

Communicating OA Science to Decision and Policy Makers Virtual Workshop

Co-hosted by:
The Ocean Foundation
and the
International Alliance to Combat Ocean Acidification

October 20 from 7:00am-9:30am PST (UTC-8)

(North America, South America, Europe, Middle East, Africa)

October 21 from 6:00pm to 8:30pm PST (UTC-8)

(Asia, Australia, Oceania and Pacific Region)

Workshop Overview:

What do policy makers really want to know about ocean acidification and its potential effects? How can scientists, non-government entities, other stakeholders and community members help to answer their questions?

This virtual workshop will provide an overview of best practices in communicating OA science to decision and policy makers and other stakeholders, drawing upon lessons learned and experiences from our national and subnational government members. It will also describe how governments are increasingly tackling ocean acidification through legislation, climate action strategies and other international frameworks and specifically—will explore how scientists and in-region stakeholders can most effectively contribute to those processes.

This workshop is meant for scientists working on ocean acidification who are interested in learning how to interact with policymaker

Who Should Attend:

- Researchers
- Government representatives
- Policy makers within government
- Legislators
- Students
- Educators
- Shellfish Growers/ Seafood Growers

Open Invite across following networks:

- GOA-ON Hubs
- OA-ICC
- OA iRUG Members
- OA Information Exchange
- UN SDG 14.3 Community of Ocean Action
- OA Alliance
- The Ocean Foundation
- Under2MOU and US Climate Alliance

Handbook Sent in Advance of Workshop (October 16):

- Workshop Agenda
- Worksheet for break-out session
- TOF Legislative Guidebook
- OA Action Plan Toolkit

Workshop Agenda
2.5 hours/150 minutes

<p>700-710am</p> <p><i>Times in PST</i></p>	<p>Welcome and Agenda Overview- 10 minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexis Valauri-Orton (TOF) and Jessie Turner (OAA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Who are the OA Alliance and The Ocean Foundation- how is our work connected to scientific trainings, issue elevation, policy development and UN SDG 14.3? ○ What can you expect from today's session?
<p>710-735</p>	<p>Part One: Identifying Key Messages and Framing your Work – 25 minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jessie Turner (OAA) – 15 minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What do policy makers really want to know about ocean acidification and its potential impacts? ○ How do we frame OA science and potential impacts as relevant to other ocean and climate change priorities, issues of economy or food security? ○ Most commonly asked questions, how do we address them? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Emphasis will include: “Jobs, jobs, jobs...GDP, coastal economies”; placing OA within existing management issues/ climate concerns; the importance of multi-stakeholder work and linking OA within existing commitments (domestic and international.) • Discussion and questions-- 10 minutes; facilitated by Alexis Valauri-Orton (TOF).
<p>735-745</p>	<p>Part Two: International Commitments and Frameworks- 10 minutes</p> <p>How can UN SDG agenda and targets, NDCs, other climate commitments incorporate OA?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark Spalding (TOF) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ UN SDG 14.3 Community of Ocean Action ○ UN Decade for Ocean Science ○ Ocean Climate Change Dialogue and NDCs ○ Commonwealth Blue Charter ○ Domestic (national / local) climate commitments (Gov's office) ○ Main takeaway: high-level commitments make a difference. The message from scientists can/ should be: “[Our] Government has already agreed to do this, we are here to help.”
<p>745-825</p>	<p>Part Three: Policy Development and Priority Setting- 40 minutes</p> <p>What Types of Polices are Being Put Forward (state, regional, national) to address OA and how can local/ regional science help identify priorities? Best practices for public policies and legislation to address ocean acidification- how have scientists been engaged and informed these strategies?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jessie Turner (5 minutes): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ High-level overview of state/ regional policies (OA Action Plans) and entry points for science bodies. ▪ Big takeaway: Policy can help support further investments in mitigation, science and adaptation; developing the feedback loop between scientists and policy leaders. OA Action Plan gives list of examples that could be inside OA policy (<u>including science and monitoring</u>). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case Studies: Washington and California ○ Alejandra Navarette (20 minutes): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ High-level overview of national policies (federal legislation) and entry points for science bodies.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Big takeaway: Policy can help support further investments in mitigation, science and adaptation; developing the feedback loop between scientists and policy leaders (<i><u>this is what we care about/ this is what we know/ this is what we need to know</u></i>; TOF policy guidebook shows the different types of legislation that could be utilized to leverage OA Action; <i><u>Groups like OA Alliance and TOF can help convene / bring scientists, policy makers and stakeholders together.</u></i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case Studies: Mexico and participating in UN Decade for Ocean Science. ○ Scientist testimonials/ interviews (10 minutes): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dr. Martin Hernandez Ayon interviewed by Alexis- 5 minutes- <i>in process, early stage</i> ▪ Dr. Richard Feely interviewed by Jessie- 5 minutes- <i>retrospective, long term</i> ○ <i>Discussion and questions- 10 minutes; facilitated by Alexis Valauri-Orton (TOF)</i>
825-835	BREAK – 10 minutes
835-845	<p>Part Four: How have scientists successfully engaged? How to use the worksheet and charting next steps? - 10 minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexis Valauri-Orton (TOF) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How can scientists, non-government entities, other stakeholders and community members help to answer their questions? Here are the things that have been successful! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create products (posters, 2-pagers, infographics) that describe ocean acidification- causes and impacts. ▪ Organize information sessions for decision makers and stakeholders about why ocean acidification matters to resources within their region. ▪ Compile statistics and regionally specific information from other social science agencies....like FAO and relevant fact sheets that could be useful in showing value of local ecosystems, fisheries, aquaculture, tourism. ▪ Help develop priorities, programs or policies that will support increased scientific efforts that help answer the most important management questions. ▪ Show decision makers how your work is currently helping the government meet domestic and international commitments (e.g. Climate Action Plans, National Adaptation Plans, National Ocean Policies and UN SDG Targets.) ○ Walk-through worksheet and it's utility.
845-915	Part Five: Break-Out Discussions- Sharing Next Steps and Ideas- 30 minutes
915-930	<p>Part Six: Reconvene and Final Share Out- 15 minutes</p> <p>Calls to action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Key next steps from worksheet? ○ Longer-term priorities? ○ Regional collaboration opportunities? ○ Other stakeholders to contact/ engage? • <i>Facilitated by Alexis Valauri-Orton (TOF) and Jessie Turner OAA</i>