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The Deep Sea & Sub-Seafloor Frontier: Sediment Dynamics and Geohazards

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Sedimentary processes transfer matter and energy from the atmosphere and the continent to ocean margins and basins. The study of sedimentary processes has profound implications for the deep-sea ecosystem, the climatic evolution of our planet, natural resources and geohazards. Therefore, their study represents a centerpiece within the frame of the Coordination Action on "The Deep Sea & Sub-Seafloor Frontier" (DS3F).

The aims of the workpackage on Sediment Dynamics and Geohazards within DS3F are (1) evaluating the state-of-the-art of current scientific knowledge on sedimentary processes and geohazards, with the focus on Europe's ocean margins and basins; (2) identifying the most relevant sedimentary processes in terms of impact on the deep-sea ecosystem, climatic relevance, interest for activities related to the exploitation of deep-sea resources, and risks they may pose; (3) to formulate technological needs and propose best research strategies on sedimentary processes and geohazards with the focus on subseafloor sampling potential contributions; and (4) contributing to the definition of an European scientific research strategy on deep-sea ecosystems including subseafloor sampling for the next decade. The deep-sea scientific community on Earth Sciences and related disciplines is invited to contribute either through direct communication at any time and by participating in ad hoc workshops (by invitation) and in an open conference to take place in Barcelona during 2012.