Fact Sheet
Indonesian—U.S. Ocean Expedition 2010

What:

- First-ever joint Indonesian-U.S. ocean expedition in a multi-year ocean exploration partnership in never-before explored Indonesian waters
- Part of a broad science and technology partnership between NOAA and Indonesian's Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries
- First international expedition for NOAA ship *Okeanos Explorer*, "America's ship for ocean exploration."
- NOAA's first joint international mission when "telepresence" is used to send data, including images from the seafloor, in real time via satellite and high-speed Internet pathways to scientists ashore who stand watches in Exploration Command Centers in Jakarta and Seattle
- Oceanexplorer.noaa.gov covers the expedition with background essays, logs and images from sea, ships' tracks, and education lesson plans
- Mapping and discovery data from the expedition will be shared widely -- we rely on the ocean for half our oxygen, much of our food and other important benefits. The health of the sea is a harbinger of our own, yet the ocean is about 95 percent unexplored, unknown, unseen by human eyes

Why:

- President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono of Indonesia invited participation in the joint expedition, it was strongly supported by the U.S. Ambassador to Indonesia Cameron Hume, and the expedition advances the approach called for by President Obama in his June 2009 speech at Cairo University
- Because the health of the environment and economy go hand-in-hand, the U.S. is partnering with Indonesia on issues of great importance to both nations and the planet. The extraordinary natural resources in Southeast Asian waters sustain the lives of hundreds of millions of people in the region and benefit many millions more worldwide.
- Mapping and discovery data will help to better understand, use and protect ocean resources, providing both economic and environmental benefits including managing sustainable fisheries, conserving the marine environment and fragile corals, and better understanding our still mysterious ocean
- Sea-level rise and coastal inundation, for example, are expected to seriously impact much of Indonesia, which has the world's third longest coastline. Similar concerns are growing in the U.S., which has the world's longest coastline.
- Discoveries are anticipated. New ecosystems may be uncovered, along with insights into ocean acidification and cycles of deep-ocean gases, such as carbon dioxide, that may play a role in climate and ecosystem variability.

- As partners, we can better share and advance ocean science, technology and education. Around the world, seafloor video will flow to scientists, educators and their students, and others on oceanexplorer.gov. Education components will help raise ocean literacy among students. A comprehensive educational module has been designed to share the exploration in U.S. and Indonesian classrooms.

When:

- Tentative launch date: June 21 in Indonesia

Who:

- Indonesian-U.S. partnership, between the Commerce Department's NOAA, and Indonesia's Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries
- Indonesian and U.S. scientists working side-by side in Exploration Command Centers ashore in Jakarta and Seattle, and on ships *Okeanos Explorer* and *Baruna Jaya IV* at sea
- NOAA ship *Okeanos Explorer* operated by Commissioned NOAA Corps officers and contractors in NOAA's Office of Marine and Aviation Operations
- NOAA ship *Okeanos Explorer* mission systems (multi-beam mapping, ROV, telepresence) operated by NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration and Research staff
- Indonesia's vessel *Baruna Jaya IV,* operated by the Agency for the Assessment and Application of Technology (BPPT), part of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries
- Support provided by the Indonesian Embassy, Washington D.C. and by the U.S. Embassy Jakarta
- Education support provided by NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration and Research to San Francisco's Exploratorium and Sea World Indonesia

Where:

- Exploration of unknown ocean areas in SATAL, a contraction of Sangihe and Talaud, two island chains stretching north of Sulawesi toward the Philippines. Scientists call the expedition, INDEX-SATAL-2010.
- The expedition will explore the largely unknown ocean in the Coral Triangle. Indonesia and the U.S. are important contributors to the Coral Triangle Initiative, a partnership of six Southeast Asian nations developed to help reverse the decline of coral reefs in the area and protect natural resources.