



Marine Ferromanganese Oxide Crusts

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- Marine ferromanganese oxide crusts are important potential metal resources **developed by dissolution of seawater components on oceanic rocky surfaces and colloidal mixtures.**
- Due to the unique properties of crust and slow growth rate, it absorbs many important elements from seawater, due to which naturally occurring elements such as tellurium (Te) and cobalt (Co) are not able to achieve the absolute Concentration.
- 'Ferromanganese crust' contains high-value metals such as cobalt, manganese, platinum, which are potential sources for essential technologies that can be **used to transform a country into low-carbon economies.**
- Although there is no similarity in its distribution and concentrations at regional and local levels due to geological location, presence of ocean and variety of chemical processes.
- In a draft paper the Economic Advisory Council has suggested the exploration of 'cobalt-rich ferromanganese crust' in the Indian Ocean to encourage blue economy.

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