

April 18, 2010 – Week #6: CLIVAR 13.5 Update

We finished our last station earlier today and are proceeding toward the port stop in Takoradi Ghana. We should arrive tomorrow (Sunday) morning. We completed all 129 of the planned stations, collecting more than 3100 water samples for the analysis of a variety of water properties.

In addition to many seasoned veterans in the scientific party, we had a number of students aboard on their first oceanographic expedition.

All of the teams deserve thanks for their hard work and production of excellent data sets:

CTD: Kristy, Kate and Maria
CFC: Dave, Patrick and Ivy
Oxygen: George and Chris
pH: Yui and Adam
pCO₂: Kevin and Guen-Ha
DIC: Cynthia and Alex
Alkalinity: Laura and Emily
DOC: Darcy
Tritium and Helium: Anthony
Salinity: Jim and Kyle
Nutrients: Calvin and Charlie
ADCP: Francois and Kyle

Ben assisted with almost all programs on the cruise.

Very special thanks go to Bob and Ivy, who working closely with Mary on shore, did an amazing job setting up and maintaining the cruise data base and monitoring data quality.

None of this would have been possible on this long (and sometimes difficult) expedition without the able assistance of the officers and crew of NOAA Ship Ronald H. Brown, most of whom will continue on for the next cruise after a break in Ghana.

Before returning home, some of the scientists will be visiting with colleagues at the University of Ghana in Accra later this week, holding a small symposium to discuss our work and mutual interests.

We look forward to working with the data sets collected on this expedition, which will provide a wealth of new scientific information on the state of the ocean in this region and serve as a reference for future studies.

