

The International Workshop for GODAR-WESTPAC held in Tokyo

The GODAR project was established by the IOC in 1993 in order to save oceanographic data from the risk of loss by degradation of recording media or by disaster, etc., and also to increase the volume of historical data available to climate change and other research. The large volume of data is collected through the program under the cooperation of IOC member states, and has been made available internationally, without restriction, via CD-ROM and online as the World Ocean Database by US-NODC/WDC-A.

However, as reported at the GODAR II, in Tianjin, China, 1994, there is a large amount of data still in manuscript form in the WESTPAC region.

The 16th Session of the IOC Committee on International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE-XVI), held in Lisbon, Portugal in November 2000, recommended to promote the Global Ocean Data Archaeology & Rescue (GODAR) type project in the WESTPAC region (GODAR-WESTPAC). In order to start the project and to succeed, it is important to establish cooperation between the member states and related organizations and to get a common feeling. Therefore, JODC as RNODC-WESTPAC held the International Workshop for GODAR-WESTPAC at Japan Hydrographic Department in Tokyo, Japan during March 5-7, 2002 with support from the Ministry of Land Infrastructure & Transport in Japan. The workshop was opened with the address by Dr. Ganeko, Director General, Hydrographic Department, JCG. Dr. Taira, Chair-person of IOC-WESTPAC also gave a speech. Dr. Saino who is a member of JGOFS Science Steering Committee and Dr. Suga, Tohoku University, gave a key note speech on the importance and needs of GODAR related activities from the views of Chemical-oceanographic field and Physical-oceanographic field respectively. The representatives from the 12 countries in the region reported on the oceanographic research activities and data management status in their countries, and discussions was held based on the draft work plan which presented at IODE16 and the cooperation in the region. The workshop decided GODAR-WESTPAC project start from 2002 as 5 years plan and to locate the project office in JODC.



participants of the meeting