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Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission

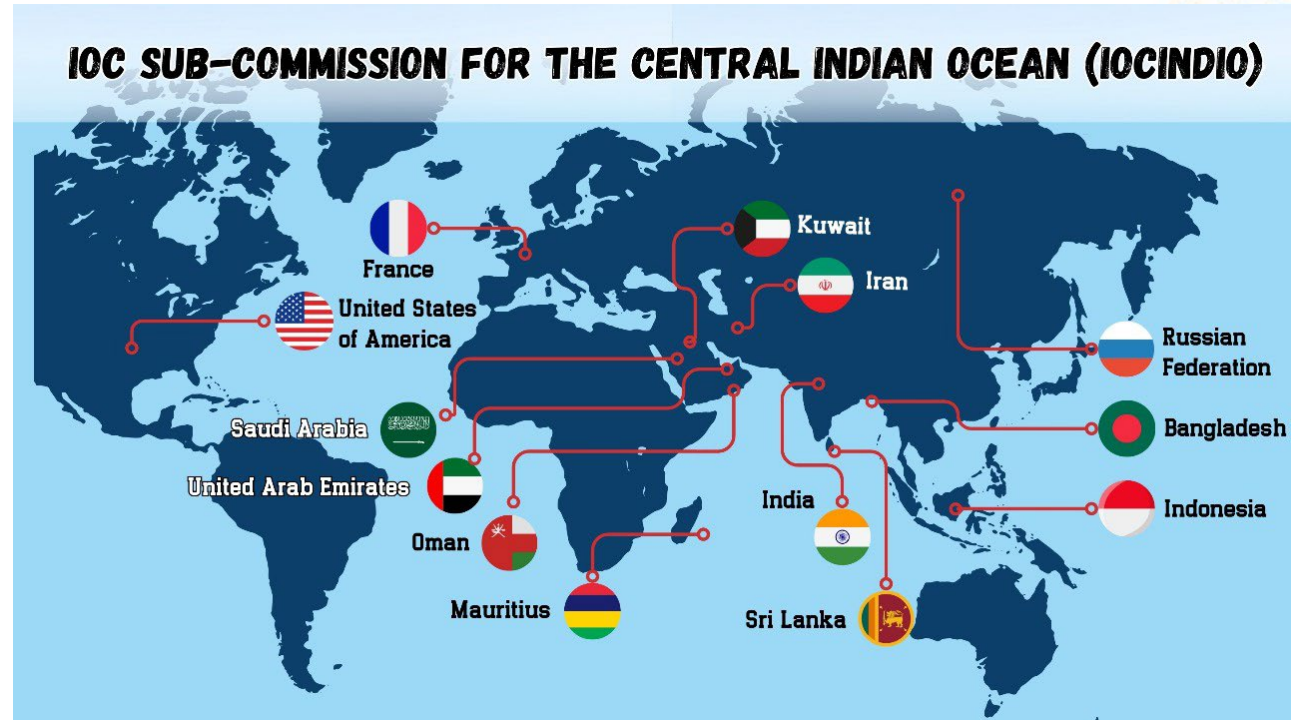
**IOCINDIO WORKSHOP-1 ON STRENGTHENING
OCEAN SUSTAINABILITY (IO-SOS 2025)
&
THE FIRST SESSION OF THE IOC SUB-
COMMISSION FOR THE CENTRAL INDIAN OCEAN
(SC IOCINDIO-1)
19-23 MAY 2023, UAE**

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IOC SUB-COMMISSION FOR THE CENTRAL INDIAN OCEAN (IOCINDIO)



- The IOC Assembly at its 32nd session (2023) through [Resolution A-32/1](#) decided to establish IOC Sub-Commission for the Central Indian Ocean (IOCINDIO) as an intergovernmental body to foster regional cooperation in ocean sciences, building on three decades of work of the IOCINDIO Regional Committee.
- Focused on fostering regional cooperation in marine science, technology, and innovation for sustainable development in the Central Indian Ocean.
- 13 Members of the Sub Commission



IOCINDIO includes the following Member States:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Bangladesh, | 1. Kuwait, | 1. Sri Lanka, |
| 2. France, | 2. Mauritius, | 2. United Arab Emirates, |
| 3. India, | 3. Oman, | 3. The United States of America |
| 4. Indonesia, | 4. Russian Federation, | |
| 5. Islamic Republic of Iran, | 5. Saudi Arabia, | |

IOCINDIO WORKSHOP-1 ON STRENGTHENING OCEAN SUSTAINABILITY (IO-SOS 2025)



Date: 19-20 May 2025

Location: Ras Al Khaimah
UAE

Participants: 46

1. Saudi Arabia
2. Kenya
3. Kuwait
4. Ireland
5. Australia
6. France
7. Belgium
8. China
9. Japan
10. Mauritius

11. Indonesia
12. Bangladesh
13. Singapore
14. India
15. Russian Federation
16. Iran
17. Pakistan
18. USA

Presentations

- Ocean Decade Tsunami Programme: Advancing Timely Warnings and Community Resilience by 2030
- Cities with Ocean initiative and implementation in the region
- Initiative on Disaster Mitigation and Prevention in pan-Indian Ocean Region
- GEBCO and the Quest to Map the Seabed
- Community participation in Sustainable Planning
- Ocean Decade actions in the region



THE FIRST SESSION OF THE IOC SUB-COMMISSION FOR THE CENTRAL INDIAN OCEAN (SC IOCINDIO-1)



- **Date:** 21-23 May 2025
- **Location:** Ras Al Khaimah UAE
- **Participants:** 50
 - 14 countries
 - 2 local agencies
 - 4 regional Organizations
- Reviewed Progress during 2024-2025
- Adopted 22 recommendations

Member States elected the Board of Officers for the 2026-2027 biennium;

- **Chair:** Dr Saif AlGhais (UAE) was elected as Chairperson unanimously.
- **Vice-chairs:** Dr Balakrishnan Nair TM (India) & Dr. Maryam Ghaemi (Iran)



The appointed Chair and Vice Chairs of IOCINDIO, Dr. Saif AlGhais, Dr. Maryam Ghaemi and Dr. Balakrishnan Nair TM
UNESCO-IOC

OUTCOMES OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE IOC SUB-COMMISSION FOR THE CENTRAL INDIAN OCEAN (SC IOCINDIO-1)



- The Sub-Commission decided to hold its second Intergovernmental Session during the second half of 2026 to better align with the timeline of IOC's work plan and budgeting period for 2028-2029.
- The IOCINDIO-SC accepted the offer from Indonesia to host the next session.
- The INCINDIO welcomed the proposal to host future sub commission meetings as much feasible, in conjunction with IOGOOS integrated meetings
- The IOCINDIO sub-commission welcomed the possibility to host the following session in Saudi Arabia

RECOMMENDATION



22 Recommendations related to:

1. IOC-wide Strategy on Sustainable Ocean Planning and Management
2. IOC and the Future of the Ocean: Consultation Process
3. UN Ocean Conference 2025
4. Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Process
5. Cooperation with IOCAFRICA
6. Cooperation with IOCARIBE
7. Regional Education and Research Centre on Oceanography for West Asia (RCOWA)
8. International Training Centre for Operational Oceanography (ITCOocean)
9. OTGA Specialized Training Centre - BMKG, Indonesia
10. UN Ocean Decade
11. Decade Collaborative Centre for the Indian Ocean Region (DCC-IOR)

12. DCC-Ocean Predict : Indian Ocean Task Team (DCC-OP IO-TT)

13. Cities with Oceans (Coastal Cities) initiative

14. Indian Ocean- Global Ocean Observing System

15. International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE)

16. Capacity Development (CD) and OTGA

17. ICG/IOTWMS and Ocean Decade Tsunami Program

18. Ocean Literacy

19. Bay of Bengal Programme

20. Indian Ocean Commission

21. Indian Ocean Rim Association

22. Sasakawa Peace Foundation

COOPERATION WITH IOCAFRICA:

1. Establish a Joint IOCAFRICA–IOCINDIO Coordination Platform to align workplans, co-develop programmes, and facilitate regular exchange, specifically pertaining to the marine scientific research.
2. Co-design a UN Ocean Decade Action focused on Indian Ocean resilience and ocean-based climate adaptation solutions.
3. Launch a South–South Capacity and Technology Exchange Programme linking African and Asian institutions to share expertise, tools, and training opportunities.

INTERNATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE FOR OPERATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHY



International Training Centre for Operational Oceanography (ITCOcean)

ITCOcean is aimed at promoting the development and optimization of scientific base, technology and information system for operational oceanography at national, regional and global scales.

- Recommends ITCOO to conduct courses targeting towards skill enhancement of Early Career Ocean Professionals and Early Career Scientist Network for the translational research and operational oceanography.

OTGA SPECIALIZED TRAINING CENTRE - BMKG, INDONESIA

Accepts the BMKG STC's recommendation for future training programs explore joint thematic planning and resource mobilization involving multiple UN entities.

UN OCEAN DECADE

- Invites member states to work on the definition of regional priorities for the Ocean Decade, in collaboration with the Indian Ocean Decade Collaborative Centres
- Decides to establish a regional taskforce on the implementation of the Ocean Decade in the region with a focus on identifying specific priority knowledge and capacity development gaps.
- Invites IOCINDIO member states to engage in the preparatory process of the 2027 Ocean Decade Conference
- Encourages Member States to establish National Decade Committees (NDC) in region and engage in the Ocean Decade Alliance



DECADE COLLABORATIVE CENTRE FOR THE INDIAN OCEAN REGION (DCC-IOR)



- Agrees to the need to organize joint cruises involving Member States taking into account the safety and security of individual countries.
- Encourages the member states to jointly respond to the calls of the Decade for the mutual benefit of the IOCINDIO Member States.

DCC-OCEANPREDICTION: INDIAN OCEAN TASK TEAM

Welcomes the call for the expansion of the steering team with active participation from experts in member states, focusing on the following themes:

- Ocean observations for operational oceanography
- Ocean forecasting: Physics & Biogeochemistry and Ocean forecasting: Climate
- Digital Twins
- Capacity building & user engagement
- Ocean health
- Ocean literacy

CITIES WITH OCEANS (COASTAL CITIES) INITIATIVE



- Welcomes the establishment of the Cities with the Ocean Platform as a new IOC-UNESCO initiative supporting the sustainable development of coastal urban territories
- Encourages more coastal cities and ports in the central Indian ocean region to endorse the Call to Action and engage in Decade Actions under the Platform.

INDIAN OCEAN- GLOBAL OCEAN OBSERVING SYSTEM THE IOC SUB-COMMISSION FOR THE CENTRAL INDIAN OCEAN (IOCINDIO)



- Urges member states to revise IOGOOS Strategy to put it in the synchronization to GOOS priorities and align UN Ocean Decade and work-plans.
- Connecting the science planned with the observations with social science for effective policymaking
- Encourages the member states to strive for the successful conduct of International Indian Ocean Science Conference (IIOSC)-2025.



INTERNATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHIC DATA AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE (IODE)



- Urges its Member States to
 - Designate or update their IODE national coordinator for data management;
 - Consider the establishment of an IODE national oceanographic data centres or IODE Associate Data Unit and to contact the IODE Secretariat for guidance in this regard.
- Urges all the Member States to participate in the Ocean Data and Information System via the creation of ODIS Nodes
- Encourages Member States that have created decade actions, to contact the DCO for Data Sharing for collaboration and guidance on data management methodology

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AND OTGA



Urges IOCINDIO Member States to:

- Strongly support the implementation plan for the IOC Capacity Development Strategy 2023-2030 by nominating national CD focal points
- Work closely with the IOC CD Secretariat for central coordination
- Actively participate in the next iteration of the IOC biennial CD needs assessment survey
- Increase support to OTGA Regional and Specialized Training Centres

The poster for the IOC Ocean Traineeships 2025 features a blue background with white and yellow text. At the top, the UNESCO and IOCINDIO logos are visible. The main title 'IOC OCEAN TRAINEESHIPS 2025' is prominently displayed. Below the title, there is a photograph of two men standing in front of a blue backdrop that reads 'Working to Save Lives from Tsunamis'. The man on the left is holding a sign that says 'YOU ARE ENTERING TSUNAMI HAZARD ZONE' and the man on the right is holding a sign that says 'YOU ARE LEAVING TSUNAMI HAZARD ZONE'. The poster also includes a list of objectives, application requirements, and a deadline for applications. The deadline is '25 JUNE 2025 23:59 CEST'. The website 'https://www.ioc-cd.org/' and the email 'ioc.training@unesco.org' are also provided.

2024 trainees from Indonesia and Tonga hosted at ITIC Hawaii

APPLY BY
25 JUNE 2025
23:59 CEST

Website: <https://www.ioc-cd.org/>
E-mail: ioc.training@unesco.org

Objectives:

- provide opportunities for hands-on learning and upskilling through a 3-month temporary assignment at a host institution with expertise in subject areas relevant to the IOC mandate
- contribute to building individual capacity and institutional capacity with a lasting impact on regional capacity

Trainees must:

- ✓ be at the early stages of career development
- ✓ be citizens from IOC Member States (from the DOECD DAC List of ODA);
- ✓ be employed by government institutions;
- ✓ work on relevant activities contributing to the implementation of capacity development work plans adopted by IOC Regional Sub-Commissions

Application requirements:

- ✓ A completed online application form <https://www.ioc-cd.org/>
- ✓ A recommendation form from a supervisor at the employing organization
- ✓ A choice of 1 from 6 host institutions on the list for the 2025 cohort
- ✓ Agreement to the terms of the traineeship programme (See Application Guidelines)

ICG/IOTWMS and Ocean Decade Tsunami Program



Encourages Member States to address the below:

- Continue strong engagement with the UNESCO-IOC Tsunami Programme through the ICG/IOTWMS and the Ocean Decade Tsunami Programme to strengthen the end-to-end tsunami early warning and mitigation system
- Consider recommendations of the IOWave23, 2024 IOTWMS Capacity Assessment of Tsunami Preparedness and the Intergovernmental Coordination Group (ICGs) sessions of the IOTWMS-XIV into their work plans
- Strengthen tsunami observing networks in gap areas
- Take necessary steps for implementation of the UNESCO-IOC Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme (TRRP) within their vulnerable coastal communities, including the setting up of National Tsunami Ready Boards.

OCEAN LITERACY

- Accepts the proposal to establish a Dedicated Working Group on Ocean Literacy under IOCINDIO sub-commission.
- Expresses the need to conduct Pilot Global Blue Schools Across Multiple Countries.
- Urges the member states to explore feasibility in hosting a landmark Ocean Literacy Forum in 2026
- Recommends advancing Policy-Level Inclusion of Blue Curriculum, to integrate Blue Curriculum into school curricula, teacher training, marine policy, and climate strategies.
- Encourage oil and gas sectors to adopt Ocean Literacy as part of ESG and CSR frameworks





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THANK YOU