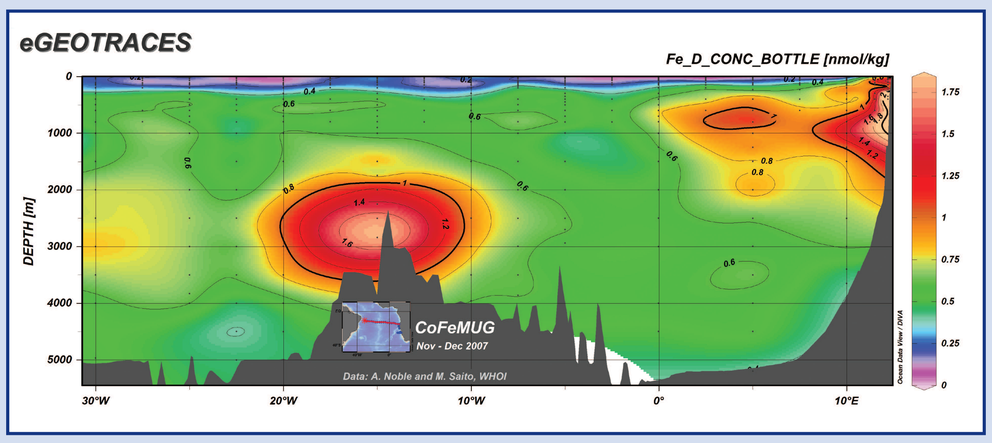
SCOR and ICSU: SCOR provides a focus for ocean science within ICSU and cooperates with other ICSU bodies with interests in ocean issues. The presidents of the International Association of Biological Oceanography (of IUBS), and the International Association of the Physical Sciences of the Ocean and International Association of Meteorology and Atmospheric Sciences (of IUGG)—are members of the SCOR Executive Committee. SCOR has partnered with other ICSU groups in recent years to co-sponsor working groups and research projects, as well as ICSU-funded workshops.



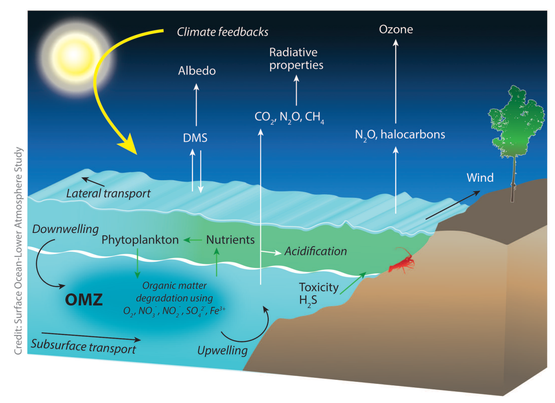
Participants in course on coastal lagoons in Morocco

SCOR Building Ocean Science Capacity: One of SCOR's main missions is to help make connections between ocean scientists in developed and developing countries and to stimulate capacity for ocean science in developing countries. SCOR has funded travel grants for developing country scientists since 1981, includes developing country scientists on every SCOR working group and committee, and established a program of SCOR Visiting Scholars in 2009. Fifteen Visiting Scholars have been appointed to serve in 11 different developing countries in the first 6 years of the program (see figure above left).

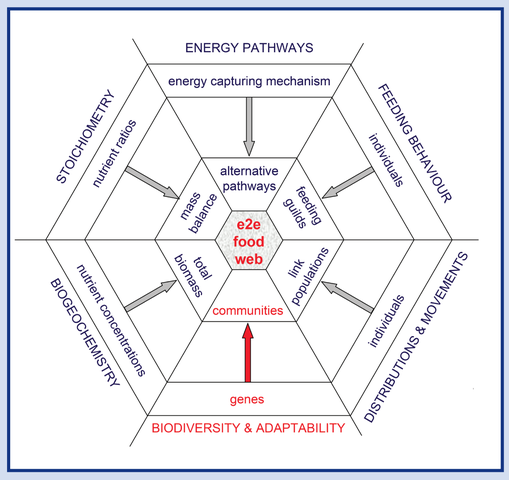
SCOR Large-Scale Ocean Research Projects: For more than 55 years, SCOR has helped ocean scientists work together to increase our understanding of the ocean, its contents, and how the ocean interacts with the land, atmosphere, seafloor, and ice. SCOR provides a platform for scientists to plan and implement large-scale international ocean research projects. SCOR has been involved in many of these projects, which have greatly expanded our understanding of the ocean carbon cycle, interactions between climate and fisheries, how ocean chemistry affects ocean biology, environmental controls on harmful algal blooms, and an understanding of the role of trace elements in the ocean. SCOR currently sponsors three large-scale research projects.



GEOTRACES is a study of trace elements and isotopes in the ocean. The figure above shows GEOTRACES observations of the distribution of iron that occurs at incredibly low levels in the Atlantic Ocean.



SOLAS is a study of the interactions between the surface ocean and lower atmosphere. This figure shows SOLAS plans to study eastern boundary upwelling systems and oxygen-minimum zones. From Law, C., et al. 2013. *Environmental Chemistry* 10:1-16



IMBER is a study of the interactions among ocean nutrient cycles, organisms, and ecosystems.