

THE NIPPON FOUNDATION-GEBCO

SEABED  
2030



# SEABED 2030

## *Energizing Ocean Floor Mapping*

Vicki Ferrini, PhD

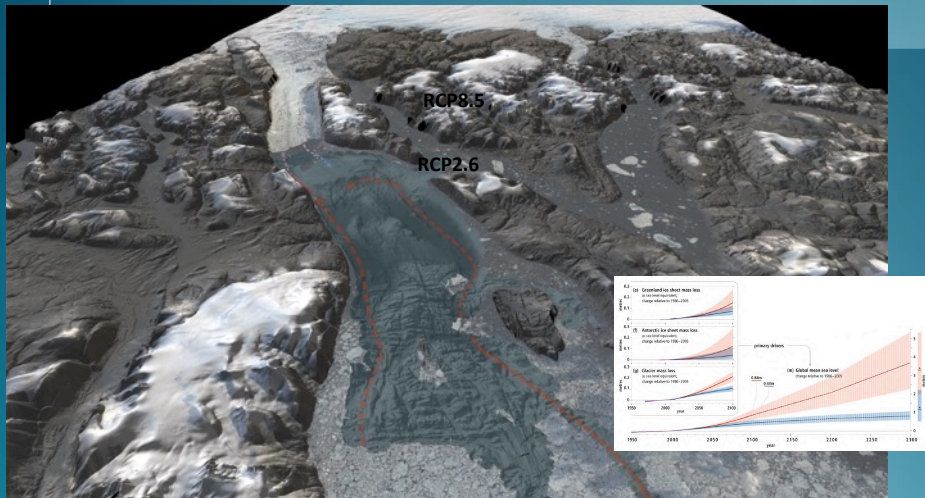
Head of Seabed 2030 Atlantic & Indian Ocean Regional Center  
Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia University



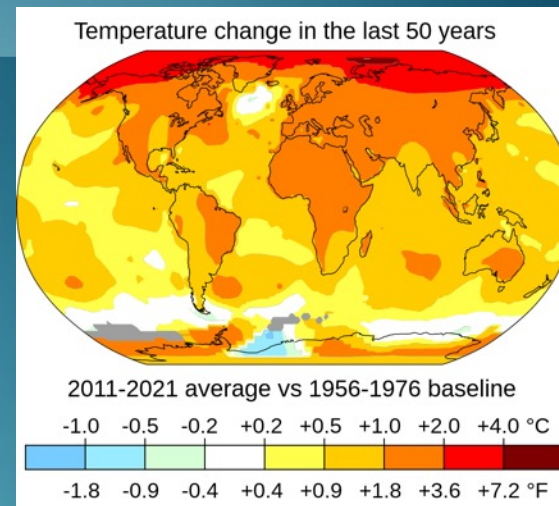
 COLUMBIA CLIMATE SCHOOL  
LAMONT-DOHERTY EARTH OBSERVATORY

# Why is ocean floor mapping data important?

- Nautical charts
- Oil and gas exploration
- Safety and storm surge/tsunami inundation models
- Ecosystem identification and management
- Emergency response
- Satellite verification models
- Offshore infrastructure
- Ocean Models
- Coastal/Marine Spatial Planning
- Coastal Hazard Assessment
- Ocean Exploration
- Coastal Change Analysis
- Sea Level Rise Mitigation
- New Energy Siting
- Marine Heritage
- Blue Economy



Courtesy: Martin Jakobsson, SU



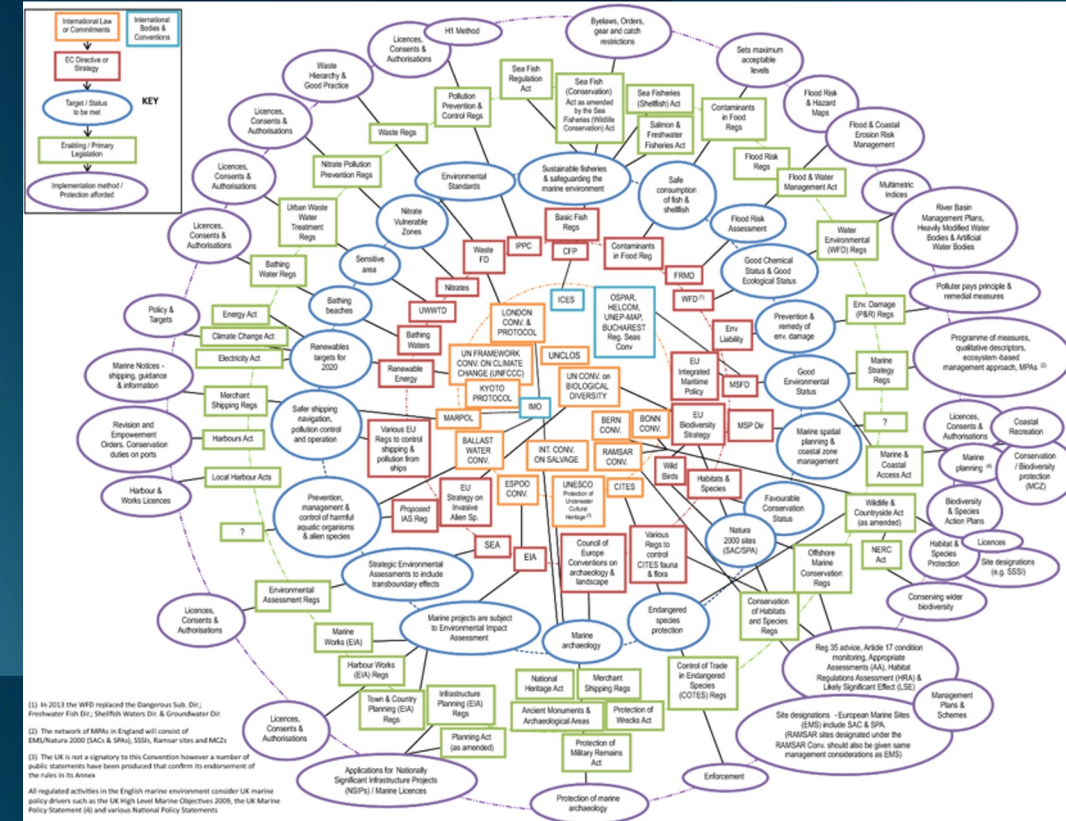
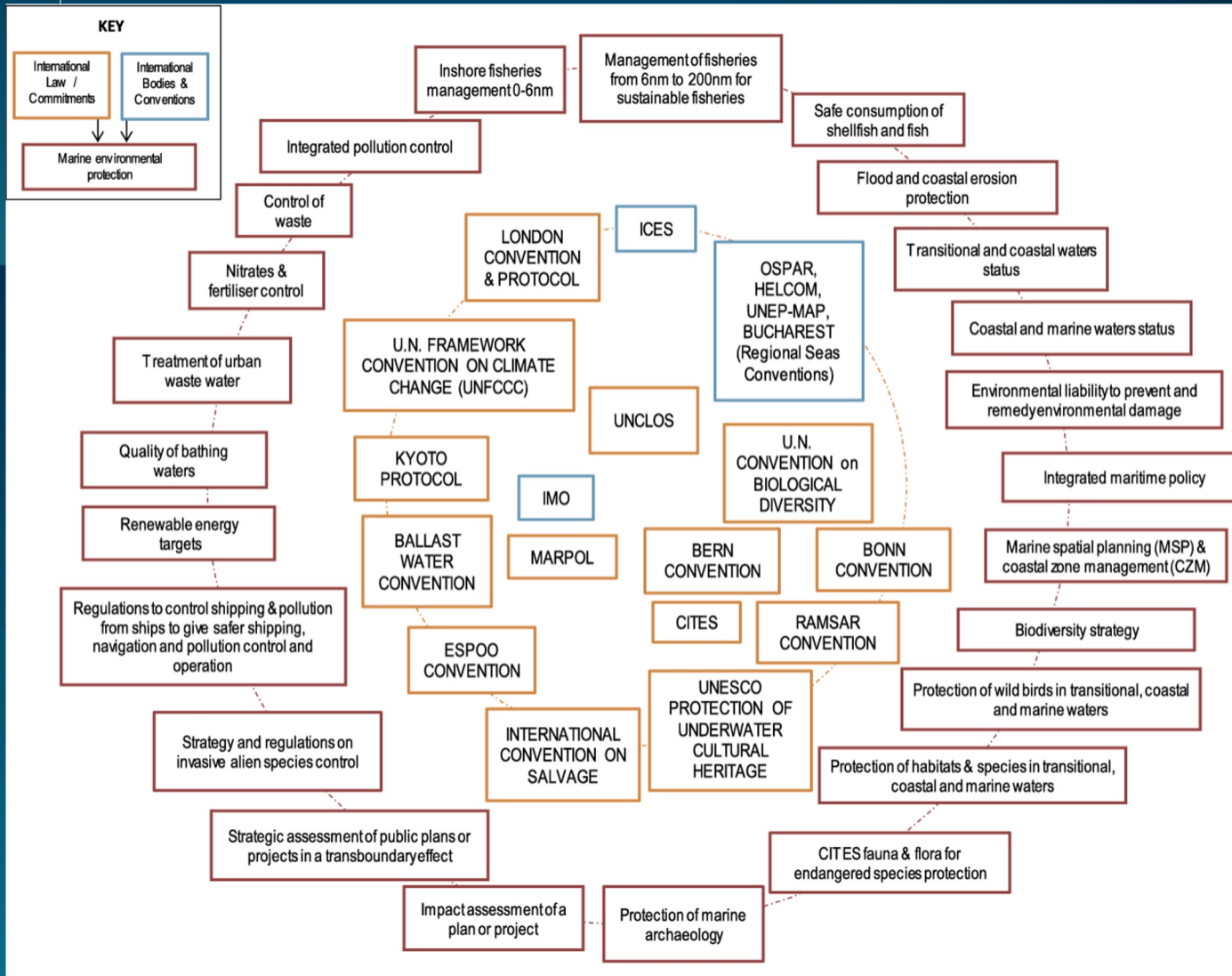
Courtesy: NASA



Courtesy: NOAA



# Mapping underpins legislation



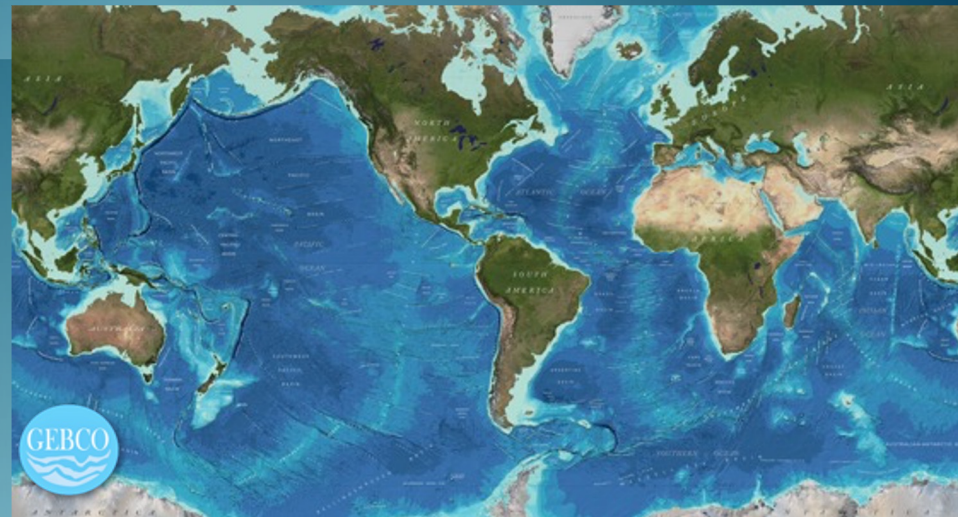
(1) In 2013 the WFD replaced the Dangerous Sub. Dir., Freshwater Fish Dir., Shellfish Waters Dir. & Groundwater Dir.  
 (2) The network of MPAs in England will consist of: BML/Nature 2000 (SACs & SPAs), SSIs, Ramsar sites and MCHs.  
 (3) The UK is not a signatory to this Convention however a number of public statements have been produced that confirm its endorsement of the rules in its Annex.  
 All regulated activities in the English marine environment consider UK marine policy drivers such as the UK High Level Marine Objectives 2009, the UK Marine Policy Statement (08) and various National Policy Statements.

You can't manage what you haven't measured! Lots of data are needed!

# What is Seabed 2030?

The Nippon Foundation - GEBCO Seabed 2030 Project is a collaborative project 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.

*Seabed 2030 aspires to empower the world to make policy decisions, use the ocean sustainably, and undertake scientific research that is informed by a detailed understanding of the global ocean floor.*





# GEBCO – General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans

*Aim: provide authoritative, publicly-available bathymetry (depth) data sets of the world's oceans*

Operates under the joint auspices of

- The International Hydrographic Organization (IHO)
- The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC/UNESCO)



# GEBCO Products

- Global gridded bathymetric data
  - 2014: 30 arc-second grid
  - 2019 - 2023: 15 arc-second grid
- Gazetteer of Undersea Feature Names
- Grid viewing software
- Printable maps
- Web Map Service (WMS)
- IHO-IOC GEBCO Cook Book

Home Data & Products Seabed 2030 Training News & Media About Contact

IHO International Hydrographic Organization United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission

General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans **GEBCO**

GEBCO aims to provide the most authoritative, publicly available bathymetry data sets for the world's oceans.

Download GEBCO's global grid Download polar grids Contribute data

**Gridded Bathymetry Data**

GEBCO's gridded bathymetric data sets are global terrain models for ocean and land. The grids are available to download or access through Web Map Services.

Read more

**Data & Products**

GEBCO produces and makes available a range of bathymetric data sets and products. This includes a global bathymetric grid; gazetteer of undersea feature names, a Web Map Service and printable maps of ocean bathymetry.

Read more

**Seabed 2030**

Seabed 2030 is a collaborative project between the Nippon Foundation and GEBCO. It aims to bring together all available bathymetric data to produce the definitive map of the world ocean floor by 2030 and make it available to all.

Read more

Download the GEBCO grid from: [gebco.net](http://gebco.net) or [seabed2030.org](http://seabed2030.org)



# Accessing the GEBCO Grid



Home > Data & Products > Gridded Bathymetry Data

## Global ocean & land terrain models

GEBCO's gridded bathymetric data set, the GEBCO\_2020 grid, is a global terrain model for ocean and land at 15 arc-second intervals. It is accompanied by a Type Identifier (TID) Grid that gives information on the types of source data that the GEBCO\_2020 Grid is based.

- [Download global coverage grids](#)
- [Download data for user-defined areas](#)

More [information](#) about the grid, its terms of use and attribution.

## Download global coverage grids

The GEBCO\_2020 Grid and TID Grid can be download as global files in netCDF format or a set of 8 tiles (each with an area of 90° x 90°), giving global coverage, in Esri ASCII raster and data GeoTiff formats. The data filea are included in a zip file along with the data set documentation.

<b>GEBCO_2020 Grid</b>	<a href="#">netCDF</a> (4 Gbytes, 7.5 Gbytes uncompressed)	<a href="#">Data GeoTiff</a> (4 Gbytes, 8 Gbytes uncompressed)	<a href="#">Esri ASCII raster</a> (5 Gbytes, 20 Gbytes uncompressed)
<b>GEBCO_2020 TID Grid</b>	<a href="#">netCDF</a> 90 Mbytes, 4 Gbytes uncompressed)	<a href="#">Data GeoTiff</a> (96 Mbytes, 7 Gbytes uncompressed)	<a href="#">Esri ASCII raster</a> (108 Mbytes, 9.5 Gbytes uncompressed)

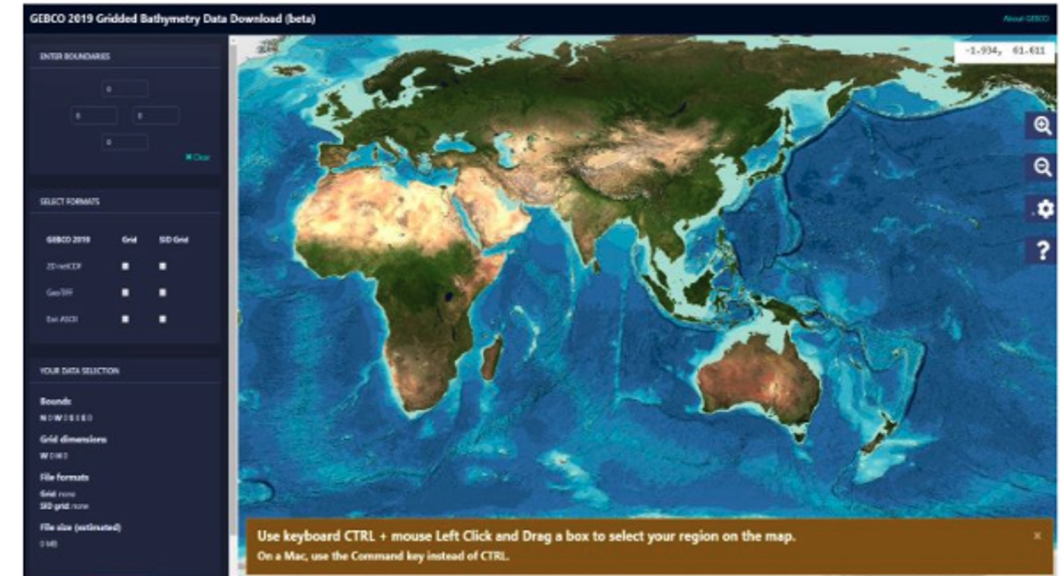
### Jump to

- > [Seabed 2030](#)
- > [Contribute data](#)
- > [IBCAO\\_v4](#)
- > [GEBCO Web Services](#)
- > [Printable maps](#)
- > [Historical GEBCO data sets](#)
- > [Imagery](#)
- > [Undersea feature names](#)
- > [Historical GEBCO charts](#)
- > [IHO-IOC GEBCO Cook Book](#)
- > [History of GEBCO book](#)

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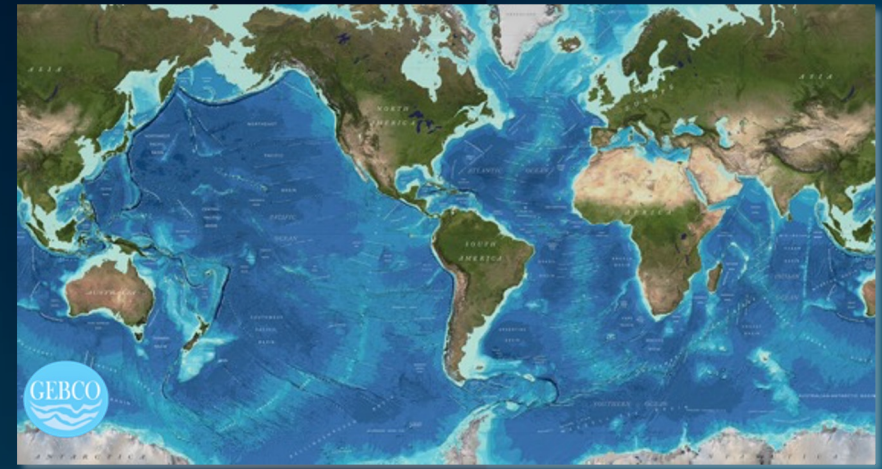
## Download data for user-defined areas

Use our [application](#) to select and download data in netCDF, Esri ASCII raster and data GeoTiff formats.



Download the GEBCO grid from: [gebco.net](http://gebco.net) or [seabed2030.org](http://seabed2030.org)

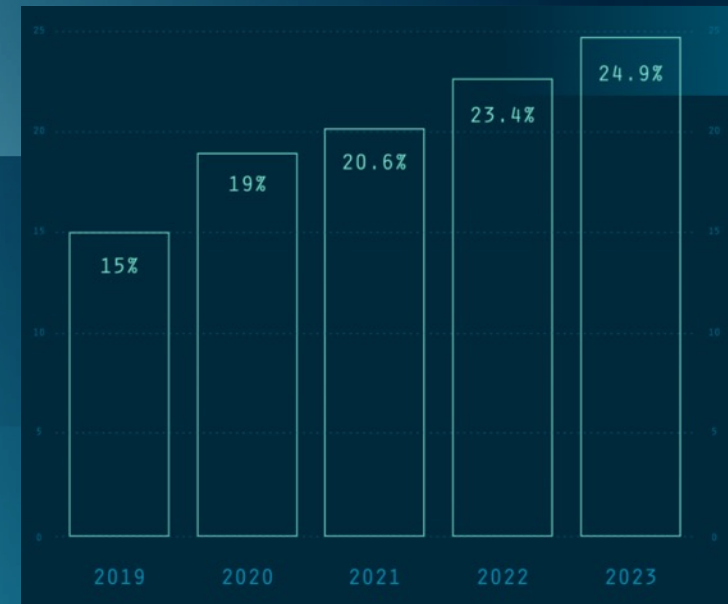
# Why is Seabed 2030 Important?



- Bathymetry data is an essential ocean observation
- Seabed mapping data has broad use and value
- Ocean processes extend beyond territorial waters
- Mapping the entire ocean can only be achieved through cooperation and coordination
- Only ~25% of the ocean has been mapped with direct observation (GEBCO 2023)
- Seabed 2030 is an **accelerator** for GEBCO

Only 6% of the ocean floor was mapped to an adequate resolution when the initiative first started...

Seabed 2030 was launched at the first ever UN Ocean Conference in New York in 2017. Today, we've seen the figure grow to a quarter of the seabed mapped.





# UN Decade of the Ocean for Sustainable Development

- Clean
- Healthy & Resilient
- Productive
- Predicted
- Safe
- Accessible
- Inspiring & Engaging



DECADE OUTCOMES

"THE OCEAN WE WANT"













**Flagship Programme**

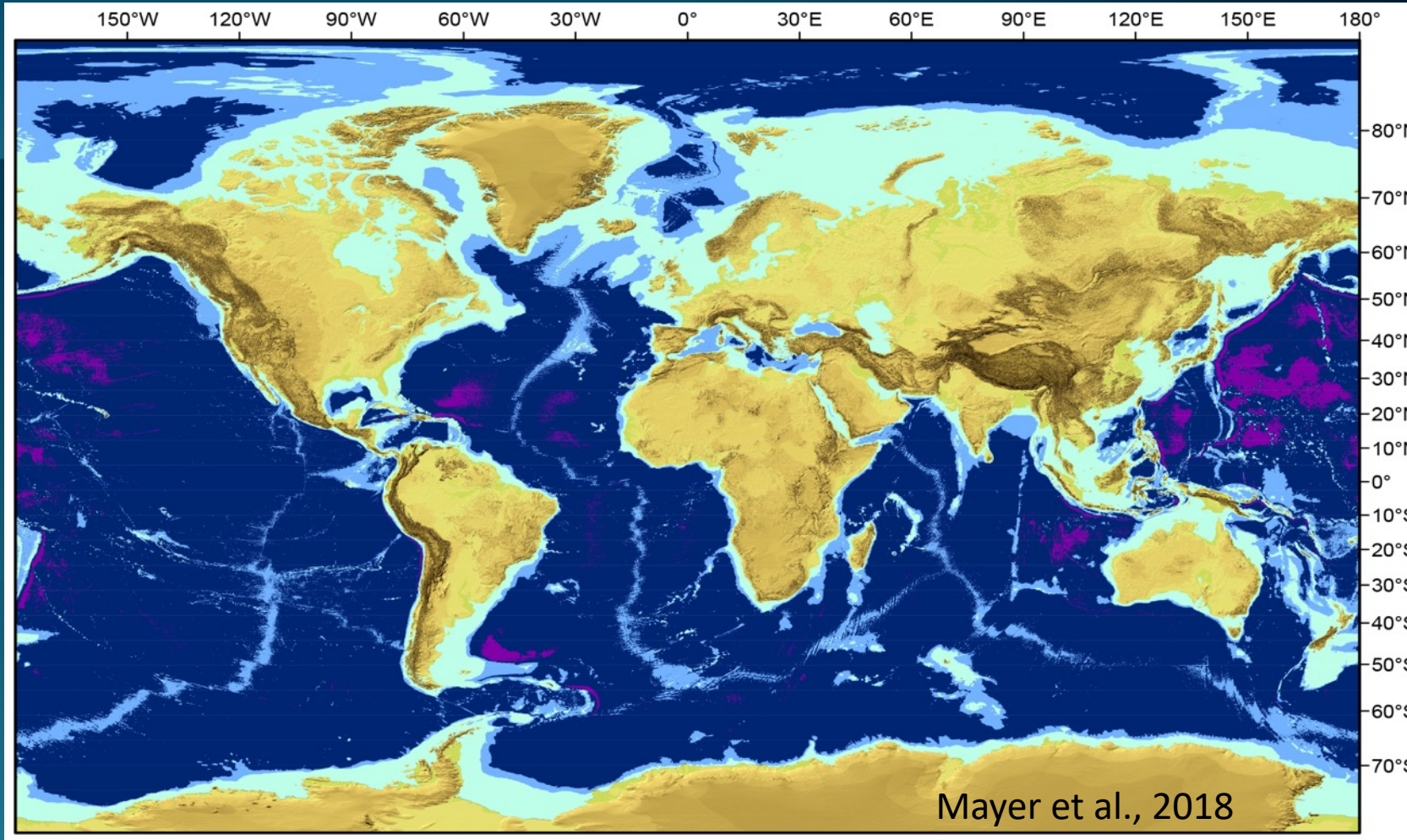
**2021**  
**2030** United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development

## OCEAN DECADE CHALLENGES

## RELEVANCE TO SEABED 2030

 <b>Pollutants</b>	Coastal bathymetry
 <b>Ecosystems</b>	Mapping central
 <b>Food from the Ocean</b>	Bathymetry dependent
 <b>Ocean economy</b>	Mapping intensive
 <b>Ocean-climate nexus</b>	Modelling, SLR, etc.
 <b>Ocean-related risks</b>	Bathymetry intensive
 <b>Ocean observing system</b>	Bathymetry is foundational
 <b>Ocean digital representation</b>	GEBCO grid: unified product
 <b>Capacity development</b>	Mission critical
 <b>Behaviour change</b>	Data acquisition & sharing

# What does 100% mapped mean?

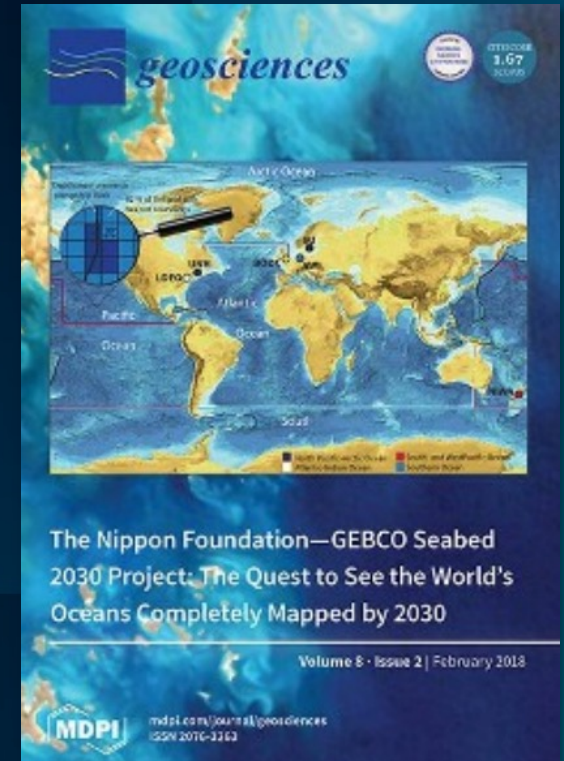


100x100 m (0-1500 m)

400x400 m (3000-5750 m)

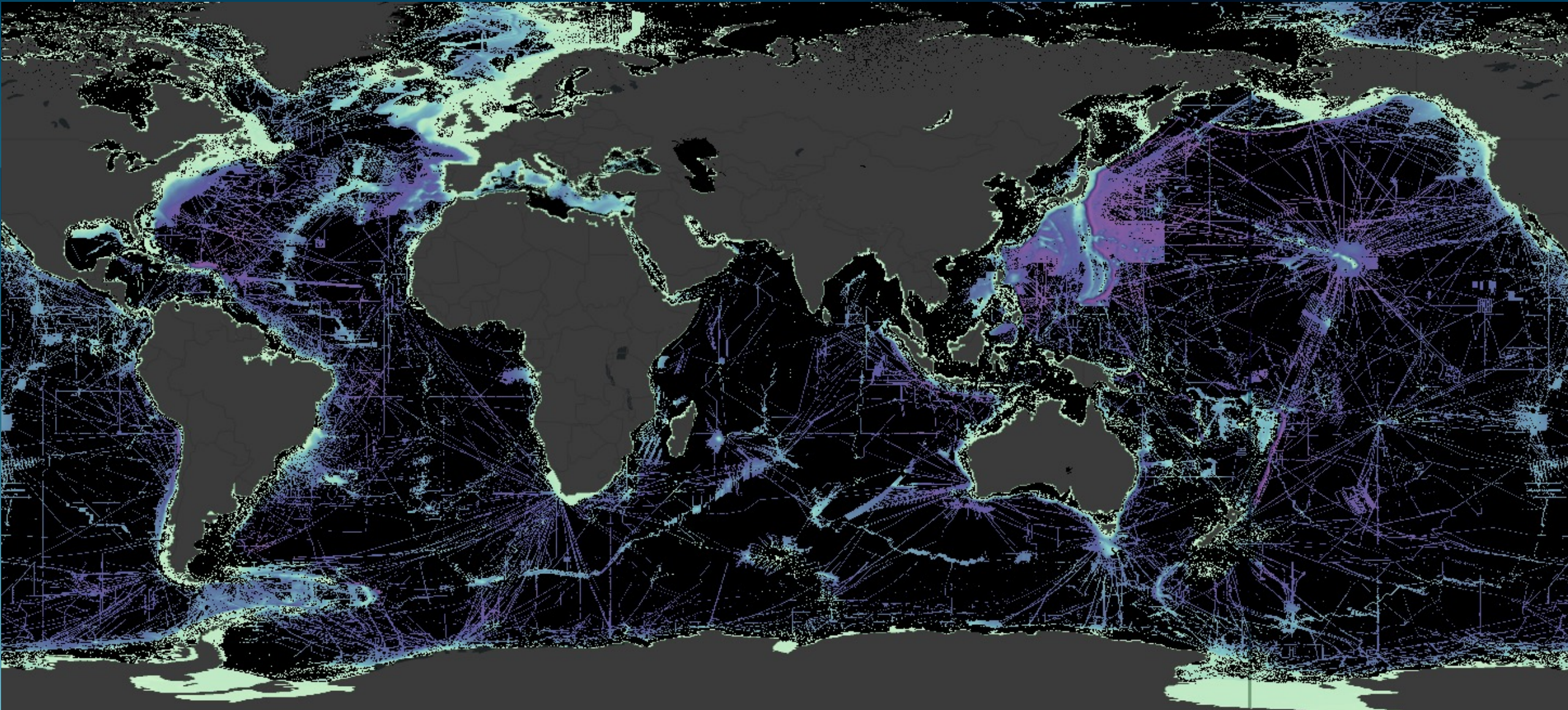
200x200 m (1500-3000 m)

800x800 m (5750-11000 m)



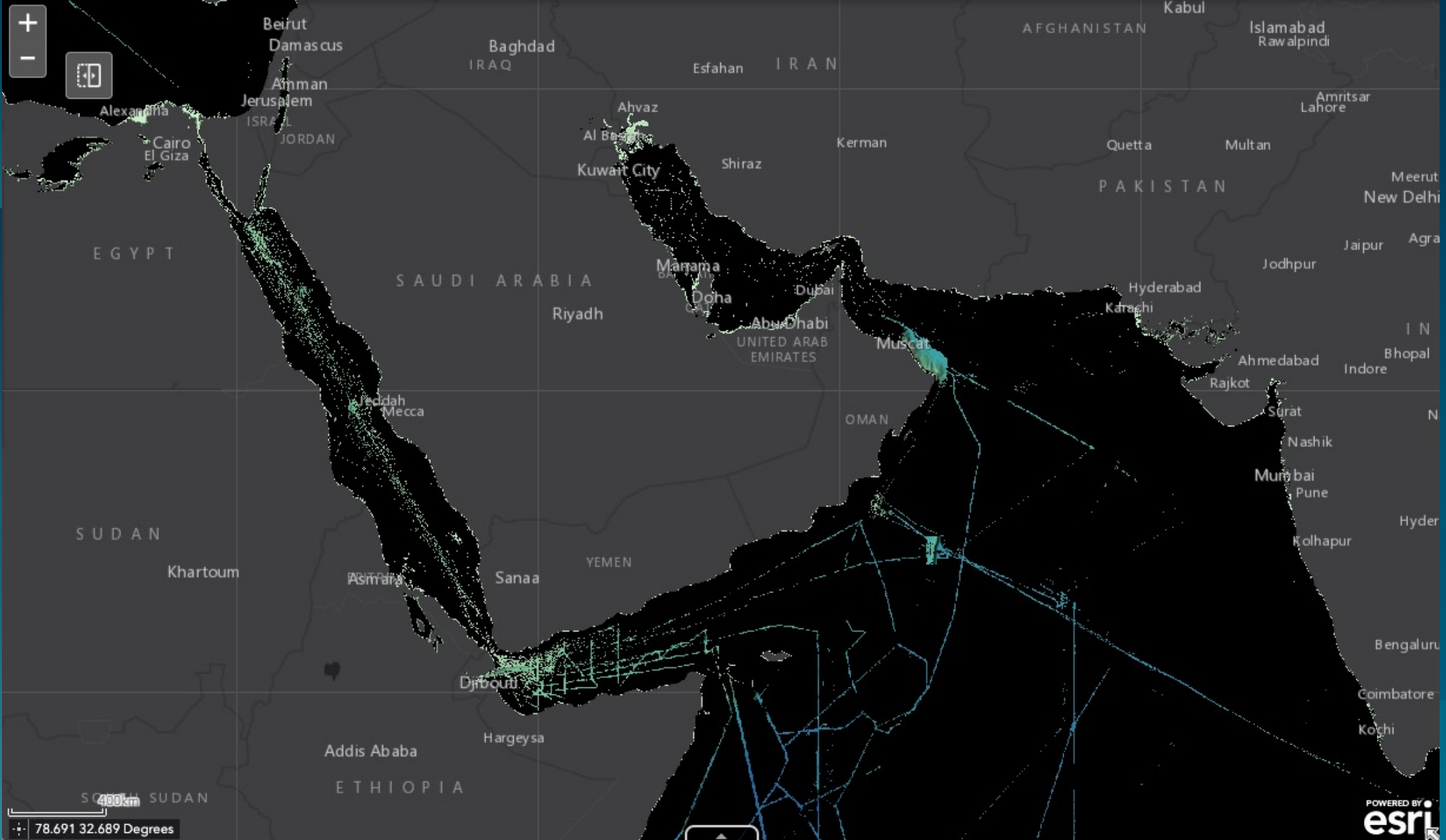


# How much of the Ocean is Mapped?



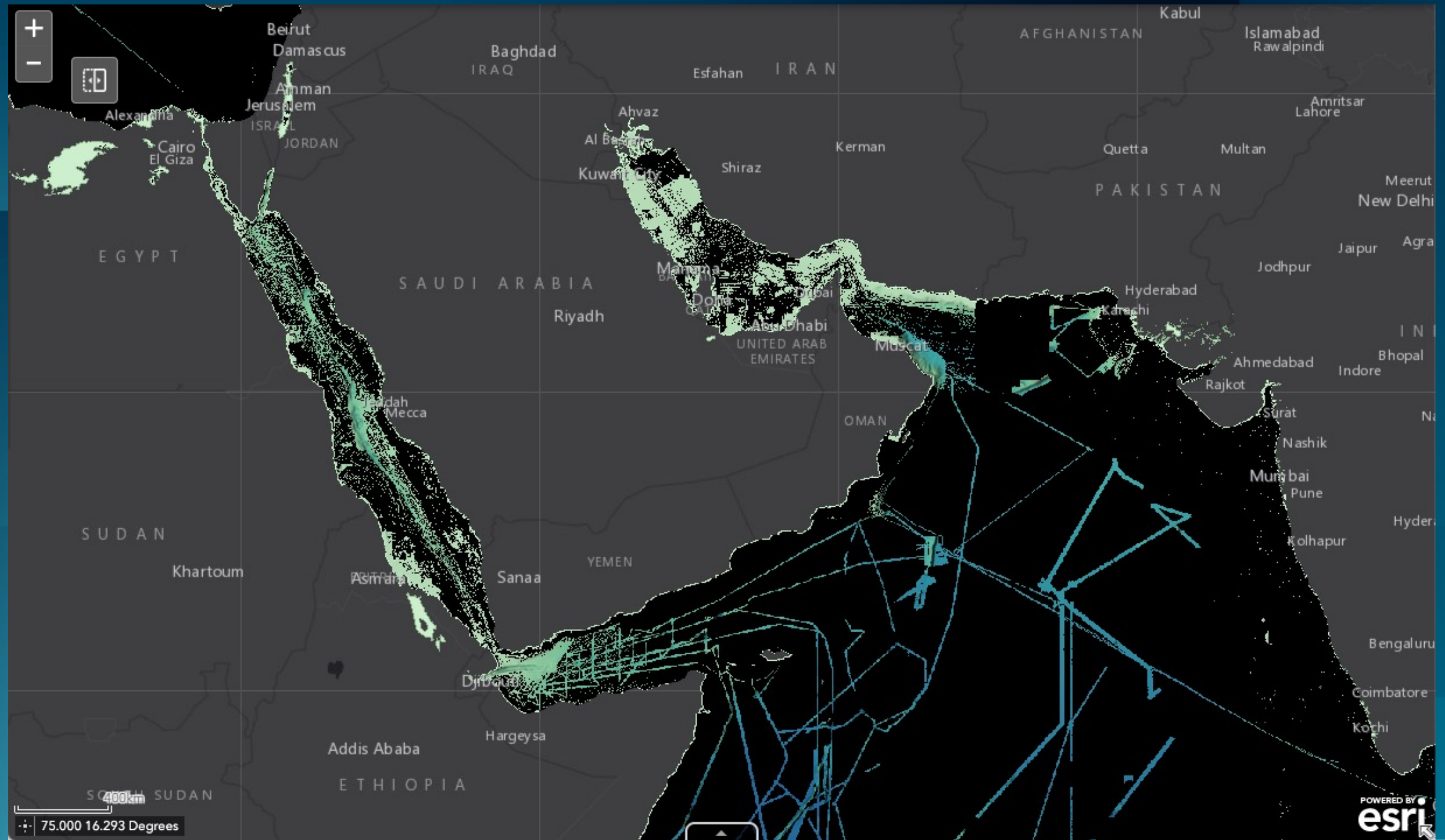


# GEBCO 2014

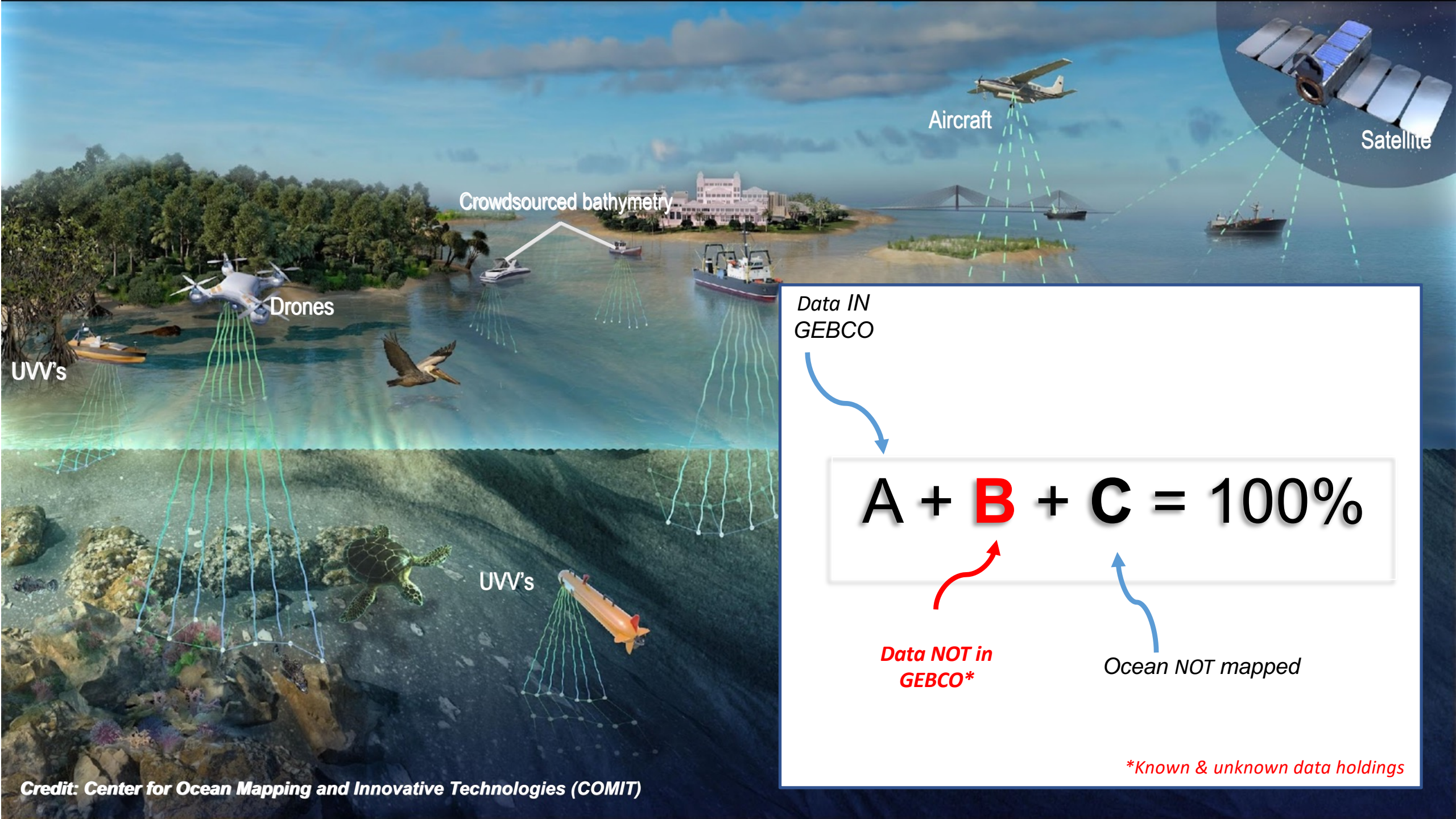




# GEBCO 2023







Aircraft

Satellite

Crowdsourced bathymetry

Drones

UUV's

Data IN  
GEBCO

$$A + B + C = 100\%$$

Data NOT in  
GEBCO\*

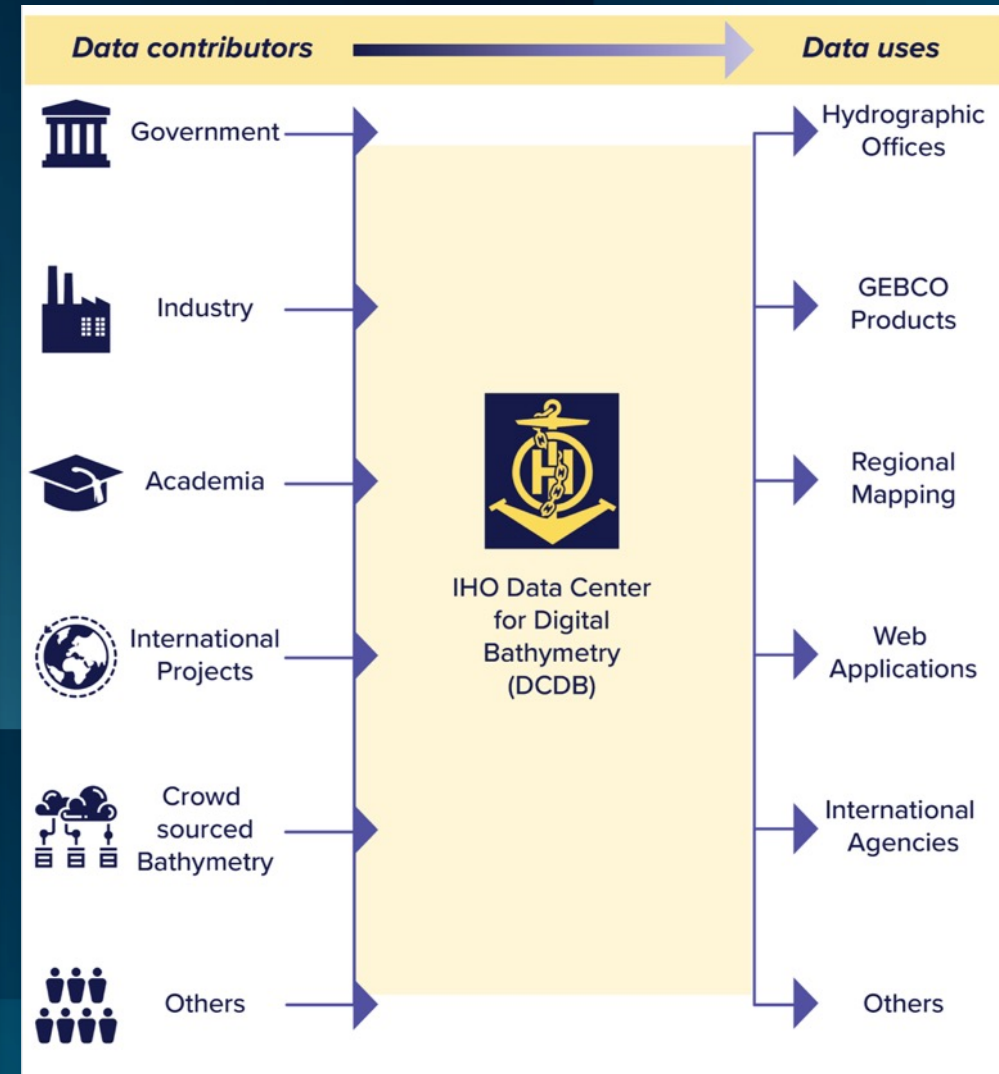
Ocean NOT mapped

\*Known & unknown data holdings

Credit: Center for Ocean Mapping and Innovative Technologies (COMIT)



# IHO Data Centre for Digital Bathymetry



# Seabed 2030 Strategy: Regional Approach

## OUR CENTERS



GLOBAL CENTER

SOUTHERN REGIONAL CENTER

ATLANTIC AND INDIAN OCEANS REGIONAL CENTER

ARCTIC AND NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN REGIONAL CENTER

SOUTH AND WEST PACIFIC OCEAN REGIONAL CENTER

IHO DATA CENTER FOR DIGITAL BATHYMETRY



IHO

International Hydrographic Organization



COLUMBIA CLIMATE SCHOOL  
LAMONT-DOHERTY EARTH OBSERVATORY





# Seabed 2030 Strategy: Regional Approach



- Coordinate with stakeholders
  - Build upon ongoing regional efforts
  - Understand needs
  - Promote a culture of data & knowledge sharing
- Ensure attribution of contributors
- Identify data gaps
- Assemble regional & global data products







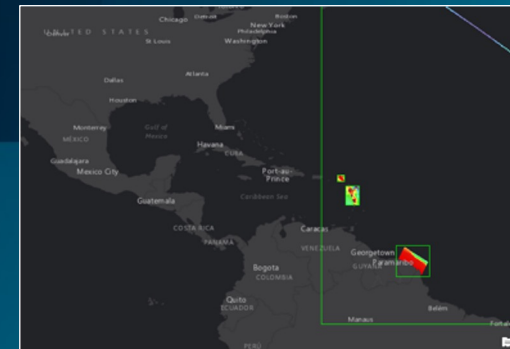
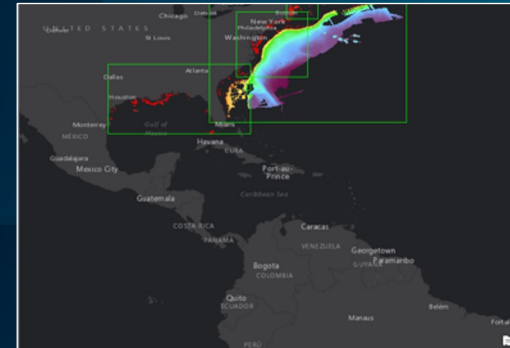
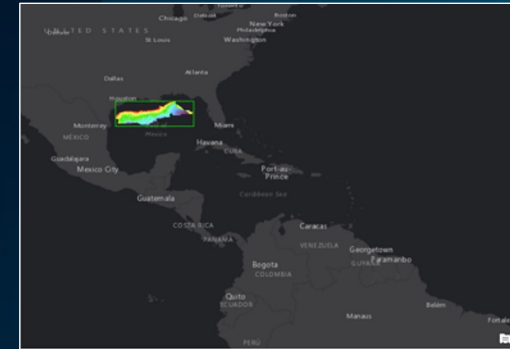
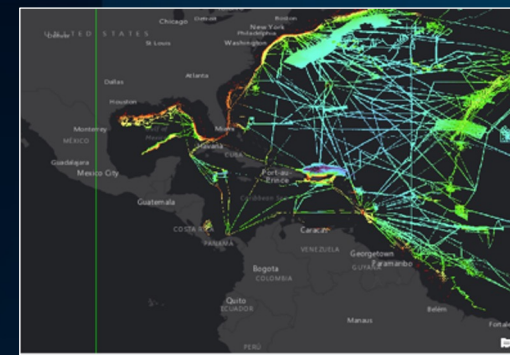
# Regional Data Assembly

## Data types received

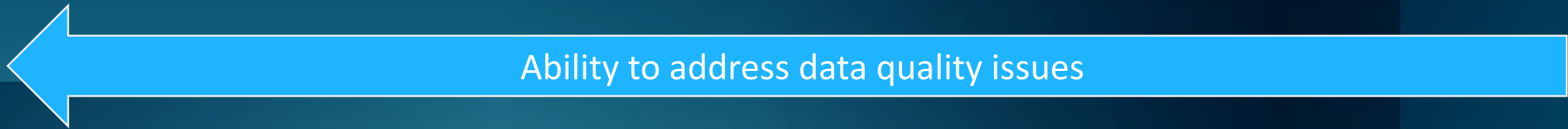
- Multibeam
- Singlebeam
- Subbottom
- Seismic-derived
- Digitized contours
- Digitized soundings
- Isolated soundings
- Lidar
- Satellite-derived
- ENC
- Mixed

## Data formats received

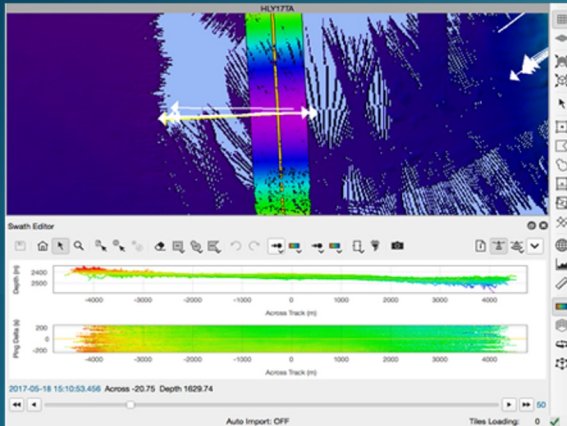
- Raw swath
  - Modern formats
  - Legacy formats
- Processed swath
- ASCII
  - Trackline
  - Swath export
  - Raster export
  - Digitized soundings
- Raster
  - With interpolation
  - Without interpolation
- Shapefile



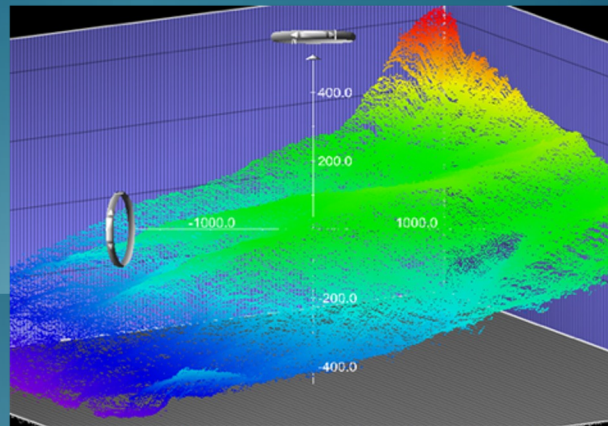
# Regional Data Assembly



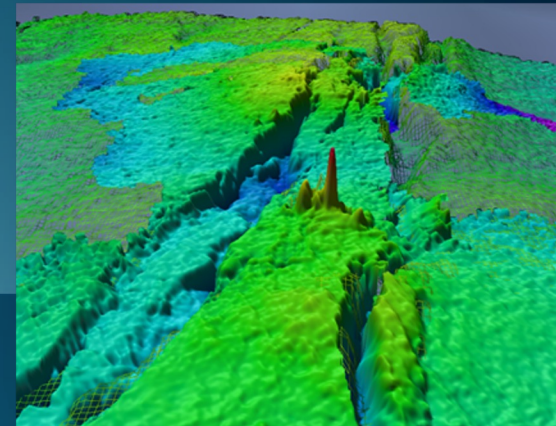
## Swath Files



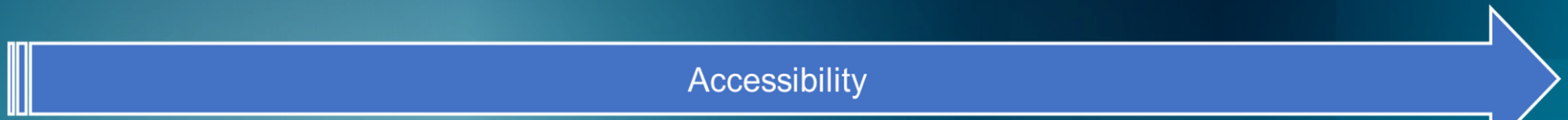
## Point Clouds



## Grids



## Images

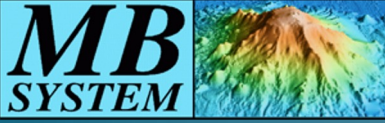
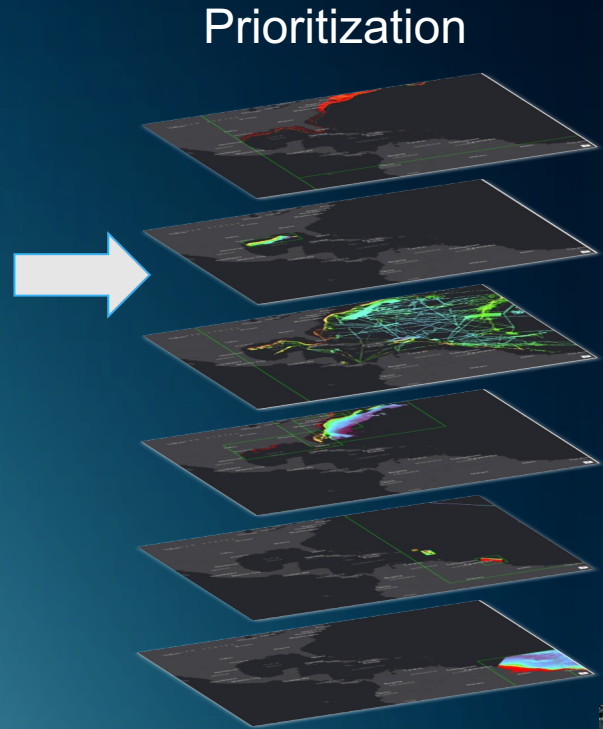
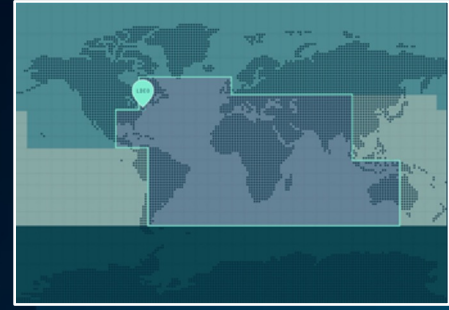


Specialist Users

Non-specialist Users



# Regional Data Assembly Tools and Workflow



# Partnerships: the key to success for Seabed 2030

- Over 50 partners
- Partnerships across all sectors of maritime community
  - Academic institutions
  - Governments and Defense Agencies
  - Industry
- We build direct relationships with our partners
- Strong relationships with IHO, IOC and UN Ocean Decade
- There is a significant role to be played by groups whose members take part in ocean measurements
  - Trade Bodies, Advocacy Groups, Professional Bodies, Learned Societies





# Emerging Solutions: Transit Data Acquisition

- Raw data to IHO DCDB
  - Tools to support acquisition & processing
  - Community-led data processing
- Raw and processed data to IHO DCDB

Fugro vessels contributed  
**2,360,000 km<sup>2</sup>**  
of in-transit bathymetric  
data to Seabed 2030

FUGRO

**Sextant**  
Marine and coastal geographic data infrastructure

**Bathymetry - Geographic coverage of data acquired during valued transits (TV) of vessels in the French oceanographic fleet**

This dataset contains, in the form of polygons, the areas covered by the bathymetric DEMs from the valued transits of ships from the French oceanographic fleet. The acquisition is made by deep-sea multibeam sounders (12KHz), according to an opportunistic operating mode, during boat transits. The horizontal resolution of all DEMs is 1/8 arcminute.

The valued transits are described by the DOI [https://doi.org/10.18142/337\\_TV\\_TRANSIT\\_BATHY](https://doi.org/10.18142/337_TV_TRANSIT_BATHY)  
Vertical reference: Observed sea level

Date(s) 08-31-2023 ( Publication )  
08-31-2023 ( Creation )  
03-09-2022 → 04-08-2023 ( Temporal coverage )

Author(s) Ifremer Geo-Ocean ( Ifremer )

Contact(s) Ifremer Sismar ( Ifremer )

Source Ifremer

Genealogy The acquisition of bathymetric data on this transit is the initiative of a group of geologists and geophysicists, in consultation with the French Oceanographic Fleet.  
The data is intended for medium mapping use.  
Data acquisition is done in a constrained mode: -  
- The speed of the ship is that set by the transit, without adjustment with regard to the quality of the data or their resolution. - the multibeam echo sounder is placed in automatic mode.  
- The acquisition is not necessarily continuously monitored by a specialized operator.  
- The speed profiles used for data acquisition and probe calculation are established from global tables, without in-situ measurement of temperature and salinity during acquisition (of the transits).

**Keywords**  
Bathymetry  
Overall topography

GEMET - Concepts, version 2.4  
seabed geomorphology

## Transiting vessels – New Zealand’s EEZ

- Now easier to collect **bathymetric data** during **transit** in NZ’s EEZ
- Marine science research application **not required**
- Toitū Te Whenua Land Information New Zealand authorised to request vessels to activate their seafloor mapping systems during transit
- Submit data to NZ for inclusion in **GEMCO grid**
- If your vessel undertakes transits of NZ’s EEZ please contact [MSR-NZ@linz.govt.nz](mailto:MSR-NZ@linz.govt.nz) for further information and a request to collect bathy data

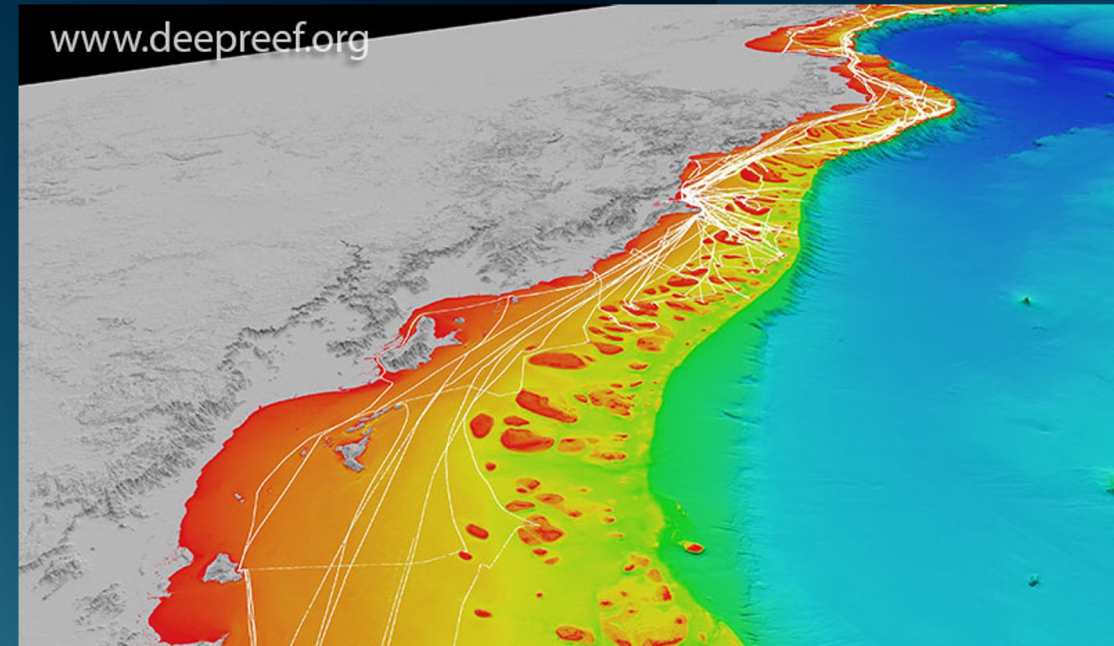
Toitū Te Whenua  
Land Information  
New Zealand

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa  
New Zealand Government



# Emerging Solutions: Crowdsourced Bathymetry Data

- Data with scientific, commercial & research value at no additional cost
- Fill gaps where data are scarce
- Useful along shallow, complex coastlines
- Supports charting efforts
  - Identify uncharted features
  - Assist in verifying charted information
  - Confirm whether charts are appropriate for the latest traffic patterns.
- Increasingly easy to log



*...but only if vessels collect depth information while on passage!*



# Emerging Solutions: The IHO Crowdsourced Bathymetry (CSB) Initiative

**International Hydrographic Organization**  
*Organisation Hydrographique Internationale*

IHO DCDB Home    Contribute Data    **Crowdsourced Bathymetry**    CSB Mapping Projects

## IHO Crowdsourced Bathymetry Initiative

**Crowdsourced bathymetry (CSB)** is the collection of depth measurements from vessels, using standard navigation instruments, while engaged in routine maritime operations. CSB can be used to supplement the more rigorous and scientific bathymetric coverage done by hydrographic offices, industry, and researchers around the world.

In 2014, the IHO recognized that traditional survey vessels alone could not be relied upon to solve data deficiency issues and agreed there was a need to encourage and support all mariners in an effort to "map the gaps." An initiative was established to support and enable mariners and professionally manned vessels to collect CSB. This approach leverages underway x, y, z, t data already being collected on vessels with common commercial echo sounders and Global Navigation Satellite System receivers.

### Contributing CSB Data to the DCDB

The DCDB accepts CSB contributions through a network of "Trusted Nodes," which may be organizations, companies or universities serving as data liaisons between mariners (data collectors) and the DCDB. Trusted Nodes may supply data logging equipment, provide technical support to vessels, download data from data loggers, and be responsible for data transfer directly to the DCDB.

CSB data must be provided in either CSV or GeoJSON, and capture the minimum required information (XYZ, timestamp). Examples of both data formats can be found in our [Ingest API documentation](#). As a trusted node, you will be asked to provide additional information about yourself (provider contact point/organization name, provider email, and unique ID).

Those interested in contributing data or becoming a Trusted Node should contact the DCDB at [bathydata@iho.int](mailto:bathydata@iho.int).

## IHO CL 01/2020 & IRCC CL 21/2020

International Hydrographic Organization

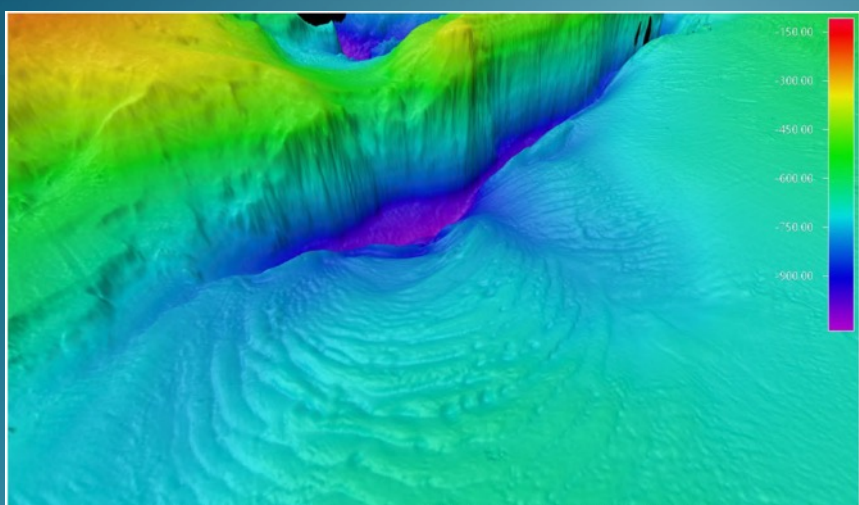
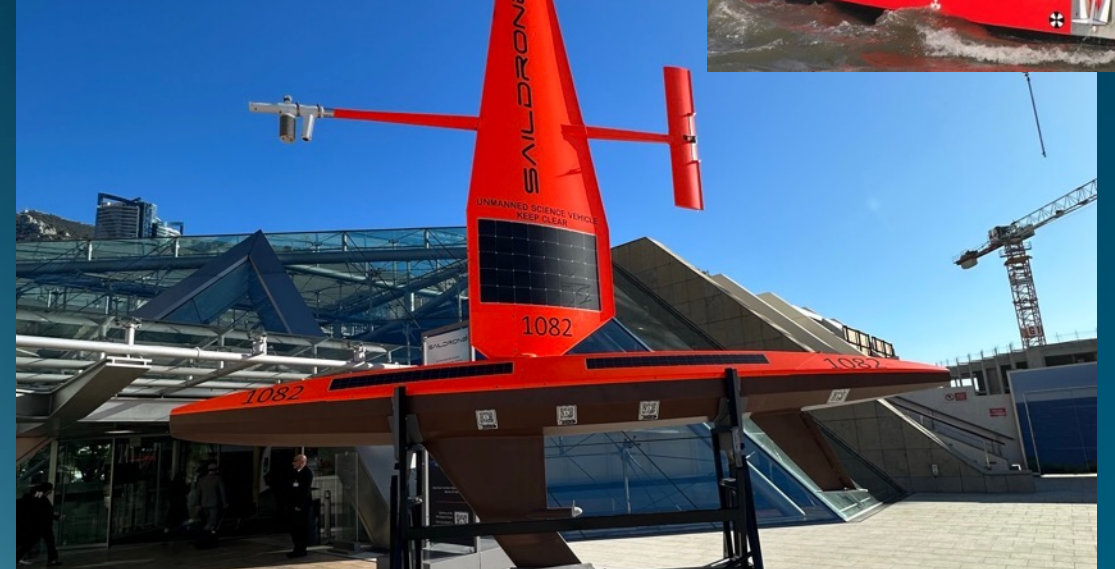
- All coastal States are requested to indicate their position on the **provision of CSB data** from ships within waters subject to their jurisdiction into the public domain
- To date, 34 coastal States **(green)** have replied positively\*

[iho.int/uploads/user/Inter-Regional%20Coordination/CSBWG/MISC/B-12\\_2020\\_EN\\_Acceptance\\_of\\_CSB\\_Data\\_in\\_NWJ\\_v3.0.pdf](https://iho.int/uploads/user/Inter-Regional%20Coordination/CSBWG/MISC/B-12_2020_EN_Acceptance_of_CSB_Data_in_NWJ_v3.0.pdf)



# Emerging Solutions: The Rise of the Robots

- Uncrewed systems operate at surface & subsurface
- Data from hard-to-reach places at lower cost
- Broadens access to mapping technology
- New generation sensors and technology solutions



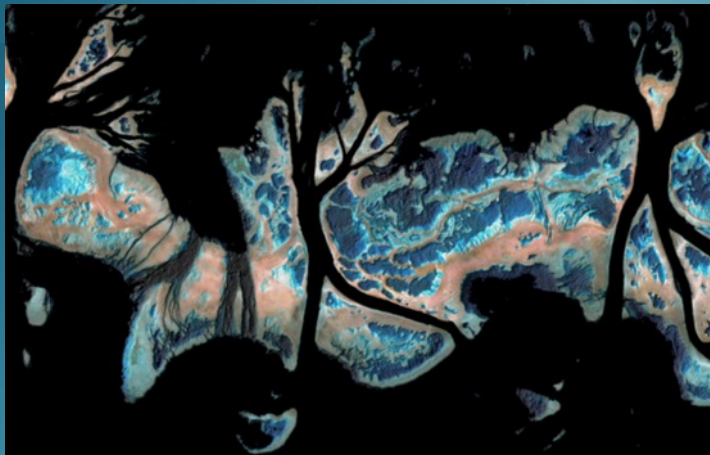
Amukta Canyon off Alaska's Aleutian Islands. Copyright 2023 SAILDRONE. All Rights Reserved.



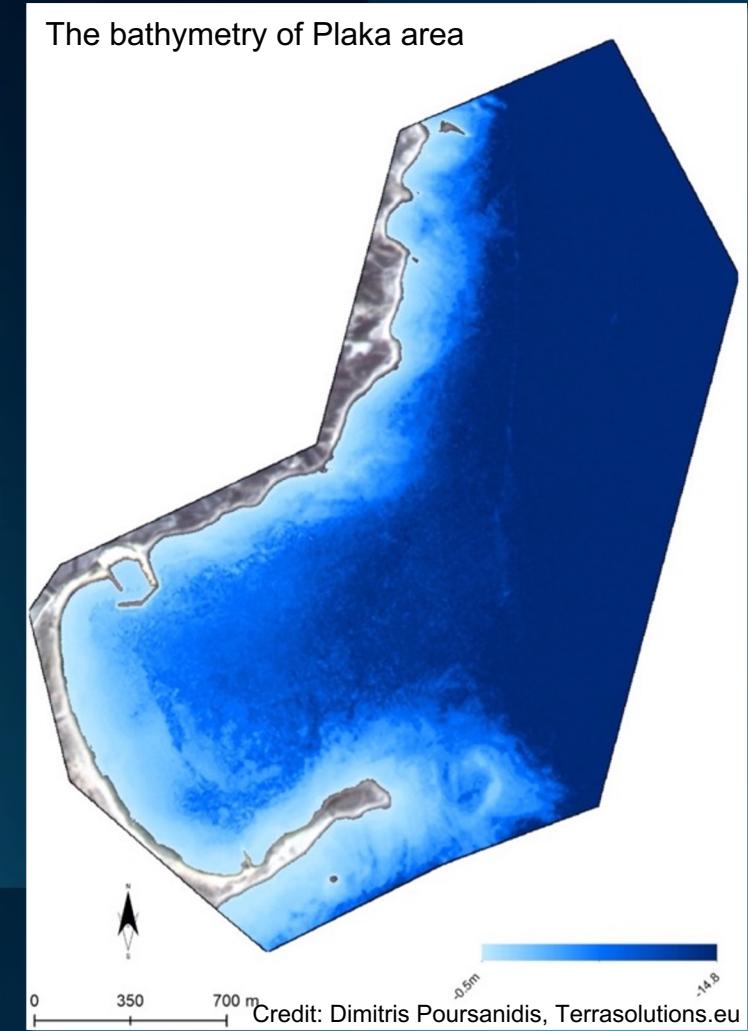
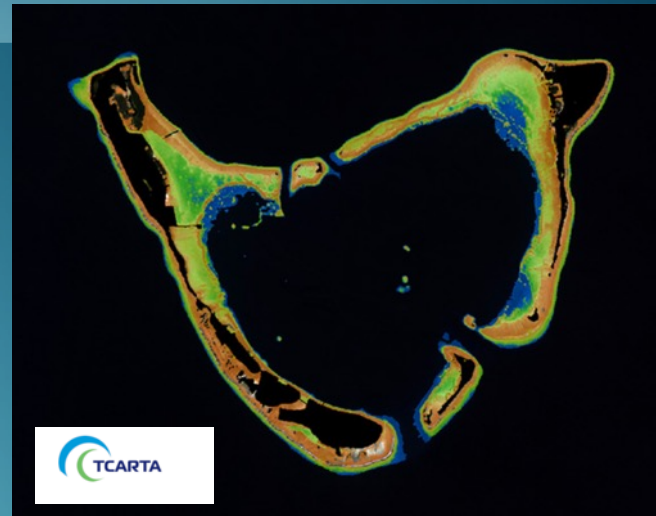


# Emerging Solutions: Remote sensing optical techniques

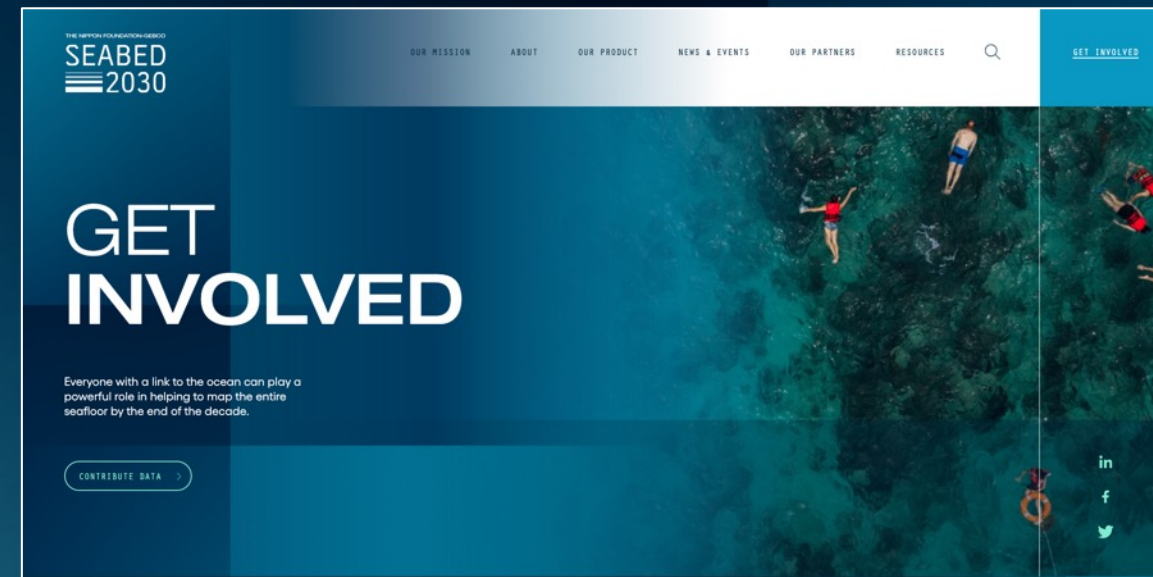
- Satellite-derived bathymetry (SDB)
- Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR)
- High efficiency mapping approach
- Reconnaissance for ship-based surveys
- Depth limitations



Satellite-Derived Bathymetry (SDB) overlaid with satellite reflectance information, Great Barrier Reef. Credit: EOMAP, 2021



# How to contribute data



- Visit <https://seabed2030.org/get-involved>
- The Seabed 2030 Team will gladly accept any data that can be contributed
- High-level of assistance available to make the process as smooth and straightforward as possible
- Contact us!



# Helping us make it happen .....





A world map showing a dense network of red lines representing survey tracks across the oceans. The tracks are most concentrated in the North Atlantic, the Indian Ocean, and the Southern Ocean, with fewer tracks in the Pacific and the Arctic regions. The text "Together we can create a complete map of the global ocean" is overlaid in white on the map.

**Together we can create a complete map of the global ocean**



THE NIPPON FOUNDATION-GEBCO

SEABED  
2030

# Thank you!

Vicki Ferrini, PhD

[atlantic-Indian@seabed2030.org](mailto:atlantic-Indian@seabed2030.org)  
[ferrini@ldeo.columbia.edu](mailto:ferrini@ldeo.columbia.edu)

<https://www.seabed2030.org>

