

COBRA – The Crustal Ocean Biosphere Research Accelerator

an international network-of-networks focused on the structure, function, resilience, and ecosystem services of the crustal ocean biosphere – the rocky parts of the seafloor – to inform decision-making for emergent human uses of the deep sea like deep-sea mining and subseafloor carbon sequestration

We Begin With

A global community of deep-sea and subsurface researchers nurtured through the NSF-funded C-DEBI Science and Technology Center

Experienced leadership in international project management

National, international, and global organizations and networks with various missions that connect to understanding the crustal ocean biosphere

Leaders in deep-sea exploration, science & policy

Established portals for data sharing

Values and policies that promote diversity, inclusion, equity, and belonging

And Build on

Access to cutting-edge research vessels with teleconnectivity

Advances in deep-sea data collection and sharing

Efforts of the UN Ocean Decade

National and international priorities to address knowledge gaps related to deep-sea mining and subseafloor carbon sequestration

Leveraged funding from existing projects, partners and philanthropy

New funding from the NSF AccelNet Program

To Pursue Activities Including

Coordination: Assembling diverse stakeholders to catalyze new collaborations and prioritize and plan research through workshops, special sessions, newsletters

Acceleration: Filling knowledge gaps by leveraging cruise opportunities, supporting research exchanges, and harnessing data

Translation: Bringing findings to policy makers, industry, and the public through seminars, white papers, and participation in stakeholder meetings

Education: Training the next generation of diverse ocean exploration, science and policy leaders in expedition leadership, translating science, and inclusive program management

That Result in these Outcomes

A larger network of diverse individuals leading deep-sea science and engaged in crustal ocean biosphere research and policy translation

Diverse international teams and networks that conduct inclusive interdisciplinary research that informs policy

Equitable research priority roadmaps to address knowledge gaps

Accelerated uptake of new research and data sharing approaches

Collaborative scientific publications that address knowledge gaps

Distillation and sharing of new knowledge for policy makers, resource managers, industry, and the public

And Result in these Impacts

A new generation of scientists that reflects our diverse society and that inclusively harnesses their diverse perspectives and knowledge

A diverse and interconnected international network of networks devoted to crustal ocean biosphere research

Establishment of evidence-based policy, management, and solutions to sustainable crustal ocean biosphere conservation and use