

CALL ANNOUNCEMENT AND GUIDELINES

Call for Online Sessions for Satellite Activities of the Ocean Decade Laboratories

Guidance note for applicants

The United Nations (UN) Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (the Ocean Decade) commenced on 1 January 2021 to deliver the 'science we need for the ocean we want'. In response to ongoing constraints imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, a virtual High-Level Launch of the Ocean will take place on June 1st, 2021 followed by seven "Ocean Decade Laboratories" between July 2021 and May 2022.

Laboratories are innovative formats that function as self-sustaining events. They act as a creative platform to link diverse stakeholders and topics to trigger collaborative efforts in regard to the UN Ocean Decade. The Laboratories have been structured around the seven Ocean Decade Outcomes as follows:

A Clean Ocean

where sources of pollution are identified and reduced or removed.

A Healthy and Resilient ocean

where marine ecosystems are understood, protected, restored and managed.

A Productive Ocean

supporting sustainable food supply and a sustainable ocean economy.

A Predicted Ocean

where society understands and can respond to changing ocean conditions.

A Safe Ocean

where life and livelihoods are protected from ocean-related hazards.

A Transparent and Accessible Ocean

with open and equitable access to data, information and technology and innovation.

An Inspiring and Engaging Ocean

where society understands and values the ocean in relation to human wellbeing and sustainable development.

The Ocean Decade Laboratories aim to

- **Catalyze action for the Ocean Decade:** To assemble diverse actors across generations and geographies to catalyze co-design processes and initiate development of Decade Actions.
- **Showcase Ocean Decade Actions:** To present endorsed Ocean Decade Actions, including programs, projects and commitments to inspire new engagement and commitments.
- **Strengthen dialogue:** To create opportunities for exchange, collaboration and the catalysis of partnerships in the context of the Ocean Decade.

- **Mobilize communication and outreach:** raise visibility and awareness of the Ocean Decade and attract new partners and stakeholders to engage the Ocean Decade.

During a dedicated time slot of 48 hours, diverse types of virtual activities will be carried out as part of each Laboratory to fulfil the objectives described above. Each Laboratory will include a Core Event that will be organized by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research in partnership with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO, complemented by a range of Satellite Activities that will be proposed and hosted by partners through this call. A closing session will take place at the end of each Laboratory where Satellite Activity and the Core Event organizers will come together to report on the outcome of these events and identify follow up actions.

Examples for Satellite Activities could include “pitch sessions” for new Ocean Decade programs or projects that are looking for partners, announcement of Decade Actions or commitments, Decade Action design workshops, networking forums, interactive Decade Action ‘incubation’ or ‘match making’ sessions, skills training via short ‘Master Classes’, virtual exhibitions or launch of videos or art initiatives, competitions or hackathons.

This Call for Online Sessions is open to partners around the world to identify Satellite Activities for the following Ocean Decade Laboratories:

- An Inspiring and Engaging Ocean on 7th and 8th July 2021
- A Predicted Ocean on 15th and 16th September 2021
- A Clean Ocean on 17th and 18th November 2021

A second Call for Online Sessions will be launched for Satellite Activities for Ocean Decade Laboratories to be held later in 2022. All calls are being launched globally to ensure that a diversity of time zones, languages, and regional and local contexts are represented in the Laboratories.

The success of the outcome of this call relies on the contributions of many different stakeholders including scientists, policy-makers, philanthropic Foundations, UN agencies, governments, NGOs and civil society, funders and the private sector!

Please note that applicants will need to demonstrate that they have technical, financial and human resources as well as logistical capacity to host Satellite Activities as part of the overall Laboratory and to carry out communications to attract participants.

All activities will need to comply with branding and communications guidelines for the Ocean Decade Laboratories. In addition, a template for documentation of the main results of each Satellite Activity will be provided and shared with successful applicants.

Interested parties should complete and submit the relevant online “Proposal regarding the Call for Online Sessions for Satellite Activities of the Ocean Decade” via the application form (see button below). Please note the following submission deadlines:

- **Satellite Activities for Laboratory “An Inspiring and Engaging Ocean“, due date: 20 May 2021, 1 pm CEST.**
- **Satellite Activities for Laboratory “A Predicted Ocean“, due date: 18 June 2021, 1 pm CEST.**
- **Satellite Activities for Laboratory “A Clean Ocean“, due date: 02 August 2021, 1 pm CEST.**

APPLICATION FORM

Applicants should note that the online system may experience high traffic volumes in the last hours before the submission deadline and it is therefore highly recommended to submit the final version of the submission in advance of the deadline to avoid any last-minute technical problems. Requests for extensions to the deadline due to last minute technical problems will not be considered.

Dates and Deadlines

Event	Date
Launch of the 1 st Call for Online Sessions	20 April 2021
Submission deadline for Laboratory An Inspiring and Engaging Ocean	20 May 2021
Submission deadline for Laboratory A Predicted Ocean	18 June 2021
Submission deadline for Laboratory A Clean Ocean	02 August 2021
Launch of the 2 nd Call for Online Sessions	October 2021

Evaluation process

Proposals must comply with the following general call criteria:

- **Objectives and Impact:** (max. 15 points)
 - What is the objective of the session?
 - What kind of tangible impact has the Satellite Activity?
 - What are the direct benefits and to whom?

Consider

 - fulfilment of the objectives of the Ocean Decade Laboratory series
 - alignment with the vision and mission of the Ocean Decade
 - benefits to targeted audience e.g. number of people, number of addressed stakeholders from different organizations, gender and generational balance, coverage of time zones, geographically distribution

- **Approach:** (max. 10 points)
 - How are these online Satellite Activities new or transformative in comparison to what has been done before?
 - Is it a breakthrough idea or process, or a whole new way to address an issue?
 - Does it promote action and interaction between stakeholders?
 - Does it promote gender, geographical, multi-actor and multidisciplinary approach as well as generational inclusivity?
 - Does it seek out or create opportunities to integrate local and indigenous knowledge?
- **Scalability and Replicability:** (max. 5 points)
 - Likelihood that the activity will have an incubator / catalyzer effect for Decade Actions or partnerships
 - How will be social media channels and networks used to spread and communicate planned Satellite Activity?
 - Does the communication strategy offer further chances to increase the outreach of the planned Satellite Activity?
 - To what extent is your Satellite Activity replicable?
 - Is there potential to create complementarities and avoid overlap with other ocean related events?

Proponents will need to demonstrate how they meet these criteria that are relevant to their proposed Satellite Activity for the respective Laboratory. These criteria will ensure that Satellite Activities contribute to a common vision and priorities, and respect the underlying principles of the Ocean Decade in terms of inclusivity, diversity, solutions focused action and partnerships.

A list of the selected Satellite Activities for each Laboratory will be published at the end of the evaluation process. Therefore, applicants should be aware that the following data from their application will be published at <https://www.oceandecade-conference.com/en/>:

- Organization name and country of applicant
- Title of Satellite Activity
- Time and format of Satellite Activity
- Links to shared documentation and/or recorded material

Evaluation Panel

The evaluation process is conducted by an international evaluation panel composed of representatives of the following organizations: Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO, BMBF/Project Management Jülich, members of the Interim Decade Advisory Board, Early Career Ocean Professionals as well as marine and marine related science experts from all over the world. The organizers will take all lawful steps to ensure confidentiality, avoidance of conflict of interest and anonymity of evaluators during the evaluation and selection procedures.

Contact

For more information, please contact office@oceandecade-conference.com