



INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE TO
COMBAT OCEAN ACIDIFICATION

2021

HIGHLIGHTS, IMPACT AND PROGRESS REPORT

2021

A YEAR IN REVIEW

The Ocean community remains steadfast. While finding a way through the global Pandemic and collectively responding to the health, social justice, and economic crises it has accelerated, we understand it's more important than ever to step up and meet the challenges ahead.

Building upon what we've learned, the OA Alliance is continuing to increase ambition for climate action and provide global context for local actions that help governments and communities understand and respond to climate-ocean change.

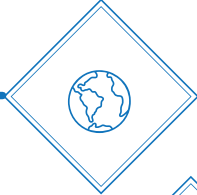
Together, we are transforming planning and response to climate change by integrating science, policy, and investments that support resilience of marine ecosystems and coastal communities. Climate and ocean action must be understood as critical for achieving the immediate and long-term priorities we all share.

A poet reminds us that, "it's never too late to seek a newer world." This year has been full of leaders who are showing us that increased cooperation and ambition is possible—indeed essential—as we define our newer world in this decade.

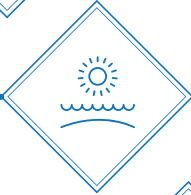
In 2022, the OA Alliance will seek deeper integration across climate, ocean and biodiversity commitments and advance actions that address climate change, support food security and sovereignty, and increase resilience of marine ecosystems, economies, and communities.

Thank you for being part of this community; we are grateful for such a committed network of experts, partners, and leaders.

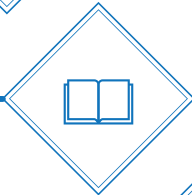




120 members across
22 countries integrating climate-ocean science, policies and investments



366,414
kilometers of coastline



5 new OA Action Plans
5 under development



6 events & 2 joint statements
calling for increased ambition at high-level climate and ocean summits



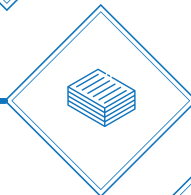
20 high-level leaders
providing remarks on OA action



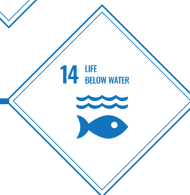
3 regional workshops connecting over
300 scientists and policy makers around OA action



18 direct collaborations
with members and partners to raise awareness on OA



8 papers, articles and op-eds
published by **12 Members**
on OA policy and management



Supporting Implementation of
**UN SDG 14, UN Decade of Ocean
Science and UNFCCC Ocean
Climate Dialogue**



INTRODUCTION

The International Alliance to Combat Ocean Acidification (OA Alliance) brings together governments and organizations from across the globe dedicated to taking urgent action to protect coastal communities and livelihoods from the threat of ocean acidification (OA) and other climate- ocean impacts.

Together, OA Alliance members are:

- Elevating urgency and ambition for climate action.
- Integrating ocean actions across climate commitments and frameworks.
- Translating knowledge into policy actions and investments.

The 2021 annual report details major accomplishments, actions and programmatic strategies that supported members in advancing climate-ocean leadership and achieving objectives of the OA Alliance.

This year the OA Alliance Executive Committee undertook a strategic planning process, building upon the last strategic plan created in 2018. This report summarizes key take-aways and next steps for strengthening the initiative's durability and setting newly ambitious objectives over the next 3 years.

OBJECTIVES IN 2021

1. **Support the Development of OA Action Plans and Integrated Climate-Ocean Policies.**
2. **Elevate Ambition Across Climate Commitments and Inspire Climate-Ocean Leadership.**
3. **Expand Impact Through Targeted Communications Efforts.**
4. **Grow Membership and Strengthen Partnerships.**
5. **Continue to Build OA Alliance Governance and Organizational Durability.**

1

SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF OA ACTION PLANS & INTEGRATED CLIMATE-OCEAN POLICIES

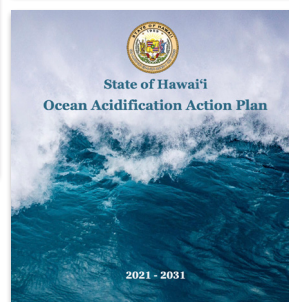
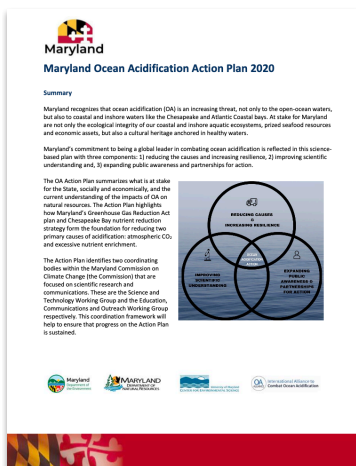
Facilitated through the OA Alliance, national, subnational, regional, and tribal governments are proactively responding to the impacts of ocean acidification as they create OA Action Plans that promote climate-ocean solutions and advance knowledge into local action.

OA Action Plans include strategies for reducing carbon emissions and local land-based pollution, strengthening monitoring nearshore to better understand and predict local conditions, investing in adaptive measures in partnership with industry or seafood dependent communities, and advancing information sharing strategies that help policy makers respond.

The OA Alliance is a proud and active member within the Community of Action to Implement UN Sustainable Development Goal 14.3, “to minimize and address OA”. We remain committed to increasing OA Action Plan development, financing and climate-ocean policy integration across the [UN 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda](#) and [UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development](#).

ACTIVITIES THAT ADVANCED OA ACTION PLANNING AND CLIMATE-OCEAN POLICY INTEGRATION IN 2021:

- **5 new OA Action Plans released** by subnational and national governments; 5 OA Action Plans being drafted for release in 2022.





COASTAL MANAGEMENT JOURNAL OCEAN ACIDIFICATION: INSIGHT FOR POLICY AND INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT

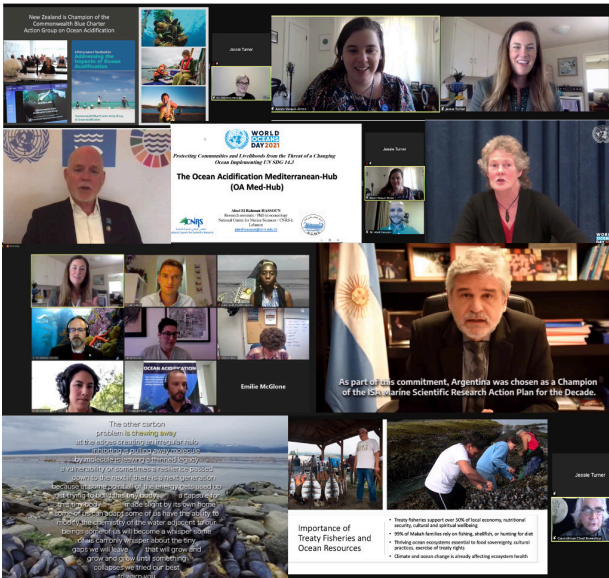


INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE TO
COMBAT OCEAN ACIDIFICATION

- **Co-edited and published, “[OA: Insight for Policy and Integrated Management](#)”** a special issue of Coastal Management Journal comprised of four peer-reviewed articles and two essays. While the issue consolidates current and emerging U.S. state policy directives and practices, local and international actors benefit from lessons learned and case studies presented—furthering our shared goal of advancing climate ocean action across multiple scales.
- **Co-hosted [NE Atlantic OA Workshop](#)** in partnership with the Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network’s NE Atlantic Hub and Plymouth Marine Laboratory on April 28. The workshop brought together more than 60 partners from 12 countries and deepened regional understanding of:
 - Domestic and international policy frameworks for advancing oa knowledge and response;
 - Biological impacts to keystone fisheries and aquaculture within the arctic and north atlantic;
 - Monitoring networks that can help inform government actions.
- **Co-hosted “[Climate, Biodiversity and Marine Protection in Latin America](#)” workshop** in partnership with The Ocean Foundation, Latin America Ocean Acidification Observing Network, International Partnership on MPAs Biodiversity and Climate Change and the Chile California Council on October 21. The program was conducted in Spanish and brought together government, scientists and civil society leaders from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, and Peru with content applicable to climate and environment leads, water quality and coastal monitoring programs and marine managers.

Featured speakers included:

- Ambassador Coutts, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chile; Sherpa of the High-Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy
- Andrew Rhodes Espinoza, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mexico, and Sherpa of the High-Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy
- Ms. Laura Cussen, Ministerio del Medio Ambiente, Gobierno de Chile
- Ms. Marcia Tambutti, Agricultural Development Unit, United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC/ CEPAL)



- Co-hosted, **“Supporting OA Action Planning and Implementation in The Mid-Atlantic”** workshop in partnership with the Mid-Atlantic Coastal Acidification Network (MACAN) on October 26. With the majority of the Mid-Atlantic coastal states pursuing OA Action Planning, the workshop connected over 100 researchers and state agency decision makers from across the region to support OA Action Planning with an emphasis on identifying associated information needs for management application. Workshop outcomes are informing MACAN’s 2022 work plan and laying the groundwork of a regional OA monitoring network.

- Participated in panel discussion launching the **Commonwealth Blue Charter OA Policy Handbook** which supports governments in devising and implementing strategies to tackle ocean acidification, including through the development of OA Action Plans. The handbook was commissioned by the government of New Zealand and builds upon previous discussions among scientific experts and policy makers from 17 Commonwealth countries.

- Hosted **“Accounting for OA Across Vulnerability and Risk Assessments”** webinar on April 15 to support governments in assessing the economic, cultural and social vulnerabilities directly caused by CO2 emissions. The 90-minute webinar was attended by over 100 members and provided a snapshot of OA vulnerability and risks assessments conducted in the Pacific Islands Region, the Washington Coast and British Columbia, Canada. Webinar outcomes included a [support document with Q&A from panelists](#) on how to get started creating an OA vulnerability or risk assessment while leveraging existing climate policies.

- Developed infographic, **“What Do Policy Makers Need to Know About OA”** which helps our members better understand who is considered an OA policy maker. The infographic explains how national and subnational governments are tackling ocean and coastal acidification through local and regional management strategies, climate action plans and other international frameworks.

- Co-hosted UN World Ocean Day side event, **“Implementing UN SDG 14.3”** in partnership with The Ocean Foundation on June 8. The event highlighted the UN SDG 14.3 target “to minimize and address OA” to an international audience and showcased OA action taking from governments including Argentina, The Makah Tribe, New Zealand and Lebanon. The event also debuted an OA Alliance multi-media project, “Ocean Acidification Poetry” video.

Featured speakers included:

- United Nations Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for the Ocean Ambassador Peter Thomson
- Dra. Carla F. Berghoff, Latin American Ocean Acidification Observing Network Co-Chair, Argentina
- Minister Filmus, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Argentina
- Councilman Chad Bowe chop, Makah Tribal Council, Makah Tribe
- Dr. Christina McGraw, University of Otago and New Zealand OA Community, New Zealand
- Dr. Abed El Rahman Hassoun, OA- Med HUB Coordinator, Lebanon
- Dr. Peter Swarzenski, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) OA International Coordination Centre

WHAT DO POLICY MAKERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT OCEAN ACIDIFICATION?

ACTION SUPPORTS EXISTING PRIORITIES:	ACTION CAN BE TAKEN NOW TO:	ACTION SUPPORTS HIGH-LEVEL COMMITMENTS:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong ocean economy Jobs and livelihoods Food security and Sovereignty Ecosystem services Resilient aquaculture and fisheries Ocean and land management Marine protected areas Sustainable tourism Climate mitigation and adaptation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand local trends Assess local risks and vulnerabilities Reduce local stressors (nutrient inputs, habitat loss, overfishing, etc.) Explore nature-based solutions Increase adaptive potential Prioritize investments and leverage co-benefits Reduce carbon emissions and explore carbon offset mechanisms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UN Sustainable Development Goals 13 and 14 UNFCCC Mitigation and Adaptation Convention on Biological Diversity Blue Economy Commitments UN Convention on the Law of the Sea Commonwealth Blue Charter Climate Action Plans and Resilience Strategies Regional Collaborations

WHO IS CONSIDERED AN OA POLICY MAKER?

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministers, ambassadors, executives, legislators, Tribal leaders and councils can set priorities and bring attention to key issues. Agency heads, department leads, policy officers and advisors for climate, environment, ocean, marine affairs, finance, energy and agriculture can help identify programs that are most relevant to OA action across government. Managers of fisheries, aquaculture, clean water and air, coral reef or marine ecosystems can help explore mitigation, adaptation and resilience strategies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional governance councils can help monitor and coordinate responses to impacts of ocean change and identify and engage stakeholders. Local government authorities and community leaders can help deploy pilot programs in targeted areas. Financial institutions, private investors, and insurance companies can provide funding for OA projects, invest in natural capital and help protect against risk.
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BY TAKING ACTIONS NOW, WE CAN IMPROVE MANAGEMENT RESPONSES, MAXIMIZE RESOURCES AND ACHIEVE RESILIENCE

Learn more about national, regional and local OA Action Plans: www.OAalliance.org | twitter.com/OA_Alliance

2

RAISE AMBITION ACROSS CLIMATE COMMITMENTS & INSPIRE CLIMATE-OCEAN LEADERSHIP

The OA Alliance is continuing to increase ambition for climate action and lead discussions across climate and ocean platforms to ensure commitments, policies and communications accurately reflect their interdependence. Significantly in 2021, the [COP26 Glasgow Climate Pact](#) mandated that a permanent [Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue](#) be held annually.

Together, OA Alliance members are calling for increased emissions reductions alongside ocean mitigation and adaptation actions under international climate frameworks like the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda (UN SDG 13 and 14.)

We are helping to drive connection and alignment across climate, ocean and biodiversity commitments by providing global context for the implementation of local actions and policies. Our members are demonstrating the types of actions required to deliver on ambitious high-level commitments made through platforms like the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, UNFCCC, Convention on Biological Biodiversity, Our Ocean Conferences, and other fora.

LEADERSHIP THAT INCREASED AMBITION AND ELEVATED THE OCEAN CLIMATE NEXUS IN 2021:

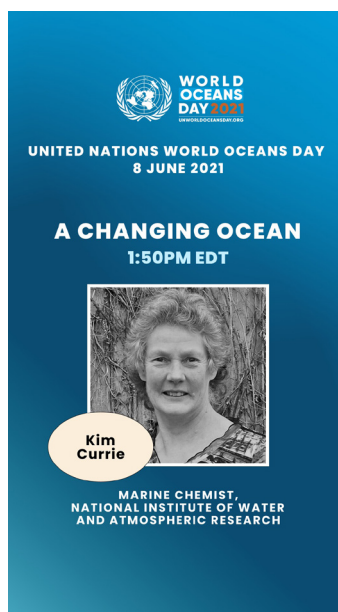
- Issued [“Ocean-Climate Leaders Joint Statement on United States’ Nationally Determined Contribution and Climate Commitment,”](#) during U.S. President Biden’s Leaders’ Summit on Climate. The Joint Statement was signed by 14 members of the OA Alliance and called for seven specific actions to operationalize the climate-ocean nexus by taking an inclusive, intersectoral, whole-of-government approach to global recovery and building back better.

The Joint Statement was endorsed by:

- State of Hawai’i
- State of Maryland
- State of Oregon
- State of Washington
- Gullah Geechee Nation
- Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission
- Suquamish Tribe
- Seattle 2030 District
- Taylor Shellfish Farms
- Mook Sea Farm
- Georgia Aquarium
- Monterey Bay Aquarium
- New England Aquarium
- Seattle Aquarium



- **Published two high-level Op-Eds through the [UNFCCC Race to Resilience Hub](#)** in advance of COP26 to raise ambition for climate-ocean action including mitigation and resilience building activities:
 - [“Drastic global emissions reductions can combat ocean acidification and build resilience across coastal communities.”](#) authored by OA Alliance members:
 - Ambassador Peter Thomson, UN Special Envoy for the Ocean
 - Ambassador Helen Agren, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden
 - Ambassador Waldemar Coutts, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chile
 - Ambassador Satyendra Prasad, Permanent Mission to the UN, Fiji
 - [“Building Resilience to Climate Ocean Change Along the West Coast of North America: Insights for International Partners.”](#) authored by OA Alliance members:
 - Governor Kate Brown, State of Oregon
 - Governor Jay Inslee, State of Washington
 - Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis, State of California
 - Premier John Horgan, Province of British Columbia
- **Successfully advocated for OA and Climate-Ocean change to be included in [2021 UN World Ocean Day plenary program](#)**; nominated speakers; supported members in uploading three OA related videos to the UN WOD website for viewing by public.
- **Co-hosted Climate Week side-event, [“Integrated Policies for Ocean Climate Action: Building Coastal Resiliency in the U.S.”](#)** in partnership with Ocean Conservancy, National Caucus of Environmental Legislators and the Seattle Aquarium. The event brought together federal partners and U.S. states to: (1) mobilize urgent action for reducing GHG emissions; and (2) share local strategies for building resilience to climate-ocean change.
- **Issued [High-Level Call for Ocean Climate Action at COP26](#) by 5 U.S. States.** A letter was issued to the U.S. Federal Administration commending the Biden- Harris Administration’s Ocean Policy Committee and encouraging the design and implementation of an ambitious U.S. Ocean Climate Action Plan.





- **Hosted side-event at COP26:**

- [“Raising Ambition at COP26 to Deliver SDG14.3: To Minimize and Address the Impacts of Ocean Acidification,”](#) held at the Commonwealth Pavilion on November 8. The event brought together major world policy and scientific leaders to increase ambition, cooperation, and investment from all actors across the SDG and UNFCCC frameworks.

Featured speakers included:

- Dr. Vladimir Ryabinin, Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and Assistant Director General of UNESCO
- Hon Ambassador Peter Thomson, UN SGD Special Envoy for the Ocean
- Ambassador Fiona Clouder, Regional Ambassador for Latin America and the Caribbean, United Kingdom
- Professor Ricardo Serrão Santos, Minister of the Sea, Portugal
- Deputy Director Toby Fisher, New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Environment and Resources Law Program
- Professor Steve Widdicombe, Co-Chair of the Global Ocean Acidification-Observing Network & Director of Science at Plymouth Marine Laboratory
- Dr. Nick Hardman-Mountford, Head of Oceans & Natural Resources for The Commonwealth



- **Hosted side-event at COP26:**

- [“Integrated Policies for Ocean Climate Action: Building Coastal Resilience in the U.S.”](#) held at the U.S. Climate Action Center on November 8.

Featured speakers included:

- Governor Jay Inslee, State of Washington
- Governor Kate Brown, State of Oregon
- NOAA’s Ocean Acidification Program Director, Dr. Libby Jewett
- Secretary of Natural Resources, Wade Crowfoot, State of California
- Secretary of Environment, Ben Grumbles, State of Maryland
- Chair of Department of Land and Natural Resources, Suzanne Case, State of Hawai’i
- Senator Chris Lee, Hawai’i State Legislature



- **Invited to speak at four additional events hosted by partners at COP26 and contribute to 3 ocean policy briefs for Party negotiators including the [“Ocean for Climate Declaration”](#)** signed by 120 organizations calling for increased global ambition to drastically and urgently reduce greenhouse gas emissions, understanding that a healthy and productive ocean is vital to achieve a resilient, nature-positive and net-zero future.
- **Co-hosted 3rd [Because the Ocean Declaration](#) signing reception** on October 31 attended by 12 ministries calling for climate-ocean actions at COP26.



3

EXPAND IMPACT THROUGH TARGETED COMMUNICATIONS EFFORTS

Strong communications strategies are essential to furthering our mission and helping members leverage their work and leadership. To expand reach and impact, the OA Alliance invited members to take a communications survey which informed the design and implementation the 2021 Communications Plan.

Specifically, we asked:

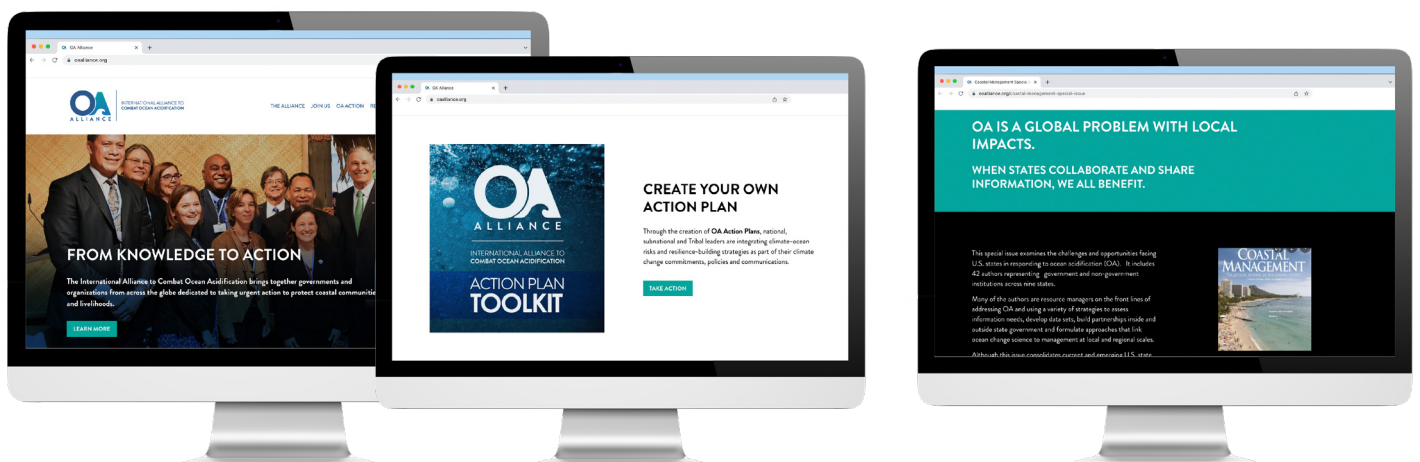
- What issues are members most interested in communicating about as related to their work on OA and ocean change?
- Which actors are members most hoping to engage with or activate?
- How can the OA Alliance best amplify member work and leadership?

The OA Alliance applied this feedback to strengthen communications activities that support members in showcasing leadership, advancing OA Action Plans, educating the public and policy makers about OA.

The survey also revealed a request from membership to create a “members communication package” which is under development and will help members increase their impact.

EFFORTS THAT IMPROVED AND EXPANDED COMMUNICATIONS IN 2021:

- **Redesigned the [OA Alliance website](#)** to reflect updated messages and requested resources including the newly released OA Action Plan Toolkit, posters and infographics, publications, webinars, workshops, completed OA Action Plans and member case studies.
- **Developed a [stand-alone website page to promote OA special issue of Coastal Management Journal](#)**, guest-edited by the OA Alliance and comprising articles authored by government and affiliate members.



OCEAN ACIDIFICATION

by Samantha Jones

The other carbon problem is more insidious is almost invisible to the naked eye is microscopic at its onset poking tiny holes in the base of the food chain is propagating is dismantling is threatening to undermine systems in their entirety is manifesting around river mouths and flaring up here and there in ocean waters at this time and that time a seasonal state moving toward a permanence exacerbated by cold water exacerbated by changes to the hydrologic cycle exacerbated by stratification exacerbated by indifference vinegar dissolving carbonate scale off of shower tiles of faucets of the inside of kettles without elbow grease a little bit of acid goes a long way a little bit of acid goes a long way a little goes a long way a little bit goes away

The other carbon problem is chewing away at the edges creating an irregular halo inhibiting is pulling away molecule by molecule is leaving a thinned legacy a vulnerability or sometimes a resilience passed down to the next if there is a next generation because at some point all of the energy gets used up just trying to build this tiny body a capsule for this tiny body made slight by its own home some of us can adapt some of us have the ability to modify the chemistry of the water adjacent to our beings some of us will become a whisper some of us can only whisper about the tiny gaps we will leave that will grow and grow and grow until something collapses we tried our best to warn you

irregular
inhibiting a legacy
a vulnerability if there is a next
this tiny body a capsule
made slight some of us
become a whisper
can only whisper
we will leave

WORLD OCEANS DAY 2021
UNWORLD OCEANS DAY.ORG

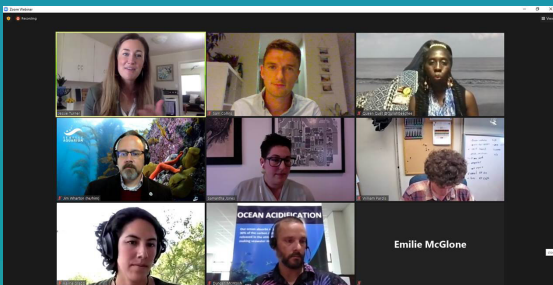
ADVANCING CLIMATE AND OCEAN ACTION THROUGH ART, EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Co-Hosted by:



DATE: THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2021

TIME: 1pm PST 9pm in Portugal
4pm EST 9am in Apia on June 11



- **Undertook multi-media video project, “[Ocean Acidification Poetry](#)”** in partnership with author Samantha Jones, Manaia Productions, The Ocean Foundation and The Canadian Community of Practice on OA. The video blends science and poetry to explore one of the challenges a high-CO2 world poses to the ocean and the species, ecosystems, and human communities that depend on it. The video has been viewed over 1,000 times at OA Alliance events and on social media and will be used in perpetuity to engage broader audiences on OA causes and impacts.
- **Co-hosted “[Advancing Climate and Ocean Action Through Art, Education and Outreach](#),”** in partnership with the Seattle Aquarium and Peace Boat U.S. on June 10. The event showcased unique ways that OA Alliance members are engaging the public and communicating about OA Actions in the context of climate change.
- **Featured on “[Coastal Conversations](#)” radio program** produced by Maine Sea Grant exploring OA Action in Maine. The program explored the last decade of community and state driven response to ocean acidification, with lessons learned for East and West coast states. Participants included: Ms. Jessie Turner, Secretariat for the International Alliance to Combat Ocean Acidification and Drs. Aaron Strong and Parker Gassett from the Maine Ocean and Coastal Acidification Partnership.
- **Featured in Economist Impact Article, “[Bridging the gap between ocean science and the SDGs: Exploring the need for diversity, inclusivity and innovation](#),”** on December 10 and cited as initiative effectively advancing science to policy collaborations.
- **Developed and executed 2021 social media strategy based upon members’ messaging priorities.** [This increased the number of new followers](#), profile visits, mentions, impressions and overall engagement on social media and set metrics for ongoing assessments of impact.
- **Released 12 e-newsletters** which help ensure members and prospective members hear from the OA Alliance regularly and are seeing examples of how the OA Alliance might effectively address in-region concerns.



4

GROW MEMBERSHIP AND STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIPS

By continuing to deepen partnerships and identify shared deliverables, the OA Alliance is better able to connect emergent science and information directly to decision makers and end users. Partners help us achieve our mission of increasing ambition for climate action and providing global context for local actions to understand and respond to climate-ocean change.

We have successfully leveraged member-to-member and partner-to-partner information sharing by providing access to toolkits and workshops, scientific information and synthesis, and examples of OA mitigation and adaptation strategies at local and regional scales.

Since its launch, the OA Alliance has prioritized collaboration with other international ocean-climate leaders like Ocean Conservancy, The Ocean Foundation, Because the Ocean Initiative, Ocean and Climate Platform, Ocean Pathway Partnership, Friends of Ocean Action, Global Ocean Forum, and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Communities of Ocean Action.

The OA Alliance has consistently strengthened direct collaborations with organizations working to increase scientific knowledge and capacity to measure ocean and coastal acidification around the world including the International Atomic Energy Agency's Ocean Acidification International Coordination Centre (OA-ICC), the U.S. National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation and the Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network (GOA-ON.)

Moving forward, the OA Alliance will continue to focus on expanding alignment with climate leaders and initiatives including the Under2MOU, U.S. Climate Alliance, Climate Registry and UNFCCC Secretariat.

EFFORTS THAT INCREASED MEMBERSHIP AND STRENGTHENED PARTNERSHIPS IN 2021:

- **Welcomed new members:**
 - State of New Jersey
 - The Seaweed Alliance UK
 - Plymouth Marine Laboratory
 - Belize Coastal Zone Management Authority and Institute
 - University of Belize
 - Oceano Azul Foundation
 - United Nations Environment Programme
 - The Pan African Vision for the Environment (PAVE)



- Invited as implementing partner of the UN Decade Endorsed Program, [“Ocean Acidification Research for Sustainability \(OARS\).”](#) The OA Alliance will support outcomes that provide decision makers, policy leads and stakeholders with applicable knowledge to inform OA response and build resilience at local to global scales.
- **Featured presenter at events hosted by members and partners** including Monaco Blue Ocean Week, Blue Ocean Summit, GOA-ON’s OA Week, UN World Ocean Day and COP26.
- **Co-hosted workshops, events and knowledge exchanges across a number of platforms with the following partners:** Plymouth Marine Laboratory, The Ocean Foundation, Ocean Conservancy, Peace Boat US, Ocean and Climate Platform, Because the Ocean Initiative, Seattle Aquarium, National Caucus of Environmental Legislators, PEW Charitable Trusts, Latin America Ocean Acidification Observing Network, International Partnership on MPAs Biodiversity and Climate Change, Chile California Council, Mid-Atlantic Ocean and Coastal Acidification Network, IOC- UNESCO, IAEA Ocean Acidification International Coordination Center, and Global Ocean Acidification-Observing Network.
- **Made publicly available [welcome packets for national, subnational and affiliate members](#)** as part of website redesign to increase recruitment efforts.



2021-2030 United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development



5

CONTINUE TO BUILD OA ALLIANCE GOVERNANCE AND ORGANIZATIONAL DURABILITY

The OA Alliance hosted its first strategic planning meeting in 2018, outcomes included:

- Establishing Cascadia Policy Solutions as the official OA Alliance Secretariat; and
- Creating an Executive Committee comprised of 12 OA Alliance member governments to guide and advise the Secretariat in carrying out annual work plans between 2019-2021.

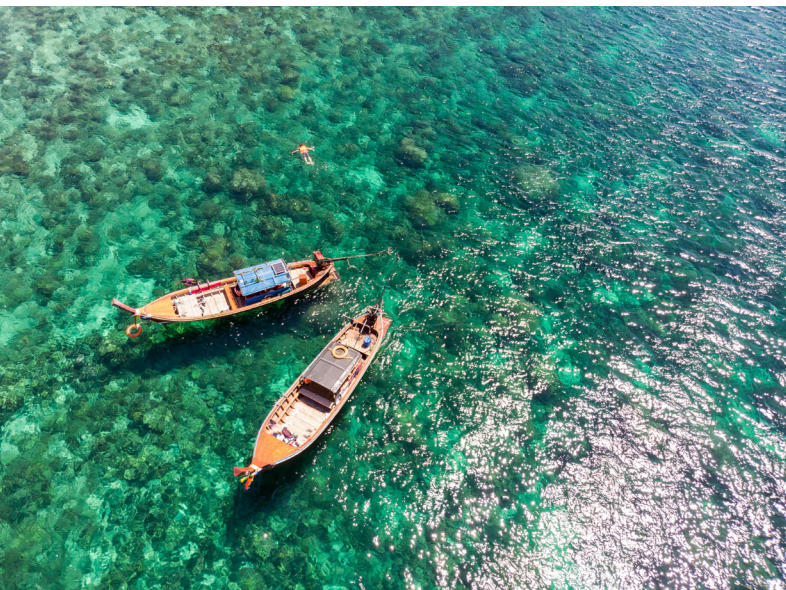
Building upon the 2018 effort, a 2021 Strategic Planning meeting was convened by Cascadia Policy Solutions and attended by members of the OA Alliance Executive Committee. The purpose of the convening was to reflect upon the growth, successes and outcomes achieved between 2018-2021 and to outline an updated strategic plan that will guide programming and strengthen organizational durability between 2022-2024.

Moving forward, the OA Alliance will continue to refine and increase ambition for successful outcomes and set metrics accordingly. It's crucial that metrics align with our theory of change: that by integrating science, policy, management strategies and investments that support resilience of marine ecosystems and coastal communities, we can transform planning and response to climate change.

In 2022 the Executive Committee will be expanded to include: (1) new government members; (2) non-government affiliate members; (3) Ad-Hoc committees with clear responsibilities that expand capacity and help carryout objectives in the annual work plan.

OA ALLIANCE SECRETARIAT:

The OA Alliance receives facilitation and project management support from Cascadia Policy Solutions, serving as the Secretariat. The Secretariat helps to carry-out the strategic direction of the initiative, develop annual programming, establish partnerships across a wide variety of disciplines and coalitions, and support members in the development of practicable and implementable adaptation and resiliency strategies. The Secretariat also manages day-to-day operations which include all interactions with members, communications, content creation and recruitment.



THANK YOU



Together, we increased our collective impact calling for ambitious climate action and demonstrating mitigation and adaptation measures across climate, ocean and biodiversity agendas.

We have successfully leveraged member-to-member information sharing by providing access to toolkits and workshops, scientific information and synthesis, and examples of OA mitigation and adaptation strategies at local and regional scales.

As the science, research and observed impacts of ocean acidification continue to grow, there is a continued need for increased knowledge exchange and expertise on the substance and process for developing policy and management responses in the context of climate change.

A special thank you to the Rockefeller Brothers Fund for their support and partnership and to the [Pacific Coast Collaborative](#) for their leadership. Thank you to the Seattle Aquarium, fiscal sponsor of the OA Alliance initiative. Thank you to Creative Consultants [Juliana Corrales](#) and [James Nikitne](#) for their collaborations and communications expertise.

Finally, the success of the OA Alliance is brought about by the commitment of members. The OA Alliance's work would not be possible without the passion, expertise, and commitment of all our members and partners.

We look forward to continuing our work together in 2022, further proving that we can define a new world in the decade ahead.



INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE TO
COMBAT OCEAN ACIDIFICATION

www.oaalliance.org |  [@OA_Alliance](https://twitter.com/OA_Alliance)