

Draft Working Group Action Plan

Western Tropical Atlantic WTA Decade Regional Planning Group

GOAL: Catalyze the UN Decade Western Tropical Atlantic (WTA) Co-Design Process to facilitate and empower the emergence of inclusive partnerships for regional transformative Decade Actions

Objective: 1

Advance and coordinate strategic partnerships and actions for the Western Tropical Atlantic (WTA) engagement in the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development
Establishing the thematic Working Group in order to achieve the seven Decade outcomes as outlined in the Implementation Plan

“[Advance the strategic partnerships and actions for the coordination (Albert)]”

- **Activities:**
 - Identify a diverse and multidisciplinary group of thematic experts and practitioners
- **Deliverables:**
 - The thematic Working Group is established to engage national and regional experts in co-designing and creating opportunities for exchange, collaboration and the catalysis of WTA partnerships to respond to future Calls for Decade Action.
- **Resources:** April 2020 Regional Decade Workshop WTA WG recommendations, regional and long range strategic science policy and management guidance, for example the IOCARIBE Strategic Science Plan, and programmatic decisions from regional bodies including the IOCARIBE Sub-Commission and UNEP Regional Seas Coordination Unit among others.
 - Use a common text inviting experts and practitioners to join
 - Draw from and enrich the WTA workshop invitation list and existing networks; there may be a good number of self-nominated members as a result of the IOCARIBE invitation in April and December 2020
- **Initial Due Date:** March 30, 2021

Objective 2

Identify and engage sectors with a clear thematic interest in contributing to and or benefitting from the WTA co-design process

- Activities:
 - Review potential participating expert and professional networks/organizations and those with a thematic interest
- Deliverables:
 - Timeline of existing thematic virtual, hybrid and in-person events
 - Develop a contact list of thematic existing regional networks/organizations/stakeholders
- Resources:
 - Draw on Theme core networks and WTA workshop list as initial inputs
 - Presentations (PPT) on (WTA) Decade
 - Utilize produced report from the April 2020 workshop
 - Utilize IOCARIBE existing network information and enrich it with new information from ECOP networks, national scientific networks, and the major regional National Academies of Science associations (e.g. IANAS, the EU All-Atlantic Ocean Youth Ambassadors).
- Initial Due Date: First inventory. 30 March 2021. On-going update

Objective 3

Catalyze communication on the UN Decade in/for the WTA region with existing themes networks, institutions, experts, practitioners, and stakeholders.

- Activities:
 - Review Decade and regional thematic calendars of events
 - Consider diverse communication media including of scientific journals and social media
- Deliverables:
 - A synergic thematic strategic approach, drawing on the UN communications strategy to advance the Decade campaign
 - Timeline of existing theme virtual, hybrid and in-person Decade, national and regional events in synergy with the Decade campaign

- List of relevant regional on-line and other network/organizational news/communication networks that serve as opportunities for disseminating information on Decade in the region
- Presentations (PPT) on (WTA) Decade and the theme that could be used in multiple themes focused for a (move to Communication section)
- Resources:
 - UN/IOC/Paris communication strategy and Decade outreach materials; more thematic oriented material may have to be developed within the region; IOC/IOCARIBE Secretariat
- Initial Due Date: April 30, 2021

Objective 4

Integrated regional programmes, projects and activities identifying opportunities, jointly with other Working Groups and RPG, for integrated regional programmes, projects and activities through a co-design- focused process, inclusive of the cross-cutting issues identified in the Implementation Plan and in needs and priorities recorded in the WTA Regional Workshop

- Activities:
 - Work with existing diverse networks, and the participants in the WTA co-design process to foster information exchange, collaboration and emergence of partnerships to respond to future Calls for Decade Actions
 - Organise a series of virtual planning meeting including communication outreach mechanisms for each Working Group to advance with the Implementation Plan
 - Create a WTA repository for information for the UN Decade connected to IOC Ocean Info Hub
- Deliverables:
 - List of emerging co-design thematic partnerships that have/are developing Actions to propose for endorsement by the UN through this Call for Action process or future Calls.
 - Potential fora for new collaborations and initiatives
- Resources: WTA workshop April 2020, WG-led consultative co-design processes and regional strategic science policy and management guidance
- Due Date: June 2021, December 2021, June 2022
- Initial Due Date planning meeting: April 30, 2021

Objective 5

Provide reporting in 2021 on a quarterly basis to the RPG on the deliverables progress to enable RPG to provide appropriate advice to IOCARIBE, IOC Governing Bodies, and partners in the region

- **Activities:**
 - Implement and report on prior Objective initiatives, share best practices, identify, evaluate progress in co-design and identify and regional gaps that need to be addressed
- **Deliverables:**
 - Working Groups Quarterly Reports
 - WTA RPG Report to IOCARIBE XVI and IOC Assembly in 2021
- **Resources:**
- **Due Date:** March 25, June 23, September 24, 2021, January 7, 2022
- **IOCARIBE XVI and IOC Assembly:** May 3-6; June 10, 2021