

Agreement Between SCOR and IGBP on GLOBEC-IMBER Relations (January 2003)

1. The Ocean Biogeochemistry and Ecosystems (OCEANS) Transition Team, established by IGBP and SCOR in 2002, is charged with developing a new project which has adopted the name Integrated Marine Biogeochemistry and Ecosystem Research (IMBER).
2. IMBER will include research related to ocean biogeochemistry¹ and biogeochemistry-food web interactions. Its research aims to be complementary to and linked with, where appropriate, that of GLOBEC.
3. GLOBEC will continue to completion in 2009, as specified in its Implementation Plan.
4. IMBER will develop research activities with a ten-year life, with its scientific emphases thus extending until 2014.
5. IMBER will be allowed to develop its own identity.
6. IMBER and GLOBEC will be encouraged to begin developing joint activities in 2003. The co-sponsors will seek new funding for joint activities, but will also encourage the projects to spend part of their regular funding for such activities. The two SSCs will be encouraged to hold back-to-back or overlapping meetings.
7. The extent and speed of development of joint activities and project integration will be at the discretion of the two SSCs.
8. There will be a single integrated ocean project that includes the scientific activities of GLOBEC and IMBER by 2009.
9. The IGBP/SCOR [Ocean Vision](#) will serve as a scientific guide to help not only facilitate the evolution of GLOBEC and IMBER towards a single integrated project, but also to identify important scientific interactions between IMBER, GLOBEC, and the interface programs SOLAS and LOICZ. This will help place all IGBP-SCOR ocean projects in the new IGBP Earth System science context.

¹ The definition of biogeochemistry by OCEANS is very broad, following Libes (1992). Biogeochemistry is defined as “the science that studies the biological, chemical and geological aspects of environmental processes.” Libes, S.M. 1992. An Introduction to Marine Biogeochemistry. John Wiley and Sons, Inc., New York, NY.