INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION
(of UNESCO)

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IODE NATIONAL REPORT FOR JAPAN
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1. Name of Data Centre:
   Japan Oceanographic Data Center (JODC)

2. National IODE Coordinator:
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3. Data Centre Address:
   As above

4. Data Centre URL:
   http://www.jodc.go.jp/

5. IODE Data Centre Designation Date:
   April 1st 1965

6. Brief History
   • The Japan Oceanographic Data Center (JODC) was established in Hydrographic Department,
     Maritime Safety Agency, in 1965 in accordance with the reports of the Council for Marine
   • JODC became the Responsible National Oceanographic Data Center (RNODC) for WESTPAC
     in 1979.
   • JODC started the training course of WESTPAC data management in 1982.
   • JODC started the JODC Data Online Service System (J-DOSS) in 1995.
   • JODC started the Regional Delayed Mode DataBase (RDMDB) for NEAR-GOOS (North-East
     Asian Region GOOS) in 1996.
   • In 2002, JODC organized the International Workshop for GODAR-WESTPAC (Global
     Oceanographic Data Archaeology and Rescue Project for WESTPAC) in Tokyo. And, its
     project office was located at JODC.

7. Roles and Responsibilities of the Data Centre:
   JODC is a division of the Hydrographic and Oceanographic Department, Japan Coast Guard (JCG).
   JCG belongs to the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, and Transport. The followings are the mandates
   of JODC ruled in an Ordinance of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, and Transport.
   • To collect, manage, archive and disseminate data and information concerning the hydrographic
     and oceanographic activities.
   • To exchange internationally data and information concerning hydrographic and oceanographic
     activities.

8. Description of national data and information management coordination:
   Under the national IOC committee, JODC organizes the domestic group for oceanographic data and
   information exchange, in order to coordinate the data management in Japan. The group consists of the
   representatives of the leading oceanographic research organizations. Its meeting is usually held once a
   year.
The council for science and technology submitted a report on 'Japan's Ocean Policy at the beginning of 21st century' in July 2002. It encouraged Japanese research organizations to support the activities of International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE).

The New National Biodiversity Strategy of Japan was adopted at the meeting of the Council of Ministers for Global Environment Conservation in March 2002. It urged to accumulate various marine environmental monitoring data at JODC.

9. Data Centre Projects and Activities during the Intersessional Period:

**J-DOSS (JODC Data Online Service System)**

JODC started an online data retrieval system, J-DOSS, in 1995. Through Internet, the researchers can search and download the oceanographic data and information that JODC received from various research organizations. At first, only the researchers, who belong to the organizations that provide JODC with the original data, were allowed to download the data using J-DOSS. However, the Law concerning Access to Information Held by Administrative Organs was enforced in Japan in 2001, and Japanese research organizations became positive to open the data and information to public. In such circumstance, JODC was demanded to open J-DOSS outside the limited group. In consultation with the domestic group for oceanographic data and information exchange, JODC abolished the limitation to download the data using J-DOSS in July 2002. At present, anyone in the world can download the data through Internet. J-DOSS provides 12 kinds of data and information, serial station data, ocean current data, tide data (hourly value), marine biological data (plankton), 500m mesh depth-sounding data around Japan, 3 statistical data (temperature, salinity, and ocean current), NOPs, CSRs, IOC publications, and Oceanographic Abbreviation/Acronym Dictionary.

The URL of J-DOSS: [http://www.jodc.go.jp/service.htm](http://www.jodc.go.jp/service.htm)

**GODAR-WESTPAC**

As the project office of GODAR-WESTPAC, JODC published and disseminated the brochure of GODAR-WESTPAC, and established the web site.

The URL of GODAR-WESTPAC: [http://www.jodc.go.jp/project/GODAR/index.htm](http://www.jodc.go.jp/project/GODAR/index.htm)

**Data Rescue in Japan**

In relation to GODAR-WESTPAC activities, JODC has been digitizing the following historical oceanographic data, which were received from Japanese research Institutes. The CD-ROM data set of profile data observed by Hokkaido University will be published shortly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Institute</th>
<th>Description of Data</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Fisheries, Hokkaido University</td>
<td>7,496 profiles of oceanographic observation results from 1957 to 1994</td>
<td>Digitized</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tohoku National Fisheries Research Institute</td>
<td>17,547 stations of Zooplankton data in the North West Pacific Ocean from 1949 to 1999</td>
<td>Digitized</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ocean Research Institute, University of Tokyo</td>
<td>Water sampling data and CTD data obtained by more than 40 cruises</td>
<td>Processing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan Hydrographic Department</td>
<td>Approximately 10,000 Serial Station data in Northwest Pacific from 1923 to 1944</td>
<td>Processing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chiba Environmental Research Center</td>
<td>About 5,000 Marine biology (plankton) data in Tokyo Bay from 1983 to 1994</td>
<td>Processing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. Data Centre Products and Services Developed and/or made available during the Intersessional Period:
JODC News
JODC publishes 'JODC News' twice a year, which is a public relations magazine of JODC for Japanese researchers. It is also available on the web site, http://www.jodc.go.jp/project/WESTPAC/publication.html.

Updating J-DOSS
The new data provided by Japanese research institutes were added to J-DOSS in July 2002 and February 2003.

With regard to oceanographic information, JODC has operated the new system, which allows researchers to enter NOPs and CSRs on the web, since July 2002.

Updating NEAR-GOOS RDMDB (Regional Delayed Mode DataBase)
NEAR-GOOS is a regional programme of GOOS, which is implemented by Japan, China, the Republic of Korea, and the Russian Federation. The first phase of NEAR-GOOS was intended to provide a regional framework for gathering and distributing oceanographic data. Based on the recommendation of the NEAR-GOOS Coordinating Committee, JODC has operated NEAR-GOOS RDMDB since 1996.

NEAR-GOOS RDMDB is updated every month. It receives oceanographic and marine meteorological data from RRTDB (Regional Real Time DataBase) operated by Japan Meteorological Agency.
The URL of NEAR-GOOS RDMDB: http://near-goos1.jodc.go.jp/

JODC Taxonomic Code of Marine Organisms (Plankton)

In addition, JODC has been developing the taxonomic code of benthos, which will be published in 2004.

11. List of Activities that were undertaken during the Intersessional period to promote IODE:
   - The IOC/WESTPAC Training Course on NEAR-GOOS Data Management
   - The International Workshop for GODAR-WESTPAC
   - The meeting of the domestic group for oceanographic data and information exchange

12. Future Plans:
   International Research Programmes
   - CLIVAR Shipboard ADCP DAC (Data Assembly Center)
   - PICES PICNIC (PICES CO2 Related Data Integration for the North Pacific)
   - JGOFS Northwest Pacific Data Set
   - IMAGES Data Set of the Surroundings of Japan
   Data Rescue
   - International Workshop for GODAR-WESTPAC
   - Project Office of GODAR-WESTPAC
   Biological and Chemical Data Management
   - JODC Taxonomic Code of Marine Organisms (Benthos)
   - IJCD (Inventory for Japanese Chemical Oceanographic Data)