



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



Intergovernmental  
Oceanographic  
Commission

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## Item 4.1

# REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECADE ROADMAP AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE OF OCEAN SCIENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

**53rd Session of the IOC Executive Council**

# Documentation

<u>Working documents:</u>	IOC/EC-53/4.1.Doc(1) Rev.	Updated progress report on the implementation of the Decade Roadmap of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development including results of the review of the zero draft Implementation Plan
	<a href="#">IOC/EC-53/4.1.Doc(1) Add.</a>	Report on the outcome of the consultation process during the development of the Implementation Plan of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable development before its presentation to the UN General Assembly at its 75th session
	<a href="#">IOC/EC-53/4.1.Doc(3)</a>	Revised Terms of Reference of the Decade Executive Planning Group to act as interim Decade Advisory Board in 2021
	<a href="#">Implementation Plan Version 2.0</a>	Implementation Plan for the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (version 2.0)
<u>Information:</u>	IOC/EC-53/3.1.Inf(2)	Draft Operational Guidelines for the establishment of Decade Collaborative Centres and Implementing Partners
	The Ocean Decade Series, 15	Engaging and Empowering Regional Stakeholders: Synthesis of Regional Consultation Workshops (2019–2020) – UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021–2030)
	<a href="#">IOC Brochure 2020-5 Prov.</a>	Implementation Plan for the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (version 2.0) – Summary
<u>References:</u>	<a href="#">A/RES/74/19</a>	UN General Assembly Resolution: Oceans and the law of the sea (20 December 2019)
	<a href="#">A/75/239</a>	UN General Assembly Resolution: Oceans and the law of the sea (2 December 2020)

# Outline of the Presentation

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1. Vision of the UN Decade
2. Preparation of the Implementation Plan and Engagement (2019-2020)
3. Operationalising the Decade - Governance, Science collaboration and co-design
4. Implications for IOC – Opportunities and Challenges

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# 1. Vision of the UN Decade

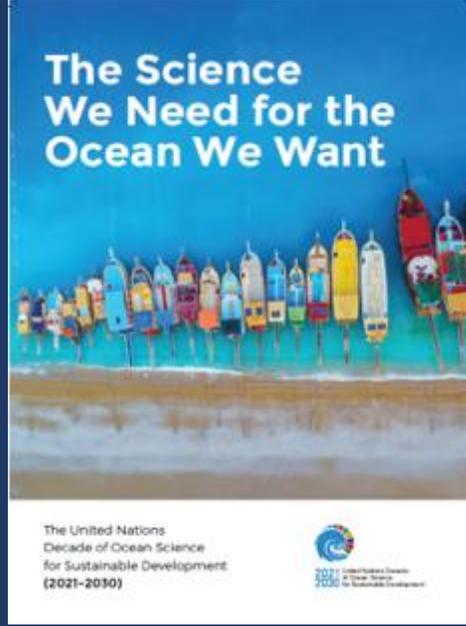
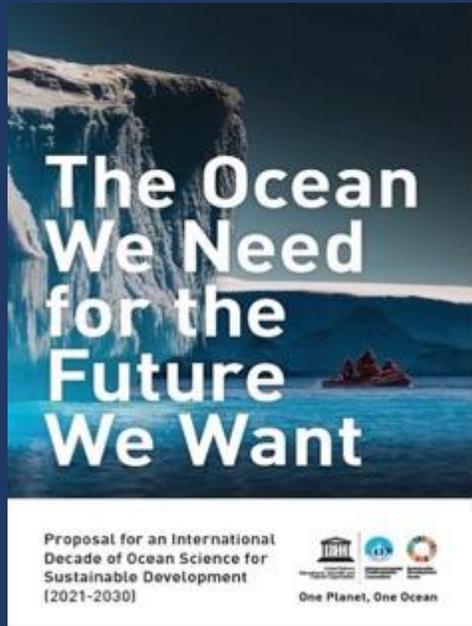


# GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

2016-2017

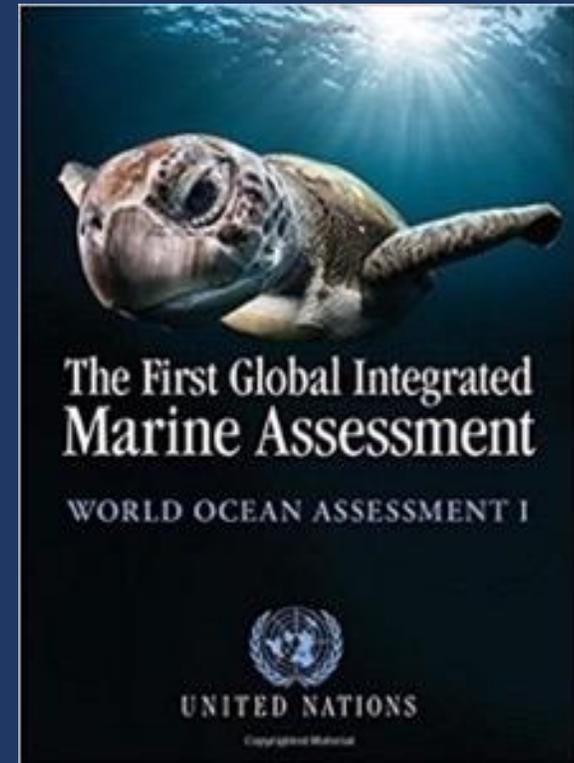
2018-2019

2019-2020





**Sustainable development is ocean-science intensive!**



**Humankind is running out of time to start managing the ocean sustainably**

## 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 solutions and motivation for action
- Adequate ocean data and information system
- Ocean literate society and well-informed decisions
- Demonstrated value chain, resources and commitment
- CD/ transfer of technology: no one is left behind

# Decade Vision & Mission

## *Vision*

***The science we need for the ocean we  
want***

**\*\*\***

## *Mission*

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

# Decade Action Framework





## DECADE OUTCOMES

“THE OCEAN WE WANT”

- A clean ocean
- A healthy and resilient ocean
- A productive ocean
- A predicted ocean
- A safe ocean
- An accessible ocean
- An inspiring and engaging ocean

## OCEAN DECADE CHALLENGES



Pollutants



Ecosystems



Food from the Ocean



Ocean economy



Ocean-climate nexus



Ocean-related risks



Ocean observing system



Ocean digital representation



Capacity development



Behaviour change

# Observing

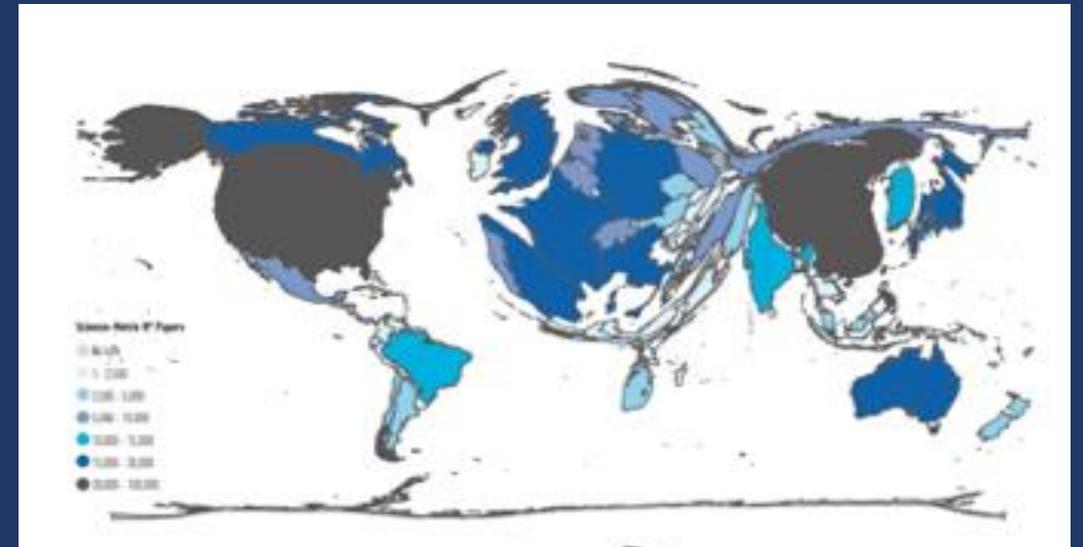
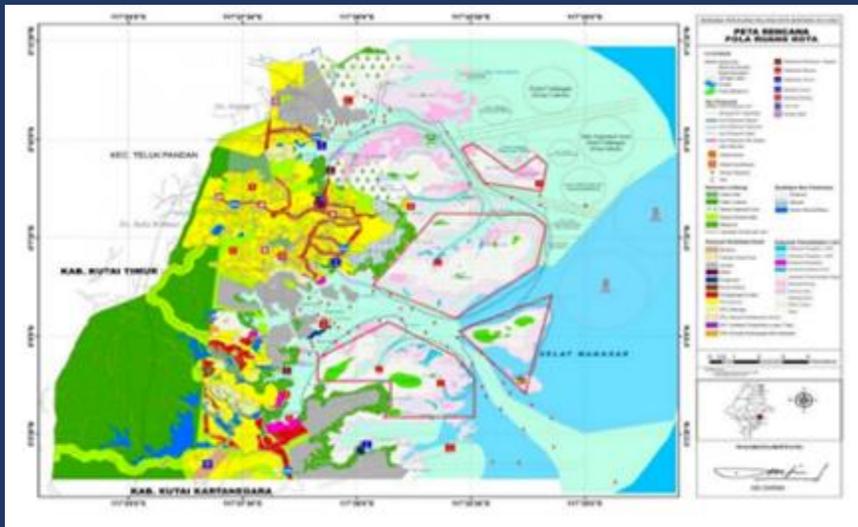
# Understanding

# Predicting



## Integrated Ocean Management

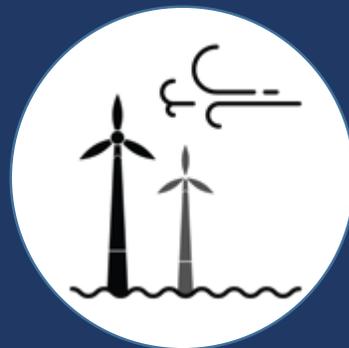
# Capacitating



# Key Ocean Management Domains



**Coastal zone  
management  
and adaptation**



**Marine Spatial  
Planning/  
Sustainable  
ocean economy**



**BBNJ, Marine  
Protected  
Areas**



**Management  
of fisheries  
and aquaculture**



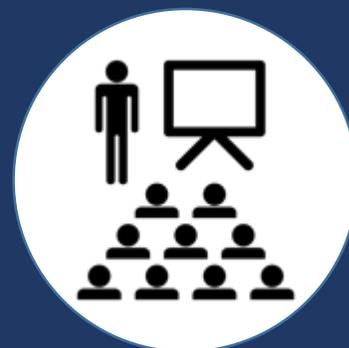
**Adaptation to  
and mitigation  
of climate change,  
NDCs**



**Development of  
national R&D  
strategies &  
ocean policies**



**Oceanographic  
services**



**Regional and  
national capacity  
development**



**Early warning  
systems**

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## 2. Preparation of the Implementation Plan and Engagement (2019-2020)

# Context for the development of the Implementation Plan

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- **A/RES/72/73** proclaimed the Ocean Decade within existing structures and available resources
- **A/RES/72/73** and **A/RES/74/19** called upon and invited:
  - The **IOC-UNESCO** to prepare an implementation plan for the Decade in consultation with Member States, UN entities and relevant stakeholders; provide information on the development of the implementation plan; and regularly consult with, and report to, Member States on the implementation of the Decade.
  - The **Secretary-General** to inform the General Assembly about the implementation of the Decade through his report on oceans and the law of the sea, on the basis of information to be provided by the IOC.
  - **UN-Oceans** to collaborate with the IOC-UNESCO on the Ocean Decade.

# The process so far

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- Global Planning Meeting in May 2019 with > 200 participants
- 11 regional planning workshops with > 1900 attendees
- ECOP Informal Working Group created
- Six meetings of UN-Oceans contact group
- Ocean Literacy & UN agencies Data Management thematic meetings
- Establishment of regional Decade platforms (eg Arctic, WTA, Med, ...)
- Several Side events at international event/fora ( Science community, Policy, UN, Stakeholder Networks)
- Several partnerships with key stakeholders (ISC, UN Global Compact, Foundations, ...)
- Ongoing engagement of Executive Planning Group
- Virtual sessions presenting zero draft of Implementation Plan to > 600 people



Arctic Workshop – Tromsø, Jan. 2020   
Copenhagen, March 2020 



North Atlantic  
Halifax  
7-9 Jan.  
2020



Med.  
Venice  
Jan.  
2020



North Pacific  
Workshop  
(WESTPAC/PICES)  
Tokyo  
Aug 2019



Caribbean  
Mexico  
March  
2020

Indian Ocean  
Chennai  
8-10 Jan.  
2020



Southeast  
Pacific  
(CPPS)  
Ecuador  
23-26 Sept.



South Atlantic  
Workshop  
Brazil  
25-27 Nov.

Africa  
27-29 Jan.  
2020  
Nairobi



Pacific  
Community  
Workshop  
(SPC)  
23-25 July  
2019



Antarctic Workshop with SCAR (Ocean Sciences/AGU,  
San Diego, Feb 2020)

# Peer Review and MS consultation (March - December 2020)

- Version 0- Peer review (March-April) 228 submissions including 42 from Member States
- Finalisation of Version 1 (with support of EPG) of the IP– circulated to IOC MS through Circular Letter 2804 in June 2020 (4 language)
- UN-Oceans review
- Review period lasted 1 month
  - Submission of written comments
  - IOC /UNESCO MS Information Session on 9 July 2020
- Version 2 prepared by Secretariat (with EPG support) + Summary, transmitted to UN DOALOS on 5th August for GA review
- A report documenting comments received and how these have been addressed made available ([IOC/EC-53/4.1.Doc\(1\) Add.](#) )

# UNGA review process of the Implementation Plan

(August – December 2020)

- IP made available to UN Member States as part of the Secretary General's Report on Ocean to the 75<sup>th</sup> session
- IP considered as part of Informal consultations to prepare the Omnibus Resolution (Sept-Dec 2020)
- Information session organized for UN Delegates on 15 October 2020 with about 150 pax
- Adoption of UN Ocean Resolution **A/RES/75/239** on 31 December 2020, that *inter alia*



***Welcomes the steps taken by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission to prepare the implementation plan (...) and takes note with appreciation of that plan; (para 304)***

# Implementation Plan Structure

The Implementation Plan is a *dynamic, living document* that will evolve over the Decade.

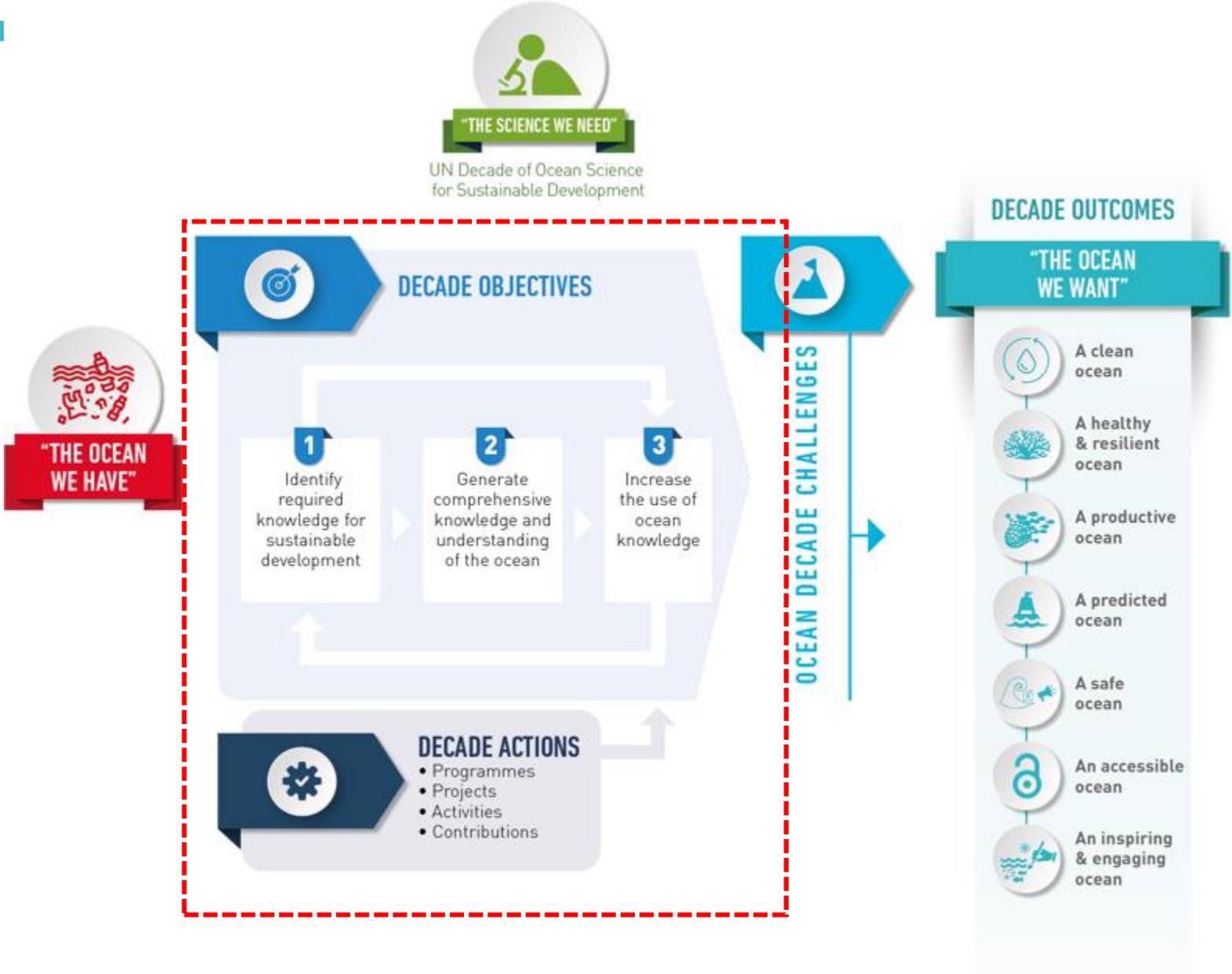
It provides a *strategic framework* for Decade implementation

The Implementation Plan is structured as follows:

- ✓ **Part 1:** provides the rationale, vision, mission and desired outcomes of the Decade.
- ✓ **Part 2:** presents the Decade Action Framework
- ✓ **Part 3:** presents the implementation mechanisms



# Objectives and Actions of the Ocean Decade



# Hierarchy of Decade Actions



## Decade Programme

- Global or regional in scale
- Contribute to one or more of the Decade Challenges.
- Long-term (multi-year), interdisciplinary and typically multi-national.
- Includes component projects, and enabling activities.

## Decade Project

- Discrete and focused undertaking of a shorter duration.
- Will typically contribute to an identified Decade programme

## Decade Activity

- Typically a one-off standalone activity
- Can form part of a programme or project or can relate directly to a Decade Challenge or an outcome.

## Decade Contribution

- Supports the Decade through provision of a necessary in-kind or financial resource.
- Can be either for costs related to the implementation of a Decade Action or for coordination costs.

# Data, Information & Knowledge Management

Aims to create a shared multidisciplinary digital representation of the ocean's socio-environmental system, i.e. 'a shared digital ecosystem of the ocean' that links knowledge generators to users.

The Decade promotes a set of common and best practices across scales, sectors, and capacities in support of systems that:

- Embrace a culture of timely, free and open access, use, and re-use of data, information and knowledge.
- Interlink resources that are quality controlled and traceable.
- Create new opportunities for participation of non-traditional ocean science actors including industry and local and indigenous knowledge holders.
- Are responsive to user needs through proactive engagement and co-development.
- Are capable of being used and contributed to by a wide range of stakeholders, including those in low-technology environments.
- Champion and promote interoperability across scales.

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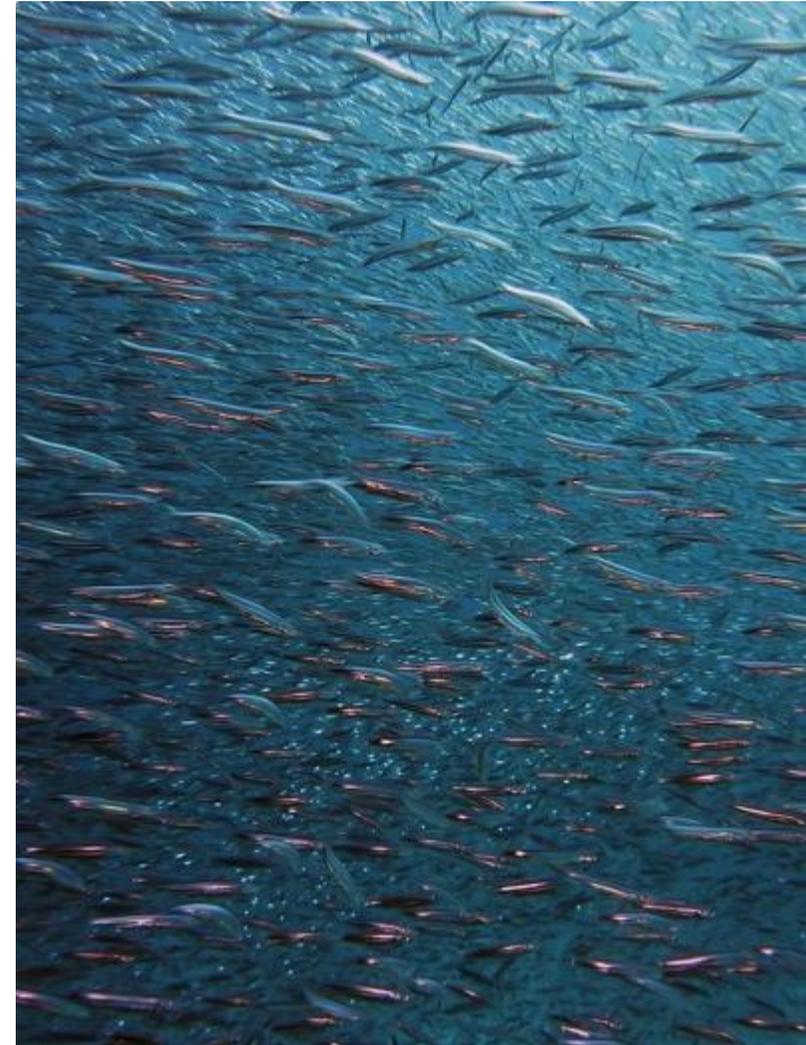
*No single system will be able to implement the vision for data management under the Decade.*

*Data, information and knowledge management will be a collective effort that increases coordination between actors.*

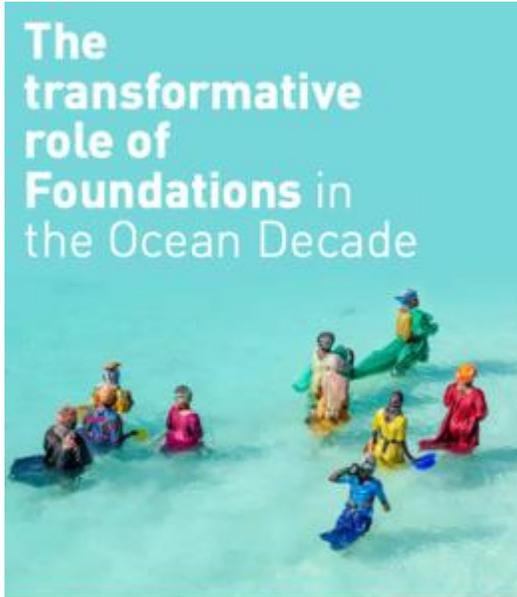
# Capacity Development

To meet the challenge presented by the Decade, capacity development needs to:

- Be an integral part of each Decade Action.
- Take a variety of forms.
- Be needs driven with investment in tools that can match the demand for capacity development to different opportunities.
- Be developed to respond to regional and national priorities and respect cultural and geographical diversity.
- Privilege long-term partnerships that build on existing resources and networks
- Include a focus on mechanisms to accelerate the use of knowledge for societal wellbeing.
- Target both scientists and users of science.
- Address all facets of ocean science.
- Recognise and engage local and indigenous knowledge holders as both beneficiaries and providers of capacity development.
- Identify and overcome barriers to gender, geographical, and generational balance.



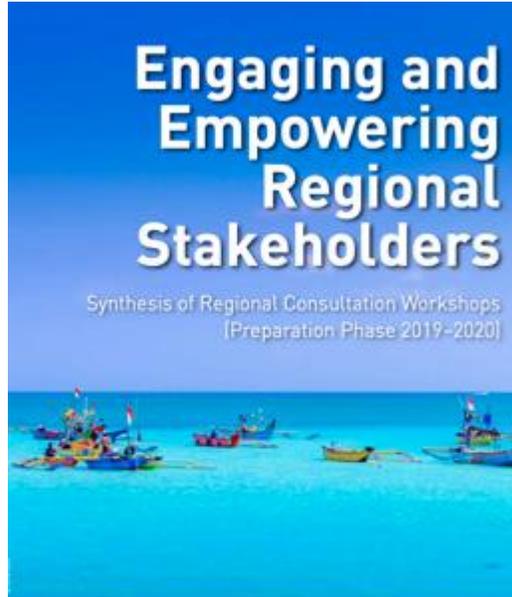
# Engagement towards key stakeholders



The United Nations  
Decade of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development  
2021-2030



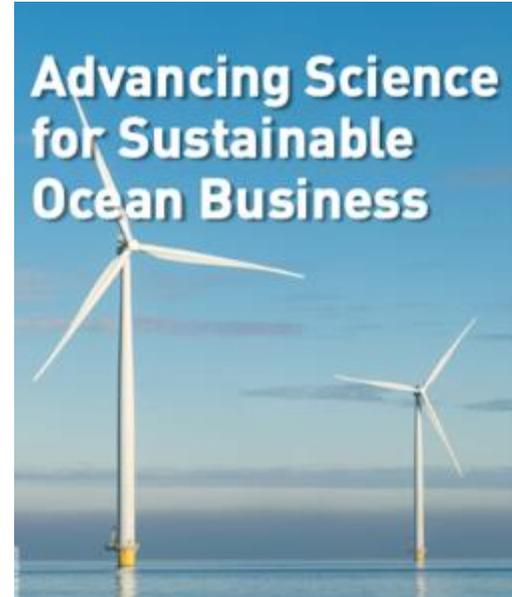
Philanthropy



The United Nations  
Decade of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development  
[2021-2030]



Regional  
partners



An Opportunity for  
the Private Sector



Industry



Media

**2020 is a big year for the Ocean.**  
 From 2019, actions from around the globe will meet in Lisbon, Portugal, for the second United Nations Ocean Conference. The conference will determine the priorities for the 2021 Ocean Conference and the start of a decade of action based on science and innovation to meet the Sustainable Development Goals.  
 2020 is also the last year of the preparatory Phase of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development – also known as ‘The Decade’ or ‘The Ocean Decade’ – that will last from 2021 to 2030 and will be officially launched during the first half of 2021 in Bonn, Germany.  
 The Ocean Decade aims to encourage the scientific community, industry, governments, business leaders and broader society to drive forward business, research and innovation that change, whether that be in terms of the level of scientific knowledge about the ocean, or in the way we manage, conserve and protect it, or in the way we develop sustainable development in and on the sea. The last few years represent a period of intense preparation by UNESCO’s Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and a continued focus on making the Decade a truly inclusive initiative.

# Engagement with the UN

- UN-Oceans actively engaged through Ocean Decade Task force in reviewing the Implementation Plan
- UN organisations contributing to Decade Actions and communication, for e.g:
  - ISA – Action Plan in contribution to the Decade
  - ESCAP – submission of Decade Action
  - FAO Regional Fisheries body – Regional Network for the Med
  - UNEP – Collaboration across 2 Decades (Ocean and Ecosystem Restoration)
  - DOALOS – Science/policy interface, synergy with WOA process
  - OHRRLLS – Engagement of SIDS/ Decade Webinars
  - UN DESA – General communication and outreach



# Adapting to the COVID Crisis – Going Virtual !

2020: 11 Virtual Sessions (Sept –December)



Launch of Series "Co-designing the science we need for the Ocean Decade"

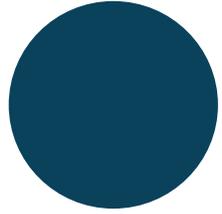
**2 Global Sessions, 7 regional Sessions**

**and also Human Health, SIDS, Women**

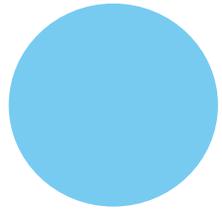
**Coming up in 2021**

- Empowering women and girls in the Ocean Decade
- Aquatic Food (with FAO)
- Observing system (GOOS and POGO)
- Ecosystem restoration with UNEP
- Private sector in partnership with WOC
- Decade at national level –sharing experience

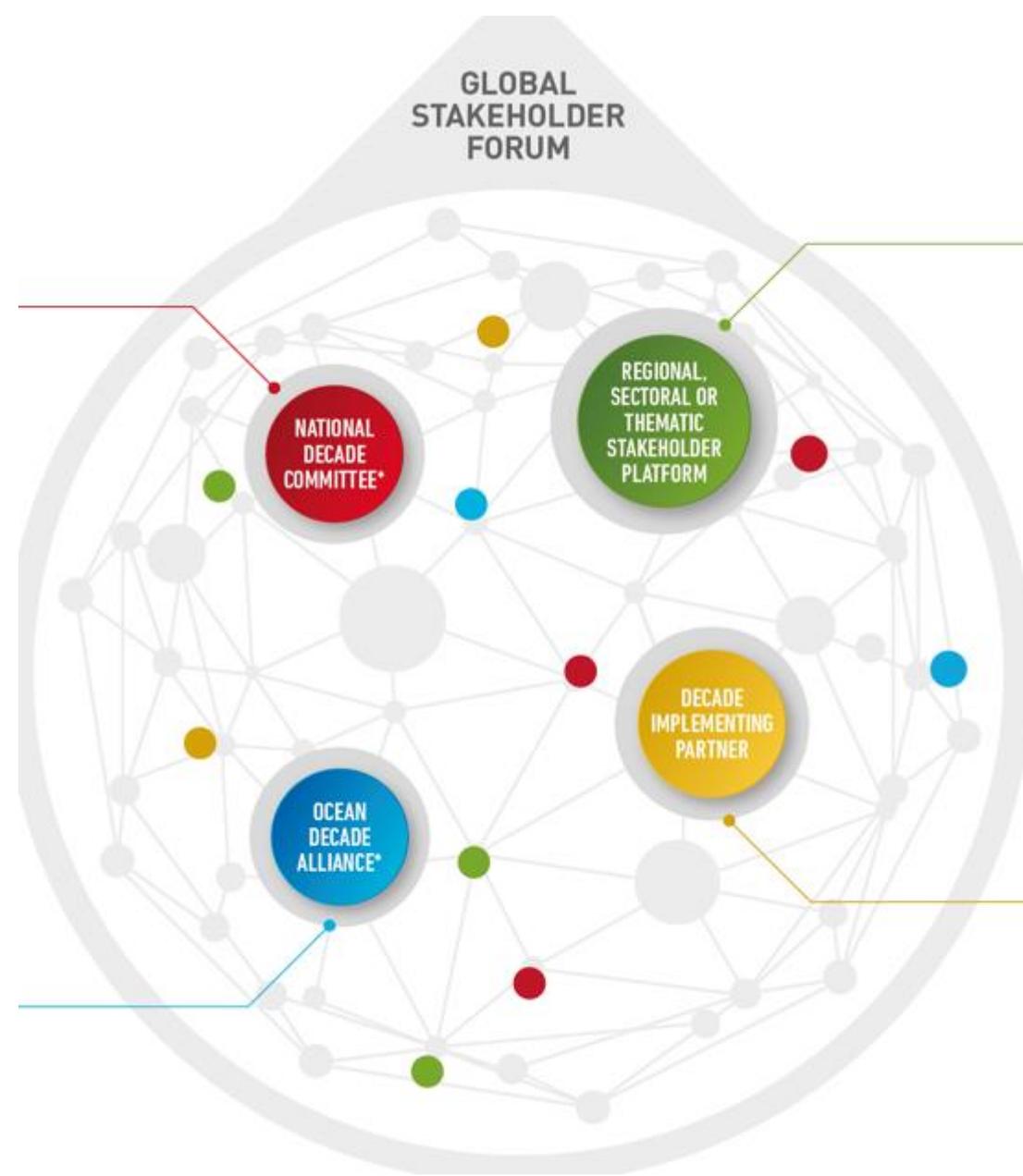
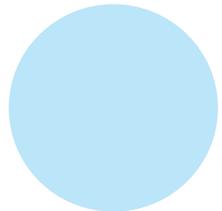
# Global Stakeholder Forum



*Global Stakeholder Forum:  
actively managed  
communities of practice that  
will collaborate online and in-  
person.*



On-line (new Web  
platform from 2021 ) and  
global conferences

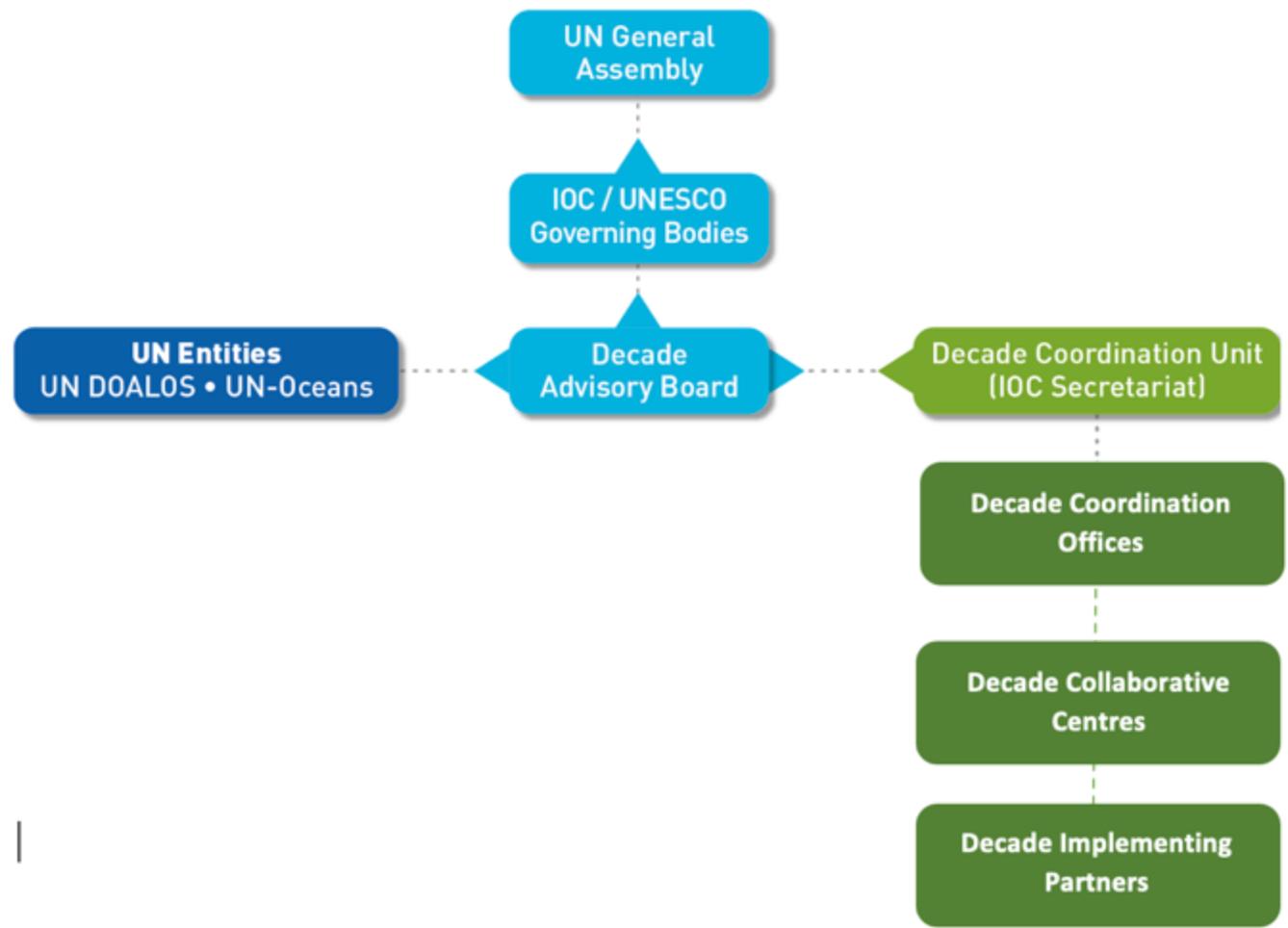


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### **3. Operationalising the Decade - Governance & Coordination, Science collaboration and engagement (2021 and beyond)**

# Governance / Coordination: For what purpose ?

- **Provide an enabling environment** for the implementation of the Decade through enhanced dialogue, partnership, and financing.
- **Empower stakeholders to engage, plan, and implement** Decade actions through a coordinated science-based framework, in a spirit of co-design and co-delivery.
- Facilitate **review by Member States** of Decade implementation.
- Coordinate and promote the Decade globally and in all regions, leaving no one behind.
- Facilitate **sharing of knowledge, tools and lessons learned**.
- **Report on the progress** of the Decade, including regional and national commitments under one common global umbrella, thereby underscoring its contribution to the SDGs.



# Decade Advisory Board

- Strategic advisory body to the IOC Governing Bodies
- Recommend the endorsement of programmes and Decade Collaborative Centres
- Craft the launch of the Decade Action calls through consultations and assessment of gaps
- Decade monitoring and evaluation framework or data stewardship strategies.
- assessment of resource requirements for Decade Actions and raise awareness about the Decade

Composition : Up to 20 members, from science, stakeholders from socio-economic/policy sectors and UN, diversity in geography, gender, age

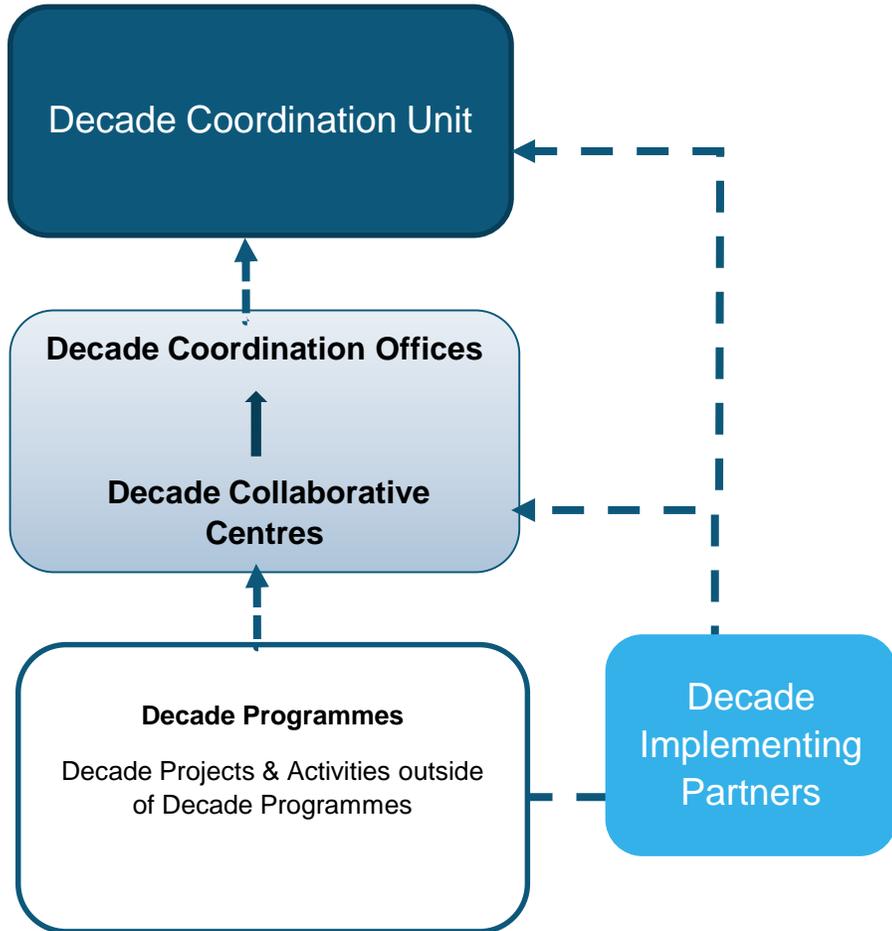
**DAB ToRS to be presented to IOC-31 Assembly, call for nomination in August/September 21**

# Transition of EPG to Interim Decade Advisory Board

- Terms of Reference being presented to Executive Council in February 2021
- First meeting planned March / April 2021 (virtual meeting) with 2 -3h sessions over 2 – 3 days
- Objectives of first meeting:
  1. Review of Decade programs and recommendations
  2. Review of collaborative centres and recommendations
  3. Discussion of M&E conceptual framework
  4. Identify priorities for next calls for Decade Actions



# Setting modalities for coordination (Ref . IOC/EC-53/4.1.Inf 1)

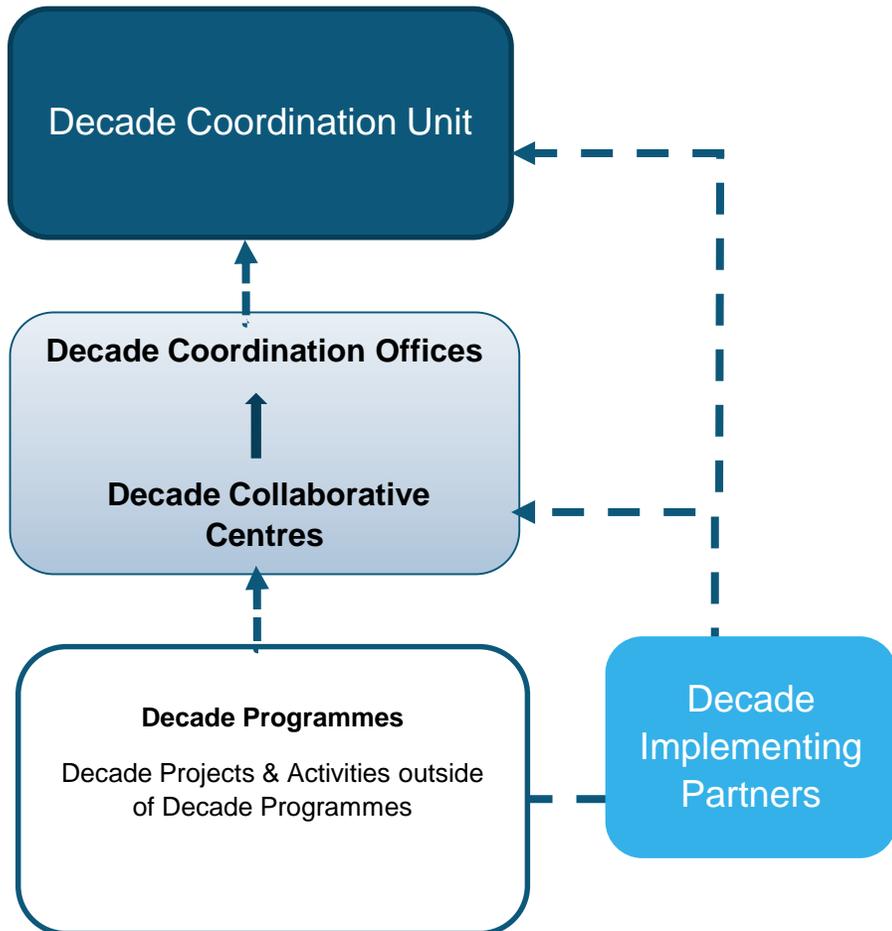


Decade Coordination Unit  
Located at IOC Secretariat/ Paris

Main functions

- (i) primary coordination office for the implementation of Decade Actions, including communication and engagement
- (ii) Secretariat for the Decade Advisory Board; and
- (iii) Secretariat for the Ocean Decade Alliance.

# Setting modalities for coordination (Ref . IOC/EC-53/4.1.Inf 1)

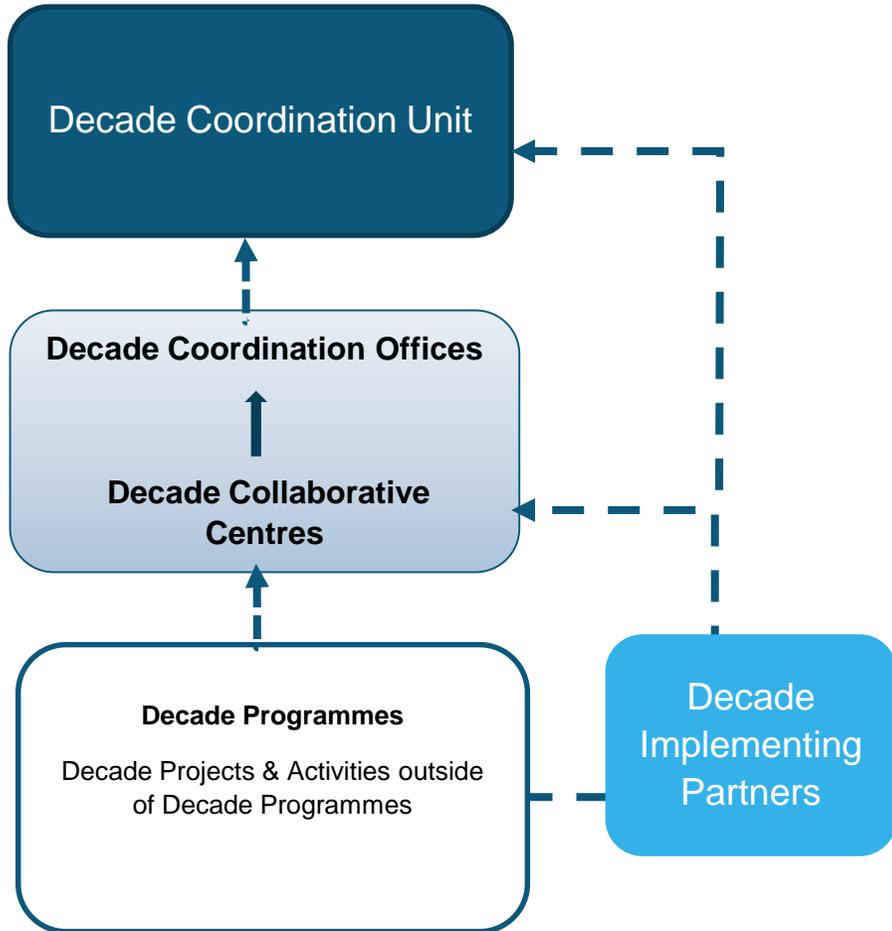


## Decade Coordination Offices

Hosted within UN Secretariat (IOC, other UN)

- Acts as sub-unit of the central Decade Coordination Unit.
- Catalysis and coordination of Decade Actions including of Calls for Decade Actions,
- Organise and coordinate Decade review processes,
- Promote cooperation amongst UN and Member State partners, communications, monitoring, and resource mobilisation.
- Geographic/regional scope
- Dedicated Staff/ premise/office costs ( can be provided MS)

# Setting modalities for coordination (Ref . IOC/EC-53/4.1.Inf 1)

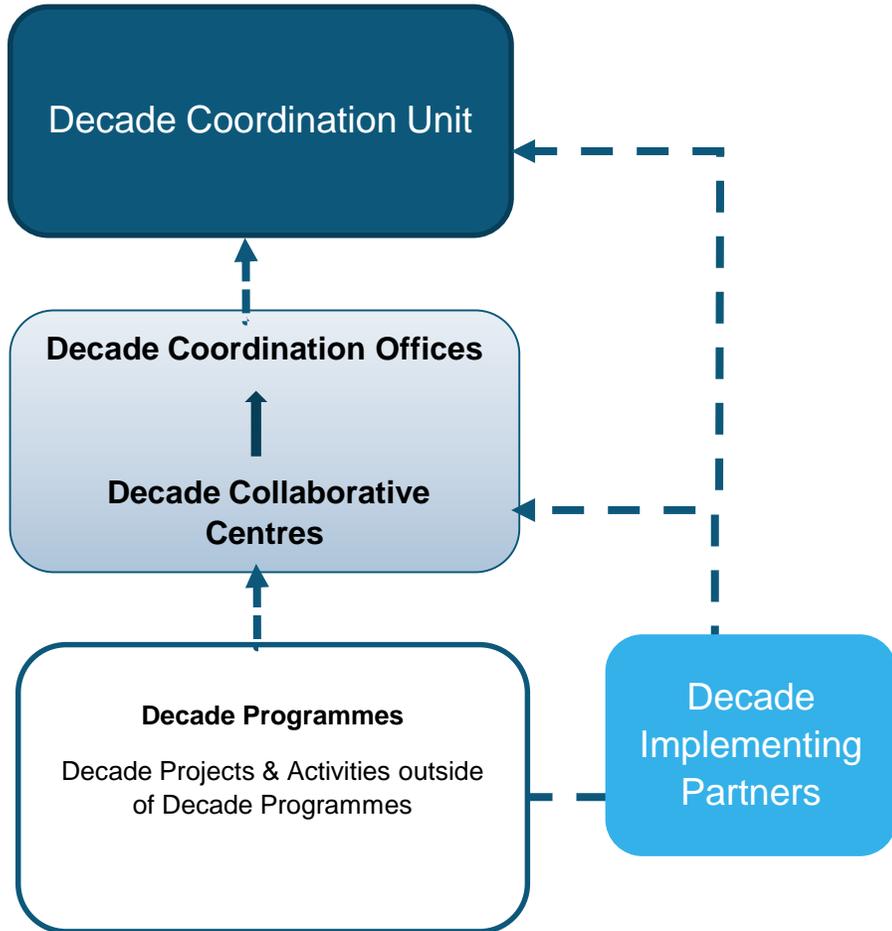


## Decade Collaborative Centers

Hosted by International or major regional organization working in relevant area of marine science e.g. research institutes or centres, NGOs, philanthropic Foundations, private sector entities or universities

- Catalysis and coordination of Decade Actions and partners, communications, monitoring and resource mobilisation.
- Geographic/regional scope
- Dedicated Staff/ premise/office costs

# Setting modalities for coordination (Ref . IOC/EC-53/4.1.Inf 1)



## Decade Implementing Partners

**International or regional organization working in relevant area of marine science e.g. research institutes or centres, NGOs, universities, existing networks or platforms**

- Selected, specific support tasks to activities of central or decentralized coordination offices
- Regional or thematic focus
- Part-time staff time allocated to specific tasks, operational costs

# Review process for DCO /DCCs

Submission of  
applications  
to DCU

Initial  
Assessment/  
feasibility study

DAB  
Recommendation for  
DCC

Reporting to IOC Gov.  
Body / UN-Oceans

Signature of  
Agreement



# Review process for Implementing Partners

Registration and  
consultation with  
DCU

Development of  
proposal

Technical review  
by DCU  
ToRs finalisation

Constulation with IOC  
NFP/UNESCO NC

Formalisation  
of agreement

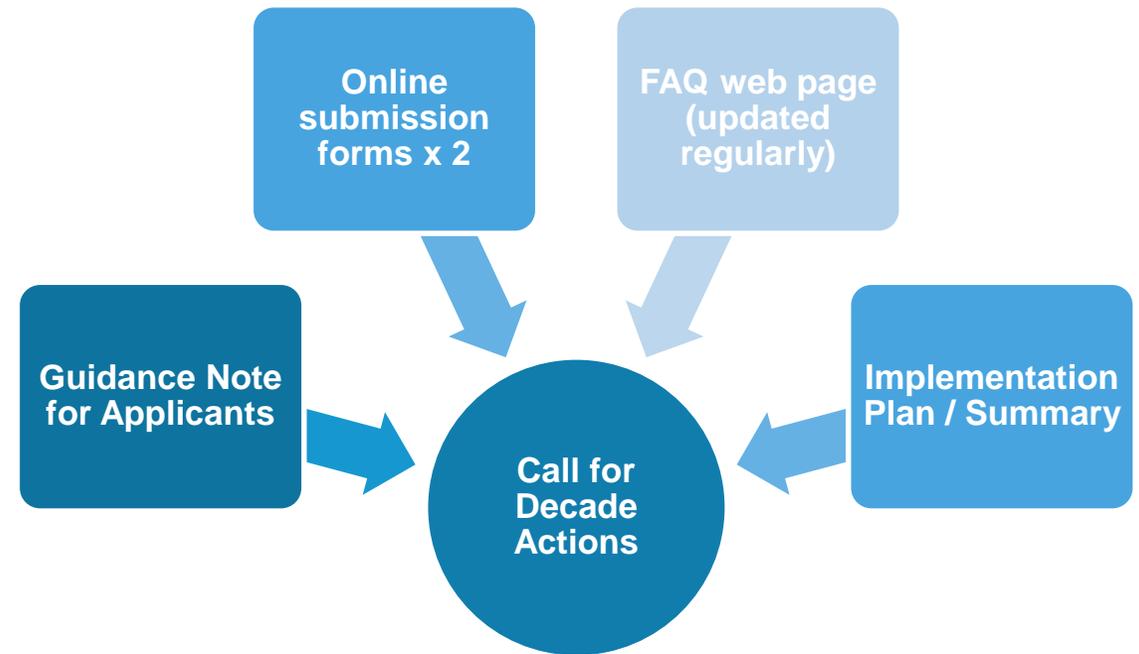


# Overview of '1st Call for Decade Actions'

- First 'Call for Decade Actions' for two types of large-scale Actions:
  1. Global or major regional programmes
  2. Contributions including support to central or decentralised coordination functions
- No geographic or thematic restrictions
- Suite of inter-related documentation to support 'Call for Decade Actions'
- UN entities registration process will be opened in parallel

More details will be made available on social media and [www.oceandecade.org](http://www.oceandecade.org) - sign-up to receive further updates!

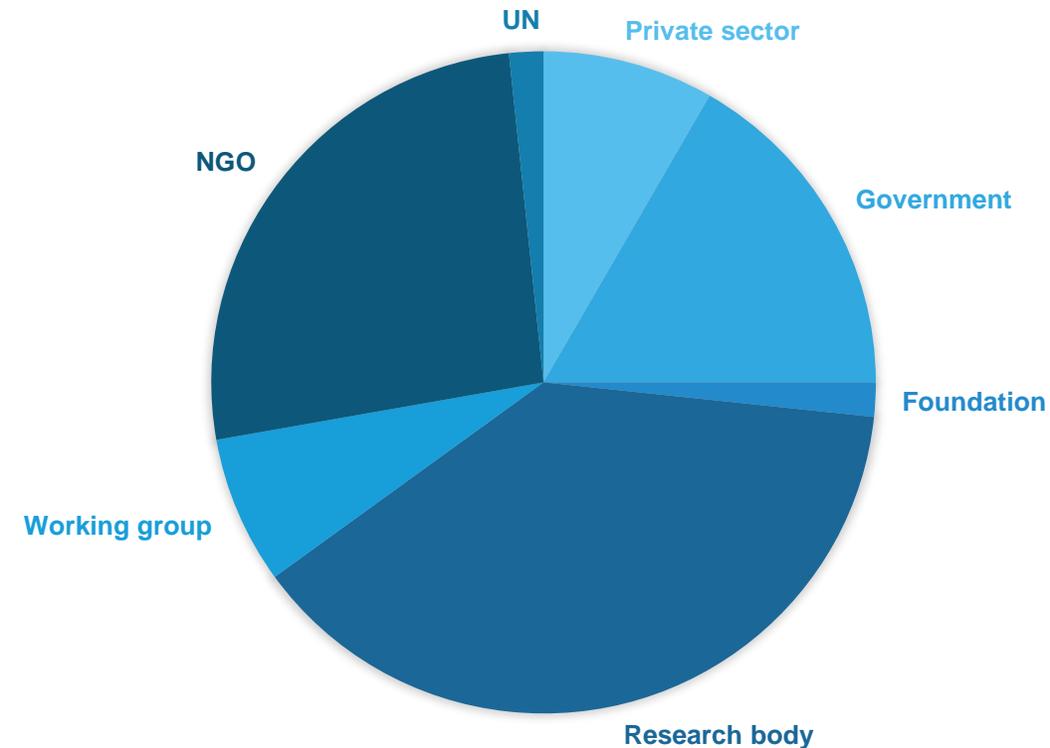
Open 15 October 2020 to 15 January 2021  
- with decisions in Q1 of 2021 -



# 1st Call for Decade Actions

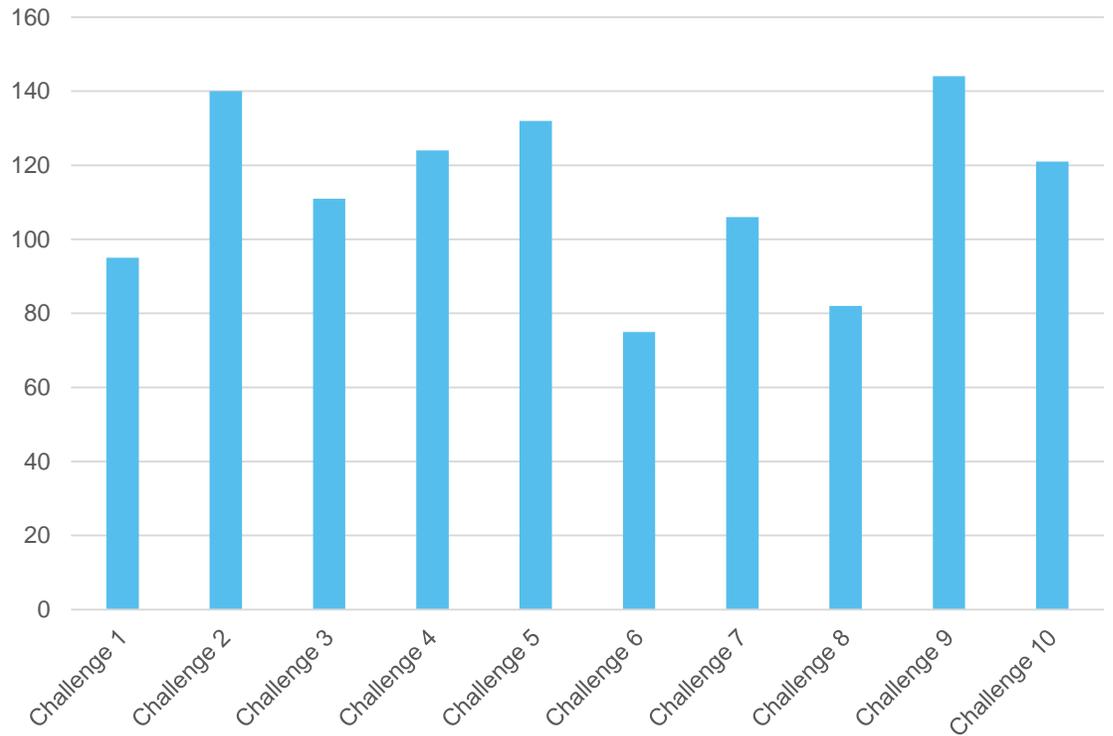
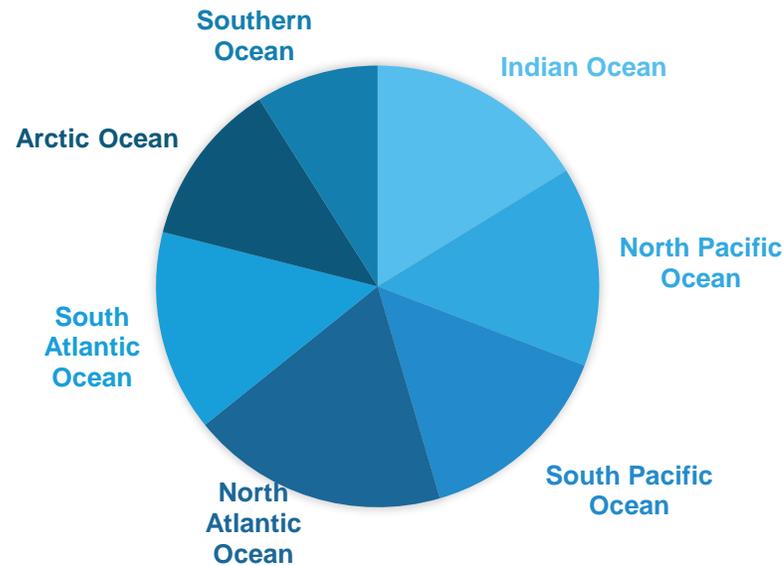
213 program submissions and 27 contribution submissions:

- Very robust and detailed submissions - high understanding of, and alignment with, Decade priorities
- Both regional and thematic programs
- Diversity of proponents
- Wide diversity in scale of initiatives being proposed
  - Around 20% obviously program level
  - Around 60% need further examination
  - Remaining 20% are at the scale of Projects, Activities or stakeholder networks



# Update on Call for Decade Actions

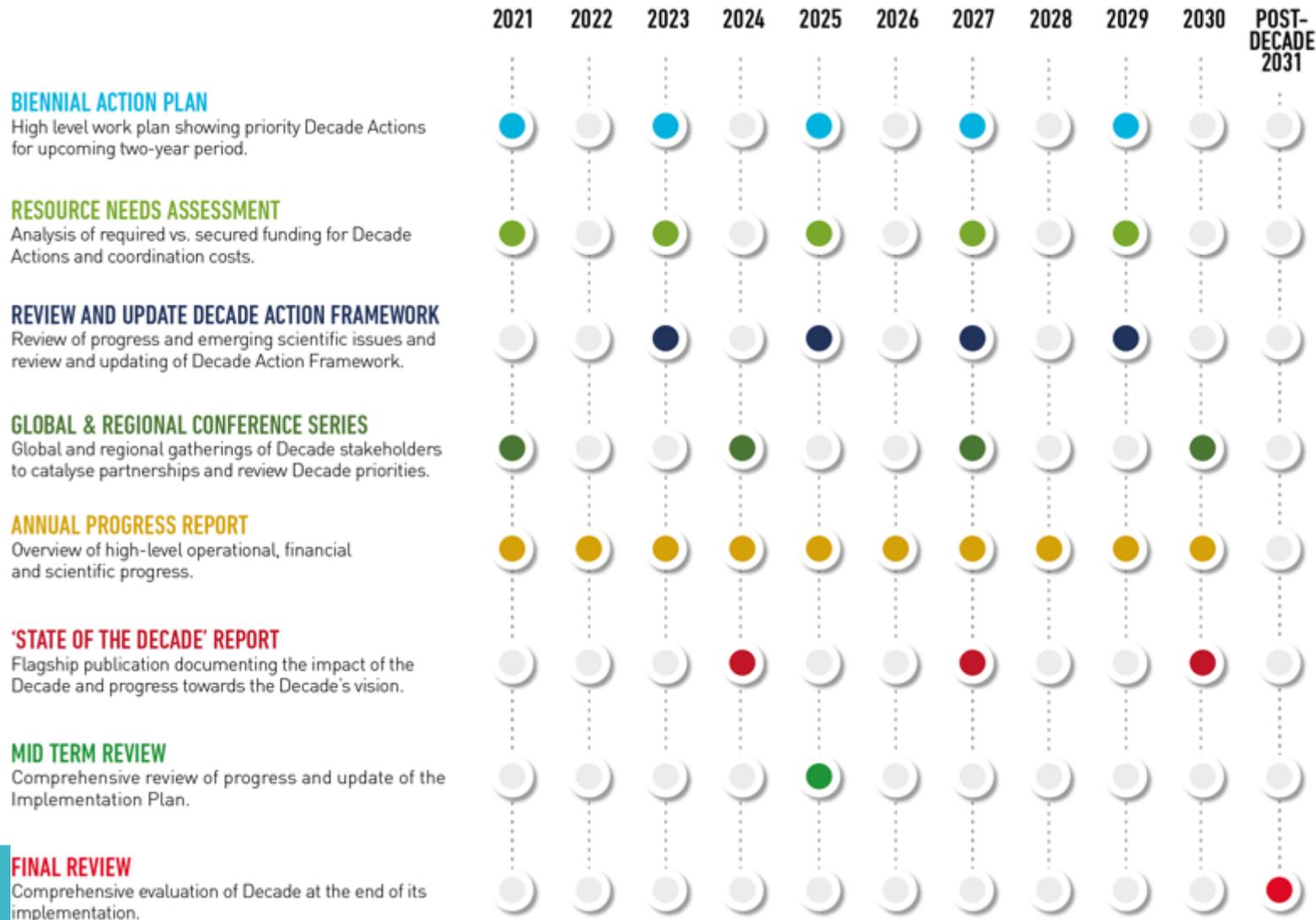
Diverse thematic and geographic mix covering all ocean basins and all challenges



# 1<sup>st</sup> Call for Action - Next steps in analysis of submission

1. 'Structural sorting' of submissions to identify programs and submissions with strong potential to become programs based on definitions contained in Implementation Plan (January 2021)
2. Geographic and thematic of programs and potential programs clustering to understand overall landscape (February 2021)
3. Identification of potential synergies within clusters and organize discussions to facilitate collaborations and cooperation => type, number and format of discussions will vary depending on the final number and type of submissions (February / March 2021)
4. Development of package of first set of 'endorsement ready' programs for consideration by Interim Decade Advisory Board (March / April 2021)
5. Ongoing work and dialogue with other program proposals and potential program proposals to prepare for submission at a future meeting (March 2021 onwards)
6. Announcement of Endorsement – April 2021
7. Gap analysis to inform the design of next calls – May 2021

# Measuring Progress



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*M&E activities will underpin adaptive management and evolution of the Ocean Decade over the next 10 years.*

# Monitoring and Evaluation framework

1. Information on progress and impact of the Decade is **essential for adaptive management** of the Decade so that Decade implementation can respond to emerging issues and a dynamic context:
2. Information generated on progress and impact of the Decade will **inform complementary processes** within and outside the UN, including SDG monitoring, CBD Post 2020 GBF, GOSR etc.
3. The monitoring and evaluation indicators, methods and data adopted for the Decade should as far as possible **optimize synergies and avoid duplication** with other processes within and outside the UN system
4. It is anticipated that **certain indicators and methods will themselves be subject to R&D** as part of the Decade, either through Decade Actions or other processes e.g.:

## Establishment of M& E Informal Working Group

**Outputs** : Discussion Paper that describes the key elements of proposed Ocean Decade M& E framework

# Resource Mobilisation

## 1 DIRECT SUPPORT TO DECADE

- Member State / Donor provides support to Decade Action and/or Decade coordination costs using its own procedures
- Support is recognised on Decade website.

## 2 OCEAN DECADE ALLIANCE

### 2.a Support via - Earmarked Funding

- Donor joins Alliance and commits support to a pre-identified Decade Action or Decade coordination costs that it has selected.
- Financial flows are via donor's own grant making procedures.
- Support is recognised through Alliance platform.

### 2.b Support via Virtual Resource Pool

- Donor joins Alliance and commits support into virtual resource pool.
- Decade Coordination Unit plays matchmaking role to match committed resources to priority Decade Actions or Decade coordination costs.
- Financial flows are via donor's own grant making procedures.
- Support is recognised through Alliance platform.

## 3 PARTNER-LED FINANCING / GRANT-MAKING FACILITY

- An independent entity develops a financing / grant-making facility to support Decade & seeks endorsement.
- Entity selects the initiatives that it would like to support and they seek endorsement as Decade Actions.
- Financial flows are via the entity's own grant making procedures.
- Support is recognised on the Decade website and/or through the Decade Alliance.

“  
*The Decade is not a funding mechanism. It encourages alignment of resource mobilisation strategies with Decade priorities.*”

# Ocean Decade Alliance

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- Ocean Decade Alliance is a network of eminent partners of the Ocean Decade that leads by example to catalyse support for the Decade through targeted resource mobilization, networking, and influence
- Members of the Ocean Decade Alliance will:
  1. Provide significant financial or in-kind resources to Decade Actions and Decade coordination costs
  2. Work within their networks to leverage and multiply financial and in-kind resource commitments towards the Decade from their peers
  3. Provide strategic advice on resource mobilisation to Decade coordination structures
- Once fully established the Alliance will have approx. 50 institutional members from Government, United Nations, industry and philanthropy
- 10 – 15 leaders of institutional members will be invited to be Patrons on the Alliance and play an individual advocacy role for the Decade
- The Decade Coordination Unit is the secretariat for the Alliance

# Ocean Decade Alliance: Founding Members



## Ocean Decade Alliance Patrons

- His Excellency Mr Uhuru Muigai Kenyatta, President of the Republic of Kenya
  - His Serene Highness Prince Albert II, Sovereign Prince of Monaco
    - Ms Erna Solberg, Prime Minister of Norway
- Ms Inger Andersen, Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme
  - Ms Wendy Schmidt, Founder Schmidt Ocean Institute
  - Ms Dona Bertarelli, Founder Bertarelli Foundation
  - Mr John Schubert AO, Chair Great Barrier Reef Foundation

## Institutional members:



SCHMIDT  
OCEAN  
INSTITUTE

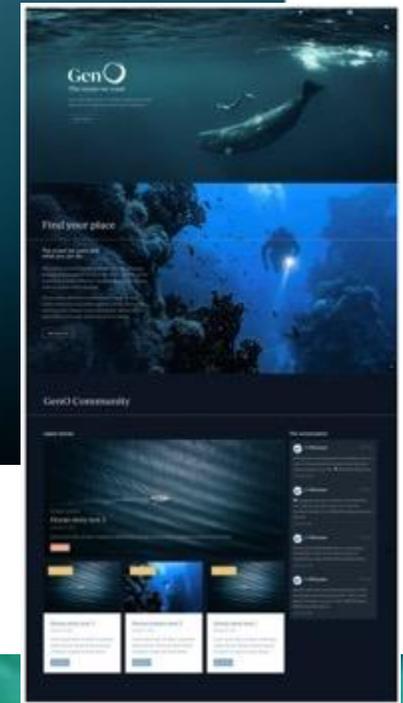
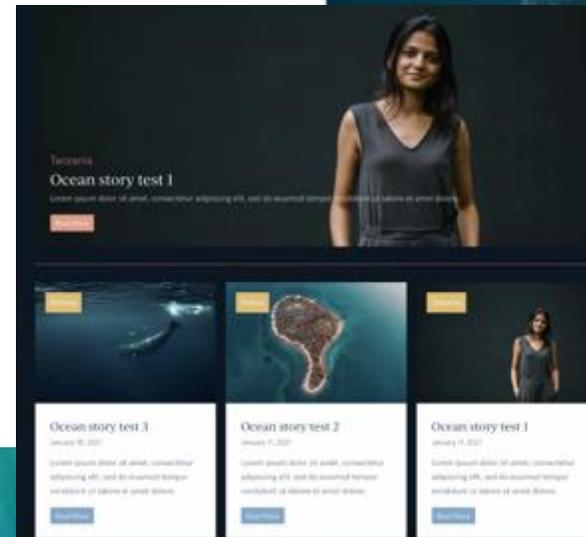
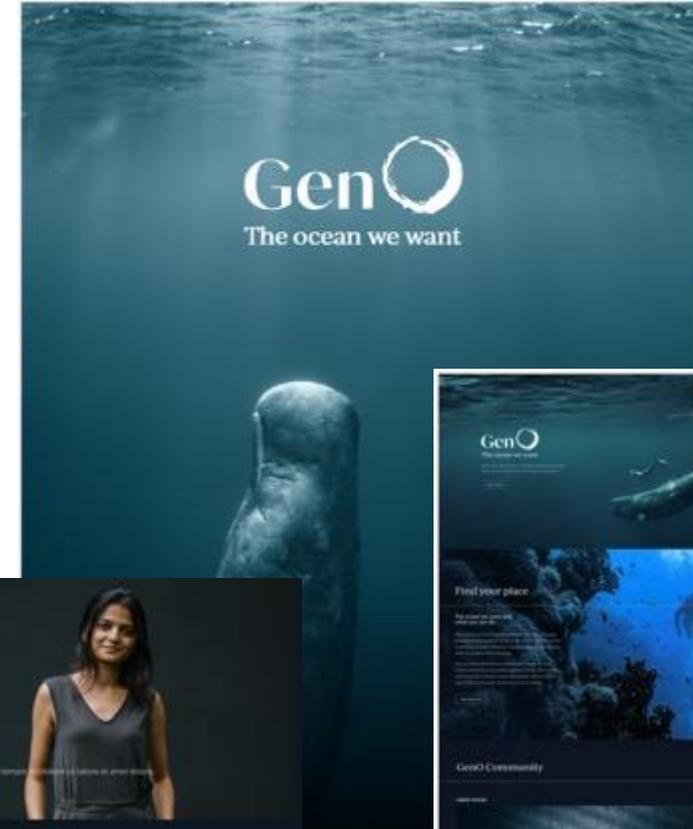




# Communications strategy

## A worldwide campaign: “Generation Ocean”

- Generation Ocean (GenO) is a global campaign that tackles one of the biggest challenges of our generation: helping us to reverse the decline in ocean health through knowledge-based action.
- The campaign will feature stories of people connected to various ocean issues and the ways in which they are using knowledge and science to find solutions to deliver the ocean we want.
- **Media:** social media, a dedicated website, brochures
- **Motto:** The ocean we want



# Communications materials

## Press

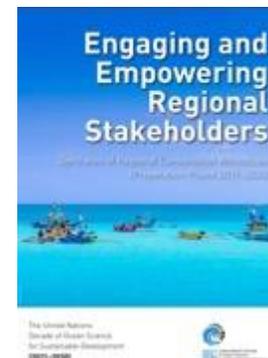
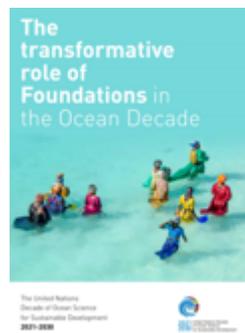
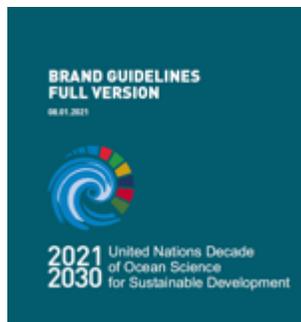
Partnerships with:  
- Environment Coastal & Offshore (ECO) Magazine  
- NEW YORK TIMES  
- SPARK NEWS



The New York Times

spark  
news

## Informative brochures & Brand guidelines to deepen understanding of the Decade's vision and brand



## Social Media



<https://www.instagram.com/unoceandecade/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/oceandecade>  
<https://twitter.com/UNOceanDecade>  
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/un-ocean-decade/>

## What you can do

### Spread the word

Social media assets, videos, and key Ocean Decade message available via an evergreen database:

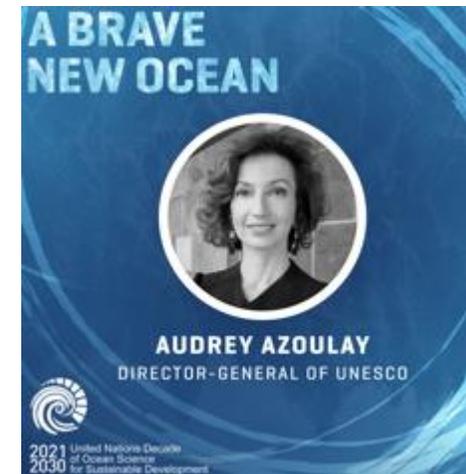
<https://trello.com/b/Oozo52UM/oceandecade-launch>

### Join the Ocean Decade Community

Sign up to website and Newsletter on <http://oceandecade.org>

# The Ocean Decade: 2021 Events

- **3 February 2021:** High Level Supporters event – launch of Ocean Decade Alliance and High Level Panel Report
- **January – onward :** Ocean Decade Virtual Series events continue
- **1 June :** High Level virtual segment of First International Ocean Decade Conference (formerly Berlin kick-off conference)
- **July - Onward:** Start of ‘Ocean Decade Laboratories’ of First International Ocean Decade Conference
- **Second half of 2021:** UN Ocean Conference, Lisbon
- **August 2021:** Regional kick-off events in WESTPAC region
- Other regional kick-off events in Africa (TBC)



# Global Decade Kick Off Event (Berlin Conference)

- **Build on existing discussions and partnerships**
- **Celebrate**
- **Set the example**
- **Be inclusive**
- **Create space**

## General Outline of the New Conference Design

### **Opening event** 1 June 2021

will mark the start of the process and demonstrate high-level support for the Ocean Decade, while triggering discussion of key cross-cutting themes

### **Ocean Decade Laboratories in virtual or hybrid formats**

will help to maintain the momentum triggered by the high-level opening event and act as a bridge to the in person event in 2022

### **Constant awareness**

over a longer period of time

### **Opportunities for various communication events**

to generate awareness

### **Different time zones can be considered**

easier due to more possible event formats

7 events (starting in July 2021-May 2021)

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## 4. Implications for IOC – Opportunities and Challenges

# Mapping IOC Programmatic Contribution vs Decade

(Not exhaustive – ref IOC Inf 1383)



Ocean Decade Challenge	Existing IOC programme/activity
#1: Pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ IOC-UNEP Nutrients (N-CIRP)</li> <li>→ GESAMP WG 40 on Plastics and Micro-plastics</li> </ul>
# 2: ocean ecosystems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ WG Ocean Stressors</li> <li>→ GOA-ON / SDG 14.3                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ MSP</li> <li>→ GO2NE</li> <li>→ GOOS</li> <li>→ OBIS</li> <li>→ GEBCO</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
# 4: sustainable development of the ocean economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ IOC Marine Spatial Planning, coastal zone management, and LME                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ GOOS</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
# 6: multi-hazard warning systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ IOC Tsunami Programme</li> <li>→ The Harmful Algal Blooms /human health</li> </ul>

# Going beyond Mapping ....

**Key Question :** How can IOC achieve the ambition of its own IOC MTS and substantially contribute to the achievement of Decade outcomes ?

What the Decade may offer:

- A mechanism for engaging, designing with stakeholders and end-users, policy relevant knowledge and and SD applications/solutions
- Furthering the impact and scope of existing programmes
- Leveraging resources to support IOC programmes
- Enhance visibility through communication
- Provide an institutional umbrella for other Decade actions where IOC is considered as leader
- Strengthening national coordination on ocean science, increasing the role of IOC NFP and networks

Next Steps :

- **Developing IOC Decade Actions** focusing on the transformative elements of the IOC programmes - eg GOOS, TSU, GOA-ON response to 1st Call - and future Decade calls
- **Strategic visioning of the IOC Contribution** to the Decade through programmatic review, identification of enhanced science-delivery mechanisms, and optimal resourcing required for IOC to fulfill its potential

# Leveraging the Decade's transformative power for IOC

- **Strategic Visioning (link with IOC MTS)**
  - Discussion within respective programme governance
  - Future directions of IOC programmatic work so that the scientific knowledge that is generated increasingly aligns with priority societal and user needs,
  - Strengthening the position of IOC as the UN ocean knowledge hub
- **Stimulating Member States engagement**
  - Foster collaboration within MS and across stakeholders through enhanced national and regional mechanisms
  - Further engagement of MS in review of IOC contribution (annual reporting to IOC GBs)
- **Partnership**
  - Strengthened collaboration with UN orgs
  - Building communities of practice in core IOC areas
  - Broadening resource mobilization approach (MS, Private sector, philanthropy, IFI...)

# Role of regional subsidiary bodies

- May act as Decade Regional Coordination Office if appropriately resourced
- Collaboration and co-design between global programmes and regional bodies in order to achieve the necessary capacity to participate equitably in decade actions.
- Collaboration between regional bodies and their ocean expert communities in order to share capacities.
- Contributing to relevant regional conventions and policy frameworks;
- Undertake regular CD needs assessment surveys to identify gaps in national and regional capacity as well as monitor progress in IOC's CD effort, addressing the objectives of the IOC CD strategy and well as the Strategic framework for capacity development initiatives during the Decade.

# IOC RSBs in the bow of the Decade



UN Decade Regional Planning Workshop For the North Pacific and Western Pacific Marginal Seas, 31 July- 2 August 2019, Tokyo, Japan

- Strengthen ocean science-policy and science-innovation interface(s), and foster blue partnerships;
- Provide a voice for the region’s participation, establish communication and outreach activities, convene meetings that specifically bring stakeholders together;
- Catalyze, develop and promote co-designed, solution-oriented ocean research programmes; develop innovative ocean technologies and methodologies, conduct integrated multi-disciplinary studies and observations of ocean ecosystems in the region;
- Identify and replicate the Government-Industry-Research-University-Coastal Community model;
- Enhance research capacity and transfer marine technology, via, but not limited to, the co-designed and co-developed regional initiatives, such as RTRCs;
- Establish a regional-UN Decade Early Career Ocean Professional Network;
- Empower and engage local/coastal community in co-designing ocean research for biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihood

Development of Decade regional Kick off Event (2021) and conference series



# Setting the stage for Decade Actions in the Western Pacific and adjacent areas

>100 virtual/hybrid workshops/consultations were conducted in 2020

United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development

**THE OCEAN DECade VIRTUAL SERIES** | **10 Nov 2020**  
 13:00pm - 15:00pm (Bangkok time)  
 07:00am - 09:00am (Paris time)

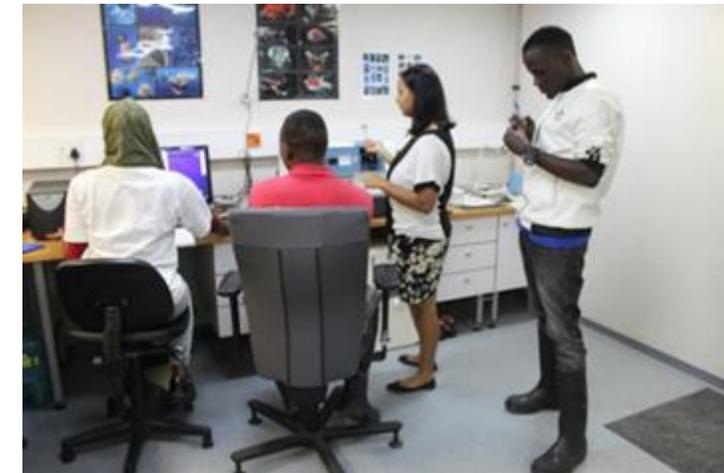
Co-designing the Ocean Science we need for the Western Pacific and adjacent areas



## IOC's Sub Commission for Africa and the Adjacent Island States (IOCAFRICA)

### Regional Planning for the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development:

- Regional consultations for Africa and the Adjacent Island States on the UN Decade of Ocean Sciences for Sustainable Development hosted by Kenya (27-29 January 2020, Nairobi, Kenya)
- Virtual regional codesign workshop in November 2020
- Regional Kick Off workshop for the UN Decade for Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (second half of 2021 in Egypt).



# IOC Subcommission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions



United Nations  
and  
Ion



Intergovernmental  
Oceanographic  
Commission



2021  
2030  
United Nations Decade  
of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development



RELACIONES EXTERIORES

SECRETARÍA DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES



UN  
environment  
United Nations  
Environment Programme



## UN DECADE OF OCEAN SCIENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 2021-2030 WESTERN TROPICAL ATLANTIC REGIONAL (WTA) WORKSHOP 27-28 April 2020.

**Regional Consultation to facilitate the dialogue and the discussion for experts and stakeholders to define the Western Tropical Atlantic Region (WAT) Scientific Priorities and how they will be reflected in the Global Process of the UN Decade.**

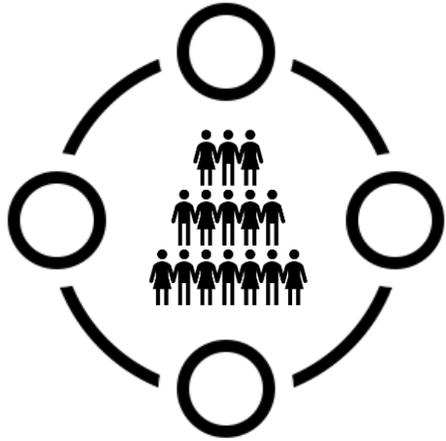
**IOCARIBE- Structural Mechanism to manage the complexity in the region; overall responsibility for planning and coordination of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) and to catalyse actions, projects and programmes in the Western Tropical Atlantic region.**

**•Establishment of a Regional Planning Group and Working Groups by Societal Outcomes and Capacity Development July 2020 to advance and coordinate strategic partnerships and actions for the WTA Region.**

### Virtual UN Decade Series

- Co-designing the Ocean Science we need for the Western Tropical Atlantic Webinar 4 November 2020**
- Co-designing the Ocean Science we need for the Eastern Tropical Pacific Webinar 28 January 2021**

# Role of national committees – strengthening science/policy/society interface



Brazil  
France  
Italy  
United Kingdom  
United States  
Norway  
Japan  
Colombia  
More???

- Connects Decade structure to the national science and SD community to promote awareness and interests.
- Provide national inputs for the formulation of Decade Actions across groups of stakeholders and/or nations.
- Identify national priorities including the development of national Decade programmes
- coordinate national outreach and communications activities
- Facilitate the provision of necessary national support
- Encourage voluntary contributions to the costs of international coordination.
- Providing reporting to the Decade Coordination Unit or decentralised structure (DCO/DCC)
- Facilitate hosting of regional or international meetings related to the Decade.



# Challenges: Sustaining IOC coordinating role in the Decade vs maintaining support to IOC programmes

- Additional burden on IOC staff and workload of the Commission
- Decade Coordination Unit –
  - no staff Regular Staff allocation, primarily funded through EXB, currently sustained by MPR Section
  - Some support provided through short term contribution, no long term commitments
  - Funding required – coordination, science coordination, data & info management, Resource mobilisation/partnerships, M&E, CD, communication, admin (optimal – team 6/7 individuals)
- Prioritisation of EXB funding towards Decade vs less visible but still core programmes of IOC
- Limited capacity of RSBs/and Core Programmes to coordinate within their realm

**Need a Decade resource mobilisation strategy supported by Structured Dialogue with key partners – A KEY PRIORITY FOR 2021 !!**

# Suggestions for Engagement of Member States

- Host a **Decade Coordination Office** or **Decade Collaborative Centre**
- Collaborate to develop **Decade Actions** in response to the “Call for Decade Actions” or fund Decade Actions proposed by Decade partners
- Contribute voluntary **in-kind or financial resources** to the Decade’s coordination costs
- Establish a **National Decade Committee** and/or lead or contribute to **regional planning initiatives**
- Become a member of the **Ocean Decade Alliance**
- Host a **regional or international conference** or event
- **Communicate** widely about the Decade and the “Call for Decade Actions”



Canada



And many others that have contributed in-kind support...

# Draft Resolution EC-53/[4.1]

Submitted by Germany, India and Norway



# THANK YOU

