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Silicon is among the most abundant elements on earth. It plays a key but largely unappreciated role in many biogeochemical processes, including those that regulate climate and undergird marine food webs.

The Silicon Cycle is the first book in more than 20 years to present a comprehensive overview of the silicon cycle and issues associated with it. The book summarizes the major outcomes of the project Land-Ocean Interactions: Silica Cycle, initiated by the Scientific Community on Problems of the Environment (SCOPE) of the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU). It tracks the pathway of silicon from land to sea and discusses its biotic and abiotic modifications in transit as well as its cycling in the coastal seas. Natural geological processes in combination with atmospheric and hydrological processes are discussed, as well as human perturbations of the natural controls of the silicon cycle.

About the Author

Venugopalan Ittekkot is professor and Daniela Unger is research scientist at the Center for Marine Ecology in Bremen, Germany. Christoph Humborg is associate professor with the Institute of Applied Environmental Research, Stockholm University in Sweden. Nguyen Tac An is director of the Institute of Oceanography in Nha Trang, Vietnam.