

Earth System Science Organisation (ESSO)
Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)

Letter of Intent between ESSO-MoES and UNESCO for Cooperation in the field of Reducing Disaster Risks And Capacity Building In Earth Sciences

As a founder member of the IOC, India has always been actively associated with the major endeavors of IOC such as Global and Regional Ocean Observing and Capacity Building programs. Some of the active areas of cooperation are detailed below:

- India had played a pivotal role in establishing a Regional Alliance in the Indian Ocean (GOOS-IOGOOS) as a part of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS). The Secretariat of IOGOOS is currently located at the Earth System Science Organization ESSO-Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (ESSO-INCOIS) Hyderabad.
- The oceanographic Data Centre located at ESSO-INCOIS, Hyderabad, has been recognized as Regional Argo Data Centre as well as Responsible National Oceanographic Data Centre (RNODC) of International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE) of IOC. India also serves as a regional node for the Northern Indian Ocean Biogeographic Information System (IndOBIS).
- Indian National Tsunami Warning System has also been recognized as Regional Tsunami Service Provider (RTSP) for the Indian Ocean.
- In response to ‘The Ocean Call’ from Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)/UNESCO in June 2010 to its Member States for contributions towards the IOC’s efforts on capacity building, Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Government of India decided to establish an International Training Centre for Operational Oceanography (ITC Ocean) at the Earth System Science Organisation-Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (ESSO-INCOIS), Hyderabad. Subsequent to signing an MOU between IOC and ESSO-INCOIS on 4th July 2013, towards establishment of an International Training Centre for Operational Oceanography (ITCOO) at Hyderabad, India. ITC Ocean

started functioning formally by conducting a two week training course on 'Fundamentals of Ocean Climate Modeling at Global and Regional Scales' together with CLIVAR and International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), Italy during 5-14 August 2013. Thirty participants drawn from the Indian Ocean rim countries attended that training course taught by the faculty participated from India, USA, Australia and Italy. Subsequently, ITCOcean conducted another four training courses, covering different aspects of operational oceanography, for the trainees from Africa and Indian Ocean rim countries.

- India has also taken responsibility for coordination of activities relating to Celebration 50th Year of International Indian Ocean Expedition through a resolution approved during the 47th IOC Executive Council during July 1-3, 2014. As a part this endeavour, a call for articles for "Indian Ocean Bubble-2" has been issued along with a newsletter to now precipitate ideas for the successful execution of IIOE-2. International and national organizing committees have been setup for celebration of IIOE-2.