

The Ocean Decade - Highlights

# A reminder - why an Ocean Decade?



## Where we are

- Science based on curiosity & competent for problem diagnostic
- Observing system for climate and emerging data service
- Major knowledge gaps, weak ocean literacy
- Funding base mostly in research mode
- Hugely uneven capacity, especially low in developing countries/SIDS

# Where we would like to be

- Science providing <u>solutions</u> and motivation for action
- Accessible ocean data and information for all actors
- Ocean literate society and well-informed decisions
- Long term resource commitments to ocean science
- CD/ transfer of technology:

# **Ocean Decade Challenges**



Understand and beat marine pollution



Protect and restore ecosystems and biodiversity



Sustainably feed the global population



Develop a sustainable and equitable ocean economy



Unlock ocean based solutions to climate change



Increase community resilience to ocean hazards



Expand the global ocean observing system



Create a digital representation of the ocean



Build skills, knowledge and technology for all



Change humanity's relationship with the ocean









# Towards the Ocean Decade Implementation Plan

2021 United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development

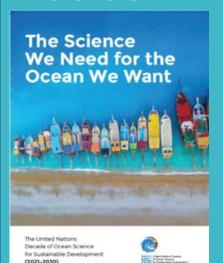
2016-2017



Proposal for an International Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development [2021-2030]



2018-2019



Implementation Plan

The United Nations
Decade of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development





2020



HITT

United Nations

General Assembly

Distr: General
5 January 2021

Seventy-fifth session
Agenda item 76 (a)
Oceans and the law of the sea: oceans and the law of the sea

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly
on 31 December 2020

304. Welcomes the steps taken by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission to prepare the implementation plan for the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021–2030) in consultation with Member States, specialized agencies, funds, programmes and bodies of the United Nations, as well as other intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and relevant stakeholders, and takes note with appreciation of that plan;

305. Requests that the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission regularly consult with, and report to, Member States on the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development and its implementation;

306. *Invites* the Secretary-General to inform the General Assembly on the implementation of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development through his report on oceans and the law of the sea, on the basis of information to be provided by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission;



#### **Decade Action Framework**

#### Vision

The science we need for the ocean we want

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Mission

Transformative ocean science solutions for sustainable development, connecting people and our ocean.



#### Results of Call for Decade Actions No. 01/2020



programmes

10 UN led **Decade Actions** 

36 contributions

83 projects

Full list can be found on: www.oceandecade.org Observations. Prediction. Modelling, Mapping GOOS-led programmes Coastal / ocean prediction Marine biodiversity & biomolecular observations Air-sea observations Ocean bed mapping Digital 'twin'

Multiple Ocean Stressors Coral reef resilience Deoxygenation Acidification Underwater Noise

Deep Sea & Mesopelagic Deep sea Deep seas observations & infrastructure Mesopelagic exploration and

Deltas and estuaries Climate resilient cities

Coastal

Resilience

Cultural Values / **Fisheries** Ocean Literacy Climate resilient fisheries Underwater cultural heritage Ecosystem based fisheries Ocean literacy management and behavior change Fisheries data management

Regional programme: Pacific solutions to save our ocean, Mediterranean regional programme

Network programmes: Best Practices, ECOPs, gender, capacity development, networks to facilitate co-design and cocreation of Decade Actions including innovation, stimulate investment and incite global engagement

# **Engagement in the Ocean Decade**

- Submission of Decade Activities for endorsement
- Response to Call for Decade Actions for programs or projects
- Registration of Stakeholder Engagement Networks via GSF
- Join National Decade Committee or regional initiative
- Decade coordination support structures
- Join thematic working groups
- Participate in upcoming events:
  - Ocean Decade Laboratories
  - Ocean Decade Virtual Series



## **National Decade Committees & Regional Taskforces**



- 25 National Decade Committees established with > 20 in creation
- Committees convene and create synergies between national actors and help set national priorities / support resource mobilisation
- More NDCs are needed mentoring role of well established NDCs for new committees
- 7 regional taskforces with diverse mandates and activities => Action Plans, regional programmes, priority setting and stakeholder engagement

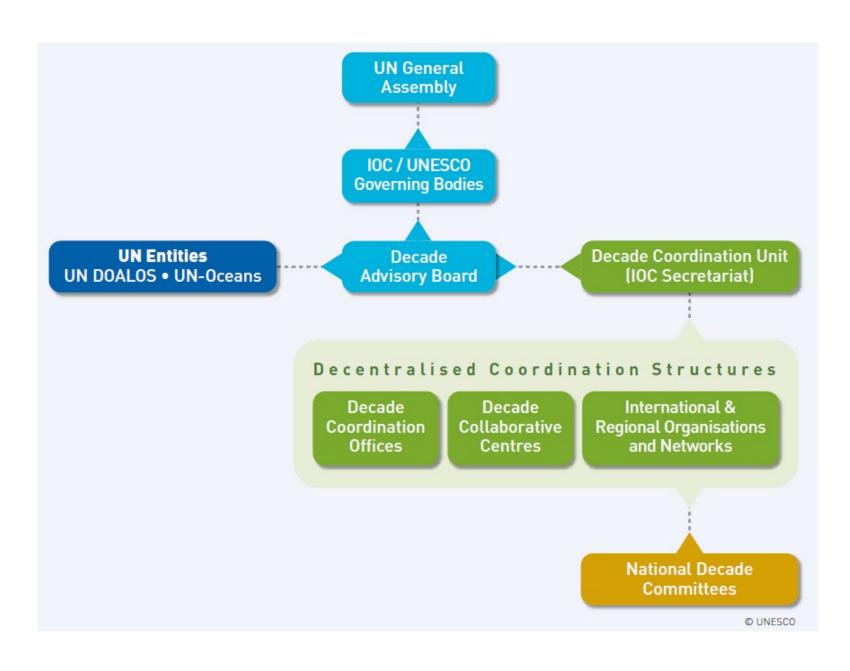
#### **Regional initiatives:**

- Africa (under development)
- Arctic
- Mediterranean

- Pacific SIDS
- Southern Ocean
- West Pacific
- Western Tropical Atlantic



**Established National Decade Committees** 

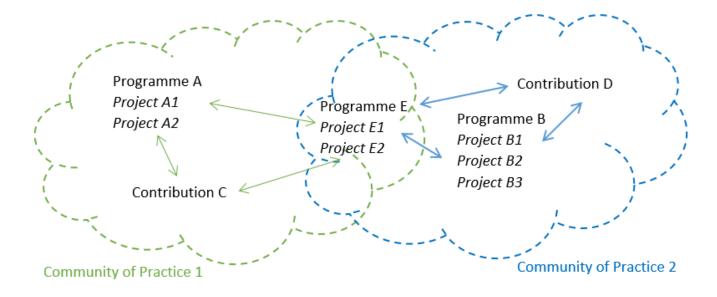


National Decade
 Committees: facilitate
 national contributions to
 the Decade, engage
 national stakeholders and
 enhance their access to
 Decade benefits.

The Decade Coordination
Unit uses the Global
Stakeholder Forum to
promote exchange and
cooperation between National
Decade Committees

For more information, see Implementation Plan

# **Communities of Practice**





Thematic Communities of Practice	Geographic Communities of Practice
Multiple Ocean Stressors	Southern Ocean
Deep Sea Research and Management	Arctic Ocean
Fisheries and Blue Food	Indian Ocean
Sustainable Ocean Economy	North Atlantic
Sustainable Ocean Planning	South Atlantic
Ocean – Climate Nexus	North Pacific
Ocean Observations	South Pacific
Coastal Ecosystem and Community Resilience	Mediterranean Sea
Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems	*Communities of Practice for other inland seas or sub-Ocean Basins are likely to emerge
Data, Information & Knowledge	
Capacity Development	
Ocean Literacy, Inclusivity and Cultural Values of the Ocean	



#### Stakeholder Engagement: UN, Philanthropy & Private Sector

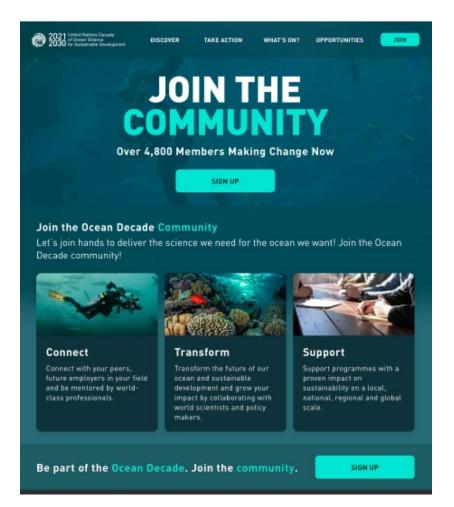


- Regular updates via UN Oceans meetings & participation in UN partners events
- Philanthropic Foundations:
  - Regular meetings of Foundations Dialogue group
  - Planning underway for second Foundations
     Dialogue meeting in Morocco
  - Contributions from Foundations
  - Membership of Ocean Decade Alliance
- Private Sector:
  - Continued engagement via UN Global Compact
  - Partnership agreements with private sector partners
  - Additional focus on private sector via Resource Mobilisation Strategy

#### Global Stakeholder Forum

Global, online infrastructure to facilitate stakeholder exchange via Communities of Practice

Deployed end 2021 as part of new website





- Thematic or regional programmes addressing primarily Challenges 1 Marine Pollution, 2 –
  Ecosystem Management and 5 Ocean Climate Nexus (programmes addressing other Challenges
  to be addressed via an Expression of Interest)
- Soliciting projects for 23 endorsed programmes that have indicated that they are ready to participate
  in the Call
- Sponsored Call for Decade Actions (projects) with AXA Research Fund and Meer Wissen Initiative
- Support mechanisms for lead partners in LDCs and SIDS

## **Decision Making Processes for Endorsement**



## Programmes (Full Submissions & EOIs)

IOC Executive
Secretary makes
decision based
on advice from
Decade Advisory
Board

## Projects (non-AXA and non-MeerWissen)

IOC Executive
Secretary makes
decision based
on advice from
programmes and
technical advice
from DCU

## Projects (AXA and MeerWissen)

DCU involved in evaluation process. IOC Executive Secretary makes final decision on endorsement.

#### Contributions

IOC Executive Secretary makes decision based on technical advice from DCU.



## **Decade Advisory Board**

































- Composition: the Decade Advisory
  Board comprises 15 expert members
  serving in their individual capacity
  drawn from government, private
  sector, philanthropy, civil society, and
  the scientific community, as well as
  representatives of UN Agencies.
- https://www.oceandecade.org/decadeadvisoryboard/#:~:text=The%20Decade%20A dvisory%20Board%20is,serve%20in% 20their%20individual%20capacities.

## Ocean Decade at Major Global Events



One Ocean Summit, France, February 2022

BBNJ IGC-4, New York, March 2022

Our Ocean, Palau, April 2022

Africa Regional Conference, May 2022

Foundations Dialogue Meeting, Rabat, May 2022

2022 UN Ocean Conference, Lisbon, June 2022

COP 27 UNFCCC, Egypt, November 2022