



THE INTEGRATED OCEAN DRILLING PROGRAM (IODP), the most international marine research drilling program, began in 2003 and is dedicated to advancing scientific understanding of Earth processes by developing and observing subsurface environments using novel vessels and experimental techniques. Under scientific leadership, deep-sea research is using multiple drilling platforms to explore IODP's principal themes: the deep biosphere, environmental change, and solid earth cycles. IODP drilling platforms are operated by the R/V Alvin (United States Oceanographic Institution, Inc., Texas A&M University) and Legnicki Delivery Earth Observatory of Columbia University, Japan's Center for Deep Earth Exploration, and the European Consortium for Ocean Research Drilling (ECORD). IODP's initial 10-year, \$1.2 billion program is supported by two lead agencies, the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) and Japan's Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology, as well as by ECORD and China's Ministry of Science and Technology.

- Future IODP (late 2010-2011)
- IODP (2003-2013)
- ODP (1985-2003)
- DSDP (1968-1983)

SCALE: 1:60,000,000 in Equator Mercator (meters) projection.  
 COVERAGE: 80° North-80° South Latitude, 10° West-10° East Longitude.  
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