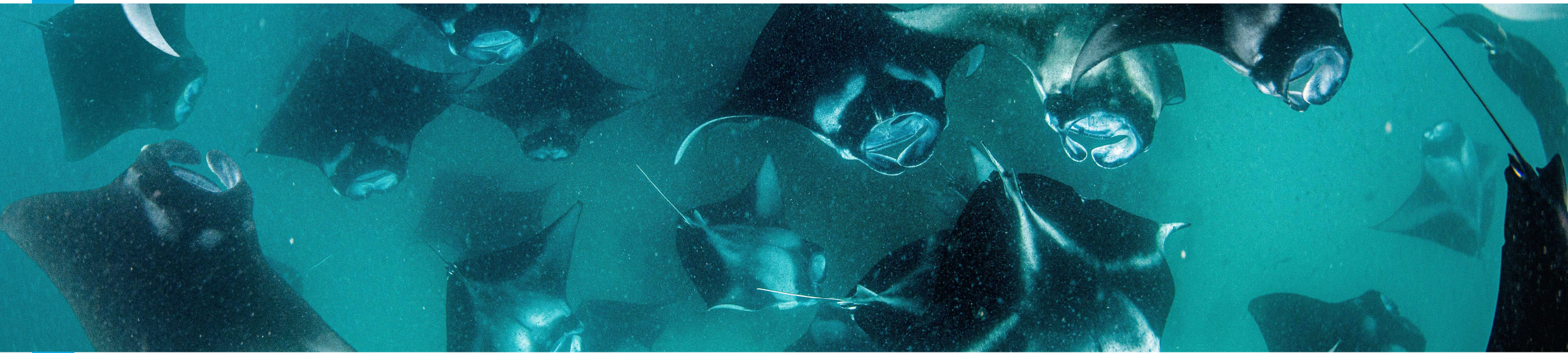


Update on UN Processes:

- United Nations Ocean Conference
- High Seas Treaty (BBNJ)



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2021 United Nations Decade
2030 of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development

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.

POLITICAL DECLARATION

- Non-legally binding declaration from Member States
- Final Draft negotiated amongst UN MS
- Key elements:

I. Overarching Commitment and Urgency:

II. Major Threats to the Ocean and Their Interlinkages:

- **Key Threats Identified:**
- Climate change (including ocean warming, slowdown of ocean circulation), Ocean acidification, Biodiversity loss, Marine pollution (including plastic pollution), Eutrophication, Deoxygenation, Unsustainable fishing practices (IUU fishing, overcapacity, overfishing), Degradation of aquatic ecosystems

POLITICAL DECLARATION

III. Conservation and Ecosystem Protection Efforts:

Key Actions and Commitments:

- **Implementation of Existing Frameworks:** Reaffirmation of implementing international law as reflected in UNCLOS (Paragraph 4), the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement (Paragraph 8), and the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF) (Paragraph 9).
- **Area-Based Conservation Targets**
- **Addressing Plastic Pollution**
- **Integrated Management and Nature-Based Solutions:**
- **Sea Level Rise**
- **Deep Sea Exploration and Protection:**

POLITICAL DECLARATION

IV. Promoting Sustainable Ocean-Based Economies:

The declaration emphasizes the potential of sustainable ocean-based economies for poverty eradication, economic growth, and social development while safeguarding the environment. It addresses key sectors like fisheries and maritime transport.

- **Key Aspects and Actions:**
- **Sustainable Management Tools:** Recognition of the role of sustainable ocean plans in achieving sustainable ocean-based economies and managing areas under national jurisdiction (Paragraph 20).
- **Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture**
- **Fisheries Subsidies**
- **Sustainable Maritime Transport**

POLITICAL DECLARATION

V. Accelerating Action Through Governance, Science, and Finance:

- **BBNJ Agreement**
- **Ocean Literacy**
- **Ocean Accounting and Mapping**
- **Regional Cooperation**
- **Science and Knowledge Base**
- **Financial Mobilization**
- **Voluntary Commitments**
- **Multilateral Governance**

VI. Inclusion and Equity

VII. Looking Forward

CONFERENCE STRUCTURE

One Ocean Science Congress
3 – 6 June
Nice

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

2025 United Nations Ocean Conference
9 – 13 June, Nice

Coastal Rise &
Resilience
Summit
7 June, Nice

Pre-Conference Special Events

Formal Conference



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10 OCEAN ACTION PANELS

	MONDAY 9 June	TUESDAY 10 June	WEDNESDAY 11 June	THURSDAY 12 June	FRIDAY 13 June
Morning	9:00 am-1:00 pm 1st Plenary meeting 9:00 – 10:00 am Opening segment -Opening of the Conference -Election of the two Presidents of the Conference -Statements by the Presidents of the Conference, UN Secretary-General, President of the General Assembly, President of ECOSOC, Conference Secretary-General and elected representatives of the host region and city -Adoption of the rules of procedure and the agenda -Election of officers other than the Presidents, the establishment of subsidiary organs, as appropriate, the appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee, arrangements for the preparation of the report of the Conference and other matters. 10:00am-1:00pm General debate 10:00am-1:00pm Ocean Action Panel 1 Conserving, sustainably managing and restoring marine and coastal ecosystems including deep-sea ecosystems	10:00am-1:00pm 3rd Plenary meeting General debate 10:00am-1:00pm Ocean Action Panel 3 Mobilizing finance for ocean actions in the support of SDG14	10:00am-1:00pm 5th Plenary meeting General debate 10:00am-1:00pm Ocean Action Panel 5 Fostering sustainable fisheries management including supporting small-scale fishers	10:00am-1:00pm 7th Plenary meeting General debate 10:00am-1:00pm Ocean Action Panel 7 Leveraging ocean, climate and biodiversity interlinkages	10:00am-1:00pm 9th Plenary meeting General debate 09:00am-12:00pm Ocean Action Panel 9 Promoting the role of sustainable food from the ocean for poverty eradication and food security
	1:00-3:00pm Lunch break	1:00-3:00pm Lunch break	1:00-3:00pm Lunch break	1:00-3:00pm Lunch break	1:00-3:00pm Lunch break
Afternoon	3:00-6:00pm 2nd Plenary meeting General debate 3:00-6:00pm Ocean Action Panel 2 Increasing ocean-related scientific cooperation, knowledge, capacity building, marine technology and education to strengthen the science-policy interface for ocean health	3:00-6:00pm 4th Plenary meeting General debate 3:00-6:00pm Ocean Action Panel 4 Preventing and significantly reducing marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities	3:00-6:00pm 6th Plenary meeting General debate 3:00-6:00pm Ocean Action Panel 6 Advancing sustainable ocean-based economies, sustainable maritime transport and coastal community resilience leaving no one behind	3:00-6:00pm 8th Plenary meeting General debate 3:00-6:00pm Ocean Action Panel 8 Promoting and supporting all forms of cooperation, especially at the regional and subregional level	1:30-4:30pm Ocean Action Panel 10 Enhancing the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law as reflected in the UNCLOS 4:00-7:00pm 10th Plenary meeting -Reporting on the discussions of the Ocean Action Panels

Co-lead in preparation
Contributing to preparation

CONFERENCE ZONES x 3 ?

General Plan

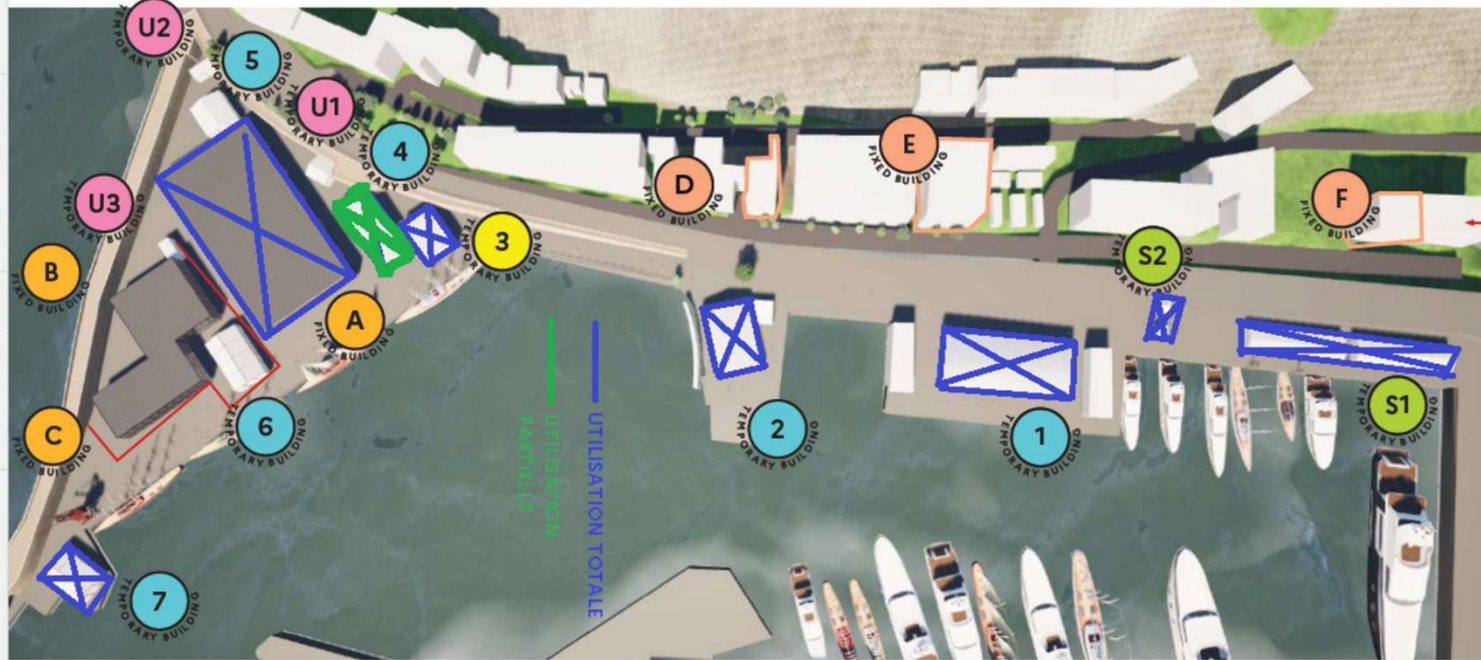
→ Main entrance
→ Restricted zone

S1 Main entrance : Security check
S2 Main entrance : Checking control

A Plenary Hall / Holding room for VIP speakers
B LO - Bilateral meeting rooms
L1 - Presidents Offices (FR/CR)
C LO - Delegates Lounge
L1 - UN Offices
D MEAE Offices
E French and National securities building
F Motorcade zone

1 Interactive Dialogue conf. Room
2 LO - Security, Business center and Side events (2 Conferences rooms of 112pax)
3 Briefing room and press center
4 LO - Security officers, Utilities
L1 - Side Events 2x168p
5 AG200
6 VVIP Lounge
7 LO - Side Events (112pax)

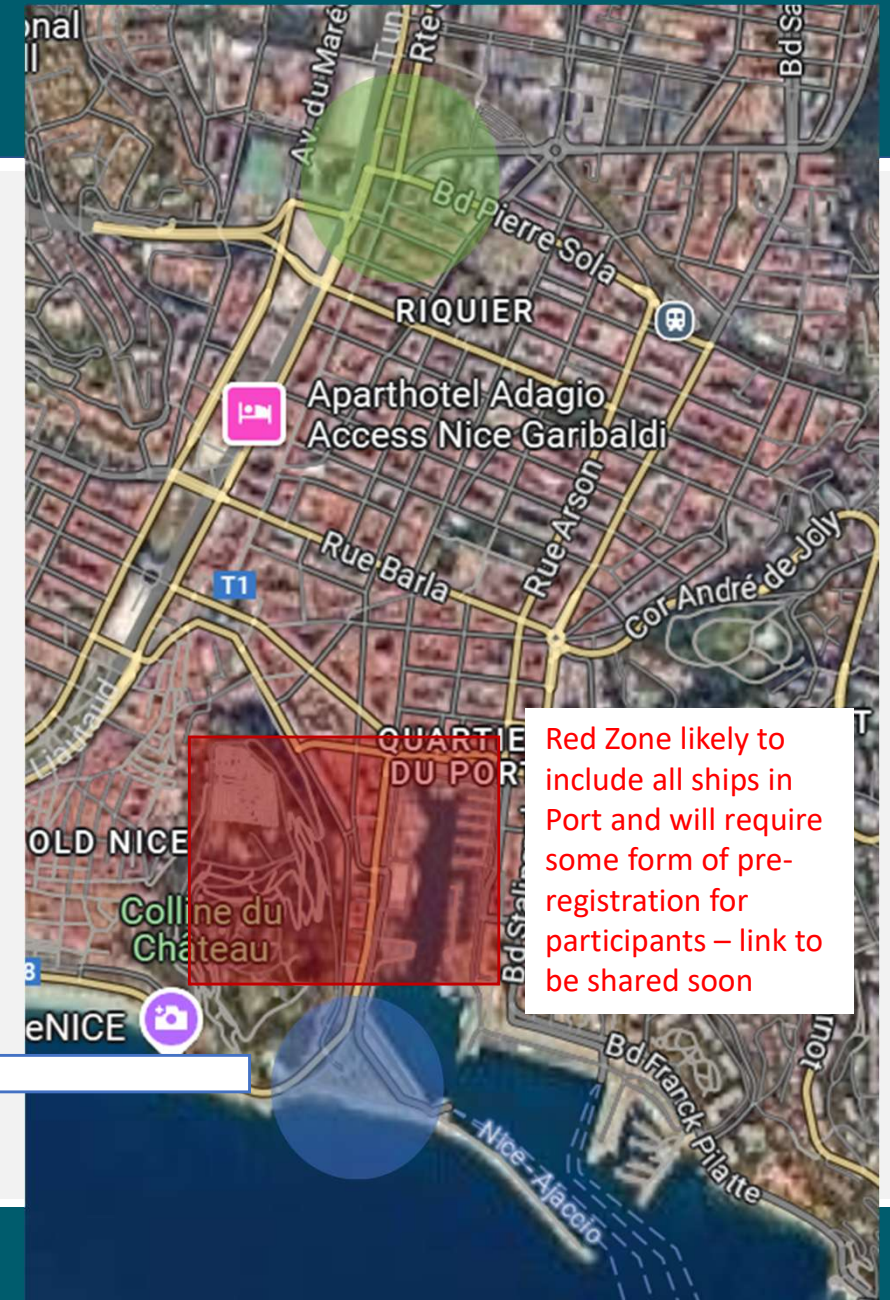
U1 Staff resting room and restauration
U2 Storage center
U3 Central kitchen



Sous-direction des événements internationaux
Pôle Logistique événementielle PRO/EVINT

Sibylle Blanchet
Scénographe

7



Red Zone likely to include all ships in Port and will require some form of pre-registration for participants – link to be shared soon

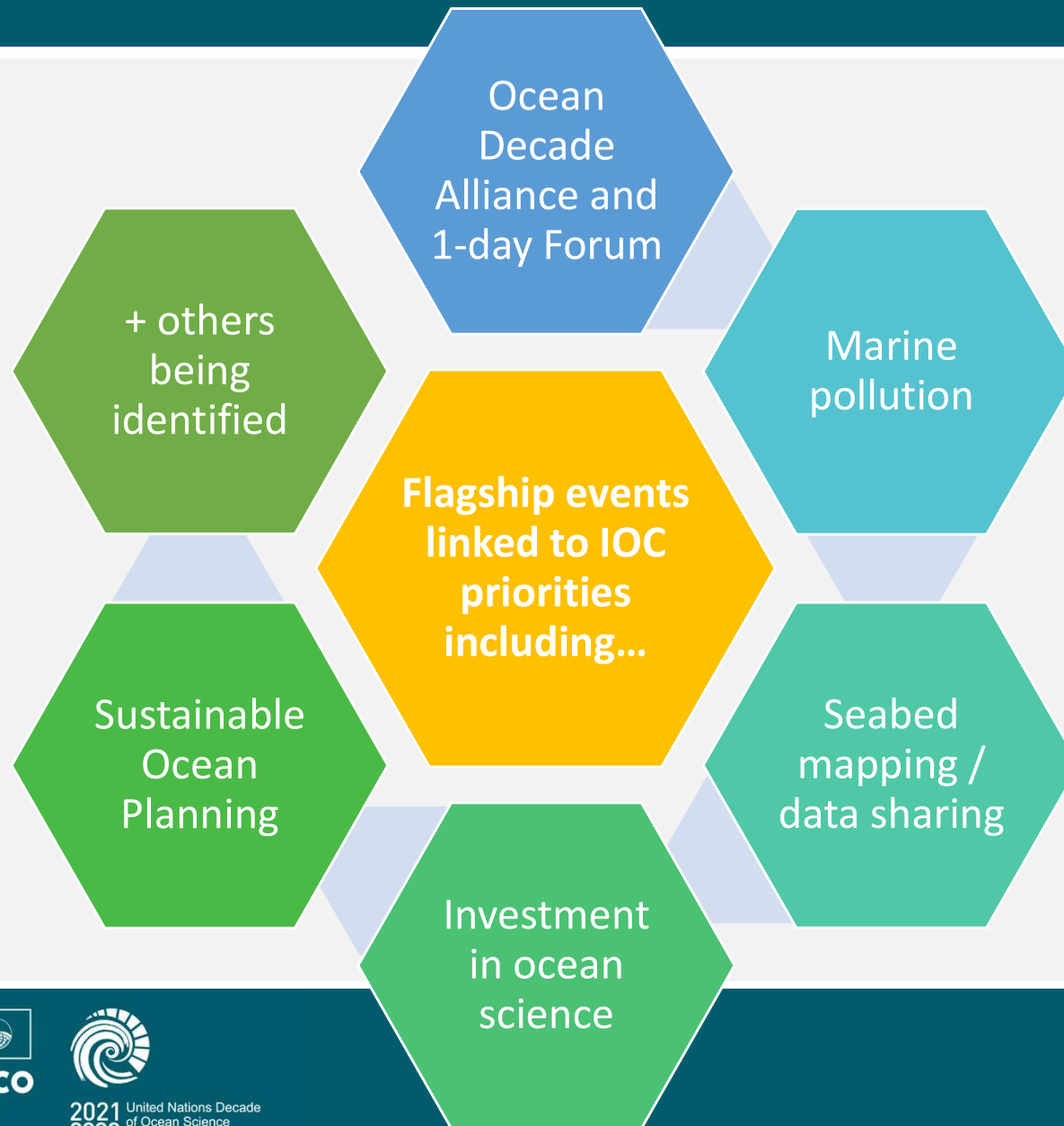


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PARALLEL / OFF-SITE EVENTS



Events are being developed as part of broader initiatives with a clear pathway for sustained impact post-UNOC.

Events to be held in Green Zone, aboard berthed ships and offsite throughout Nice.

UNESCO-IOC at the 2025 UN Ocean Conference

The IOC will join the UN conference in Nice, supporting panel papers, hosting events, and highlighting ocean science as key to global ocean action.



Next steps in relation to the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement)

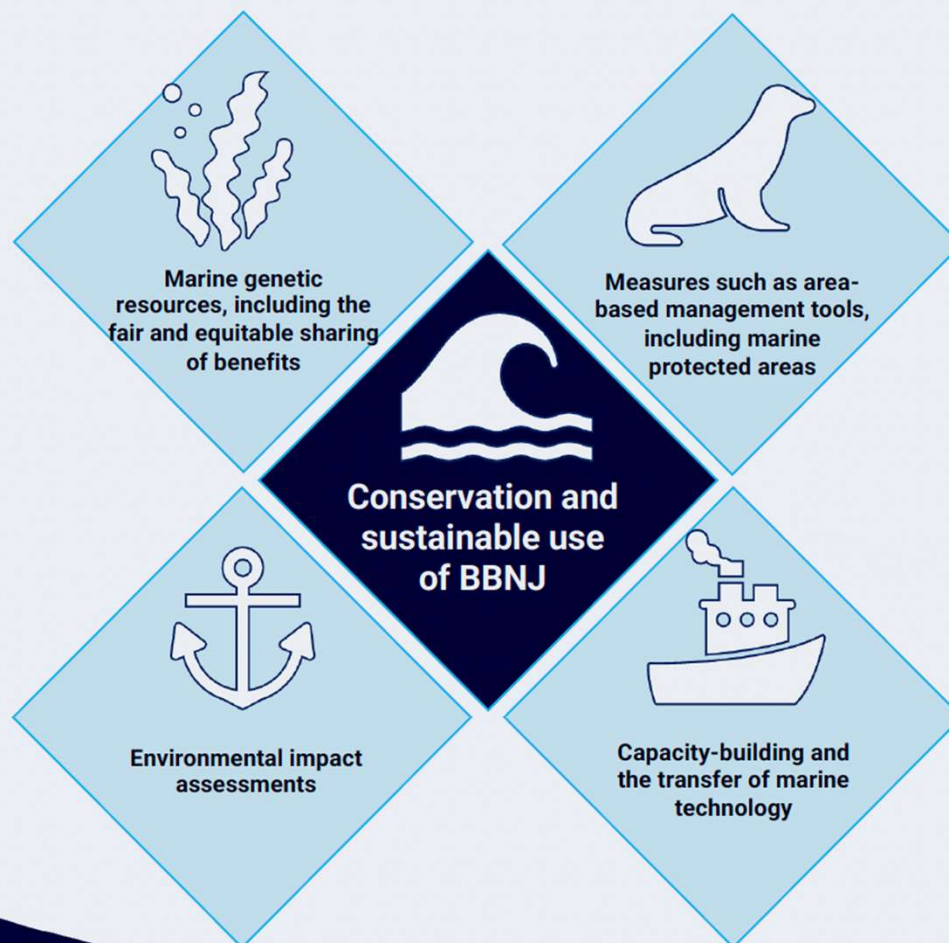


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What is in the Agreement?

- ❖ A package of issues
- ❖ Cross-cutting issues
- ❖ Grounded in science
- ❖ Some novel features

Way forward ...



Open for signature: 2 years from 20 September 2023



Entry into force: 120 days after 60 instruments of ratification, approval, acceptance or accession



First meeting of the Conference of the Parties: to be convened by the UN Secretary-General within one year after the entry into force of the Agreement

BBNJ Agreement Preparatory Commission



❖ Established by UNGA Resolution 78/272 of 24 April 2024

The Commission:

- Shall **prepare** for the **entry into force** of the BBNJ Agreement and the **convening of COP1**
- Shall **meet** at UNHQ, unless otherwise decided
- **Open** to all UN Member States, members of the specialized agencies and parties to UNCLOS
- Also open to **observers**
- Shall prepare a **final report** on all matters within its mandate for presentation to COP1
- Shall **cease** to exist at the conclusion of COP1

Clusters of issues

Governance issues

- Rules of procedure for COP*
- Terms of reference, modalities for the operation and rules of procedure for subsidiary bodies (ABS Committee, CBTMT* Committee, Finance Committee, Implementation and Compliance Committee*, STB*)
- Selection process for members of STB* and other subsidiary bodies
- Arrangements for functioning of the secretariat*
- Reporting requirements
- Arrangements to enhance cooperation with relevant IFBs

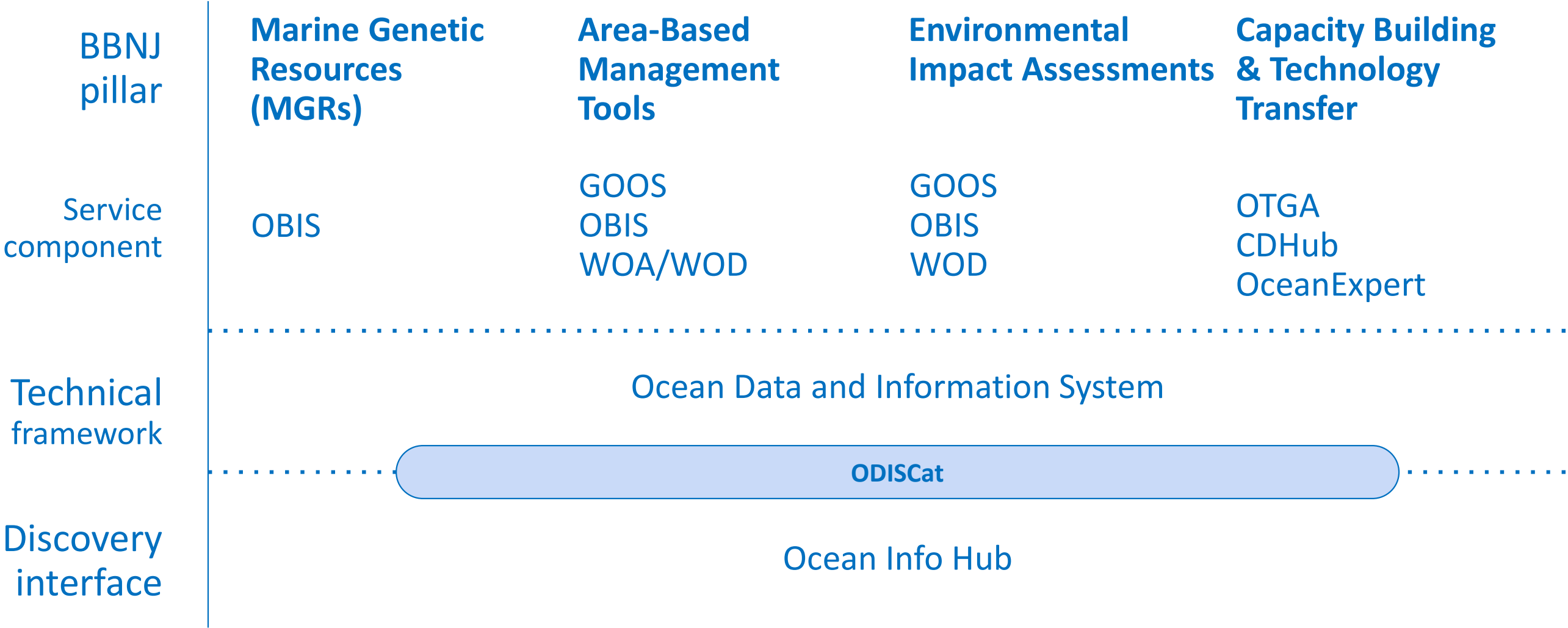
Issues pertaining to the operation of the CHM

- **Modalities for the operation of the CHM, such as:**
 - a. Type, architecture and functionalities of the platform
 - b. Process for generating the “BBNJ” standardized batch identifier
 - c. Modalities to facilitate the matching of CB needs with the support available and with providers for the TMT
 - d. Terms of cooperation with relevant IFBs

Financial rules, and financial resources and mechanism

- **Financial rules governing the funding of the COP, the secretariat and any subsidiary bodies***
- **Arrangements with GEF to give effect to provisions on funding***
- **Operationalization of provisions on financial resources and mechanism, e.g.** [subject to further consultations]:
 - a. Establishment of the voluntary trust fund
 - b. Arrangements to give effect to provisions on the special fund
 - c. Scale of assessed contributions

How operational & scalable IOC components could support the 4 pillars of the BBNJ Agreement



Supporting BBNJ Pillar 1: Marine genetic resources, including the fair and equitable sharing of benefits



Ocean Biodiversity Information System

Provides globally accessible marine biodiversity data (FAIR), supports access & benefit-sharing.

136M

species
observations

195K

marine species

36

Nodes
worldwide

27M

DNA sequences

6K

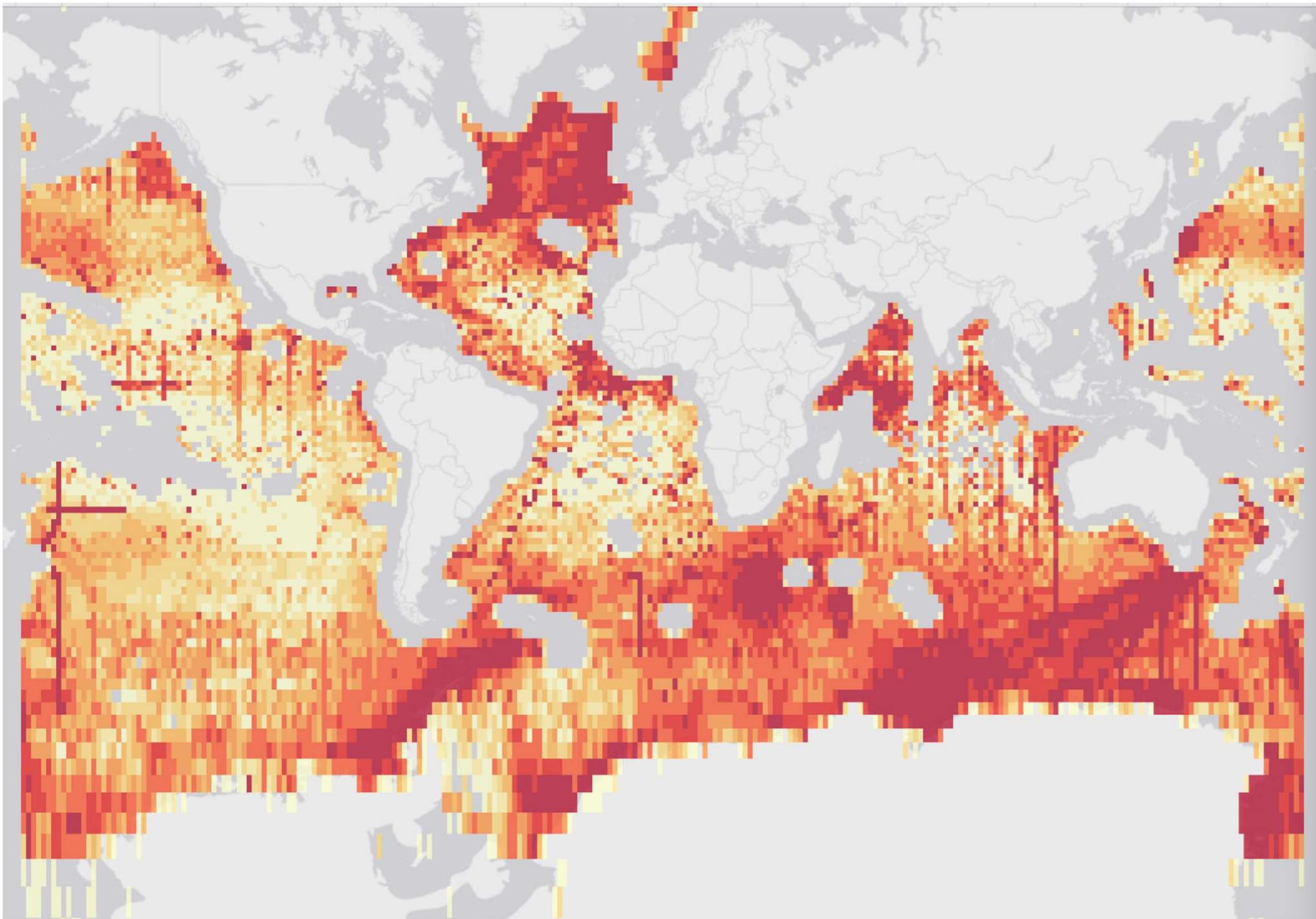
scientists &
data managers
involved

99

countries
engaged



BBNJ Relevance: Data repository supporting data transparency and equitable access to MGR information; helps fulfill obligations under access and benefit-sharing provisions (could provide SBIs, support monitoring and transparency). Support in data management plans.



In ABNJ,
OBIS has

+9.5 M observations
+28,000 species
+1,300 datasets



Supporting BBNJ Pillar 2: Area-Based Management Tools (ABMTs)



Global Ocean Observing System

Global framework for monitoring EOVs (e.g. marine mammals, turtles, seabirds) to assess ocean health and trends.

Networks, observing technology, standards and best practices.



Ocean Biodiversity Information System

Baseline biodiversity data to define, assess and monitor ABMTs. Cfr support for EBSAs. 50% of the data in OBIS is within MPAs.



BBNJ Relevance: Provides the data and science to identify, manage, and evaluate ABMTs like MPAs.

Supporting BBNJ Pillar 3: Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs)



Global Ocean Observing System

Monitors observing system supporting transparency and scientific rigor.



Ocean Biodiversity Information System

Delivers marine life baseline and trend data.



World Ocean Atlas World Ocean Database

Long-term climatologies to study ecosystem functioning, and monitor cumulative impacts.



BBNJ Relevance: Fulfills the need for scientific data, transparency, needed for operational monitoring of cumulative ocean hazards (models and forecasts for early warning systems)

Supporting BBNJ Pillar 4: Capacity Building & Technology Transfer



Biennial CD needs assessments

Maps capacity development the needs to support BBNJ topics.



OceanTeacher Global Academy

Delivers training on ocean science and BBNJ topics through 17 regional training centres worldwide.



Ocean Capacity Development Hub

Repository for CD offers



OceanExpert

Maintains expert roster, supports collaboration and managing expert networks.



BBNJ Relevance: Provides capacity to all nations to participate fully and benefit from the agreement, with direct contribution to Article 44 of BBNJ.

Ocean Info Hub/Ocean Data and Information System

- Facilitating ocean observation, monitoring & research in ABNJ
- Identifying gaps in currently accessible ABNJ data
- Facilitating use of data standards & best practices
- Facilitating data discovery, interoperability & open access
- Improving quality and access to data for MGRs, EIA and ABMT
- Making available ABNJ related reports and registries

DATA & INFORMATION
Structured around ODISCat & integrating IOC and non-IOC sources

OIH/ODIS

Clearing House Mechanism

TOOLS & SERVICES
Guidelines, tools, tailored data analyses, career and collaboration opportunities

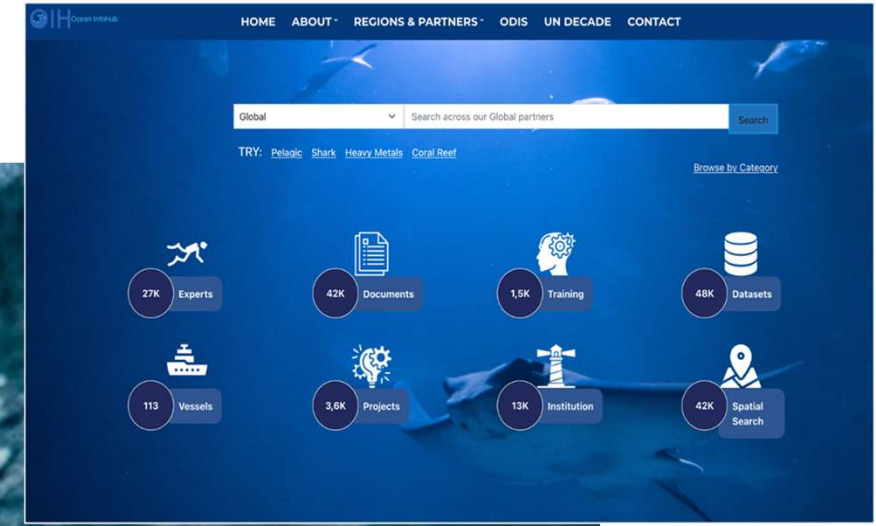
MATCHMAKING
Human brokerage matching supply and demand for CBTT, data, opportunities etc.

CBTT
Online resources and real-time offers and requests for CBTT support

- Developing CBTT activities on data, MGRs, ABMTs, EIAs & other relevant topics and make available through expanded network of OTGA & RTRCs

- Build networks of practitioners working on ABNJ
- Expand matchmaking capability to include BBNJ activities

- Supporting user generated map products for ABMT
- Developing new ways to visualise data
- Facilitating pilot projects on MSP in ABNJ & developing guidance
- Developing environmental models for EIA/SEA in ABNJ
- Developing MGR-based 'omics pilots & applications



- The Ocean InfoHub (OIH) has developed the Ocean Data and Information System which can play a central role in linking a wide range of IOC services
- Develop interoperability between existing information systems, to improve the flow of information to end users.
- Links 32 databases from large IOC programmes as well as other global, regional and local repositories.
- Includes many records from ABNJ (documents, spatial data, biodiversity data).
- FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable)
- Portals can be customized and easily built for thematic or regional purposes.
- Ocean Data 2030 builds on and expands OIH/ODIS to support Decade infrastructures, projects and programmes.
- Ongoing: Sub-project for the development of a Biodiversity Data Hub for the High Seas.

Take home messages for IOCINDIO MS

Regarding UNOC :

- Engage in UNOC and participate in IOC events !
- Highlight the importance of ocean science and knowledge as a basis for action SDG14 and emphasise the need to build on existing IOC cooperative frameworks globally and regionally
- Propose Voluntary Commitments supporting IOC and Ocean Decade priorities

Regarding BBNJ:

- Liaise with national representatives attending Preparatory Committee and raise awareness about the mandate of IOC and existing mechanism that could potentially support BBNJ implementation
- Identify regional activities to increase technical and scientific capacity re BBNJ (eg. Training, biological observations, eDNA monitoring, etc) as part of IOCINDIO workplan