

# OA-ICC HIGHLIGHTS

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

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Participants in the OA-ICC capacity building program.

## Marine Science during Covid-19

The OA-ICC is working with international partners to promote the development and implementation of best practices for ocean acidification research. Since 2012, the OA-ICC has supported and organized 29 training courses and workshops on ocean acidification with more than 460 participants from around the world. The OA-ICC works to raise awareness around ocean acidification among stakeholders and inform the global community about the role that nuclear and isotopic techniques can play in assessing its impacts.

The COVID-19 pandemic has limited the ability of researchers to generate new science, particularly in the field of ocean acidification, which puts many marine scientists in industrialized countries in situations similar to those of colleagues in developing countries.

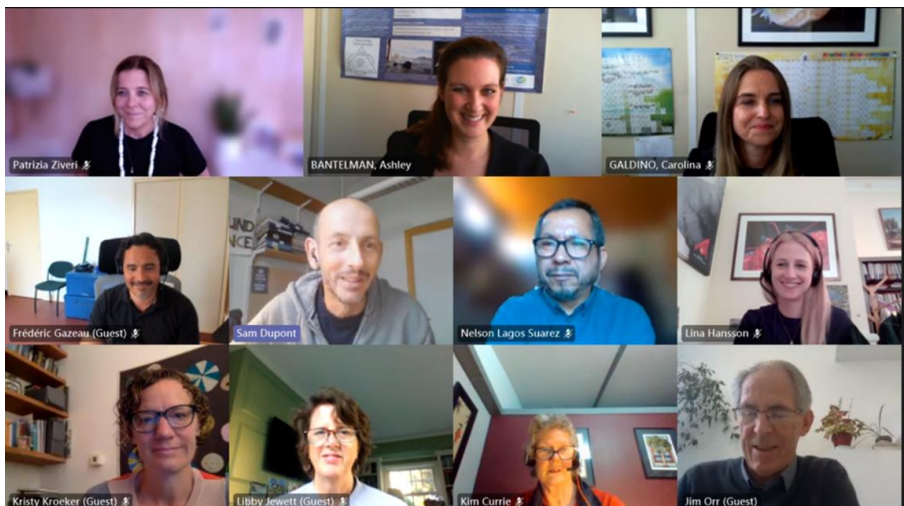
This exercise led to a [new article](#) published in Nature Climate Change and has provided new ways to understand the sensitivities of marine species to ocean acidification. The article highlights the importance to combine field chemical monitoring and biological studies. It also demonstrates that it is possible to create new knowledge from the resources already available.

A new generation of training focusing on this approach will be organized by the OA-ICC in 2022.

#SCIENCE #CAPACITYBUILDING #COMMUNICATION



## Annual meeting of the SOLAS-IMBeR Ocean Acidification Working Group and the OA-ICC expert group meeting held virtually



Members of the SOLAS-IMBeR Ocean Acidification (SIOA) Working Group gathered together virtually for their annual meeting.

The SOLAS-IMBeR Ocean Acidification (SIOA) Working Group held its annual meeting on 1 and 4 October 2021, virtually. The purpose of this meeting was to review recent progress and discuss plans for future OA-ICC activities. The focal points for each of the nine OA-ICC activities presented the latest updates from their activities, including progress related to GOA-ON, capacity building, data management and communication activities. New plans for 2022 and beyond were laid out during the meeting, including participation in international events such as the UN Ocean Conference and

the 5th Symposium on the Ocean in a High CO<sub>2</sub> World, new capacity building activities such as a basic training course on ocean acidification in Sweden, and a multiple stressors training planned to be held in Monaco.

## The OA-ICC and partners participate in COP26 in Glasgow

The OA-ICC participated in several side events during the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow, United Kingdom. Together with IOC UNESCO, the OA-ICC invited policymakers and the world's leading ocean



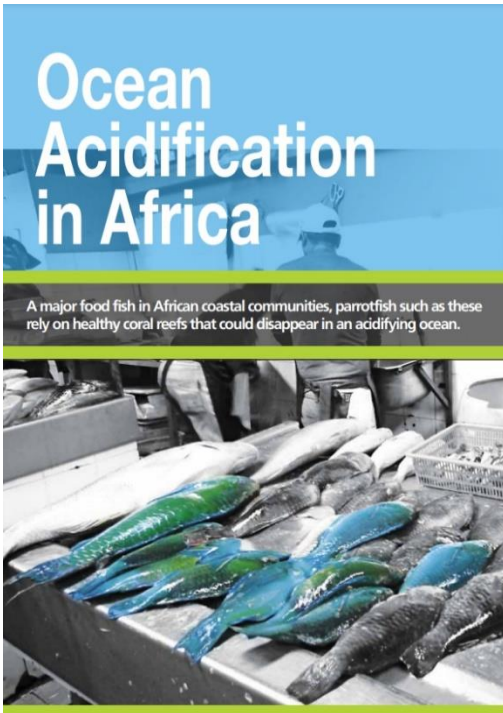
science experts to a side event to review how the global community can best address the problem of ocean acidification and its consequences. “There can be no healthy planet without a healthy ocean,” said Peter Thomson, UNSG’s Special Envoy for the Ocean in his opening remarks. “The global ocean community has long considered this COP26 to be the most opportune time to stop the accelerating decline of the ocean’s health - a decline that is being scientifically measured by rates of the ocean’s acidification, it’s warming and loss of oxygen and marine habitats.” Systematic adaptation strategies to

respond to the consequences of ocean acidification are not yet in place due to fundamental technological and knowledge gaps. To address these knowledge gaps, international experts, through currently existing mechanisms such as the UN Communities of Ocean Action on Ocean Acidification, the Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network (GOA-ON) and its UN Ocean Decade Programme Ocean Acidification Research for Sustainability (OARS), the Ocean Acidification International Coordination Centre (OA-ICC) and partner organizations, work closely to carry out global initiatives and engage scientists, communities, policymakers and the media.

The OA-ICC also participated in an IAEA side event on “Contribution of Nuclear Science and Technology to Climate Change Adaptation.” Part Two of the side event focused on climate and the ocean and presented the IAEA’s ongoing work to study Blue Carbon and to present the IAEA’s work in the area of ocean acidification.



## OA-Africa and OA-ICC release policy-brief



A major food fish in African coastal communities, parrotfish such as these rely on healthy coral reefs that could disappear in an acidifying ocean.

Coastal communities in Africa may be some of the most heavily impacted by sustained ocean acidification, as African countries rely heavily on the sea for economic, social, and nutritional services. However, ocean acidification has the potential to negatively affect those marine ecosystems. The losses would be alarming for the African continent. Fisheries and aquaculture currently contribute USD \$24 billion to the economy in Africa, employing more than 12 million people across the continent. The fisheries sector is particularly important for rural coastal African populations, which are among the most vulnerable in terms of both food and job security. Due to the growing population and per capita income, demand for fish in Africa is expected to increase 30% by 2030. Ocean acidification, combined with other climatic drivers, may make it difficult to satisfy this need.

International organizations have been hard at work building ocean acidification capacity in Africa and provide excellent knowledge and resources for policy makers and resource managers. [Ocean Acidification Africa \(OA-Africa\)](#) is a group of concerned scientists seeking to advance the study of ocean acidification for the benefit of informed policy and adaptive strategies in African coastal waters. Together with the OA-ICC,

OA-Africa released a [policy brief](#) highlighting recommendations for a Pan-African response to ocean acidification. Policy-level recommendations include updating policies and regulations and identification and addressing social and ecological risks, while strategic recommendations include to build regional modelling tools for Africa, among others.

## OA Week 2021

In 2020, GOA-ON launched “OA Week” as a response to the postponement of conferences and events due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. After such a positive response, the OA-ICC supported GOA-ON in the organization of [OA Week 2021](#), which included more sessions, plenary speakers, and engaging talks about ocean acidification research and policy during the week of 13-17 September 2021. The multi-day forum consisted of more than 30 hours of content across 23 sessions, including five plenaries, eight hub sessions, and nine community discussions, all highlighting the latest in OA research and initiatives.



### NEXT ISSUE:

- *2022 United Nations Ocean Conference*
- *OA-ICC Basic Training Course on Ocean Acidification in Sweden*
- *OA-ICC Multiple-Stressors Training in Monaco*



IAEA

Ocean Acidification  
International  
Coordination Centre

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 9,000 references with citations, abstracts, and keywords
- **OA-ICC data compilation and portal** – on the biological response to ocean acidification: access to experimental data from 1,200 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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