2021 2030 United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development

Global Ocean Corps and Conveyor

Decade Programme

Lead Institution

University of Michigan

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KEY PARTNERS

- University of Michigan
- University of Ghana
- University of the West Indies
- University of Rhode Island, Graduate School of Oceanography
- Universiti Sains Malaysia

DECADE CHALLENGES ADDRESSED

CHALLENGE 1: Understand and beat marine pollution

CHALLENGE 2: Protect and restore ecosystems and biodiversity

CHALLENGE 3: Sustainably feed the global population

CHALLENGE 4: Develop a sustainable and equitable ocean economy

CHALLENGE 5: Unlock ocean-based solutions to climate change

CHALLENGE 6: Increase community resilience to ocean hazards

CHALLENGE 7: Expand the Global Ocean Observing System

CHALLENGE 8: Create a digital representation of the Ocean

CHALLENGE 9: Skills, knowledge and technology for all

CHALLENGE 10: Change humanity's relationship with the ocean

OCEAN BASINS

North Atlantic
South Atlantic
North Pacific
South Pacific
Indian
Arctic

Summary

Motivated by the example of the US Peace Corps, we propose "Global Ocean Corps and Conveyor" as a unifying concept for sustaining long-term education and research collaborations between scientists from under-resourced nations and higher-resourced nations. Based upon our experience in the Peace Corps and with the Coastal Ocean Environment Summer School in Ghana (https://coessing.org), we are confident that an Ocean Corps would inspire large numbers of scientists, especially early-career scientists, into its ranks, thus "internationalizing" their outlook, molding many of them into champions for international capacity development for the remainder of their careers, and fostering true ocean science collaborations worldwide.

Duration: 01/01/2021 - 31/12/2030

Priority Activities (first 2 years)

Our key priorities are to excite large numbers of scientists, in particular early-career scientists, to engage with international capacity development efforts as a routine part of their professional activities; and to provide a framework for these newly entrained scientists to enter into new international ocean science collaborations with host country partners. In the first two years, we will focus on three activities:

1. Setting up short-term schools that foster network creation and lay the groundwork for future collaborations;
2. Creating extended-stay opportunities, where more in-depth training can take place with smaller numbers of students and scientists;
3. Hosting online cloud computing workshops, which enable scientists without access to supercomputing platforms to work on large sets of observational data and model output.

"As a two-time participant of the Oceanography Summer School, I make bold to say that I have returned home on both occasions, more informed and adequately equipped than when I went."
Ogunsola Oluwadarasimi, Geology Graduate, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria

"People of color need to be represented in the scientific community and global issues require people all around the world to work together. The most important takeaway I learned from this program is that it is possible."
Nefertiti Smith, Undergraduate in Marine and Environmental Science, Hampton University, USA

None of the Ocean Decade challenges can be properly addressed without global collaborative action. The Global Ocean Corps and Conveyor was created to enable this needed collaborative action by sustaining long-term education and research relationships between scientists from across the globe. Join us!

https://globaloceancorps.org/