

France

Below are the French activities related to GEOTRACES this year

- AMANDES (process study on the Amazon shelf in 2009): current post-cruise activities (measurements, modelling...). National funds from INSU/CNRS are supporting these lab works: 14000 euros for 2009 and 2010
- BONUS-GOODHOPE (IPY cruise): current post-cruise activities (measurements, modelling...) national funds from CNRS/INSU supporting this activity: 25000 euros/y from 2008 to 2011
- PANDORA (cruise in the marginal seas of the western tropical Pacific Ocean): Ship time is approved but not scheduled at this date (more information is anticipated on June 28 th). The science is funded. Two sources of national funds: CNRS/INSU: 220000 euros and ANR: 550000 euros (both covering 2009-2013). CNRS/INSU is also providing material from our national center of material (Brest, C. Marec).
- COMETS (Time series in the Mediterranean Sea, off Nice, at the DYFAMED station...requires the label "process study" for GEOTRACES)

The goal of the 4-year project COMET (CONstructing MEDITerranean Time-series) is to identify the causes and mechanisms responsible for the flux variability at seasonal to inter-annual time scales over the last two decades in the Ligurian Sea (NW Mediterranean Sea). This will be achieved by characterizing the chemical composition of sinking material collected at 200 and 1000m depth every 2 weeks using bulk parameters (POC, PON, POP, $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$), organic biomarkers and some TEIs (^{230}Th , REE, Nd isotopes...). National funds from INSU/CNRS: 10000 euros/y from 2008 to 2011.

- IPO: settled in Toulouse on January 15th. Elena Masferrer provided a short report on IPO activities that is incorporated above into this annual report for GEOTRACES. The French yearly contribution to the IPO: 18500 euros
- Organisation of the SCOR and SSC meetings in Toulouse. CNRS contribution: 5000 euros.

Submitted by Catherine Jeandel, 10 June 2010