

INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION**2026 Meeting of the IODE Management Group
IOC Project Office for IODE, Oostende, Belgium
28-29 January 2026**

REPORT (MAX 2 PAGES) - please answer in bullets where possible
1. Title of IODE Programme Component/Programme activity, IOC Programme or Decade activity (and acronym)
International Coastal Atlas Network (ICAN)
2. Report submitted by (Name/Date/email)
Tanya Haddad (Co-Chair) tanya.haddad@dlcd.oregon.gov
3. Updates since IODE-28 (*)
ICAN organized and hosted successful online webinar from 30 September to 2 October, 2025 with approximately 9 hours of programming in the form of presentations and discussions from 30 network members. The workshop was conducted with simultaneous translation between English and Spanish and was attended by approximately 100 viewers from 5 continents.
4. How does your work align with the objectives of IODE, the UN Ocean Decade, and other multilateral agreements?
ICAN work is at the interface of producers and users of coastal and ocean data products. Atlas creators are engaging with the work products of ocean observing systems as well as data produced by contributors to the UN Ocean Decade. In turn, ICAN participants those products accessible and usable by local, regional, national and international users / collaborations. ICAN believes there is value in providing a venue where practitioners working in this space can learn from the experiences of others and to develop and share best practices that enable coastal and ocean data to be operationalized into improved decision making at every level. These efforts can increase ocean literacy and coastal resiliency, promote local and regional use cases and applications for ocean data, and engage a wide audience in the work and outputs of the UN Ocean Decade. To this end, ICAN anticipates contributing to the activities of the DCO for Ocean Data Sharing as they relate to the creation of a Global Digital Atlas of the Ocean, a product that is intended to be a lasting legacy of the UN Ocean Decade.
5. Prioritised deliverables 2026-2027
In addition to contributing to the above mentioned Global Digital Atlas of the Ocean effort which aims to have a first deliverable at the 2027 UN Ocean Decade conference, ICAN intends to

continue work with its network members in 2026-2027, and includes a number of technical and network communication improvements in its prioritized deliverables, in addition to plans for an additional workshop in late 2027.

The technical and network communication improvements include a revised and updated ICAN website (already in progress), an updated newsletter platform, and a new discussion (Discourse) forum to be integrated into the ICAN directory so that Atlas maintainers may be contacted and communicate directly in a peer to peer fashion. These activities will enable enhanced information sharing between and among ICAN participating projects, and provide additional benefit to projects participating in the network. The work on these tasks will be facilitated with the help of ICAN Steering members, and the steering group hopes to add at least one new steering member in the specified time period. In addition, ICAN will continue to work with the Oregon Sea Grant Summer Scholars program to host ICAN scholars to provide early career experiences for undergraduate students interested in international ocean collaborations.

6. GOALS 2030 (Where do you see your work / activities / outcomes in 5 years?)

In 2030 ICAN hopes to have an active and engaged global network of participants who take value in making connections and interacting with peer collaborators from around the world and who share the vision propagated by the work of the UN Ocean Decade. Additionally, ICAN leadership will be focusing on provision of tools and information sharing venues that enable ICAN participants to connect and share their work in a direct fashion with each other, enabling the next generation of Atlas creators to continue working for “the ocean we need for the future we want” beyond 2030.

7. Considerations for / Requests to the IODE Management Group

ICAN sees value in remaining a programme activity of IODE regardless of budget situations. One area where ICAN requires a small amount of in-kind assistance in 2026 is with the current in-progress migration of the ICAN website to an updated platform. The current website virtual machine (hosted via IODE) is at its end of life, and a new installation package has been prepared on an ICAN sandbox. We would like to coordinate some time with Arno Lambert to facilitate a replacement virtual machine so that the upgraded website can move into its new home.

(*) See Action sheet: [IOC/IODE-28/3](#) Annex V