



INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE TO
COMBAT OCEAN ACIDIFICATION

A detailed orange line-art illustration of marine life, including a large scallop, a mussel, a fish, and various seaweeds, set against a teal background.

COMMUNICATIONS PACK

FOR #OAAMEMBERS

KEY MESSAGES

Core messages help the OA Alliance, and its members, express what we stand for and why we do what we do.

You will find them throughout our communications channels, and we encourage you to use them when referring to the OA Alliance's work and your membership.

The importance of addressing OA:

- **Ocean and climate are intrinsically linked** -The ocean is a major driver and amplifier to our climate system, and, at the same time, the ocean is impacted by changes to our climate.
- Ocean acidification (OA) is a **direct result of human-caused carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions** and is altering the chemical balance of seawater that marine life depends upon for proper functioning and survival.
- Ocean acidification is a **climate-ocean impact**.
- Global problems like ocean acidification have **local impacts that require unique actions**.
- **OA combines with other stressors**, including ocean warming, reduced oxygen levels, and local sources of land-based pollutions, increasing the total stress on marine species, ecosystems, and coastal zones.
- **Communities are already experiencing negative impacts of climate-ocean change on marine species and ecosystems around the world**. From fishing to tourism to aquaculture, climate-ocean change is impacting marine jobs, livelihoods, cultural traditions and food security.
- **A lack of a domestic accounting and response to OA poses a substantial—and currently unmitigated—risk to coastal community resources**, well-functioning marine ecosystems, seafood security and sustainable ocean economies.

About the OA Alliance:

- **OA Alliance is thinking globally, acting locally**.
- The OA Alliance is **providing global context for local actions** that help governments and communities understand and respond to climate-ocean change.
- The **OA Alliance helps decision-makers** better understand climate-ocean impacts to marine resources and implement actions that increase coastal biodiversity, adaptive capacity, and resiliency.



About OA Alliance members:

OA Alliance members **are committed to climate action**; achieving ambitious carbon emission reductions targets is the most important step in turning the tide of climate-ocean impacts.

- Through the development of OA Action Plans, **OA Alliance members are proactively responding to OA and its impacts by promoting solutions that advance knowledge into local action.**
- An OA Action Plan encompasses **the actions that OA Alliance members will take (or are taking) to better understand OA** in their region and accelerate OA mitigation, adaptation, and resilience nearshore.
- **By increasing local understanding of OA and its impacts, OA Action Plans help members prioritize local responses that support food security and sovereignty, increase resilience of marine ecosystems, and build a sustainable ocean economy in the face of future change.**

About OA Action on an international level:

- **International and multi-government commitments to addressing climate-ocean change and sustainable development** play an important role in stimulating collective action.
- **By integrating OA science, management and investments**, OA Alliance members are demonstrating the types of actions required to deliver on ambitious high-level commitments.
- National OA Action Plans call forth renewed ambition to **realize mitigation and adaptation targets** already in place across the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)** and deliver on **Sustainable Development Goal 14.3**, “to minimize and address ocean acidification.”
- Additionally, OA Action Plans help prioritize science, policy, and funding needs across the **UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainability**.
- Together, OA Alliance members are **calling for emissions reductions and ocean actions under international climate frameworks** like the United Nations Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDG) 13 and 14.

