



Global Ocean Acidification
Observing Network

Newsletter of the Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network ([GOA-ON](#))

Issue 8, Spring 2019

GOA-ON News

GOA-ON Participates in Commonwealth OA Action Group Meeting

A new initiative to build an OA action plan is being led by New Zealand as part of the [Commonwealth Blue Charter](#). The first meeting for the action plan was held 17-19 February 2019 in Dunedin, New Zealand, and was attended by government representatives of 17 Commonwealth countries from Africa, Indian Ocean, Oceania, Caribbean and Europe. GOA-ON was represented at the meeting along with key partners including The Ocean Foundation, The International OA Alliance, and WIOMSA, to provide information on existing efforts to monitor OA, impacts and associated policy responses. The preliminary meeting was used to assess the status of global OA monitoring and capacity building requirements for Commonwealth countries. A follow-up meeting was held 20-21 February for the New Zealand OA Community ([NZOAC](#)) to present and discuss multi-stressors impacts on New Zealand's marine ecosystem. See the press release from this meeting [here](#).

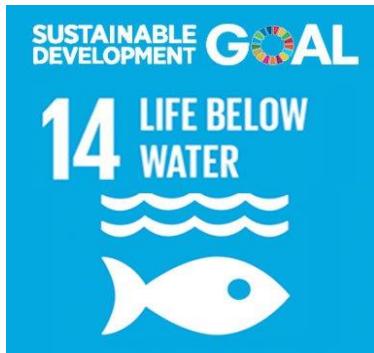


Participants of the Commonwealth OA Action Group Meeting in Dunedin, New Zealand (Christina McGraw, University of Otago)

SDG 14.3.1 Indicator Methodology

Available Online!

The Methodology for the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14.3.1 Indicator (IOC-UNESCO custodian agency), which calls for the "Average marine acidity (pH) measured at agreed suite of representative sampling stations", along with the associated data and metadata files, are now available on the newly remodeled [GOA-ON Resources webpage](#). The Methodology provides the necessary guidance on how to conduct ocean acidification observations, what to measure and how, providing standard operating procedures and methods approved by the ocean acidification community. It further provides support on what kinds of data to collect, and how to submit, towards the SDG 14.3.1 Indicator to enable the collection and comparison of ocean acidification data worldwide. If you any question about the methodology please contact Katherina Schoo (k.schoo@unesco.org) and Kirsten Isensee (k.isensee@unesco.org).



Pier2Peer Mentorship program

[Pier2Peer](#) is the GOA-ON scientific mentorship program that matches senior researchers with early career scientists to facilitate an exchange of expertise and to provide a platform for international collaborations. GOA-ON is always recruiting senior and experienced ocean acidification experts to serve as mentors. If you are interested in becoming a [Mentor](#), or to join as a [Mentee](#), simply follow the Mentor/Mentee links and complete the short survey.



Some exciting updates from the program:

- One of the mentees of the program, Sheck Sherif (Conservation International), organized and coordinated a side event on OA at the Blue Oceans Conference in Liberia in March (see below for more information).
- 8 new mentor/mentee matches have been made over the last month alone, many of which participated in a training hosted by The Ocean Foundation in Colombia in January 2019.

If you have any questions about the GOAON Pier2Peer program, please contact Alicia Cheripka at alicia.cheripka@noaa.gov.

Regional Updates

Building Capacity in the Western Indian Ocean

GOA-ON was involved in organizing a coordination workshop for six newly funded projects in the Western Indian Ocean related to establishing observations and investigating biological responses to ocean acidification in the region. This workshop was held on 12-14 February 2019 at the Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI) in Mombasa, Kenya with support from the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association ([WIOMSA](#)), GOA-ON, and [IOC-UNESCO](#). These ocean acidification projects will be funded by WIOMSA and include participants from institutes in Kenya, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, South Africa, and Tanzania.



Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA) workshop participants in Mombasa, Kenya (WIOMSA)

New Regional Hub for the Mediterranean

A new regional hub for the Mediterranean Sea has been established by over 30 scientists working on ocean acidification in the region from eight countries (Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Lebanon, Spain, Tunisia, and Turkey). This network, called the 'OA-Med Hub', will allow for increased communication and collaboration among scientists working in this unique marine environment. You can visit the new OA Med-Hub website [here](#).

OA-Africa at Blue Oceans Conference

The Blue Oceans Conference was held on 18-21 March 2019 in Monrovia, Liberia, the objective of which was for stakeholders from various maritime sectors to discuss some of the main environmental threats facing African coastal countries. The OA-Africa network hosted a side event at this conference to present the status of ocean acidification research and awareness-raising efforts throughout Africa. Additionally, White Papers for three major regions of Africa (West, East and North) were presented.



The OA-Africa network hosted a side event at the Blue Oceans Conference in Monrovia, Liberia (Michael Roberts, MNews Africa)

Directly following the Blue Oceans Conference, the OA-Africa Steering Committee met to identify priorities and opportunities to advance ocean acidification monitoring, and biological and societal response studies throughout Africa. The OA-Africa side event and Steering Committee meeting were supported by the IAEA Ocean Acidification International Coordination Centre (OA-ICC) and The Ocean Foundation. Find a press release from OA-Africa about its participation in this conference [here](#). Other news from the conference by the local press can be found [here](#).



The OA-Africa Steering Committee members in attendance at the Blue Oceans Conference in Monrovia, Liberia (Michael Roberts, MNews Africa)

from France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom. The hub members discussed how to share information on OA monitoring activities in the region, including experimental and modelling outputs, collaborations within the hub, cooperation with stakeholders and existing regional observing networks, and capacity development. The Hub is looking to welcome additional members and researchers in the region, including the NE Atlantic, the North Sea and the Baltic Sea, who would like to join the hub, are invited to email

GOAON.Atlantic@pml.ac.uk.



Participants of the first NE Atlantic Regional Hub workshop in London, United Kingdom (Geri Browne, PML)

First NE Atlantic Hub Meeting

The first workshop of the [North East Atlantic Regional Hub](#) in London was held on 12-13 March 2019, organized by the Plymouth Marine Laboratory and supported by the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). This inaugural meeting brought together ocean acidification researchers

Upcoming Activities

GOA-ON will be hosting its [4th GOA-ON International Workshop](#) in Hangzhou, China on 14 - 17 April 2019. The main themes of the meeting will be: Topics to be covered are:

- Ocean and coastal acidification in a multi-stressors environment
- Observing ocean and coastal acidification and the impacts on organisms and ecosystems
- Regional and global modelling on physical-biogeochemical coupling processes related to ocean acidification and the associated ecosystem responses
- Shaping GOA-ON to better meet the information needs of global to local decision makers



We look forward to seeing you there!

Job / Funding opportunities

The Ocean Foundation Pier2Peer Scholarships: Small grant program providing funds to Pier2Peer matches to collaborate on a project, conduct training visits, collect data for GOA-ON submission, etc. Requirements: Applicants must be in a Pier2Peer partnership and applying to use funds to support this collaboration. Application deadline: 31 May 2019; Applications are accepted on a continuing basis; submit to Alicia Cheripka (alicia.cheripka@noaa.gov) and Alexis Valauri-Orton (avalauriorton@oceanfdn.org).

POGO Shipboard Fellows: The Partnership for Observation of the Global Ocean (POGO) offers a number of shipboard fellowship opportunities on ocean research vessels. Normally, specific calls for fellows working in certain sub-disciplines are issued six months before a cruise begins. However, POGO also fills available berths with qualified applicants

on shorter notice. They have issued an open call for early career scientists, technicians, postgraduate students, and post-doctoral fellows involved in oceanographic work at centers in developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

[More information.](#)

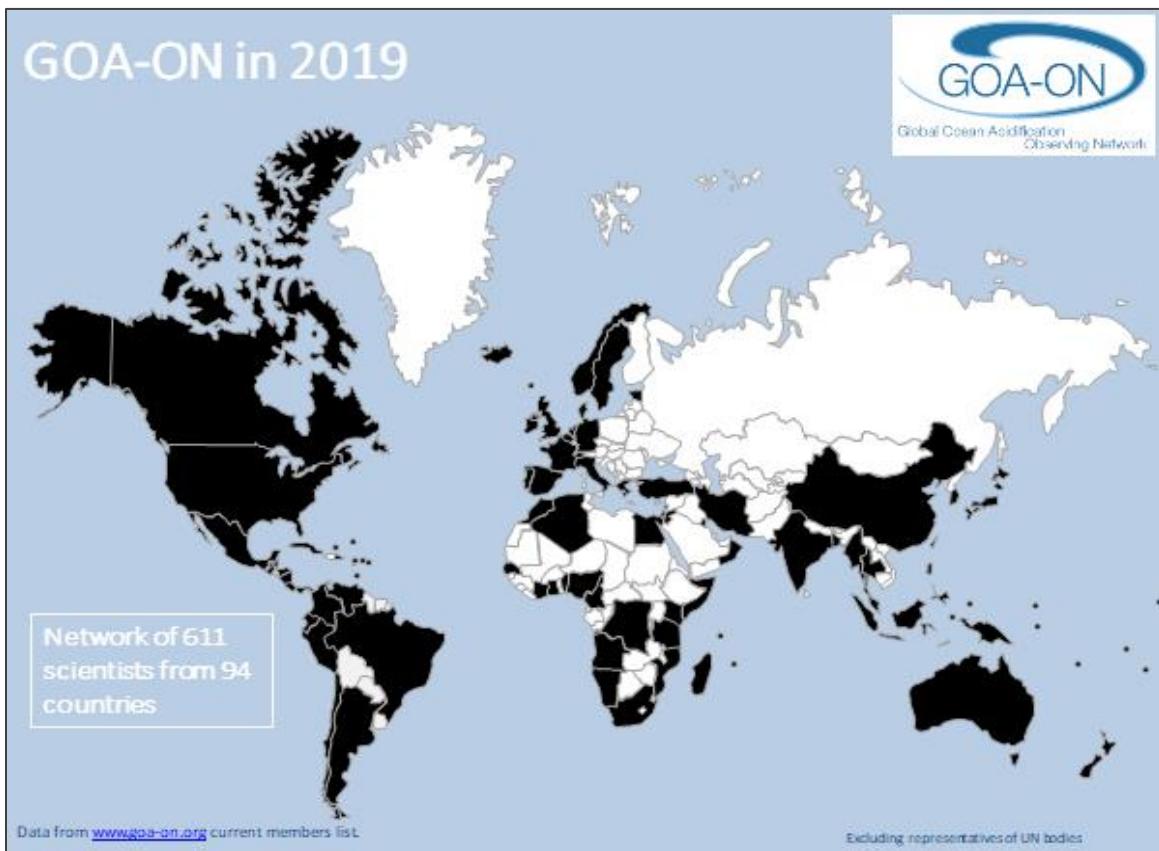
Training course on best practices for ocean acidification experiments in multi-stressor scenarios, 24-28 June 2019, Monaco: This course will be organized by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Ocean Acidification International Coordination Centre (OA-ICC) and the Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR) Working Group 149. The objectives of this training course are to become familiar with the modes of learning available in the new SCOR WG149 web-based best practice guide (to become available in April 2019). [More information.](#)

Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association Marine Research Grant

Programme: The award is designed to provide opportunities for individual researchers to travel to attend scientific meetings and conferences for the purpose of presenting their work and learning from others. Applicants should be young scientists studying the Western Indian Ocean region. [More information.](#)

Postdoctoral Associate - Marine Biology/Ocean Carbonate Chemistry: The Downeast Institute (DEI) seeks a motivated and creative marine biologist with expertise in ocean and sediment carbonate chemistry to help assemble an ocean acidification laboratory, and conduct experiments in the laboratory and field to determine effects of ocean acidification (OA) on the biology and ecology of local, commercially-important shellfish. [More information.](#)

Follow GOA-ON on Social Media!



GOA-ON is a network comprised of over 600 members from 94 countries. New countries that have joined GOA-ON in recent months include Antigua & Barbuda, Estonia, Sint Maarten, and Turks and Caicos.

Are you involved in OA work that could be included in future newsletters?

Contact the GOA-ON Secretariat:

secretariat@gao-on.org

Alicia Cheripka, NOAA Ocean Acidification Program

Marine Lebrec, IAEA Ocean Acidification International Coordination Centre (OA-ICC)

Katherina Schoo, IOC-UNESCO