

US research vessel winds down visit to Vietnam as part of joint oceanographic research program

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The *R/V Roger Revelle*, an auxiliary general purpose oceanographic research vessel (AGOR 28), is owned by the US Office of Naval Research (ONR) and operated by the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. The vessel is visiting Vietnam June 22-29, highlighting the partnership between ONR and the Vietnamese Ministry of Science and Technology as part of a five-year research endeavor, the Joint Vietnam-US Research Program on the Oceanography of the Vietnamese East Sea and Land-Ocean Interaction. Credit: US Navy photo

U.S. scientists and Vietnamese researchers will discuss coastal ocean circulation and land-ocean environmental trends this week as the *R/V Roger Revelle*, an auxiliary general purpose oceanographic research vessel (AGOR 28), continues its nine-day port call in the city of Da Nang.

Owned by the [Office of Naval Research](#) (ONR) and operated by the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, the advanced research vessel arrived in Vietnam on June 22. Its visit highlights partnership between ONR and the Vietnamese Ministry of Science and Technology as part of a five-year research endeavor, the Joint Vietnam-U.S. Research Program on the Oceanography of the Vietnamese East Sea and Land-Ocean Interaction.



The *R/V Roger Revelle*, an auxiliary general purpose oceanographic research vessel (AGOR 28) owned by the Office of Naval Research (ONR) and operated by the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, is making a nine-day port call in the city of Da Nang, Vietnam. The US and Vietnam are working on a five-year oceanographic research program that will pair U.S. scientists from leading universities and research institutions to execute joint research on the complex ocean dynamics of the Vietnamese East Sea and its interactions with the Mekong River. Credit: US Navy photo

ONR promotes scientific research and technology development on behalf of the U.S. Navy. The five-year oceanographic research program will pair U.S. scientists from leading universities and [research institutions](#) to execute joint research on the complex ocean dynamics of the Vietnamese East Sea and its interactions with the [Mekong River](#). The

program also will include training; exchanges between U.S. and Vietnamese scientists and university students; and joint publication of research results in international, peer-reviewed journals.

"The circulation and structure of the Vietnamese East Sea is strongly driven by monsoon winds and precipitation," said Scott Harper, ONR program manager for the project. "This leads to interesting seasonal variability that can be hard to model or predict without a good basic understanding of the physical processes involved. Through this project, we will be able to improve forecasts from our integrated weather, wave and [ocean models](#) in the Western Pacific, which will enable safer and more efficient naval operations."

Harper added that it will be interesting to see if global change has impacted the region's oceanography in any way, and to explore what changes might be expected in the future.

"Science expands our knowledge of the world and deepens our understanding of each other," said David B. Shear, U.S. ambassador to the country. "This program will strengthen relationships between the U.S. and Vietnamese scientific communities and provide key information to help Vietnam address pressing environmental challenges, such as climate change."

Provided by Office of Naval Research

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