

32nd Session of the IOC Assembly



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4.3 Revision of the IOC Capacity Development Strategy

IOC-32/4.3.Doc(1), IOC-32/4.3.Doc(1)
Addendum, IOC-32/4.3.Doc(2)

Alan Evans – Chair IOC Group of Experts on Capacity Development
23rd June 2023

Revision of the IOC Capacity Development Strategy (IOC-32/4.3.Doc 1 & IOC-32/4.3.Doc(1) Addendum)



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- IOC Assembly XXVIII (2015) – Adoption of an IOC CD Strategy (2015-2021)
- The GE-CD Task Team’s report, IOC/INF-1396, concluded that there was a need to update the IOC CD Strategy
- Decision A-31/3.5.3:
 - extended the current IOC Capacity Development Strategy until July 2023
 - tasked GoE CD with revised ToRs to:

(vii) revise the IOC Capacity Development Strategy and prepare a proposal for submission to the IOC Assembly at its 32nd Session;

(viii) prepare a proposal to promote visibility and reach of the revised IOC CD Strategy so that its target audience will read through and appreciate the document as a guide in implementing capacity development activities for submission and submit it to the IOC Assembly at its 32nd Session;



Revision of the IOC Capacity Development Strategy (IOC-32/4.3.Doc 1 & IOC-32/4.3.Doc(1) Addendum)



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Key updates:

- A slightly shortened Strategy
- Removal of references to specific projects, now captured by the Ocean CD-Hub
- Strengthened mission and vision statements
- Maintained six outputs but with additional activities and actions

Executive Summary:

- Reflects the increased recognition that the ocean plays in political, commercial, science and society
- Reflects the importance of capacity development in **IOCs contributions** to the delivery of the Decade of Ocean Science
- The IOC's critical role in fostering international cooperation
- Use the strategy as the motivation to develop an implementation plan, such that IOC CD activities are clearly articulated and that the benefits are more readily identified

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Vision and Mission:

- *Through international cooperation, IOC will assist its Member States to collectively **achieve the IOC'S high-level objectives (HLOs)**, and in doing so support the delivery of the societal outcomes of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030), with particular attention **to ensuring that all Member States have the capacity to meet them***
- *IOCs CD must recognise activities undertaken by its Member States and other marine stakeholders, bringing visibility to opportunities and promoting CD activities. To which end partnership and collaboration are essential pillars of IOC's Capacity Development Strategy, working with other United Nations specialised agencies*

Strategic Framework:

- An enhanced and expanded portfolio of Activities, based on the existing six Outputs of the IOC CD Strategy
- Integrated additional activities and actions (total of 16 activities; 31 actions)

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Output	Activity	Action	
1. Human resources developed at individual and institutional levels	1.1 Academic and higher education	1.1.1 Promote and assist with the strengthening and establishment of consortia of higher education and research institutions at the appropriate geographical scale	
		1.1.2 Promote collaboration between UNESCO Chairs and IOC, and between IOC and other organizations dealing with ocean matters on human resources development	
	1.2 Continuous professional development	1.2.1 Promote and assist with the organization of training courses, workshops and “summer schools”, relevant to the IOC mandate, including training of trainers/technicians and executive career development for institutional managers/decision makers, in collaboration with other organisations	1.2.2 Establish, or collaborate with other organizations to develop internship/fellowship and on-board training programmes
			1.2.3 Establish and collaborate with other organisations on visiting lecturer/ scholar/researcher programmes and professional exchanges (peer to peer)
			1.2.4 Promote and assist with the establishment of regional training (and research) centres relevant to the IOC mandate
			1.2.5 Promote the development and sharing of training materials and tools
			1.3 Sharing of knowledge and expertise including through community building
	1.4 Integration of ocean science in basic education	1.3.2 Establish or collaborate with other organizations on a mentoring programme	1.3.3 Promote and assist with the development and strengthening of IOC alumni networks, and professional networks including for youth leaders
			1.3.4 Promote funding, grant and scholarship programs to facilitate ocean research, technical development and scientific exchange through bringing visibility of opportunities via an online CD hub
			1.4.1 Promote the integration of ocean science in curricula of primary and secondary schools
	1.5 Improving gender, generational and geographic diversity	1.4.2 Promote careers in ocean research and ocean management	1.5.1 Promote participation of women in ocean research
			1.5.2 Promote and support “young scientist” and “women in science” awards
	2. Access to technology , physical infrastructure, data and information established or improved	2.1 Facilitating access to technology and infrastructure	2.1.1 Establish and maintain a register of infrastructure to facilitate access, and promote transfer of marine technology
			2.1.2 Promote the development of regional collaboration on sustainable scientific infrastructure
			2.1.3 Promote involvement of citizen science in ocean research
2.2 Facilitating equitable access to and sharing of ocean data and information		2.2.1 Promote the development and wide use of regional and global data and information systems	2.2.2 Promote the sharing of ocean data and information by stakeholders

Revision of the IOC Capacity Development Strategy (IOC-32/4.3.Doc 1 & IOC-32/4.3.Doc(1) Addendum)



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Output	Activity	Action
3. Global, regional and sub-regional mechanisms strengthened	3.1 Further strengthening and supporting secretariats of regional sub-commissions	3.1.1 Improve staffing of secretariat of regional sub-commissions
		3.1.2 Reinforce budgeting of regional sub-commissions
	3.2 Enhancing effective communication between regional sub-commission secretariats and global programmes as well as other communities of practice (incl. other organizations)	3.2.1 Establish an effective coordination and communication mechanism between the secretariats of the regional sub-commissions and the global programmes
	3.3 Identifying specific national and regional capacity development needs through regular needs assessment	3.3.1 Organise and conduct biennial capacity development needs survey
	3.4 Encouraging regional and sub-regional organisations to be leaders in, and amplifiers of capacity development	3.4.1 Reinforce engagement of regional and sub-regional organizations in consultation process and capacity development initiatives
4. Development of ocean research policies in support of sustainable development objectives promoted	4.1 Fostering the development of ocean research policies	4.1.1 Compile and compare information on existing ocean research policies, and disseminate to member states for their use
		4.1.2 Assist and enable Member States with the development of ocean research policies, making use of the results of 4.1.1
5. Visibility, awareness and understanding on the roles and values of the ocean and ocean research in relation to human wellbeing and sustainable development increased	5.1 Fostering the development of ocean related public information and communication services	5.1.1 Encourage the development of public information (communication) departments in ocean research institutions
	5.2 Fostering the development of ocean literacy	5.2.1 Assist with the strengthening and development of ocean literacy programmes at national and regional levels
6. Sustained (long-term) resource mobilization reinforced	6.1 Enhancing sustained support (in-kind and financial) to the IOC for its international coordination role	6.1.1 Foster partnerships to increase in-kind support opportunities
	6.2 Promoting sustained bilateral and multilateral support among Member States	6.2.1 Encourage resource mobilisation in particular from Member States, and other donors to support the outcomes of the IOC Capacity Development needs assessment

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- Capacity Development is a primary **Purpose** of the IOC, as included in its Statutes¹
- IOC CD is a stand alone core function of the IOC Medium-Term Strategy, 2022–2029, delivering its own initiatives e.g. Needs assessment surveys, Ocean CD-Hub, Ocean Teacher Global Academy, Ocean InfoHub (with IODE)
- IOC CD cross-cuts all other IOC functions:
 - All functions should adopt and deliver IOC CD Strategy as a key output
 - All Regional Offices should adopt and deliver IOC CD Strategy as a key output
- Collaborative efforts² and complementary activities by other UN organisations will be critical in ensuring cohesive and all-inclusive capacity development
- Only by providing adequate and sustainable core funding for the above can IOC retain credibility and relevance in the delivery of its functions

¹ Article 2 – Purpose - 1. The purpose of the Commission is to promote international cooperation and to coordinate programmes in research, services and **capacity-building** [..]

² Article 2 – Purpose - 2. The Commission will **collaborate with international organizations** concerned with the work of the Commission, and **especially with those organizations of the United Nations** [..]

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cean CD-Hub
Gateway to Ocean related Capacity Development opportunities around the world

Training & Higher Education	Onboard Expeditions, Research & Training	Fellowships
Internships/Jobs	Mentorships	Visiting Lecturers/Scholars & Exchanges
Professional Networks & Community Building	Awards	Travel Grants
Research Funding, Grants & Scholarships	Access to Infrastructure	Ocean Literacy, Public Information & Communication

Ocean Data, Documentation & Information

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About

The Ocean CD-Hub is a prototype which responds to a request from IOC Member States to **create an online search engine which helps individuals and organizations** (e.g., early career professionals, managers, technicians, government officials, schoolteachers, etc.) **search for capacity development opportunities** (e.g., awards, fellowships, grants, Internships/Jobs, teaching materials, trainings, etc.) offered around the world.

The Clearing-House Mechanism shall be managed by the secretariat, without prejudice to possible cooperation with [...] Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission [...].

new High Seas Treaty (BBNJ), 2023.

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UN Ocean Decade CD vs IOC CD 2015-2021 (IOC/INF-1396)

CD CHAPTER OCEAN DECADE		IOC CD STRATEGY	
Desired Results	Priority Activities	Output	Activity
1. Human resources developed at individual and institutional levels	1. Academic and higher education opportunities including through online and distance learning 2. Continuous professional development 3. Sharing of knowledge and expertise including through community building 4. Training, including training of trainers 5. Integration of ocean science in curricula in primary and secondary schools including information on ocean science careers 6. Actively improving gender, generational and geographic diversity	1. Human resources developed 	1.1 Academic (higher) education including e-learning such as through online and distance modes 1.2 Continuous professional development through organization of training courses and learning activities, including training of trainers 1.3 Integrating ocean science in basic education curricula 1.4 Sharing of knowledge and expertise/community building 1.5 Improving generational, geographic and gender balance
Desired Results	Priority Activities	Output	Activity
2. Access to technology and physical infrastructure established or improved	2.1 Facilitating access to technology and infrastructure (e.g. research facilities, instruments, research vessels, high power computing, digital telecommunications) 2.2 Developing skills to lead and participate in technology and infrastructure development 2.3 Promoting technical and technological cooperation and peer to peer exchange between stakeholders	2. Access to technology and physical infrastructure established or improved 	2.1 Facilitating access to infrastructure (facilities, instruments, vessels, etc.) 2.2. Developing skills on access and use of digital technology, computing and other ICT including low-bandwidth technology 2.3. Promoting cooperation with stakeholders and civil community

CD CHAPTER OCEAN DECADE		IOC CD STRATEGY	
Desired Results	Priority Activities	Output	Activity
3. Global, regional, and sub-regional mechanisms strengthened	3.1 Identifying specific national and regional capacity development needs through needs assessments 3.2 Strengthening existing national and regional resources and networks for capacity development 3.3 Supporting regional and sub-regional organisations to be leaders in, and amplifiers of, capacity development	3. Global, regional and sub-regional mechanisms strengthened 	3.1 Further strengthening and supporting secretariats of regional commissions 3.2 Enhance effective Communication between regional sub-commission secretariats and global programmes as well as other communities of practice (incl. other organizations)
Desired Results	Priority Activities	Output	Activity
4. Development of ocean research policies in support of sustainable development promoted	4.1 Supporting identification of ocean research priorities 4.2 Supporting development of national marine science management procedures and national policies	4. Development of ocean research policies in support of sustainable development objectives promoted 	4.1 Sharing of information and support identification of ocean research priorities 4.2 Developing national marine science management procedures and national policies
5. Awareness and understanding increased, and exchanges facilitated on role and values of ocean	5.1 Ocean literacy initiatives 5.2 Informal education including through museums, zoos or aquariums 5.3 Public information and communication (refer Section 2.7 for more detail)	5. Visibility and awareness increased 	5.1 Public Information 5.2 Ocean Literacy 5.3 Informal education and citizen science 5.4 Access to open source and digital products
6. Sustained, long-term resource mobilization reinforced	6.1 Mobilizing in-kind and financial support for capacity development initiatives as part of the Decade (refer Section 3.2 for more detail)	6. Sustained (long-term) resource mobilization reinforced 	6.1 In-kind opportunities 6.2 Financial support by MS to IOC activities

Revision of the IOC Capacity Development Strategy (IOC-32/4.3.Doc 1 & IOC-32/4.3.Doc(1) Addendum)

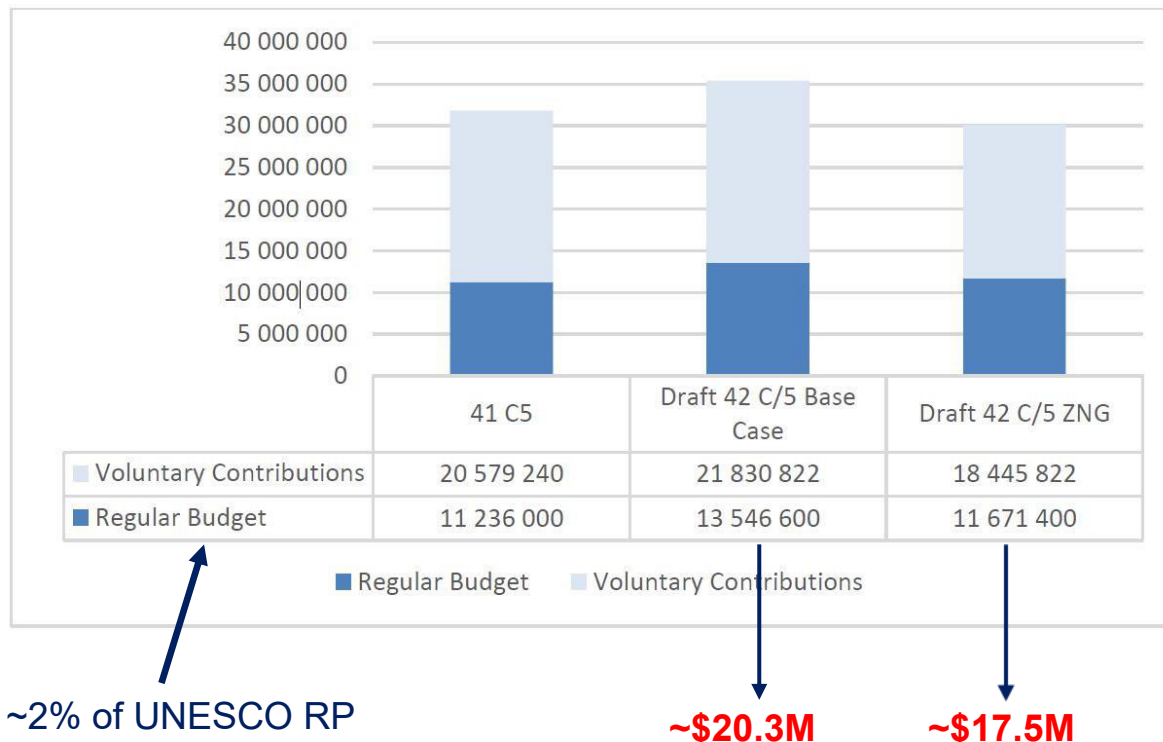


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There is light at the end of the tunnel.....

IOC-32/6.1.Doc(1) (15 May 2023)



UNESCO Executive Board 216 - URGENT REQUIREMENT FOR INCREASED AND MORE STABLE RESOURCES TO THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION (IOC)

“UNESCO is increasingly asserting its global role in science-based ocean management including by leading the United Nations Ocean Decade and must also **continue delivering its core functions.**”

“[...] the IOC is unable to adequately resource **its core functions** [...]”

Decision 216 EX/44 (19th May 2023)

Agrees an increase in the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO-IOC)’s share of the UNESCO regular budget of 1% to ensure it has adequate and equitable human and financial resources across all IOC functions in order to fully implement its responsibilities;



To promote the IOC CD Strategy a *CD Outreach* working group of the GE-CD developed a 2 page Outreach Document, that compresses key points of the strategy for ease of reference, plus a Communications Plan, both of which intend to target:

- decision-makers
- marine policy specialists
- academics
- early career professionals
- managers
- technicians
- government officials
- school teachers
- general public

Promotion of the IOC CD Strategy should take place within 6 months of endorsement, where engagement with Regional Subsidiary Bodies will be critical.

Promoting the CD Strategy will require financial and human resource to develop engaging content such as video, animation and press releases

Revision of the IOC Capacity Development Strategy (IOC-32/4.3.Doc 1 & IOC-32/4.3.Doc(1) Addendum) & Outreach and Communications Plan (IOC-32/4.3.Doc 2)



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Decision A-32/4.3

6. Adopts the IOC Capacity Development Strategy, 2023–2030 as contained in document IOC-32/4.3.Doc(1);

7. Adopts also the Outreach and Communications plan for the IOC Capacity Development Strategy, 2023–2030 as contained in document IOC-32/4.3.Doc(2);

8. Agrees that, by the 33rd Session of the IOC Assembly, IOC Primary Subsidiary Bodies (global programmes and Regional Subsidiary Bodies) should take the following actions:

- (i) develop programmatic and regionally relevant capacity development work plans based on this strategy and related needs assessments conducted in a consistent manner, building on on-going activities and making use of existing training and education facilities;
- (ii) mobilize resources in order to reinforce the Secretariat staffing of the regional Sub-Commissions, other subsidiary bodies and global programmes;
- (iii) promote the visibility and reach of the IOC Capacity Development Strategy 2023–2030 in accordance to the outreach and communications plan to reach its target audience and appreciate the document as a guide in implementing capacity development activities;
- (iv) catalyze capacity development through global, regional, and national programme development; and
- (v) enhance collaboration and communication between its global programmes and Regional Subsidiary Bodies, to contribute to (i) and (ii) above;



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THANK YOU