



International Ocean Institute

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MALTA THIRD COUNTRY TRAINING PROGRAMME
Ocean Governance and Blue Growth - Training Programme
 offered in Malta by the IOI and the Commonwealth Secretariat
17th -23rd September 2015



Above: Course faculty and staff from IOI and the Commonwealth Secretariat with the programme participants.

The **Ocean Governance and Blue Growth** training course was held at The Palace Hotel, in Sliema, Malta from 17th to 23rd September, 2015 and was organised by the International Ocean Institute (through the HQ in Malta) and the Commonwealth Secretariat (ComSec) through its Oceans and Natural Resources Advisory Division.

IOInforma is the news and information bulletin of the International Ocean Institute (IOI). Any feedback or request for information should be sent to the International Ocean Institute HQ Malta, PO Box 3, Msida MSD2080, Malta or Email: ioihq@ioihq.org.mt

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Fifteen delegates from thirteen countries attended the programme (Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados, Cook Islands, Grenada, Malaysia, Mauritius, Namibia, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, The Bahamas, Vanuatu) and competent departments and ministries represented encompassed sectors dealing with maritime and ocean affairs and maritime law; foreign affairs; transport and aviation; fisheries and aquatic resources development; finance, trade and the blue economy; shipping, maritime administration and merchant shipping; and mines and energy.



Faculty members from the IOI networks as well as from ComSec contributed to the training, the programme offering content principally on ocean governance and the Blue Economy. Dr Awni Behnam from the IOI directed the lecture sessions over the programme course.



The purpose of the course was to provide practical instruction to government officials from throughout the Commonwealth concerning the wise management of ocean space at the national level based on best international practice and evolving concepts. In this regard, the target beneficiaries were small-island and developing coastal Commonwealth member countries, many of which exercise jurisdiction over significant ocean areas that far exceed their land area. In order to provide participants with meaningful instruction, the course outlined and discussed a range of legal, policy, economic and strategic issues associated with the practical management of ocean space at the national level. This course was solution-oriented and designed to provide an overview of the issues and challenges that these member states are likely to encounter in seeking to manage their ocean space and resources, including in seeking to develop national ocean policies, ocean governance regimes and in seeking to develop an ocean-based economy consistent with the concept of 'blue growth'. The course was intended to assist government officials who have responsibility for marine/maritime planning, policies and laws concerning ocean management (for example: developing ocean policies and major sectors of the ocean/blue economy) to understand the relevant issues and be sufficiently informed to be able to make practical recommendations and decisions.



The course was delivered over a period of 5 course days and comprised a number of modules intended to reflect the range of legal, policy and technical considerations that relate to the design and implementation of ocean governance regimes. Practical exercises were included throughout the course, all of which built up to the development of ocean policy and governance frameworks; the field trip around the island of Comino and the north of Malta was used to illustrate typical concepts of conflicting coastal and maritime uses in a small island state.

Award of the IOI Elisabeth Mann Borgese Bursary, 2015
 and presentation of the results of the Bursary awarded in 2014
 13th October 2015

The 2015 EMB Bursary was awarded to Ms Kristina Edwards to carry out research titled "Assessing levels of microplastics in Maltese waters (Central Mediterranean) and their impacts on selected marine species in compliance with the European Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) obligations". The research, which is being carried out within the Department of Biology of the Faculty of Science at the University of Malta, aims to make a contribution to our comprehension of the effects of microplastics exposure on marine life with particular reference to the Central Mediterranean.



Photo shows L-R: Ms Antonella Vassallo; Prof. Alan Deidun; Dr Awni Behnam; Ms Kristina Edwards; Prof Alfred Vella; Ms Marija Mangion and Prof. Victor Axiak



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Therefore the first phase will involve the characterization of quantitative and qualitative profiles of these micro-items in several locations and habitats. This primarily includes conducting monitoring surveys at various local coastal sandy beaches and inshore waters at different periods of the year, as well as in at least one targeted marine species. This data from the first phase will assist in establishing the ecologically relevant levels and forms of microplastics to which certain marine organisms may be exposed in the field. Subsequently, eco-toxicological studies will be undertaken to assess the impacts of these micro-items on selected marine species, depending on progress achieved during the first phase.



The 2014 EMB Bursary awarded to Ms Marija Mangion to carry out research on the influence of tuna penning activities on soft substratum macrofaunal assemblages has also come to its conclusion this October with the successful achievement of the research aims for the EMB Bursary award.



The Elisabeth Mann Borgese (EMB) Bursary of the International Ocean Institute (IOI) was established as a means of demonstrating recognition to the host country of the IOI – Malta – for hosting the IOI Headquarters and for providing facilities for staff and offices at the University of Malta’s Msida campus. The Bursary is financed through the IOI and constitutes a further recognition and acknowledgement of the role of Prof. E. Mann Borgese, founder of IOI, and of her considerable achievements. **Elisabeth Mann Borgese** (April 24, 1918 - February 8, 2002), founded the IOI in 1972 as a knowledge-based non-governmental, non-profit international organization devoted to the sustainable development of the oceans and IOI works to uphold and expand the principles enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea for the benefit of humankind as a whole, with particular consideration of the poor. The **mission of IOI** is to promote education, training and research to enhance the peaceful uses of ocean space and its resources, their management and regulation as well as the protection and conservation of the marine environment, guided by the principle of the Common Heritage of Mankind. **Malta** is the host country of the International Ocean Institute Headquarters. As an island state straddling the centre of the Mediterranean Sea, it has a long history of dependence on the sea as well as a strong tradition of maritime, fishing and seafaring occupation. Its membership of the European Union confers on it an obligation to adhere to the European maritime and fishing policies as well as to conventions and regulations which are global in scope.

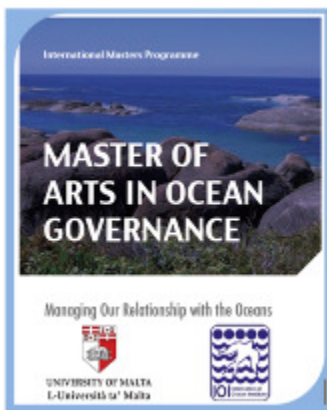


The Third Master of Arts in Ocean Governance degree programme
IOI and the Faculty of Laws at the University of Malta, Malta
Tuition Fee Scholarship awarded for the Master of Arts in Ocean Governance
28th September 2015



<http://www.um.edu.mt/icp/ocean-governance>

The third cohort of international students from Thailand, Greece and PR China started their lectures at the end of September at the Valletta Campus of the University of Malta in Malta.



The course was launched with the first Study Unit given by Dr Awni Behnam: *ERL5003: The Contemporary Definition of Ocean Governance*. This unit traces human interaction with the ocean from its early history and the evolution of rules and laws that culminated in the adoption of UNCLOS. As a basic concept underpinning the degree, the unit aims to give an understanding of that in its legal, economic, social and political implications; to develop an understanding of the role of international institutions in all dimensions of the governance architecture; and to identify the current governance deficit in the light of new and emerging challenges. The first nine months of this 13-month degree provide the students with the tools for achieving sound governance through the application of a spectrum of disciplines and knowledge to truly reflect the complexities that must be considered to achieve holistic and sustainable ocean governance. The final months of the programme will be dedicated to the preparation and submission of a dissertation.

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The Master's Degree Programme on Ocean Governance is being offered by the Faculty of Laws at the University of Malta in collaboration with the International Ocean Institute at the Valletta Campus of the University in Malta as part of the University's International Masters Programmes. This degree programme is unique in its approach – it aims to forge a knowledge base that is essentially legal but which also serves to further enhance the development of learning and research in the field of marine resource management and maritime security from a multidisciplinary perspective. Furthermore it adds an important dimension to the work of the IOI in capacity building in ocean governance issues by providing the first postgraduate level programme in this field.

Tuition Fee Scholarship awarded for the Master of Arts in Ocean Governance

The IOI is committed to furthering education and capacity building in Ocean Governance globally and regionally and in this spirit has made available a scholarship to cover the tuition fee for **Ms Georgia Veldeki** to attend the Master of Arts in Ocean Governance at the University of Malta for academic year 2015-16. Ms Veldeki was selected following application and an interview by a selection panel made up of representatives of the University of Malta and the MAOG teaching faculty.



IOI Course in Ocean Governance for Africa, Successfully delivered in Cape Town, South Africa, IOI Southern Africa: 14th September - 9th October

<http://ioisa.org/activities/thu-15102015-1446/2015-course-ocean-governance-africa50>
Text and Images courtesy of IOI SA



The 2015 IOI Course in Ocean Governance for Africa was offered by the IOI Centre in South Africa in partnership with the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) and South African International Maritime Institute (SAIMI), in Cape Town, South Africa. The course wrapped up on the 9th of October after four intensive weeks of lectures, field trips and exercise.



IOI Southern Africa: Training Programme Class of 2015 on a field visit during the programme.

The 19 delegates from 8 different countries in Africa (Angola, Egypt, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Madagascar, Namibia, Nigeria, and the Republic of South Africa) descended on the SANBI buildings at Kirstenbosch National Botanical Gardens for lectures from over 40 regional and local experts representing over 20 different organisations.



The participants came from diverse backgrounds and different work experiences but they all made the most of the course by engaging enthusiastically in discussions, exercises and debates.

The multidisciplinary lectures covered topics that fell into five broad themes:

1. Oceans and Coasts – Opportunities and Threats included topics such as marine invasive species, ocean ecosystems under global change and how to use seabirds as indicators of ecosystem health;
2. The Governance Framework explained international, regional and national policy frameworks and included a day of getting familiar with UNCLOS and what the issues around Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction are;
3. Governance Tools included how to use remote sensing, modelling and environmental health monitoring and assessment tools;
4. Governance in Action lectures ranged from discussions on marine biodiversity to the maritime sector, offshore energy and climate change to living marine resources and tourism and dumping at sea;
5. Creating a Supportive Environment focused on social issues and included an exercise in dealing with conflict and how to use human values and behaviour to address societal issues.



The lectures (and session on conflict resolution) helped prepare the participants for the group tasks, one of which, a Regional Policy Exercise, ran throughout the four weeks and was presented by the participants on the final day of the course. The Regional Policy Exercise required participants to split into two groups corresponding to the East and West coast of Africa. Each group had to familiarize itself with either the Nairobi or Abidjan Convention, consolidate what they had learned throughout the course and then pick three areas on which they would provide detailed policy recommendations to support a Regional Oceans Policy.



During the final week, Prof Larry Hildebrand (IOI Governing Board member and faculty member of the World Maritime University) introduced the group to integrated coastal zone management and marine spatial planning. A marine spatial planning exercise allowed participants to struggle with the needs of conflicting user requirements in two bays (Saldanha Bay and False Bay) that they visited on field trips during the course of the four weeks. Field trips also provided *in situ* examples of ocean governance issues including port management, alien species control, small-scale fisheries conflict, coastal erosion and urban estuary management. Prof Larry Hildebrand also brought the group up to speed on the recently established 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. On the final day of the course, each participant outlined how they would take their knowledge back to their work places and contribute to continuing capacity building, training and awareness in Africa.



Left: Part of the team at Milnerton Beach, Cape Town.



Right: Part of the team at Kraaifontein Recycling Sorting Plant, Cape Town

Photos and text courtesy of IOI Southern Africa: Director Adnan Awad and Course Assistant Shannon Hampton

35th IOI training programme on
Ocean Governance: Policy, Law and Management,
IOI Canada; Halifax, Canada
20th May – 17th July

The 2015 IOI training programme on **Ocean Governance: Policy, Law and Management in Canada**, held at the Dalhousie University, in Halifax, Canada in 2015 was the 35th annual course since the training programme was instituted by Elisabeth Mann Borgese, founder of the IOI.



The programme was attended by 12 participants from a range of disciplines and backgrounds. A good balance of countries and regions was achieved, with participants from Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Europe and South America (Antigua & Barbuda, Bahamas, China, Guyana, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Spain, Turkmenistan). As usual, emphasis was placed on having strong female representation among the group, with equal numbers of women and men in the class. Lectures and presentations were delivered by over 100 speakers, and included local and international experts and practitioners. Over-all guidance was provided by Mike Butler as Course Director.

The programme emphasises the importance of viewing the ocean as a system with varied users and multiple, often competing and conflicting, uses. It also aims to increase awareness of the fact that ocean management requires broad interdisciplinary skills, new institutional and legal infrastructures, and new forms of intergovernmental and non-governmental organisation and cooperation at the local, national and international levels.

With the course being primarily lecture-based, field trips provided a necessary change from the intensive classroom sessions. They also provided an opportunity for the participants to experience some of Nova Scotia's coastal industries and people.

The course-long Simulation Exercise, involving the preparation by the participants of an Ocean Governance Plan for a fictitious country(ies), continues to be the thread that binds together the ten modules. David Griffiths has been further developing this exercise and this year was assisted by Katie Short, an IOI-Canada intern.

Text and Photo credits: IOI-Canada staff/participants, Kevin Deagle