

OA-ICC HIGHLIGHTS

The latest news and updates from the OA-ICC and its partners

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Day of Ocean Acidification Action meeting in Monrovia, Liberia, 8 January 2021. Photo credit: M-News Africa. <https://mnewsafrika.com/ocean-acidification-a-new-threat-to-marine-ecosystem-discussed-in-monrovia/>

OA-Africa Network celebrates Day of Ocean Acidification Action

In collaboration with OA-Africa, the OA-ICC co-organized a regional meeting in Monrovia, Liberia on 8 January 2021 to highlight new science and capacity building efforts that are underway in west Africa. Scientists and community stakeholders from around the world participated in this combined in-person and virtual event. Leaders from the Liberian Ministry of Fisheries and the Ministry of the Environment were also present, as was the local press. Speakers emphasized the importance of international collaboration to combat ocean acidification and the need to develop greater research and monitoring capabilities in Africa. This event was followed up by a virtual event held on 26 February 2021 that engaged the global OA community and included 9 presentations that shared updates on new research and thoughts on future directions for the region. Such local meetings are important avenues for strengthening regional collaborations and for adapting to challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The OA-ICC assesses global capacity building efforts



From the first days of the OA-ICC almost a decade ago to today, and with its many global partners and collaborators, more than 850 capacity building opportunities involving 749 scientists from more than 100 countries have been engaged in ocean acidification activities. Capacity building opportunities are trainings and workshops that aim to teach essential techniques to OA scientists from around the world. The OA-ICC's core partners such as NOAA, The Ocean Foundation (TOF) and the IOC-UNESCO have joined forces in building this OA capacity. Today, these capacity building efforts are being systematically re-assessed to gauge both short- and long-term impacts. Preliminary results from this assessment appear promising, as they demonstrate lasting benefits.

Retrospective evaluations such as these will allow us to develop more targeted and fine-tuned trainings and be able to respond to individual Member State needs.

Planning for the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021 -2030)

The OA-ICC has joined the Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network (GOA-ON) in submitting a new program for consideration by the UN Ocean Decade. This proposed program entitled, “Ocean Acidification Research for Sustainability” will chart a new course in enhancing global capacity to strengthen ocean acidification research in ways that promote engagement as well as mitigation and adaptation strategies. The OA-ICC is responding to the Ocean Decade by continuing to develop and make available more resources and tools that promote coordination between OA researchers, policy makers, and stakeholders.

New staff member at the OA-ICC

The OA-ICC is most happy to welcome Ms Carolina Galdino. She is experienced in applied environmental science and passionate about protecting the ocean. Carolina grew up mostly in Brazil and has also lived in several other countries. Carolina particularly appreciates the role of science in addressing global ocean threats, such as ocean acidification. She also loves nature and living an outdoors lifestyle.



Update on the Community of Ocean Action on Ocean Acidification

As a co-focal points for the [Community of Ocean Action](#) on Ocean Acidification Bronte Tilbrook (CSIRO Australia) and Peter Swarzenski (IAEA Monaco) presented an overview during the webinar held on 30 March 2021 titled: “Implementing SDG 14 with the Communities of Ocean Action”. This presentation provided an update and overview of the SDG 14 COA OA process. Updates on COA voluntary commitments (VCs), lessons learned, and achievements were also presented. The meeting was led by Ambassador Peter Thomson, Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for the Ocean, and is available [online here](#).

Monaco Ocean Week

A dedicated session that was focused on ocean acidification in the Mediterranean Sea was organized by the Ocean Acidification Mediterranean Hub on 24 March 2021 held during the Monaco Ocean Week. This event offered the possibility to engage in a dialogue with a variety of stakeholders on how to develop strategies on reducing the impacts of ocean acidification and how to increase scientific capacity at the regional level. A recording of this discussion along with the rest of the session on ocean acidification in the Mediterranean can be found [online here](#).

NEXT ISSUE:

- *Training for West Africa*
- *Capacity evaluation results*



IAEA

Ocean Acidification
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OA-ICC

OA-ICC online resources:

- [OA-ICC news stream](#) - recent publications, media coverage, meeting announcements, jobs etc.
- [Twitter page](#) - tweets of the latest news stream posts, shared daily
- [OA-ICC website](#) - Information about activities and resources for different audiences / languages
- [OA-ICC bibliographic database](#) - over 8,200 references with citations, abstracts and keywords.
- [OA-ICC data compilation and portal](#) - on the biological response to ocean acidification - access to experimental data from 1,120 scientific papers on a user-friendly portal.

The IAEA OA-ICC promotes global collaboration and activities to advance ocean acidification science, capacity building, and communication

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