

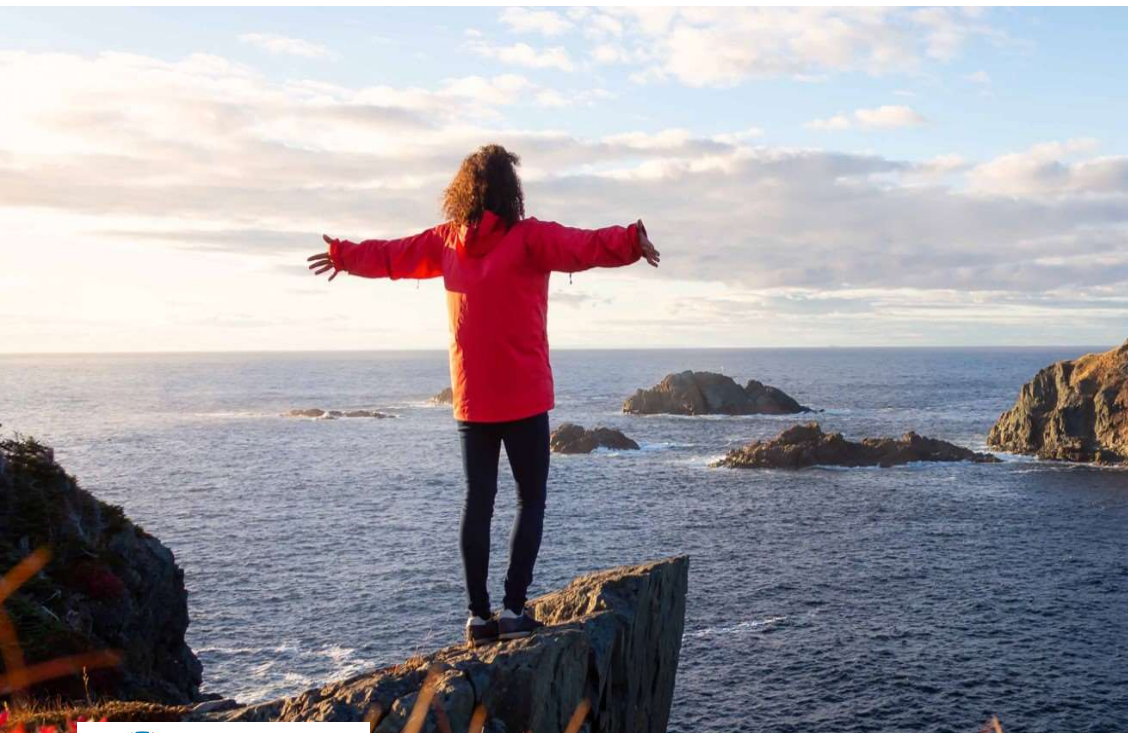
# Building a strong Canadian contribution to the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030)

Liisa Peramaki, Ocean Decade Office, Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
45<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the USCHC, June 2022



2021 United Nations Decade  
2030 of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development

# What is the Ocean Decade?



**VISION**  
The science we need for the ocean we want

**MISSION**  
Transformative ocean science solutions for sustainable development connecting people and our ocean



2021 United Nations Decade  
of Ocean Science  
2030 for Sustainable Development

# The Ocean Decade in Canada

- Canada, represented by the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, is a member of the **Ocean Decade Alliance**.
- The Canadian Ocean Community is well positioned to lead by example and make unique contributions, including: **Indigenous knowledge, Arctic, Youth/early career ocean professionals, Ocean Literacy, Gender equity, Climate change**
- Engagement in the Ocean Decade aligns with Canada's plans to advance its Blue Economy Strategy, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and other international commitments.
- Engagement in the Ocean Decade strengthens science networks, creates new opportunities for innovative partnerships and collaboration, leverages a global platform to showcase science and innovation.



# A multi-level governance to drive a strong contribution

*A Canadian National Decade Committee draws from the collective leadership of the Canadian Ocean Community to build a strong Canadian contribution*



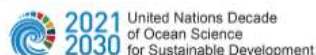
|                                      |   |  |  |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| <b>A Clean Ocean</b>                 | <b>Ocean Wise</b><br>(Jessica Scott & Laura Hardman)            | <b>A Safe Ocean</b>                    | <b>Jackie Dawson,</b><br>(ArcticNet)                         |
| <b>A Healthy and Resilient Ocean</b> | <b>Paul Snelgrove,</b><br>(Memorial University)                 | <b>An Accessible Ocean</b>             | <b>CIDCO</b><br>(Guillaume Labbé-Morissette & Jean Laflamme) |
| <b>A Productive Ocean</b>            | <b>Kent Smedbol</b><br>(Fisheries and Oceans Canada)            | <b>An Inspiring and Engaging Ocean</b> | <b>Diz Glithero,</b><br>(Canadian Ocean Literacy Coalition)  |
| <b>A Predicted Ocean</b>             | <b>Tula Foundation</b><br>(Pramod Thupaki and Jonathan Kellogg) |  |  |

# Supporting the Ocean Decade (2018-2022)

## Actions led by Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)



Canada is a strong supporter of the Ocean Decade. DFO is the focal point in Canada.



The United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development 2021-2030 ("Ocean Decade") is an innovative, global effort to expand partnerships to support effective science, ocean management, and sustainable development.

### Governance Highlights

Established a dedicated **Ocean Decade Office at DFO**

Provided financial support to the **Canadian Node of the Ocean Decade Early Career Ocean Professionals (ECOPs) Programme**

**Canada joined the Ocean Decade Alliance**, a global network of leaders to inspire and stimulate actions

Established Canada's National Ocean Decade Committee, including a **Community of Champions** led by 7 leaders to engage and foster participation

### Thematic Highlights

Provided support to a series of **Indigenous-led projects**

Provided financial support to **ArcticNet to initiate new Arctic research projects**

**Launched 12 initiatives to advance gender equity, diversity and inclusion** with 10 Canadian and international partners

**Advanced 9 Youth and Early Career Ocean Professionals (ECOPs) initiatives** with 13 Canadian and international partners

With the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), established an **Award Program** for doctoral candidates **from underrepresented groups** in ocean science

### Engagement Highlights

**700 participants attended** two virtual events to inform Canada's Blueprint for the Ocean Decade

Provided financial support to IOC-UNESCO for **the global coordination function**

**Provided a total of \$8.4M in financial support to 53 partners**

With 63 Canadian and international organizations, co-hosted **19 Ocean Decade events and partnered on 37 different projects**, from which **23 received formal endorsement** from the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO

[www.oceandecade.org](http://www.oceandecade.org)  
#OceanDecade  
#OceanDecadeCanada

<https://dfo-mpo.gc.ca/ocean-decade-decennie-ocean>

# Supporting the Ocean Decade – Examples of ongoing initiatives

- First Nations – Trusted Crowd-Sourced Bathymetry & Capacity Building in British Columbia (CIDCO)
- Advancing Indigenous Partnerships in Ocean Science for Sustainability: A contribution to the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (Ocean Networks Canada)
- Advancing Ocean Literacy for the UN Decade in Canada (Ocean Networks Canada)
- Mapping and Improving High-Value Habitat influenced by Derelict Fishing Gear in the Salish Sea (Malahat Nation)
- Empowering Women for the UN Decade of Ocean Science (World Maritime University)
- Women and Girls in Ocean Science Activities (Ingenium, CCUNESCO and DFO)

**WOMEN IN STEM**

Sangeeta Mangubhai  
Angela Hatton  
Sanjam Sahi Gupta  
Genevieve Bouchard  
Cleopatra Daumbia-Henry

## WOMEN IN OCEAN SCIENCE

### Equity for Sustainability

To achieve its ambitions, the Ocean Decade needs to cut across geographies, cultures, identities, and generations, and recognize and address gender disparities in ocean science for long-lasting and impactful change. A continued effort to ensure equity, diversity, inclusion and accessibility in ocean science is essential to transform and unlock opportunities in ocean science.

#OceanDecade

Ingenium, Department of Fisheries and Oceans and Canadian Commission for UNESCO are committed to encouraging and empowering women and girls in science, technology, engineering, and math. Learn more at: [ingeniumcanada.org/womeninstem/](https://ingeniumcanada.org/womeninstem/)

Fisheries and Oceans Canada | Department of Oceans and Fisheries | Canadian Commission for UNESCO | ingenium | Canada

## Next steps

- Under the leadership of the Champions, creating the thematic networks/working groups for a broad reaching network of networks
- Developing project submissions in response to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Call for Decade Actions
- Developing the Canadian Blueprint



## Upcoming Events

13-16/06 – [H2O Conference](#) Halifax, NS

27/06 – 1/07 – [UN Ocean Conference](#) Lisbon, Portugal

18-21/07 – Fourth ICES PICES Early Career Scientist Conference, St. John's, NL

5-8/12 – ArcticNet [Annual Science Meeting](#), Toronto, ON

3-9/02 2023 – IMPAC5, Vancouver, BC

To find out more visit DFO website or connect with DFO Ocean Decade

Office ([DFO.OceanDecade-DecennieOcean.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:DFO.OceanDecade-DecennieOcean.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca) )