



Ocean Acidification  
International  
Coordination Centre  
**OA-ICC**

# Ocean Acidification Biodiversity Task Force

22 -23 April 2026

University of Copenhagen, Marine Biology Section  
Strandpromenaden 5, Elsinore, Denmark

## Background and Expected Outcomes:

The world is living through a biodiversity crisis. The rapid pace at which the number of species have declined in recent decades has led to the assumption that a mass extinction is under way. Ocean acidification (OA) has been identified as a potential driver for biodiversity loss with consequences for marine ecosystems and the communities that rely on them for food and livelihoods. The UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) has mandated member countries to actively combat this biodiversity crisis, and many are putting action plans in place for that purpose. However, there is no consensus on indicators to quantify and qualify the consequences of OA on biodiversity and management options. In a first workshop in April 2026, the biological working group of GOA-ON, supported by IOC and the OA-ICC, invites interested scientists and stakeholders to evaluate the current knowledge on the impact of OA on biodiversity and current best practices, identify key gaps in knowledge and propose strategies and best practices, as well as support the identification of approaches appropriate to assess the impact of ocean acidification on marine biodiversity within the EEZ (CBD) and beyond (BBNJ).

*Participants are asked to study the agenda and prepare discussion points for the different agenda items. Participants are encouraged to share relevant information and literature ahead of the meeting.*

<b>Day 1: Wednesday, 22 April</b>	
9:00-9:15	Welcome and workshop objectives (workshop organizers)
9:15-9:45	OA in the Global Biodiversity Framework - OA Indicator, process, timeline, needs from scientists (Joe Appiott)
9:45-10:15	Biodiversity indicators and how they can inform policy/decisions (Dominic Pattinson, The Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative (GOBI))
10:15-10:45	Coffee break
11:00-12:00	Four 15-min presentations / case studies from workshop participants (TBD) E.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sam Dupont</li><li>• Natalija Suhareva - endpoints and recap from previous workshop</li></ul>

12:00-13:00	LUNCH
13:00-13:30	Group discussion: What do we know about OA impacts on marine biodiversity? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current (ecosystem-level) knowledge, current tools and techniques</li> <li>• Tipping points, proxies, ecosystem changes/shifts</li> </ul>
13:30-14:30	Four 15-min presentations / case studies from workshop participants (TBD)
14:30-15:00	Group discussion (continued): What do we know about OA impacts on marine biodiversity? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current (ecosystem-level) knowledge, current tools and techniques</li> <li>• Tipping points, proxies, ecosystem changes/shifts</li> </ul>
15:00-15:45	Coffee Break
15:45-16:15	Two 15-min presentations / case studies from workshop participants (TBD)
16:15-17:15	Group discussion: What are the gaps in knowledge on OA impacts on biodiversity? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New tools and techniques (eDNA...)</li> <li>• Modeling</li> </ul>
<b>Day 2: Thursday, 23 April</b>	
9:00-9:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summary of discussions from Day 1</li> <li>• Remind goals of meeting and expected outcomes (report/document to be finalized before High-CO2 Symposium)</li> </ul>
9:30-10:30	Group discussion (continued): What are the gaps in knowledge on OA impacts on biodiversity? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New tools and techniques (eDNA...)</li> <li>• Modeling</li> </ul>
10:30-10:45	Coffee break
10:45-11:15	Two 15-min presentations / case studies from workshop participants (TBD)
11:15-12:00	Group discussion: What are the constraining factors advancing knowledge and action?
12:00-13:00	LUNCH
13:00-14:00	Group discussion (continued): What are the constraining factors advancing knowledge and action?
14:00-15:00	Group discussion: Best practices, methods, capacity building
15:00-15:15	Coffee break
15:15-17:00	Next steps, timeline