

Terms of Reference for the International Ocean Carbon Coordination Project

General Description of Activities

IOC and SCOR will provide financing, in-kind assistance, and stewardship for the IOCCP.

The IOCCP will undertake specific tasks (as listed in Specific Terms of Reference, below) and provide ready expertise on ocean carbon observations and research, including ocean carbon sequestration issues, as required by SCOR, IOC, their programmes (e.g., IMBER, SOLAS, OOPC, GOOS, GCOS, and JCOMM) and the IOC Member States.

Specific Terms of Reference

- i. To develop an international communication centre on ocean carbon activities through the development and maintenance of Web-based compilations and syntheses of ocean carbon observation and research activities, and through e-mail and/or Web-based newsletters and other publications;
- ii. To provide an international forum for initiatives to promote high-quality observations to understand the ocean component of the global carbon cycle, through international agreements on standards, including:
 - a. Methods/Best Practices
 - b. Quality Control and Quality Assurance Procedures
 - c. Data and Meta-data Formats
 - d. Use of Certified Reference Materials
- iii. To facilitate data collection, management (consistent with data exchange policies of the World Data Centres), data product development, and archival of ocean carbon and related data by:
 - a. Aiding regional and global data syntheses being developed through ocean carbon research programmes, as requested;
 - b. Facilitating and aiding the development of historical data bases for ocean carbon, including data recovery activities, as necessary;
 - c. Ensuring long-term data availability by working with data management groups and World Data Centres to archive data sets beyond the lifetime of the individual projects.
- iv. To work with global research and observation programmes to promote and document the development and status of a sustained ocean carbon observing system;
- v. To liaise with integrated programmes (IGCO, GCP) to promote the integration of ocean carbon into earth system studies.