



INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION  
COMMISSION OCÉANOGRAPHIQUE INTERGOUVERNEMENTALE  
COMISIÓN OCEANOGRÁFICA INTERGUBERNAMENTAL  
МЕЖПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВЕННАЯ ОКЕАНОГРАФИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ

اللجنة الدولية الحكومية لعلوم المحيطات

政府间海洋学委员会

UNESCO – 7 Place de Fontenoy - 75352 Paris Cedex 07 SP, France  
<http://ioc.unesco.org> - contact phone: +33 (0)1 45 68 03 18  
E-mail: [v.ryabinin@unesco.org](mailto:v.ryabinin@unesco.org)

**IOC Circular Letter No 2937**  
(Available in English and French)

IOC/VR/JB/ic  
2 March 2023

To : IOC Member States (Official National Coordinating Bodies for liaison with the IOC)

Cc. : Permanent Delegates/Observers Missions to UNESCO and  
National Commissions for UNESCO of IOC Member States  
Chair and Vice-Chairpersons of IOC  
Officers of Major IOC Subsidiary Bodies (Scientific, Technical and Regional)

**Subject: Seeking support for The Nippon Foundation-GEBCO Seabed 2030 Project – Participation in the online survey**

Access to modern, detailed bathymetric information about the world's ocean is an indispensable tool for making decisions about sustainable development, natural hazard management and conducting effective oceanographic research.

As a parent of the General Bathymetric Chart of the Ocean (GEBCO) and core partner of the Seabed 2030 Project, the IOC encourages Member States participation in the second Nippon Foundation-GEBCO Seabed 2030 Project.

The Nippon Foundation-GEBCO Seabed 2030 Project is a collaborative project between The Nippon Foundation and GEBCO. The project builds on more than 100 years of GEBCO's history in global seafloor mapping 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.

Completing a modern map of the seafloor will be a turning point in our understanding of oceanic processes and resources. By providing the definitive map of ocean bathymetry, Seabed 2030 is also making a major contribution to the United Nations 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 ocean, it is imperative that we understand the needs and requirements of all who operate and work at sea.

**Chairperson**

Mr Ariel Hernan TROISI  
Technical Secretary  
Navy Hydrographic Service  
Av. Montes de Oca 2124  
C1270ABV Buenos Aires  
ARGENTINA

**Executive Secretary**

Dr Vladimir RYABININ  
Intergovernmental Oceanographic  
Commission — UNESCO  
7 Place de Fontenoy  
75352 Paris Cedex 07 SP  
FRANCE

**Vice-Chairpersons**

Dr Marie-Alexandrine SICRE  
Directrice de Recherche  
Centre national de la recherche scientifique  
(CNRS)  
3 rue Michel Ange  
75016 Paris  
FRANCE

Dr Alexander FROLOV  
Assistant to the President  
National Research Center "Kurchatov Institute"  
Academika Kurchatova pl., 1  
123182 Moscow  
RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Mr Frederico Antonio SARAIVA NOGUEIRA  
Navy Captain (Ret) Directorate  
of Hydrography and Navigation  
Rua Barao de Jaceguai S/N  
24048-900 Niterói  
BRAZIL

Dr Srinivasa Kumar TUMMALA  
Director  
Indian National Centre for Ocean  
Information Services (INCOIS)  
Pragathi Nagar (BO), Nizampet (SO)  
Hyderabad 500090  
INDIA

Dr Karim HILMI  
Directeur de Recherche  
Institut National de Recherche  
Halieutique (INRH)  
02, Boulevard Sidi Abderrahmane  
Ain Diab  
20180 Casablanca  
MOROCCO

There is a need to understand what data is required, where we should prioritize 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 since 2020. Its purpose is to inform the development of a Seabed 2030 benefits analysis and prioritization modelling for seabed mapping. These models will inform business case development and justification for seabed mapping through a recognized prioritization 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 pdf version of the survey is also attached to this Circular Letter. **The survey will close on Friday 31 March 2023.**

Through your contribution of bathymetric data to Seabed 2030, the relevant organizations in your country will contribute to 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 ([enquiries@seabed2030.org](mailto:enquiries@seabed2030.org)).

With the assurances of my highest consideration, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

*[signed]*

Vladimir Ryabinin  
Executive Secretary

Enclosure: Seabed 2030 Survey (use the [online version](#); pdf format attached for reference)

Online resources:

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>

ANNEX – Survey (Pdf format; English only)

**SEABED 2030 Survey**

In 2021–2022 NLA International working on behalf of Seabed 2030 launched an online survey to find out more about the status and potential of mapping the ocean floor. The survey collected views from across all interested sectors to help us better understand issues such as:

- Why stakeholders feel it is important to map the seabed.
- How interested parties are estimating the environmental, social and economic value of seabed mapping.
- Where are the most urgent priorities for seabed mapping.

All of this will help us to corroborate—or challenge—existing thinking, and hopefully identify any areas of the seabed that may benefit from a more joined-up / collaborative approach.

We were delighted with the responses. In total we received 796 detailed responses across 90 countries. We have analyzed the findings of this first survey and from these results identified needs and priorities for seabed mapping in those waters which currently remain uncharted.

In this second survey, we now seek the views of those bodies and agencies who discharge national or agency responsibilities for seabed mapping and whether they align / differ with Seabed 2030's view on benefits analysis and prioritization modelling development. Equally we seek your views on regional prioritization for seabed mapping as identified in the first online survey.

The survey overall, consists of 28 questions and will require approximately 45 minutes to complete.

To access the survey, please click [here](#).



Seabed 2030 Wind in the Sails (WITS) Study  
Seabed Mapping Benefits Analysis and Prioritisation Survey Questionnaire

PART A : Survey Questionnaire Introduction

**Survey Questionnaire Purpose:** The purpose of this survey is to inform the development of Seabed 2030 benefits analysis and prioritisation modelling. These are models that will inform business case development and justification for Seabed 2030 to deliver on its mission, to map our ocean seabed by 2030.

The survey is intended to be addressed by bodies and agencies who discharge national, regional and international responsibilities for seabed mapping and people engaged in the acquisition, production, and use of seabed mapping data, drawn from the global community of hydrographic and oceanographic authorities, and other government agencies.

**Survey Questionnaire Structure: The survey questionnaire consists of the following 7 parts Part A to G:**

Part A: Introduction, Purpose, and Structure of Survey Questionnaire. We include a request for consent regarding the use of personal information here.

Part B: Survey Questionnaire Stakeholder Profile and Responder Contact Details.

Part C: National Jurisdiction Seabed Mapping [Including Your Adopted Prioritisation Approach] – Nine questions to understand your Nation’s adopted approach towards seabed mapping, with a focus on the planning, acquisition, production, and implementation of seabed mapping within your nation EEZ / area of jurisdiction, including any prioritisation approach you have adopted to support your seabed mapping area decision-making.

Part D: High Seas Seabed Mapping Benefits - Thirteen questions to capture your guidance and opinion on High Seas Seabed Mapping resulting benefits.

Part E: Seabed 2030 previous global community engagement findings validation of findings with mapping community - Six questions to capture guidance from National Hydrographic Office and oceanographic communities on previous engagement survey findings.

Part F: Participation Going Forward, seeking confirmation if you would like to participate in future engagement work on the Seabed Mapping global coverage benefits analysis and prioritisation [Future participation options being (i) to be informed, (ii) participate in informing in interviews, and/or (iii) participate in specific Seabed Mapping benefits analysis and prioritisation model development community workshops and/or roundtable events].

Part G: Additional Comments / Suggestions / Recommendations.

Survey close, next steps and thank you.

The survey overall, consists of twenty eight questions and will require approximately 45 minutes to complete.

Seabed 2030 and the WITS team welcome your participation and contribution to this key study. Supporting document/s or further details on seabed mapping data considerations responders feel may be useful and wish to share are most welcome, and these may be sent to [enquiries@sebed2030.org](mailto:enquiries@sebed2030.org). Rest assured that all personal information will be treated with utmost confidentiality.

For clarifications or inquiries, Gary Hesling via email on [gary.hesling@nlai.blue](mailto:gary.hesling@nlai.blue)

Thank you very for participating in this critically important survey for Seabed 2030.

### Consent Regarding The Use Of Personal Information

We would value your input to this project. Please note that taking part is entirely voluntary and you are free to drop out at any time. You are also welcome to have any contribution that you make deleted at a later date. The information you provide will be used only for this and/or any follow on project and will be stored safely before being deleted at the end of the Seabed 2030 WITS project.

I authorise Seabed 2030 and the study team to use my personal information for the purposes described in this form and I understand that I can withdraw my consent at any time.

Yes

No

Name of who provides the consent.

*Free text*

Date

*MM/DD/YEAR*

## Part B: Survey Questionnaire Stakeholder Profile and Responder Contact Details

1	Organisation	a. Organisation Name	<i>Free Text</i>			
		b. Type of Organisation	<i>Free Text</i>			
		c. Organisation Website	<i>Free text</i>			
2	Respondent	a. Name	<i>Free text</i>			
		b. Position/Designation	<i>Free text</i>			
		c. Department/Division/ Unit	<i>Free text</i>			
		d. Contact No.	Telephone <i>Free text</i>	Fax <i>Free text</i>		
		e. Address (Respondent Office)	<i>Free text</i>			
		f. Email Address	<i>Free text</i>			
		g. Date Accomplished	MM	DD	YYYY	
	Month	Day	Year			

## Part C: National Jurisdiction Seabed Mapping [Including Your Adopted Prioritisation Approach]

In this part of the survey, we are requesting guidance details on your National Jurisdiction Seabed Mapping – We are using nine questions to understand your Nation adopted approach towards seabed mapping generally, with a focus on the planning, acquisition, production, and implementation of seabed mapping within your nation EEZ / area of jurisdiction, including any prioritisation approach you have adopted to support your seabed mapping area decision-making.

### Existing coverage of Seabed Mapping Data I

**Q1: For the seabed mapping bathymetry data acquisition programmes / campaigns you have undertaken in your National Jurisdiction, which data method of acquisition have been used and for approximately what % coverage of your EEZ?**

Collection Method	Have you used this sensor in your EEZ? [Insert Yes / No]	What is the estimated No. % area of your EEZ [Approximate] that has been collected by the different collection methods. [Insert No. %]
Aerial bathymetric LiDAR	Yes/No	Insert Number %
Satellite Derived Bathymetry (SDB)	YES/No	Insert Number %
Multibeam echo-sounder	Yes/No	Insert Number %
Single beam echo-sounder	Yes/No	Insert Number %
Side-scan sonar	Yes/No	Insert Number %

Additional Comments

*Free text*

### Existing coverage of Seabed Mapping Data II

**Q2: For the seabed mapping bathymetry data acquisition programmes / campaigns you have undertaken in or neighbouring your areas of National Jurisdiction, where has most seabed mapping data currently been acquired, and for approximately what % of your seabed mapping data holding?**



Water Areas / Maritime Zones	Are you collecting seabed mapping data / bathymetry in these areas? [Insert Yes / No]	What is the estimated % area of your seabed mapping data holdings [Approximate] that has been collected through your existing seabed mapping bathymetry data acquisition programmes? [Insert No. %]
Internal Waters – Inland Water Bodies / Navigable Waterways	Yes/No	Insert Number %
Ports	Yes/No	Insert Number %
Coast	Yes/No	Insert Number %
Territorial Seas (12nm)	Yes/No	Insert Number %
Contiguous Zone (24 nm)	Yes/No	Insert Number %
EEZ	Yes/No	Insert Number %
Archipelagic Waters	Yes/No	Insert Number %
High Seas	Yes/No	Insert Number %
Additional Comments		
<i>Free text</i>		
<b>If you have not acquired seabed mapping for 100% of your EEZ area, and regarding any strategy you have for gathering data for the remaining unmapped areas?</b>		
<b>Q3: Do you have a strategy for gathering the remaining data [Please insert Yes / No]</b>	Yes / No	<i>Please include any additional comment you wish to make below. Comment – Free Text</i>
<b>Q4: What is your planned timescale to gather the remaining data for the unmapped areas [years ranges]?</b>	Please select	<i>Please include any additional comment you wish to make below. Comment – Free Text</i>

<b>0 – 5 Years</b>	Yes/No	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>
<b>5 – 10 years</b>	Yes/No	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>
<b>10 – 15 years</b>	Yes/No	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>
<b>Q5: How have you prioritized the acquisition of seabed mapping data in the unmapped areas? [Please summarise your prioritisation approach using free text below]</b>		
<i>Free text</i>		
<b>Q6: Have you developed, or do you apply a seabed mapping prioritization decision framework or quantitative model approach to support your seabed mapping prioritisation decision-making?</b>	Please select Yes / No	
<b>Q7: If yes, please summarise or provide an overview description of the framework /model approach you apply, using free text below?</b>		
<i>Free text</i>		
<b>Q8: Do you currently provide any Primary Charting Authority (PCA) support to other countries?</b>	Please select Yes / No	
<b>Q9: If yes, please list the country / nation jurisdictions where you provide PCA support, using free text below?</b>		
<i>Free text</i>		

## Part D: High Seas Seabed Mapping Benefits [With a focus on the benefits of Seabed Mapping in High Seas]

In this part of the survey, we are requesting responder opinion and guidance towards High Seas Seabed Mapping benefits. The benefits of seabed mapping in EEZ are well documented with extensive use case examples readily available. Seabed 2030 is focussing these questions specifically on the sector and user benefits of seabed mapping in high seas settings. This will enable us to capture grounding evidence on the benefit case of delivering and promoting seabed mapping for the high sea's component of global oceans coverage.

High Seas Seabed Mapping in this instance refers to the planning, acquisition, production, and use of seabed mapping data (depth variable resolution grid) as proposed for global oceans coverage through the Seabed 2030 programme [Specifically for waters beyond a Nation EEZ in the High Seas]. There are thirteen questions to capture your guidance and opinion relating to High Seas Seabed Mapping benefits.

### 1. Concerning the acquisition of global ocean seabed mapping coverage by 2030

Drawing on your role as a practitioner / user of seabed mapping and your knowledge of your wider national / regional / international mapping community range of use of seabed mapping data, please provide your opinion on the following statements? Essentially, we are validating a set of statements on the value of global coverage seabed mapping.

*Please select level of agreement with each statement and provide any additional evidential comment using free text further below.*

Statement	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree	I don't have an opinion
Q1: High Seas seabed mapping data is used on a regular basis by our national / regional hydrographic community?	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree	I don't have an opinion
Q2: High Seas seabed mapping data is a very useful foundation data, supporting a wide range of ocean economy, marine and maritime activities / uses?	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree	I don't have an opinion
Q3: It is very important that global ocean seabed mapping coverage is acquired and available in this decade (by 2030)?	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree	I don't have an opinion
Q4: Seabed mapping data has an important role to play in informing decisions, and enabling economic value from ocean / marine resources?	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree	I don't have an opinion
Q5: Seabed mapping data has an important role to play in informing decisions, and promoting the sustainable use of our ocean / marine resources?	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree	I don't have an opinion

Q6: Seabed mapping data has an important role to play as a key input for marine science and research?	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree	I don't have an opinion
<i>Free text</i>						
<b>2. Ocean / Marine / Maritime Sectors Dependency on High Seas Seabed Mapping Data</b>						
Q7: Seabed 2030 has identified a set of ocean / marine / maritime sectors with varying range of uses and levels of use for high seas seabed mapping data. Please assign a level of dependency for each sector in the table below.						
<p><b>[With a High Seas 'Seabed Mapping Grid Data' context focus]</b>, please categorise each sector using three levels of dependency on seabed mapping data. Please apply the following categories:</p> <p>#1: <b>High dependency</b> [i.e., Seabed 2030 high seas grid data is critical to the sector [A 'must have' position]</p> <p>#2: <b>Medium dependency</b> [i.e., Seabed 2030 high seas grid data provides a level of enhanced value in the sector [A 'good to have' position]</p> <p>#3: <b>Minimal dependency</b> [i.e., Seabed 2030 high seas grid data has minimal value to the sector [A 'doesn't matter' or 'limited relevance' or 'no relevance' position]</p>						
<b>Sector</b>	<b>Level of Dependency on Seabed Mapping Data</b> [Please select High/Medium or Low Dependency]	<b>Comment</b> <i>Please provide any additional evidential commentary using free text alongside any sector you wish to emphasise dependency with any examples/data use context.</i>				
<b>Established Ocean / Marine / Maritime Sectors</b>						
Government Policy (Including Marine Protected Areas)	H / M / L	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>				

Marine & Coastal Fisheries	H / M / L	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>
Marine & Coastal Aquaculture [esp. Mariculture]	H / M / L	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>
Marine and Coastal Tourism	H / M / L	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>
Shipping and Ports	H / M / L	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>
Oil and Gas	H / M / L	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>
Cable and Pipelines	H / M / L	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>
Defence and Maritime Affairs (Including Safety at Sea and Security)	H / M / L	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>
<b>Science and/or Emerging Sectors</b>		
Ocean Discovery	H / M / L	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>
Marine Science and Research	H / M / L	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>
Marine and Coastal Ecosystem Services (Including Marine Biodiversity)	H / M / L	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>
Climate Change	H / M / L	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>
Disaster Management and Disaster Risk Resilience	H / M / L	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>
Renewable Energy I – Offshore Wind Energy	H / M / L	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>
Renewable Energy II – Tidal and Wave	H / M / L	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>
<b>Other Sectors</b>		
Hydrographic / Oceanographic Survey	H / M / L	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>

Marine and Coastal Development	H / M / L	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>
Resource Evaluation and Preservation	H / M / L	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>
Biotechnology (Including Pharma Industries)	H / M / L	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>
Insurance	H / M / L	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>
Investment	H / M / L	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>
Ship Building, Ship Breaking and Offshore (structures) Decommissioning	H / M / L	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>
Desalination	H / M / L	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>
Marine Archaeology / Heritage	H / M / L	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>
Other (please state)	H / M / L	<i>Comment – Free Text</i>

### **3. Ocean / Marine /Maritime Sectors Dependency on High Seas Seabed Mapping Data**

Q8: Seabed 2030 is producing a set of use cases to demonstrate and articulate the value of high seas seabed mapping and the value of seabed mapping to Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and other national settings, where national mapping capabilities and data may not be present. Sixteen sector orientated use cases are listed below, and of these twelve will be produced in the current study phase.

#Use Case: Government Policy – The establishment of Marine Protected Areas.

#Use Case: Subsea Cable Planning - Cable Planning including (i) Cabling in Arctic instance – determining where cable across Arctic will go. And (ii) Cable routes, in context of where to survey and where to encourage the placement of cables.

#Use Case: Planning of high resolution surveys for resources management and renewable energy.

#Use Case: Marine Science and Research and Climate Change - Improvement in Global Ocean Model, including location and identification of deep-water overflows. Pathway and changes, and climate models.

#Climate Change – Improved Climate Modelling through use of seabed mapping.

#Use Case: Marine and Coastal Ecosystem Services – Marine Biodiversity Monitoring. Notably mapping of areas around MPA and case study identification of suitable areas for MPAs, Deep Coral Areas, among others.

#Use Case: Disaster management and Disaster Risk Resilience – Tsunami Propagation, Seabed landform regarding earthquake and underwater volcano activity. Disaster Preparedness.

#Use Case: Disaster management and Disaster Risk Resilience - Storm Surge Modelling.  
 #Use Case: Small Island Developing State (SIDS) Coastal Development and the use of seabed mapping as a foundation data for Marine Spatial Planning.  
 #Use Case: Small Island Developing States (SIDS), Sea Level Rise Coastal Inundation Modelling, Resilience, and Adaptation.  
 #Use Case: Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Marine Fisheries and Marine Aquaculture.  
 #Use Case: Biotechnology – Supporting Marine Bio pharmacy.  
 #Use Case: Hydrographic/Oceanographic Survey – Seabed mapping technology innovation facilitating global ocean coverage seabed mapping.  
 #Use Case: Human Capital – Seabed Mapping Industry Employment Opportunities Growth and Capacity Building, resulting from global seabed mapping.  
 #Use Case: Provision of Seabed Mapping support in the absence of a Hydrographic Office.  
 #Use Case: Ocean Discovery – Ocean Exploration.

Drawing on your role as a practitioner / user of seabed mapping and your knowledge of your wider nation / regional hydrographic community range of use of seabed mapping data, please provide your opinion on the following use case related statements? Essentially, we are validating the proposed set of use cases.

*Please select level of agreement with each statement, and provide any additional comment or areas of suggestion using comment free text.*

Statement	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree	I don't have an opinion
Q9: The use case listing identified above exemplifies and provides good coverage on beneficial use of high seas seabed mapping?	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree	I don't have an opinion
Q10: The three use cases identified in the context of Small Island Developing States, provide good coverage on the beneficial use of seabed mapping ( <i>Please note, these 3 use cases are designed to provide use of high seas and within a nation EEZ seabed mapping? Are we achieving this?</i> )	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree	I don't have an opinion
Q11: Are there other example use cases / case studies that you would recommend we consider in the context of demonstrating the benefit of seabed mapping generally / global or international context? Please provide suggested use case overview details using free text in the comment field provided.	<i>Comment - Free Text</i>					
Q12: Are there any use cases we have listed above that resonate well in your nation jurisdiction / regional context [please identify in comments], or other use cases you would suggest additional to those identified in the list presented, that we could include to more strongly evidence the benefits of seabed mapping in your nation / regional context? Please provide any suggested use case overview details using free text in the comment field provided.	<i>Comment - Free Text</i>					

Q13: For any use case referenced in this part of the survey, are there any where you would like to contribute towards. For example, this may include support to referenceable case study details, referenceable statements on key resulting benefits, referenceable quotations from a practitioner context, among others we would be happy to discuss further and consider.

*Please add suggestion use case summary details here. Please continue in the additional comment field below if required.*

*Comment – free text*

*Please provide any additional detail here if additional space is required.*



## Part E: Views on quantitative analysis report informing prioritisation

After analysing the findings of a previous Seabed 2030 survey - “Determining the global need for bathymetric data.” We are seeking your views on the need to develop a prioritised global seabed mapping strategy in those vast areas of the world’s seabed’s yet to be mapped. Guidance provided here will be used to inform Seabed 2030 mapping prioritisation model.

### 1. Prioritisation for seabed mapping of the world’s uncharted seabed’s

Drawing on your role as a practitioner / user of seabed mapping and your knowledge of your wider nation / regional / international mapping community range of use of seabed mapping data, please provide your opinion on the following statements? Essentially, we are validating a set of statements on the value of global coverage seabed mapping.

*Please select level of agreement with each statement and provide any additional evidential comment using free text further below.*

Statement	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree	I don’t have an opinion
Q1: It is critical that the remainder of the world’s uncharted seabed’s (approximately 70%) be mapped to an agreed resolution?	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree	I don’t have an opinion
Q2: Do you recognise and accept the need to develop a prioritisation strategy to map the world’s remaining uncharted waters?	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree	I don’t have an opinion
Q3: Do you agree that the International Hydrographic Organisation (IHO), Intergovernmental Commission (IOC) of UNESCO should be the lead bodies with the Nippon Foundation-GEBCO Seabed 2030 Project are the right bodies to develop a global prioritisation strategy for mapping the high seas?	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree	I don’t have an opinion
Q4: Would you recognise and support a global seabed mapping strategy that recognises IHO and IOC members that is managed under Seabed 2030?	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree	I don’t have an opinion
Q5: Do you agree that to help determine prioritisation of seabed mapping the world’s seas and oceans should be sub-divided into	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree	I don’t have an opinion

regions / areas to reflect specific factors applicable to such areas which will aid in the identification / needs for seabed mapping?						
---	--	--	--	--	--	--

*Comment – free text*

*Please provide any additional detail here if you have any addition information you wish to add.*

A quantitative analysis was conducted on the findings of the online survey and to enable the identification of regional needs. This analysis identified those with greatest need for seabed mapping and lead industrial sectors. To enable this, we sub-divided the world's seas and oceans were divided into eleven regions.

## 2. Regional prioritisation for seabed mapping of the world's uncharted seabed's

Q6. We are seeking to understand whether from your agency / national perspective you agree or disagree with the survey findings and if you disagree what you recognise as the key sectors / priorities in those areas you have responsibility / jurisdiction? Please comment or respond to those areas which are applicable to you.

<b>Arctic:</b> Greatest need for seabed mapping: Science and research Lead industrial sector: Cables / communications & renewables	Agree / Disagree	<i>Comment – free text</i>
<b>Atlantic North:</b> Greatest need for seabed mapping: Science and research Lead industrial sector: Renewables	Agree / Disagree	<i>Comment – free text</i>
<b>Atlantic South:</b> Greatest need for seabed mapping: Science and research Lead industrial sector: Oil and Gas	Agree / Disagree	<i>Comment – free text</i>
<b>Baltic Sea:</b> Greatest need for seabed mapping: Governmental Lead industrial sector: Defence	Agree / Disagree	<i>Comment – free text</i>
<b>Black Sea:</b> Greatest need for seabed mapping: Economic Lead industrial sector: Governmental	Agree / Disagree	<i>Comment – free text</i>
<b>Indian Ocean:</b> Greatest need for seabed mapping: Science and research Lead industrial sector: Fishing and oil and gas	Agree / Disagree	<i>Comment – free text</i>
<b>Mediterranean Sea:</b> Greatest need for seabed mapping: Governmental	Agree / Disagree	<i>Comment – free text</i>

Lead industrial sector: Fishing and tourism		
<b>Pacific North:</b> Greatest need for seabed mapping: Academia Lead industrial sector: Fishing and tourism	Agree / Disagree	<i>Comment – free text</i>
<b>Pacific South:</b> Greatest need for seabed mapping: Science and research Lead industrial sector: Governmental	Agree / Disagree	<i>Comment – free text</i>
<b>South China Sea:</b> Greatest need for seabed mapping: National economic needs Lead industrial sector: Hydrography, mapping and survey	Agree / Disagree	<i>Comment – free text</i>
<b>Southern Ocean:</b> Greatest need for seabed mapping: Science and research Lead industrial sector: Environmental / climate	Agree / Disagree	<i>Comment – free text</i>

## Part F: Participation Going Forward

Please consider and identify if any of the following participation activities are of interest to you?

No.	Seabed 2030 Wind in The Sails Seabed Mapping Study Participation Activities	Yes	No	Comment
1.	Please confirm if you are willing for the Study Team to contact you by email or telephone, to seek further details on any specific answer provided?			
2.	Please confirm if you are happy for the Study team to invite you to future study community engagement events on the topic of Seabed Mapping benefits analysis and prioritisation?			
3.	Please confirm if you are interested to participate in an online informing interview on seabed mapping benefits analysis and prioritisation. Interviews are anticipated to be held during a future study phase, the timing of which is TBD in FY 2023/24.			
4.	Please confirm if you are interested to participate in roundtable sessions [online workshops] to inform the development of a seabed mapping prioritisation process for Seabed 2030. This workshop is anticipated to be held during a future study phase, the timing of which is TBD in FY 2023/24.			
5.	Please confirm if you would like to be included on Seabed 2030 mailing list, to be kept informed on Seabed 2030 activities, Seabed 2030 events, and key developments towards achieving the mission of acquiring Seabed Mapping data for global oceans by 2030.			

## Part G: Additional Comments / Suggestions / Recommendations

*Please feel free to provide any further comments, suggestions, or recommendations on the topic of seabed mapping benefits analysis and prioritisation.*

*Free text*

**Thank you!**

Thank you very much.

Seabed 2030 and the WITS study team are very grateful for your time and participation in this engagement survey. We appreciate your contribution and support to the study.

Supporting document/s or further details on seabed mapping data considerations responders feel may be useful and wish to share are most welcome, and these may be attached to this survey return. Rest assured that all personal information will be treated with utmost confidentiality.

High level survey findings (anonymised) will be collated and presented in a study report, and additionally survey findings may be presented as aggregated level detail at future user engagement events and activities.

Where responders have confirmed their interest towards future participation [See Part F above], the study team will engage again in future inviting additional participation accordingly.

For further information of Seabed 2030 mission, and any other inquiries, please contact [enquiries@seabed2030.org](mailto:enquiries@seabed2030.org)