



UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development

Call for Decade Actions No. 08/2024

Opening Date: 15 October 2024

Guidance Note for Applicants

I. Introduction to the Call for Decade Actions No. 08/2024

The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed the [United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development \(2021-2030\)](#) ('the Ocean Decade') to stimulate ocean science and knowledge generation and thus reverse declines in the state of the ocean system while catalysing new opportunities for sustainable ocean management. The vision of the Ocean Decade is '*the science we need for the ocean we want*'. The Ocean Decade provides a convening framework for scientists and stakeholders from diverse sectors to develop the scientific knowledge and the partnerships needed to accelerate and harness advances in ocean science to achieve a better understanding of the ocean system, and to deliver science-based solutions to achieve the 2030 Agenda.

To date, [56 endorsed Decade programmes](#) and over [440 endorsed Decade projects](#) are being implemented around the world. Over [90 contributions of in-kind and financial resources](#) are supporting the vital work that is being carried out by partners to contribute to the fulfilment of the [Ocean Decade Challenges](#). Based on the needs identified in the [10 White Paper in the Vision 2030 process](#), the Ocean Decade sets a new direction for action for the next five years.

The current Call for Decade Actions focuses on addressing some of the top priority needs from the Vision 2030 process, galvanising new contributions and new projects to support and strengthen existing Decade Actions and coordination structures.

Via this Call for Decade Actions, partners are invited to request endorsement under the Ocean Decade for transformative Decade Actions that contribute to the Ocean Decade vision. This Call for Decade Actions will have four different parts:

- **Part I – Ocean Decade Programmes:** At the programmatic level the current Call for Decade Actions No. 08/2024 has a primary focus on programmes that contribute to the priorities of the Vision 2030 process with a specific focus on **Challenge 6 'Increase community resilience to ocean and coastal risks', Challenge 10 'Restore society's relationship with the ocean' and programmes that address any of the Ocean Decade Challenges with a focus on the relationship between ocean and human health**. This includes regional programmes with a focus on one or more of these Challenges. Programmes that contribute primarily to other Ocean Decade Challenges can complete an Expression of Interest form to allow guidance to be provided on their suitability for the current Call for Decade Actions (see Part II).
- **Part II - Expression of Interest for Decade Programmes:** that aim to address any of the other Decade Challenges not addressed in Part I and that can demonstrate the

urgency of the Action to address the priorities outlined in The Barcelona Statement and the broader Vision 2030 process.

- **Part III – Ocean Decade Projects:** At the project level the Call is soliciting initiatives that respond to forming part of one of the **29 endorsed Decade Programmes** participating in the Call for Decade Actions (See [Annex I](#) for more information)
- **Part IV - Ocean Decade Contributions:** we will be accepting submissions of financial or in-kind resources to support:
 - (i) priority needs of the endorsed Decade Programmes participating in this Call (see [Annex II](#) of this Guidance Note).
 - (ii) priority needs for Decade Implementing Partners to support a Community of Practice for Challenge 3 – Sustainable Blue Foods (see [Annex III](#) of this Guidance Note).
 - (iii) capacity development initiatives to contribute to specific needs to the Ocean Decade Capacity Development Facility (see [Annex IV](#) of this Guidance Note);

IMPORTANT: Each part of the Call has different deadlines and different timelines for decision making. Further information on timing is provided in Section II of the Guidance Note.

This Guidance Note provides important background information on the Ocean Decade, additional details on the scope of the Decade Actions eligible for submission under this Call, as well as information on the endorsement process. It forms part of a suite of documents that are relevant to the Call. Interested parties are strongly encouraged to read all sections of the Note and refer to the [Ocean Decade Implementation Plan](#) (including the accompanying [Summary Report](#)) as well as the [Ocean Decade website](#) for further information including a series of [Frequently Asked Questions](#) that will be updated throughout the process. General inquiries on the Ocean Decade or the endorsement process can be sent to oceandecade@unesco.org.

Important Information for Applicants

1. Interested parties should complete and submit the relevant online “[Request for Endorsement](#)”. Please note that there are several different online forms and different deadlines depending on the type of Action you are submitting. Please ensure that you complete the online form that corresponds to the type of Decade Action for which you are seeking endorsement and that you carefully check the relevant submission dates:
 - **Part 1 - 10 November 2024 23.59h UTC:** Submission of Expression of Interest for Decade Programmes.
 - **Part 2 - 31 January 2025 23:59h UTC:** Submission of full applications for all Decade Programmes and Projects
 - **Part 3 - 31 January 2025 23:59h UTC:** Submission of Ocean Decade Contributions.
2. Please note that **you will need to register on the Ocean Decade Network before you can submit your initiative**. Registration is via this link forum.oceandecade.org. Please note depending on the volume of requests, activation of your registration can take up to 72 hours and we strongly

encourage applicants to register well in advance of submitting their request for endorsement.

3. During the preparation of submissions, we strongly encourage interested parties to consult and, where possible, collaborate with other institutions and partners working on common issues. The [Ocean Decade Network](#) provides a platform to identify potential partners and collaboration opportunities. Further information on mechanisms to create partnerships is provided in the FAQ document accompanying this call.
4. Two virtual Q&A sessions are planned to provide interested parties with additional information on the Call for Decade Actions n° 07/2024:
 - The **first session** will be held on **29 November 2024** from [07:30 – 08:30 UTC](#)
 - The **second session** will also be held on **29 November 2024** from [13:30 – 14:30 UTC](#)

Details will be posted on www.oceandecade.org and on the Ocean Decade social media channels.

N.B. Initiatives proposed by United Nations entities are subject to a separate process that involves registration of their Decade Actions. Registrations can be made at any time via [this link](#) or by contacting oceandecade@unesco.org

II. Types of Decade Actions Solicited under the Call for Decade Actions No. 08/2024

The current Call for Decade Actions is soliciting Decade Actions in four different parts. Figure 1 below provides a diagram summarizing the main of the components of the Call, including the main deadlines.

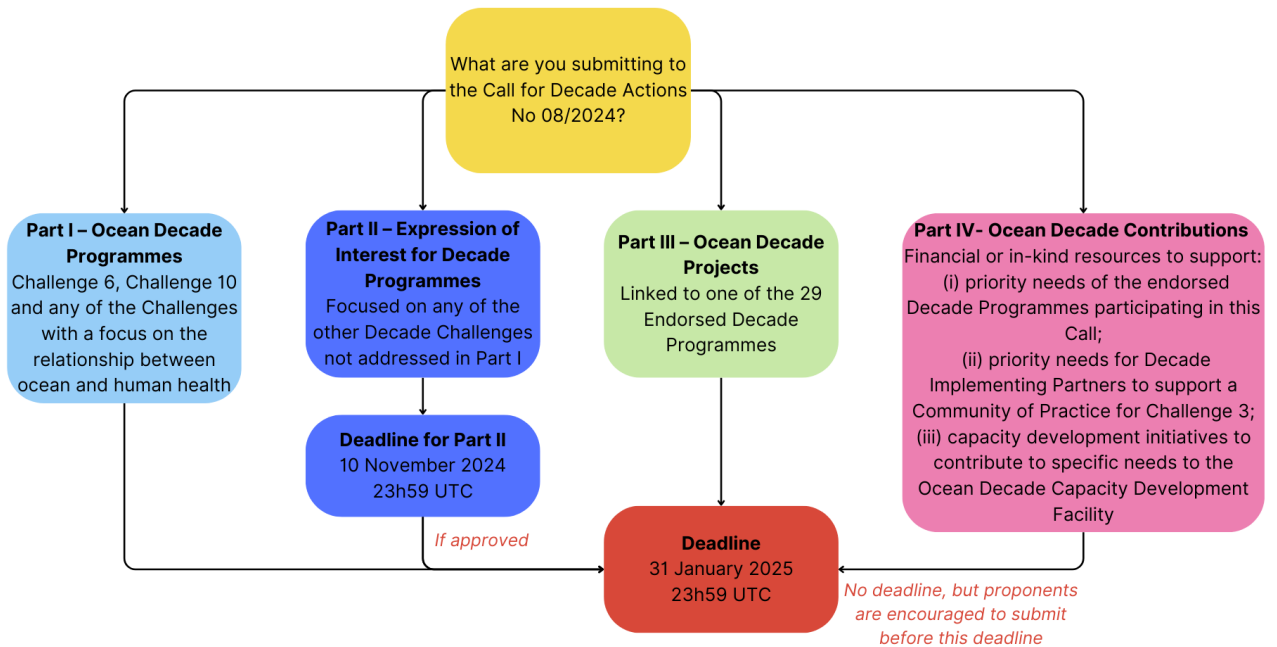


Figure 1: Components of Call for Decade Actions No. 08/2024 and Relevant Deadlines

A) Decade Programmes

Decade Programmes are large-scale initiatives implemented at the global or regional scale. Programmes will be long-term, multi-year, interdisciplinary and multi-national. Programmes will be made up of component projects, which may or may not be fully or partially defined at the time of endorsement. The following criteria, although not exhaustive, will be used during the evaluation process as guidance to determine whether an initiative can be defined as a Decade programme:

1. **Scale:** global, or for regional programs covering at least one full ocean basin
2. **Duration:** at least 4 years
3. **Disciplines:** evidence of multi-disciplinary approach and team
4. **Partners:** international group of partners
5. **Funding:** funding at least partially identified.
6. **Lead partner:** international scope and experience that matches ambition of program
7. **Capacity development:** includes element of capacity development
8. **Scope for growth:** demonstrates an ability to grow and expand over time and incorporate new partners or geographies including via the solicitation of Decade projects via future Calls for Decade Actions

9. **'Business as usual' reality check:** If this is an existing initiative, does the submission focus on new, transformative and innovative aspects and propose and evolution of the existing initiative?

There is no geographical limitation for Decade programmes submitted to the Call. However, all applicants will be required to demonstrate how they meaningfully involve partners from Africa or in [Small Island Developing States](#), [Least Developed Countries including Land-Locked Developing Countries](#).

The thematic focus of the Call for Decade Actions No. 08/2024 has been determined based on the results of the Vision 2030 process and subsequent discussion with the Decade Advisory Board. The scope of the Call is on programmes that contribute to the achievement of one or more of the following Ocean Decade Challenges:

- **Challenge 6 'Increase community resilience to ocean and coastal risks'**. 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. As part of this Challenge, Programmes with a focus on developing 'people-centred' multi-hazard early warning systems and designing adaptation planning strategies to enhance coastal resilience are particularly encouraged. This could include Programmes that undertake the following activities: (i) gathering and generating observational and modelling datasets relevant to risk assessment, including downscaled climate scenarios for coastal regions, within robust data-sharing frameworks; (ii) promoting interdisciplinary and international research and innovation to tackle challenges comprehensively, with a focus on methodologies like Digital Twin approaches; (iii) improving standards for risk communication at both national and international levels; (iv) fostering partnerships at various scales involving local communities, public and private disaster risk reduction entities, governmental bodies, and academic institutions; (v) building capacity in research and communication to cultivate a shared understanding of coastal resilience strategies; (vi) enhancing resilient infrastructure and promoting sustainable resource management along coastlines; (vii) supporting adaptive governance and management systems and decision support tools for the assessment of vulnerability and risk to coastal communities and marine industries from ocean and coastal hazards, including climate change.

- **Challenge 10 'Restore society's relationship with the ocean'**. 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. As part of this Challenge, Programmes focusing on transdisciplinary social science research on society-ocean connections, behavioural change, metrics and approaches for measuring individual and societal-level ocean literacy, as well as policy change linked to ocean literacy drivers (knowledge systems, communications, education, cultural connections) are particularly encouraged. This could include Programmes that undertake the following activities: (i) generating priority datasets for Challenge 10 including human-ocean connection / human-ocean values dataset(s); (ii) developing pro-ocean behavioral change methodologies, case studies and effective practices; (iii) producing impact mapping of regional and key global ocean literacy initiatives; (iv) developing ocean culture mapping that demonstrates and supports cultural engagement as an enabler of ocean-human health.

- Programmes with a focus on engaging the health sector and on better understanding the intricate connections between ocean health and human health. Proponents are encouraged to consider the issues identified in the Blue Paper commissioned by the High Level Panel for Sustainable Ocean Economy '[How can a healthy ocean improve human health and enhance wellbeing on a rapidly changing planet](#)' that was launched at the 2024 Ocean Decade Conference. Programmes as part of this theme could include those that address the following issues: (i) promoting sustainable healthcare systems and practices that protect ocean health; (ii) incorporating indicators of both ocean and human health to inform ocean-human policies and ongoing monitoring, prevention and evaluation; (iii) supporting equitable and sustainable research for discovery of new marine medicines and ocean-based technologies; and (iv) identifying and fostering development of biotechnological processes and products that are socially relevant, economically sustainable and environmentally friendly.

To submit a Programme application that contributes to Ocean Decade **Challenges 6 and 10**, and programmes that address any of the Challenges with a focus on the **ocean-human health nexus**, please fill this form: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Prog_CFDA8

In completing their application, proponents should demonstrate how their proposal contributes to the recommendations of the relevant [White Paper from the Vision 2030 process](#) and/or the recommendations of [The Barcelona Statement](#) and the actions identified in ['Ambition, Action, Impact – The Ocean Decade Pathway to 2030'](#).

Alternatively, via this call, applicants will also have the possibility to submit an **Expression of Interest (EOI) for a potential Decade Programme** proposal for any of the other Decade Challenges that are not contemplated in Part I of this call and that contributes to the priorities identified in the Vision 2030 process. The Decade Coordination Unit will review the submissions for completeness and ask for recommendations of the Decade Advisory Board on which proponents should be invited to make full programme submissions. If successful, the applicant will be invited to submit a full proposal by **31 January 2025**.

Invitations to submit a full proposal will be sent by **1 December 2024**. Those whose applications are not identified as potential Decade Programmes, might be potentially recategorized into another Decade Action (Project, Contribution or Activity) or be invited to submit in another Call.

In developing their full applications proponents will be requested to document the ways in which their proposed Programme aligns with the existing portfolio of Decade Programmes. Further information on the existing portfolio of Decade Programmes can be found at <http://oceandecade.org> and detailed inquiries can be directed to oceandecade@unesco.org.

To submit the EOI for a Decade Programme proposal, please fill this form by **10 November 2024 23h59 UTC**: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/EOI_CFDA8

Decisions on full applications will be made in the first half of 2025.

B) Decade Projects

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. This Call is soliciting projects that will contribute to endorsed Decade programmes that have chosen to be part of the Call. **Of the currently endorsed programmes, 29 are soliciting projects via the current Call for Decade Actions No. 07/2024.**

Applicants interested in submitting a Project to an endorsed Decade Programme are requested to carefully read the descriptions of the Programmes contained in [Annex I](#), as well as relevant information on any geographic or thematic priorities that the programmes have identified for the Call.

Contact details for all Programmes are listed in [Annex I](#) and applicants should contact the relevant Programme directly for any questions on scientific or substantive issues related to the project solicitation. As part of the application form, proponents will be asked to indicate if they have been in contact with the relevant Decade Programme. It is recognised that projects can contribute to more than one endorsed Decade Programme. In that case applicants should apply to be associated with the Programme that they believe has the strongest link and describe other links and contributions in the narrative of the application.

To submit an application for a Decade Project please fill this form by **31 January 2025 23h59 UTC**: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Proj_CFDA8

Decisions on project applications will be made in the first semester of 2025.

C) Decade Contributions

Decade Contributions are focused on providing in-kind or financial support to the Ocean Decade or to Decade Actions. Under this Call, the solicitation for contribution is focused on in-kind or financial resources that could support:

- (i) priority in-kind or financial needs of one the 29 endorsed Decade Programmes participating in this Call (see [Annex II](#) of this Guidance Note);
- (ii) (current needs for Decade Implementing Partners (see [Annex III](#) of this Guidance Note); and
- (iii) capacity development initiatives to contribute to specific needs of the Ocean Decade Capacity Development Facility (see [Annex IV](#) of this Guidance Note).

Applicants interested in submitting a Contribution to an endorsed Decade Programme are requested to carefully read the relevant information priorities that the programmes have identified for the Call, which are contained in Annexes II, III and IV.

If you wish to submit to a particular Programme, the contact details for all Programmes are listed in Annex II and applicants should contact the relevant Programme directly for any questions on scientific or substantive issues related to the contribution solicitation. As part of the application form, proponents will be asked to indicate if they have been in contact with the relevant Decade Programme.

Decade Contributions applications are accepted on a rolling basis, but applicants are encouraged to fill this form by **31 January 2025 23h59 UTC**:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DecadeContribution>

Decisions on full applications will be made towards the first half of 2025.

III. Eligibility to submit a Decade Action

There is no restriction on the type of institution that can apply for endorsement under this Call. Proponents are reminded of the endorsement criteria of the Decade related to the strengthening of existing or creation of new partnerships across nations and/or between diverse ocean actors, including users of ocean science, as well as the criteria for co-design and co-delivery of Decade Actions.

Requests can be for either new or ongoing initiatives; however, proponents of ongoing initiatives will need to clearly demonstrate how their proposed Decade Action moves beyond 'business-as-usual' for example by demonstrating how the initiative will evolve to address the transformative nature of the Decade.

Initiatives can either be fully funded, or still in the process of securing full funding. Submitted initiatives are expected to have secured at least a part of the in-kind or financial resources needed for implementation. While the Decade Coordination Unit aims to support resource mobilisation throughout the Decade, the endorsement process is not a funding process. Endorsement as a Decade Action does not guarantee access to any funding.

It is expected that Decade Actions, including those submitted under this Call, will be co-designed and co-delivered by partnerships and collaborations of a wide diversity of stakeholders including research institutions, formal or informal scientific collaborations, universities, national and sub-national governments, United Nations entities and intergovernmental organisations, other international and regional organisations, philanthropic and corporate foundations, business and industry, NGOs, educators, community groups, multilateral and bilateral funding agencies, business and industry, and/or individuals (e.g. via citizen science initiatives or crowdfunding). More information on co-design processes in the Ocean Decade can be found [here](#).

Proponents are strongly encouraged to contact any relevant thematic or regional decentralised coordination structures of the Ocean Decade (i.e. Decade Coordination Offices - DCOs or Decade Collaborative Centres - DCCs) and any relevant National Decade Committee, as well as referencing any relevant regional action plans or roadmaps, in the development of their proposals. As part of the application form, proponents will be asked to indicate if they have been in contact with these structures.

More information on decentralised coordination structures can be found [here](#), while more information on existing National Decade Committees can be found [here](#).

*N.B. **Decade Activities** that are one-off standalone initiatives (such as an awareness-raising event, a scientific workshop, a conference, or a training opportunity) can be submitted for endorsement at any time via [this link](#).*

IV. Endorsement Process for Decade Actions

The endorsement process will ensure that all Decade Actions are aligned to the Decade vision and that proponents are actively able to collaborate with each other and collectively contribute to the priorities of the Ocean Decade. Endorsement also ensures that the impact of the Ocean Decade can be tracked.

The endorsement process involves the governance and coordination structures of the Ocean Decade including: the Decade Advisory Board – a multi-stakeholder advisory group; the Decade Coordination Unit – a centralised coordination structure located within the IOC Secretariat; and where relevant, regional or thematic decentralised coordination structures (DCOs and DCCs). The [Implementation Plan](#) provide a detailed description of these structures.

The endorsement process that will apply to the Decade Actions solicited under this Call is as follows:

- **For Decade Programmes:** For the Expressions of Interest, the Decade Coordination Unit will review the submissions for completeness and ask for recommendations of the Decade Advisory Board on which proponents should be invited to make full programme

submissions. For full submissions that are accepted, the Decade Coordination Unit will work with individuals selected from the [Expert Roster](#) to complete a first technical review of the submissions that will be presented to the Decade Advisory Board. The Board will review and make recommendations on endorsement and this information will inform the Executive Secretary of the IOC/UNESCO who will take the decision on endorsement of the Programme.

- **For Decade Projects:** For Projects that are being solicited by endorsed Decade Programmes, the Decade Coordination Unit will organize a first technical review of the submissions and will seek the advice of the relevant endorsed Programme on the submission. This information will inform the Executive Secretary of the IOC/UNESCO who will take the decision on endorsement of the Programme.
- **For Decade Contributions:** The Decade Coordination Unit will carry out a technical review of the submissions, including consultation with relevant Decade Programmes and decentralised coordination structures, and provide this information to the Executive Secretary of the IOC/UNESCO who makes a decision on endorsement.

The IOC/UNESCO Secretariat will provide information on the endorsement decisions of the Executive Secretary to the IOC Governing Bodies and to the United Nations General Assembly as part of its regular reporting.

The timing of decisions on endorsement under this Call will depend on the volume of submissions received but it is anticipated that decisions will be made in the first half of 2025.

All parties who have submitted a request for endorsement will be advised of the results.

V. Endorsement Criteria for Decade Actions

The following endorsement criteria are defined in the Ocean Decade Implementation Plan and will apply to all Decade Actions submitted under this Call. Proponents will need to demonstrate how they contribute to meeting those criteria that are relevant to their proposed Decade Action as part of their request for endorsement. These criteria will ensure that Decade Actions contribute to a common vision and priorities and respect the underlying principles of the Ocean Decade in terms of inclusivity, diversity, solutions focused action and partnerships. The endorsement criteria are as follows:

- i. Contribute to fulfilling the Ocean Decade Challenges and to achieving the Decade objectives and the associated sub-objectives.
- ii. Accelerate 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.
- iii. Are co-designed or co-delivered by knowledge generators and users, and thus facilitate the uptake of science and ocean knowledge for policy, decision making, management and/or innovation.
- iv. Ensure that all data and resulting knowledge are provided in an open access, shared, discoverable manner in accordance with the relevant provisions of UNCLOS, and are appropriately deposited in recognized data repositories consistent with the IOC Oceanographic Data Exchange Policy¹ or the relevant UN subordinate body data policy. (N.B. Annex II provides additional guidance on alignment with this criterion)

¹ Refer https://www.iode.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=51:ioc-oceanographic-data-exchange-policy&catid=24&Itemid=100040

- v. Strengthen existing or create new partnerships across nations and/or between diverse ocean actors, including users of ocean science.
- vi. Contribute toward capacity development, including, but not limited to, beneficiaries in Small Island Developing States, Least Developed Countries, and Land-locked Developing Countries.
- vii. Overcome barriers to diversity and equity, including gender, generational, and geographic diversity.
- viii. Collaborate with and engage local and indigenous knowledge holders.

VI. Benefits and Commitments of Endorsed Decade Actions

Following endorsement of an initiative as a Decade Action, it will be registered on the Ocean Decade website. Proponents of endorsed Decade Actions will be able to use the Ocean Decade logo in their communications and awareness raising activities in accordance with Decade Brand Guidelines. The Decade Coordination Unit will carry out joint communications efforts with proponents of Decade Actions. Actions endorsed under the current Call will have the opportunity to be showcased in a range of events and communications campaigns that are being organised throughout 2025 including the UN Ocean Conference.

Proponents will have a range of responsibilities related to coordination and communications that are outlined in a 'Charter for Endorsed Programmes' or 'Charter for Endorsed Projects' depending on the type of Action submitted. Examples of these documents can be found [here](#).

Once endorsed, Decade Actions can join one or more Communities of Practice via the [Ocean Decade Network](#). These Communities of Practice are informal networks promoting exchange, collaboration and cooperation between stakeholders with common interests. The Network also allows members to post collaboration ideas and opportunities, create links between generators and users of ocean science, seek partners for Decade programmes or projects, hold virtual meetings or webinars, and use visibility and communications tools to raise awareness of their activities.

The Ocean Decade is not a funding mechanism however proponents of Decade Actions may also benefit in terms of resource mobilization and funding. In many cases, proponents of Decade Actions will take the lead in securing their own resources: in these cases, the endorsement of an initiative as a Decade Action will increase its attractiveness to funders and resource providers that are supportive of the Decade. There will also be funding and support opportunities that are exclusively available to Decade Actions and for which the Decade Coordination Unit will play a coordination role between proponents of Decade Actions and resource providers.

Once endorsed, Proponents of Decade Actions will be asked to provide annual reporting on the progress of their Action via an online template that will be provided by the Decade Coordination Unit. This annual reporting will be used to track progress towards the Decade vision.

For additional information or queries please contact oceandecade@unesco.org and include "Call for Decade Actions No. 08/2024" in the subject line.

Annex I

Details of Endorsed Decade Programmes Soliciting Projects as part of Call for Decade Actions No. 08/2024

The following endorsed Decade Programmes are soliciting **projects** via this Call for Decade Actions. Please click on the relevant Programme to learn more about the geographic or thematic priorities for the Call, as well as contact information. Details of all currently endorsed Decade Programmes can be found on the [Ocean Decade website](#). Proponents interested in submitting a Decade Project should carefully read the descriptions and priorities below and are strongly encouraged to contact the relevant Decade Programme before submitting their Project submission.

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09. Global Ocean Corps and Conveyor

Project Priorities

We invite contributions that align with our mission of advancing capacity development and knowledge sharing in ocean science globally. Below, we provide an overview of our progress in these areas, offering insight for those interested in learning more about our work.

Our UN Decade-endorsed program, the "Global Ocean Corps and Conveyor" (<https://globalocean Corps.org>), is dedicated to fostering ocean science capacity on a global scale. Similarly, our UN Decade-endorsed project, the "Coastal Ocean Environment Summer School in Nigeria and Ghana" (COESSING; <https://coessing.org>), exemplifies capacity building on a regional level. COESSING has been held annually for one week since 2015. We've secured funding to extend the program for four more years (2025-2028), thanks to a \$9 million USD grant from Schmidt Sciences, which will greatly enhance resources for the Gulf of Guinea region. Additionally, we have secured separate funding to conduct summer schools in East Africa in 2025 and 2026.

Websites

1. <https://coessing.org>
2. <https://globalocean Corps.org>

Programme Contact Point

Brian Arbic: arbic@umich.edu

15. Early Career Ocean Professionals Programme (ECOPs)

Project Priorities

We are open to any geographical areas. Proponents of the projects should clearly explain how their project aligns with the mission of the ECOP Programme and how the project engages with ECOPs in their work/country/region. In terms of themes, the priority would be capacity development initiatives but anything else will also be considered provided they clearly show the connection with and benefit for ECOPs.

Website

<https://www.ecopdecade.org>

Programme Contact Point

Evgeniia Kostianaia: ecop.oceandecade@gmail.com

16. Ocean Voices: Building transformative pathways to achieve the Decade's outcomes

Project Priorities

- a) Geographic priorities: Global, with a focus on underrepresented communities.
- b) Thematic priorities:
 - Capacity development;
 - Ocean science-policy interface;
 - Diverse representation in ocean science-policy related to Global South representation, race, gender, age, IPLC representation, etc.;
- c) Additional priorities:
 - Local-to-global and global-to-local ocean governance;
 - Deep-sea blue economy;
 - Voices and values in ocean stewardship;
 - BBNJ and coastal areas.

Website

[Ocean Voices | The University of Edinburgh](#)

Programme Contact Point

Gail Sant: ocean.voices@ed.ac.uk; gail.sant@ed.ac.uk

17. Marine Life 2030

Project Priorities

The Marine Life 2030 Programme encourages proposed Ocean Decade Projects that:

- a) Promote justice, inclusion, co-design, and collaboration in the Ocean Decade.
- b) Foster the participation of groups and individuals who have traditionally been under-represented in academic ocean sciences, applications, and global initiatives in marine resource use and management.

By fostering an environment of justice, co-design, collaboration, and inclusion, the Marine Life 2030 Programme helps to create a more representative and effective approach to marine science and resource management, ensuring that all voices are heard and valued in the pursuit of sustainable ocean stewardship.

To learn about Marine Life 2030 and the criteria expected from participants and projects, please review the [Principles and Criteria for Marine Life 2030-affiliated Projects and Partners here](#), which all proposals that seek affiliation with Marine Life 2030 need to address.

Website

[Home - Marine Life 2030 \(https://marinelife2030.org/\)](https://marinelife2030.org/)

Programme Contact Point

Frank Muller-Karger and Gabrielle Canonico: marinelife2030@gmail.com

26. Ocean Biomolecular Observing Network (OBON)

Project Priorities

- a) Geographical priorities: for this call we would welcome global-scale or regional projects, particularly those focussing on polar regions, the Southern Hemisphere, and open ocean;
- b) Thematic priorities: We would be interested in projects related to data frameworks and data systems, following the FAIR and CARE principles for data; projects that are providing biomolecular data to support policy/decision-making; projects that are developing capacity for biomolecular observations, e.g. through training, citizen science/education, technology transfer and/or sharing of protocols, systems or other materials developed by the project, with a particular focus on supporting LDCs and SIDS, or indigenous people. We are particularly interested in endorsing projects that are focussing on benthic sampling or on biomolecules other than DNA, which currently constitute gaps in our programme.

Website

www.obon-ocean.org

Programme Contact Point

Margaret Leinen and Sophie Seeyave: mleinen@ucsd.edu; ssve@pml.ac.uk

28. ForeSea – The Ocean Prediction Capacity of the Future

Project Priorities

ForeSea's vision is for strong international coordination and community building of an ocean prediction capacity for the future. The overarching goal are to (1) improve the science, capacity, efficacy, use, and impact of ocean prediction systems and (2) build a seamless ocean information value chain, from observations to end users, for economic and societal benefit. These transformative goals aim to make ocean prediction science more impactful and relevant.

ForeSea is calling for projects that will extend and transform current ocean prediction capacity and address the following high-level objectives:

- **Coordinate ocean prediction world-wide** in a sustainable manner towards maximum societal benefits
- **Maximize the benefits of ocean observations** for ocean predictions and societal impact
- **Support development and maturation of the full-length operational oceanography value chain**, from observations to end users, by using best practices and coordinating **the integration of existing and new partners** (international science initiatives and intergovernmental organizations)

- **Advance the science behind ocean prediction** and its connection to the other components of the earth system, including the atmosphere, land, cryosphere, continental hydrology, etc.
- Make ocean prediction science more impactful and relevant by collaborating with socioeconomic experts and stakeholders to **quantify the impact and utility of ocean prediction** for science and society, especially in coastal areas (in collaboration with CoastPredict)

Website

<https://oceanpredict.org/un-decade-of-ocean-science/foresea/>

Programme Contact Point

Eric Chassignet: echassignet@fsu.edu

63. Fisheries Strategies for Changing Oceans and Resilient Ecosystems by 2030 (FishSCORE 2030)

The FishSCORE2030 program solicits projects that build the capacity and resilience of marine fisheries in the face of climate change. Fisheries are complex systems that operate within ecological, socio-economic, and governance dimensions; we therefore solicit projects spanning a wide range of topics and goals that align with the FishSCORE2030 goals. As an endorsed UN Ocean Decade program, FishSCORE2030 is an umbrella for endorsed projects and activities with similar objectives or synergistic goals. FishSCORE2030 aims to support the existing goals of aligned projects by providing opportunities to present their work to wider audiences, creating new collaborations, and participating in larger synthesis efforts that examine different resilience approaches, thereby encouraging their overall success. Together with the program's aligned projects, FishSCORE2030 aims to contribute to the Ocean Decade by increasing equitability and inclusion for all voices in management of fisheries and decision-making systems in order to improve the development and implementation of climate resilience strategies.

The goals of the FishSCORE2030 program are to:

- Provide opportunities for knowledge co-production and new collaborations through a network of scientists, fishery participants, resource managers, community practitioners, and policymakers,
- Strengthen information exchange, existing capacities, and approaches for identifying and employing climate resilience strategies in diverse types of fishery systems,
- Co-produce information, strategies, and equitable recommendations to improve climate resilience in fishery systems across scales,
- Synthesize key climate resilience knowledge gaps, issues facing marine fisheries and fishing communities, and current assessment and planning efforts, and communicate these insights to support resilience efforts and improve tools and frameworks, and
- Support the implementation of policies, processes and solutions to advance climate resilience at local, regional, national, and international scales.

Project Priorities

- a) Geographical priorities: The program is inclusive of local, regional, and international projects and initiatives. We encourage projects from all geographic regions and fisheries of all sizes, including small-scale fisheries to industrial fisheries, and those in developing countries and developed nations.
- b) Thematic priorities: Sustain fisheries as a source of food and jobs while protecting ocean ecosystems in the face of a changing climate

Website

<https://oceandecade.org/actions/fisheries-strategies-for-changing-oceans-and-resilient-ecosystems-by-2030/>
www.qmri.org/fishscore2030

Programme Contact Point

Claire Enterline, FishSCORE2030 Manager: centerline@gmri.org

69. Cultural Heritage Framework Programme

Project Priorities

- a) Geographical priorities: Although the Cultural Heritage Framework Programme has a global scope, and as such we are keen to engage with a range of projects, our current priority lies with the Global South.
- b) Thematic priorities: The primary aim of CHFP is to integrate the historical and cultural dimension of people's relationships with the sea into ocean science and policy. Within this, we focus on the integration of culture and heritage within the ocean sciences, policy, and management, for the sustainable development of the ocean. As such, our thematic priority is showcasing that science alone cannot create the 'ocean we want'. Uniquely, heritage enables learning from the past and a powerful means of engaging people with the ocean's future. Heritage allows us to understand long-term human behaviour, the relationship between people and the marine environment over time, evolving social views, to redress sea blindness, and increase ocean literacy. It is a resource that can help us appreciate our current situation; it is also a medium through which we address the future, develop resilience, and motivate sustainable adaptation. We are interested in engaging with all types of marine cultural heritage, from tangible heritage such as shipwrecks, to intangible heritage such as local and traditional knowledge and practices, such as fishing or boat building.
- c) Additional priorities: The following themes are represented in the CHFP manifesto, and will always be prioritised as such.
 - Showcase integration of heritage and ocean science.

- Develop capacity.
- Enable greater diversity and representation.
- Encourage ocean literacy, public engagement, and outreach.
- Facilitate co-design.
- Encourage best practice in managing data and knowledge.
- Encourage effective evaluation of impact.

Website

<https://oceandecadechfp.org/>

Programme focal Point

Georgia Holly: Georgia.holly@ed.ac.uk

76. Global Ocean Oxygen Decade (GOOD)

Project Priorities

a) Thematic priorities: The outcomes and activities until 2030:

1. Deoxygenation and ocean life: identifying and understanding threats to improve mitigation and adaptation strategies;
2. Deoxygenation, water quality and the climate system: Understanding processes and feedbacks and developing actionable indicators;
3. Deoxygenation and ecosystem services: Assessing and valuing the impact of deoxygenation;
4. Deoxygenation and co-stressors: Understanding, monitoring and mitigating deoxygenation in a multiple stressors' context;
5. Economic and societal consequences of deoxygenation;
6. Deoxygenation: Understanding causes, attributing changes and developing mitigation approaches;
7. Mapping and Modelling oxygen;
8. Capacity building and ocean literacy.

Website

<https://en.unesco.org/go2ne>

<https://www.ocean-oxygen.org/>

<https://www.ioc.unesco.org/en/global-ocean-oxygen-decade>

Programme Contact Point

GO2NE Secretariat, with cc Jeremy Sterling and Kirsten Isensee: go2ne-secretariat@unesco.org; jj.sterling@unesco.org; k.isensee@unesco.org

77. One Ocean Network for Deep Observation

Project Priorities

- a) Geographical priorities: Global
- b) Thematic priorities: Training and capacity building. The programme is looking for projects that coordinate and provide training opportunities to allow students and early career ocean professionals to access deep-sea and water column observational facilities, in particular the observatories infrastructures managed by the key partners of the programme.

Website

<https://www.onedeeppocean.org/>

Programme Focal Point

Nan-Chin Chu: spobs@ifremer.fr

90. Sustainability of Marine Ecosystems through global knowledge networks (SmartNET)

Project Priorities

- a) Geographical Priorities: Global or regional implementation;
- b) Thematic Priorities: Advancing science around the climate-fisheries nexus; facilitating communication and capacity sharing around marine social-ecological systems;
- c) Additional Priorities: Best practices and capacity sharing; partnerships with LDCs and SIDS; ECOP engagement.

Website

<https://www.ices.dk/about-ICES/global-cooperation/Pages/Smartnet.aspx>

Programme Contact Point

Steven Bograd and Sanae Chiba: steven.bograd@noaa.gov; Sanae.Chiba@pices.int

118. Sustainability, Predictability and Resilience of Marine Ecosystems (SUPREME)

Project Priorities

- a) Geographical Priorities: Global or regional implementation;
- b) Thematic Priorities: Understanding climate impacts on marine ecosystems; building an infrastructure for hindcasts, forecasts and projections of marine ecosystems; building a framework for climate-informed marine ecosystem management;
- c) Additional Priorities: Best practices and capacity sharing; partnerships with LDCs and SIDS; ECOP engagement.

Website

<https://oceandecade.org/actions/sustainability-predictability-and-resilience-of-marine-ecosystems-supreme/>

Programme Contact Point

Steven Bograd and Grace Roskar: steven.bograd@noaa.gov; grace.roskar@noaa.gov

129. Deep Ocean Observing Strategy (DOOS)

Project Priorities

- a) Geographical Priorities: Global
- b) Thematic Priorities: Observing, exploration, modelling, experimentation to address any of the Decade Challenges in the deep sea.

Website

<https://deep-ocean-observing-strategy-ut-austin.hub.arcgis.com/>

Programme Contact Point

Lisa Levin and Leslie Smith: llevin@ucsd.edu; leslie.smith@youroceanconsulting.co

137. Digital Twins of the Ocean (DITTO)

Project Priorities

- Thematic priorities: This programme is interested in all projects that focus in one or more aspects of Digital Twins of the Ocean.
- Geographic priorities: Geographically, cities would be of interest but will welcome proposals from any region.
- Additional priorities: As additional priorities, the Programme is interested in proposals that can work on innovative data analysis and visualisation.

Website

<https://ditto-oceandecade.org/>

Programme Contact Point

Joanna Staneva and Fei Chai: joanna.staneva@hereon.de; fchai@xmu.edu.cn

144. CoastPredict - Observing and Predicting the Global Coastal Ocean

Project Priorities

CoastPredict is open to receive projects that are relevant to the Programme's implementation through the GlobalCoast initiative. More information about GlobalCoast can be found online here: <https://www.coastpredict.org/globalcoast/> . Please see details on Focus Areas and science and technology topics. The webpage also includes a map of GlobalCoast Pilot Sites

Website

[coastpredict.org](https://www.coastpredict.org)

Programme Contact Point

Mairéad O'Donovan and Nadia Pinardi: mairread.odonovan@cmcc.it; nadia.pinardi@unibo.it

161. Deltas associated with large rivers: Seeking solutions to the problem of sustainability (Mega Deltas)

Project Priorities

Any initiative related to Deltas/Estuaries.

Website

<https://delta.ecnu.edu.cn/>

Programme Contact Point

Xiuzhen Li: xzli@sklec.ecnu.edu.cn; megadelta@ecnu.edu.cn

172. Global Ecosystem for Ocean Solutions (GEOS)

Project Priorities

- a) Geographical Priorities: We have no geographical priorities; GEOS is global;
- b) Thematic Priorities: Our thematic priorities are mainly under the Ocean Decade challenges 2, 4, 5, and 9. We continue encouraging submissions solutions-oriented projects led by Indigenous organizations. We are particularly interested in ocean-based solutions to reduce CO₂, remove CO₂, and to repair critical ecosystems to prevent tipping points; especially if those solutions are ambitious and scalable. In addition, we are also interested in initiatives that contribute to enable these solutions around the world, through our flagship coalition of ocean-climate innovation hubs;
- c) Additional Priorities: Our criteria for project selection are:
 - projects should be solutions oriented;
 - solutions should strive to be equitable, durable and inclusive;
 - projects should ideally involve or consider a role for Early Career Ocean Professionals (ECOPs);
 - projects should attempt to include participatory methods with a co-design and co-production approach;
 - projects should be conceived as multisectoral and transdisciplinary.

Website

<https://oceanvisions.org/geos/>

Programme Focal Point

Leonardo Valenzuela Pérez: leonardo@oceanvisions.org

176. Global Estuaries Monitoring (GEM) Programme

Project Priorities

- a) Geographic priorities: Global estuaries
- b) Thematic priorities:

- Research focus on environmental monitoring, ecological risk assessment, environmental modelling, microbial diversity, ecotoxicological evaluations, and cost-effective removal technologies concerning emerging contaminants in estuaries.
- Investigation into the role of global estuaries as sinks or sources of greenhouse gases (GHGs) and understanding their contributions to global GHG cycles.
- Effects assessment to map diatom biodiversity in correlation with chemical contamination, and developing tools for rapid monitoring applied to diatoms.

Website

<https://www.globalestuarie.org/>

Programme Contact Point

Prof. Kenneth Leung and Dr Chong Chen: kmyleung@cityu.edu.hk; chonchen@cityu.edu.hk; globalestuarie.gem@gmail.com

189. Joint Exploration of the Twilight Zone Ocean Network (JETZON)

Project Priorities

Any proposal that falls within the remit of JETZON is welcome, and we encourage particularly proposals from South America, Africa and Asia.

Website

<https://jetzon.org/>

Programme Contact Point

Adrian Martin: jetzon.org@gmail.com

219. Ocean Acidification Research for Sustainability (OARS)

Project Priorities

We are looking for projects around the world focused on the OARS Outcomes, shown below, particularly those that address the priorities described in the [OARS white papers](#):

- Thematic priorities:
 1. Enable the scientific community to provide ocean acidification data and evidence of known quality via capacity development, mentoring of early career researchers, facilitating data sharing, growing regional collaborations, and increased communication through meetings and workshops, allowing for a holistic analysis considering all stakeholder perspectives.

2. Identify data and evidence needs for mitigation and adaptation strategies, from local to global. Communicate these needs to the scientific and science policy community to ensure that science is prioritized.
3. Co-design and implement observation strategies in collaboration with data/information producers and end-users by 2025. Identify factors limiting collection of data and implementation of solutions and collaborate with OARS outcome 1 activities to ameliorate and amend the identified issues. Proactively design and implement observation strategies to ensure vulnerable areas are adequately monitored. Provide ocean acidification baseline information for newly developed carbon removal strategies.
4. Increase understanding of ocean acidification impacts to protect marine life by 2030. Implement biological observation within ocean acidification monitoring, providing the possibility to improve predictions of vulnerability and resilience to ocean acidification at all temporal and spatial scales.
5. Provide appropriate data and information necessary to the development of societally relevant predictions and projections, employing new technologies such as digital twins, for all ocean 'users' of the impacts of ocean acidification to implement adaptation and mitigation by 2030.
6. Increase public awareness of ocean acidification, its sources, and impacts, achieved via ocean literacy and public outreach.
7. Develop strategies and solutions to enable countries and regions to include measures to reduce ocean acidification in their respective policies and legislation.

Websites

1. OARS overview: <http://www.goa-on.org/oars/overview.php>
2. OARS Commitments: www.oars-commitments.org
3. White papers: http://www.goa-on.org/oars/white_papers.php

Programme Contact Point

Amy Kenworthy: ake@pml.ac.uk

8.2. Global Ocean Negative Carbon Emission (Global ONCE)

Project Priorities

- a) Geographical priorities: We do not have geographical restrictions on projects and welcome all projects focusing on the deployment of ocean-based negative emission technologies to join the Global ONCE Programme
- b) Thematic priorities:
 - o Knowledge gap on ocean carbon cycling and the biological, chemical, and physical processes which enable the ocean to take up and store CO₂.

- Capacity building on methods and models to evaluate and monitor the efficiency of ONCE approaches and field observation networks.
 - Ecological and technical engineering solutions to scale up ONCE approaches.
 - Social science and governance/legal frameworks needed to put ONCE approaches into practice.
 - Model-data integration, data sharing, interoperability standards, and key ocean variables.
- c) Additional priorities:
- Delivery of nutrients in mariculture areas with upwelling technologies
 - WWTP effluent alkalinity enhancement
 - Microalgal biomass production and CO₂ sequestration using floating photobioreactors on ocean
 - Research code of conduct
 - Sensor development
 - Numerical modelling
 - Observation and simulation experiment facility sharing
 - Expert exchange programs

Website

<https://www.global-once.org/>

Programme Contact Point

Prof. Tingwei Luo and Prof Jihua Liu: luo1979@xmu.edu.cn; liujihua1982@foxmail.com

11.2. Global Ocean Decade Programme for Blue Carbon (GO-BC)

GO-BC welcomes all project and activity submissions from all geographies, and would particularly welcome initiatives which could act as regional blue carbon hubs under GO-BC (including at country-level).

Website

<https://www.go-bc.co.uk/>

Programme focal point

George Biddulph and William Austin: gb216@st-andrews.ac.uk; wena@st-andrews.ac.uk;

18.2 Ocean to climate Seamless Forecasting system (OSF)

Project Priorities

Building on the impact of the OSF since its endorsement in June 2022, this Call aims to continue addressing regional and thematic gaps and to encourage transformative and interdisciplinary science to proceed with the implementation of an ocean to climate seamless forecasting system and to meet critical and urgent challenges.

The objective of OSF Programme is to develop a system that will provide ocean-climate seamless forecasting in a timescale from hours to years and in a spatial scale from kilometers to global. To deliver on its goal and leave no region behind, the Call has a particular focus on Projects that: (i) contribute to the development of new ocean-climate models and techniques; (ii) prioritize the coastal region of the Southwest Atlantic, especially in the Caribbean. Also, we would like to call for projects aiming at enhancing seamless forecasting ability.

To deliver on Challenge 5, Challenge 6 and Challenge 7, the OSF is **looking for Projects** that align with the following priorities:

a) Effective techniques of data assimilation that benefit coupled model development

Assimilating observation data into numerical our seamless models is crucial for enhancing understanding and prediction capabilities of oceanic and atmospheric processes, particularly in the context of climate change. The ocean plays a fundamental role in regulating the Earth's climate, yet our ability to predict changes accurately is often hampered by gaps in data and inconsistencies in data quality. By calling for new project that focuses on data assimilation, we aim to integrate diverse datasets—ranging from satellite observations to in-situ measurements—into comprehensive models that can provide more accurate and reliable predictions for the ocean and climate system.

b) Data fusion based on high-precision observation data

Data fusion refers to the process of integrating data from multiple sources to produce more accurate, consistent, and useful information than would be possible using any individual data source. Using discrete data of different origins to produce grid data has been done by, e.g., World Ocean Atlas. But the dataset for ocean seamless forecasting is still missing. OSF plans to deploy lots of GNSS buoys in the global ocean, which could produce high-quality ocean observation data. Therefore, we call for a project which will focus on producing high-precision grid dataset by combining OSF buoy data with other observation data, and could include air-sea fluxes as the new version of OSF buoy will be capable of monitoring air-sea fluxes in the new future. The goal of the project would be to enhance the reliability and accuracy of the final dataset, which is crucial for models and early warning systems, thus contributing to the improvement of policy-making and disaster mitigation and adaptation.

Small Island Developing States (SIDS), especially those in the South Pacific and Indian Ocean, are among the most vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change, including sea-level rise, extreme weather events, and coral bleaching. These islands often have limited land and resources, making them exceptionally susceptible to the economic, social, and environmental disruptions caused by ocean-climate variability. Therefore, OSF also welcomes projects that recognize their unique challenges and the urgent need for tailored interventions that address their specific vulnerabilities. The projects will not only align with global commitments to leave no one behind but also contribute to the SDGs.

Website

<https://www.osf-un-ocean-decade.com/>

Programme Contact Point

Prof. Shizhu Wang: wangsz@fio.org.cn

1.6 The Future of Fisheries & Marine Ecosystems (FishMIP)

Project Priorities

The Fisheries and Marine Ecosystems Model Intercomparison Project (FishMIP, www.fishmip.org) is an international network of climate impact and marine ecosystem modellers around the world. We are working towards better understanding of future sustainable pathways, underpinned by state-of-the-art model projections that can be used to answer policy-relevant questions including about the future of fish & fisheries, seafood supply, marine biodiversity, and ecosystem functioning, and climate change mitigation.

Increased global capacity to advance this research is needed.

Endorsed as an Ocean Decade Programme, FishMIP 2.0 marks a new phase of this international network that will:

- Offer a shared global approach for a wide range of communities and agencies to better understand the state of ecosystems, fisheries, and how to strategically respond to climate change.
- Identify the most sustainable future pathways to build climate-resilient fisheries management and assess adaptation plans.
- Build global capacity in knowledge of climate change impacts on marine ecosystems and fisheries, through provision of accessible data, training, and tools.

Therefore, we encourage projects that address the main research priorities of FishMIP and, in particular, build capacity for development and use of [global and/or regional marine ecosystem model ensembles](#) in under-represented geographical regions (e.g. Global South) as well as development of methods and tools to support policy applications to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Projects that fill gaps in knowledge, complement rather than duplicate [existing FishMIP working groups](#), develop tools for using existing projections, and build or expand on regional-scale model ensembles, particularly in underrepresented regions, are encouraged. Key priority research areas include:

- More Robust Regional Marine Ecosystem And Fisheries Projections To Support Adaptation
- Developing Accessible Data Tools For Policy
- Tackling The Nexus Of Biodiversity, Water, Food And Health To Support The Blue Transformation
- Bringing/Integrating Indigenous And Local Knowledge To Climate Change Impact Assessments

Website

www.fishmip.org

Programme focal point

Julia Blanchard and Camilla Novaglio: fishmip.coordinators@gmail.com

UN5. Ocean Best Practices for the Decade

Project Priorities

- a) Geographical priorities: Asia, Africa, South America, SIDS, LDCs, Australia, New Zealand.
- b) Thematic priorities: Development, implementation, adaptation, convergence, and endorsement of Best Practices (BP) and standards along the whole value chain, training and capacity development activities, pilot activities, and dissemination of BP. Disciplines priorities: Modelling Community, Citizen Science, Data Science, Policy, AI, Observations, Blue Economy, Low-cost sensors, Technology

Website

<https://www.oceanbestpractices.org/ocean-practices-for-the-decade/>

Programme Contact Point

Dr. Rebecca Zitoun and Aileen Hwai: decade@oceanbestpractices.org

UN7. Ocean Literacy with All (OLWA)

Project Priorities

- a) Geographical priorities: OLWA partners have decided to focus geographically on Africa, Asia, and Oceania, as these regions can be better represented in our programme and present key opportunities for further engagement.
- b) Thematic priorities: future actions are not limited to ocean education exclusively as we can also consider a diverse range of proposal that include in their key activities elements as interactive activities such as exhibitions, training sessions, art performances, community engagement initiatives, traditional ocean knowledge promotion, cultural events, and more.

Website

<https://oceanliteracy.unesco.org/ocean-literacy-with-all/>

Programme Focal Point

UN26. GEMS Ocean Programme

Project Priorities

The United Nations (UN) launched the Early Warning For All Initiative (EW4All)¹ in November 2022 at the COP27 meeting in Sharm El-Sheikh. The EW4All is a well-established Strategy led by WMO in co-leadership with UNDRR and UNEP is a key partner of several UN system implementing agencies, with a clear roadmap and implementation plan, until 2027. The initiative is a ground-breaking effort to ensure that everyone on Earth is protected from climate related hazards including extreme events of weather, water, and climate through life-saving early warning systems by the end of 2027. The Initiative calls for the whole world to be covered by an early warning system by the end of 2027.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), in line with UN common approach of tackling the critical planetary crises of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, has cascaded the initiative to Early Warning for Environment (EWE) to integrate the dimensions of biodiversity loss and pollution into the early warning system.

Early Warning for Environment will contribute to UN common approach to biodiversity² and Implementation Plan "Towards a Pollution-Free Planet"³, together with UN agencies to tackle the triple planetary crisis. The existing efforts and framework will support Early Warning for environment to foster more substantial synergies, common narratives and more coordinated actions to deliver positive impacts. It also can support Early Warning for environment to align UN agencies efforts and mobilize the entirety of its relevant expertise and mandates to accelerate the sustainable, inclusive and just transition towards a plastic pollution-free economy and achieve the UN Common approach to biodiversity and Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). Most importantly, Early Warning for environment supports and complements EW4ALL. Early Warning for Environment aims to fill in the gaps in the space of "Early Warning Service" in the field of Environment, including pollution, nature and biodiversity loss, and ecosystem degradation and its linkages with climate change risk.

The Global Environment Monitoring System for the Ocean and Coasts (GEMS Ocean) programme has integrated the EWE into its core strategic focus and objectives delivery framework. Therefore, the Programme considers the development of ocean early warning framework as critical component of tackling ocean related challenges of climate change challenges, biodiversity loss and pollution. In this, GEMS Ocean Programme emphasises the integration of EWE into the Decade Actions aimed at addressing the challenges identified by the Ocean Decade for Agenda 2030 for SD. The Programme priority needs include, but not limited to:

- i. Capacity development for early warning system
- ii. Actions that support data, data analytics and the entire knowledge value-chain needs for EWE for Oceans and Coasts at national, regional and global levels.
- iii. Partnership and collaboration frameworks for EWE for the oceans and coasts
- iv. Technical and financial services for EWE for the ocean and coasts.

Website

<https://wesr.unep.org/article/ocean-seas-and-coasts>

Programme focal point

Joana Akrofi: joana.akrofi@un.org

UN31. The Ocean Decade Tsunami Programme

Within the framework of the Research, development and implementation plan for the Ocean Decade Tsunami Programme (ODTP) we are seeking projects submission with focus on the Caribbean Sea and Pacific Ocean, and adjacent seas, specifically on hazard assessment, forecasting and warning dissemination, and community resilience efforts through the Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme (TRRP) or alike.

Website

[Research, development and implementation plan for the Ocean Decade Tsunami Programme](#)

Programme Contact Point

Bernardo Aliaga: b.aliaga@unesco.org, copied to d.chang-seng@unesco.org

UN37. Ocean Decade Programme on Sustainable Ocean Planning (SOP Programme)

The Ocean Decade Programme on Sustainable Ocean Planning (SOP) has been co-designed and developed to respond to the recommendations of the Ocean Panel's agenda with regards to achieving 100% of sustainable ocean planning. While the high-level purpose of this SOP Programme is to empower nations with the necessary tools and knowledge to develop and implement user-driven, mission-oriented, climate-smart and equitable SOP underpinned by scientific and Indigenous and local knowledge, the Programme also intends to support transboundary cooperation and enhance capacity development, particularly within least developed countries and large ocean, small island developing states. Thus, the SOP Programme aims to foster a global community of practice, bringing together nations, researchers, and stakeholders to co-create and co-develop tailored, evidence-driven strategies for sustainable ocean use.

Within the framework of the Ocean Decade Programme on Sustainable Ocean Planning we are seeking projects submission with focus on:

- a) Geographical priorities: Baltic Sea, Black Sea, Indian Ocean, Caspian Sea, Seas of East Asia, Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, Wider Caribbean and Latin America, East Africa, Arctic and Antarctic. Applications from lead institutions based in SIDS, LDCs, LAC and Africa regions are highly encouraged.
- b) Thematic priorities: decision support tools for sustainable ocean planning, ecosystem-based assessment for sustainable management of marine areas, nature-based

solutions for coastal resilience, climate-smart ocean planning, inclusion of diverse knowledge values in planning processes, sustainable financial mechanisms for SOP, sustainable blue economy, maritime sectorial management or alike.

Besides these identified priorities anything else will also be considered provided they clearly show the connection with and benefit for the SOP Programme.

Website

<https://oceandecade.org/actions/ocean-decade-programme-on-sustainable-ocean-planning/>

Programme Contact Point

Julian Barbieri: j.barbieri@unesco.org, copied to n.bassan@unesco.org

Annex II

Details of Endorsed Decade Programmes Soliciting Contributions as part of Call for Decade Actions No. 07/2024

The following Decade Programmes are soliciting **in-kind and/or financial contributions** via this Call for Decade Actions. Please check below for the relevant Programme to learn more about their priorities for the Call, as well as contact information. Details of all currently endorsed Decade Programmes can be found on the [Ocean Decade website](#). Proponents interested in submitting a Decade Contributions should carefully read the descriptions and priorities below and are strongly encouraged to contact the relevant Decade Programme before submitting their Contribution submission.

9. Ocean Global Corps and Conveyor

Contact: Brian Arbic, University of Michigan - arbic@umich.edu

Websites: <https://coessing.org>, <https://globalcoceancorps.org>.

The Coastal Ocean Environment Summer School (COESSING), one of the key projects of our programme, has made a significant impact on participants' professional growth, promoting collaboration, networking, and environmental education. The program is focused on developing skills in ocean science and tackling environmental challenges, with 55% of participants highly satisfied with the experience. Key areas of the program, such as **project groups** on Plastics & Policy, Oceanography, and Fisheries, which involve hands-on fieldwork, were highly praised, and 70% of participants made 5 or more new connections, fostering future research opportunities. **Mentorship** was also highlighted as an inspiring component, creating a rich learning environment. However, 40% of participants faced **challenges in accessing resources** due to financial barriers like travel costs and internet access, underscoring the need for short-term funding to address these issues. Therefore, Global Ocean Corps and Conveyor would like to request contributions that can support in the following issues:

1) Short-term Needs (2025 – 2026):

- **Funding for participant support:** Help with travel and logistical costs to improve access.
- **Dedicated staff:** \$150,000 USD is required annually for a staff position to manage operations and outreach.

2) Long-term Vision (2025 – 2030):

- **Expansion of summer schools globally:** Interest from regions like Southeast Asia, South Africa, and West Africa (Cameroon). The cost for each school is approximately \$125,000 USD annually.
- **Global network goal:** A \$1 million USD annual budget could sustain 7-8 schools. A larger \$8 million USD investment could integrate research projects, boosting ocean science knowledge and capacity, especially in underrepresented regions.

- **Research Support:** Additional time on research vessels and equipment donations would enhance fieldwork opportunities and build local scientific capacity.

15. Early Career Ocean Professional (ECOPs)

Contact: Evgeniia Kostianaia - ecop.oceandecade@gmail.com

Website: www.ecopdecade.org

- 1) Financial support for ECOP participation in conferences and training. For example:
 - a. Coverage of conference/training participation fees; ~ 500-700 USD per person, 20 people per year;
 - b. Travel, accommodation and daily allowance for ECOPs participating in such events; ~ 2,000 USD per person, 50 ECOPs per year.
- 2) Remuneration for Coordinators for full-time or part-time work, we are looking to solicit support for these roles that already have active individuals working for free:
 - a. Training and Mentoring Manager – part-time; monthly salary here and below, everywhere with roles starting asap: 1,200-1,400 USD
 - b. Webinar managers (x2) – part-time; 1,000-1,400 USD
 - c. Mentorship manager – part-time; 1,200-1,400 USD
 - d. Central America node coordinator (full-time); 2,500-2,800 USD
 - e. A few other national node coordinators – part-time. 1,000-1,400 USD
- 3) Coverage of software, such as: Zoom licenses, WordPress plugins and upgrades for the ECOP Programme website. Total currently paid per year which we need coverage for - ~2,000 USD (Zoom, DreamHost, Brevo, ecopdecade.org, Elementor Pro, WP Forms, Tablesome Pro).

16. Ocean Voices

Contact: Gail Sant - ocean.voices@ed.ac.uk; gail.sant@ed.ac.uk

Website: <https://ocean-voices.ed.ac.uk/>

Contribution 1: ECOE Mentoring Program

The Early Career Ocean Exchange (ECOE) is a platform for early and mid-career ocean professionals (ECOPs) to share experiences and engage with established leaders. The program aims to build confidence, overcome impostor syndrome, and foster professional development. Our contribution requests therefore aim to address the following issues:

- **Mentorship Funding:** £2,000 - £4,000 to support honoraria for 4-8 mentors (£500 each for one year).
- **Workshop Funding:** £15,000 - £25,000 to support a workshop at UNOC 2025 and travel expenses for 5-8 ECOPs.

Contribution 2: Ocean Voices Podcast Partner Opportunities

The Ocean Voices programme aims to share the stories of ocean-dependent people via podcasts. The initiative will highlight diverse projects and leadership in ocean health from various regions. Therefore, we would like to solicit partnership with podcast producers for technical or content-sharing support. Timeline to start in early 2025.

Contribution 3: Blue Links Conservation

Ocean Voices is submitting this priority contribution on behalf of its partnered Decade Action, BlueLinks Conservation. This Decade Project focuses on mentorship in the Western Indian Ocean. It seeks to create a part-time project coordinator role to manage activities, recruit mentors/mentees, and develop communication, therefore we would like to request £14,400 for the project coordinator's salary, plus £3,000 for logo/website development.

Contribution 4: SIDS Ocean Science and Policy Network

Ocean Voices is submitting this priority contribution on behalf of its partnered Decade Action, the SIDS Ocean Science Policy Network. This initiative aims to support Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in the ratification and implementation of the BBNJ Treaty by building a network of SIDS experts. Therefore, we would like to request \$25,000 USD for a coordinator to conduct outreach, document SIDS needs, and foster networking for the BBNJ treaty ratification and collaboration.

Contribution 5: Summer School - Gender and Ocean Careers (SSOGOC)

Ocean Voices is submitting this priority contribution on behalf of a proposed Decade partner, My Blue Future. My Blue Future (MBF) is organizing a summer school to promote gender equality in ocean careers in Brazil. The event will include training, mentoring, and networking for women ECOPs and professionals. Therefore, we would like to request €50,000 for event logistics, communication assistants, and participant support (accommodation, meals, transportation). Target date: March 2025.

17. Marine Life 2030

Contact: Frank Muller-Karger and Gabrielle Canonico - marinelife2030@gmail.com

Website: <https://marinelife2030.org/>

We would like to promote mobility for global students and early career ocean professionals in order to build their capacities in deep ocean observation, in particular to have access to the observatories infrastructures managed by key partners of the programme. The training can be tailor-made based on the offer of the partner and the candidate profile, but the training scheme should focus on deep-sea research, observational technique & engineering and/or their communication & outreach. We would like the contribution to cover the travel and accommodation of the trainees, with priority given to candidates from the Global South. While each programme partner could eventually provide ad-hoc support, the contribution,

estimated for €60,000/year, is essential to allow 10 candidates travelling to Canada, Japan, or any European countries for a training period of 2 weeks.

Timeframe: 2025 – 2030

26. Ocean Biomolecular Observing Network (OBON)

Contact: Sophie Seeyave and Margaret Leinen - ssve@pml.ac.uk; mleinen@ucsd.edu

Website: <https://obon-ocean.org/>

- 1) Recognizing that there are many biomolecular data collection efforts that may not be in a position to be submitted for Project endorsement; we would very much welcome can include in their key activities as cruises, sampling efforts to contribute with their data, share their protocols, and/or otherwise contribute to the OBON objectives.
- 2) OBON is currently coordinated and supported mainly through in-kind contributions from POGO and volunteer efforts of Scientific Advisory Committee members. We would welcome in-kind staff support to contribute to specific aspects of OBON coordination and/or communications; for example, tangible efforts to coordinate OBON activities and organize/fund relevant workshops and events in different regions of the world. For this request, we would welcome in-kind staff contributions of any duration (minimum 1 year) and ideally full-time, but part-time (at least 0.5 FTE) would also be welcome

63. Fisheries Strategies for Changing Oceans and Resilient Ecosystems (FishSCORE 2030)

Contact: Claire Enterline, FishSCORE2030 Manager, Email: centerline@gmri.org

Website: <https://oceandecade.org/actions/fisheries-strategies-for-changing-oceans-and-resilient-ecosystems-by-2030/>
www.gmri.org/fishscore2030

The Ocean Decade endorsed program Fisheries Strategies for Changing Oceans and Resilient Ecosystems (FishSCORE2030) aims to build collaborations among diverse partners to support climate resilience planning and decision-making in fishery systems at local and regional scales and to identify strategies that can support climate resilience in diverse fishery settings.

FishSCORE2030 welcomes contribution proposals that can provide in kind and/or financial support to facilitate information exchange, build collaborations, co-design activities, and support diverse early career ocean professionals. The contributions should focus on:

- 1) Four regional workshops hosted in different regions around the globe focused on sharing (1) place-based experiences and strategies for building climate resilience in

fisheries, (2) climate vulnerability and resilience assessment and planning tools and processes, and (3) co-development of knowledge and best practices for resilience building. The goal of these workshops is to facilitate knowledge sharing and discussions of resilience strategies that are appropriate for a region based on their specific fishery systems. The workshops will train regional ‘champions’ in climate resilience assessment, decision support tools (e.g., the Climate-Resilient Fisheries Planning Tool), and approaches for marine fisheries. Estimated cost for each regional workshop is US\$75,000 including travel and accommodation for organizers and participants, honorariums for local participants, and stipends for regional workshop organizers.

- 2) The FishSCORE2030 Fellowship Program, which aims to engage early career professionals from around the world in collaborations that will support their professional development, experience, and network building. FishSCORE2030 strives for diversity in the demographics, geography, and cultural backgrounds of participants. The fellowship program will particularly target researchers and community practitioners from developing countries. As such, it will advance equity of participation of willing, interested, and highly qualified individuals in global forums. Estimated cost for one cohort of five (5) fellows is US\$75,000.
- 3) Program manager support for the coordination and implementation of FishSCORE2030. The success of the program is reliant on active coordination by a program manager to facilitate new co-designed projects and knowledge sharing efforts, support aligned UNDOS projects, ensure information exchange and communications, and provide other coordination as needed. Annual cost-sharing need is US\$70,000.
- 4) A core element of FishSCORE’s approach is ensuring the active involvement of participants from diverse geographical and cultural backgrounds, making this need a top priority. To support leadership inclusion, we seek funding to enable individuals from developing countries to take on key roles within the FishSCORE program, with an estimated annual requirement of US\$20,000 annually for stipends and travel support.

69. Cultural Heritage Framework Programme

Contact: Georgia Holly - Georgia.holly@ed.ac.uk

Website: <https://oceandecadechfp.org/>

[SeaVoice](#) is an innovative platform that delves deep into the intricate relationship between culture, climate, and water. As part of the Ocean Decade Heritage Network’s [Cultural Heritage Framework Programme](#), SeaVoice is an endorsed activity of the UN Ocean Decade.

Since launching in September 2023, we have reached over 20,000 people and elevated over 40 stories from more than 20 countries. We even launched a [print edition](#) thanks to generous financial support from the Pew Bertarelli Foundation, and nearly 500 copies have been distributed at key events such as the UN Ocean Decade “Immersed in Change” Costa Rica Summit and the Ocean Literacy World Conference as well as to coastal communities from Indonesia to the UK. Our work has been recognised and distributed by organisations

including the UN Ocean Decade, UN Blue Schools Initiative, UNESCO, Earth.org, EcoWatch, IFLScience, MOTHER Magazine, 4Ocean, and Pew Bertarelli Ocean Legacy.

As we enter year two, we are seeking both in-kind and financial support, especially for our second annual print edition.

Financial sponsorship opportunities include:

- Second Annual Print Edition: £10,000 to print and distribute 500 copies. We would like a financial contribution before February 2025, so we can begin production in time for a launch on World Oceans Day (8 June 2025). This includes the following costs:
 - Printing on sustainable seaweed paper: 500 copies = £5,500; 1,000 copies = £6,800
 - Graphic designer: £2,000
 - Editorial staff: £2,000
 - Distribution to events: £500
- Website redesign: £18,000, according to quotes we've received from web designers in the Edinburgh area. Timing: ASAP (ideally before the end of 2024)
- Editorial staff: we employ five part-time SeaVoice editors, who work 3.5 hours a week (Timing: ASAP and ongoing)
- We are looking to hire a dedicated social media manager(s), given the importance of social to engage younger audiences and spark dialogue (Timing: ASAP and ongoing)

In-kind contribution opportunities:

- Digital advertising across Meta, X, LinkedIn, and Google in order to increase our readership
- Subscriptions to professional digital tools, including Adobe, MailChimp, and Canva.
- Social, PR and marketing consultants to increase our readership and recognition
- Growth hackers to grow our digital audience and engagement
- Web design: we'd like to migrate our website to WordPress this year
- Business and growth consultants: we'd love your insight on our business model
- Travel services, as our team and SeaVoice contributors attend key events
- Printing services, to offset our print edition costs
- Filmmaking equipment and expertise, as we expand our efforts to empower storytelling around the globe

We'd deeply value your support of any portion of these upcoming expenses. We believe in mutually beneficial collaborations, and any contribution to SeaVoice would benefit not just global ocean literacy and SeaVoice, but also your organisation. Depending on your commitment, you would receive recognition in our print edition, newsletter on our website and socials; event inclusion; opportunities to contribute to SeaVoice; and/or access to our trusted network of contributors, partners, and readers. Whether you can offer us your counsel, services, or financial support, we'd greatly appreciate your contribution and look forward to hearing from you.

Want to get involved? Can you help grow the SeaVoice community and advance our mission to uplift coastal stories? Visit our website (<https://www.seavoice.online/>) and reach out to info@seavoice.online.

76. Global Ocean Oxygen Decade (GOOD)

Contact: GO2NE Secretariat, with cc Jeremy Sterling and Kirsten Isensee: go2ne-secretariat@unesco.org; jj.sterling@unesco.org; k.isensee@unesco.org

Website: <https://en.unesco.org/go2ne>
<https://www.ocean-oxygen.org/>
<https://www.ioc.unesco.org/en/global-ocean-oxygen-decade>

In-kind and / or financial contributions, secondments / personnel support for:

1. Programme coordination

- Increase the availability of ocean oxygen data of known quality (GO2DAT), e.g. by supporting the intercalibration and assessment of platforms, databases, and products.

- GOOD coordination, e.g. activities to increase participation of projects, support to the

- Steering Committee (GO2NE), organization of outreach and knowledge transfer activities.

- o Estimated budget/personnel support: 100.000 USD; 2 in-kind developer and project coordinator

- o Timing: annual basis

2. Research exchange

- Facilitate the collaboration between private sector and scientists to allow for ocean oxygen observation conducted on sailing ships, ferries, cruise ships via providing financial support to allow for shipping, calibration and in person support

- o Estimated budget/personnel support: 100.000 USD

- o Timing: annual

3. Capacity Development

- Financial support to allow early career scientists who are unable to access funding to travel to and attend the GOOD-OARS Summer School

- Travel support for members of the ocean oxygen community to attend conferences, workshops, meetings, and other events where they may contribute directly to the priorities of GOOD and support the Global Ocean Oxygen Network (GO2NE) working group

- Support for activities that build the capacity of early career scientists to engage in research on ocean oxygen and engagement with stakeholders, such as mentoring programmes

- o Estimated budget/personnel support: 150.000 USD

- o Timing: 2025-2026

4. Outreach and communication

- Support for the production of digital media products to promote ocean oxygen literacy and encourage engagement with GO2NE

- Facilitation of engagement with civil society and the private sector via UN Ocean Decade projects, in workshops, and ocean literacy events

- Support the organization of stakeholder meetings

- o Estimated budget/personnel support: 1 FTE, 150.000 USD

- o Timing: 2025-2026

77. One Ocean Network for Deep Observation

Contact: Nan-Chin Chu - spobs@ifremer.fr

Website: <https://www.onedeeppocean.org/>

We would like to promote mobility for global students and early career ocean professionals in order to build their capacities in deep ocean observation, in particular to have access to the observatories infrastructures managed by key partners of the programme. The training can be tailor-made based on the offer of the partner and the candidate profile but the training scheme should focus on deep-sea research, observational technique & engineering and/or their communication & outreach. We would like the contribution to cover the travel and accommodation of the trainees, with a priority given to candidates from the Global South. While each programme partner could eventually provide ad-hoc support, the contribution, estimated for €60,000/year, is essential to allow 10 candidates travelling to Canada, Japan, or any European countries for a training period of 2 weeks.

Timeframe: 2025 - 2030

90. Sustainability of Marine Ecosystems through global knowledge networks (SmartNET)

Contact: Steven Bograd and Sanae Chiba: steven.bograd@noaa.gov;
Sanae.Chiba@pices.int

Website: <https://www.ices.dk/about-ICES/global-cooperation/Pages/Smartnet.aspx>

- 1) Primary need is for part-time personnel to provide Programme Coordination. Coordinator would:
 - i. Maintain regular correspondence with Steering Committee and Programme Network, including planning (quarterly) virtual meetings;
 - ii. Respond to requests from DCU, including annual reports and resource needs assessments;
 - iii. Work with Steering Committee to plan Network Workshops;
 - iv. Maintain Programme web presence.

The estimated cost of a full-time Programme Coordinator is approximately U.S. \$120,000/year; In-kind support (loan of personnel) from partner nations or organizations would suffice. Needed time period is 2025-2028 at a minimum, 2025-2030 ideally.

- 2) We would like to host one international Workshop per year, preferably with a hybrid format (in-person and virtual), from 2025-2030. Targeted participants include ECOPs, especially those from LDCs and SIDS, and could include training opportunities (estimated 20-25 participants). Workshops could leverage existing planned meetings to minimize travel and logistical costs (e.g., SmartNet Workshops have been held at the past four PICES Annual Meetings, the ECCWO Meeting in 2023, and the Ocean Decade Meeting in 2024). The primary need is for financial support to cover participant travel and logistical costs (facility rental), estimated at approximately U.S. \$50,000/year; however, leveraging existing meetings would lower the required costs.

Workshop themes still need to be finalized by the Programme Steering Committee, but priority themes include:

- Best Practices for Climate-Ready Fisheries Management
- Community and Stakeholder Engagement in SIDS
- Community-Supported Observations and Data Collection
- Integration of Different Knowledge Systems in the Climate-Fisheries Nexus

118. Sustainability, Predictability and Resilience of Marine Ecosystems (SUPREME)

Contact: Steven Bograd and Grace Roskar - steven.bograd@noaa.gov;
grace.roskar@noaa.gov

Website: <https://oceandecade.org/actions/sustainability-predictability-and-resilience-of-marine-ecosystems-supreme/>

- 1) Primary need is for part-time personnel to provide Programme Coordination. Coordinator would:
 - Maintain regular correspondence with Steering Committee and Programme Network, including planning (quarterly) virtual meetings;

- Respond to requests from DCU, including annual reports and resource needs assessments;
 - Work with Steering Committee to plan Network Workshops;
 - Maintain Programme web presence.
- 2) We would like to host one international Workshop per year, preferably with a hybrid format (in-person and virtual), from 2025-2030. Targeted participants include representatives from Network partners, with a focus on ECOPs, and could include training opportunities (estimated 20-25 participants). Workshops could leverage existing planned meetings to minimize travel and logistical costs (e.g., SUPREME Workshops have been held at the prior PICES Annual Meetings and the ECCWO Meeting in 2023). The primary need is for financial support to cover participant travel and logistical costs (facility rental), estimated at approximately U.S. \$50,000/year; however, leveraging existing meetings would lower the required costs.

Workshop themes still need to be finalized by the Programme Steering Committee, but priority themes include:

- Comparative Studies of End-to-End Modeling Frameworks for Climate-Informed Ecosystem Management
- Community and Stakeholder Engagement in Support of Climate-Informed Ecosystem Management
- Training in End-to-End Modeling Components, with focus on ECOPs in LDCs and SIDS

The estimated cost of a full-time Programme Coordinator is approximately U.S. \$120,000/year; In-kind support (loan of personnel) from partner nations or organizations would suffice. Needed time period is 2025-2028 at a minimum, 2025-2030 ideally.

129. Deep Ocean Observing Strategy (DOOS)

Contact: Lisa Levin and Leslie Smith - llevin@ucsd.edu; leslie.smith@youroceanconsulting.co

Website: <https://deep-ocean-observing-strategy-ut-austin.hub.arcgis.com/>

Support for participation at UNOC 25 in Nice → 10K (3-4 people)

Support for Early career Leadership Skills Workshop: Deep ECOP/DOERs → 50-75K (20-25 people) (2024-2026)

Support for Publication Costs: Open access fees for products of deep ocean desktop studies and working groups (10K): 2024-26

137. Digital Twins of the Ocean (DITTO)

Contact: Joanna Staneva and Fei Chai - joanna.staneva@hereon.de; fchai@xmu.edu.cn

Website: <https://ditto-oceandecade.org/>

Digital Twins of the Ocean offer many opportunities for a huge group of people of various backgrounds. We would like to offer training Workshops involving stakeholders and

practitioners for capacity building in the context of Digital Twins of the Ocean (DITTO) as well as training courses and summer schools to be able to exploit the full potential of digital twins in different challenges people face globally. These trainings should be preferable in-person workshops, from 2024-2030, ideally 1-3 per year and we would propose two types of meetings for smaller workshops and larger meetings with more participants. Targeted participants include ECOPs, especially those from LDCs and SIDS, and could include training opportunities (estimated 20-25 participants). Workshops could leverage existing planned meetings to minimize travel and logistical costs (e.g., DITTO summits, Cabo Verde week,...). The primary need is for financial support to cover participant travel and logistical costs (facility rental), estimated at approximately U.S. \$50,000/year; however, leveraging existing meetings would lower the required costs.

Workshop themes still need to be finalized by the Programme Steering Committee, but priority themes include the working group topics of DITTO:

- Supportive Ocean Observations & Data Systems
- Data analytics & prediction engines
- Data lakes & interoperability
- Interactive layers & visualizations
- Framework: architecture, design & implementation
- Education, training & capacity development

144. CoastPredict - Observing and Predicting the Global Coastal Ocean

Contact: Mairéad O'Donovan and Nadia Pinardi - mairiad.odonovan@cmcc.it; nadia.pinardi@unibo.it

Website: coastpredict.org

1) start an active capacity-building program for CoastPredict science and technology to share best practices across the Global Coastal Ocean. Support for participants from Global South countries to 1-2 such training courses in 2025-2027 would be greatly appreciated. The ideal amount to support would be EUR 210.000

2) start a proactive engagement of a larger ECOP community by supporting a specific Workshop about "CoastPredict strengthening young professional for coastal resilience", ~50.000 euro for invited students. The ideal timeframe for support would be from 2025 to 2027

Please check the [2024 General Assembly Report](#) that outlines with more details the gaps that require contributions.

172. Global Ecosystem for Ocean Solutions (GEOS)

Contact: Leonardo Valenzuela Pérez: leonardo@oceanvisions.org

Website: <https://oceanvisions.org/geos/>

We welcome financial contributions for ocean-climate innovation fellowships, to support the work of innovation leaders to sustain the operation of ocean climate innovation hubs to build capacity and infrastructure through collaboration for ocean-based climate mitigation initiatives around the world. These hubs operate in countries with high potential and restricted access to resources. We require USD \$50,000 per hub/per year. We are aiming to fundraise at least USD \$500,000 per year and continue expanding the initiative through the rest of the decade. Currently we are funding three fellows in Colombia, Kenya, and Tanzania, through this initiative.

189. Joint Exploration of the Twilight Zone Ocean Network (JETZON)

Contact: Adrian Martin - adrian.martin@noc.ac.uk

Website: <https://jetzon.org/>

In-kind support for coordinating JETZON – roughly 20% of someone’s time is required. Funds to allow a group of JETZON ECOPs to showcase their work leading a major review of the role of marine life in storing carbon in the ocean at the UN Ocean Conference 2025 - ~\$12k is required.

219. Ocean Acidification Research for Sustainability (OARS)

Contact: Amy Kenworthy - ake@pml.ac.uk

Websites:

OARS overview: <http://www.goa-on.org/oars/overview.php>

OARS Commitments: www.oars-commitments.org

White papers: http://www.goa-on.org/oars/white_papers.php

Contribution to coordination of the programme, e.g. in-kind, hosting of meetings, outreach and communication, capacity development (travel support), increase in-kind and financial support to OA data efforts. Partnerships with journals, e.g. free access to journals, or reduced fee for journals.

Annual financial or in-kind needs:

\$150 000 Project coordination (in-kind or financial) - September 2025

\$50 000 Outreach and communication – 2025 - 2030

\$80 000 Travel support for teachers and students – 2025 - 2030

\$60 000 In-kind (access to journals and fees for submission) - 2025-2030

8.2. Global Ocean Negative Carbon Emission (Global ONCE)

Contact: Prof. Tingwei Luo and Prof. Jihua Liu - luo1979@xmu.edu.cn;
liujihua1982@foxmail.com

Website: <https://www.global-once.org/>

- 1) **Global ONCE International Cooperation Fund**, to support collaborative interdisciplinary research to fill the knowledge gap of ONCE mechanisms, capacity development in scaling up ONCE approaches, and promoting ocean literacy, etc.
- 2) **Secondment of staff to the International Program Office (IPO) of Global ONCE**, to provide coordination and management support to the operation of the Global ONCE, with flexible duty station arrangements for a minimum of six months.
- 3) **Support participation in training and workshops**, including the Annual ONCE-UBC Joint Summer School Program which lasts 1 month. (Budget: ~6700 USD/year).
- 4) **Support organization of events**, including UN Ocean Conference, PICES/ICES, Xiamen World Ocean Week (XWOW), AGU, WLA, WSTDF, OSM, Ocean Visions, and UNFCCC COP events, etc. (Budget:5000~10000 USD/year)

11.2. Global Ocean Decade Programme for Blue Carbon (GO-BC)

Contact: George Biddulph and William Austin - gb216@st-andrews.ac.uk; wena@st-andrews.ac.uk;

Website: <https://www.go-bc.co.uk/>

We welcome any financial contribution that would help support our current ongoing capacity building activities across the globe - an example would be our capacity building activities in India and Viet Nam this year.

There is no particular limit to the financial contributions that we would be happy to accept, only that for a contribution to make a sizable impact, something in the realm of £5,000-10,000 would be a great start. As for timeframes for when we would like to receive any potential contributions, and when we can utilise them, this is slightly more fluid, and we do not run capacity building programmes/events at set times. This is because the countries we visit change each time (part of our global aspirations) and as a result, so do the most appropriate times to visit, due to weather/climate.

TIMEFRAME: 2025-2026

18.2. Ocean to Climate Seamless Forecasting System (OSF)

Contact: Prof. Shizhu Wang: wangsz@fio.org.cn

Website: <https://www.osf-un-ocean-decade.com/>

Contribution proposals that can provide in kind and/or financial support (US\$ 21 million) to implement the OSF Programme and its Projects, and to actively build collaborations, Knowledge Sharing, and co-design activities between OSF and other existing Ocean Decade Actions. The contributions should focus on support for:

- 1) Deployment, testing, and maintenance of buoys, including overseas testing for 3 months each year. To ensure the successful deployment and operation of buoys, delivering real-time ocean environment variables, the estimated cost is US\$20 million. > 2024 - 2030
- 2) Construction of the OSF Global Big Data Centre. Analyses, visualization, and sharing of forecasting results through the establishment of one Big-data Centre which includes 5 workstations in total. With the employment of cutting-edge techniques such as cloud tools, the overall goal is to deliver user-friendly visualization results and highly precise data that truly meet scientific and societal needs. The estimated cost for each workstation is US\$1.0 million. > 2025-2026

1.6. The Future of Fisheries & Marine Ecosystems (FishMIP)

Contact: Julia Blanchard and Camilla Novaglio - fishmip.coordinators@gmail.com

Website: www.fishmip.org

To help advance the work of FishMIP 2.0 we are seeking support funds to assist with our Ocean Decade Programme. There are several areas where we particularly require further funding to help support the successful outcomes of this programme.

<u>Description</u>	<u>Breakdown</u>	<u>Budget (Euros)</u>
<i>Secretariat - administration support</i>	<i>Executive administration</i> <i>staff-time for communications, workshop organisation, website,</i> <i>and related administrative and reporting duties</i>	<i>25 000-50 000 Euros for</i> <i>1-2 days/week of staff time per year</i>
<i>Capacity Building: Training Workshops for</i>	<i>Travel and organisation of</i>	<i>30 000 - 50 000 Euros per workshop</i>

<u>Description</u>	<u>Breakdown</u>	<u>Budget (Euros)</u>
<p>1. Accessing and using outputs for stakeholders' needs</p> <p>2. Underrepresented areas joining</p> <p>the regional modeling group and implementing the regional protocol</p>	<p>Workshops</p> <p>Staff time for developing tutorials</p>	
<p>Science communications and outreach</p>	<p>Translation services for website content</p>	<p>In kind/or based on UN consultancy rates</p>
<p>Early career researcher travel scholarships</p>	<p>Funds for shorter-term and long-term travel exchanges to non-host countries</p> <p>(shorter-term can include conference/workshop attendance)</p>	<p>5000 - 10 000 Euros per student depending on length of stay</p>

<u>Description</u>	<u>Breakdown</u>	<u>Budget (Euros)</u>
PhD scholarships	<p>Funds for PhD scholarship in research areas that contribute models to FishMIP or use model</p> <p>outputs for policy-relevant applications</p>	13 500 - 22 000 Euros per candidate per year to contribute to or cover part or full time study
<p>Post-doctoral funds to advance</p> <p>Working Groups</p>	<p>Post-doctoral research funds to accelerate research undertaken</p> <p>in FishMIP working groups</p> <p>(2-3 years of PDRA salary)</p>	<u>80 000 - 120 000 Euros per post-doc per year</u>

UN5. The Ocean Best Practices Programme

Contact: Rebecca Zitoun - and Aileen Hwai; decade@oceanbestpractices.org

Website: <https://www.oceanbestpractices.org/ocean-practices-for-the-decade/>

1) in-kind contributions:

- Help advocate OBPS and the development, convergence, and endorsement of practices and standards

- Help with the communication and media aspect of the OceanPractices Program (e.g., managing our social media channels, designing posters and flyers etc)
- Help with the annual OBPS workshop
- Help with capacity development activities (e.g., providing locations, communications, translations)
- Motivate the development, adaptation and use of practices in regions with limited infrastructure
- Help with the activities of our working groups and task teams

2) financial contributions:

- financial support for communication resources (\$ 3000)
- dedicated permanent IT support for the OBPS repository (salary)
- support for the annual OBPS workshop (2000 \$)
- support of our OBPS Ambassador program (\$2500, every 2-years)

UN7. Ocean Literacy with All (OLWA)

Contact: Ana Vitoria Tereza de Magalhães and Francesca Santoro - av.de-magalhaes@unesco.org; f.santoro@unesco.org

Website: <https://oceanliteracy.unesco.org/ocean-literacy-with-all/>

Budget OLWA		YEAR 1	
		EUR	USD
1	1. Engaging the community of practice (COP)	30.000,00	33.040,00
1.1	Travel grants for members of COP (5 grants, reference Tokyo)	7.500,00	8.260,00
1.2	Tickets for 5 members of the COP	7.500,00	8.260,00
1.3	Travel grants for members of COP (5 grants, reference Nice)	7.500,00	8.260,00
1.4	Tickets for 5 members of the COP	7.500,00	8.260,00
2	2. Blue Schools	142.000,00	156.388,00
2.1	Creation of annual event for 40 people, reference Venice	50.000,00	55.066,00
2.3	Development of annual report with data compilation	10.000,00	11.013,00
2.3	Development of blue schools promotional video	5.000,00	5.507,00
2.4	Grant for 1 national coordination (pilot project)	6.000,00	6.608,00
2.5	Grant for a 2nd national coordination (pilot project)	6.000,00	6.608,00
3	Dedicated person on blue school (year budget)	65.000,00	71.586,00
	3. Ocean Literacy Dialogues	124.550,00	137.170,00
3.1	Total travel support Nice	22.275,00	24.532,00
3.2	Total travel support Tokyo	22.275,00	24.532,00
3	Creation of workshop on cultural heritage for 20 participants	30.000,00	33.040,00
4	ECOP: 3.6 Training course on Policy engagement for 20 people	50.000,00	55.066,00
	4. Corporate training	30.000,00	33.040,00
4.1	Development of 5 hours training on OTGA	20.000,00	22.026,00
4.2	Video maker and edition of videos, subtitles and eventual translation	10.000,00	11.013,00

Budget OLWA		YEAR 1	
		EUR	USD
	5. Blue Cities	56.000,00	61.674,00
5.1	Creation of event for 60 people, reference Venice	50.000,00	55.066,00
5.2	Establishment of grants for thematic projects on OL	6.000,00	6.608,00
	6. Ocean Literacy research	167.800,00	184.802,00
6.1	Funds to support administering the Ocean & Society Survey in 10 additional countries prior to UNOC	76.300,00	84.031,00
6.2	Development of research commons & translation of Ocean Literacy Research Community website/platform	6.100,00	6.718,00
6.3	Grant for development of educational and social standards of common OL indicators and dimensions	42.700,00	47.026,00
6.4	Grant for development of methods to measure impact of OL initiatives	42.700,00	47.026,00
	7. Communication	65.225,00	71.834,00
7.1	Organization of science communication training for 30 participants, reference Nice (France)	50.000,00	55.066,00
7.2	Tickets for ECOPs, reference Nice	6.500,00	7.159,00
7.3	Travel grants for ECOPs (5 travel grants, reference Nice, France)	8.725,00	9.609,00
	8. Regional OLWA Hubs	152.000,00	167.401,00
8.1	Latin America Hub, OLWA Officer	38.000,00	41.850,00
8.2	Africa Hub, OLWA Officer	38.000,00	41.850,00
8.3	Asia Hub, OLWA Officer	38.000,00	41.850,00
8.4	Oceania OLWA Officer	38.000,00	41.850,00
TOTAL BUDGET		767.575,00	845.347,00

Annex III

Priority needs for Decade Implementing Partners

Decade Implementing Partners (DIPs) are non-UN regional or international stakeholder organizations that sit outside formal governance and coordination structures of the Ocean Decade, while providing targeted support to the Decade Coordination Unit and decentralized coordination structures – including Decade Coordination Offices and Decade Collaborative Centers.

The type of support each DIP provides depends on the individual organisation's focus and resources, but can include:

- convening Ocean Decade partners;
- co-designing Decade Actions;
- communications and outreach;
- support to meetings and conferences.

Through the Call for Decade Actions No. 08/2024, the Ocean Decade is soliciting Decade Implementing Partners that can **coordinate the Community of Practice (CoP) on Sustainable Blue Food focusing on strengthening sustainable aquatic food production and innovation for new frontiers with a focus on developing countries and strengthened public-private partnerships.** The main support entails the redefinition and revitalization of the CoP's membership to welcome and encourage engagement by Decade partners beyond endorsed Decade Actions and increased guidance and support from the Decade Coordination Unit for the functioning of this group so that they can fulfil their roles as platforms for exchange, collaboration and partnership development.

If you have any questions about how to become a Decade Implementing Partner, please contact us at oceandecade@unesco.org

Annex IV

Ocean Decade Capacity Development Facility: Priority Capacity Development Needs

Building on the capacity development strategic framework of the Ocean Decade Implementation Plan and the work of IOC/UNESCO in capacity development, the [Ocean Decade Capacity Development Facility](#) supports actors wishing to engage in the co-design of future Decade Actions, as well as individuals and institutions engaged in existing Decade Actions who may require further support on targeted capacity development initiatives. This Facility places a special emphasis on actors from SIDS, LDCs, and early career ocean professionals

This is achieved by:

- Identifying priority capacity development needs of existing and future proponents of Decade Actions
- Delivering initiatives to meet the identified capacity development needs via the Facility
- Supporting the facilitation of an Ocean Decade Community of Practice focusing on capacity development

Through a consultative process involving a diverse range of stakeholders, including Decade Programmes, regional taskforces, and insights from annual monitoring and evaluation reports and surveys, a needs assessment was conducted. Based on this evaluation, a first set of broad priority capacity development needs have been identified as follows:

1. Ocean-Climate Systems
2. Marine Biodiversity
3. Marine Pollution
4. Science-Policy Interface
5. Data management
6. Co-Design

Through the Call for Decade Actions No. 08/2024, the Capacity Development Facility is soliciting contributions of in-kind and/or financial support for capacity development initiatives in line with the identified priorities. This could include: (i) financial or in-kind resources (e.g. staff time) to develop new capacity development initiatives, or (ii) the submission of existing relevant capacity development initiatives for inclusion as part of the Facility’s offer available to Ocean Decade beneficiaries. More specifically, contributions are sought for the following priorities for each of the Facility’s target groups:

Africa	Caribbean SIDS	Pacific SIDS	ECOPs
<i>Managing, Financing & Leading Ocean Projects</i>	<i>Mapping and modelling the ocean-climate interaction</i>	<i>Mapping and modelling ocean climate interactions</i>	<i>Sustainable Ocean Planning</i>
<i>Sustainable Ocean Planning</i>	<i>Measuring cumulative impacts and multiple stressors</i>	<i>Engaging Local and Indigenous knowledge holders</i>	<i>Managing, leading & financing ocean projects</i>
<i>Low cost technology & infrastructure solutions for data gathering & management</i>	<i>Sustainable Ocean Planning Engaging Local & Indigenous Knowledge holders</i>	<i>Sustainable Ocean Planning</i>	<i>Science communication to support policy development</i>
<i>Mapping and modelling</i>		<i>Science communication to support policy development</i>	<i>Engaging local and indigenous knowledge holders</i>

Africa	Caribbean SIDS	Pacific SIDS	ECOPs
<i>marine biodiversity</i> <i>Science communication to support policy development</i>	<i>Stakeholder engagement via transdisciplinary approaches</i>	<i>Low cost technology & infrastructure solutions for data gathering and management</i>	<i>Stakeholder engagement via transdisciplinary approaches</i>

Further information on the Capacity Development and the solicitation of contributions through this Call can be obtained from a.clausen@unesco.org