



**2021** United Nations Decade  
**2030** of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development

## CATCHING THE WAVES IN THE OCEAN DECADE

*Career & networking event – for students and alumni of  
Marine, freshwater & tropical master programmes*

*Officially endorsed as Ocean Decade action*

**Date:** Saturday 9 September 2023

**Time:** 11:30 - 18:30

**Venue:** InnovOcean Campus - Jacobsensstraat 1, 8400 Ostend

[OceanExpert - A Directory of Marine and Freshwater Professionals](#)

---

### **11:30 – 12:00:**

Registration

### **12:00 – 13:00:**

Walking lunch

### **12:45 - 13:00:**

Online welcome

### **13:00 - 13:30:**

Welcome and introduction by representatives of the programmes:

- Introduction about VLIZ
- The importance of our MSc programmes
- The importance of alumni networks
- The importance of transferable skills
- Opportunities for ECOPs in the Ocean Decade

### **13:30 – 14:10:**

Talk by dr. Ronny Merken, coordinator of STEM center of expertise for Brussels - Universitaire Associatie Brussel. Session about 'Transferable Skills' (definition, competences and skills, lifelong learning, interactive exercises)

### **14:10- 14:40:**

Talk by dr. Luana Da Costa Monteiro – coordinator of IMBRSEA – Universiteit Gent. Session about job application skills:

- CV & Motivation Letter
- Social media
- Adapting your application to the target audience

### **14:40- 15:00:**

Coffee break



**15:00 – 15:50 :**

Short talks by alumni (from academia/research, government, policy, private)

Focus on: career path and experience, tips and tricks, (transferable) skills, job hunting

**15:50 – 17:00:**

Networking workshop '*Learning from each other*':

Students and alumni network and go into specific questions in break out rooms

**17:00 – 17:15**

Wrap up

**17:15 – 18:30:**

Closing reception