

Working Group Reports to SCOR (2020)

1. Name of group

WG 159 DeepSeaDecade: Roadmap for a Standardised Global Approach to Deep-Sea Biology for the Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development.

2. Activities since previous report to SCOR (e.g., virtual or in-person meetings, email discussions, special sessions). Limit 1000 words

The group held its first meeting 22-24th Jan 2020. The group outlined two papers to be developed over the next 4 months. One outlining a blue print for the UN Decade and one focused on barriers to deep-sea science for developing nations. The last day of the meeting was given over to a public event discussing needs and plans for the Decade. Many students and early career researchers were invited to this meeting.

3. Documents published since previous report to SCOR (e.g., peer-reviewed journal articles, reports, Web pages) and should be limited to publications that resulted directly from WG activities and which acknowledge SCOR support

None yet

4. Progress toward achieving group's terms of reference. List each term of reference separately and describe progress on each one. Limit 1000 words

1. To develop a global plan for survey / sampling deep-sea ecosystems to underpin deep-sea research for the UN Decade of Ocean Science. – Plan has been discussed and agreed, abstract for paper and paper outline written.
2. To agree on methods and standards for the acquisition of biological data, including the role of existing and novel technologies. – not yet discussed
3. To develop habitat-specific approaches for survey / sampling the deep-sea ecosystem (following the Census of Marine Life model), that integrate the global approaches developed under ToRS 1 and 2, but allow greater specialisation. – Progress made on Seamount plans and outline issues to be highlighted in paper under TOR 1
4. To integrate ToRs 1-3 with wider efforts under the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) via the Deep Ocean Observing Strategy (DOOS). – Discussed and agreed how the two fit together and outline will be provided under TOR 1 paper.

5. To actively facilitate efforts to build capacity in developing nations for deep-sea science – outlined a paper to review the current barriers to deep-sea science for developing nations and what capacity building efforts have worked well / not so well in the past.

5. WG activities planned for the coming year. Limit 500 words

Second meeting to be held in Brazil in August – Coronavirus permitting.
Full draft paper for TOR 1 by June, for TOR 5 by end of year

6. Is the group having difficulties expected in achieving terms of reference or meeting original time schedule? If so, why, and what is being done to address the difficulties Limit 200 words

Not yet

7. Any special comments or requests to SCOR. Limit 100 words.

No

Additional information can be submitted and will be included in the background book for the SCOR meeting at the discretion of the SCOR Executive Committee Reporter for the WG and the SCOR Secretariat.