

# 18<sup>th</sup> SESSION IOCARIBE



Sub-Commission for the Caribbean  
and Adjacent Regions

Subcomisión para el Caribe y  
Regiones Adyacentes

## AGENDA ITEM 5.1: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OCEAN DECADE

ALISON CLAUSEN

PROGRAMME SPECIALIST, IOC/MPR

Brasilia, Brazil  
April 23–25, 2025



2021  
2030 United Nations Decade  
of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development

# THE OCEAN DECADE

in a snapshot

As of February 2025

## ENDORSED OCEAN DECADE ACTIONS



**59** PROGRAMMES **105** CONTRIBUTIONS  
**460** PROJECTS **957** ACTIVITIES



DECADE ACTIONS LED  
BY PARTNERS FROM **69** COUNTRIES

### ENDORSED ACTIONS PER CHALLENGE



## REGIONAL AND NATIONAL COORDINATION

**11**  
DECADE  
COLLABORATIVE  
CENTRES/  
COORDINATION  
OFFICES

**18**  
DECADE  
IMPLEMENTING  
PARTNERS



**6**  
REGIONAL  
TASKFORCES  
AND PROGRAMMES

**+ 1 new DCC  
as of last  
week !**

**40**  
NATIONAL  
DECADE  
COMMITTEES

OCEANDECADE.ORG



@UNOceanDecade



@un-ocean-decade

## ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH

**7** INFORMAL  
WORKING GROUPS

**11** PATRONS AND  
**19** INSTITUTIONAL  
MEMBERS OF  
THE OCEAN  
DECADE  
ALLIANCE



OVER **20**  
MEMBERS  
OF THE  
FOUNDATIONS  
DIALOGUE



**9,800**  
MEMBERS  
FROM **173** COUNTRIES  
ON THE OCEAN DECADE  
NETWORK



**3.5+ MILLION**

REACH

# 2024 OCEAN DECADE CONFERENCE (Barcelona, Spain)

*Take Stock – Set Priorities – Catalyze Action*



## 2024 UN OCEAN DECADE CONFERENCE

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

10-12 April 2024

Barcelona, Spain



10  
Vision 2030  
White Paper

- 2,630 in-person attendees from **124 countries**
- > **3,000** online viewers
- **165** Satellite Events



## 2024 OCEAN DECADE CONFERENCE BARCELONA STATEMENT

12 April 2024

Barcelona, Spain

## Ocean Decade Vision 2030 Outcomes Report



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

1. SCIENCE & KNOWLEDGE  
PRIORITIES

2. CROSS-CUTTING /  
ENABLING ENVIRONMENT  
PRIORITIES

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS &  
COMMITMENTS



2021 United Nations  
Decade of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development

# 2024 OCEAN DECADE CONFERENCE BARCELONA STATEMENT

12 April 2024

Barcelona, Spain



## SCIENCE & KNOWLEDGE TO DEVELOP SOLUTIONS FOR ...



1. Marine pollution reduction and management across the land-sea continuum including emerging pollutants
2. Marine and coastal ecosystem-based management including deep-sea ecosystems & emerging threats
3. Equitable and resilient small-scale fisheries and aquaculture & sustainable aquatic food production
4. Evidence-based Sustainable Ocean Plans
5. Sustainable and climate resilient ocean economy with ecosystem and societal co-benefits
6. Climate mitigation and impacts of eventual marine carbon dioxide removal initiatives
7. Decision support tools for resilience of coastal communities
8. Financial instruments, policies and models to diversify and accelerate investment in ocean science
9. Social science and ocean literacy research on human-ocean connection
10. Ocean health and human health

# 2024 OCEAN DECADE CONFERENCE BARCELONA STATEMENT

12 April 2024

Barcelona, Spain



## ENABLING FACTORS FOR SUSTAINED IMPACT...

1. Systematic processes and structures to strengthen role of policy / user needs as drivers of Decade Actions
2. Translation of global priorities to specific needs of SIDS/LDCs & proactive support and partnerships
3. Approaches, tools and skills to increase inclusivity of all knowledge systems
4. Reinforced national level action & strengthened guidance for national science – policy – society uptake
5. Capacity development with sustained impact for individuals and institutions
6. Industry engagement including with insurance, finance, tourism & fisheries sectors
7. Strategic communications and broad approach to ocean literacy across all sectors of society
8. Equity, inclusivity & diversity across generations, genders and geographies
9. Sustained & sustainable financing, investment and resourcing for ocean science initiatives and infrastructure as a legacy of the Ocean Decade

# Update on Flagship Initiatives

Flagship initiatives arising from recommendations of 'Ambition, Action, Impact' Report:

## Return on investment in ocean science

- Position Papers x 2 being prepared
- Workshop during World Ocean Summit in Tokyo (March 2025)
- Next phase to be carried out prior to UNOC

## Seabed mapping

- Ocean Decade Alliance initiative growing stronger
- Pledges being collected for public release at UNOC and call for more partners to join initiative

## Gender and youth inclusion

- Youth working group established & preparing youth inclusion strategy
- Gender working group to meet in early March to start work on gender action plan

## Indigenous and local knowledge

- Analysis of ILK in Ocean Decade being completed
- Operational framework and training materials to be developed prior to UNOC

## Capacity Development

- Capacity Development Facility re-started focusing on LDCs / SIDS / ECOPs

# Update on 2027 Ocean Decade Conference Planning

- Showcase and track achievements towards *The Barcelona Statement* priorities.
- Further refine Ocean Decade priorities for the remainder of the Decade on the basis of a solid preparatory process throughout 2026.
- Facilitate partnerships and discussions to shape the post-2030 legacy.



[2024 Ocean Decade Conference - The Barcelona Statement](#)


# Update on 2027 Ocean Decade Conference Planning

1. 6 EOIs received and 4 full submissions requested with high geographical diversity – information and exchange session held 17 February 2025
2. IOC Secretariat also pleased to discuss other forms of support including preparatory meetings.
3. Submitters encouraged to discuss with other submitters as may be relevant and useful. Focal point names will be shared after meeting.
4. Full proposals due before **25 April 2025**
5. IOC Executive Secretary in consultation with the IOC Chair and Officers will review submissions with IOC Chair and Officers.
6. Final decision announced at the 33rd IOC Assembly in **June 2025** (with pre-announcement to all 4 submitters)



Restricted Distribution

IOC/EC-57/4.7.Doc(2)  
Paris, 24 May 2024  
Original: English



INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION  
(of UNESCO)

Fifty-seventh Session of the Executive Council  
UNESCO, Paris, 25–28 June 2024

Item 4.7 of the Provisional Agenda

DRAFT SCOPING FRAMEWORK FOR OCEAN DECADE MID-TERM EVALUATION

Summary

With reference to the UN General Assembly A/RES/72/73, which proclaimed the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development 2021–2030, the year 2025 marks the mid-point in the implementation of the Ocean Decade under the coordination of UNESCO-IOC and the launch of a mid-term evaluation process.

This document outlines the proposed scope, modalities, and timing of the mid-term evaluation process. Following discussions at the Executive Council it will be used to develop the detailed Terms of Reference of the evaluation, the results of which will be presented at the next IOC Assembly.

Financial and administrative implications: The evaluation will be funded through UNESCO's Internal Oversight Service.

The proposed decision is referenced as Draft Resolution EC-57/4.7 in the Action Paper (document IOC/EC-57/AP Prov. Rev.)



Draft scoping framework for mid-term evaluation presented to IOC Executive Council in June 2024, as in Dec 4.7:

10. ...develop the detailed **Terms of Reference** of the Evaluation...;
11. Requests the **UNESCO Internal Oversight Service** to carry out the Evaluation...and to present the results to the IOC Assembly at its 33rd session



**Evaluation purpose: an independent evaluation to:**

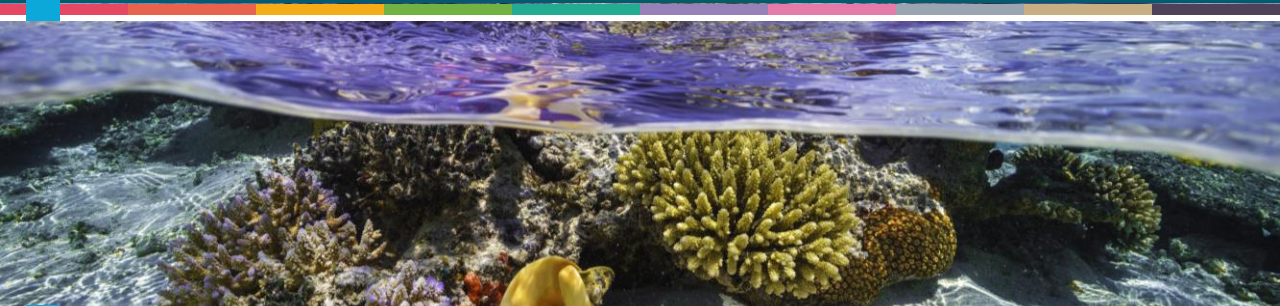
**"...review the structures, processes, partnerships, and resources that underpin the delivery of the Ocean Decade and make recommendations to optimise the impact of the Ocean Decade."**

**"...explore both causes and solutions to issues that are identified as hindering implementation and delivery of the Decade..."**

# Mid-Term Evaluation Findings & Recommendations

1. Streamline and strengthen the governance and coordination framework for the Ocean Decade to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of implementation and support progress toward its intended outcomes in the second half.
2. Strengthen UN system-wide collaboration and alignment to support the achievement of the Decade's outcomes and reinforce its identity as a collective UN initiative, enhancing its global reach and impact.
3. Put in place a comprehensive resource mobilization framework to ensure sustainable funding for the coordination of the Decade and to strengthen the enabling environment for funding and supporting Decade Actions.
4. Strengthen national and regional engagement, with a focus on LDCs, SIDS and other under-represented regions, to facilitate more equitable participation and alignment with local and regional priorities.
5. Enhance the mainstreaming of inclusivity, diversity, and equity to ensure that all voices, particularly those of marginalized and under-represented groups, are meaningfully included and benefit from the Decade.
6. Strengthen the strategic focus and impact of the UN Ocean Decade Actions to enhance alignment with global and national priorities, promote innovation, support knowledge use and ensure practical application for tangible benefits to Member States and the ecosystem.
7. Enhance the existing monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework to transform it into a monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) system.
8. Systematically leverage the Decade to shape UNESCO-IOC's post-2030 agenda and amplify the impact of its programmes.

# Update on 2025 United Nations Ocean Conference



# IOC ROLE & PRIORITIES

**Our role** at 2025 UNOC is to advance ocean science and knowledge as a basis for action to achieve SDG 14 & the 2030 Agenda in line with our mandate & strategic priorities.

**Our engagement will generate action and partnerships to create sustained impact to:**

- a. Fulfil critical knowledge priorities through the Ocean Decade as identified in The Barcelona Statement.
- b. Increase sustained investment in ocean science activities and infrastructure for observations and data.
- c. Accelerate sustainable ocean plans including support to Member States to develop and implement SOPs.
- d. Generate data, knowledge and capacity to support implementation of commitments under BBNJ and GBF
- e. Ensure collaborative action for disaster risk reduction and preparedness in the face of ocean hazards
- f. Accelerate efforts for 2030 goal for seabed mapping by unlocking existing data and generating new data.

# CONFERENCE STRUCTURE

One Ocean Science Congress  
3 – 6 June  
Nice

Blue Economy &  
Finance Forum (BEFF)  
7-8 June, Monaco

Coastal Rise  
& Resilience  
Summit  
7 June, Nice

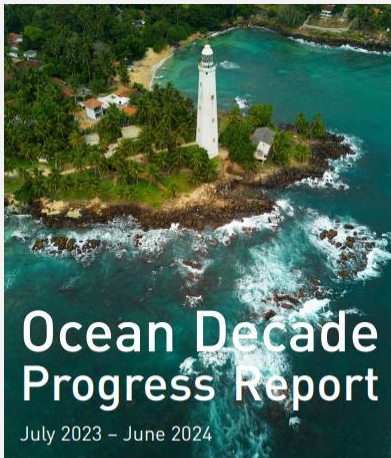
2025 United Nations Ocean  
Conference  
9 – 13 June, Nice

- Political declaration
- Ocean Action Panels
- Side events

**Pre-Conference Special  
Events**

**Formal Conference**

# Reminder of Progress Report Launch



The United Nations  
Decade of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development  
(2021–2030)



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Regiones Adyacentes

**THANK YOU  
MUCHAS GRACIAS  
MERCI BEAUCOUP**

**A.CLAUSEN@UNESCO.ORG**