





2021  
2030 United Nations Decade  
of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development



*The protection of the deep seabed is a major challenge for future generations. At 3600 meters depth, the LIFEDEEPER project explores study sites composed of 'active' and 'inactive' hydrothermal vents in the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. Scientists from natural and social sciences are working together to acquire solid scientific knowledge on these ecosystems, their resilience, connectivity and sustainability. LIFEDEEPER will propose solutions to allow future informed guidelines and decision-making in the current context of the growing interest in deep mineral resources for the carbon-free and digitized world economy.*

Nautile, BICOSE Cruise © Ifremer

## ADDRESS

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[lifedeep.ifremer.fr](http://lifedeep.ifremer.fr)

Nautile, BICOSE Cruise © Ifremer

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*DEEP REST connects the most active deep-sea scientists to investigate two remarkable deep-sea ecosystems threatened by mining: polymetallic nodule fields and hydrothermal vents. While the exploitation of deep-sea mineral resources is under scrutiny worldwide, our knowledge on the potential impacts of mining activities on their faunal communities and their responses to these impacts are still unknown. DEEP REST aims at enhancing fundamental knowledge on the faunal and functional diversity of these ecosystems in link with natural environmental conditions, examine their interconnections and the services they provide, and explore their resilience to different degrees of disturbance using experimentations. Ultimately, we wish, in concertation with various stakeholders, to develop effective environmental management plans and propose insightful regulations to protect these unique and vulnerable marine habitats.*

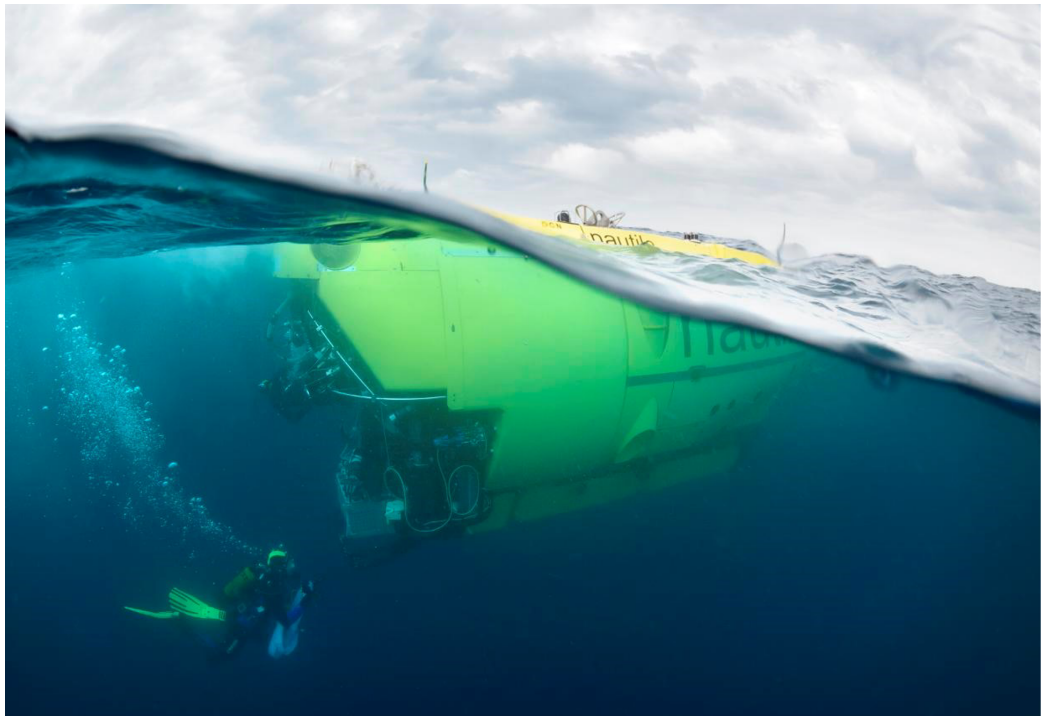
[deep-rest.ifremer.fr](http://deep-rest.ifremer.fr)

*Psychropates longicauda on a nodule field ©Ifremer*

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The Nautilus, a crewed submersible owned by Ifremer

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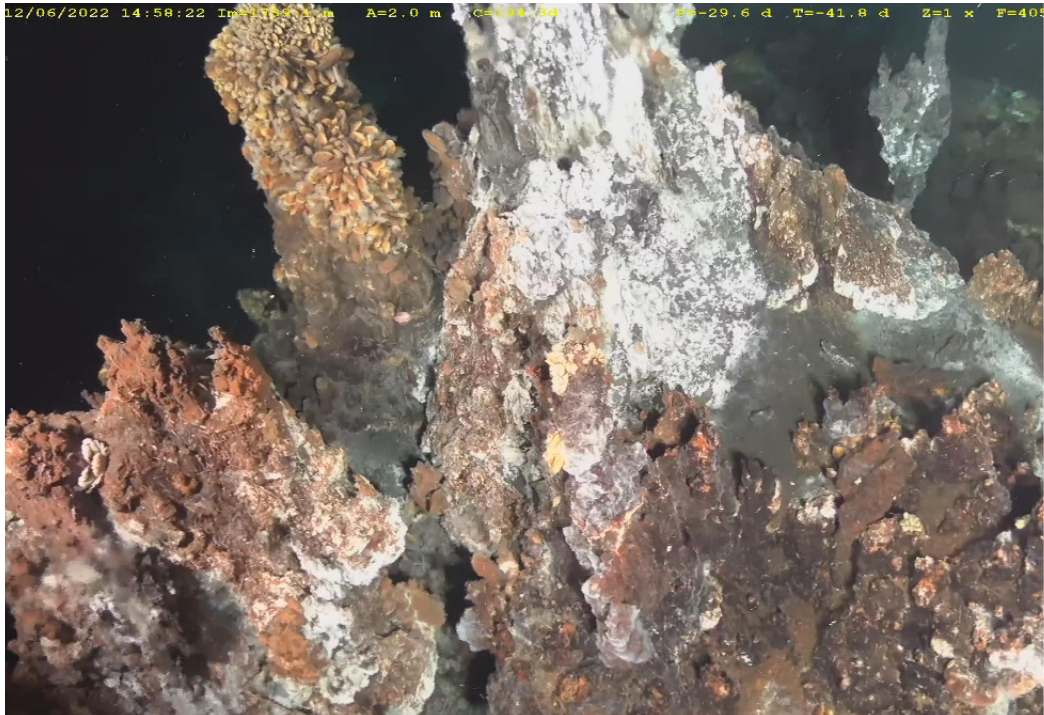
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12/06/2022 14:58:22 Im=1156.2 m A=2.0 m C=194.3 d E=29.6 d T=-41.8 d Z=1 x F=405





Momarsat Cruise 2022 © Ifremer

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