

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION
(of UNESCO)**

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**Global Oceanographic Data Archaeology and Rescue
(GODAR) Project
(Mr. Sydney Levitus)**

1. Introduction

Since its inception in 1993 as an IOC project, the Global Oceanographic Data Archaeology and Rescue (GODAR) Project continues its progress in locating, collecting, quality controlling, and disseminating in electronic form, historical ocean profile and plankton data that are at risk of loss due to media decay. Only data for the pre-1992 period are considered to be “historical” data for the purposes of the GODAR project.

2. Intersessional progress of the GODAR Project

Table 1 shows the Intersessional progress by Instrument Type. The number of pre-1992 casts or cruises for each major historical data type is given.

Instrument Type	# of pre-1992 casts added to WOD01 To create WOD05
Ocean Station Data	124,673
Conductivity- Temperature-Depth	23,777
Expendable Bathythermograph	41,744
Mechanical Bathythermograph	13,903
Surface-only	4,429 cruises

Table 1

Table 1 shows the Intersessional progress by Instrument Type. The number of pre-1992 casts or cruises for each major historical data type is given. To date, data from approximately 1.31 million Station Data casts, 1.07 million MBT casts, 662,000 XBT casts, 171,000 high resolution CTD casts, and 150,000 Plankton Tows have been recovered and distributed without restriction to the international scientific community as part of the World Ocean Database series.

# casts in electronic form at NODC/WDC in 1991	# casts in electronic form at NODC/WDC in WOD05 for the pre-1992 period
783,912	1,307,741
66,451	170,570
704,348	652,136
1,219,655	1,084,686

Table 2.

Substantial progress has been made in the collection of historical measurements of sea level from tide gauges which was recommended for inclusion in the GODAR project as a new data type by the International GODAR Review Meeting held in 1999. At IODE XVIII we reported that 372 years of hourly sea level data had been rescued for tide gauges at 34 locations in 15 countries. An additional 81 years of data have been rescued during the past two years for 10 locations in six countries. The Joint Archive for Sea Level (JASL) (NODC-U. Hawaii) has played the major role in archiving and distributing these hourly sea level data (Caldwell, P., 2003: NOAA support for global sea level data rescue. *Earth System Monitor*, 14(1), (available online from www.nodc.noaa.gov)). The Japan Oceanographic Data Center has also played an important and continuing role in the rescue of sea level data having made available hourly data from several tide gauge stations. Data from the U.S., Indonesia, Portugal, and the United Kingdom (Bermuda) are also included in these new accessions.

In their role as Project Office for the GODAR project for countries of the western Pacific Ocean region, the Japan Oceanographic Data Center has convened three GODAR meetings for the WESTPAC region. The most recent, and final, GODAR/WESTPAC meeting was held during December 2006 at JODC, Tokyo. The GODAR WESTPAC meetings have provided valuable input for future GODAR activities in the region.

3. Proposed Activities

Cooperation on the part of IOC Member States with GODAR Project continues to be excellent. There is no "Strategic Vision" for the GODAR Project other than to continue the project in its present status and maintain the flow of historical data into the IOC and WDC systems. All GODAR project profiles and plankton data will be

processed and released as part of “*World Ocean Database 2009*” (WOD09). Online and DVD distribution of WOD09 will occur in 2010.

4. Budgetary Requirements

Budget requirements for the next two fiscal years for the GODAR project are \$0.0.

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