



2021  
2030 United Nations Decade  
of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development

## **CHARTER FOR ENDORSED DECADE PROJECT**

Congratulations! After a thorough review process, the Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC) has endorsed your Decade Project as part of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (the Ocean Decade).

This endorsement is a recognition that your project will play a central role in supporting the Ocean Decade mission to catalyse transformative ocean science solutions for sustainable development, connecting people and the ocean, in order to achieve the Ocean Decade vision of 'the science we need for the ocean we want'.

This Charter document sets out the responsibilities of the partners responsible for implementing the project, as well as providing other useful information and conditions pertaining to the endorsement.

### **I. DURATION AND SCOPE OF ENDORSEMENT**

1. The endorsement of the project will be valid for the duration that you identified in your submission. If there is a material change in the duration of the implementation period of more than six (6) months, please notify the Decade Coordination Unit in writing so that we can determine whether a subsequent endorsement evaluation is required.
2. The endorsement of the project is for the scope that was detailed in the submission to the Decade Coordination Unit, any subsequent supplementary information provided to the Decade Coordination Unit during the evaluation process, and any conditions or requirements identified in the endorsement letter from the Executive Secretary of the IOC. If you plan any significant changes to the project, including its strategy, plan and/or partners, please advise the Decade Coordination Unit as soon as possible so that we can determine whether a subsequent endorsement evaluation is required.

### **II. RESPONSIBILITIES OF AN ENDORSED DECADE PROJECT**

3. As a Decade Project, your project will play a prominent role in delivering against the ambitions of the Ocean Decade and contributing to one or more Ocean Decade Challenge[s]. Specifically, the project will be responsible for:
  - i. Ensuring close and regular coordination and communication with the nominated Decade coordination structures including any relevant Decade Programmes, Decade Coordination Offices, Decade Collaborative Centres and Decade Implementing Partners. This includes, amongst other issues, provision of information to your umbrella programme, such as information needed for resources needs assessments, work planning, and annual monitoring and reporting. The Decade Coordination Unit, and if applicable your umbrella programme, will provide information on the Decade coordination structures relevant to your project.
  - ii. Playing an active role in relevant Communities of Practice via the Global Stakeholder Forum to collaborate with other Decade partners and thus contribute to the collective impact of the Decade.
  - iii. Ensuring coordination amongst partners involved in your project. This will include facilitating co-design and co-delivery within your project to meet the stated objectives, as well as coordinating work planning, implementation of activities, collation of information on resource needs and monitoring, and contributing to communications and outreach.

- iv. Working with Decade coordination structures to catalyse the co-design and co-delivery with new Decade Actions and partnerships. This will include actively participating in the structure within which your project resides
- v. Consolidating monitoring information at the project level for sharing with your umbrella programme if applicable, or the Decade Coordination Unit in line with the requirements of the Decade Monitoring & Evaluation framework. The Decade Coordination Unit will provide information on the annual monitoring information that you will need to provide.
- vi. Providing regular information on resources needs and gaps for operational and coordination activities. Playing a lead and active role in resource mobilisation efforts for the programme, and ensuring close and regular coordination and communication with Decade coordination structures in relation to resource mobilisation efforts, achievements and opportunities.
- vii. Contributing to communications and outreach activities to raise awareness of the impact and achievements of your project.
- viii. Contributing to regular review processes led by the Decade coordination structures that are envisaged in the Implementation Plan.

### **III. BENEFITS OF AN ENDORSED DECADE PROJECT**

- 4. Your project will be recognized on the Ocean Decade website (oceandecade.org), and included in Ocean Decade communications materials and assets (e.g. social media channels, reports, Ocean Decade events).
- 5. As a Decade Project, you will be able to use the Ocean Decade logo in line with the Ocean Decade Branding Guidelines in relevant materials and assets, including, but not limited to, peer-reviewed papers, reports, programme website, programme materials, press materials and/or social media channels. Please note that you cannot grant or authorise use of the logo to any third party.

### **IV. SUSPENSION OR TERMINATION OF ENDORSEMENT**

- 6. Please note that in extreme cases the IOC may suspend or terminate this endorsement if there is a failure to fulfil the responsibilities outlined in this Charter or if annual resources needs assessments indicate that despite the best efforts of the Project Lead and the Decade coordination structures the project has failed after a reasonable period of time to mobilise sufficient resources to operate as a Decade Project.
- 7. The Project Lead may also indicate in writing to the IOC at any time that it no longer wishes to be recognised as an endorsed Decade Project.

Thank you for your engagement in the Ocean Decade and we look forward to creating the ocean we want by 2030!