

Empowering people in marine science WESTPAC Efforts in Capacity Development



IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific (WESTPAC)
Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO

WESTPAC Capacity Development 2024

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Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO*

Empowering people in marine science: WESTPAC Efforts in Capacity Development



Delivering Knowledge and Services
to serve the needs for ocean sustainability

Increase Scientific Knowledge,
Research and Technology for Ocean
Health

Guiding principles: Adaptive,
inclusive and empowerment

Approaches:

- ❑ Target early career scientists
- ❑ Suit national and regional needs, while closely following global emerging issues
- ❑ Link training to the attainment of research goals by integrating CD into program development
- ❑ Co-design and co-development with Member States



Integrated capacity development tools

“Development of “UNESCO/IOC Regional Network of Training and Research Centers (RTRCs) on Marine Science”

Inclusion of capacity building into WESTPAC research programmes and conduct of a series of regional and national tailored training (or training workshop) in Member States on a rotation basis

“Training Through Research” via the engagement of early career scientist into WESTPAC research programmes

Establishment of “WESTPAC Best Young Scientist Award” and “WESTPAC Young Scientist Grant” to nurture young science leaders and facilitate international exposure of young scientists

WESTPAC has been exploring more feasible tools to develop capacity at different level, including:

Initiation of “WESTPAC Young Scientist Forum for WESTPAC early career scientist to exchange their perspective on marine science development and cooperation

Conduct of “Bring Marine Science to School” to inspire young generations/school students on ocean and marine science

UNESCO/IOC Regional Network of Training and Research Centers (RTRCs) on Marine Science

RTRC was initiated in 2008 with the objective of enhancing capacity building in marine science and service. It provides training and research opportunities to national oceanographic institutes and universities and promotes north-south and south-south cooperation as a strategy to enrich institutions. It also can be considered as a regional activity to follow up with the UNESCO-IOC Principles and Strategy for Capacity-building as endorsed by the 23rd Assembly of the IOC in Resolution XXIII-10, Paris, 21–30 June 2005.

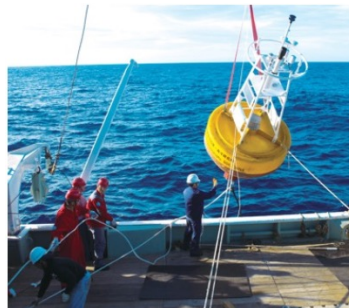


Member States welcome new RTRC on Coastal Contaminant Monitoring and Marine Innovative Technologies (Coastal COMMIT), hosted by City University of Hong Kong (CityU), Hongkong, China

14th Intergovernmental Session for IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific, 4-7 April 2023, Jakarta, Indonesia

UNESCO/IOC Regional Network of Training and Research Centers (RTRCs) on Marine Science

1. **RTRC on Coastal Contaminant Monitoring and Marine Innovation Technology**, City University of Hong Kong (CityU), China.
2. **Reef Management and Restoration**, University of the Philippines, the Philippines.
3. **Marine Toxins and Seafood Safety**, Institute of Oceanography, Vietnam.
4. **Marine Plastic Debris and Microplastics**, East China Normal University, China.
5. **Marine Biodiversity and Ecosystem Health**, National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN), Indonesia.
6. **Ocean Dynamics and Climate**, First Institute of Oceanography, China,.



Regional Capacity Development IOC/WESTPAC

“IOC Capacity-building (2005): the CD needed to be embedded in ongoing regional projects that contribute directly to the larger IOC mandate”

Regional and national tailored training is conducted in the Member States to ensure its sustainability– home-grown, long-term, and generated and managed collectively by those who stand to benefit.

Tailored national and international training programs/projects/working groups

DNA

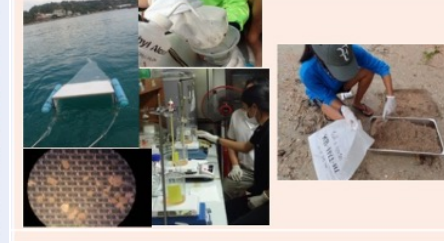
Molecular technique



Ocean Acidification



Marine Debris and Microplastics



Coral Restoration & Conservation



Environmental DNA



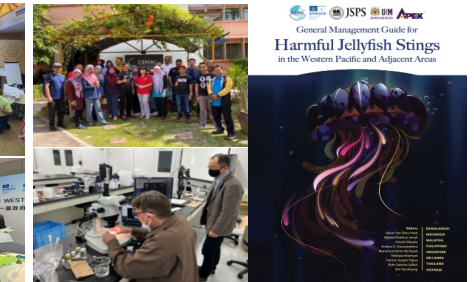
Ocean Remote sensing



Marine Spatial Planning



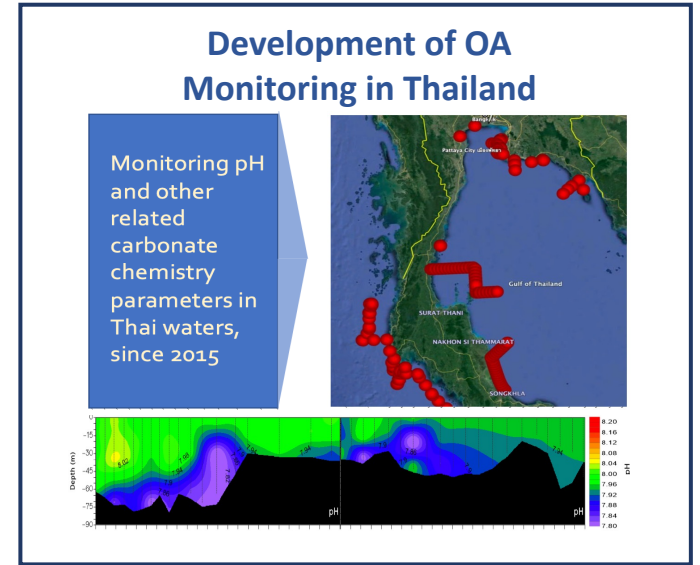
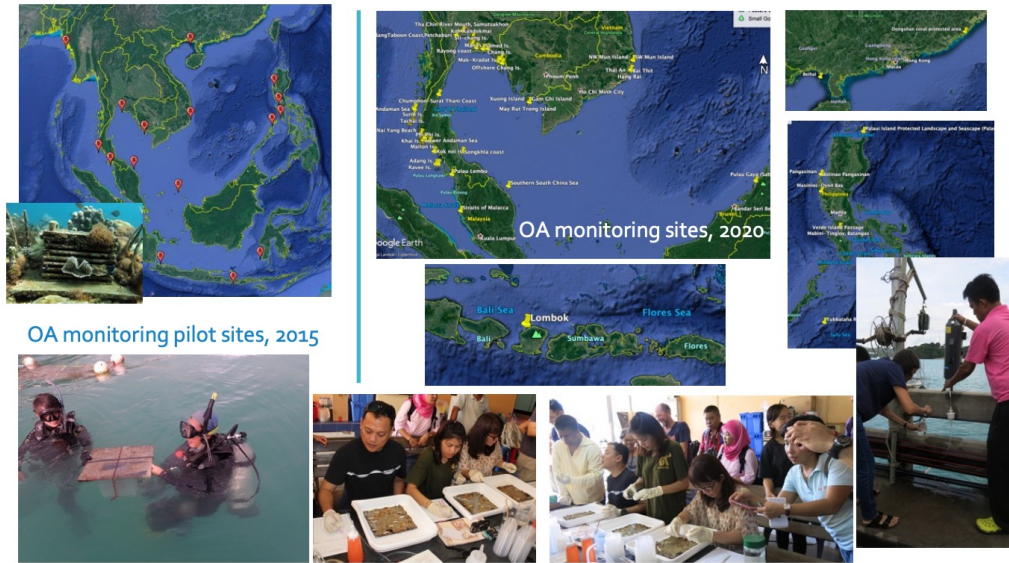
Harmful Jellyfish



Thirteen programs/projects and Eight working groups on emerging issues, including their work plan for 2023-2025, were presented to the Fourteenth Intergovernmental Session of the IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific ([WESTPAC-XIV](#)), Jakarta, Indonesia, 4-7 April 2023.

From capacity development to field observation/monitoring and research:

Tailored national and international training programs/projects/working groups



Regional Capacity Development IOC/WESTPAC

UN Ocean Decade Actions and Capacity Development



UN Ocean Decade Kickoff Conference for the Western Pacific and its Adjacent Areas

25-26 November 2021

Watch the Opening on November 25 at 1300-1520 Bangkok (UTC+7)



Facebook



Youtube



One programme and three projects were registered as UN Ocean Decade actions by WESTPAC

- UN 21: Accelerating MSP in the region
- UN 22: Asia's riverine plastic emission
- UN 23: Transformations in Capacity Development- RTRCs network
- UN24: 2nd Cooperative Study of Kuroshio and Adjacent Regions



Combat pollution



Sustainably feed the world's population



Build resilience to climate change



Ensure a sustainable ocean observing system



Ensure comprehensive capacity development



Restore ecosystems and biodiversity



Develop a sustainable blue economy



Enhance multi-hazard early warning services



Develop a digital representation of the ocean



Change humanity's relationship with the ocean

Overall time arrangement for Decade Action Incubators

25 Nov 2021 (UTC+7, Bangkok Time)				26 Nov 2021 (UTC+7, Bangkok Time)			
0830 –1030	1030 – 1230	1300 – 1520	1530 - 1730	0830 –1030	1030 – 1230	1300 –1500	1530 - 1730
Incubator 1 Ocean Solutions	Incubator 4 Marine mammals and sea turtles	Opening and High-Level Segment	Incubator 6 Save our corals	Incubator 8 Indo-Pacific Convergent Center	Incubator 11 Riverine plastic and microplastic	Incubator 14 Sciences for blue economy	Incubator 16 Ocean data assimilation and CoastPredict
Incubator 2 Marine Life 2030	Incubator 5 Changes in Asian Marginal Seas		Incubator 7 Ocean forecasting	Incubator 9 Marine spatial planning	Incubator 12 Harmful algal blooms	Incubator 15 Coastal inundation and erosion	Incubator 17 ECOP (Asia): Science communication
Incubator 3 Remote sensing				Incubator 10 Marine heatwaves	Incubator 13 Kuroshio	Launch of a Decade endorsed project: COASTAL SOS	

UN Ocean Decade Actions and Capacity Development

UN 21: Accelerating MSP in the region

MSP capacity development series



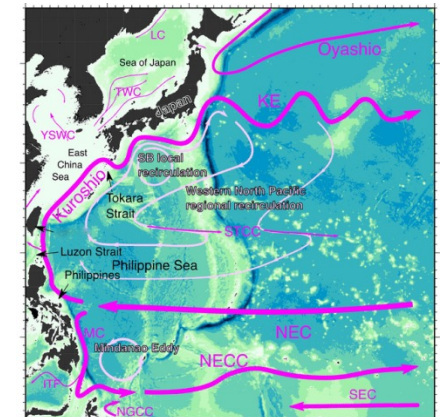
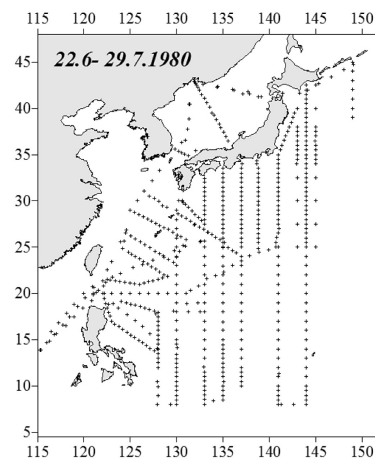
UN 22: Asia's riverine plastic emission



UN 23: Transformations in Capacity Development-RTRCs network



UN24: 2nd Cooperative Study of Kuroshio and Adjacent



Ocean Decade and WESTPAC International Conferences

2nd UN Ocean Decade Regional Conference & 11th WESTPAC International Marine Science Conference

“Accelerating Ocean Science Solutions for Sustainable Development”

📍 Bangkok, Thailand, 22 - 25 April 2024

<https://www.iocwestpac2024.com>

The conferences comprise of

- Keynotes
- Scientific Sessions (4 sub-sessions/25 themes) and Special Forum (1)
- Decade Action Incubators (12 Incubators) (nursing potential regional activities to be developed for Ocean Decade Actions)
- Decade Action Workshops (13 WSs) (sharing progress, strengthening partnerships, and seeking regional support)

Participants: various ocean stakeholders, including governments, research communities/academia, private and business sectors, philanthropic foundations, UN agencies, NGOs, and civil society,

Aims: to exchange and share the current status of ocean knowledge, take stock of the first three years' achievements of the Ocean Decade Actions, identify future priorities, and continuously catalyze partnerships and concrete actions for transformative ocean-based solutions to sustainability challenges in this particular region, such as resource depletion, marine pollution, biodiversity loss, habitat degradation, climate change and ocean acidification, and natural hazards.



Keynote speakers

Empowering the Early Career Ocean Professionals

To facilitate ECOPs participation and engagement in capacity-building activities, attending conferences, and co-design and co-development activities in the region

WESTPAC grants travel funds to participate in the 2nd UN Ocean Decade Regional Conference & 11th WESTPAC International Marine Science Conference, 22-25 April 2024, Bangkok, Thailand.

Best Young Scientist Awards are regularly presented to four ECOPs at the tri-annual WESTPAC International Conference, to nurture science leaders and assist young scientists to further dedicate themselves to the sustainable development of ocean and coastal areas.





Thanks to all



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

From the People of Japan



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Korea Funds-in-Trust



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

THAI National Commission for UNESCO



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