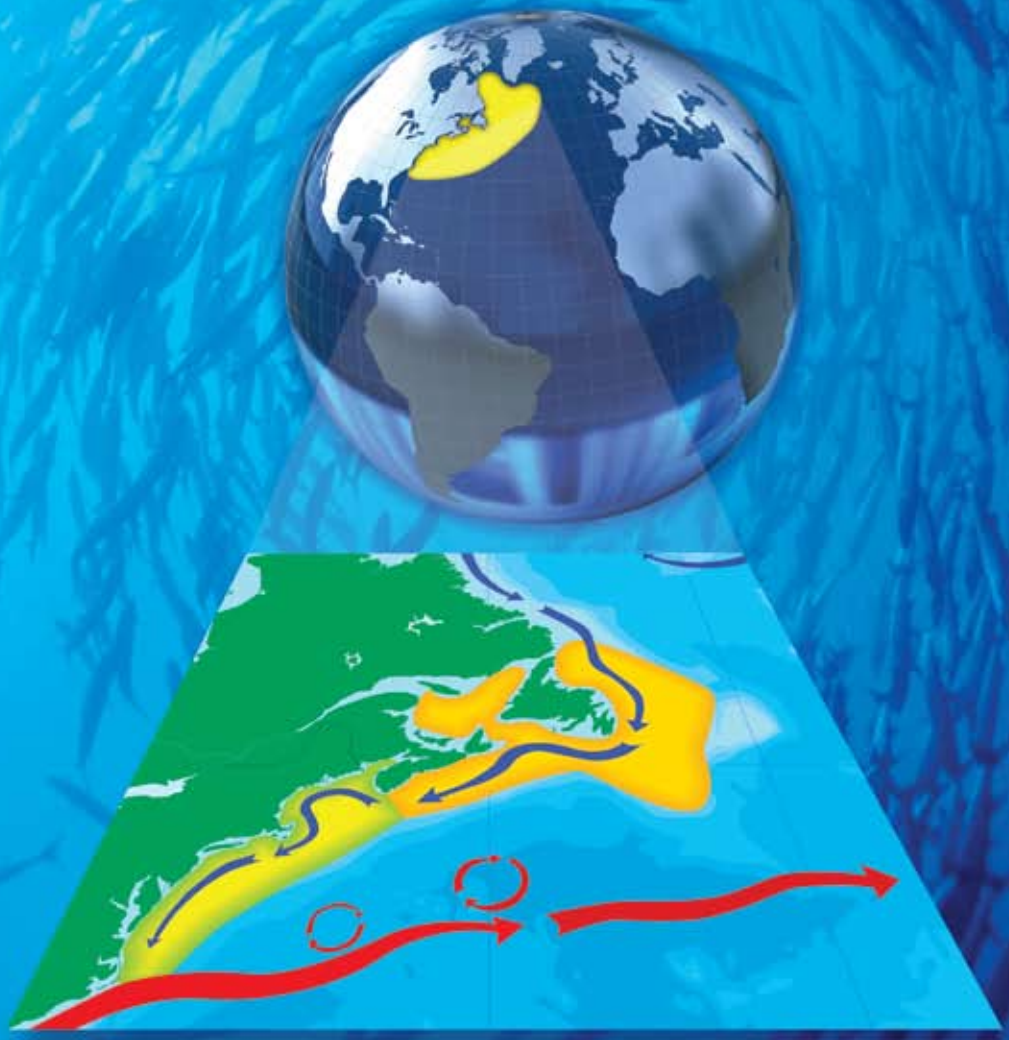
It's Time



TO CREATE
A
LIVING LABORATORY...



FOR ONE OF THE MOST PRODUCTIVE REGIONS IN THE WORLD.

2004

A CALL TO ACTION:

RESPONSIBLE USE & STEWARDSHIP OF THE OCEANS

With the passage of the *Oceans Act* in 1996, followed by the release of Canada's Oceans Strategy in July 2002, the Government of Canada established a new legislative and policy framework to modernize oceans management. Guided by these principles, the Canadian Government introduced its Oceans Action Plan (OAP) in 2004 focused on improving oceans management and preserving the health of marine ecosystems. The OAP enables government-wide action to develop Canada's ocean resources for the benefit of coastal communities, while protecting fragile marine ecosystems.

Also in 2004, the Bush Administration released the *U.S. Ocean Action Plan* (OAP) which proposed a fundamental restructuring of ocean governance, research, and management intended to "engender responsible use and stewardship of ocean and coastal resources for the benefit of all Americans."

A COMMON AGENDA:

LEADERSHIP, PARTNERSHIPS, & INNOVATION

The Canadian and U.S. Ocean Action Plans both call for:

- International Leadership, Sovereignty and Security
- Integrated Ocean Management for Sustainable Development
- Health of the Ocean
- Science and Technology

A NEW APPROACH:

INTEGRATION, COLLABORATION, & COORDINATION

The Canadian and U.S. Ocean Action Plans both call for integration, collaboration, & coordination in support of:

- Enhancing Ocean Leadership and Coordination
- Advancing our Understanding of Oceans, Coasts, and Great Lakes
- Enhancing the Use and Conservation of our Ocean, Coastal and Great Lakes Resources
- Managing Coasts and Their Watersheds
- Supporting Maritime Transportation
- Advancing International Ocean Science and Ocean Policy

2006

A NEW MANAGEMENT AGENDA: REGIONAL, ACCESSIBLE, & ACCOUNTABLE

Both the Canadian and U.S. Ocean Action Plans place a high priority on Integrated Ocean Resources Management Plans with the goal of ensuring that relevant research occurs, and that resource managers apply the results by employing the following mechanisms:

- Regionally-networked research efforts designed to address high priority management needs;
- Applied research results in a form most readily used by resource managers;
- Active regional science plans that support regional management efforts.
- Federal programs collaborating across agencies and with their state and local counterparts to improve the application of science to management
- Integrated, ecosystem approach to observations, measurements, and modeling with interoperability standards to support decision making;
- Routine sharing of new science from the research community to resource managers at all levels;
- Use of research results in operations, management, and policy-making
- Use of operationally-collected measurements in research;
- Sustained reporting of environmental and socioeconomic indicators to support tracking of ecological health and trends in the marine environment.

2007

A NEW RESEARCH AGENDA: STRATEGIC, PRIORITIZED, & RELEVANT

In 2007, both the United States and Canada introduced new initiatives aimed at strategically directing federal investment in research. Both the U.S. *Ocean Research Priorities Plan and Implementation Strategy* (ORPP) and Canada's Science & Technology Strategy (S&T) call for a new research agenda which is multi-institutional, multi-agency, multidisciplinary, fiscally accountable, and strategically designed to advance innovation.

Both the Canadian S&T strategy and the ORPP place a high priority on developing strategic investment plans that integrate federal interests at the regional, provincial/state and local level and emphasize new approaches to international partnerships.

2008

A NEW INVESTMENT STRATEGY

Atlantic Canada's Ocean Innovation Initiative (OII) – will create a world-class living laboratory for ocean observatory science and technology in the Atlantic Canada/ Northeast U.S. region. The purpose of this new living laboratory is to foster science and technology partnerships and collaborations to position the region as a global leader in advancing integrated ocean resource management.

The region's dynamic weather and climate, productive natural resources, and world-renown maritime legacy, create the ideal setting for developing a global showcase for ocean observing through fostering collaboration and innovation. This new living laboratory will serve as a test bed for global exports while advancing federal and provincial interests in environmental science and technology, natural and energy resource management, human health R & D, and information and communications technology and infrastructure development.



THE OCEAN INNOVATION INITIATIVE

BRINGING AN INTEGRATED REGIONAL OCEAN OBSERVING SYSTEM TO ATLANTIC CANADA



PARTNERSHIP WORKSHOPS

For more information see website

May 2008
Bedford Institute of Oceanography
Halifax, Nova Scotia

June 2008
St. John's, Newfoundland

September 2008
Bar Harbor, Maine

October 2008
St. John's, Newfoundland

www.atlanticcanada-oii.ca

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