



# IFAG – 2nd online meeting

19 February 2025

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

# 2026-2027 Programming & Budgeting – most recent developments

**Draft 43 C/5 is currently being finalized by UNESCO Secretariat for presentation to the UNESCO Executive Board at its 221<sup>st</sup> session in April 2025**

## **2 ZNG scenarios and 1 ZRG (light) scenario under preparation:**

- Both ZNG absorb additional costs approved by the 220<sup>th</sup> session of the Board (220 Decision/17)
- Both result in nominal allocation reduction for all sectors and services, including IOC
- IOC budgetary allocation is maintained at 3% of the total UNESCO regular budget

Regular budget for IOC: **ZNG Option 1 - \$20.7 M**  
**ZNG Option 2 - \$21.0 M**

**ZRG (light) - \$21.9 M (vs 42 C/5 - \$21.1M)**



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# 2026-2027 Programming & Budgeting – most recent developments

✓ No changes to regular budget staff establishment = no new posts

✓ Increase in UNESCO standard costs: +\$1.1 M

	42 C/5		Draft 43 C/5					
			ZNG 1		ZNG 2		ZRG	
	\$	%	\$	%	\$	%	\$	%
Non-Staff	9.0	43%	7.5	36%	7.7	37%	8.6	39%
Staff	12.1	57%	13.2	64%	13.2	63%	13.2	61%
<b>Total</b>	<b>21.1</b>		<b>20.7</b>		<b>21.0</b>		<b>21.9</b>	



# 2026-2027 Programming & Budgeting – most recent developments

Full alignment  
with IOC Medium-  
Term Strategy  
& Resolutions  
A-32/4 & EC-57/2

- ✓ ZNG 1 – across the board non-staff regular budget reduction to 83 % of 42 C/5
- ✓ ZNG 2 – across the board non-staff regular budget reduction to 86% of 42 C/5
- ✓ Targeted funding for SIDS under UNSG Early Warning for All initiative
- ✓ ZRG – Functions B and F (GOOS, IODE, CD & RSBs) maintained at 42 C/5 level (100%)

Other functions at 86% of 42 C/5

IOCAFRICA at 98% of 42 C/5 (\$ 918K)

Work with Member States and UN partners to increase the understanding of ocean-related risks and to implement effective multi-hazard early warning systems

## IOC and the Future of the Ocean Consultation

### REMINDER OF PHASED CONSULTATION PROCESS

- IOC Resolution EC-57/2 Governance, Programming and Budgeting Matters of the Commission
- 3-year consultation process with three main phases:
  - i. Phase 1: “demand side assessment” June 2024 – June 2025:  
Needs in knowledge, decision-making and action presented to IOC Assembly
  - ii. Phase 2: “supply side assessment” June 2025 – June 2026:  
Dialogue on the effectiveness of multilateral ocean frameworks presented to Executive Council
  - iii. Phase 3: “integrated assessment” June 2026 – June 2027:  
IOC and the Future of the Ocean presented to IOC Assembly
- Consultation with IOC programmes, Regional Subsidiary Bodies, Member States and other stakeholders
- Regular reporting to IFAG, and reporting of the results of the first phase to 33<sup>rd</sup> Session of the IOC Assembly

# IOC and the Future of the Ocean Consultation – Phase 1

## OVERALL METHODOLOGY

### Core consultation question:

“What are under-served needs of IOC’s stakeholders (Member States & partners) in relation to:

1. Science based sustainable ocean planning
2. Ocean science to support implementation of relevant UN conventions & frameworks
3. Development of a sustainable ocean economy

### Key methods of data collection:

- Interviews x 20
- Focus group discussions x 20
- Member State survey

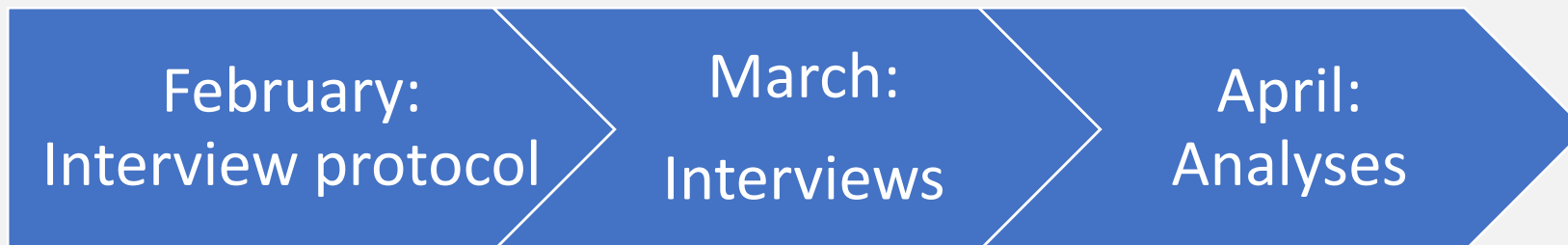


Background analyses: background paper built on ‘Sustainable delivery & expansion of IOC activities: estimate of required budget, including HR needs’ (IOC-32/5.Doc(1))

## IOC and the Future of the Ocean Consultation – Phase 1

### INTERVIEWS

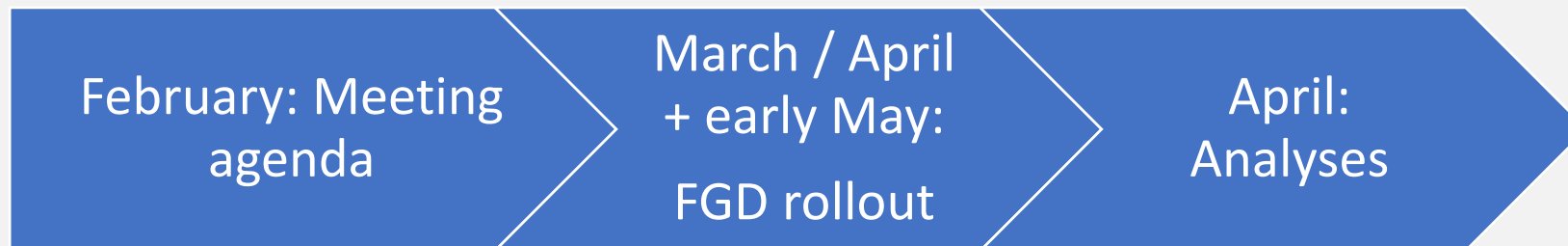
- Appr. 20 interviews led by consultant team:
  - IOC Chair + Member States (IOC focal points + others with balanced Electoral Group representation)
  - International and regional multilateral and intergovernmental organisations (MDBs, RDBs, UN economic commissions & agencies)
  - Private sector actors (insurance, finance, maritime technology and services, shipping)
- Background paper provided in advance of interviews
- Elicit responses and feedback on core question for Phase 1 consultation



# IOC and the Future of the Ocean Consultation – Phase 1

## FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS

- Five Focus Group Discussions:
  - WESTPAC (March 2025), IOCINDIO (April 2025), IOCARIBE (April 2025), IOCAFRICA (May 2025)
  - SOPM Working Group in-person meeting (March 2025)
- Structured 60 – 90 minute discussions led by IOC Secretariat:
  - Perceived needs and gaps
  - Significance of gaps and needs
- Approach based on “Observations, Views, Interpretations and Decisions’ and structured around a standard agenda

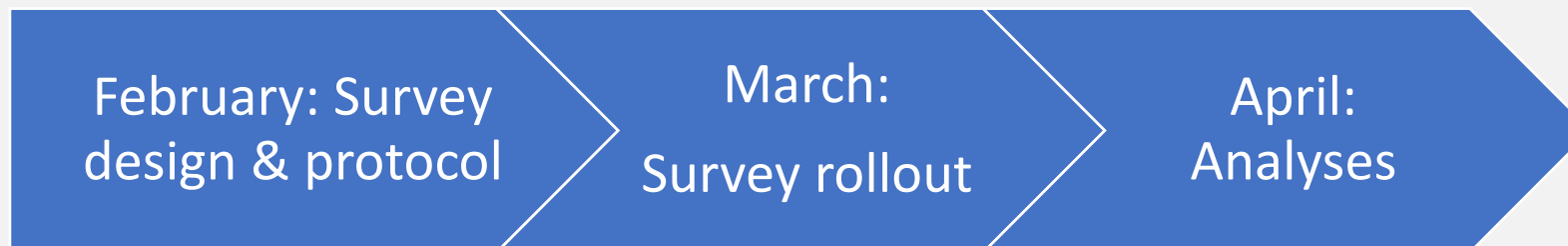




## IOC and the Future of the Ocean Consultation – Phase 1

### MEMBER STATE SURVEY

- Electronic survey to all Member States using Survey Monkey accompanied by background paper
- Respondents encouraged to consult across Ministries to collate broad views
- Basic information on respondent (including familiarity with IOC) + quantitative and qualitative data collection using open and closed questions (max. 12 substantive questions)
- Two closed questions + 1 open question on each pillar i.e.
  1. How the respondent classifies the extent of their unmet need in relation to the pillar (six part Likert scale) and open question to elaborate
  2. Extent to which this unmet need represents a problem (six part Likert scale) and open question to elaborate



# IOC and the Future of the Ocean Consultation – Phase 1

## OUTPUTS

- **Background paper** for use in different consultation formats (February 2025)
- **Consultation tools** including survey design and piloting, interview protocol, FGD agenda (February 2025)
- **Technical reporting** with quantitative and qualitative data analyses (April 2025)
- **Summary of key findings** and discussion with IFAG (April 2025)
- **Assembly documentation** including synthesis of analyses and recommendations for Phase 2 consultation (April / May 2025)



# THANK YOU



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