



2021  
2030 United Nations Decade  
of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development

# Ocean Voices: Advancing equity through the Decade

## Decade Programme



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### Lead Institution

**Nippon Foundation  
Ocean Nexus Center, EarthLab  
University of Washington**

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### KEY PARTNERS

- University of Washington
- Dalhousie University
- University of Wollongong

### DECADE CHALLENGES ADDRESSED

**CHALLENGE 4:** Develop a sustainable and equitable ocean economy

**CHALLENGE 10:** Change humanity's relationship with the ocean

### OCEAN BASINS

North Atlantic	Indian
South Atlantic	Arctic
North Pacific	Southern
South Pacific	



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#OceanVoices  
#OceanEquity



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/ocean-nexus-center>

### Summary

The contribution of ocean science to sustainable development is determined by people. Understanding the actors involved, their knowledge systems, culture and wellbeing, and how power dynamics and decision-making processes influence our oceans is crucial to achieve the goals of the Decade. There is a need to ensure knowledge, strategy and governance frameworks to enable all to participate in, contribute to and benefit equitably from the Decade. The Oceans Voices program will conduct research, incubate ideas, facilitate critical discussions and convene capacity building partnerships to identify barriers, pathways and enabling conditions for equity in the Decade.

Duration: 01/07/2021 - 30/12/2029

### Priority Activities (first 2 years)

- Interdisciplinary solutions-oriented research to advance understanding of the problems facing ocean-dependent people, factors influencing the contribution of ocean science to sustainable development and the barriers and the enabling conditions for equity, fairness and justice.
- Workshops and events to facilitate knowledge exchange and partnerships and stimulate discussion across disciplinary, sectoral and geographical boundaries.
- Develop and enhance accessibility to interdisciplinary tools and frameworks to promote equitable engagement in the Decade.

***"If we truly want to create a sustainable and equitable ocean we must create a new platform for ocean governance that recognizes inequities and embraces the diverse voices of the people who rely on the ocean for their lives and livelihoods."***

*Dr. Yoshitaka Ota, Director, Nippon Foundation Ocean Nexus Center, EarthLab, University of Washington*



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