



2021
2030 United Nations Decade
of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development

Challenger 150

A Decade to Study Deep-Sea Life

Decade Programme

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Lead Institution

Deep Ocean Stewardship Initiative (DOSI)

Contact: Dr Kerry Howell
kerry.howell@plymouth.ac.uk
Dr Ana Hilário
ahilario@ua.pt

KEY PARTNERS

- Schmidt Ocean Institute
- REV Ocean
- Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research
- 68 Research centers & universities

DECADE CHALLENGES ADDRESSED

CHALLENGE 1: Understand and beat marine pollution

CHALLENGE 2: Protect and restore ecosystems and biodiversity

CHALLENGE 3: Sustainably feed the global population

CHALLENGE 4: Develop a sustainable and equitable ocean economy

CHALLENGE 5: Unlock ocean-based solutions to climate change

CHALLENGE 7: Expand the Global Ocean Observing System

CHALLENGE 8: Create a digital representation of the Ocean

CHALLENGE 9: Skills, knowledge and technology for all

CHALLENGE 10: Change humanity's relationship with the ocean

OCEAN BASINS

North Atlantic	Indian
South Atlantic	Arctic
North Pacific	Southern
South Pacific	



@challenger_150

Summary

Challenger 150 is a global cooperative devoted to delivering the science we need to sustainably manage the deep ocean. At its heart is the development of deep-ocean expertise, particularly in economically-developing nations, in order to achieve a global generation of stewards working together to maintain the integrity of deep-ocean ecosystems. Through support of new technologies and expansion of observations, Challenger 150 aims to advance understanding of the diversity, distribution, function and services provided by deep-ocean biota; and to use this new knowledge to educate, inspire, and promote better management and sustainable use of the deep ocean.

Duration: 01/01/2021 - 12/31/2030

Priority Activities (first 2 years)

- Engage Early Career Ocean Professionals (ECOPs) in, and extend global capacity for, deep-sea research, particularly in SIDs and LDCs.
- Expand the coverage and frequency of deep-sea biological observations and sampling, specifically focusing on underexplored regions, often in areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ) and EEZs of SIDs and LDCs.
- Build upon existing fundamental ecological understanding of deep-sea ecosystems, including ecosystem services delivered by the deep seas and flows of benefits to society.
- Increase the use of deep-sea knowledge through development of effective pathways for communication between scientists and decision-makers, including use of decision-support tools in modelling deep-sea management scenarios.
- Help develop governance and policies to support sustainable management of the deep ocean.

"With Challenger 150 we aim to train the next generation of deep-sea biologists and create a network of enhanced capacity that enables countries to exercise their full role in international discussions on the use of ocean resources within and outside of their national boundaries."

Kerry Howell (Plymouth University) &
Ana Hilário (University of Aveiro)
Deep Ocean Stewardship Initiative (DOSI)

