



GEBCO Guiding Committee

Report to IRCC15

Tokyo, Japan
12 – 14 June 2023

By Evert Flier

GEBCO Guiding Committee Chair



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Meetings

International
Hydrographic
Organization

- GGC39: Nov 2022: Southampton
- GGC40: Nov 2023: Monaco
- GGC41: Nov 2024: Fiji



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New Office Holders GEBCO Guiding Committee

Hydrographic
Organization

POSITION	INCOMING	OUTGOING	TENURE
IHO appointed GVC member	Ms Yerinelys Santos	Capt. Rodrigo Obino VADM Shintani	2022-2027 2023



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Highlights

International
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- GEBCO 120 years of ocean discovery
- GEBCO strategy
- GEBCO Code of Conduct / GEBCO Charter
- GEBCO Governance Review
- High activity at and intense cooperation with Seabed 2030
- New GEBCO Sub-Committee on Education and Training

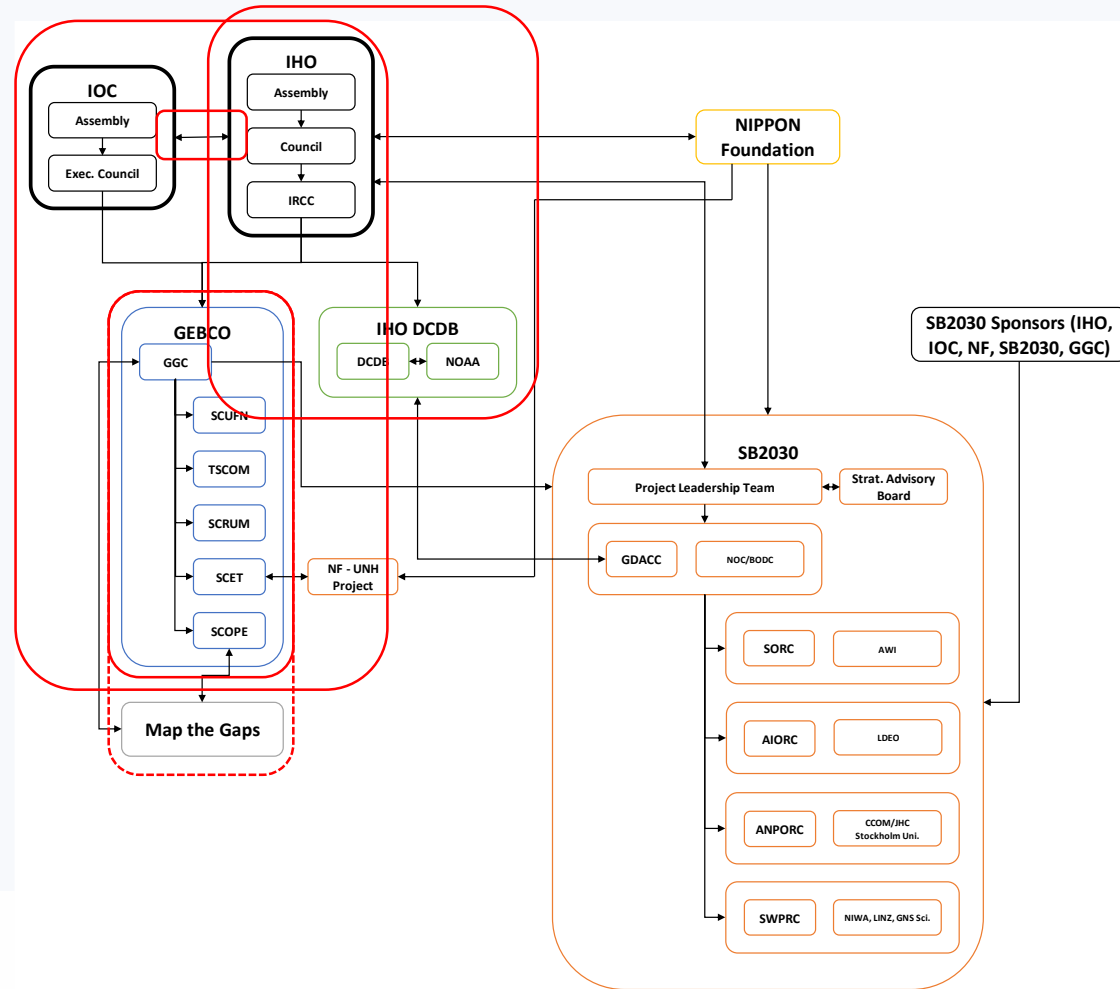
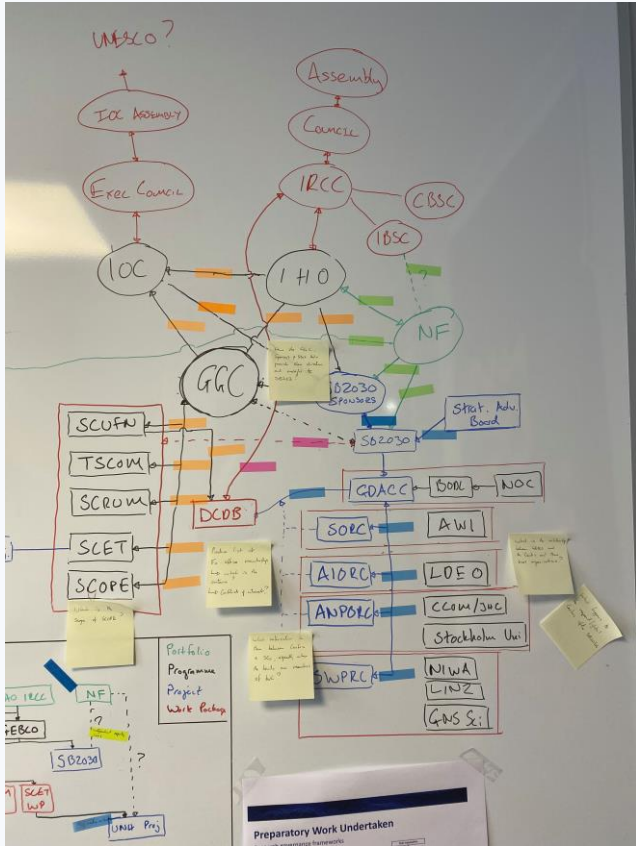
GEBCO Governance Review

Work undertaken to date

Status of project team work items:

- Map organizational and functional structure – **Complete**
- Identify relationships and conduct governance instrument gap analysis – **Complete (phase 1)**
- Assess instruments and work plans of GEBCO bodies to identify initial findings – **Complete (Except SB2030)**
- Financial review – **Initial review complete**
- Legal review – **not started**
- Final summary report and **continuous improvement process development** – **In progress**

GEBCO Organogram



Summary

- All relationships codified
- Relationships bounded in red have been described and analyzed
- Findings listed with potential solutions provided if appropriate

Next Steps

- **Mid June** – present update to IRCC and IOC Assembly
- **End Aug** – Draft Report provided to GGC for comment
- **End Sept** – Comments reviewed / workshopped by PT
- **Mid Oct** – Report submitted to GGC40
- **April 2024** – Report submitted to IRCC16 and IOC Exec. Council



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Major outcome from SCUFN 35.1 & 35.2

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- SCUFN had a significant number of naming proposals to consider in 2022, reaching a total number of 334.
- With a majority of naming proposals of features located in the South China Sea, the two SCUFN meetings in 2022 were affected by strong statements from the representatives of the Coastal States, claiming priority for naming features within the limits of their EEZ, and ECS, most of these limits being disputed by others.
- SCUFN35.2 agreed at the beginning of the meeting that on the decision-making process, which was in good spirit, to **only use the Rules of Procedure and Guidelines in force**, providing the acceptance of their intrinsic uncertainties.
- Out of 334 proposals, 263 names were finally accepted at SCUFN 35.2.



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Technical Sub-Committee on Ocean Mapping (TSCOM)

International
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- Chair: George Spoelstra, GGSgc, Netherlands
- Vice Chair: Federica Foglini, Ismar CNR, Italy



Activities

- GEBCO Cookbook maintenance
 - New version is available but not yet issued as official publication. TSCOM investigates options to make it a living on-line resource
 - Difficulty in finding authors and to motivate existing authors to update content



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Developing a Vision for Improving the Discovery and Access of Bathymetric Data

Webinar Series & Working Meeting

International Hydrographic

- **Hosts:** The GEBCO Technical Subcommittee on Ocean Mapping (TSCOM), the IHO Data Center for Digital Bathymetry (DCDB) and the Seabed 2030 Regional Center for the Atlantic and Indian Oceans
- Discussions centered around developing inclusive and equitable strategies to improve discovery and access of bathymetric data.
- **Demographics:**
 - >30 attendees contributed perspectives from academia, industry and government representing 17 organizations from 7 nations.
 - Nearly two thirds identifying as female, one third male, and 3% non-binary.



youtube.com/@mapthegaps/streams



Vision

Community progress towards coordination to avoid redundant effort, optimize efficiency and foster a culture of open sharing

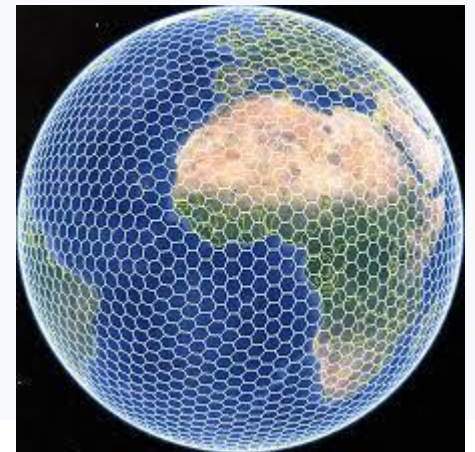


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Technical Sub-Committee on Ocean Mapping (TSCOM) Activities (cont'd)

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- Development of an opportunistic mapping tool
 - Working group is investigating needs and feasibility to develop a tool based on the A+B+C=100% paradigm.
 - Currently multiple tools exist but are difficult to maintain and not easily accessible for wide range of users
 - First report is drafted. Prototype development is expected 2023-24 but requires funding
 - DCDB industry days findings provided valuable input for the development of the tool and the important link to metadata
- Study of Discrete Global Grids
 - Possible solution to distribute GEBCO data in a multi resolution grid without map projection issues





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SCOPE (Sub-Committee on Outreach and Public Engagement)

International Hydrographic Organization

THE NIPPON FOUNDATION 120 THE NIPPON FOUNDATION

A Capacity Development Success Story in Partnership with The Nippon Foundation

GOALS
The aim of this program is to build young ocean mappers. The skills network of contacts, summer school training will build capacity within organizations and coastal states, a international ocean-mapping community.

LOCATION
This graduate-level training has been hosted by the Center for Coastal & Estuarine Science at the University of New Hampshire (USA) since 2004.

SUCCESSFUL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT
A new generation of ocean mappers over the last 18 years by The Nippon Foundation-GEBCO Training Program.

We measure our success in the ongoing growth of an involved, diverse, global ocean-mapping community.

2004-2023: 113 OCEAN MAPPERS FROM 46 COUNTRIES

<https://gebcoc.com/training/>
<http://ccom.unh.edu/gebcoc>

GENERAL BATHYMETRIC CHART OF THE OCEANS (GEBCO) 120 1903-2023

ABOUT US
The General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans (GEBCO) has been making bathymetric data sets and maps for the global community since 1903.

We are an international group of experts who develop a range of bathymetric data sets and products to provide the most authoritative, publicly available bathymetry of the world's oceans.

It operates under the joint auspices of the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO.

WHY MAP THE SEAFLOOR?

- EXPLORING THE UNKNOWN**
Estimates show that only a quarter of the global seafloor has been mapped to modern standards. GEBCO has a long and wide ranging partnership with the Nippon Foundation of Japan. It was deepened in 2017 with the creation of the Nippon Foundation-GEBCO Seabed 2030 project, an accelerator to GEBCO's mission of a complete map of the ocean floor.
- FORECASTING**
Accurate bathymetry is fundamental in understanding ocean circulation, tides, sediment transport, and better predicting and understanding tsunamis and hurricanes.
- INFRASTRUCTURE**
Underwater geo-hazards, construction and maintenance of underwater infrastructure, cable and pipeline siting, and more all rely on bathymetry.

OUR PRODUCTS

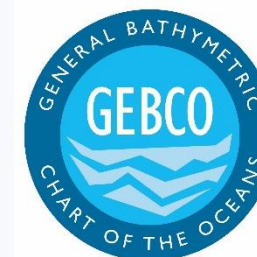
DATA AND IMAGERY
GEBCO produces a wide range of bathymetric products, data sets, and services available such as gridded data in a number of formats, the Gazetteer of Undersea Feature Names, imagery from historical paper charts, and more.

EDUCATION
The Nippon Foundation provides funding to train a new generation of scientists and hydrographers in ocean bathymetry: the 12-month course, leading to a Postgraduate Certificate in Ocean Bathymetry (PCOB). It has been held at the University of New Hampshire, USA, since 2004. GEBCO has a new subcommittee dedicated to training and education internationally.

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO GET INVOLVED!

Facebook: @GEBCO, @Seabed2030
Twitter: @GEBCOBathymetry, @Seabed2030
Web: gebcoc.com, seabed2030.org

QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION
<https://gebcoc.com/training/>
<http://ccom.unh.edu/gebcoc>



120 1903-2023

EXPLORE | MAP | LEARN | PROTECT

GENERAL BATHYMETRIC CHART OF THE OCEANS (GEBCO) 120 1903-2023

TO SEE THE OCEANS, SIDE UP THE LAND

EARTH'S OCEANS IN SPILHAUS PROJECTION

CELEBRATING 120 YEARS OF OCEAN DISCOVERY

GENERAL BATHYMETRIC CHART OF THE OCEANS (GEBCO) WORLD OCEAN BATHYMETRY

120 1903-2023

CELEBRATING 120 YEARS OF OCEAN DISCOVERY.

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Proposals

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- Take note of the GGC Report
- Endorse the GEBCO Code of Conduct
- Encourage RHCs to actively contribute new data to GEBCO
- Encourage RHCs to discuss how nations can share existing data