

ARGO Norway

The Institute of Marine Research (IMR) is involved in the international Argo programme with contribution of Argo floats, ship time for deployment and user of the data. At present, IMR is the only institution in the ARGO Norway.

ARGO Norway focuses on both research topics and marine climate monitoring of the Nordic Seas. Approximately 4 scientists in 3 projects are directly involved in ARGO Norway but several other people contribute regarding technical expertise, data management, ship time for deployments, and processing and analysing the data. There is also an increased interest in the Argo data at other Norwegian institutes.

At present we have in total deployed eleven Argo floats where five floats are still active. Three floats were deployed in 2002, while six were deployed in 2003. Two more floats that include oxygen and fluorescence sensors were deployed in April 2006. These additional sensors have so far performed well.

The present scientific topics are mainly within the Nordic Seas (Norwegian, Iceland and Greenland Seas) and include:

- Studies of the deep ocean circulation in the Nordic Seas. These studies have so far brought new insights in the circulation of the Nordic Seas.
- Water mass changes and also in relation with biological activities. This topic is also one of the reasons that we have included both oxygen and fluorescence sensors on two Argo floats.

The funding has so far been self-financed (i.e. funded by our institute). There are not devoted any funding for scientific analysis, but a person is partly working with the Argo floats regarding collecting data and for presentation on the web. The scientific analysis is done in other financed projects.

At present we have no plans for further deployment of Argo floats due to lack of financial support. However, Argo Norway will continue to apply for more funding on a national level.

Regarding the “Delayed mode” we have in the past not done anything special with that. However, we have an agreement with IFREMER where they will do the quality check for us. IFREMER will then, afterwards, make the high-quality data and the meta-data available on the internet.