



सत्यमेव जयते
CMLRE

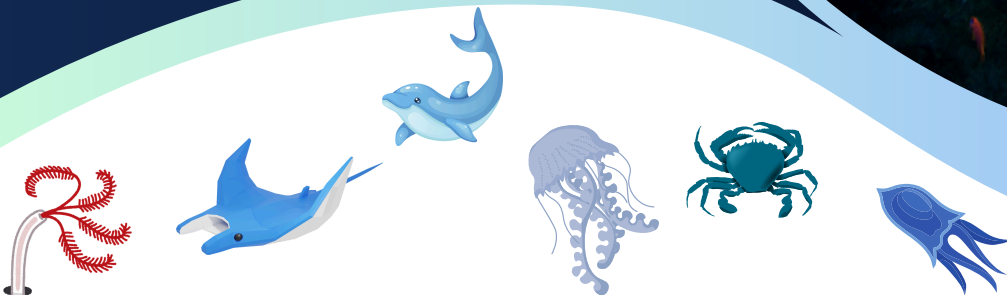
Workshop on

Publishing Marine Biodiversity Data through the Indian Ocean Biodiversity Information System (IndOBIS)

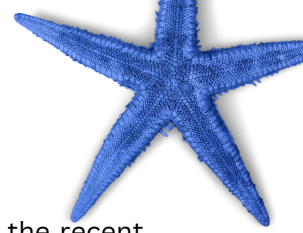
3rd
SEPTEMBER
2024

Organized by

**Centre for Marine
Living Resources &
Ecology,
Ministry of Earth
Sciences**



CMLRE, MoES, Atal
Bhavan, LNG Road,
Puthuvype, Kochi
Kerala-682508



Background

Inventorying and hosting biodiversity data on a centralized portal is crucial in light of the recent Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) agreement. As conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity on the high seas gain priority, the OBIS portal becomes an essential resource. It offers open access to comprehensive, reliable, and up-to-date marine biodiversity data, enabling informed decision-making, scientific research, and policy development. OBIS supports global efforts to protect marine ecosystems, ensure sustainable use of marine resources, and enhance our understanding of the intricate dynamics of ocean life, thus contributing to global goals of conservation and sustainability.

Biodiversity exploration and inventory constitute one of the thematic (Vertical-3) areas of the Deep Ocean Mission (DOM), a flagship initiative of the Ministry of Earth Sciences, implemented by the Centre for Marine Living Resources and Ecology (CMLRE). Under the DOM, numerous research projects are sponsored at various research organizations and universities across the country, which are expected to generate a voluminous inventory of biodiversity data. To facilitate the publication of this data, CMLRE is organizing a one-day workshop titled “Publishing Marine Biodiversity Data through IndOBIS.” This workshop aims to consolidate biodiversity data, ensuring it is publicly accessible and enhancing national reporting in line with international agreements. It will bring together stakeholders from DOM programs to improve data management skills and ensure continuous improvement in data quality and accessibility.

About IndOBIS

The Ocean Biodiversity Information System (OBIS) is a global, open-access platform for marine biodiversity data that supports science, conservation, and sustainable development. Established under the Census of Marine Life (CoML) and now part of UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), OBIS integrates marine biogeographic data from around the world through its network of over 30 regional nodes.

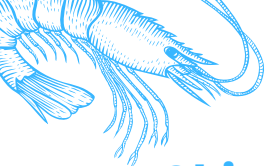
The Indian Ocean Biodiversity Information System (IndOBIS), hosted by CMLRE, is the regional OBIS node for the Indian Ocean. It coordinates marine biodiversity data collection across Indian national agencies and contributes to global marine biodiversity knowledge. IndOBIS aims to be the primary provider of Indian Ocean biodiversity data, offering comprehensive insights through its portal at <https://www.indobis.in>.

Occurrence Records

Biodiversity data is critical for understanding and conserving the vast array of life in our oceans. This data encompasses information on species occurrence, genetic diversity, ecological interactions, and environmental conditions within marine ecosystems. Specifically, it includes details about the distribution and abundance of marine species, their genetic makeup, and the habitats they occupy. Such data is essential for effective conservation planning, environmental impact assessments, policy formulation, and sustainable resource management. By providing a comprehensive picture of marine biodiversity, this data helps identify areas that need protection, monitor changes over time, and inform decisions that promote the sustainable use of marine resources.

To ensure the usability and interoperability of biodiversity data, adherence to data standards is crucial. The OBIS employs Darwin Core (DwC) standards, which provide a structured framework for sharing biodiversity data. Essential fields for publishing data in OBIS include scientific names, geographic coordinates, date and time of observations, habitat descriptions, and data source references. These standards facilitate data integration from multiple sources, enhancing the comprehensiveness and reliability of the information.





Objectives

- Raise awareness about OBIS and IndOBIS among participants.
- Promote best practices in marine biodiversity data management.
- Train participants to publish marine biodiversity data into OBIS using the IndOBIS platform.
- Establish a network of biodiversity data providers for continuous data publication.

Contents

- Overview of the Ocean Biodiversity Information System (OBIS) and IndOBIS
- Introduction to the OceanEyes Mobile App for Citizen Science Initiatives
- Best Practices in Marine Biodiversity Data Management
- Hands-on Sessions on Data Entry, Cleaning, and Validation Techniques
- Practical Sessions on Data Publication through IndOBIS IPT
- Accessing and Using OBIS Data for Research and Conservation (Case Study)
- Building a Network with Marine Biodiversity Stakeholders for Data sharing
- Group Discussions and Feedback Sessions

Who should attend

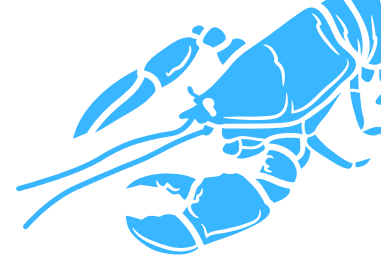
The workshop is intended for researchers, data providers, project managers, and other stakeholders involved in marine biodiversity projects under the Deep Ocean Mission. It aims to build capacity by enhancing participants' skills in marine biodiversity data management, enabling them to contribute effectively to the IndOBIS platform. Participants are encouraged to join the IndOBIS network and regularly publish their data to OBIS.

A total of 25 participants will be selected. Shortlisted participants must bring their own datasets to work on, preferably primary or in-situ data (species location data). If primary data is unavailable, secondary data or collected literature to create a dataset is acceptable. Participants must bring their laptops. Register on or before **[16/08/2024]** by clicking [here](#).

About the Host (CMLRE)

The Centre for Marine Living Resources and Ecology (CMLRE), located in Kochi, is an attached office of the Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India. Established as the Sagar Sampada Cell in 1984 by the Department of Ocean Development (DOD), it was later converted to an attached office. In January 2001, it was renamed as Centre for Marine Living Resources & Ecology under the Ministry of Earth Sciences. CMLRE plays a pivotal role in marine biodiversity research, focusing on the Indian Ocean region. It organizes and coordinates activities related to marine living resources through dedicated research, conservation, and management. As the regional OBIS node for the Indian Ocean (IndOBIS), CMLRE is recognized as an International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE) Associate Data Unit (ADU) within the IODE network of data centers.





Organizer

Dr GVM Gupta

Director | Scientist-G

Centre for Marine Living Resources & Ecology, Kochi

Coordinators

Shri Saravanane N, Scientist-F | Node Manager, IndOBIS, CMLRE, Kochi

Dr Sherine S Cubelio, Scientist-E, CMLRE, Kochi

Dr Sendhil Kumar R, Scientist-D, CMLRE, Kochi

Technical Members

Shri Johnny Konjarla: Project Scientist; +91 9949836662, CMLRE, Kochi

Dr Ravinesh R: Project Scientist; +91 9962043101, CMLRE, Kochi

Dr Nosad Sahu: Project Scientist; +91 9476095479, CMLRE, Kochi

Corresponding Email: iptindobis@gmail.com

