

Bridging the gap between ocean & coastal data and societal needs to deliver actionable information

▶ THIS EDITION'S FOCUS: EARLY OCEAN CAREER PROFESSIONALS (ECOPs)

Explore Ocean Networks for ECOPs

Global list of ocean-related communities: organizations, networks, groups and programmes providing support for you

Ocean Networks for ECOPs launched at Ocean Sciences Meeting!

In February, in partnership with the ECOP Programme and OceanBRIDGES, we launched an updated version of the Ocean Networks directory.

The aim is to improve visibility of dedicated opportunities, and to support their participation and engagement across the global ocean landscape.



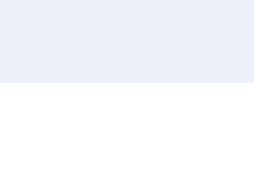
Discover our new webpage on Inclusion & Diversity!

Highlighting the full breadth of ECOP contributions over the past years has been a priority to us. This is now possible: you can explore our papers, events, resources ECOPs have contributed to, while also discovering the geographical reach, disciplinary diversity and gender balance of those we supported.

▶ WORKING GROUPS ACTIVITIES & UPDATES

Marine Litter

Secretariat Lead: Daphné Lecellier



IMDOS second Steering Committee

Held on 19-20 March 2026 at the Institute of Oceanology Polish Academy of Sciences in Sopot, Poland, the two-day meeting featured intensive plenary and breakout discussions, taking IMDOS several steps closer to achieving our ambitious strategic objectives.

Sargassum

Secretariat Lead: Audrey Hasson

We are coordinating in partnership with IOCARibe and OKEANO a Hackathon challenge on providing data-based information on Sargassum blooms to policy- and decision-makers for better marine & coastal management. ECOPs and EOPs (Experienced Ocean Professionals) will work hand in hand during a 24-hours Intergenerational Hackathon prior to AAORIA Forum.

SARGASSUM BLOOMS CHALLENGE
13-14 APRIL

AAORIA Forum
15-16 April 2026
Salvador da Bahia, Brazil

Participate to our survey gathering user feedbacks on Sargassum blooms impacts before April 10. Results will be shared soon!

SARGASSUM INFORMATION HUB

Sargassum Information Needs Feedback Survey

Fisheries

Secretariat Lead: Daphné Lecellier

Ocean Data to support Global Sustainable Fisheries Management

Hybrid workshop: in-person and online

21-22 April 2026
NEAFC, London

The Fisheries Working Group co-organizes a workshop on 21 and 22 April in London, with the Regional Fishery Body (RFB) Secretariats' Network (RSN). This workshop will explore how **ocean data can support global sustainable fisheries management**. Bringing together RFBs, scientists, and data providers, the event will showcase state-of-the-art applications, identify key gaps and capacity needs, and foster collaboration through our Fisheries Working Group.

Climate Adaptation

Secretariat Lead: Audrey Hasson



The Climate Adaptation Working Group convened in March to launch the 2026 calendar of activities with a focus on **integrating Earth Observation intelligence and Climate Services into the National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs)**. Other actions may also include conducting stakeholder outreach to SIDS and LDCs, developing projects that demonstrate how Earth Observations and Climate Services can improve coastal and ocean adaptation, and carrying out technical capacity development and training among practitioners in SIDS and LDCs.

Eutrophication

Secretariat Lead: Merrie Beth Neely

We are happy to onboard 2 new co-chairs of the Eutrophication Working Group. Joan-Albert Sanchez-Cabeza, Head of the Global and Climate Change Laboratory at the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de México (UNAM) and Dany Ghafari, based at the UN Environment Programme Office of Science as a Data Scientist. Welcome!

Joan-Albert Sanchez-Cabeza
Co-chair, GEO Blue Planet
Eutrophication Working Group

“Earth observation is vital for understanding global change, yet its potential remains hampered by technical complexity. My priority is to bridge the gap between advanced satellite remote sensing and practical, user-friendly applications, empowering Latin-American students on the use of such powerful tools, and encouraging stakeholders worldwide to make data-driven decisions that effectively combat eutrophication and protect our vulnerable coastal ecosystems.”

▶ REGIONAL NODES UPDATES

DATA TO INTELLIGENCE: CO-CREATING STRATEGIES WITH EU INITIATIVES

EuroGEO Marine & Coastal Action Group

6-7 July 2026
GEO Secretariat
World Meteorological Organization
Geneva, Switzerland

EuroGEO Marine & Coastal Action Group workshop

The newly launched EuroGEO Marine & Coastal Action Group will be co-organizing with GEO Aqua Watch a workshop on **“Data to intelligence: co-creating strategies with EU initiatives”** in Geneva, Switzerland, at GEO Secretariat in WMO Headquarters on the 6-7 July. Join us if you are interested, please write to [euro\[at\]geoblueplanet.org](mailto:euro[at]geoblueplanet.org)

▶ OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

GEO Symposium & 21st GEO Plenary

We are co-organizing a Coastal and EuroGEO side event townhall session with GEO Aqua Watch and EuroGEO on Earth Observations in support of Marine Protected Areas. More information soon!



COSPAR 2026

GEO Blue Planet is co-organizing a full-day session on coastal resilience at COSPAR in Florence, Italy. Taking place on **3 August**, the session will open with a keynote presentation on the **CoastPredict Programme and GlobalCoast**, delivered by their Director, **Nadia Pinardi**. The programme will feature **13 scientific presentations**, followed by a dedicated discussion session focused on **assessing knowledge and data gaps for coastal resilience**.



And also...
More events on the [GEO Blue Planet website](https://www.geoblueplanet.org)
Other events on the [Ocean Decade Website](https://www.oceandecade.org)

▶ COMMUNICATION

Our next Symposium new visual identity



Our **GEO Blue Planet Symposium** will happen in the Caribbean in January 2027! This visual has been created by [Celine Chat](#), an artist based in French Antilles.

Discover our new Library!

You will find useful resources on this page

GOVERNANCE		
Forum of Reference December 2025	Commissione Internazionale February 2026	Forum of Reference November 2025
COMMUNICATION		
Working guidelines 2026	GEO Blue Planet Flyer November 2025	46th Scientific Assembly January 2026
		Forum November 2025

Sargassum Information Hub new viewer!



▶ COMMUNITY NEWS

For more ocean related news...

...you can explore our sponsor's project [EU4OceanObs](https://www.eu4oceanobs.org) website

Don't miss this opportunity on micro-plastics!

From September 1 to 10, 2026, Campinas (SP) in Brazil will host an intensive interdisciplinary program for master's and PhD students as well as early-career researchers interested in the challenges of microplastic pollution. Applications deadline is very soon: April 10!

Thank you for reading!

Don't hesitate to share this newsletter to spread the ocean word