



CREATING THE OCEAN WE WANT

Ocean Decade Laboratories

First International Ocean Decade Conference

July 2021 – May 2022

INVITATION

To Whom It May Concern,

As the largest ecosystem on Earth, the ocean is essential to the survival of nature and humankind. But this source of living diversity and, with it, our livelihoods and habitats are under threat. Science and research are now called upon to join forces with policymakers, society and economic actors to restore, protect and sustainably manage the ocean.

The United Nations General Assembly has proclaimed the period 2021-2030 as the **UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development**.

UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) was mandated to prepare an Implementation Plan for the Decade in collaboration with several groups and stakeholders connected to the ocean and is coordinating the implementation of the Ocean Decade, which started on 1 January 2021. In line with the vision "The Science We Need for the Ocean We Want", the Ocean Decade is establishing an unprecedented international scientific alliance to bring people and the ocean together.

The decade moved into its active phase with the virtual High-Level Launch of the Ocean Decade in Berlin on 1 June 2021 as part of the **First International Ocean Decade Conference**. It was hosted by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research in partnership with the IOC.

Now the conference continues with a unique, multidisciplinary virtual event series from June 2021 to July 2022: the **Ocean Decade Laboratories**.

We warmly invite you to take part in our next Ocean Decade Laboratory. It will be held from **17 to 19 November 2021** and will offer valuable insights and talks around the Ocean Decade Outcome: **"A Clean Ocean"**.

Please find your invitation attached with the link to register and more information. The 48-hour event will offer plenty of opportunities for interactive networking, focusing on how we can work together to motivate and inspire sustainable change.



