



INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE TO
COMBAT OCEAN ACIDIFICATION

ACTION PLAN

ACTION #5

EXPAND PUBLIC AWARENESS

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Engage policy makers, industry, scientists and the public on the growing threat posed by OA, as well as local actions that may be taken to address OA.

Increase visibility of OA as an issue and facilitate understanding of impacts and actions across government agencies and intergovernmental bodies

- Engage heads of state, governors, chiefs, ambassadors, ministers and mayors to act as ambassadors on ocean acidification and put them on panels, commissions and other platforms to help elevate the issue.

- Appoint positions within appropriate departments/ agencies/ ministries to focus on ocean acidification and ocean changes from a resource management and climate mitigation, adaptation and resilience perspective.

- Help policy makers and resource managers understand how they might integrate OA science and current findings into mitigation and resilience planning.

- Communicate OA issues and science developments to regulators. Support regulatory bodies in publicizing and communicating local ocean acidification impacts and potential responses.

Engage local academia, public, industry, stakeholders, villages and communities

- Leverage relationships with local academic institutions, Tribal governments, traditional leaders, chiefs, city leaders, and NGOs within the region to provide a platform and inclusive approach to learning more about the impacts of ocean acidification on local water bodies, including through shared data collection. This could be accomplished through panels, task forces, committees, and workshops to increase understanding and awareness.

- Attend conferences, symposiums, workshops, and other events that include diverse audiences and impacted communities and share knowledge about OA impacts and responses.

- Share information with OA vulnerable industries and professions by convening specialists and/or industry representatives. Engage the seafood industry, aquaria, NGOs and other private sector partners around ways to connect with their membership about what is at risk.

● Educate and facilitate understanding on the drivers and impacts of ocean acidification

- Leverage existing education and outreach networks to inform stakeholders and the public about OA.
- Create public education curriculum to teach youth about climate change impacts felt in our oceans. Help educators develop and implement curricula on OA and associated climate issues for primary, secondary and higher education. Aid formal and informal OA education programs and teacher trainings.
- Facilitate community and village conversations and include facts and summaries of the issue. Share information with potentially vulnerable fisheries and industries through convening specialists and scientists within the region.

