

From: Jamie McMichael-Phillips, Director, Seabed 2030



care of:
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SUBJECT: Seeking support for The Nippon Foundation-GEBCO Seabed 2030 Project – Participation of online survey

To support sustainable development, to make informed policy decisions, to manage natural hazards and to pursue scientific research of the ocean, the world needs access to modern, detailed bathymetric information of the world's oceans.

The Nippon Foundation-GEBCO Seabed 2030 Project is a collaborative project between The Nippon Foundation and GEBCO to inspire the complete mapping of the world's ocean by 2030 and to compile all bathymetric data into the freely available GEBCO Ocean Map.

The General Bathymetric Chart of the Ocean (GEBCO) operates under the joint auspices of the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO. The Seabed 2030 Project builds on more than 100 years of GEBCO's history in global seafloor mapping and has a vision that by 2030, the world's oceans are fully mapped and the freely available GEBCO Ocean Map is a complete map of the global ocean bathymetry.

Completing a modern map of the seafloor will be a turning point in our understanding of oceanic processes and resources, providing a major step change in our ability to sustainably manage our oceans and manage marine hazards. By providing the definitive map of ocean bathymetry, Seabed 2030 is making a major contribution to the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) and achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goal 14 (Life Below Water).

The key to realising the Seabed 2030 vision is building global coordination between government, the public, academia and industry. To this end, I am writing to request your support of and participation in this revolutionary global initiative. As we strive to map the world's oceans it is imperative that we understand the needs and requirements of all who operate and work at sea. To identify what data is required, where we should prioritise the collection of data and for what purpose, all of these key factors will help identify global cumulative needs and priorities. Seabed 2030 is currently conducting a second online survey, its purpose is to inform the development of a Seabed 2030 benefits analysis and prioritisation modelling for seabed mapping. These models will inform business case development and justification for seabed mapping through a recognised prioritisation strategy to map the global oceans seabed by 2030. The survey is intended to reflect the

views across both hydrographic and oceanographic communities that discharge responsibilities for seabed mapping in EEZs and ocean basins beyond national jurisdiction. In addition, it seeks the views from the wider global community of national government agencies involved in seabed mapping data acquisition, production and use. **To access the survey, please click [here](#). The survey will close on Friday 31st of March 2023.**

Through your contribution of bathymetric data to Seabed 2030, your organisation would be part of global collaboration that provides a 'once in a lifetime' opportunity to create a new foundation to strengthen our understanding and management of the world's oceans and coasts for the benefit of humanity.

Should you have questions or wish to discuss details related to your institution's participation, please contact Seabed 2030.

Your sincerely,

Jamie McMichael-Phillips
Seabed 2030 Director

Further Information:

General Bathymetric Chart of the Ocean (GEBCO) - <https://www.gebco.net/>

The Nippon Foundation GEBCO Seabed 2030 Project - <http://www.seabed2030.org>.

UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development - <https://en.unesco.org/ocean-decade>