NIOZ and OFEG overview 2013 - 2014
Main concern at present: funding issues

National funding has been reduced from M€1.7 in 2010 to M€1.2 in 2013 and will further decrease to M€0.5 in the coming years.

Alternative funding has to come from chartering until a solution has been found.
Cruise programs, Mediterranean and Black Sea
Caribbean, Puerto Rico trench
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Milwaukee deep (19° 44N, 67° 11W, >8380 m)
- Obstacles.....

- No multibeam data recorded deeper than 8000m
- Same for echosounder

- Benthos Deck unit display has only for digits.

- If all goes well recovery will be next February
Last week
In the last 2 years activities within OFEG have been quite limited.

- 2010: 66 barter days
- 2011: 122 barter days
- 2012: 16 barter days
- 2013: 18 barter days

For 2014, increasing activity is expected.

On Pelagia alone we have 3 barter cruises, total 45 days;
• Other OFEG activities:
  • More exchange of equipment
  • Joint software development