



What are Communities of Practice?

Communities of Practice are voluntary groups of endorsed Decade Actions that work on similar themes or in similar geographies. They allow Decade Actions to connect, collaborate, and exchange ideas to collectively fulfil the objectives of the Ocean Decade.

Communities of Practice can be either **thematic** (based around the Ocean Decade Challenges) or **geographic** (based around major ocean basins or land-based regions).

How can I join an existing Community of Practice?

Communities of Practice can be found in the **groups** section of the **Ocean Decade Network** (forum.oceandecade.org).

Team members from any endorsed programme, project, or contribution may join as many Communities of Practice that they feel they can contribute to.

Please note, Decade *activities* are not included in this opportunity.

1

Become an **endorsed Decade Action** (click "Take Action!" on the Ocean Decade Network to find out more).

2

Invite your team members to **"request to join"** Communities of Practice of interest - they will need your Decade Action name and ID number to join.



What is the function of the Decade Coordination Unit, Decade Collaborative Centres and Decade Coordination Offices (DCCs and DCOs) in a Community of Practice?

DCCs and DCOs have dedicated resources to act as facilitators and moderators (Group Admins) of Communities of Practice. Where there is no DCC or DCO to facilitate a Community of Practice, volunteer Decade Actions will act as Group Admins.

The role of a Group Admin involves:

- Working with group members to set a strategic direction for your theme or region
- Acting as a point of contact for group members
- Administering the group on the Ocean Decade Network, including:
 - Keeping the group information up to date
 - Reviewing requests to join the group
- Organising Community of Practice activities, including meetings
- Engaging Decade Actions to join and participate in the group

How do I propose a new Community of Practice?

If your Decade Action would like to volunteer to lead one of the Communities of Practice listed below, please contact us. If you do not see the topic or region that you are interested in, please consult the "**Understanding Groups**" **fact sheet** and fill out a form to propose a new Community of Practice.



For more info, please contact:

Ocean Decade Network Manager
oceandecadenetwork@unesco.org



Current Communities of Practice*

Thematic

Coastal Ecosystem and Community Resilience

COP Lead: Decade Collaborative Centre for Coastal Resilience (DCC-CR)

Ocean Practices

COP Lead: Ocean Best Practices Programme

Ocean Literacy

COP Lead: Ocean Literacy With All Programme / Decade Coordination Office for Connecting People and Ocean (DCO-CPO)

Ocean-Climate Solutions and Innovation

COP Lead: Ocean Visions – UN Decade Collaborative Centre for Ocean Climate Solutions (OV – UN DCC)

Ocean Prediction

COP Lead: Decade Collaborative Centre for Ocean Prediction (DCC-OP)

Ocean Observations

COP Lead: Decade Coordination Office for Ocean Observing (DCO-OO)

Deep Sea Research and Management

COP Lead: Decade Coordination Office for Ocean Observing (DCO-OO)

Ocean Climate Nexus

COP Lead: Decade Collaborative Centre for Ocean-Climate Nexus and Coordination amongst Decade Implementing Partners in P.R. China (DCC-OCC)

Ocean Data Sharing

COP Lead: Decade Coordination Office for Ocean Data Sharing (DCO-ODS)

Multiple Ocean Stressors

COP Lead: Ocean Acidification Research for Sustainability (OARS) Programme

Sustainable Blue Food

COP Lead: Multiple Decade Programmes

Capacity Development

COP Lead: Capacity Development Facility Coordinator

Sustainable Ocean Economy

COP Lead: TBC

Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems

COP Lead: TBC

Indigenous and Local Knowledge

COP Lead: TBC

Sustainable Ocean Planning

COP Lead: TBC

Regional

Northeast Pacific Ocean

COP Lead: Decade Collaborative Centre for the Northeast Pacific Ocean (DCC-NEPO)

Africa

COP Lead: African Ocean Decade Taskforce

Indian Ocean

COP Lead: Decade Collaborative Centre for the Indian Ocean (DCC-IOR)

Western Pacific Ocean

COP Lead: Decade Coordination Office for the Western Pacific Ocean (DCO-WESTPAC)

South Pacific Ocean

COP Lead: DCC Pacific Islands Region of the Pacific Ocean (DCC-PIR-PO)

Southern Ocean

COP Lead: DCC Southern Ocean Region (DCC-SOR)

Mediterranean Sea

COP Lead: Mediterranean Regional Programme

Tropical Americas and Caribbean Region

COP Lead: IOC-CARIBE

Atlantic Ocean

COP Lead: TBC

Arctic Ocean

COP Lead: TBC

*As of January 2024

Dark Blue are active, with leadership
Light Blue are soon to launch, with leadership
Grey are pending, awaiting orientation and leadership