UNESCO/IOC Ocean Traineeship (2025 Cohort)

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

The UNESCO-IOC Ocean Traineeship aim to provide opportunities for hands-on learning and upskilling through a temporary assignment at host institutions with expertise on subject areas relevant to the IOC mandate.

As an IOC Ocean Trainee you will be able to learn specific technical skills that you require in your home institution and for which the host institution and mentor have expertise. You will, after hands-on training, be asked to carry out work that is regularly done by the mentor.

Who can apply?
training applicants must:
- be at the early stages of career development;
- be citizens from IOC Member States included in the DAC List of ODA (refer to list from OECD DAC);
- be employed by government institutions;
- work on activities contributing to implementation of work plans adopted by IOC Regional Sub-Commissions.

What are the priority areas of expertise/topics?

For 2025 cohort, there are six (6) host institutions that offer placements to trainees, providing their expertise in priority areas. Applicants will be asked to indicate which of the host institutions best fit their training objectives and how undertaking the training at the said host institution relates to their current role and will benefit their employing institutions. Please refer to Annex I for summary table of the host institutions and their priority topics, mentor information and areas of expertise. . You may access the workplan of each institution for the trainees in this link.

Application Process

trainee applicants should complete the application form online here. It is also a requirement to attach a recommendation letter from your supervisor at your employing institution.

DEADLINE for applications is on 15 June 2025 23:59 (Central European Summer Time). All applicants will be informed of the decision by mid July 2025. Do not leave for the last minute since the system will close automatically. In case you have any questions please contact the organisers (email: ioc.training@unesco.org) well in advance and always using the name of the call in the subject. Be aware that given time differences you may not get a reply to your question(s) immediately.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Applications will be evaluated by the UNESCO-IOC and host institutions based on the following:
1. Applicant's profile;
2. Quality of the application;
3. Relevance of the application to the priorities included in the IOC Regional Sub-Commission workplans;
4. Justification how the traineeship will contribute to building the capacity of the individual and his/her employer organization with lasting impact to the regional capacity;
5. Geographic and gender balance amongst the recipients of the IOC Ocean Traineeship

Qualified applications will be forwarded to the respective host institutions for their review. The final deliberations will be conducted by the IOC CD team and the host institution's supervisor/mentor.

If shortlisted, an interview will be arranged to co-design the work plan in close collaboration with the host supervisor/mentor.

Terms of the traineeship

For 2025 cohort, the 3-month traineeship starts between September to December 2025.

The training does not constitute a salary. The IOC will provide the following to successful trainees:
1. Round trip international air ticket to and from the airport of the trainees country of residence to the nearest airport to the host institution.
2. A monthly stipend will be provided to cover your expenses during the training and will be based on the amount recommended by the host institution. Details on expected expenses can be discussed with the host institution.
3. Travel insurance
4. The itraining does not cover other expenses incurred domestically such as local transport, visa costs, medical tests, etc.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

OCEANTRAINING APPLICATION TEMPLATE

OECD DAC LIST OF ODA RECIPIENTS 2024-2025

Annex I. LIST OF HOST INSTITUTIONS

HOST INSTITUTION/ LOCATION	WORKING LANGUAGE/S	ESTIMATED MONTHLY COSTS (USD)	TOPICS COVERED	MENTOR
Servicio de Hidrografia Naval Buenos Aires, Argentina	Spanish	1600	Update of wave models,Marine forecast,Storm surge forcasts	Alvaro Scardilli
INCOIS Hyderabad, India	English	650	Ocean Data Quality Control, Remote Sensing, Data Analysis and Machine Learning	PavanKumar Jonnakuti
Natural History Museum of Denmark Copenhagen, Denmark	English	3200	Comprehensive taxonomic training and indentification of HAB species by light microscopy,Training in culture techniques,training in molecular PCR methods and phylogenetic analyses	Nina Lundholm
CSIRO NCMI Information and Data Centre Tasmania, Australia	English	3000	Marine biodiversity data publishing	Katherine Tattersall
INVEMAR - Marine and Coastal Research Institute in Colombia Santa Marta, Colombia	English/ Spanish	700	Ocean Data & Information, Climate Change-BlueCarbon and Scientific Diplomacy	Paula Sierra-Correa
Decade Collaborative Center for Coastal Resilience, University of Bologna Bologna, Italy	English	1500	Satellite and in situ observational data analysis to understand the phenomena, numerical ocean modelling to simulate realistic flow fields and biogeochemical tracers, simulation and hazard mapping of oil pollution transport	Nadia Pinardi