

Call for Decade Actions No. 11/2026 - Project Application Information - Please read it entirely before proceeding with your application

Call for Decade Actions No. 11/2026 – Request for Endorsement for a Decade Project linked to an endorsed Decade Programme

This form should only be used to request endorsement for a **Decade Project** linked to an endorsed Decade Programme. According to the Ocean Decade Implementation Plan, a Decade Project *"is a discrete and focused undertaking. It may be regional, national or subnational and it will typically contribute to an identified Ocean Decade programme"*

Please read all the supporting documentation to the Call carefully before submitting your application:

1. [Guidance Note](#), especially Annex I for Project priorities of participating Programmes
2. [FAQ](#)
3. Ocean Decade [Implementation Plan](#) and [Summary](#)
4. Publication [Co-designing the science we need for the ocean we want](#)
5. [The Barcelona Statement](#)
6. Publication [Ambition, Action, Impact: the Ocean Decade Pathway to 2030](#)
7. [FAIR](#) and [CARE](#) principles of data sharing

We strongly encourage you to contact the relevant Decade programme to discuss your application before submission. Contact details for Decade programmes can be found in the [Guidance Note](#).

The deadline for submission of this form is **31 August 2026 23:59 UTC**.

If you wish to submit another type of Decade Action during Call for Decade Actions No 11/2026, please refer to the [Guidance Note](#) and the [Call page](#) for more information.

Important Information:

- 1) Please note that all character limits include spaces.
- 2) The Ocean Decade **is not a financing mechanism**. You will find more information on the benefits and commitments of Endorsed Decade Actions in the [Guidance Note](#) (section VI).
- 3) You can find PDF and Word versions of the form [here](#). Please note that these are for your use only, e.g. to help prepare your submission. **Only submissions sent via the online form will be accepted.**

For any questions, please contact oceansdecade@unesco.org with "Call for Decade Actions No. 11/2026" in the subject line.

Eligibility

* 1. To which Ocean Decade Programme are you applying to be a project under?

NOTE: Make sure to read Annex I of the Guidance Note to understand the priorities of your chosen programme before proceeding with your application.

* 2. Is your project already affiliated with the programme you have selected?

Yes

No

Institutional Affiliation Details

* 3. Lead Institution Name

The lead institution is the one responsible for the project and where the lead contact is affiliated to. Please enter the lead institution's name [exactly as it appears in this list](#), using the following format: "Institution Unique ID + Institution Name". If your institution is not listed, please enter the full name of the lead institution in English (if available), without using any abbreviations.

* 4. Lead Institution Type

* 5. Lead Institution Physical Address

Street Address _____

Town/City _____

Postal/Zip Code _____

* 6. Lead Institution Country

* 7. Is your institution based in a Least Developed Country, Small Island Developing State, or Africa

Please find a list of SIDS [here](#).

Please find a list of LDCs [here](#).

Yes

No

* 8. Lead Institution Website

* 9. Lead Institution Primary Contact

This is the person responsible for the proposal and who will be directly contacted in future communications throughout the review process and will be expected to sign the letter of endorsement should your application be successful.

First Name _____

Last Name _____

* 10. Lead institution primary contact gender

Male

Female

Prefer not to say

* 11. Lead Institution Primary Contact Email Address

* 12. Email contact of person completing survey

This person might not be the same as the lead institutional contact but will be someone we will include in future communications throughout the review process.

Partner Institution

*13. Does your initiative have any partners?

Yes

No

Partner Institution Details

[FOR THOSE THAT ANSWERED YES] You will now be asked to provide the names of up to 5 partner institutions. Additional details about partners can be included in the supplementary information section.

If you have fewer than 5, leave the remaining sections blank.

Partner No. 1

* 14. Institution name

Please enter the institution's name exactly as it appears [in this list](#), using the following format: "Institution Unique ID + Institution Name". If the institution is not listed, please enter its full name without using abbreviations.

* 15. Focal point contact information

First name _____

Last name _____

Email address _____

* 16. Institution country

Partner No. 2

17. Institution name

Please enter the institution's name exactly as it appears [in this list](#), using the following format: "Institution Unique ID + Institution Name". If the institution is not listed, please enter its full name without using abbreviations.

18. Focal point contact information

First name _____

Last name _____

Email address _____

19. Institution country

Partner No. 3

20. Institution name

Please enter the institution's name exactly as it appears [in this list](#), using the following format: "Institution Unique ID + Institution Name". If the institution is not listed, please enter its full name without using abbreviations.

21. Focal point contact information

First name _____

Last name _____

Email address _____

22. Institution country

Partner No. 4

23. Institution name

Please enter the institution's name exactly as it appears [in this list](#), using the following format: "Institution Unique ID + Institution Name". If the institution is not listed, please enter its full name without using abbreviations.

24. Focal point contact information

First name _____

Last name _____

Email address _____

25. Institution country

Partner No. 5

26. Institution name

Please enter the institution's name exactly as it appears [in this list](#), using the following format: "Institution Unique ID + Institution Name". If the institution is not listed, please enter its full name without using abbreviations.

27. Focal point contact information

First name _____

Last name _____

Email address _____

28. Institution country

Decade Action Description

* 29. Name of Decade Action

The public facing name used to refer to your Decade Action. Your Action name must be fewer than 50 characters.

30. Short name or acronym of Decade Action

* 31. Summary of Decade Action

This summary will be used publicly on the Ocean Decade Website should your initiative be endorsed (max. 1000 characters)

* 32. Is the project you are proposing an ongoing initiative or new?

Ongoing Initiative

New Initiative

* 33. Have you contacted the relevant endorsed Decade programme in the development of your proposal (see Annex I of Guidance Note)?

No

Yes. Please inform which one and briefly summarise the results of the discussion.

* 34. Have you contacted any relevant National Decade Committee(s) in the development of your proposal? Full list can [be found here](#).

No

Yes. Please inform which one and briefly summarise the results of the discussion.

* 35. When will your proposed Action start and end?

Please use the first of the month in which your Action will start if you do not have a specific start date in **DD/MM/YYYY** format.

Start Date __/__/____

End Date __/__/____

* 36. Please indicate the currency of the budget.

USD

EUR

* 37. Total budget estimate for the Decade Action to the nearest whole number with no punctuation.

* 38. Estimate of percentage of total budget secured.

This can include in-kind and financial resources.

* 39. Please tell us who your current funders are and from whom you are seeking or planning to seek additional financial or in-kind support.

* 40. Please select all countries in which the Decade Action will be implemented.

All Countries	Australia	Benin
Afghanistan	Austria	Bhutan
Albania	Azerbaijan	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)
Algeria	Bahamas	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Andorra	Bahrain	Botswana
Angola	Bangladesh	Brazil
Anguilla	Barbados	British Virgin Islands
Antigua and Barbuda	Belarus	Brunei Darussalam
Argentina	Belgium	Bulgaria
Armenia	Belize	

Burkina Faso	Egypt	Iraq
Burundi	El Salvador	Ireland
Cabo Verde	Equatorial Guinea	Israel
Cambodia	Eritrea	Italy
Cameroon	Estonia	Jamaica
Canada	Eswatini	Japan
Central African Republic (CAR)	Ethiopia	Jordan
Chad	Fiji	Kazakhstan
Chile	Finland	Kenya
China	France	Kiribati
Colombia	Gabon	Kuwait
Comoros	Gambia (Republic of The)	Kyrgyzstan
Congo	Georgia	Lao People's Democratic Republic
Cook Islands	Germany	Latvia
Costa Rica	Ghana	Lebanon
Cote d'Ivoire	Greece	Lesotho
Croatia	Grenada	Liberia
Cuba	Guatemala	Libya
Cyprus	Guinea	Liechtenstein
Czechia	Guinea-Bissau	Lithuania
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Guyana	Luxembourg
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Haiti	Madagascar
Denmark	Honduras	Malawi
Djibouti	Hungary	Malaysia
Dominica	Iceland	Maldives
Dominican Republic	India	Mali
Ecuador	Indonesia	Malta
	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Marshall Islands
		Mauritania

Mauritius	Poland	Suriname
Mexico	Portugal	Sweden
Micronesia (Federated States of)	Qatar	Switzerland
Monaco	Republic of Korea	Syrian Arab Republic
Mongolia	Republic of Moldova	Tajikistan
Montenegro	Romania	Thailand
Morocco	Russian Federation	Timor-Leste
Mozambique	Rwanda	Togo
Myanmar	Saint Kitts and Nevis	Tonga
Namibia	Saint Lucia	Trinidad and Tobago
Nauru	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Tunisia
Nepal	Samoa	Türkiye
Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	San Marino	Turkmenistan
New Zealand	Sao Tome and Principe	Tuvalu
Nicaragua	Saudi Arabia	Uganda
Niger	Senegal	Ukraine
Nigeria	Serbia	United Arab Emirates (UAE)
North Macedonia	Seychelles	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK)
Norway	Sierra Leone	United Republic of Tanzania
Oman	Singapore	United States of America (USA)
Pakistan	Slovakia	Uruguay
Palau	Slovenia	Uzbekistan
Palestine	Solomon Islands	
Panama	Somalia	
Papua New Guinea	South Africa	
Paraguay	South Sudan	Vanuatu
Peru	Spain	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Philippines	Sri Lanka	
	Sudan	

Viet Nam

Zambia

Yemen

Zimbabwe

* 41. Please select all ocean basins in which the Decade Action will be implemented.

North Atlantic Ocean

South Atlantic Ocean

North Pacific Ocean

South Pacific Ocean

Indian Ocean

Arctic Ocean

Southern Ocean

Mediterranean Sea

42. Regional seas (if applicable)

You can select up to 3 regional seas. The list of regional seas is based on the International Hydrographic Organization catalogue.

Regional Sea No. 01 _____

Regional Sea No. 02 _____

Regional Sea No. 03 _____

* 43. Please select which of the Decade Outcomes your Decade Action contributes to (max. 3)

Outcome 1: A clean ocean where sources of pollution are identified and reduced or removed.

Outcome 2: A healthy and resilient ocean where marine ecosystems are understood, protected, restored and managed.

Outcome 3: A productive ocean supporting sustainable food supply and a sustainable ocean economy.

Outcome 4: A predicted ocean where society understands and can respond to changing ocean conditions.

Outcome 5: A safe ocean where life and livelihoods are protected from ocean-related hazards.

Outcome 6: An accessible ocean with open and equitable access to data, information and technology and innovation.

Outcome 7: An inspiring and engaging ocean where society understands and values the ocean in relation to human wellbeing and sustainable development.

* 44. Please select which of the Decade Challenges your Decade Action contributes to (max. 3)

Challenge 1: Understand and map land and sea-based sources of pollutants and contaminants and their potential impacts on human health and ocean ecosystems, and develop solutions to remove or mitigate them.

Challenge 2: Understand the effects of multiple stressors on ocean ecosystems, and develop solutions to monitor, protect, manage and restore ecosystems and their biodiversity under changing environmental, social and climate conditions.

Challenge 3: Generate knowledge, support innovation and develop solutions to optimize the role of the ocean in sustainably nourishing the world's population under changing environmental, social and climate conditions.

Challenge 4: Generate knowledge, support innovation and multi-sectoral partnerships and develop solutions for equitable, resilient and sustainable development of the ocean economy under changing environmental, social and climate conditions.

Challenge 5: Enhance understanding of the ocean-climate nexus and generate knowledge and solutions to mitigate, adapt and build resilience to the effects of climate change across all geographies and at all scales, and to improve services including predictions for the ocean, climate and weather.

Challenge 6: Enhance multi-hazard early warning services for all geophysical, ecological, biological, weather, climate and anthropogenic related ocean and coastal hazards, and mainstream community preparedness and resilience.

Challenge 7: Ensure a sustainable and sustained ocean observing system across all ocean basins that delivers accessible, timely and actionable data and information to all users.

Challenge 8: Through multi-stakeholder collaboration, develop a comprehensive digital representation of the ocean, including a dynamic ocean map, which provides

free and open access for exploring, discovering, and visualizing past, current, and future ocean conditions in a manner relevant to diverse stakeholders.

Challenge 9: Ensure comprehensive capacity development and equitable access to data, information, knowledge and technology across all aspects of ocean science and for all stakeholders.

Challenge 10: Meaningful society-ocean connections are strengthened, driving increased motivation, capability and opportunity for people, across all sectors of society, to make decisions, act and behave in ways that ensure a healthy ocean.

* 45. In addition to SDG 14 (Life below water), which we assume is relevant to all Decade Actions, please indicate which of the other Sustainable Development Goals your Decade Action contributes to.

GOAL 1: No Poverty.

GOAL 2: Zero Hunger

GOAL 3: Good Health and Well-being

GOAL 4: Quality Education

GOAL 5: Gender Equality

GOAL 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

GOAL 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

GOAL 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

GOAL 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

GOAL 10: Reduced Inequality

GOAL 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

GOAL 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

GOAL 13: Climate Action

GOAL 15: Life on Land

GOAL 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions

GOAL 17: Partnerships to achieve the Goal

[Ocean Decade Endorsement Criteria](#)

The endorsement criteria are a set of ideals endorsed Decade Actions are held to and encouraged to progress on throughout the Decade. They aim to support the progress being made on the Decade Challenges and Outcomes.

This section is essential for the evaluation of your application, so please provide tangible actions on how your project will meet all the endorsement criteria. If a particular criterion does not align with your proposal, please explain why. There is a limit of 5000 characters per criteria.

* 46. Contributes to achieving one or more of the following Decade objectives:
Objective 1: Identify critical ocean knowledge; Objective 2: Build capacity and generate knowledge; Objective 3: Increase the use of ocean knowledge.

* 47. Accelerates the generation or use of knowledge and understanding of the ocean, with a specific focus on knowledge that will contribute to the achievement of the SDGs and complementary policy frameworks and initiatives.

* 48. Is co-designed and/or co-delivered by knowledge generators and users, and thus facilitating the uptake of science and ocean knowledge for policy, decision-making, management and/or innovation.

Please also include in your answer the role of partners and stakeholders in [co-designing/co-delivering](#) your initiative.

* 49. Ensures that all data and resulting knowledge are provided in an open access, shared, discoverable manner.

Please refer to [FAIR](#) and [CARE](#) principles of data sharing. Mention which existing databases/repositories you will be using. If you are creating one, please explain how it will work and how it will synergize with existing ones, as well as meeting the principles mentioned above.

* 50. Strengthens existing or creates new partnerships across nations and/or between diverse ocean actors, including users of ocean science.

* 51. Contributes toward Capacity Development, including, but not limited to, beneficiaries in Small Island Developing States (SIDS), Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Land Locked Developing Countries (LLDCs).

Capacity Development refers to a broad range of opportunities that enable individuals, institutions, and industries to participate in and benefit from ocean research and services essential to sustainable development and human well-being. These opportunities include access to equipment and infrastructure, as well as funding mechanisms such as grants, scholarships, and fellowships. They also extend to internships, jobs, and mentorships; research and training; conferences, workshops, and webinars; and professional networks that support community building. Capacity Development may further involve access to ocean data, information, and documentation, public communication and literacy initiatives, and opportunities such as expeditions, travel grants, and visiting scholars or lecturers.

* 52. Overcomes barriers to diversity and equity, including gender, generational and geographic diversity.

Please make sure to detail in your response the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) mechanisms adopted by your initiative.

* 53. Collaborates with and engages local and indigenous knowledge holders.

Decade Action Objectives and Outcomes

* 54. What is the high-level objective of your Decade Action? (max. 1000 characters)

* 55. What are the key outcomes of your Decade Action? (max. 2000 characters).

Please also describe any impact that your initiative will create that you expect will continue to generate benefits following the end of the Decade.

* 56. What are key discrete activities that you will carry out in the first 3 years of your Decade Action? (max. 5000 characters)

* 57. Please describe the management structure which will be used to coordinate your Decade Action (max. 2000 characters)

* 58. How does your project align with your chosen Decade Programme's priorities? (max. 3000 characters)

NOTE: Make sure to read Annex I of the Guidance Note to understand the priorities of your chosen programme to answer this question.

Capacity Development Components

This section allows the Decade to gauge how it can best support the capacity development elements, whether planned or existing, within your initiative. Capacity Development refers to opportunities such as:

- Access to equipment
- Access to infrastructure
- Awards
- Conferences/forums
- Fellowships
- Funding, grants, and scholarships
- Internships/jobs
- Mentorships
- Ocean data, information, and documentation
- Ocean literacy, public information, and communication
- Onboarding expeditions, research, and training
- Professional networks and community building
- Training/Workshops

- Travel grants
- Visiting lecturers/scholars
- Webinars

These activities aim to build skills and knowledge among individuals or groups, lowering barriers to equitable access and directly addressing Decade Challenge 9: Skills, knowledge, technology and participation for all. They are not intended for profit generation.

* 59. Does your initiative provide or offer Capacity Development activities?

Yes

No

Capacity Development Components

This section invites you to express your interest in featuring your initiative on Ocean Connector, a platform dedicated to capacity development. Your expression of interest will only be confirmed if your initiative is endorsed as a Decade Action.

Ocean Connector is a digital platform that provides a space to advertise open opportunities with application or registration deadlines, where individuals can apply directly through a URL listed on the platform. If no opportunities are currently open but are expected in the future, you may still indicate “yes” in your response. The Decade Coordination Unit will then contact you and provide access to the platform so you can submit the opportunity once it is ready to be advertised. After an opportunity is uploaded, the Decade Communication Team will support its promotion through the Ocean Decade networks. For more details, [please visit here](#).

* 60. If your Decade Action proposal is endorsed, would you like to feature capacity development opportunities or elements of a capacity development initiative on Ocean Connector?

If you indicate “Yes,” the Ocean Decade Secretariat will follow up and guide you through the process after the endorsement occurs. Uploading your opportunities to the platform provides benefits such as increased visibility and wider promotion of your activities.

Yes

No

Supplementary Information

61. Please provide any supplementary information you would like reviewers to take into account as they review your Decade Action (max. 5000 characters).