



UN23: Accelerating transformations in capacity development in the Western Pacific

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IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific (WESTPAC)



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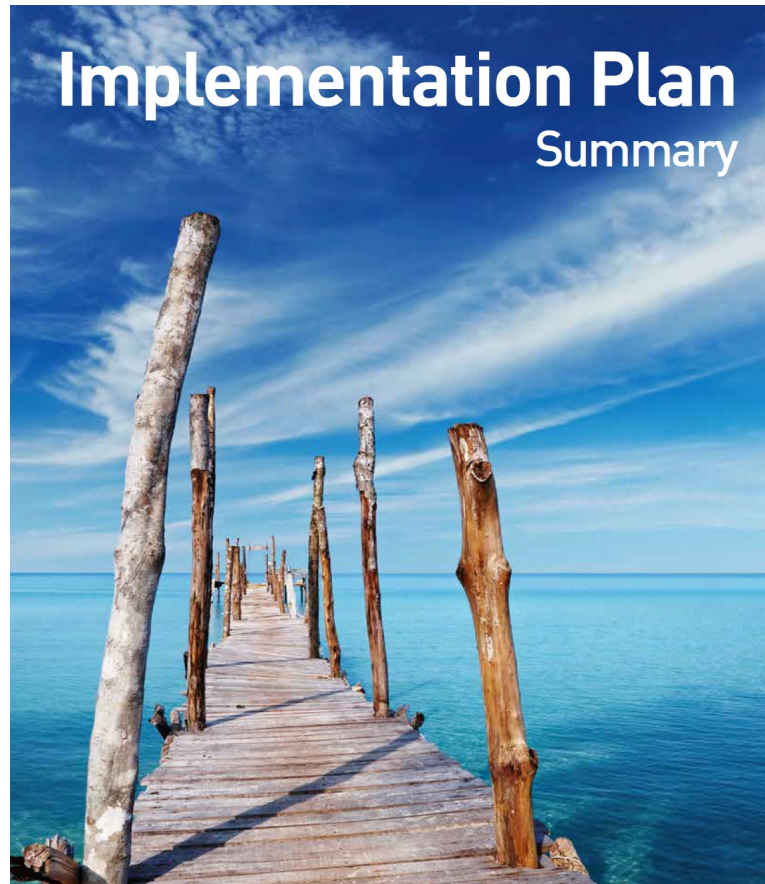


Presentation outline



- Justification for the Decade Action Brief descriptions of the Decade Action, including its objectives, lifetime, expected outputs/outcomes, and major activities.
- Main progress made since it was accepted as the Ocean Decade Action in June 2022
- Activities tentatively planned for May 2023- April 2025
- Recommendations, if any

UN Ocean Decade: WESTPAC-RTRCs



Implementation Plan Summary

The United Nations
Decade of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development
(2021-2030)



Developing capacity and ocean literacy

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Capacity development initiatives during the Ocean Decade **aim to develop individual and institutional skills**. It also aim to improve equitable access to data and knowledge, technology, and infrastructure.

Capacity **development initiatives target a diverse range of stakeholders**, including generators and users of knowledge and privilege long-term partnerships that **build on existing resources and networks**.

Science We Need for Ocean We Want

UN Ocean Decade: WESTPAC-RTRCs



Accelerating transformations in capacity development in the Western Pacific Regional Network of Training and Research Centers (RTRCs) on Marine Science

- RTRC was initiated in 2008: it **aims** to improve national and regional capability and capacity for marine science in a sustainable and systematic manner and integrate research with training.
- The RTRCs were established based on the specialized areas of the host institutes within the region.
- It employs a co-design and co-development approach in tailoring capacity development to suit stakeholder needs, building on mutual assistance among countries in the region and providing high-quality training, research opportunities, and sustainable long-term service.



UN Ocean Decade: WESTPAC-RTRCs



Accelerating transformations in capacity development in the Western Pacific Regional Network of Training and Research Centers (RTRCs) on Marine Science

Main objectives:

“Accelerate transformations in capacity development, improve and sustain required capacity for ocean sustainability in the region, through the establishment of RTRCs in national ocean institutions, and provision of regular training and research opportunities in RTRCs on their specialized areas to young scientists and other relevant ocean stakeholders mainly from developing countries within and outside the region”.



UN Ocean Decade: WESTPAC-RTRCs



Accelerating transformations in capacity development in the Western Pacific Regional Network of Training and Research Centers (RTRCs) on Marine Science

Timeframe: June 2022 to Dec 2030

➤ **Ocean basins: covering the region of RTRCs**

- Indian Ocean
- North Pacific Ocean
- South Pacific Ocean

➤ **Sustainable Development Goal(s) (SDG)**

- GOAL 13: Climate Action
- GOAL 14: Life Below Water
- GOAL 17: Partnerships to achieve the Goal



Moving from the ocean we have to the ocean we want

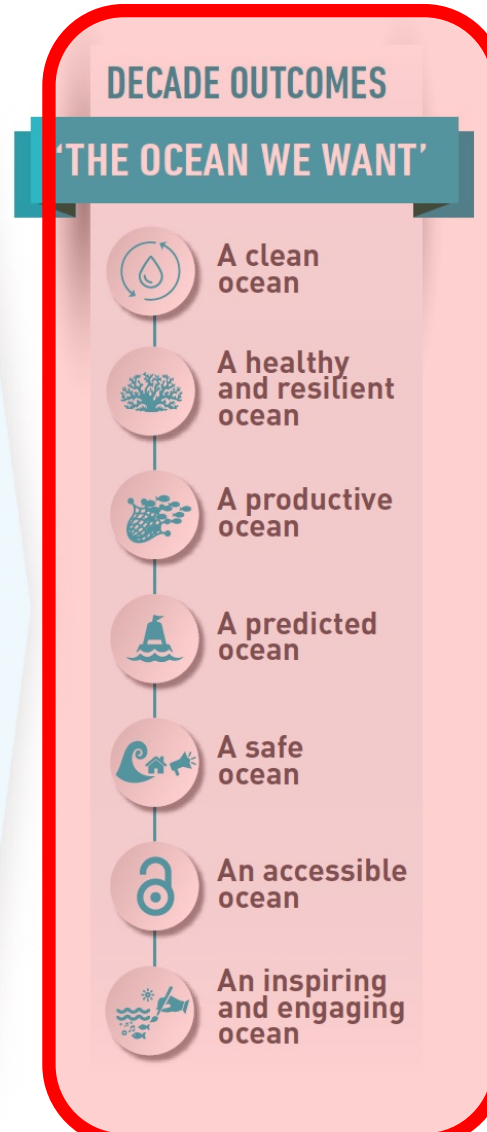
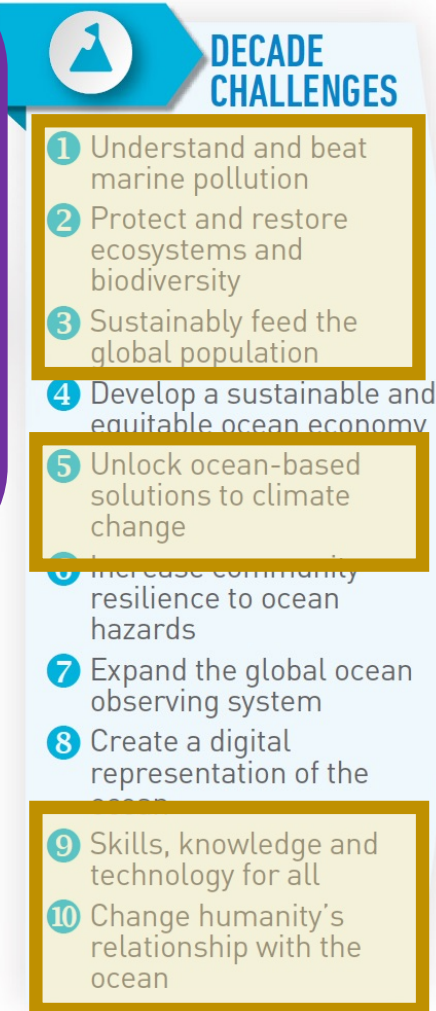
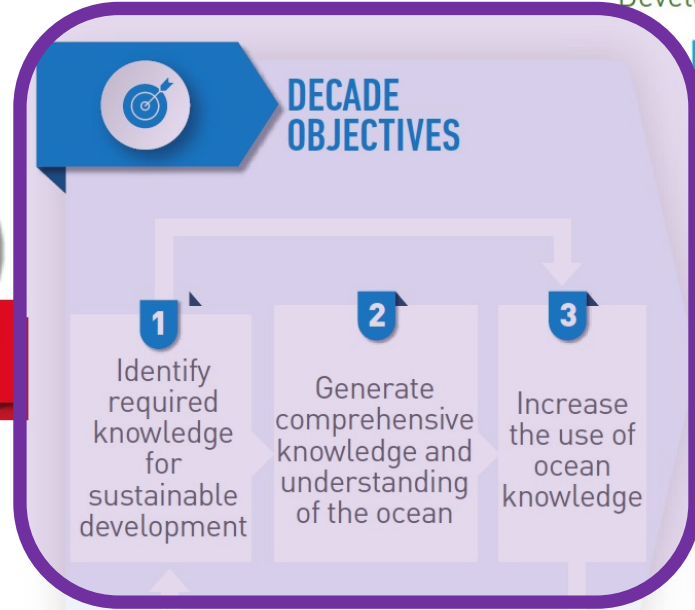


'THE SCIENCE WE NEED'

UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development



'THE OCEAN WE HAVE'



RTRCs

Objectives – to serve the UN Ocean Decade Objective

Decade Challenges – to be achieved

Outcomes – society outcomes (the ocean we want)

Regional Capacity Building: IOC/WESTPAC

“UNESCO/IOC Regional Network of Training and Research Centers (RTRC) on Marine Science in the Western Pacific and its adjacent regions”

1. Reef Management and Restoration, University of the Philippines, Philippines, 2019-
2. Marine Toxins and Seafood Safety, Institute of Oceanography, Vietnam, 2019-
3. Marine Plastic Debris and Microplastics, East China Normal University, China, 2019-
4. Marine Biodiversity and Ecosystem Health, National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN), Indonesia, 2016 -
5. Ocean Dynamics and Climate, First Institute of Oceanography, China, 2010 -

The RTRC initiative is *tailored to national and regional needs*, building on mutual assistance among countries in the region and providing high-quality training, research opportunities, and sustainable long term service.

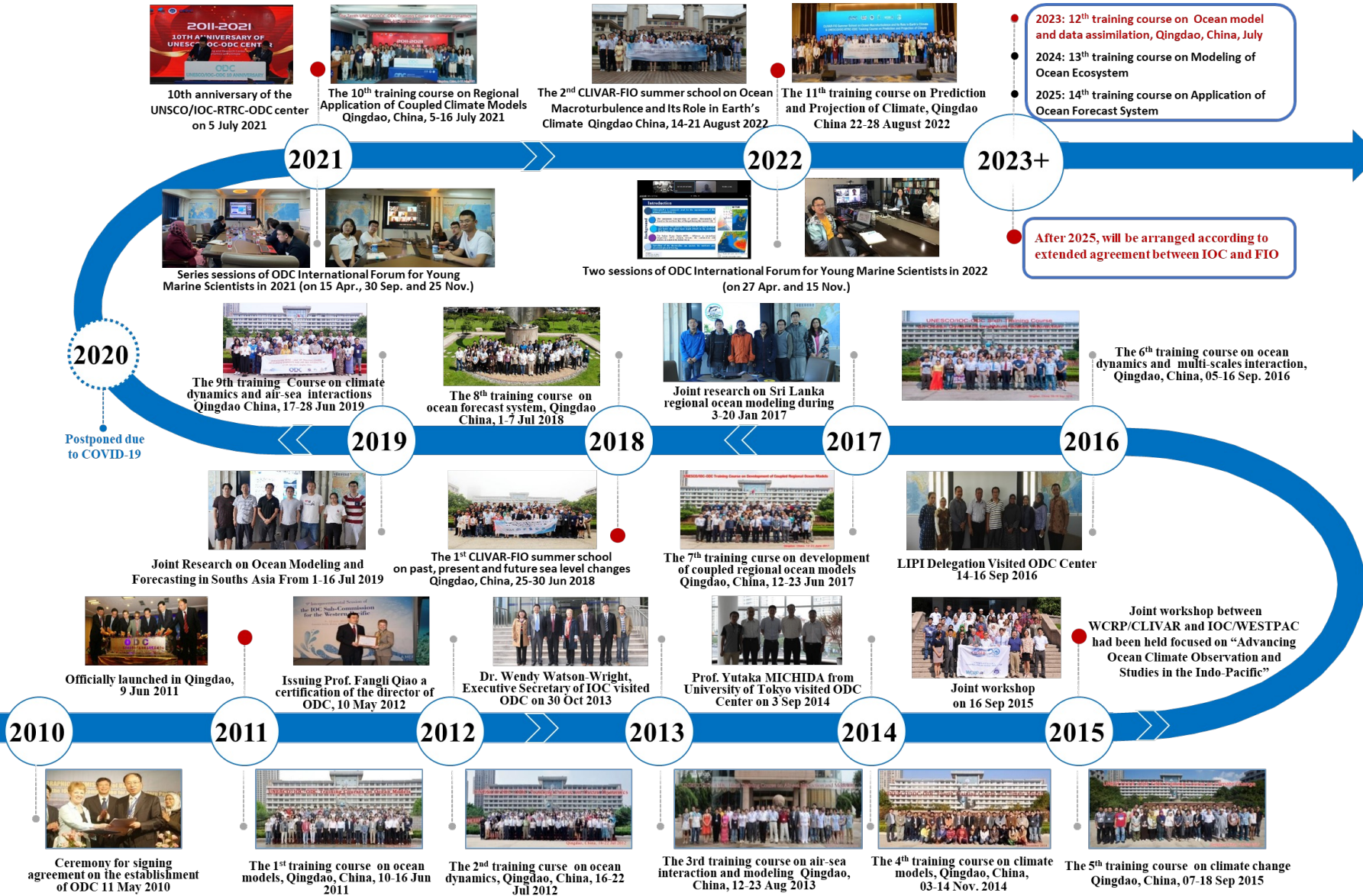


Build on the expertise of the host Institutes

UN Ocean Decade: Capacity Development

RTRC on Ocean Dynamic and Climate (RTRC-ODC):

Aims to enhance national and regional research capacity on ocean dynamics, air-sea interactions, climate change, and numerical modeling



Contribution to UN Ocean Decade challenges:

Challenge 5: Unlock ocean-based solutions to climate change

Challenge 9: Deliver data, knowledge and technology for all

Challenge 10: Change humanity's relationship with the ocean

UN Ocean Decade: Capacity Development



Accelerating transformations in capacity development in the Western Pacific *Regional Network of Training and Research Centers (RTRCs) on Marine Science*

□ RTRC on Marine Biodiversity and Ecosystem Health (RTRC-MarBEST):

Aims to develop and strengthen the capacity and capability of human resources, particularly for young scientists in the Indo-West Pacific region and beyond; establish and develop a common platform for methodologies in monitoring marine ecosystem health; promote scientific collaborations among experts in the region and beyond; and facilitate the transfer of knowledge.

Contribution to UN Ocean Decade challenges:

Challenge 2: Protect and restore ecosystems and biodiversity

Challenge 3: Sustainable feed the global population

Challenge 9: Deliver data, knowledge and technology for all

Challenge 10: Change humanity's relationship with the ocean



UN Ocean Decade: Capacity Development



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□ **Reef Management and Restoration**, University of the Philippines, Philippines

Aims to enhance the capacity of young scientists and young lecturers; strengthen the network of scientists on reef management and restoration in the Western Pacific; and contribute to the sustainable development and conservation of marine and coastal resources through research and training.

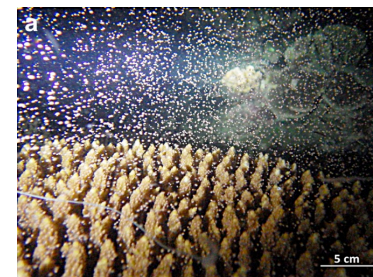
Contribution to UN Ocean Decade challenges:

Challenge 2: Protect and restore ecosystems and biodiversity

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UN Ocean Decade: Capacity Development



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□ Marine Toxins and Seafood Safety, Institute of Oceanography, Vietnam, 5 years (2019-2023)

Aims to enhance the capacity for toxin detection, identification, and analysis through the development and operation of professional training and expert exchanges; and to promote cooperation and conduct joint studies on marine toxin research and seafood safety among scientists, institutions and countries in the region and beyond.

Contribution to UN Ocean Decade challenges:

Challenge 3: Sustainable feed the global population

Challenge 9: Deliver data, knowledge and technology for all

Challenge 10: Change humanity's relationship with the ocean



UN Ocean Decade: Capacity Development



Accelerating transformations in capacity development in the Western Pacific *Regional Network of Training and Research Centers (RTRCs) on Marine Science*

❑ Plastic Marine Debris and Microplastics (2019-2026), East China Normal University, Shanghai, China



Aims to improve the research and monitoring capacity of countries in the region for plastics and microplastics, including sampling techniques, measurement, modeling, and impact assessment, and to develop and cultivate a network of talented young researchers on plastics and microplastics.

Contribution to UN Ocean Decade challenges:

Challenge 1: Understand and beat marine pollution

Challenge 9: Deliver data, knowledge and technology for all

Challenge 10: Change humanity's relationship with the ocean

UN Ocean Decade: Capacity Development



Accelerating transformations in capacity development in the Western Pacific *Regional Network of Training and Research Centers (RTRCs) on Marine Science*

Challenges:

- 2019-2022: A difficult time to implement RTRC activities efficiently, only the RTRC-ODC and -MarBEST could conduct the hybrid training courses
- Generally, financial support for ocean science research declined during the pandemic and the post-pandemic, which could affect the operation of RTRCs,
 - Work very closely with the partners and look for funding sources to secure and sustainable operation of RTRCs
 - However, with the strong support of all RTRCs, they have proposed to conduct the training program for the next intersessional period (2023-2025).

UN Ocean Decade: Capacity Development



Accelerating transformations in capacity development in the Western Pacific *Regional Network of Training and Research Centers (RTRCs) on Marine Science*

Forwards:

- **Encouraging** the Member States to join an effort with the WESTPAC to establish the new RTRCs to cover more diverse subjects in supporting the UN Decade Objectives to achieve the ocean we want.
- **Encouraging** the Member States to participate actively and support the RTRCs activities, including the initiative of ocean science research and monitoring in the countries in collaborating with RTRCs, which will give an opportunity for young scientist in the countries to improve their knowledge and skills of ocean science research.



Thank You

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Website

