

OA-ICC HIGHLIGHTS

The latest news and updates from the OA-ICC and partners



OA-Africa members at the side event during the Blue Oceans Conference in Monrovia, Liberia (Photo: © Michael Roberts, MNews Africa)

THIS QUARTER:

OA-AFRICA AT BLUE OCEANS
CONFERENCE IN LIBERIA

COMMONWEALTH OA ACTION
GROUP MEETING

COMMUNITY OF OCEAN ACTION
ON OA

CAPACITY BUILDING IN COLOMBIA

OA-ICC supports OA-Africa at Blue Oceans Conference in Liberia

Stakeholders from various maritime sectors convened at the [Blue Oceans Conference](#), 18-21 March 2019 in Monrovia, Liberia to discuss some of the main environmental threats facing African coastal countries. The [OA-Africa network](#) hosted a side event at the conference to present the status of ocean acidification research and awareness-raising efforts throughout Africa. White Papers for three major regions of Africa (West, East and North) were presented. The OA-ICC supported five scientists from Algeria, Egypt, Kenya, Morocco, and Nigeria, all of whom are members of the OA-Africa regional network. Additionally, the OA-Africa Steering Committee met directly after the closure of the Blue Oceans Conference to identify priorities and opportunities to advance ocean acidification monitoring, biological and societal response studies throughout Africa.

“African countries are among the most vulnerable to climate change and ocean acidification. OA-Africa is committed to keep raising awareness and fill research gaps in its members’ countries,” remarked Sheck Sherif, co-chair of OA-Africa.

OA-Africa is part of the [Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network \(GOA-ON\)](#), which aims to increase monitoring in areas where ocean acidification data is currently scarce. Peter Swarzenski, section head of the IAEA Radioecology Laboratory, represented the IAEA and OA-ICC at the conference, where he gave a presentation titled ‘Addressing Ocean Change’ and was a panellist at the OA-Africa side event. Find more information

about this conference in the [IAEA news story](#) and the [OA-Africa press release](#).
#COMMUNICATION #CAPACITYBUILDING



OA-Africa members discussed present and future ocean acidification research efforts in Africa (Photo: © Alicia Cheripka, NOAA)



Commonwealth Blue Charter Ocean Acidification Action Group

A new initiative to build an OA action plan is being led by New Zealand as part of the [Commonwealth Blue Charter](#). The first meeting of the Action Group was held 17-19 February 2019 in Dunedin, New Zealand, and was attended by government representatives of 17 Commonwealth countries from Africa, Indian Ocean, Oceania, Caribbean and Europe. Kim Currie and Libby Jewett, the [OA-ICC focal points](#) for global ocean acidification monitoring and GOA-ON Executive Council members, participated in this meeting. Other key partners are also involved in this Action Group, including the [International Alliance to Combat Ocean Acidification](#), the [Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association](#) (WIOMSA) and [The Ocean Foundation](#). For more information about this meeting, see the Commonwealth press release [here](#). [#SCIENCE](#) [#COMMUNICATION](#)



Participants of the first Commonwealth Blue Charter OA action group meeting in Dunedin, New Zealand
(Photo: © Christina McGraw, University of Otago)

Updates from the Communities of Ocean Action on Ocean Acidification

The [Community of Ocean Action on Ocean Acidification](#) (COA on OA), led by David Osborn, Director at IAEA Environment Laboratories and Dr. Bronte Tilbrook, CSIRO, Australia, and co-chair of GOA-ON, hosted the second COA on OA webinar on 5 February 2019. This webinar included a presentation from Jessie Turner on recent progress of the International Alliance to Combat Ocean Acidification (see Voluntary Commitment [here](#)). A recording from the webinar can be found [here](#). For an overview of the COA on OA Voluntary Commitments, see this [video presentation](#) by David Osborn.

The OA-ICC recently submitted a Voluntary Commitment entitled “[Facilitating global coordination and collaboration on ocean acidification](#)”. Voluntary Commitments can be submitted at any time on this [website](#), where you will also find more information about the SDG 14 Voluntary Commitments process. [#COMMUNICATION](#)



**COMMUNITIES OF
OCEAN ACTION**
IMPLEMENTATION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 14

Advanced training and regional symposium hosted by TOF in Santa Marta, Colombia

The OA-ICC supported an advanced ocean acidification training course and symposium for the Latin American and Caribbean region, organized by [The Ocean Foundation](#). The symposium was held at the Instituto de Investigaciones Marinas y Costeras (INVEMAR) in Santa Marta, Colombia from 21-24 January and included 80 participants from 15 countries. The event brought together scientists, policy-makers, and industry professionals from the region to collaborate and identify strategies for building resilience to ocean acidification. Following the symposium, the advanced training course was held from 28 January-1 February, where 14 participants from 5 countries received training on ocean acidification monitoring equipment, as well as using the [SDG 14.3.1 Indicator Methodology](#) and the associated data and metadata files. [#CAPACITYBUILDING](#)



The advanced course held in Santa Marta, Colombia provided hands-on training with OA monitoring equipment
(Photo: © Alexis Valauri-Orton, The Ocean Foundation)

NEXT ISSUE

- *4th GOA-ON International Workshop & Executive Council meetings, Hangzhou, China 13-18 April 2019*
- *Technical Meeting on Building Resilience to Address Ocean Change: Drivers of Vulnerability and Implications for Adaptation, Monaco, 23-25 April 2019*
- *SOLAS-IMBeR ocean acidification working group meeting, Villefranche-sur-mer, France, 27 May 2019*
- *OA-ICC Expert Group Meeting, Monaco, 28 May 2019*
- *Technical Meeting on the Development of Practical Guidelines for Ocean Acidification Measurements and their Associated Uncertainties, Monaco, 29-31 May 2019*
- *Communities of Ocean Action meeting, Incheon, South Korea, 30-31 May 2019*
- *Training course on the Use of Best Practices for Ocean Acidification Experiments in Multi-Stressor Scenarios, Monaco, 24-28 June 2019*

OA-ICC online resources:

- **OA-ICC news stream** - recent publications, media coverage, meeting announcements, jobs etc.
- **OA-ICC website** – Information about activities and resources for different audiences / languages
- **OA-ICC bibliographic database** - over 5,500 references with citations, abstracts and keywords.
- **OA-ICC data compilation** on the biological response to ocean acidification - access to experimental data from 928 scientific papers.
- **NEW OA-ICC portal for OA biological response data** – access to over 1,000 data sets along with citations.

The IAEA OA-ICC promotes global collaboration and activities to advance ocean acidification science, capacity building, and communication

Contact the OA-ICC: oaicc@iaea.org

OA-ICC project office: Lina Hansson, Marine Lebrec, Hasti Dessa and Peter Swarzenski