

Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects (Regular Process)

12-13 December 2023



WORLD OCEAN ASSESSMENT

International Symposium of the United Nations Regular Process on strengthening the ocean science-policy interface



Bios have been edited for length and clarity.

Speakers booklet

Segment 1: Welcoming and opening remarks



Vladimir Ryabinin

Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO and Assistant Director-General of UNESCO

Vladimir Ryabinin is the Executive Secretary of the IOC, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO, and Assistant Director-General of UNESCO. He is an oceanographer, marine engineer, meteorologist, and climatologist. He originated several mathematical models for the ocean, atmosphere, wind waves, etc., and is an author of hundreds of scientific publications. Since 1980s, Dr Ryabinin has been involved in various capacities in the activities of the United Nations and contributed to core design and coordination of such international initiatives, as the Global Ocean Observing System and the World Climate Research Programme. The current work of IOC and Dr Ryabinin is focussed on creating a solid scientific foundation for managing the ocean sustainably, including through the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, 2021-2030.



Kimberly Louis

Co-Chair of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process

Ms. Kimberly Louis is a career Diplomat with just under twenty years of service to the Government of Saint Lucia. She currently serves as the Deputy Permanent Representative of Saint Lucia to the United Nations in New York. Her career began in Bilateral relations, first with responsibility for the Asia Pacific region, then leading on Western Hemisphere Affairs in the Ministry of External Affairs, before being assigned to one of the Multilateral desks and consequent posting to the Permanent Mission of Saint Lucia to the United Nations in New York. Ms. Louis has been her country's lead negotiator, for many international agreements, including three out of the four major agreements of the post-2015 development agenda and most recently the BBNJ Agreement. She currently serves as Co-Chair of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole of the General Assembly on the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects.



François Bilet, BSc (Environmental Sciences), Diplôme d'Étude Approfondies (Law and Economics of Development) and PhD (International Public Law) served as the late Elisabeth Mann Borgese's Special Assistant for almost a decade until her passing in 2002, after which he was appointed Deputy Executive Director of the International Ocean Institute Network (IOI), then Expert Advisor in Ocean Governance to the IOI, and Honorary Adviser to the President of IOI. In 2004, he assumed a post with the United Nations, in the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS), Office of Legal Affairs, where he now serves as Senior Legal Officer. Currently at DOALOS, Mr. Bilet oversees the Capacity-Building Unit and the Trust Funds Unit of DOALOS, coordinates the Maritime Security

Francois Bailet

Senior Legal Officer,
Division for Ocean Affairs and the
Law of the Sea (DOALOS)

Cluster, and leads the United Nations marking of World Oceans Day. He also served as the Secretary of the General Assembly's Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socio-economic Aspects.

Segment 2: Overview of global ocean governance and regional capacity development needs



Francois Bailet
Senior Legal Officer, DOALOS

See segment 1.



Julian Barbière
Head, Marine Policy and Regional Implementation Section, IOC-UNESCO

Julian Barbière is head of the Marine Policy and Regional Coordination Section at the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO. Educated as an environmental scientist, he has approximately 25 years of experience at the international level in the field of ocean sustainability, ocean governance, science/policy interface, and the development of technical cooperation in the field of ocean science. Playing a critical role in the development of several UN initiatives such as the preparation phase of the World Ocean Assessment, the technical framework leading to SDG14, or a global initiative in marine spatial planning that has inspired many nations to move towards ecosystem-based management approaches. Since 2017, he has been spearheading the development and coordination of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021–2030), also acting as the Decade Global Coordinator.



Hans-Otto Pörtner is a physiologist and marine biologist performing research at the Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research (AWI). Hans-Otto was Coordinating Lead Author of Ocean Systems Chapter to the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report, published in 2014, and was elected Co-Chair of Working Group II in 2015. Under his co-leadership Working Group II published the IPCC Special Report on Ocean and the Cryosphere in a Changing Climate in 2019 and its Main Report in 2022. In addition, he co-led the Scientific steering committee for the IPCC-IPBES co-sponsored workshop and report 2021 on “Biodiversity and Climate Change” and was a member of the Scientific Steering Committees of the IPCC-ICOMOS-UNESCO international co-sponsored meeting on Culture, Heritage and Climate Change, held in 2021. Hans-Otto is an

Hans-Otto Pörtner

Alfred-Wegener-Institute, Professor



Peter Mosby Haugan

Institute of Marine Research, Norway,
University of Bergen, Norway, Policy
Director

elected member of the European Academy of Sciences and was appointed by the German government to its Advisory Council on Global Change in 2020.

Peter M Haugan is Policy Director at the Norwegian Institute of Marine Research (IMR) and professor of oceanography at the Geophysical Institute, University of Bergen. He serves as Lead Expert for the High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy. During 2015-2019 he was the elected Chair of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO/IOC). He was responsible for IMR's Global Development Programme from 2019 and was part time on loan from IMR to the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2021-2022. His professional background covers physical oceanography, ocean-based climate solutions with emphasis on renewable energy as well as ocean carbon cycling, ocean climate processes and seafood. He has held professorship at University of Bergen since 1999, was Deputy Director of the Bjerknes Centre for Climate Research since its start in 2000 until 2003 and was the head of the Geophysical Institute 2003-2011. He has also worked at the University Centre in Svalbard, the Nansen Environmental and Remote Sensing Center and in industry. His present focus is on science advice and science-policy-society interactions.



Kirsten Isensee

Programme Specialist, IOC-UNESCO

Kirsten Isensee has been a programme specialist at the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO since 2012. Her work focuses on ocean carbon sources and sinks, trying to distinguish the natural and anthropogenic influences on the marine environment in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, contributing to the achievement of the outcomes of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development. She provides technical assistance to emerging ocean science activities and facilitates collaboration between scientists, policymakers and stakeholders, via networks such as the Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network and the Ocean Acidification Research for Sustainability Decade programme, the International Blue Carbon Initiative, the International Partnership for Blue Carbon, the Integrated Ocean Carbon Research Working Group, as well as the Global Ocean Oxygen Network and the related Decade programme Global Ocean Oxygen Decade. In addition she oversees the production of the Global Ocean Science Report and supports the publication of the State of the Ocean Report. She received her diploma and her PhD in marine biology from the University of Rostock, Germany.



Francisco Armando Arias Isaza
Colombia's Marine and Coastal
Research Institute – INVEMAR,
General Director

Francisco A. ARIAS-ISAZA, Buga, Colombia. Captain (Ret) Colombian Navy holds a title as Expert in Chemistry and Biology (1979), Marine Biology of Jorge Tadeo Lozano University (1982) and DEA in Coastal Management of Nantes University (1996). Through his career in the Navy engaged in marine research, oceanographic cruises, academic support and mostly in the development of the foundations for Colombia's coastal zone management. With the establishment of the Ministry of Environment of Colombia (1993) Captain Arias-Isaza was elected the first director of the transformed Marine and Coastal Research Institute – INVEMAR (1995). Under his orientation Colombia declared for the first time a National Policy for the Management of the Coastal, Marine and Insular Areas (PNAOCI, 2000) leading to the development of different actions in the protection of natural areas, the identification of coastal climate change vulnerabilities, marine spatial planning, among others for Colombia. On others, he has been part of Colombian delegations in environmental and marine international fora and negotiations, member of the Executive Planning Group of UN Decade of the Oceans (2018) and recently appointed as Chair of POGO, among other distinctions.



Immaculate Sware Semesi
Marine Parks and Reserves Unit
(MPRU), Tanzania, Manager

Dr. Immaculate Sware Semesi is skilled with 20 years' experience in research, and management of natural resources for sustainable development, and with a solid experience in managing different levels of projects, budgeting processes, monitoring & evaluation, and administration. Currently working as a Manager for Tanzania's Marine Parks and Reserves, is responsible for the governance of coastal and marine resources of Tanzania within the 2,000 km² parks areas. Dr. Semesi was previously a Lecturer and Researcher with the University of Dar es Salaam, School of Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries. After working with the University of Dar es Salaam for more than 10 years, was nominated under special parliamentary seat, at the National Parliament and served for 5 years, a position that had given Dr. Semesi exposure into the political realm, lobbying and negotiation skills, as well as formulation of policies, law making and national programmes, and national budget scrutiny. Further, working at the Tanzania's National Environment Management Council (NEMC) as Principle Environmental Management Officer, was a platform that allowed to putting into action the national environmental act (2004) and its regulations, as a tool to address key national environmental challenges, including climate change.



Johanna Diwa-Acallar
IOC Capacity Development
Deputy Coordinator

Johanna Diwa-Acallar is a capacity development specialist with experience in international development cooperation spanning over 15 years. At UNESCO IOC, she supports the global coordination of IOC's capacity development programmes and coordinates the IOC Group of Experts on Capacity Development (GE-CD), contributing to important IOC initiatives such as the new IOC CD Strategy 2023-2030 and the Ocean Capacity Development Hub (oceancd.org). Johanna has professional and academic background in issues related to the United Nations sustainable development agenda, having worked in various UN think-tank and research agencies such as the United Nations University (UNU), the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), and as Capacity Development Programme Manager of a UNDP/GEF regional ocean governance project. Johanna received a Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy (Cum Laude) from the University of the Philippines, and holds advanced professional degrees in international education and human sciences from Hiroshima University, Japan.



Marco Boccia

Programme Management Officer
and Technical Lead of the Regular
Process secretariat

Marco Boccia, BSc (International Relations major in International Public Law) and MMM (Marine Affairs major in Fisheries Governance) has worked in the field of ocean governance for almost two decades. He has covered several roles within various international organizations, such as the International Ocean Institute (IOI), the European Commission, Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and now with the United Nations, in the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS), Office of Legal Affairs.

Currently at DOALOS, Mr. Boccia coordinates and leads the DOALOS team on the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socio-economic Aspects, and serves as Deputy-Secretary of the General Assembly's Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole of the Regular Process.

Segment 4: Regional deep dive 1: the North Pacific



Maria João Bebianno
Member of the Group of Experts

Maria João Bebianno is a retired Full Professor of the University of Algarve. PhD in Marine Ecotoxicology from the University of Reading (UK) and in Oceanography from the University of Algarve and habilitation in Earth, Marine and Environmental Sciences from the University of Algarve. She was Director of the Faculty of Marine and Environmental Sciences (2005-2009)- and of the Centre for Marine and Environmental Research (CIMA) (2016-2023) of the University of Algarve. She is currently a member of the Group Expert of the Regular Process for the Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including the Socio-Economic Aspects of the United Nations. At the National level she is a member of the Portuguese Commission for the Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development and of the Portuguese Committee for the Intergovernmental of the Oceanographic Commission. She is also a member of the Superior Council of the Navy's Center for Strategic Studies and President of the General Assembly of the Portuguese Association of Women Scientists – AMONET.

See segment 2.



Kirsten Isensee
Programme Specialist, IOC-UNESCO

Ms. Siara Jeanne F. Nulada has been in the marine environment advocacy for a decade. Holding a degree in Aquaculture from the University of the Philippines in the Visayas, she currently serves as an Ecosystem Management Specialist II within the Coastal and Marine Division of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Biodiversity Management Bureau.

Ms. Nulada, a licensed SCUBA diver, actively engages in coastal and marine habitat assessments, specializing in monitoring and implementing conservation initiatives, particularly for coral reefs and seagrass ecosystems. Her work extends beyond field activities, as she plays a key role in shaping policies and strategies for sustainable coastal and marine management.

Ms. Nulada, leveraging ocean sciences, integrates adaptive management strategies, crucially reviewing approaches for the delicate balance between environmental preservation and development. Her objective is to align marine conservation efforts with a commitment to substantively contributing to policies safeguarding oceans for future generations. She



Siara Jeanne Facon Nulada
Ecosystems Management
Specialist II, Philippines
Department of the Environment

and Natural Resources
Biodiversity Management Bureau



Wenhai Lu

Director of Division of Marine Ecology, National Marine Data and Information Service, Tianjin, China

believes applying the latest scientific insights bridges the gap between research and policy decisions for more informed and sustainable practices.

Wenhai Lu is a scientific adviser with 20 years of experience working both in academia and at the science-policy interface. He is currently involved in research related to marine ecological protection and management, including marine ecological monitoring and evaluation, marine spatial planning, marine ecological restoration, and blue carbon, to support decision-making for Ministry of Natural Resources of the People's Republic of China. He has developed technical methods such as marine habitats classification and mapping, marine ecological significance assessment, marine development suitability, and so on, which are adopted nationwide, and carry out applications on ecological zoning and spatial planning, promoting to marine ecosystem-based management in China. He undertook projects with International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA), and European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet), regarding key biological areas, habitats mapping, and coastal management. He also served as the co-leader of Science and Evidence Task Team of World Coastal Forum, as well as a member of the Pool of Experts during the second and third cycles of the Regular Process.



Yutaka Michida

Member of the Group of Experts, Chairperson of the IOC-UNESCO, Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute, University of Tokyo, Professor

The first Japanese national to Chair the IOC/UNESCO, Dr. Yutaka Michida is a distinguished professor at the University of Tokyo who has been actively involved in the field of oceanography for nearly 40 years. He has been recognised for his outstanding achievements and contributions to international marine science cooperation, including as recipient of the Japanese Prime Minister's "Promoting Japan as a maritime nation Award" and the "IOC/WESTPAC Outstanding Scientists Award" in 2015. Dr. Michida has played a crucial role in developing systems to warn and protect against tsunamis, and he has helped establish coordination systems in different parts of the world. In 2015, he was elected as a co-chair for the IOC/UNESCO International Oceanographic Data and information Exchange (IODE), the first person from an Asian country to hold this position. Dr. Michida has been dedicated to promoting cooperation among countries in the Western Pacific and nearby regions, and he has been influential in managing ocean data and information in Japan, through active involvement in the IOC/UNESCO Sub-commission for the Western Pacific and Adjacent Areas (WESTPAC). In Japan, he played a key role in the establishment of the Marine Information Clearing House (MICH) and Marine Cadastre.



Christine Gaebel

Deep-Ocean Stewardship Initiative; The University of Edinburgh, DOSI BBNJ Working Group Co-Lead

Christine Gaebel is an interdisciplinary researcher with a focus on the use of science and knowledge in international biodiversity governance processes, including the new Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (the BBNJ Agreement). Christine Co-Leads the BBNJ Working Group for the Deep-Ocean Stewardship Initiative (DOSI) where she works with an international group of deep-sea researchers to help connect science and scientists with policy and decision-makers. She is currently undertaking a PhD at the University of Edinburgh and is a research assistant with the Nippon Foundation – University of Edinburgh Ocean Voices Programme where she researches science-society-policy interfaces in ocean governance.

Segment 5: Regional deep dive 2: the South Pacific



Karen Evans

Joint Coordinator of the Group of Experts, Team Leader and principal research scientist with CSIRO

Dr Karen Evans is a Team Leader and principal research scientist with CSIRO and adjunct fellow with the Centre of Marine Socioecology at the University of Tasmania. Her research is focused on improving scientific understanding of the state of marine species and ecosystems and key threatening processes placing pressures on populations, particularly in relation to threatened, endangered and protected species. She delivers information and tools for supporting sustainable and effective management of marine industries, particularly in relation to national and international fisheries and offshore renewable energy. She is currently co-chair of the Global Ocean Observing System's Biology and Ecosystem expert Panel, joint coordinator of the third United Nations (UN) World Ocean Assessment and a member of the World Meteorological Organisation task team on climate and fisheries. She has published 1 book, 27 book chapters, over 60 peer-reviewed papers, over 60 reports and working papers and has guest edited a number of peer review journal issues. She is currently an associate editor of the Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences.



Alison Clausen

Deputy Global Coordinator of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, IOC-UNESCO

Alison Clausen is the Deputy Global Coordinator of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development at IOC-UNESCO. She joined IOC as a programme specialist in 2019 with over twenty-five years' professional experience in program and project development and management in the areas of marine conservation, marine policy, and climate change adaptation. Before joining IOC she was based in Madagascar, where she worked throughout the Western Indian Ocean region for the World Bank and most recently as the Regional Director for the Madagascar and Western Indian Ocean program of the Wildlife Conservation Society. Prior to that she lived in Vietnam where she worked through South East Asia for a range of development banks, UN agencies and NGO partners.



Juana Jimenez is a Peruvian marine scientist and a strong advocate for science-driven sustainable development. In her current position as International Liaison Officer at the Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ) in Belgium, she focuses on finding and implementing synergies between local, regional, and international initiatives and policies. Such as the Ocean Decade, which has fostered and strengthened bilateral and triangular cooperation between her institute and partners in South America, the Caribbean and Africa. She is working in the Secretariat of the National Decade Committee for Belgium and in VLIZ's role as implementing partner of the Decade. She received her master's degree in marine and Lake

Juana Susana Jimenez Alcantara
International Liaison Officer,
Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ) as
NDC for Belgium and DIP



Ian Butler

Australian Bureau of Agricultural
Resource Economics and Sciences,
Assistant Director - Fisheries
scientist

Science and Management, an inter-university master's programme in Belgium from the University of Brussels, the U. of Ghent, and the U. of Antwerp in 2019.

Ian Butler is a marine scientist and public servant currently working with the Australian government. He has over 35 years' experience working in research, science and policy fields in Australia, Papua New Guinea, Cambodia and the United States. Ian is a keen collaborator and communicator and his current work focusses on the translation of complex fisheries and climate change research to meet the needs of: policy areas of the government; the public; industry and indigenous groups. Ian is the lead editor for Australia's annual Fishery Status Reports and was a lead writer for the Tropical Coral Reefs chapter of the UN World Ocean Assessment II. Ian has a doctorate in coral reef ecology, has published in Nature and was a finalist for Australia's Eureka Science awards.



Fononga Vainga Mangisi-Mafileo

Ministry of Meteorology, Energy,
Information, Disaster
Management, Environment,
Climate Change and
Communications, Ocean
Governance Coordinator

Dr. Fononga Vainga Mangisi-Mafileo is the Ocean Governance Coordinator for the Ocean7 Secretariat based at Tonga's Ministry of Meteorology Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change and Communications. Previously, she worked for 8 years at the Pacific Community – an intergovernmental science and technical organization governed by 26 member states. With the Geoscience, Energy and Maritime Division's GEF-funded global test case and regional programmatic initiative Pacific Ridge to Reef Programme, which operated across 14 small island developing states, Inga lead their knowledge management and communications program of work. Inga has also served in senior technical advisory positions with donor-funded programs at the University of the South Pacific, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) – International Development, the Australia New Zealand Banking Group Limited, and in the media. Inga graduated recently from James Cook University (Aust) with a post-graduate diploma in Ridge to Reef Sustainable Development, however she holds a PhD in Media and Governance from Keio University (Japan, 2010), a Master in Social and Informational Studies from Gunma University (Japan, 2006), and a Bachelor of Media Arts from Waikato Institute of Technology (NZ, 2000).



Sebastian Herrera Kasic

Independent professional who works at the Chilean Maritime Authority, in charge of International Affairs

Chilean, Engineer in Maritime Administration, Master in Aquatic Resources Management, more Diplomas and international courses, highlighting those of the FAO Public Policy Training Center.

25 years of experience in public management at DIRECTEMAR, Chilean Maritime Authority. He currently works on international affairs for the Directorate of Maritime Interests and Aquatic Environment (of DIRECTEMAR), where the technical cooperation alliance with UNESCO/OREALC stands out to intervene in the curricular bases and modify the country's study plans, adding a subject of oceanic literacy throughout the school year, with the aim of creating the national oceanic culture from school.

In addition, since 2016 he has been a collaborator of the FAO, formalizing himself as an External Consultant as of this year, cooperating in publications on policies and safety in diving for small-scale fishing for Latin America.

Among his participations, the Nexus Science-Politics Symposium on Fisheries Sustainability stands out, held at the FAO headquarters in Rome in 2019, where he attended with his Master's Thesis and, currently, as an exhibitor at the next International Conference on Safety and Health of the Fisheries Industry (IFISH) that will take place at the FAO headquarters in Rome, in January 2024.

Segment 6: Regional deep dive 3: the Indian Ocean (including the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal), the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden, and the ROPME/RECOFI area



Rafael Gonzalez-Quiros

Member of the Group of Experts,
Director of the Oceanographic
Centre of Gijón

Director of the Oceanographic Centre of Gijón, one of the coastal laboratories of the Spanish Institute of Oceanography (IEO) – CSIC. In this institution he also has had other directive responsibilities as General Deputy Director for Research (2019-2020) and Head of the Marine Environment Area (2015-2019). He is also the Focal Point of Spain at IOC-UNESCO where he has attended as its representant to the General Assemblies and Executive Councils since 2015, and he was the representant of Spain at the Scientific Committee of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (2017-2021). His main scientific expertise is on the ecology of zooplankton and on the interactions between ecosystem dynamics and the variability of fish populations.



Justin Ahanhanzo

IOC-UNESCO Regional Liaison
Officer for Latin America, the
Caribbean, Asia, Pacific and Africa

Justin Ahanhanzo, ocean, and fisheries scientist from Benin (West Africa) is the IOC-UNESCO Regional Liaison Officer for Latin America, the Caribbean, Asia, Pacific and Africa, with a broad professional experience in programme coordination in ocean sciences, space satellite remote sensing applications and operational oceanography. Justin is the initiator as the founding Coordinator of the Global Ocean Observing System in Africa (GOOS-AFRICA) and initiator and Team Leader of the UNESCO Intersectoral programme on the Applications of Satellite Remote Sensing for Ecosystems and Water Resources in Africa. He carried out research studies on the physics, dynamics, and mathematical modelling of the Indian Ocean. He is the acting Technical Secretary for the reactivation of the IOC Regional Committee for the Central Indian Ocean (IOCINDIO) leading to its successful transformation into an IOC Sub-Commission. Passionate with and committed to capacity development, Justin is the IOC Focal Point for UNESCO Chairs and the UNESCO Category 2 Centres in ocean sciences, policy and governance and represents the Director General of UNESCO in the Governing Boards.



Francesca Adrienne

Ms. Adrienne is by profession a GIS Specialist with more than 20 years' experience in geographical and information science focussing on data and database management, spatial programming and cartography and map making. She has worked in different industries such as land and asset management, survey and cadastral, disaster and emergency management, fire safety, emergency rescue, and community safety. She was recently the Project Manager for United Nations Development Programme, managing the implementation of the JMA Demonstration Project strategies and objectives, while ensuring its effective management, through coordination with Project Steering Committee and other stakeholders, provision of top-quality advisory services and facilitation of knowledge building and management and making sure that the various components of the projects

Seychelles Observatory for
Research and Exploration
Institute, Founder



Razieh Gahoumi

Research Center for Environment
and Sustainable Development,
Department of Environment, Iran

are properly being undertaken. In June 2023, together with other spatial scientists, oceanographer, and ocean scientists, she founded the Seychelles Hydrospace Observatory for Research and Exploration Institute. This new NGO will be vital for the development of the hydrospace domain in a small island states.

Razieh is an experienced professional with over 20 years of expertise in marine and coastal conservation across government, academia, and community sectors. Holding a PhD in Marine Biology, she currently serves as the Biodiversity Officer at Iran's Department of Environment, Research Center for Environment and Sustainable Development. Engaged in global initiatives, her focus lies in studying the social and ecological aspects of marine and coastal resources and conservation.



Immaculate Sware Semesi

Marine Parks and Reserves Unit
(MPRU) Tanzania, MPRU
Manager

See segment 2.

Segment 7: Regional deep dive 4: the North Atlantic, the Baltic Sea, the Mediterranean Sea, and the Black Sea



Maria João Bebianno
Member of the Group of Experts

See segment 4.



Francesca Santoro
Ocean Literacy lead, IOC-UNESCO

Francesca Santoro works as Ocean Literacy lead at UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, where she coordinates ocean education activities in formal and non-formal contexts, and citizens engagement initiatives. She also coordinates the newly established Ocean Decade Coordination Office on Connecting People and the Ocean. She has a PhD in Analysis and Governance for Sustainable Development, and an MSc in Environmental Science and a Master Degree in Science Communication. Before joining UNESCO in 2011 she was lecturer at the University Ca' Foscari of Venice, and she collaborated with several research centres such as the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission and the Euro-Mediterranean Centre on Climate Change.



Iryna Makarenko
Permanent Secretariat of the Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (Bucharest Convention), Pollution Monitoring and Assessment Officer

Iryna Makarenko, starting from December 2010, works at the Permanent Secretariat to the Commission on the Protection of Black Sea Against Pollution (Bucharest Convention), an international intergovernmental organization based in Istanbul, Turkey. In April, 2014 she got a position of Pollution Monitoring and Assessment Officer. Before moving to Turkey worked as a diplomat in the Mission of Ukraine to the European Union in Brussels being responsible for EU-Ukraine cooperation in the field of environment, transport, space, research and education; earlier as a Deputy Head of Office to Vice Prime Minister of Ukraine and as a diplomat of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine. She has a Master Degree in the field of Environmental and Energy Law obtained at a Faculty of Law of the Catholic University of Leuven (Kingdom of Belgium), Certificates on Water Law (University of Dundee, Scotland), Environmental Diplomacy (University of Geneva, Switzerland) and Regional Economics (University of Genoa, Italy).



Anne Marie Cooper

International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), ICES Professional Officer for Fisheries and Aquaculture Advice

Anne Cooper shapes global sustainable fisheries and aquaculture policies and practices through her work at the science-policy interface at the international level. She is motivated by a deep commitment to improving people's lives and the health of aquatic ecosystems. Anne is the Professional Officer for Fisheries and Aquaculture Advice at the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) in Copenhagen, Denmark. In this capacity, she leads ICES work on the development, testing, and use of methods to provide scientific advice on data-limited stocks of fish and shellfish in the Northeast Atlantic, representing more than 60% of ICES stocks. Anne also leads the development of the ICES advisory framework for sustainable aquaculture. Prior to working at ICES, she held positions advising high-ranking government officials on national fisheries, aquaculture, climate, and marine science policy in the US Senate, House of Representatives, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Anne has a Ph.D. in Conservation Biology and Development Studies and Social Change Theory and a M.Sc. in Fisheries Science from the University of Minnesota.



Paul Snelgrove

Departmental Science Advisor to Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Memorial University Professor

Dr. Paul Snelgrove is a University Research Professor of Ocean Sciences and Biology at Memorial University of Newfoundland in Canada. From 2008-2021 he led the (NSERC) Canadian Healthy Oceans Network, a national research network that developed new tools and approaches to support sustainable oceans. He currently plays the role of Associate Scientific Director of The Ocean Frontier Institute, which gathers researchers in Atlantic Canada and beyond to advance safe and sustainable ocean objectives. From 2003-2013, Dr. Snelgrove held a Canada Research Chair in Boreal and Cold Ocean Systems, following from an NSERC Industrial Chair in Fisheries Conservation. He led the synthesis of the International Census of Marine Life program, and was a member of the program's Scientific Steering Committee. His TED Global talk on that program has over 350,000 views. He frequently participates in workshops and conferences around the world as an invited speaker. In 2013, he was awarded the Timothy Parsons Medal for Excellence in Marine Sciences in Canada, and in 2020 was appointed Departmental Science Advisor to Fisheries and Oceans Canada. He has published ~150 journal articles, 30 book chapters and 2 books on his research on sustaining marine biodiversity and functioning in all three of Canada's oceans.



Christina Deligianni

Policy and Programs Director,
Institute for Sustainable
Development at European Public
Law Organization (EPLO)

Ms. Christina Deligianni, an EU Climate Pact Ambassador, is the Policy & Programs Director of the Institute for Sustainable Development at EPLO and the Managing Director of Verimpact that provides ESG assessment and training tools in sustainable finance. She has more than 20 years of professional experience in public policy, sustainability and business development in the public and private sectors. A linguist by training, she taught English as an adjunct professor (University of Chicago) and served as Chief of Staff for the Dean of the Hellenic Parliament. Since 2014, she has worked on international and European projects in new technologies, the blue economy, ESG and sustainability for entities that include the National Fund of Greece, the European Commission, FAO/GFCM, Pelagic Data Systems, Ominvest and the OMRAN Group. Currently, running three EU-funded research projects on blue economy, deep tech and climate change. A strong advocate for the blue economy, she has been instrumental in co-organizing two Blue Economy Fora for South-East Europe, and side events at the UN Ocean Summit along with an ESG assessment study on the Selvagens Islands. She holds an MA in the Humanities (University of Chicago, Fulbright Scholar), and a BA in English and Greek.

Segment 8: Regional deep dive 5: the South Atlantic (between the African and American coasts) and the wider Caribbean



Roberto Dantas de Pinho

Joint Coordinator, Representative of the Group of Experts, Senior STI Policy and Indicators expert with the Brazilian Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation

Dr. Roberto de Pinho is a Senior STI Policy and Indicators expert with the Brazilian Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation.

He serves as a member and Joint-Coordinator of the United Nations Group of Experts for the third cycle of the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects (Regular Process). Additionally, he is a member of the Advisory Group of the OECD's International Survey of Science (ISSA) and holds the position of Vice-Chairperson of Sub-Commission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions of the IOC of the UNESCO (IOCARIBE). Formerly the Deputy Secretary at the Secretariat of Science, Technology, and Innovation, State of Bahia, Brazil, Dr. de Pinho led over 200 individuals in advancing STI policy for the state, which has a population of 15 million.

He earned his PhD in Computer Science and Computational Math from the University of São Paulo. His research covers diverse topics, including the international mobility of scientists, emergence of technologies, and the visual text mining of scientific articles. Dr. de Pinho was acknowledged as a contributor to the UNESCO Science Report and as a co-author of the Global Ocean Science Report.



Peter Pissierssens

Head of the IOC Project Office for IODE, Oostende, Belgium and IOC Capacity Development coordinator, IOC-UNESCO

Peter Pissierssens is the Head of the IOC Project Office for IODE, Oostende, Belgium and IOC Capacity Development coordinator. He has a background in marine biology and development cooperation. He joined UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) in 1989, dealing with marine data and information management, data management (IODE), bathymetry and tsunami warning and mitigation (Pacific region). The Oostende Office is the global headquarters of the OceanTeacher Global Academy, a training centre network for ocean data and information management, secretariat of the Ocean Biodiversity Information System (OBIS) and global node of the Ocean Data and Information System (ODIS). Since June 2023 the Office also hosts the UN Decade Coordination Office for Data Sharing. The IODE network federates over 100 oceanographic data centres as well as marine libraries.

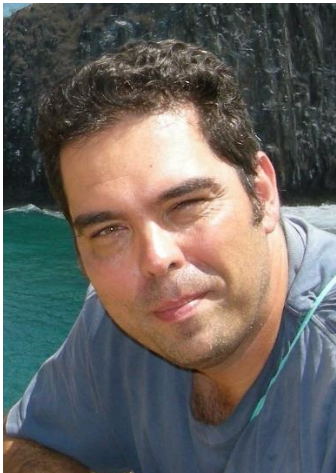


Ariel Hernan Troisi

Servicio de Hidrografía Naval,
Argentina, Technical Secretary

Oceanographer and MSc in Science and Technology Policy and Management. For more than three decades, he trained and developed as a professional throughout the whole ocean sciences value chain. In the international arena, he has extensive experience in issues related to the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO, having chaired programs and activities. Between 2015 and 2019, he was IOC Vice-chairperson for Latin America and the Caribbean and held the position of Chairperson of the IOC from 2019 until 2023. He had an active participation in the design, preparation, and implementation of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development 2021 - 2030.

He has participated in various United Nations processes on behalf of the IOC. Currently serves as member of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf CLCS, as well as Technical Secretary at the Navy Hydrographic Office in Argentina.



Alexander Turra

Oceanographic Institute,
University of São Paulo, Professor

Turra is a Professor at the Oceanographic Institute of the Universidade de São Paulo and Coordinator of the Unesco Chair for Ocean Sustainability, based at the Oceanographic Institute and the Institute for Advanced Studies at the Universidade de São Paulo. Turra is a Biologist with a master's and doctorate in Ecology from the Universidade Estadual de Campinas. The activities focus on inter- and transdisciplinary science aiming at integrating ocean and society and science and decision-making, mainly on topics such as governance, integrated management and marine conservation, marine environmental impact, climate change, marine pollution (marine litter), and marine biodiversity.



Tricia Allison Lovell

Deputy Chief Fisheries Officer,
Antigua and Barbuda Fisheries
Division

Tricia Lovell (PhD) has over 20 years experience in fisheries management, marine conservation, and ocean governance and currently serves as the Deputy Chief Fisheries Officer in Antigua and Barbuda. She is a UN-Nippon Foundation Fellow and a recent graduate of the World Maritime University where she completed a PhD in Maritime Affairs. Her research focused on the governance of abandoned, lost and otherwise discarded fishing gear in Eastern Caribbean small-scale fisheries. Tricia has served as the Deputy Chair of Antigua and Barbuda's Ocean Governance Committee and is part of the maritime boundary negotiation team for Antigua and Barbuda. She has also served as Antigua and Barbuda's focal point to the Ramsar Convention and the Marine and Coastal focal point to the Convention on Biological Diversity. Tricia's interests include environmental education, marine and coastal conservation and environmental stewardship.



Rahanna Alicia Juman

Deputy Director Research,
Institute of Marine Affairs, Trinidad
and Tobago

Dr Rahanna Juman is the Deputy Director Research at the Institute of Marine Affairs. She holds a PhD in Zoology (2004) from the University of the West Indies, St Augustine, Trinidad and a Bachelor of Law (2015) from the University of London. Dr Juman has been conducting research on coastal ecosystems including mangrove forests and seagrass beds for the past 25 years, and has published in international peer review journals, and has authored two books on coastal wetlands. Dr Juman was a Hubert Humphrey fellow from 2010-2011, a Watson International Scholars of the Environment Fellow (2008), an American Fellow (2006) and a UNESCO/ L'OREAL Fellow (2002) and has done internship at the USEPA and NOAA in the United States. She chaired the Caribbean Sea Commission from 2021-2023 and is a member of the GESAMP Working Group 41 on Ocean Interventions for Climate Change Mitigation. Dr Juman has led efforts to develop and implement an Integrated Coastal Zone Management Policy Framework for Trinidad and Tobago and is leading efforts to implement Marine Spatial Planning.

Segment 9: science communication and ocean literacy



Vinicius Lindoso
Communications Officer, IOC-
UNESCO

Vinicius Lindoso works as Communications Officer at UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, where he coordinates digital and print communication projects to promote international scientific cooperation in the ocean sciences, and raise awareness around environmental protection. He has a Master's Degree in Public Policy from the University of Oxford's Blavatnik School of Government, and a double Bachelor Degree from Yale University in Global Affairs and French Studies. Vinicius is Brazilian by nationality, and has professional and academic background in conflict-resolution, working with civil society organizations in the Western Balkans on issues related to post-conflict education and state-building.



Rodrigo Thomé
Digital Influencer

I believe that my mission is to open a window that takes humanity closer to the ocean.

Over the past centuries all the mysteries and lack of knowledge about this huge mass of water that forms our planet have driven, humanity away from the seas. Distant from the ocean, we have a hard time to love and protect not only the water itself but also the life that grows in there.

My goal is to bring part of the ocean to the people, using audio visual and augmented reality content as well as campaigning and advocacy.

Today, I am "on air" with EUceano, a 10-year project that follows the UN Ocean Decade to better understand, respect and protect the oceans. The project is a partnership with UNESCO and the Ocean Decade. I am also producing and starring in a series of videos in the UNESCO global social media channels called "Ocean Mondays", every week a short video about the ocean!



François Bailet
Senior Legal Officer, DOALOS

See segment 1.



Ronaldo Christofolletti

Co-Chair IOC OL Group of Experts; Co-Chair Ocean Decade Strategic Communications Group

Ronaldo is Professor at the Federal University of São Paulo, Brazil. He integrates his research on climate change and biodiversity in the intertidal ecosystems with science communication and ocean literacy. Therefore, by both producing science and fostering the science dissemination, Ronaldo has been publishing in high impact scientific journals and communicating ocean science in newspapers, radio, magazines and internet contents from local to international media. He is the coordinator of the awarded project "Tide of Science" that co-produces science with policy makers, civil society, journalists, holders of the traditional and indigenous knowledge and the private sector. Ronaldo is Chair of the IOC UNESCO Group of Experts on Ocean Literacy, co-chair of the Strategic Communications Group of the UN Ocean Decade, member of the Pool of Experts for the UN Regular Process and coordinator of the All-Atlantic Blue Schools Network.



Francesca Santoro

Ocean Literacy lead, IOC-UNESCO

See segment 7.



Natasha Berg

Ocean Communicator

Natasha Berg is an acclaimed strategist and communications expert who, over the last decade, has been pivotal in building the modern landscape of environmental communications and impact marketing. Natasha's pioneering experience in the sector includes co-creating Musings, the first-ever magazine on sustainable innovation with philanthropist Susan Rockefeller, serving as Director of Brand Strategy and Partnerships for the world's first and largest zero waste lifestyle store, Package Free, guiding the positioning of the first-ever plastic free standard for Business Operations, the Blue Standard. As an independent Consultant to the United Nations, Natasha led the development and execution of the foundational Outreach and Engagement Strategy for the UN World Ocean Assessment. She has also executed on global communications for United Nations World Oceans Day since 2019. In response to an increase of both interest and greenwashing in the realm of sustainability, Natasha launched the boutique consultancy Tru Story in 2020. Natasha is a Founding Board member of international nonprofit Oceanic Global where she has led on brand strategy and cause marketing for the NGO and its various corporate partners since inception. She has also served on the board of UNICEF Next Gen and advised on the organization's climate programming since 2015.

Segment 10: Ocean Decade



Julian Barbieri

Head, Marine Policy and Regional Implementation Section, IOC-UNESCO

See segment 2.



Karen Evans

Joint Coordinator of the Group of Experts, Team Leader and principal research scientist with CSIRO

See segment 5.



Stephen Widdicombe

Plymouth Marine Laboratory,
Director of Science

Professor Steve Widdicombe is a marine ecologist with over 30 years of experience in issues relating to marine ecology, climate change, biodiversity and ecosystem function. Steve is currently the Co-Chair of the Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network (GOA-ON) Executive Council, a collaborative international network with around 1,000 scientists from more than 100 countries. GOA-ON's goals are to detect, understand and forecast the drivers and impacts of ocean acidification. Steve represented the GOA-ON on OSPAR's Intersessional Correspondence Group on ocean acidification and was an author of the ocean acidification chapter in the 2023 Quality Status Report. Steve co-leads the UN Ocean Decade endorsed programme 'Ocean Acidification Research for Sustainability' (OARS), which aims to provide society with the observational and scientific evidence needed to sustainably identify, monitor, mitigate and adapt to ocean acidification; from local to global scales. Steve regularly contributes to UNFCCC and CBD COP side events and was moderator of a 2022 UN Ocean Conference Dialogue. He is a member of the UN Convention for Biological Diversity (CBD) ad-hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators for

the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, the UN Ocean Decade Conference (2024) Programme Committee and the UN 3rd World Ocean Assessment Pool of Experts.



Jean Aude
Alcatel Submarine Networks,
Marine Development Manager

Currently Marine Development Manager for Alcatel Submarine Networks. Main activity includes being Marine expert and technical support for Marine operations. With a small group of expert in ASN, we are assisting the company and the industry to build and implement new tools, techniques for profitability and efficiency, and also to improve safety and sustainability throughout our activity.

My background includes a long offshore experience on Survey and Cable ships, as trained Hydrographer / Survey team leader & Cable engineer. I have a Master in Business and Administration (from French IAE Caen), and recently certified as PMP (Project Manager Professional).

Recent professional engagement, includes joining UNESCO/IOC 'Corporate Data Group' for ASN as part of the Ocean Decade efforts to assist in getting the 'Science we need, for the Ocean we want'. Which has been a fantastic opportunity to continue moving collectively on this topic, exchange with scientists and other industries, and participate to the global efforts to preserve our planet Oceans, especially in the context of global warming.



François Marcel Auguste Houllier
IFREMER, President & CEO

François Houllier has been President and CEO of IFREMER, the French Institute dedicated to Marine Science and Technology, since September 2018. A pioneer in ocean science, IFREMER's cutting-edge research is grounded in sustainable development and open science. A graduate of Ecole Polytechnique and a Doctor in Forest Biometrics, François Houllier was the Director of the French Institute of Pondicherry (India, 1994-97). He then joined the French Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA) where he held various management positions before being appointed as President and CEO in July 2012. During his time at INRA, he authored three reports to the French Government, on Citizen Sciences (2016) and on Research and Innovation in Agriculture (2015) and in the Forest sector (2016), that were translated into public research policies. From September 2016 to September 2018, François Houllier chaired Université Sorbonne Paris Cité (USPC), the largest cluster of universities in Paris. During his time at USPC, he successfully directed an Excellence Initiative, which was selected by the French Government in March 2018 and later led to the creation of Université Paris Cité, one of the French leading universities.



Lorna Inniss

Focus on Caribbean CD activities and Decade Tropical Americas Task Force, IOC UNESCO

Lorna Inniss is the Regional Coordinator of IOC-UNESCO Subcommission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (IOCARIBE). Previously, she was the Coordinator of the Cartagena Convention and Acting Director of the Coastal Zone Management Unit, Barbados. She was one of two Coordinators of the Group of Experts to deliver the First World Ocean Assessment. She was one of several architects of the Caribbean Tsunami and Coastal Hazards Warning System. She helped develop, and lectured in, the M.Sc. and Post-Graduate Diploma programmes in Coastal Engineering and Management at the University of the West Indies, St Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago. Her work spans the three ocean regions of SIDS – Caribbean, Indian and Pacific, and she has trained and provided technical advice to several continental coastal countries.



Zaki Mubarok

Legal Department of Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Research Fellow of Center for Sustainable Ocean Policy of Indonesia University

I am a research fellow of Center for Ocean Sustainable Policy, University of Indonesia and work for Legal Department of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of Indonesia as Coordinator for Treaties and International Law.

I hold a doctoral degree from Australian National Center for Ocean Resources and Security (ANCORS), University of Wollongong and UN Nippon Fellowship alumnus at UNDOALOS and Nelson Mandela University. As a civil servant to the Ministry, I am delegate or representative to the bilateral and multilateral meetings such as World Ocean Assessment (WOA), BBNJ, Port State Measures Agreement, RFMO, COFI, and WTO on Fisheries Subsidies. The presentations I delivered relate to issues on ocean affairs in general, IUU fishing, fisheries crimes, BBNJ, Indo-Pacific, maritime security, environmental law, UNCLOS, and RFMO. I had an experience as consultants on IUU Fishing and a contributor to various journal articles, newspapers, and magazine on ocean affairs and fisheries.

Segment 11: Closing



Vladimir Ryabinin

Executive Secretary, IOC-UNESCO

See segment 1.



Kimberly Louis

Co-Chair of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process

See Segment 1.



Francois Bailet

Senior Legal Officer, DOALOS

See segment 1.



Marco Boccia

Programme Management Officer and Technical Lead of the Regular Process secretariat

See segment 3.