

## **Introduction to the new deep-sea node of the Ocean Biogeographic Information System**

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The potential impact of industrial mining activities on chemosynthesis-based ecosystems has highlighted the urgent need for a global deep-ocean data repository to provide baseline information for impact assessments and area-based management and decision-making in the deep sea. The Ocean Biogeographic Information System provides an ideal platform to provide this service, yet there is a general decrease in the availability of biodiversity data from the deep sea since the 1990s. Following a deep sea data workshop in 2016 at the OBIS secretariat, co-organized by INDEEP, it was decided that an expert from the deep-sea scientific community should volunteer as the manager of a new global thematic OBIS node for deep-sea. Dr Nicholas Higgs has taken on responsibility for coordinating this effort through networking, communicating and steering this important activity within the deep-sea science community. This poster presents proposals for developing the new OBIS deep-sea node, including a customized, online deep-sea view on the global database providing open data access, mapping, data download and web services in a format appropriate to the deep-sea community. It is also an opportunity to gather feedback on other services that would benefit the deep-sea community.