



Intersessional Financial Advisory Group 2024-2025

5 November 2024

Vidar HELGESEN, IOC Executive Secretary



unesco

Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission



2021 United Nations Decade
2030 of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development

IOC Resolution EC-57/2

2026-2027 Programming & Budgeting

External assessment of IOC's governance & management processes

IOC and the Future of the Ocean Member States' consultation process:

with first focus on the overall review of activities relevant to the role of IOC, including identifying gaps and needs in IOC programmes

drawing on the Action Plan in response to the IOS Evaluation of the IOC strategic positioning and the IOC Medium-Term Strategy 2022-2029

Keeping Member States appraised of and involved with all relevant developments during the intersessional period



unesco

Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission



2021 United Nations Decade
2030 of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development

2026-2027 Programming & Budgeting

UNESCO Executive Board 220: Preliminary Proposals by the UNESCO Director-General – 220 EX/17

UNESCO Strategic Objective 2: Reconciling Humanity with Nature

UNESCO Outcome 2: “A world where biodiversity, water and the ocean are valued and sustainably managed, in order to face the challenges posed by climate change and contribute to climate action”

IOC Output 1 - Resolution IOC/EC-57/2:

Member States critically supported in strengthening their capacity to conduct marine scientific research, generate knowledge, and develop and implement science-based tools, services, and policies in order to reverse the decline in ocean health and accelerate the transition towards sustainable management of ocean-related risks and opportunities

2026-2027 Programming & Budgeting

Implement priority action areas identified by the IOC Assembly

- ✓ Upscaling the Global Ocean Observing System (**GOOS**) infrastructure to address needs of national and UN processes
- ✓ Expanding the Ocean Data & Information System (**ODIS**) to achieve a truly global coverage
- ✓ Shape a **Marine biodiversity strategy** to better support the Global Biodiversity Framework and BBNJ
- ✓ Advance the **Tsunami Programme** ambition to get 100% of communities at risk to be Tsunami Ready
- ✓ Support **Sustainable Ocean Planning** through strengthened regional delivery mechanisms
- ✓ Support Member State **capacity** to benefit from programmes – with particular focus on **Africa & SIDS**

In order to accelerate delivery of knowledge and services in

- ✓ Climate change and coastal resilience: support mitigation and adaptation
- ✓ Marine biodiversity: support ocean planning within and beyond national jurisdiction
- ✓ Marine pollution: improved infrastructure for marine pollution monitoring as basis for action



unesco

Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission



2021
2030 United Nations Decade
of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development

2026-2027 Programming & Budgeting

Working with Member State institutions

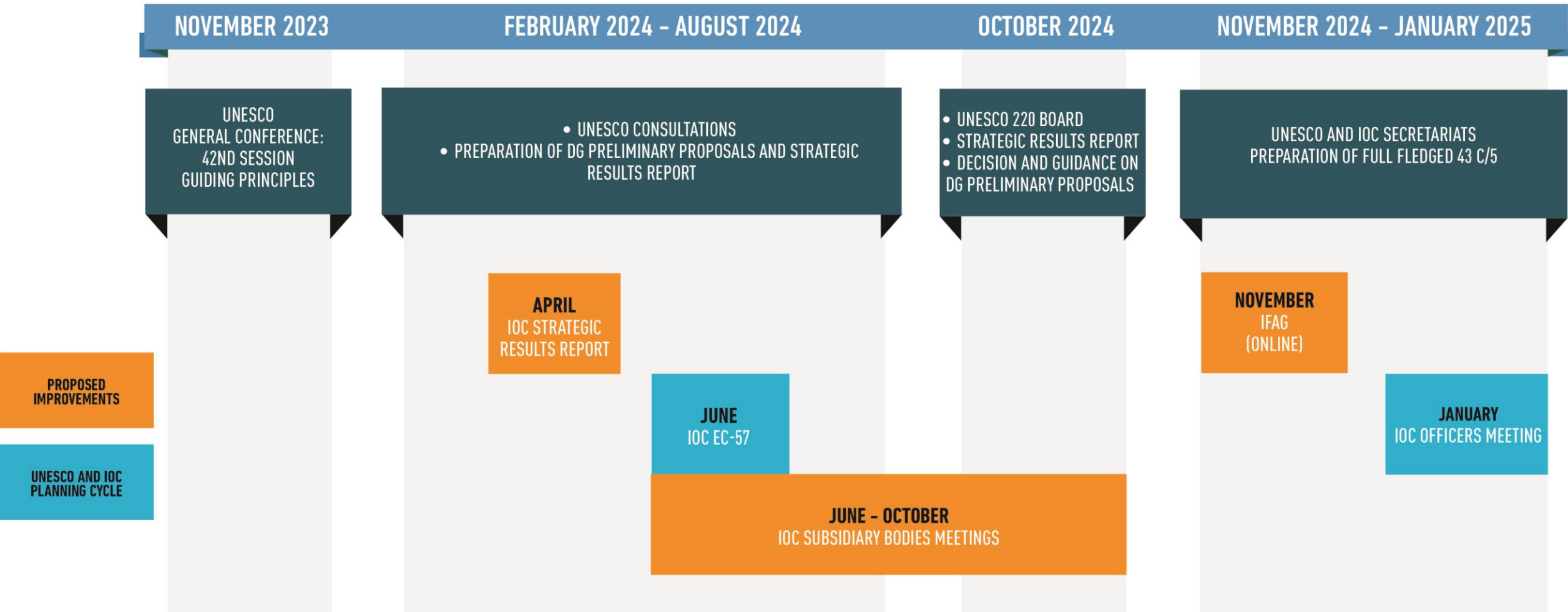
Working with UN: examples

Ocean & climate observations
Early warning of harmful algae and sargassum
Tsunami warning
Global seabed mapping
GEF International Waters
Marine biodiversity

WMO, UNEP, ISC, UNFCCC
FAO, IMO
UNDRR, UNESCO (SC/DRR)
IHO
UNDP, UNEP, FAO
CBD, UNESCO (MAB)

Ocean Decade leverages innovative partnership opportunities: private sector, philanthropy, civil society

2026-2027 Programming & Budgeting + Proposed Improvements

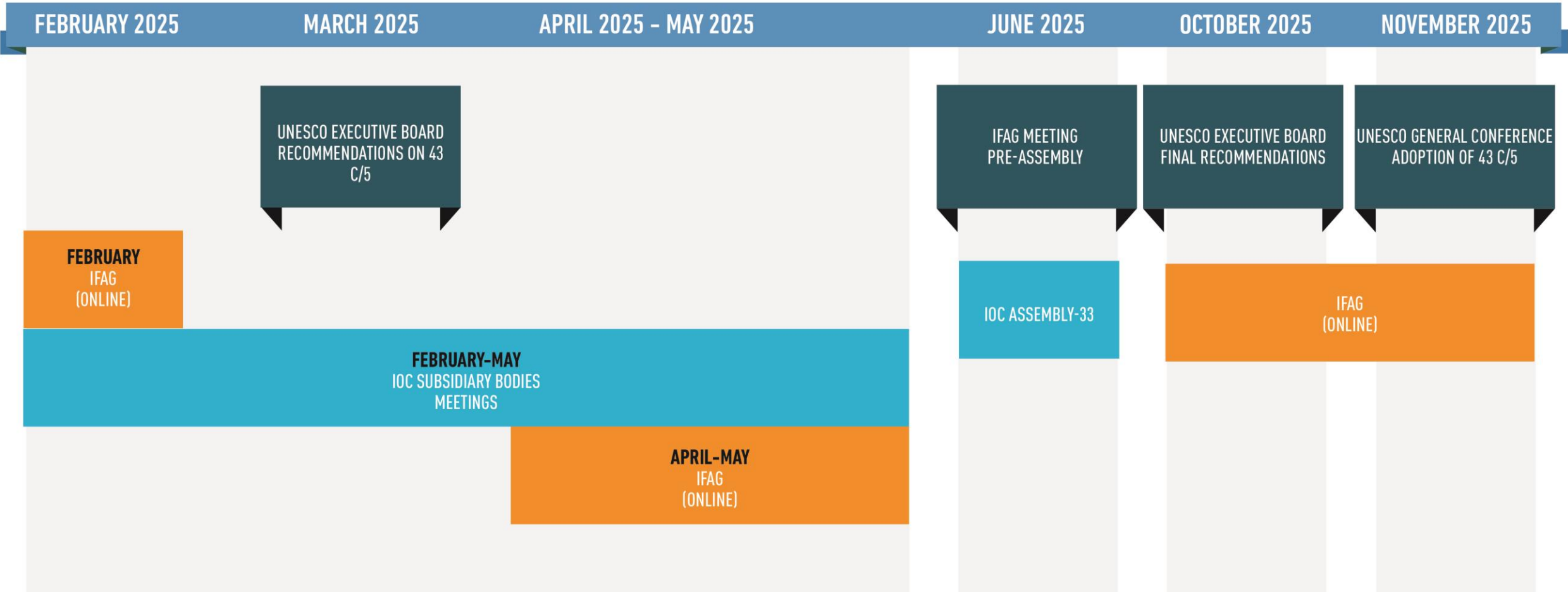


unesco
Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission



2021
2030 United Nations Decade
of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development

2026-2027 Programming & Budgeting + Proposed Improvements



unesco
Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission



2021
2030 United Nations Decade
of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development

Medium-term Strategy Implementation

Challenge:

Medium-term strategy: no decision on reporting or mid-term evaluation

C/5 framework does not align well with the High-Level Objectives of the Strategy

Seeking better alignment:

IOC Secretariat will report on Strategy implementation to 2025 Assembly

A Secretariat Implementation Plan will facilitate strategy implementation and reporting



unesco

Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission



2021
2030 United Nations Decade
of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development

Process synergy between Secretariat Implementation Plan and Consultation Process 'IOC & the Future of the Ocean'

In developing the *Secretariat Implementation Plan* we will take stock of progress in meeting the high-level objectives and implementing the strategic actions. In this process we will identify gaps as well as emerging challenges and needs.

The *consultation process* will “first focus on the **overall review of activities** relevant to the role of IOC in assisting Member States and other stakeholders, including **identifying gaps and needs in IOC programmes** to optimally facilitate current and emerging activities in **science-based sustainable ocean planning**, ocean science support to **implementation of relevant UN conventions and frameworks**, and **development of a sustainable ocean economy**”

Key Elements of Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference:

- Assess status of implementation of IOC programmes relative to MTS
- Consult with Member States and other partners to determine the most pressing existing needs for ocean science and sustainable development and identify emerging issues that will influence future needs
- Identify gaps in current IOC programmes to meet existing and future needs (sustainable ocean management, UN policy frameworks and a sustainable ocean economy)
- Integration and feedback loops with parallel processes – Ocean Decade MTE and governance and management assessment

IOC and Future of the Ocean Phase 1 Report (Output 1):

Analysis of results of consultation re. IOC role to meet existing and future MS needs including gaps and needs in IOC Programmes

Secretariat Implementation Plan (Output 2):

Operational and management plan to increase coordination and impact of IOC programmes, and provide monitoring framework for reporting to governing bodies of progress against MTS



unesco
Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission



2021
2030 United Nations Decade
of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development

Update on Progress & Future Milestones

Mapping of Phase 1 activities with Ocean Decade MTE process and development of Secretariat Implementation Plan (COMPLETED)

Development of Terms of Reference for consultant (merged with consultancy for Secretariat Implementation Plan) (COMPLETED)

Evaluation of offers and selection of consultant to start work (UNDERWAY)

November 2024: Inception Report developed with consultant including detailed timeline of consultation methods

December – March 2025: Consultations with MS and other partners including through RSB-led workshops

January 2025: Initial results presented at IOC Officers meeting

April: Draft analysis for discussion at April/May IFAG meeting

June: Presentation to IOC Assembly



Progress to date: External Assessment of Governance & Management

Scope of work underway:

1. Governance Structure and Processes:

- Assess the decision-making processes, including the efficiency and transparency of communication and reporting mechanisms
- Review the alignment of governance practices with international best practices and standards

2. Management and Operational Processes:

- Analyze the efficiency of the current management structure, including the roles and responsibilities of the Secretariat and senior management team.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of operational processes, including project planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.
- Assess the adequacy and utilization of resources, including human, financial, and technological resources

Progress to date: External Assessment of Governance & Management

3. Stakeholder Engagement and Collaboration:

- Assess the effectiveness of stakeholder engagement mechanisms, including interactions with Member States, partners, and other stakeholders
- Evaluate the extent and quality of collaboration with other international organizations, regional bodies, and scientific communities
- Identify opportunities for enhancing partnerships and collaborative efforts

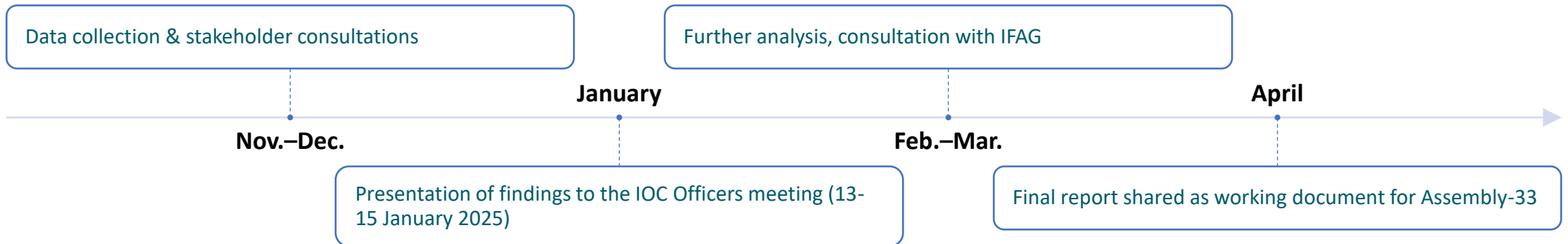
4. Resource Optimization and Sustainability:

- Analyze the current resource allocation and utilization practices, identifying areas for cost savings and efficiency improvements
- Evaluate the sustainability of funding models and resource mobilization strategies
- Provide recommendations for optimizing resource use to support the long-term sustainability of IOC's programs and initiatives



Progress to date: External Assessment of Governance & Management

Timeline:





THANK YOU



unesco

Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission



2021 United Nations Decade
2030 of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development