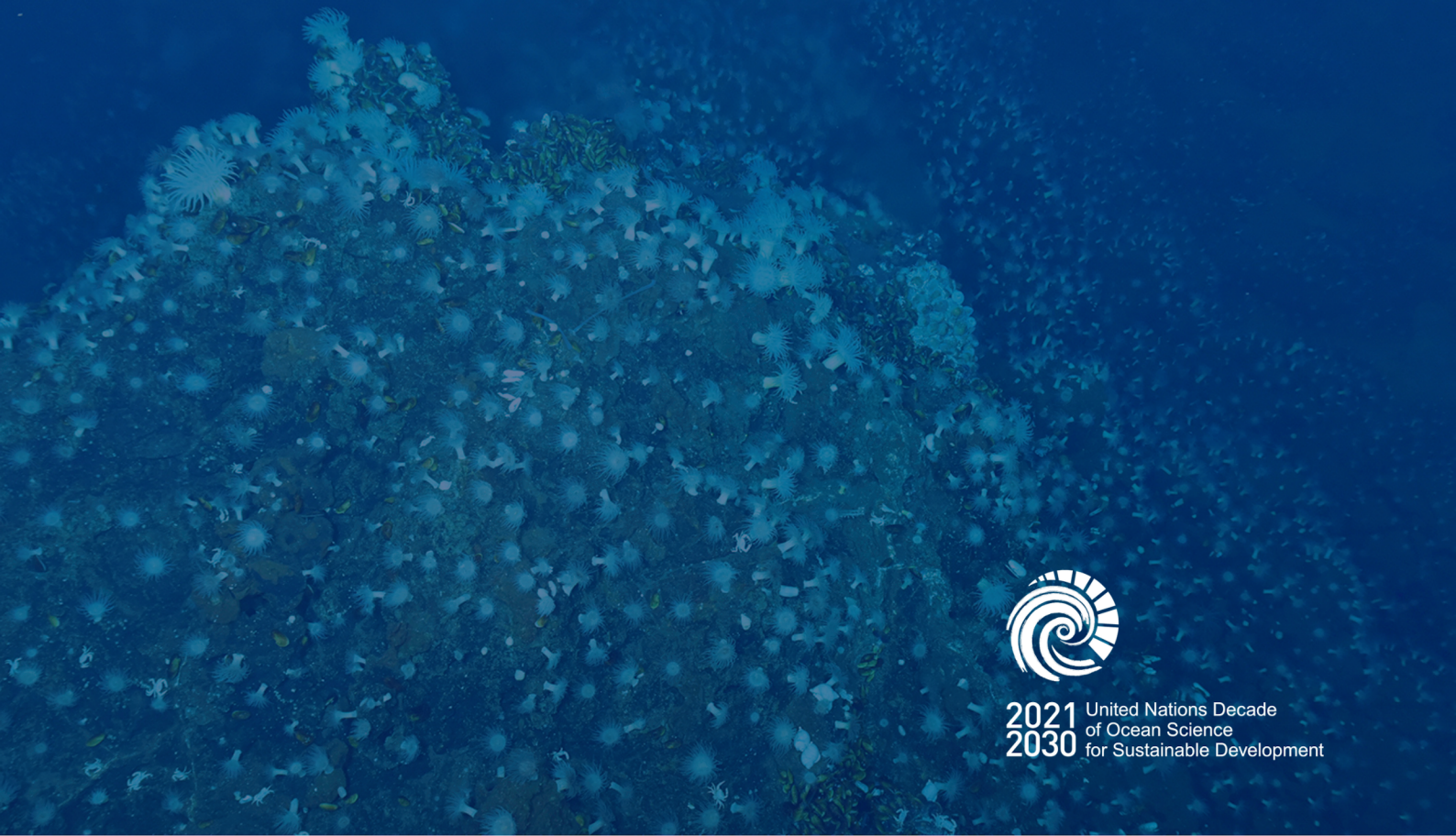
DeepData

THE ISA DEEP SEABED AND OCEAN DATABASE



2021 2030 United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development

What is DeepData?

DeepData was launched at the 25th session of ISA in 2019. It hosts data related to activities in the international seabed area (the Area) and is a global repository of information on the state of deep-seabed resources and their environments.

DeepData in figures

Over 142,000
submissions per year since 2012

Over 158,000
ecology data records

Over 273,000
geotechnical parameters records

During 2022 the number of DeepData website visitors

increased by 6% monthly

2,828,284
Total website sessions

56,904
Total unique visitors

289,000
taxonomy data records

Over 3 million
water properties records

Data supplied from an average of

3.5 contractor cruises per year

since 2012

5.8 million CTD sensor readings

(conductivity, temperature and depth)

Why DeepData?

DeepData helps us understand the very latest state of knowledge of the deep sea and deep seabed.

ISA has a specific and exclusive mandate under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea to coordinate marine scientific research in the Area and disseminate the results of such research for the benefit of humankind. This involves openly and transparently sharing data and non-confidential information, and promoting data accessibility.

DeepData plays a key role in

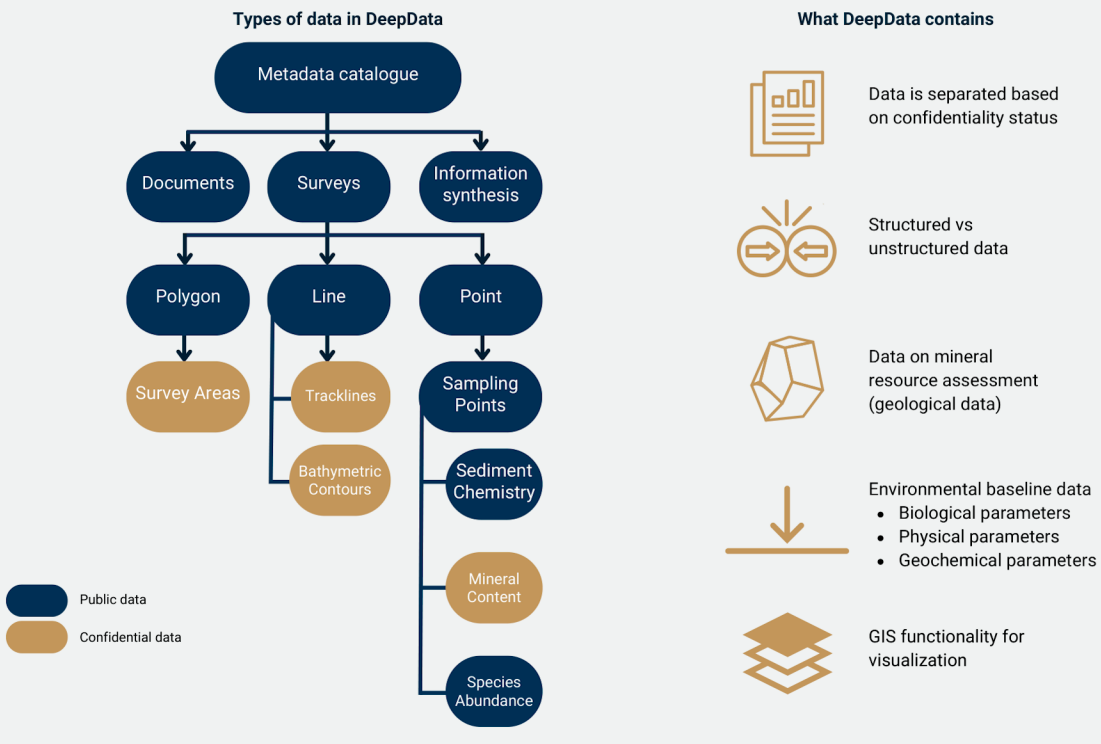
- Promoting scientific knowledge of the Area, including knowledge of the marine environment and seabed mineral resources for the scientific community and the public.
- Informing regulation of prospecting, exploration and future exploitation of deep-seabed mineral resources.
- Assisting in the evaluation of the implementation by contractors of their obligations in the Area.
- Enabling data gap analysis to guide contractors and the scientific community to help fill potential gaps.
- Assisting in the protection of the marine environment in the Area.

The process of collecting data

DeepData is the data collected by ISA contractors during their exploration activities in the Area.

- Other relevant data related to the environment and deep-seabed resources in the Area is also collected.
- DeepData contains data on more than 100 biological, physical, geological and geochemical parameters collected annually.
- The DeepData collected allows visualization of contract areas, sample locations, areas of particular environmental interest and more.
- Navigation is facilitated by a Geographical Information System which enables many layers of information to be overlaid on one map.
- New data is incorporated on a regular basis and is reviewed by ISA's Legal and Technical Commission to ensure it meets quality standards.

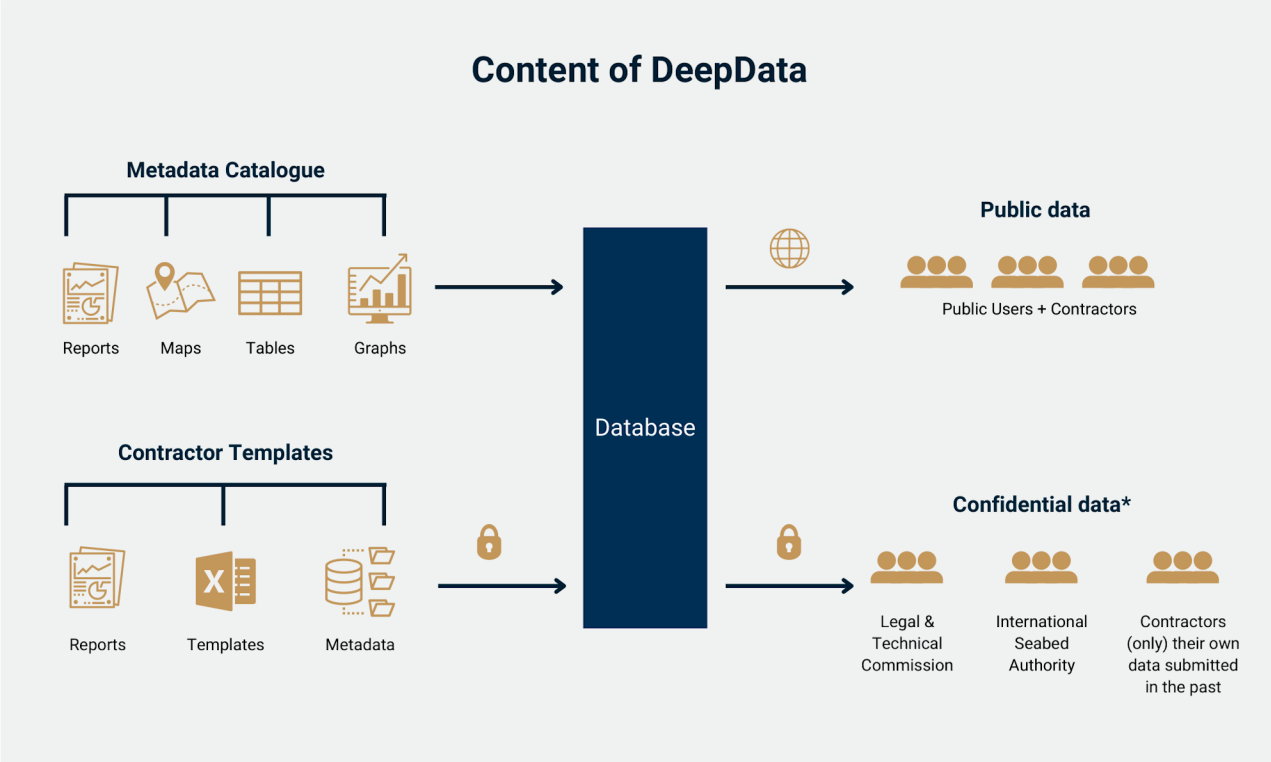
The data in DeepData



Who can use DeepData?

Much of the information in DeepData is available publicly and is expected to be particularly useful for members of the global scientific community.

Users can access and download data, analyze and synthesize data to produce a range of products based on data that is suitable for their needs and target audiences.



*Confidential data

Data and information submitted to the Secretary-General is regarded as being of a confidential nature unless it is data and information which:

- is generally known or publicly available from other sources
- has been previously made available by the owner to others without an obligation concerning its confidentiality
- is already in the possession of ISA with no obligation concerning its confidentiality
- is necessary for the formulation by ISA of rules, regulations and procedures concerning protection and preservation of the marine environment and safety, other than proprietary equipment design data.

How is DeepData used?

In 2021

ISA became a node of the Ocean Biodiversity Information System (OBIS) of IOC-UNESCO

for sharing biodiversity and biogeography data in the Area contained in DeepData.

unesco
Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission

OBIS
OCEAN BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION SYSTEM

Data on

52,057 presence records

1,175 taxa (organisms)

136 species

The ISA OBIS node contains

63 datasets

from 2004 to 2019

DeepData has contributed to an evaluation for the first time on the state of knowledge of

benthic metazoan biodiversity in the Clarion Cliperton Zone in the Pacific Ocean

in a study by UK's Natural history museum, in collaboration with ISA

DeepData records have

informed a review of the environmental management plan for the CCZ

and the addition of four areas of particular environmental interest in 2021 resulting in almost 17% of the CCZ entirely protected from mining

About the International Seabed Authority

Made up of 169 Members (168 Member States and the European Union), ISA is mandated under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) to organize, regulate and control all activities related to mineral resources in the international seabed area (the Area) for the benefit of humankind as a whole. In so doing, ISA has the duty to ensure the effective protection of the marine environment from harmful effects that may arise from such activities. ISA also has the specific and exclusive responsibility to promote and encourage marine scientific research in the Area and to coordinate the dissemination of the research results when available.

About the Area

The Area refers to the seabed and subsoil thereof beyond the limits of national jurisdiction. It covers more than half of the global ocean's seabed. Under UNCLOS, the Area and its mineral resources are designated as the common heritage of humankind.

Search DeepData at https://data.isa.org.jm/

International Seabed Authority
14 - 20 Port Royal Street, Kingston, Jamaica

https://www.isa.org.jm/

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