PROPOSAL

FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OCEAN DATA AND INFORMATION NETWORK FOR THE CENTRAL INDIAN OCEAN REGION (ODINCINDIO)

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1. Introduction

The IOC's International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE) is established to enhance marine research, exploitation and development by facilitating the exchange of oceanographic data and information between participating Member States and by meeting the needs of users for data and information products. The main objectives of the IODE Programme are (i) to facilitate and promote the exchange of oceanographic data and information; (ii) to develop standards, formats and methods for the global exchange of oceanographic data and information; (iii) to assist Member States to acquire the necessary capacity to manage oceanographic data and information and become partners in the IODE network; (iv) to support international scientific and operational oceanographic programmes of IOC and WMO and their sponsor organizations with advice and data management services.

Recognising that the lives of at least 1.5 Billion people are profoundly influenced by the Indian Ocean and considering that many Indian Ocean rim countries depend to a large extent on marine and coastal resources, the ability to acquire, manage, archive and disseminate data, as well as the capacity to generate information in support of decision making and management of the Oceans and Coastal Zones is of vital importance. The Ocean Data and Information Network for the Central Indian Ocean Region (ODINCINDIO) Project respond to these needs through: Providing assistance in the development and operation of National Oceanographic Data Centres and the establishment of their networking in the IOCINDIO region; Providing training opportunities in marine data and information management applying standard formats and methodologies as defined by the IODE; Assisting in the development and maintenance of national, regional and Indian Ocean marine metadata and data holding databases; Assisting in the development of marine data and information products responding to the needs of a wide variety of user groups; Assisting in the development of linkages with other international projects with similar objectives (eg IOGOOS, ODINAFRICA, etc). In addition ODINCINDIO will satisfy the requirements of the other IOC programmes (eg IOGOOS) in terms of management and exchange of oceanographic data and information.

2. OBJECTIVES

OBJECTIVE 1: Providing assistance in the development and operation of National Oceanographic Data (and information) Centres and establish their networking in the Central Indian Ocean Region;

OBJECTIVE 2: providing training opportunities in marine data and information management applying standard formats and methodologies as defined by the IODE;

OBJECTIVE 3: Assist in the development and maintenance of national, regional and Indian Ocean marine metadata, information and data holding databases;

OBJECTIVE 4: Assist in the development and dissemination of marine and coastal data and information products responding to the needs of a wide variety of user groups using national and regional networks;

3. CURRENT STATES

ODINCINDIO project will involve all IOCINDIO Member States including:

Australia*, Bangladesh, France*, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Iran, Kuwait, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, UAE, and UK* (Total countries: 19 countries; Total financially supported countries: 16)

* These countries will participate in the project but will not require project funding.

Among the IOCINDIO Member States located around the Indian Ocean, Australia, India, Iran, Malaysia, Pakistan and Sri Lanka have already established their NODCs.

4 Workplan, Timing and Budget (2004-2006)

4.1. Project Management

4.1.1. Project Management structure and workshops

In order to ensure the effective implementation of the project, an appropriate project management structure needs to be established which will not only ensure that the

project is implemented in-line with the main objectives and within the available budget, but which will also ensure that national and regional priorities identified by the Member States are fully taken into consideration in the workplan.

Member States and donors will visit during Annual Project Management Workshops and will evaluate the progress of the project, as well as discuss and agree upon the workplans and budgets for the activities to be implemented the following year(s). Note that during the first this event will be organized to discuss and agree upon the Project Management structure

Timing: Every first month of the years 2004 to 2006

Cost: US$ 50,000/year x 3 = US$ 150,000

4.1.2. Project Staffing and Management costs

This includes the cost of project staff, both at the local (national) level and at the regional level (project office). The national project staff cost will be absorbed totally by the cooperating institutions. The regional project office staff shall be provided by the Member State hosting the Project Office. Costs will be limited to operational expenses.

Timing: 2004-2006

Cost: US$ 5,000/year x 3 = US$ 15,000

4.2. Providing assistance in the development and operation of National Oceanographic Data (and Information management) Centres and establish their networking in IOCINDIO region (Central Indian Ocean)

4.2.1. Organization of national coordination meetings to identify suitable host institutions for NODC/DNA (including information management)

In order to fully benefit from the IODE system and the project Member States will be requested to formally establish NODCs or DNAs (including information management centre) as per IODE guidelines. Financial assistance (and expertise, where required) will be provided for the organization of national coordination.

Timing: 2004

Cost: US$ 2,000 x 16 = US$ 32,000

4.2.2.   Formal establishment of NODC/DNA (including information management centre)

In order to fully benefit from the IODE system and the project Member States will be requested to formally establish NODCs or DNAs (including information management centre) as per IODE guidelines.

Timing: 2004

Cost: none

4.2.3.   Provision of Hardware and Software Package

In order to ensure that the data and information centres can fully participate in the technical aspects of the project (and in a harmonized way) a standard hardware and software package will be provided. This will also facilitate problem solving. Hardware will be provided for both the data and information centres.

Timing: 2004

Cost: US$ 5,000 x 16 = US$ 80,000

4.2.4.   Provision of support for operational expenses data and information centre

Support will be provided for day-to-day operational expenses required to operate the data and information centres (telecom, Internet access, office supplies, overtime,…). Emphasis will be placed on development of products and services leading to self-support of the data and information centres.

Timing: 2004-2006

Cost: US$ 3,000 x 16 = US$ 48,000/year x 3 = US$ 144,000

4.3.   Providing training opportunities in marine data and information management applying standard formats and methodologies as defined by the IODE

4.3.1.   Regional Data Management Training Course

Three regional data management training courses will be organized covering all responsibilities and their technical aspects covered by NODC/DNA as well as data product development.

Timing: 2004-2006:

Cost: US$ 50,000 x 3 = US$ 150,000

4.3.2. Regional Information Management Training Course

Three regional information management training courses will be organized covering all responsibilities of cooperating institutions, as well as library management and library services.

Timing: 2004:2006

Cost: US$ 50,000 x 3 = US$ 150,000

4.4. Assist in the development and maintenance of national, regional and Indian Ocean marine metadata, information and data holding databases

4.4.1. GODAR Participation: identification, repatriation and digitization of Indian Ocean related datasets from outside (and within) Indian Ocean

A large amount of data relevant to Indian Ocean are archived throughout the world but are not available to Indian Ocean scientists. This sub-activity will assist in the identification, repatriation and digitization of these data, within the framework of the GODAR project.

Timing: 2005-2006

Cost: US$ 10,000/year x 3 = US$ 30,000

4.4.2. Development of national and regional meta databases

The MEDI format and MEDI software will be used to develop national and regional metadata bases covering national data holdings. One volunteer data centre will host the regional (Indian Ocean) metadata base on a WWW site.

Timing: 2005-2006

Cost: US$ 2,000 x 16 = US$ 32,000/year x 2 = US$ 64,000

4.4.3. Development and maintenance of national and regional data archive

In order to ensure the easy availability of datasets for the preparation of data and information products a computerized database system will be developed at the national (and possibly regional) level.

Timing: 2005-2006

Cost: US$ 2,000 x 16 = US$ 32,000/year x 2 = US$ 64,000

4.5.   Assist in the development and dissemination of marine data and information products responding to the needs of a wide variety of user groups using national and regional networks

4.5.1.   Support for national workshops on data/information service/product requirements for the sustainable management of coastal resources and the coastal zone
Support will be provided for workshops at the national level to identify data and information product requirements based on national ocean programmes, ICAM plans and other relevant policy documents and policies.
Timing: 2005
Cost: US$ 5000 x 16 = US$ 80,000

4.5.2.   Support for development of data and information products
Support will be provided for the development of specific data and information products.
Timing: 2005-2006
Cost: US$ 2,000 x 16 = US$ 32,000/year x2 = US$ 64,000

4.5.3.   Support for public awareness creation on the project services and products
Support for specific activities by the data and information centres to publicize the products and services provided/developed by the project and the centres. Emphasis will be placed on development of products and services leading to self-support of the data and information centres.
Timing: 2005-2006
Cost: US$ 2,000 x 16 = US$ 32,000/year x 2 = US$ 64,000

TOTAL REQUIRED BUDGET
        2004   US$ 325,000
        2005   US$ 421,000
        2006   US$ 341,000
TOTAL   US$ 1,087,000