



INTERNATIONAL INDIAN OCEAN EXPEDITION 2 (IIOE-2): LOOKING FORWARD AND REFLECTING

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IIOE-2 has been operating now for 5 years with co-sponsorship from IOGOOS, IOC as well as SCOR. Its focus has been broadly *to better understanding the Indian Ocean*. But this requires a context and one of these is *its role in the Earth System*. Addressing the former curiosity-lead science is now resulting in many publications, but the latter remains elusive. This must soon change, as one of the most significant findings in recent years has been that the Indian Ocean is warming faster than any other ocean. This has major consequences particularly for the people that live there. IIOE-2 is a candidate to interface to the new UN Decade of Ocean Science (2021-2030). This will broaden IIOE-2 and a future challenge will be how we balance fundamental research with more ‘applied’ research sought by the DECADE programme. My talk will cover this territory, addressing high-level issues, as a prelude to the discussions that will follow.