



2021
2030 United Nations Decade
of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development

Ocean Acidification Research for Sustainability (OARS)

Decade Programme

Ocean acidification water sampling, Suva Harbor, Fiji
@ Alexis Valauri-Orton, The Ocean Foundation

Lead Institution

Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network (GOA-ON)

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KEY PARTNERS

- Global Ocean Oxygen Decade - Global Ocean Oxygen Network (GOOD - GO2NE)
- International Ocean Carbon Coordination Project (IOCCP)
- International Alliance to Combat Ocean Acidification
- The Ocean Foundation

DECADE CHALLENGES ADDRESSED

CHALLENGE 2: Protect and restore ecosystems and biodiversity

CHALLENGE 5: Unlock ocean-based solutions to climate change

CHALLENGE 7: Expand the Global Ocean Observing System

CHALLENGE 8: Create a digital representation of the Ocean

CHALLENGE 9: Skills, knowledge and technology for all

OCEAN BASINS

North Atlantic	Indian
South Atlantic	Arctic
North Pacific	Southern
South Pacific	



GOA-ON @goa_on

#OARS

#oceanacidification



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Summary

Ocean Acidification Research for Sustainability (OARS) is providing society with observational and scientific evidence needed to sustainably identify, monitor, mitigate and adapt to ocean acidification; from local to global scales. It will foster the development of ocean acidification science including impacts on marine life and sustainability of marine ecosystems in estuarine-coastal-open ocean environments. OARS will build on the great work of the Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network (GOA-ON). The aim is to achieve SDG target 14.3 'Minimize and address the impacts of Ocean Acidification, including through enhanced scientific cooperation at all levels'.

Key components include: 1) Enhancing regional collaborative efforts, 2) Coordination of capacity building in science, 3) Co-design and implement observation and research to address the threat of ocean acidification, and 4) Communication and delivery of the outputs to policy makers and communities.

Duration: 7/1/2021 - 12/31/2030

Priority Activities (first 2 years)

For the first two years, OARS will focus on three objectives:

1) Enable the scientific community to provide ocean acidification data and evidence of known quality, via capacity development, mentoring of early career researchers, facilitating data sharing, and growing regional collaborations, increased communication through meetings and workshops, allowing for a holistic analysis considering all stakeholder perspectives.

2) Identify data and evidence needs for mitigation and adaptation strategies, from local to global. Communicate these needs to the scientific and science policy community to ensure that science is prioritized.

3) Co-design and implement observation strategies in collaboration with data/information producers and end-users. Proactively design and implement observation strategies to ensure that vulnerable areas are adequately monitored. Provide ocean acidification baseline information for newly developed carbon removal strategies.

"Through OARS the scientific community will work effectively together to provide society and decision makers with the scientific evidence they need to sustainably monitor, mitigate and adapt to the threats of ocean acidification; from our local coasts and estuaries to the open oceans."

Steve Widdicombe
Co-chair, GOA-ON

