**OCEAN DECADE ENDORSEMENT CRITERIA**

The endorsement criteria are a set of ideals endorsed Decade Actions are held to and encouraged to progress on throughout the Decade. They aim to support the progress being made on the Decade Challenges and Outcomes.

1. Contributes to achieving one or more of the following Decade objectives: Objective 1: Identify critical ocean knowledge; Objective 2: Build capacity and generate knowledge; Objective 3: Increase the use of ocean knowledge. ​
2. Accelerates the generation or use of knowledge and understanding of the ocean, with a specific focus on knowledge that will contribute to the achievement of the SDGs and complementary policy frameworks and initiatives. ​
3. Is co-designed and/or co-delivered by knowledge generators and users, and thus facilitating the uptake of science and ocean knowledge for policy, decision-making, management and/or innovation.​
4. Ensures that all data and resulting knowledge are provided in an open access, shared, discoverable manner.​
5. Strengthens existing or creates new partnerships across nations and/or between diverse ocean actors, including users of ocean science.​​
6. Contributes toward capacity development, including, but not limited to, beneficiaries in SIDS, LDCs and LLDCs.​​
7. Overcomes barriers to diversity and equity, including gender, generational and geographic diversity.​​
8. Collaborates with and engages local and indigenous knowledge holders.​​