



DeepData

# THE ISA DEEP SEABED AND OCEAN DATABASE



2021 United Nations Decade  
of Ocean Science  
2030 for Sustainable Development

# What is DeepData?

DeepData 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

DeepData was launched at the 25th session of ISA in 2019.



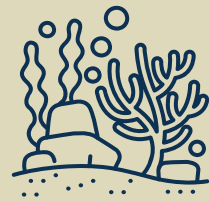
**Over 142,000**  
submissions per  
year since 2012



**Over 158,000**  
ecology data records

**Over  
273,000**

geotechnical  
parameters  
records



During 2022 the  
number of DeepData  
website visitors

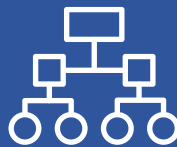
**increased by  
6% monthly**

**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.

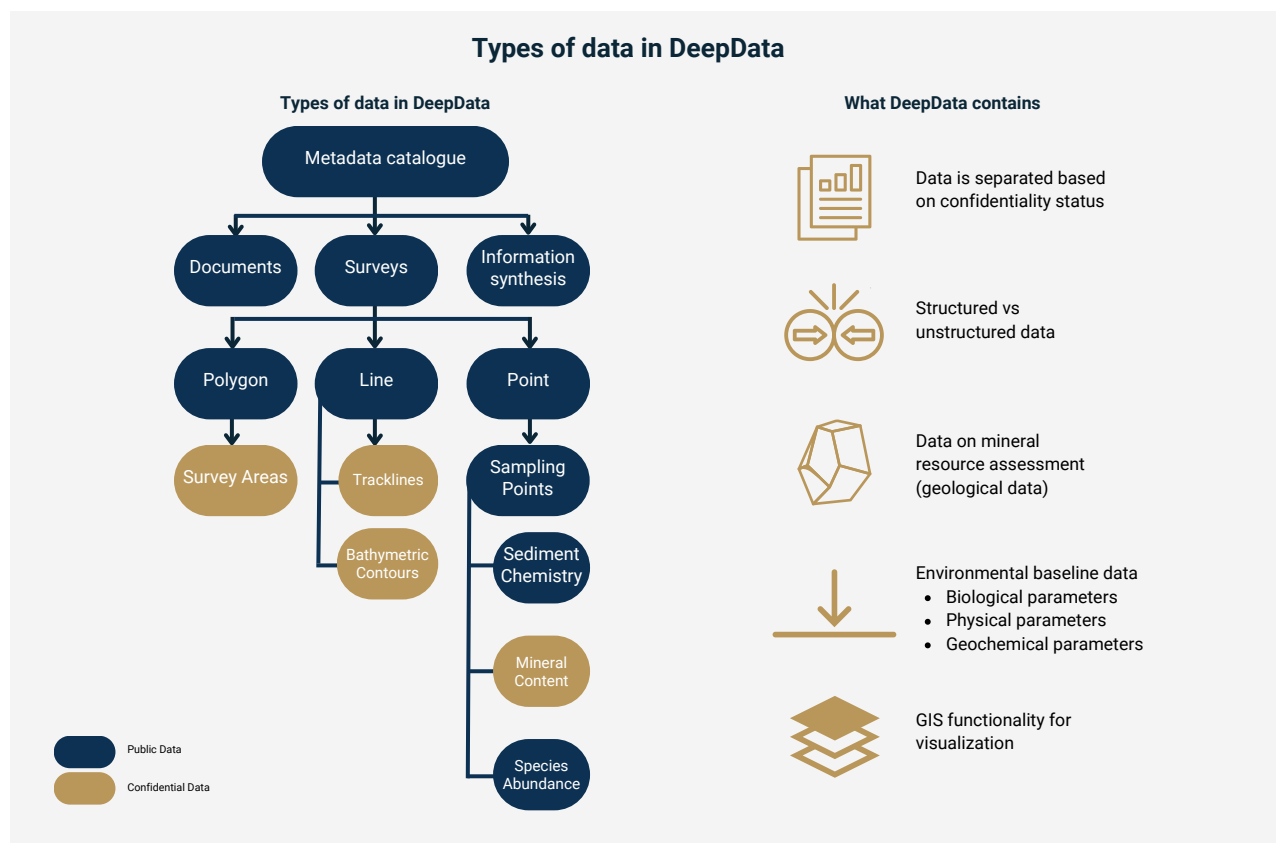
## DeepData plays a key role in:

- 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 DeepData

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

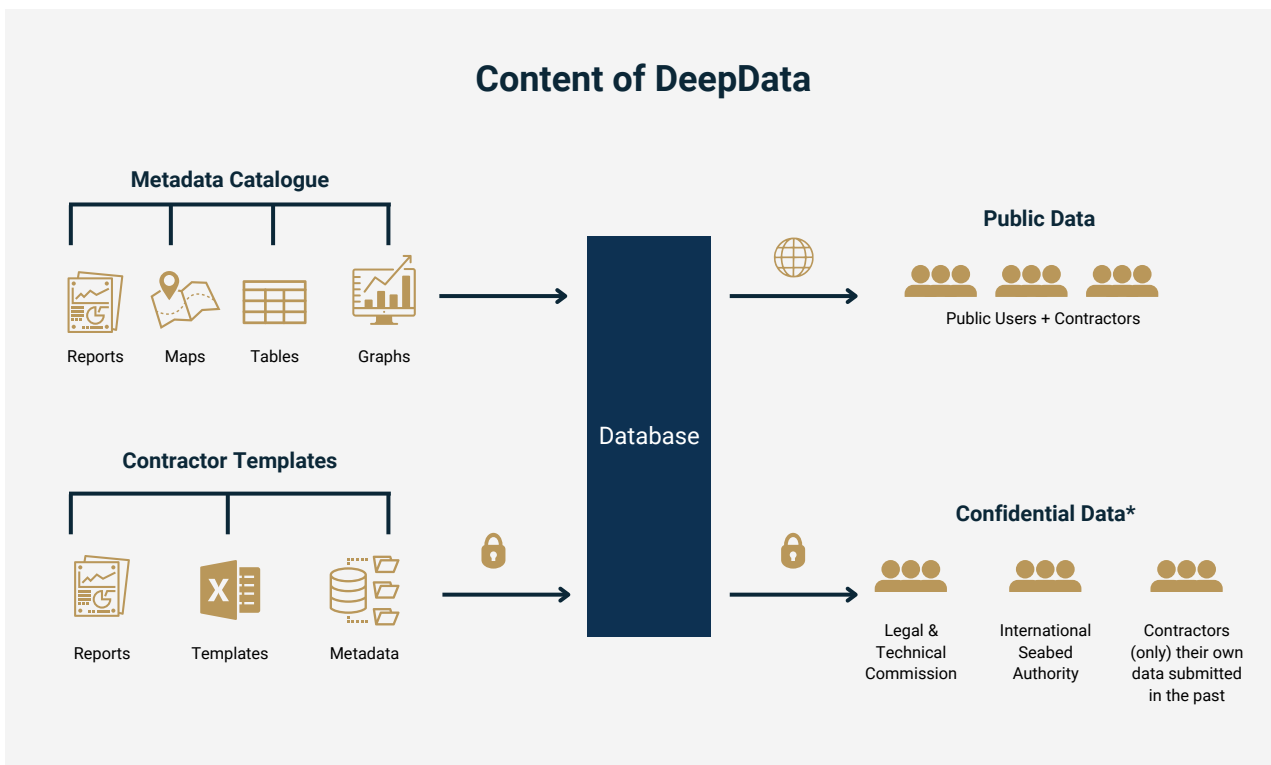
- Other relevant data related to the environment and deep-seabed resources in the Area is also collected.
- DeepData contains data on more than 100 biological, physical, geological and geochemical parameters collected annually.
- The DeepData collected allows visualization of contract areas, sample locations, 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.



# 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 is:

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

- (a) Is generally known or publicly available from other sources;
- (b) Has been previously made available by the owner to others without an obligation concerning its confidentiality; or
- (c) Is already in the possession of the Authority with no obligation concerning its confidentiality.

Or it is:

Data and information that is necessary for the formulation by the Authority of rules, regulations and procedures concerning protection and preservation of the marine environment and safety; other than proprietary equipment design data which shall not be deemed confidential.

# 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.



Data on



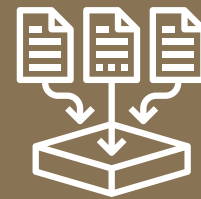
**52,057**  
presence  
records



**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 including 168 member States plus the European Union. ISA is mandated under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) to organize, regulate and control all mineral related activities 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 deep seabed related 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

Under UNCLOS, States have exclusive economic zones extending 200 nautical miles from their coastline in which they have exclusive exploitation rights to all natural resources. 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 here: <https://data.isa.org.jm/>