

**REPORT OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL OCEAN  
INSTITUTE FOR 2022**





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## FOREWORD

2022 was another year full of activity for the IOI with the main thrust of the IOI programmes and activities shaped by two main aspects. In the first place, the year was dedicated by the IOI Governing Board and Network to the commemoration and celebration of the achievements of 50 years since the IOI was established by Elisabeth Mann Borgese in 1972. Secondly, the new Ocean-focussed impetus and energy that arising from an increasingly global recognition of the importance of the Ocean and its links to Climate modulation, generated interest and new opportunities for Ocean communities world-wide, not least the IOI.

Both these developments spurred the IOI even further in its mission to reach out and develop capacity in professional and lay Ocean stakeholders alike. The IOI foresight to encourage hybrid-style training where suitable, as well as to encourage innovative thinking around programme delivery was critical in enabling the delivery of a rich programme of training and outreach events by the IOI globally. Thanks to the concrete actions of the IOI network and partners, our goals were achieved in spite of practical difficulties and the competitive environment of moving online, not least of which is the oversaturation of online events. Thus, the total outreach of IOI via global training offerings and the IOI Ocean Academies in 2022 was achieved through 11 Training Events (In-Person, Online, Hybrid) training 320 Early/mid-career ocean practitioners from 79 countries<sup>1</sup>, and additionally through 25 IOI Ocean Academy programmes offered globally by 12 IOI Ocean Academy nodes reaching more than 900 persons, excluding the additional outreach achieved through other webinars, seminars and online workshops and programmes.

<sup>1</sup> Algeria, Angola, Antigua & Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, eSwatini, Fiji, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, IR Iran, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Perú, Philippines, Portugal, Russia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, St Kitts & Nevis, Switzerland, Tanzania, Thailand, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Turks & Caicos Islands, United Kingdom, USA, Venezuela, Vietnam, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Special events organised in this year focussed on the IOI golden jubilee and on extending the hallmark training for which the IOI is globally known; some highlights were the Colloquium on the Occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the IOI (12th December), under the aegis of the Office of the President of Malta; the various special events commemorating the 50th Anniversary organised specifically to gather IOI alumni, partners and friends by IOI Egypt, IOI China, IOI South Africa and IOI Canada, among others; the hybrid side-event offered by the IOI during UNCTAD's 4th Oceans Forum to consider the role of knowledge-based institutions such as IOI, in achieving common aims through capacity development.

It is of great satisfaction that the foremost programme launched as part of the IOI golden jubilee – the IOI Ocean Academy, was so successful, exceeding our expectations in reaching out to a global audience under the motto of “Ocean Knowledge for All”. The IOI Ocean Academy programme was established to enable interested laypersons to acquire the skills and knowledge needed to understand the complexities of the Ocean and its local and global effects, now and in a changing future, and the impact and role of human activities, laying the foundations for more informed understanding and personal daily decision-making. The IOI Ocean Academy format of 20-hour modules offered online



in local languages, delivering locally relevant Ocean knowledge via local experts affiliated with the IOI, and at no charge for interested participants of all backgrounds has proven to be a highly effective way of increasing global Ocean Literacy. The IOI Ocean Academy programme is truly a fitting tribute to the vision of Elisabeth, as well as a new milestone in the IOI mission to create knowledgeable and empowered Ocean leadership at all levels.

Our gratitude and appreciation are due to the Ocean Science and Research Foundation for their longstanding and generous support; to the global IOI family who propose and implement the rich programmes of the IOI; and to other sponsors and supporters without whom IOI could not have achieved its ambitious programmes. I personally owe a debt of gratitude to the IOI Governing Board, the staff at IOI HQ and the IOI global network for the tireless work, support and encouragement.

I hope that you will enjoy reading this report, do take a look at our website for more information and get in touch with us on topics of interest.



**Antonella Vassallo**

Managing Director, IOI Headquarters



**IOI: EMPOWERING OCEAN LEADERSHIP**

50 years since the IOI was established by Elisabeth Mann Borgese as a knowledge-based, ocean-focused NGO in 1972



## CONTENTS

<b>FOREWORD</b> .....	4
Message from the President .....	8
IOI - The International Ocean Institute .....	10
The Evolving Role of the Blue Port City .....	13
Message from the Honorary President on the 50th Anniversary of the IOI .....	15
<b>ACTIVITIES OF THE IOI CENTRES AND FOCAL POINTS IN 2022</b> .....	16
<b>IOI TRAINING AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES</b> .....	24
<b>IOI ALUMNI NETWORK AND PROGRAMMES IN 2022</b> .....	26
<b>IOI OCEAN ACADEMY PROGRAMME</b> .....	28
<b>SPECIAL EVENTS IN 2022</b> .....	32
The IOI OCEAN ACADEMY: Ocean Knowledge for all, launched as a major activity of the IOI's 50th Anniversary .....	32
Colloquium on the Occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the International Ocean Institute (IOI); 1972 – 2022, <i>Under the aegis of the Office of the President of Malta</i> .....	34
Presentation of a token of appreciation from IOI to HE George Vella, President of Malta .....	34
Special Seminar: Ocean Governance - A Legacy Interrupted. ....	35
IOI side-event during UNCTAD's 4th Oceans Forum on Trade-Related Aspects of SDG14: <i>Reflections on the Bridgetown Covenant and UNCTAD 15 outcomes</i> .....	35
Webinar: <i>Was 2022 truly the "Ocean Super Year" we hoped for?</i> .....	36
Challenges of Sustainable Blue Economy in Marine Trade, Science and Aquaculture (vICOMSA), special session organised by the IOI .....	36
IOI Canada 2022 Elisabeth Mann Borgese Ocean Lecture .....	37
IOI South Africa online event "Showcasing IOI in Africa" .....	37
IOI China Regional Centre Celebrates the IOI's 50th ANNIVERSARY with an Alumni Workshop in Tianjin ..	37
IOI Egypt celebrates the 50th Anniversary of IOI under the auspices of its host institute NIOF .....	38
UNITED NATIONS Ocean Conference: IOI joined partner organisations for two side events .....	38
IOI was represented at the EAST ASIA SUMMIT WORKSHOP on Maritime Cooperation: Technical and Scientific Cooperation Towards Clean, Healthy and Sustainable Ocean .....	39
IOI is represented at the Twenty-second meeting of the UN ICP on Oceans and the Law of the Sea: "Ocean observing" .....	39
<b>INSTITUTE MANAGEMENT</b> .....	40
<b>APPENDICES</b> .....	46
Composition of the IOI Governing Board, 2023 .....	46
IOI Training Centres, Centres & Focal Points .....	47
IOI Headquarters Secretariat .....	50

## MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT

2022 was a very special year for the International Ocean Institute. Our organisation celebrated the 50th Anniversary of its foundation in 1972 by Elizabeth Mann Borgese as a knowledge-based scientific, educational and training institution.

To mark this important Anniversary special celebratory events were organised by the IOI Secretariat as well as the Network of Centres throughout the year. The celebrations ended in December with a Colloquium hosted by HE George Vella, President of Malta, at the Presidential Palace of San Anton in Malta.

As the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic continued in 2022 to a varying degree in different regions, the implementation of the IOI planned Programmes by the Secretariat and Network had to be adapted and take account of the relevant sanitary situation in each case. All IOI programmes including regular training courses and special celebratory events were delivered either fully online or in hybrid form, depending on local condition and regulation.

A major project for the 50th Anniversary Celebration was the launch of IOI online Ocean Academy on Ocean Governance. While 3 pilot courses had been successfully delivered in 2021 in Egypt, Maldives and Sri Lanka, it was officially launched in 2022 during the 4th UNCTAD's Oceans Forum in Geneva. The delivery of the Ocean Academy courses were then extended in 2022 at a global level, with 25 Academy courses being delivered in 12 countries.

Ocean Academy courses enable IOI to extend its outreach, making Ocean knowledge accessible to all interested laypersons around the world in their local language. They complement IOI's other Ocean literacy, capacity development programme and regular training courses.

The 50th Anniversary was a moment to reflect on our past achievements and look forward to a bright and promising future. In 1970s, the IOI was a small institution with a great mission and objective. Today it is in its 50-year milestone and has grown to be a reputable and leading global organisation specialised in capacity development in Ocean governance. With its Network of Centres covering most geographical areas of the world, IOI continues its capacity development mission by training future Ocean leaders.

With nearly 2,000 alumni in 140 countries around the world committed to promoting IOI message of Ocean protection and sustainability, the IOI has built a community of Ocean leaders, creating a momentum for hope and a promising future. This is truly remarkable.

As we have been celebrating the past, we also look forward to the next 50 years with its new challenges and opportunities. With five decades of experience, I am confident that the IOI is in a position to address the new chal-

lenges and emerging issues of the present and future.

I wish to express my deepest gratitude to those who have given their time, expertise and resources to make IOI what it is today. I would like to extend my sincere thanks and gratitude to the Ocean Science and Research Foundation (OSRF) for their continued generous financial support throughout these years, to the members of the Governing Board for their leadership and guidance and to all other partners and sponsors for their support and contribution.

My special thanks and gratitude to the IOI Centre Directors, IOI Focal Points, Ocean Academy Directors; and the Managing Director and Secretariat at the Headquarters in Malta for their commitment and their invaluable support and cooperation without which IOI would not be able to accomplish its objectives. I also acknowledge the valuable contribution of IOI Alumni who continue to spread the IOI message worldwide.



**Mahindokht Faghfour**  
President, International Ocean Institute



# IOI - THE INTERNATIONAL OCEAN INSTITUTE

**Antonella Vassallo**  
 Managing Director, IOI



**The IOI was founded in 1972** by Professor Elisabeth Mann Borgese (1918-2002) as an independent, non-governmental, non-profit, knowledge-based institution which focuses on sustainable governance of the ocean and its resources so that current and future generations can share in their benefits. The respect for common goods, the peaceful and sustainable use of ocean services and resources, the common heritage of the high seas and the need to support and empower people and countries in managing their relations with the ocean in a sustainable manner remains the ethical and moral foundation of the IOI.

**The mission of the IOI** is to ensure the sustainability of the Ocean as *“a source of life”*, and to uphold and expand the principle of the common heritage as enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

### The structure of the International Ocean Institute and the IOI global network

The IOI Board of Governors functions as the substantive backbone; it drives IOI deliverables and provides quality control. The IOI Board governs the IOI institute and has the oversight for all IOI activities, strategic development, the institute’s management, finances and fundraising. Governing Board members are closely involved in the activities of the IOI and take responsibility for defined tasks. The Secretariat of the IOI at the Headquarters in Malta is responsible for day-to-day operations; the IOI HQ supports the Board Members in fulfilling their mandates and works closely with the Centres of the IOI network to implement the annual programmes.

Following the formal endorsement and implementation of the IOI Strategy by the IOI Governors in December 2015, the IOI network consists of 31 Centres and Focal Points, in 29 countries around the globe as well as through collaboration with strategic training partners.

### Main Pillars of IOI Activities



### Programme of action

In order to achieve its stated mission and goals, the IOI works through a global network of Centres and Focal Points which is administered through the Headquarters based in Malta and which acts as the secretariat for the IOI Governing Board. The IOI Board sets out the broad activities and programmes of the IOI based on a strategy for action. The IOI

network also benefits from close support and collaboration from its Training Partners and the Alumni of IOI training programmes over the years.

IOI training centres are responsible for organising and providing the hallmark ocean governance training programmes of the IOI. They are supported in their work by dedicated IOI Centres in the geographical vicinity. The IOI benefits from the support of the IOI Centres and Focal Points as well as through collaboration with strategic training partners.

the knowledge, skills and essential attitude for effective ocean governance. They are empowered to apply contemporary approaches to coastal and ocean management, with an emphasis on the moral, ethical and legal values in Ocean Governance (equity and peaceful uses of the ocean). The portfolio of IOI training programmes is complemented by the Open Online Course: **“One Planet – One Ocean”** launched with partners:

<http://www.oceanmooc.org>.



### Training and education, and capacity development

Since its foundation, IOI has trained young practitioners, particularly from developing countries and countries in transition, and contributes towards a growing global network of trained and empowered leaders fully conversant with the latest developments in Ocean Governance. Course participants acquire

### IOI Publications and International Relations

The IOI promotes its training and capacity development activities by producing and disseminating publications as a further core activity of IOI and by partnering with international, regional, national and local institutions and governments, as well as public and private institutions working in the field of Ocean Governance.





The World Ocean Review series was launched in 2010 and is a result of cooperation between the publishing house Mareverlag, the Cluster of Excellence, “The Future Ocean” based in Kiel and the IOI. The purpose of these periodic publications is to present scientifically robust knowledge in a form accessible to any reader. Free copies are available online through: <https://worldoceanreview.com/en/order>

**IOI works with its partners and networks to achieve its goals**

IOI enjoys special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and consultative status at some of UN’s Specialized Agencies. The IOI further maintains a number of MOUs and benefits from strong collaboration with key partners in the field of ocean issues, capacity development and education in this thematic area.

**IOI programmes are financed by donors and through partnerships and sponsors**

Major financial support comes from the Ocean Science and Research Foundation (OSRF); the IOI also receives additional financial contributions for its projects and in-kind support through other partners which is substantial in terms of quality and quantity and complements the financial resources for IOI to deliver its programmes and fulfil its mission.



The Ocean Yearbook, produced since 1978, is a collaborative initiative of the IOI and the Marine and Environmental Law Institute at the Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada. It presents leading-edge articles, reports and reference materials devoted to the issues and concerns affecting the world’s oceans.

The IOI reports annually on its activities through the publication of its Annual Report available for download through the IOI website.

IOI TRAINING PROGRAMME PORTFOLIO		
INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES		
• Post Graduate Degree: Master of Arts in Ocean Governance; with the Faculty of Laws of the University of Malta		Malta
• Ocean Governance: Policy, Law & Management		Canada
REGIONAL PROGRAMMES		
• Regional Ocean Governance for the Mediterranean, Black, Baltic & Caspian Seas		Malta
• Ocean Governance Training Programme for Africa		South Africa
• Sustainable Development & Governance of the Caspian Sea		Turkmenistan
• Ocean Governance for the Western Pacific Region		PR China
• Regional Ocean Governance Framework, Implementation of UNCLOS and its Related Instruments in the SE Asian Seas & the Indian Ocean		Thailand

## THE EVOLVING ROLE OF THE BLUE PORT CITY

**Dr Awni Behnam**

Former United Nations Assistant Secretary General  
Former Senior Advisor to the Secretary General at UNCTAD  
Honorary President, International Ocean Institute,  
Affiliate Professor, University of Malta

I have recalled, on an earlier occasion, the symbiotic relationship between Ocean and coast as incorporating two directions: having to learn to live with the Ocean and from the Ocean in a sustainable relationship, as a principle of the Blue Economy which is a redefinition of the human relationship of governance between Ocean and coast.

Over the years the role of the Port City has dramatically changed. Technology and the concept of door-to-door supply chain rendered the role of ports to one of a transit node. The Blue Economy concept has compounded that change from one of prime dominance of the Port City authority to one where the Port City became less relevant in terms of physical, spatial, and economic importance or governance, as the Blue Economy concept brought unlimited competition from new stake holders to a newly congested Blue Coast.

Management and Governance challenges for sustainable gain by utilisation of the coastal space, is no longer the prime responsibility of the Port City or port authority, as the Blue Economy provides for multiple opportunities and wider challenges from a variety of stakeholders. The traditional Port City is no longer the only gateway to a country's economic and social progress.

Managing sustainably the Blue Ocean space is complex and demanding. The essential components of this concept are the interconnectedness of emerging global interdependence of Ocean and coast in all their diversity and importance. The Blue Economy opens the door to a wealth of opportunities but it represents a major challenge in management and governance due

to diverse conflicting demands and obligations of stake holders. Thus, as a concept it transcends maritime or marine economy into an Ocean urban nexus of sustainability.

The benefits of a Blue Economy can only be realised through the application of management principles such as the precautionary approach, polluter pays principle, linkage to science, ecosystem approach, stewardship, compliance and enforcement and such tools as ABMT (Area Based Management Tools), MSP (Marine Spatial Planning), MPAs (Marine Protected Areas), common heritage etc. The transition to a Blue Economy enlarges the definition of the coastal zone of biophysical social and economies demands, where the dimension of the area enlarges the economic and social remits thus leading to much wider but conflicting space allocation that is sustainably managed, delimited or shared exclusively.

A Blue economy implies a substantial increase of stakeholders with overlapping spatial economic and social demands which require a change of mindset and acceptance of moral and ethical values and settlement of disputes through peaceful persuasion. A Blue economy provides for unlimited opportunities for job creation however it also generates downstream and upstream activities with connectivity inland through river catchment areas etc. and further inland through improved efficacy. Associated are the economic benefits through new opportunities as in economic rewards, food security, recreation, energy, artificial



Dr Awni Behnam,  
Honorary  
President, IOI

structures, marine protected areas, energy, supply chain connectivity maritime traffic separation schemes, the list goes on. For each activity there could be overlapping and prohibited spatial allocation that dwarfs the hegemony and oversight practiced in the past by traditional port authorities.

On one hand the Blue Economy is any country's gateway to smart, sustainable blue growth and job creation through new drivers in Ocean/marine and specifically coastal zone management providing an environment for innovation and competitiveness, accountability to welfare and satisfaction of habitat. The other side of the coin is the enlarged number of stakeholders competing for spatial benefits with conflicting demands and needs that changes the coastal zone in an indefinite manner. Hence the imperative of resolving spatial needs of overlapping demands of stakeholders in the coastal zone and beyond.

Charles Ehler brilliantly coined the solution in marine spatial planning back in 2006 as in his work at UNESCO/IOC. He defined MSP as a public process of analysing and allocating the spatial and temporal distribution of human activities to achieve ecological, economic and social objectives that are usually specified through a political process.

MSP is explained in numerous different methods or practices, from ICZM, to Ocean zoning. However what matters is that the outcome of the process is sustainable management. Sustainable fisheries, safe navigation, sustainable energy supply, recreation, enhanced Ocean and coast security, robust coastal and marine economics, maintenance of ecosystem services, reduced conflict among stakeholders, reduction of conflict between use and nature through protection of ecologically important marine ecosystems. The sustainable application of MSP is a compiled databased process of research, finance, implementation, monitoring, performance and evaluation of all stakeholders' needs and responsibilities beyond of allocation of space.

The result of imposing MSP should result in sustainable fishing, sustainable energy supply, enhanced safety and security, robust coastal and marine economics, maintenance of ecosystem services, reduction of conflict among stakeholders and better use of coastal space and nature and in protecting important marine areas. This evolution is clearly beyond the remit of a traditional port city. MSP compared with other Area Based Management Tools is more sophisticated and science based, it requires generated data that is intensive and beyond the traditional ICZM. It is a transit from traditional Ocean development in coastal use, to one of coastal governance for sustainability as a result of the Blue Economy. MSP is the new science of sustainable coastal realities. It is the future at the present.

The Blue Economy brought changes to separate the influences exerted between the port and the coastal city and port authorities including in social and political decision making that once was exercised or influenced by the port authorities themselves. While allowing ports to develop through science and technological innovation, connectivity with the hinterland and modernisation of the multimodal transport of goods, opened up the coastal use to diverse activities no longer exclusively exercised by the port city per se.

IOI, as a knowledge-based institution, has mainstreamed MSP as a primary factor in coastal sustainability in its programmes of education, training, academy and Ocean Literacy.

An earlier version of the Essay was shared with the 17th Annual Session of GFHS, December 2022  
UNCTAD, Review of Maritime Transport 2022  
Tracing the Blue Economy  
Dr A Behnam, ISBN978.1Q.29161589-0



**On the 50th ANNIVERSARY of the IOI, 1972-2022,  
a Message from the Honorary President of IOI, Dr Awni Behnam**

As we celebrate, in this year, the golden jubilee of the International Ocean Institute (IOI) we cannot but recall the legacy of IOI founder Elisabeth Mann Borgese who, together with Arvid Pardo, articulated the concept of the Ocean in areas beyond jurisdiction as common heritage of humankind. In 1972 it was their combined efforts and the support of others of good will that led to the convening of UNCLOS III.

Elisabeth led the call to embark on the negotiations at the conference for UNCLOS and while preparing for it, created at the invitation of Malta, a think tank she named the International Ocean Institute. The first IOI discussions centred around the articulation of what was to become the constitution of the Ocean - a binding universal law of the sea. Elisabeth saw in the emerging Constitution of the Law of the Sea the beginning of a new world order in the service of humanity and peace; she coined the term *Pacem In Maribus* (Peace in the Oceans) thus also laying the philosophical and ethical foundations of IOI.

Consequently, she brought under the umbrella of IOI the best and brightest minds: oceanographers, scientists, environmentalists, diplomats, lawyers, civil society, industrialists. In her wisdom and her outreach, she remained fully aware of the limits of political consensus, a consensus that, to be workable, must be infused in necessary pragmatism.

Fifty years beyond her initial sacrifices and vision, her legacy endures and grows from strength to strength. That conviction for equity and justice, for benefit sharing in the governance of the Ocean has endured as the hallmark of IOI. Over the five decades since, the IOI has evolved in addressing the global ocean community to seed a culture of responsibility and policies of reason to achieve an equitable and sustainable ocean relationship, a basis for a truly Blue Economy.

The IOI, as a knowledge-based and capacity-building institution, has matured over time to meet the progress and challenges in all core Ocean disciplines, but has kept faithful to the core values of its mission and strengthened its commitments through evolving pillars of training, education, publication and advocacy, building strong partnerships in multilateral cooperation.

Today we celebrate the nearly 2000 IOI Alumni worldwide and an active IOI presence in nearly 40 countries and regions. IOI annually delivers a Master's degree in Ocean Governance and a global portfolio of training courses in collaboration with recognised universities and learning centres. Moreover, the IOI plays a principal role in promoting Ocean Literacy through partnership in the globally recognised science-based publications – the World Ocean Review Series – and, in celebration of its first fifty years, has recently launched the IOI Ocean Academy, aimed at delivering ocean knowledge to persons of all backgrounds and all interests via short, targeted online courses.

The IOI leadership has evolved and grown, and the torch is now in the hands of a younger generation who did not know the mortal Elisabeth but are ordained in her mission, vision and passion.

On this occasion much gratitude and appreciation are extended to the global and growing family of the IOI: Directors, Focal Points, Alumni, Secretariat and Governors, funders and partners of the IOI, past and present – not least the OSRF and the IOI Patron, Nikolas Gelpke - who have all believed in and supported the IOI through these first fifty years.

**Awni Behnam, Honorary President of IOI**



Elisabeth Mann Borgese,  
founder of the IOI, A  
Behnam, Honorary  
President, IOI

## 1

## ACTIVITIES OF THE IOI CENTRES AND FOCAL POINTS IN 2022

Lamiaa Mohamedein  
Chair of the IOI Network of  
Centres & Director IOI Egypt

The annual Ocean governance training courses, technical workshops at regional and national levels, as well as a range of related outreach and research activities and projects were held as programmed. These events were virtual, hybrid or face to face, depending on the possibilities available in different countries due to some Covid 19 restrictions/limitations still in place. These activities demonstrate the significant commitment of the IOI toward education, capacity development, and collaborative support for international Ocean governance. More information on the Network activities is also found in several other chapters of this report.

### IOI Centres

**IOI Brazil** celebrations for World Oceans Day, which coincides with the Oceanographer Day in Brazil, included several activities at local, national and regional levels. Locally, the usual 'open door' activities took place, with a number of thematic conferences and seminars being held alongside the oceanography courses. At national level, IOI Brazil participated in the Marina Week activities, led by Dr A Turra, head of the UNESCO Professorship on Ocean Sustainability. At a regional level, many of the lecturers of the IOI TC LAC presented at the Congreso De Relaciones Internacionales "El Océano Una Tarea De Todos" organised by UN/Peru and the University of Applied Sciences.

**IOI Canada** offered a free online course on Ocean Governance in the UN Decade of Ocean Science: Key Issues and Challenges. Available for both synchronous and asynchronous participation, this webinar-based training was aimed primarily at marine professionals from around the world with responsibility for some aspect of coastal and ocean management. Additionally, a first workshop specifically for Indigenous Peoples was also delivered by IOI Canada. Funded mainly by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, as well as the IOI, this one-week, in-person event, was designed for and with Indigenous Peoples from Mi'kma'ki, Wolastoqiyik and Peskotomuhkatik (Maritime Provinces). Through presentations, videos, discussions and field trips, the 15 participants were challenged to explore key aspects of Ocean and Coastal Governance using an interdisciplinary approach, with particular attention given to Indigenous needs, perspectives and knowledge systems. Topics ranged from law and governance to marine conservation, fisheries management and Ocean technology, and Indigenous speakers were among the 14 specialists sharing their knowledge and expertise.

### IOI Canada



For World Oceans Day, IOI Canada held its first in-person event again with the 2022 Elisabeth Mann Borgese Ocean Lecture. Organised in celebration of IOI's 50th anniversary, this event took place at Dalhousie University on 19th May.

### IOI Brazil

**I CONGRESO DE RELACIONES INTERNACIONALES**  
EL OCEANO UNA TAREA DE TODOS

**PANELISTAS**

- Prof. Javier Valladares: "El mar y el desarrollo del futuro".
- Emb. Nicolás Roncagliolo: "El desarrollo marítimo del Perú: Aperturas desde la práctica portuaria".
- Prof. Eduardo Marone: "Gobernanza y desafíos del océano. Desde la mirada de la gobernanza".
- Emb. María Teresa Infante: "Operaciones desde la gobernanza. Una mirada desde el Tribunal del Mar".
- Prof. Wagner Menezes: "Avance del Sur a los Surco abriendo una perspectiva de los derechos humanos al derecho del mar".

**MODERADORAS**

- Prof. Beatriz Ramacciotti
- Prof. Paola Reyes

**Fecha:** 08 DE JUNIO 2022  
**Hora:** 8:30 - 13:00  
**Modalidad:** ONLINE - ZOOM

REGISTRATE AQUÍ

Se otorgará certificado de participación virtual.

Organiza: Cátedra de Relaciones Internacionales  
UNIVERSIDAD PERUANA DE CIENCIAS APLICADAS



**IOI PR China** successfully launched the hybrid IOI China Training Programme on Ocean Governance, hosted by the National Marine Data and Information Service (NMDIS) of China, in Tianjin on August 29. For World Ocean Day, IOI China, in collaboration with host institute NMDIS, held an activity titled "Ocean Science in Schools", bringing the online lecture "Love the Beautiful Ocean" to primary school students. More than 2,000 teachers and students attended the live broadcast. A lecture on marine science was also delivered to the students of Tianjin Vocational and Technical University with the theme "Protecting the Marine Ecosystem" explaining the importance of protecting marine ecology from 4 aspects: "Blue Origin", "Generous Gift", "The Death of the Ocean" and "Protecting the Ocean". The China-ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Countries Training Course on Marine Information Technologies, 23 May - 2 June, was also held, online, with a total of 18 participants. More than 10 experts and scholars were invited to lecture on Ocean data processing and management, Ocean big data technology research and its application, and marine economic statistics, among others.

#### IOI PR China



**IOI Costa Rica** took part in two activities to mark World Oceans Day. Dr José Mauro Vargas Hernández, Director IOI Costa Rica, was invited as a speaker, in a three-day series of face-to-face talks organised by Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica (UNA) in collaboration with other partners, at Omar Dengo Campus (Heredia) and at the Marine Science Station (ECMAR). The main objective of

#### IOI Costa Rica

**JORNADA ACADÉMICA Y COMUNITARIA CONMEMORATIVA AL**  
**DÍA INTERNACIONAL DE LOS OCEANOS 2022**

**09 de Junio 2022**  
**FORO: UNA RED aportando a las costas y sus territorios**

 <b>Dr. Mauro Vargas</b> Departamento de física UNA	 <b>Lic. Gerardo Calero</b> Lab. Nacional de producción de semilla de ostra ECB-UNA	 <b>Lic. Óscar Pacheco</b> Lab. Nacional de producción de semilla de ostra ECB-UNA	 <b>Lic. Sidey Arias</b> Estación de Biología Marina ECB-UNA
 <b>Lic. Fabián Araya</b> Consultor	 <b>M.Sc. Rebeca Quesada</b> Estación de Biología Marina ECB-UNA	 <b>M.Sc. Grethel Ulate</b> Coordinadora de UNA Red Costera	 <b>M.Sc. Mario Hernández</b> Coordinador del PIC

these talks was to discuss outcomes of various works carried out by organisations and the coastal communities, problems, solutions, and challenges, while reflecting on communal experiences, so as to improve the quality of life of the coastal population of the country. Furthermore, Alejandro Gutiérrez, former Director IOI Costa Rica, published an informative article, in the UNA website news section, titled "World Ocean Day: A Space for the economy of the future"<sup>2</sup>

**IOI Egypt** organised a webinar on the 15 June. Dr Awni Behnam, Honorary President of the IOI, lectured on the Blue Economy and other distinguished speakers delivered talks on related topics. Questions and Answers followed, conducted by Dr Lamiaa Mohamedein, IOI Egypt Centre Director. 200 participants from 26 different local authorities participated in this webinar which generated a lot of feedback and interest in the subjects presented, post event. Another workshop was also organised at Hamed Gohar Great Theatre in the National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries (NIOF) Suez Branch, on 28 June, with 63 participants from various NIOF branches. Lectures were conducted by distinguished professors on the following topics: Plastic Litter and its Impact on the Marine Environment; Climate Change; Carbon Footprint in Coastal Cities; Renewable Energy Future in Coastal Cities; Reduction of Fish Hazards.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.unacomunica.una.ac.cr/index.php/junio-2022/4045-dia-mundial-del-oceano-un-espacio-para-la-economia-del-futuro>

## IOI Egypt



A workshop titled “The Egyptian Seas: Governance, Law, and Management for a Sustainable Future” was held at NIOF, Suez, 4-7 September. The training workshop lectures were delivered by 18 professors from NIOF, Arab Academy for Science Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTM), Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency and Suez University. The workshop focused on the Law of the Sea and the related conventions, the resources of the Egyptian seas, the different human impacts, blue economy concept and the integrated coastal zone management general idea. 27 participants received a certificate at the end of this training.

The training workshop, “Red Sea Sustainable Development: Governance, Resources, impacts and Management” was held at NIOF, Hurghada, 2-5 October, featuring 18 professors from NIOF, representatives from the Red Sea Ports Authority, Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency and Suez university to deliver lectures focused on the Law of the sea and related conventions, Red Sea resources and the impact of human activities, climate change, and management activities to conserve the environment. The participants engaged in a simulation about the sea boundaries and resources management and visited Hurghada International Seaport. 25 participants completed the course successfully and were rewarded with a certificate.

**IOI Germany** with the support of the host institute Leibniz-Zentrum für Marine Tropenforschung (ZMT) offered a Summer School, online, 19 - 30 September, consisting of an intensive academic programme providing a scientific basis from different disciplines (social and natural sciences) to enable the participants from different backgrounds to engage in marine governance, under the

guidance of leading experts and distinguished institutions. The structure of the course was a mixture of lectures to provide basic information on the topic and free discussion among participants.

For World Ocean Day, in a collaboration with IOI Germany, young marine scientists from ZMT replied to the question: “*What can we do to protect our oceans?*” In a video<sup>3</sup> prepared for World Oceans Day, they spoke about what each can do in our daily lives to safeguard our ocean. Senior researcher Sebastian Ferse was interviewed by a regional TV station on the future of coral reefs as input for a round table with World-Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and others. An op-ed<sup>4</sup>, by Raimund Bleischwitz, Director IOI Germany, on a plastic treaty, was published in around ten newspapers world-wide. ZMT also participated in AANChOR (All AtlaNtic Cooperation for Ocean Research and Innovation), 2nd Mangrove Future Das in Berlin, the 15th International Coral Reef Symposium in Bremen (ICRS 2022), a Summer School with the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS) in Senegal on “A mathematical modelling perspective on ecology, biodiversity and blue economy”, and with a session at the UN Ocean Conference in Lisbon.

## IOI Germany



<sup>3</sup> video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d9taceK9vLk>

<sup>4</sup> op-ed <https://www1.project-syndicate.org/commentary/international-treaty-on-ocean-governance-to-end-plastic-pollution-by-ramund-bleischwitz-1-2022-03>





IOI IR Iran

**IOI IR Iran** organised an online session on Ocean Governance, in collaboration with the Iranian National Institute for Oceanography and Atmospheric Science (INIOAS), on the 7 June, for Iranian Marine experts and students. The event was opened by a speech from Dr Mortaza Tavakoli, Director of INIOAS, and a video intervention from the President of IOI, Dr Mahin Faghfour. Topics covered by expert speakers, included: Necessities of teaching Ocean Governance at Universities; Political Dimension of Marine Space; Ocean Governance in Islamic Republic of Iran; Food security and Ocean Governance. Other activities held included a beach clean-up in Chabahar; Workshop for School Teachers on "Knowledge of Oceanography, tools, sampling and analysis methods", Nowshahr; two workshops for School Teachers on "Knowledge of Oceanography", in Bushehr and Hormozgan province; Session on Microplastics in Marine Environment (Online).

**IOI Malta** On 12 May, in connection with the IOI-supported Citizen Science initiatives "Spot the Alien Fish and the Spot the Jellyfish" a presentation of Ocean literacy initiatives was conducted in Malta, with a special emphasis on the citizen science campaigns, at the WESTMED project meeting held in Malta and attended by numerous local maritime stakeholders. In the context of this initiative, IOI Malta also took part in a jellyfish workshop on the 15 June, organised by the ISPRA through the delivery of the following topics presentations: *Jellyfish citizen science spotting efforts in Malta: Spot the Jellyfish experience*. A presentation on Spot the Alien Fish and Spot the Jellyfish Citizen Science campaigns, was delivered to schools (educators and students) and foreign project partners within a meeting organised by the University of Malta within the BlueSchoolsMed Erasmus+ project.

IOI Malta and the University of Malta – in addition to the full in-person training programme offered this year - successfully delivered the final accredited Study-Unit of the training programme, completing the suite of modules initially delivered as part of the online IOI Malta Regional Ocean Governance Course during the November 2021-February 2022 semester. 20 registered participants hailing from 13 different countries based in four different continents (Europe, Africa, Asia and South America) completed in this way the full IOI Malta course programme successfully. The 'Code Red for Humanity' hybrid seminar was held at the University's Valletta campus within the ambit of the Study-Unit just delivered, drawing on the emerging nexus between Climate, Ocean and Biodiversity thematics.



IOI Malta

For World Oceans Day, IOI Malta Director, Prof Alan Deidun organised two events in collaboration with the CORALLO project partners and the International Ocean Institute. The first took place at the Presidential Palace, Malta. The second event, held on the 17 July, was a national Ocean literacy competition, open to all students aged 5 to 16, with the aim of fostering greater awareness within the younger generation of the living and geological assets endowing Maltese Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) as well as promoting sustainable recreational activities within the same protected areas.

## IOI Nigeria



**IOI Nigeria** organised two main activities for World Ocean Day, a hybrid public lecture on the 8 June, focusing on three thematic areas of Ocean governance: Blue Economy, Marine Technology Transfer and Marine Pollution, and a beach clean-up at Marwa Beach, Oniru, Lagos, which also served for raising awareness and highlighting the problems of plastic pollution and marine debris in the marine environment. The members of the Marwa community and the volunteers were also presented with examples on upcycling plastics for furniture, ornaments and gardening and ways of generating income from various forms of waste for employment and empowerment.

**IOI South Africa** (IOI SA) ran the hybrid annual Ocean Governance Training Programme for Africa from the 5 – 30 September. With this came the resumption of field trips, interactive sessions and enhanced discussions and interactions. In addition IOI SA organised a workshop, in collaboration with the South African International Maritime Institute (SAIMI), on the 3 August, titled Women in

Maritime, as part of the Women's Month Celebrations, to explore the constraints that women face in entering and advancing in this historically male dominated field. The workshop brought together maritime professionals to discuss potential barriers to entry and gaps in capacity for women, with the aim of developing an action plan that will address these challenges – from awareness raising to capacity development. The workshop took place at SANBI offices in Cape Town, with approximately 25 participants from a range of South African maritime institutions.

IOI SA and WIOGEN (West Indian Ocean Governance Exchange Network) organised 7 micro workshops, exploring topic Ocean governance issues in the Western Indian Ocean.

In February, IOI SA signed a second agreement with FAO (Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations) to further develop and deliver training courses to promote implementation of the FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines). These included:

- A National 5-day Training Workshop in Lilongwe, Malawi in June entitled: Creating an Enabling Environment for Small Scale Fisheries guidelines Implementation. The objectives of the training event were to contribute toward the capacity development of relevant stakeholders, to support the development of the NPOA-SSF, and to contribute toward the creation of an enabling environment for implementation.

## IOI South Africa







IOI Thailand

- The finalisation of an eLearning course on the Governance of Small-scale Fisheries, launched at the 4th World Congress on SSF in Cape Town in November.
- A series of half-day training workshops aimed at FAO officials and partners with a specific focus on promoting the mainstreaming of SSF in FAO-linked projects and programmes. These were delivered virtually to participants in Africa (28 April); Asia (26 Aug); Latin America (29 Sept) (in Spanish); and the Caribbean (18 Oct). For the Latin America course, a facilitator was sourced through IOI LA.

**IOI Thailand** In collaboration with host institute, the Department of Marine and Coastal Resources and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, IOI Thailand co-organised a series of activities at Patong Beach, Phuket for World Ocean Day. The activities consisted of a Marine and Coastal environment exhibition, talks on marine endangered species rescue, and a rehabilitated turtle release activity.

#### IOI Focal Points

**IOI Chile Focal Point** and the Universidad Autónoma de Chile co-organised a seminar titled, “Oceans, Sustainability and Environment”, Hybrid, 25 October under the organisation of Dr Nicolás Ojeda, (Focal Point and IOI Alumnus, 2014, Malta) in order to provide important insights on the challenges and progress made regarding Ocean Governance at several levels (international, regional,



Chile Seminar 22

and national). This event was also supported by IOI Costa Rica, with a very interesting presentation about Blue Economy in Costa Rica. The event was open for students, academics, professionals, and the general public, and provided an important venue to learn about developments and international experiences. Based on the success of the first Seminar, more events of this kind are planned within Chile as well as further collaborations.

**IOI Cyprus Focal Point**, Prof Nicholas Kathijotes, was invited as a guest speaker in Cherating, Pahang, Malaysia, for the hybrid 10th Asian Conference on Environment-Behaviour Studies, AcE-Bs2022. Offered as part of the World Ocean Day celebrations, the topic for Dr Kathijotes’

presentation was “Collective Action Towards Clean and Sustainable Seas - A Blue Economy Approach” bringing up for discussion the great issue of Ocean protection in this critical region of the world. A Beach Clean-Up Campaign was also launched with a programme of clean-ups over several days in Cyprus between June and September, focussing on different popular beaches.

institute *Universiti Malaysia* Sabah and other partners, Borneo Marine Research Institute, Coral Triangle Initiative Sabah Branch, co-hosted an extensive one-month Ocean Celebrations for the annual World Oceans Day, Coral Triangle Day and World Sea Turtle Day. Various activities held included beach cleaning, webinars, art competitions and many more.

IOI Cyprus

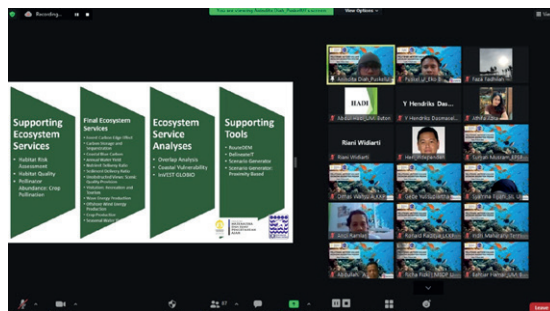


IOI Malaysia



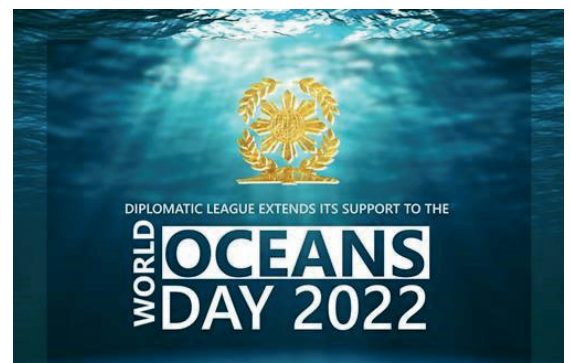
IOI Indonesia Focal Point held a webinar in June titled: *How to Maintain Coral Ecosystem in Tourism*. The aim of this event was to share information and knowledge, to local tourist guides, on coral conservation to help create more awareness among the tourists, who come to enjoy the Ocean beauty, on conservation of coral reefs.

IOI Indonesia



IOI Philippines Focal Point, Ambassador Jesus S Domingo, for World Ocean Day, visited the New Zealand National Institute for Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA), meeting NIWA Scientist, Mr Kevin Mackay, to discuss the conservation and protection of our oceans, to explore collaborations between IOI, the Philippines and New Zealand. Furthermore, the Diplomatic League, the Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs' Youth Engagement

IOI Philippines



IOI Japan Focal Point held a zoom meeting on the 8 June where participants shared very interesting reports on Integrated Coastal Management (ICM). Another activity was held on the 25 June which included a beach/seabed cleaning event in Gamagori City, Aichi Prefecture, held in collaboration with Gamagori City and Japan Justice Inc. A short video clip was prepared by Antonella Vassallo, Managing Director, IOI HQ, and Cosmin Chivu, Project Officer IOI HQ, for the students in Gamagori, during the ZOOM meeting accompanying this event.

IOI Malaysia Focal Point, Prof Sitti Raehanah M Shaleh, as in previous years, in collaboration with the host



## IOI: EMPOWERING OCEAN LEADERSHIP

50 years since the IOI was established by Elisabeth Mann Borgese as a knowledge-based, ocean-focused NGO in 1972

Platform, held an online dialogue with Filipino student leaders, moderated by Amb Domingo. The dialogue featured young leaders speaking on their experiences in Ocean and maritime advocacies.

**IOI Sri Lanka Focal Point** and Director of the local IOI Ocean Academy, Dr Aruna Maheepala, along with host institute the National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency (NARA) – Kalpitiya Regional research station and fishers’ cooperative, organised a beach clean-up activity at Kalpitiya (Puthlum fishery District) fish landing site used by small-scale fishers. Bins were provided to the fishers who agreed to maintain and use them in a sustainable manner to sort garbage for recycling and to prevent disposal into the environment. Dr Prabath Jayasinghe (head Kalpitiya Regional Station) and Mr Nuwan Tharanga helped coordinate the event.

### IOI Sri Lanka



**IOI USA Focal Point** Frank Muller-Karger organised an online workshop consisting of a set of sessions centred around marine life, in collaboration with the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS/Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission) and the GOOS Co-Design Programme, endorsed by the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, addressing Challenges 2, 7 and 9 of the 10 Ocean Decade Challenges.

### IOI’s 50th Anniversary: Events held by the IOI Centres to celebrate 50 years since the founding of IOI

- IOI Canada 2022 Elisabeth Mann Borgese Ocean Lecture, Dalhousie University, 19th May
- IOI South Africa online event “Showcasing IOI in Africa”, 4th August
- IOI China Regional Centre Alumni Workshop in Tianjin, held during the IOI Ocean Governance Training Programme for the Western Pacific Region, 7th September
- IOI Egypt, supported by host institute the National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries of Egypt, NIOF, organised a special event to celebrate this special year and to recognise the input and dedication of key local persons over the years, 1st November

### IOI Ocean Academy

Following the success of the pilot deliveries of the IOI Ocean Academy in 2021, the IOI Governing Board approved the formal launch of the programme globally, an official programme to celebrate the IOI’s 50th anniversary since foundation in 1972. This year, 25 courses were delivered as online modules, available free of charge, in local languages, offered by affiliated experts as an opportunity for all interested persons to increase their Ocean Literacy. IOI Ocean Academy Directors from IOI Centres, Focal Points and IOI Alumni delivered these IOI Ocean Academy courses via 12 IOI Ocean Academy nodes, in 10 languages: English, Dhivehi, Russian, Kazakh, Turkish, Arabic, Marathi, Spanish, Urdu and Portuguese.



Ocean Knowledge  
For All



## 2

## IOI TRAINING AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES IN 2022

Diane Axisa  
Secretary, IOI HQ

**OCEAN GOVERNANCE IN THE UN DECADE OF OCEAN SCIENCE: KEY ISSUES AND CHALLENGES; ONLINE, 11 APRIL – 2 JUNE, OFFERED FOR BOTH SYNCHRONOUS AND ASYNCHRONOUS PARTICIPATION; ORGANISED BY IOI CANADA**

Topics covered:

- Ocean Governance and Law of the Sea
- State of the Ocean; and Fisheries
- Aquaculture and Food Security



**9 participants from the countries surrounding the Caspian Sea, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, and IR Iran**

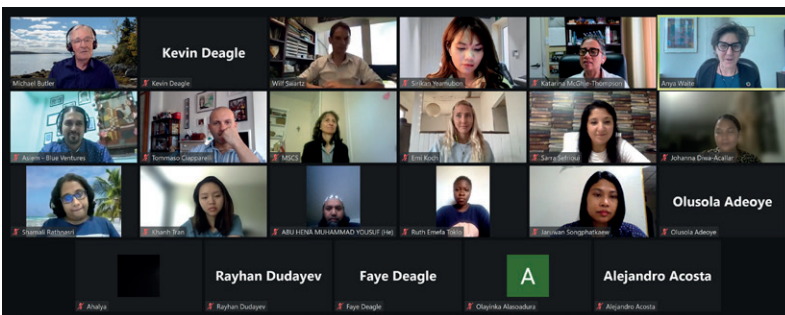
**IOI OCEAN GOVERNANCE TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC REGION; HYBRID, 29 AUGUST – 11 SEPTEMBER; OFFERED BY IOI CHINA WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE STATE OCEANIC ADMINISTRATION, MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES, PR CHINA**

Topics coverage:

- Ocean governance beyond national jurisdiction
- The international legal framework for Ocean governance
- Marine environment and ecosystem protection
- Integrated marine and coastal zone management
- Monsoon season and its social and ecological impacts
- The blue economy
- Key technologies and practices of marine dual assessment



**26 participants from eight countries, including China. Participants from Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore and Thailand followed the course lectures online, joined by their Chinese colleagues attending in person in Tianjin, PR China**



**24 live and 43 self-paced participants from Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Central America, Europe, the Indian Ocean, North and South America, and the South Pacific**

**8TH IOI TRAINING PROGRAMME ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND GOVERNANCE OF THE CASPIAN SEA; 16 - 27 MAY; ORGANISED BY IOI HQ IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CASPIAN SEA INSTITUTE OF TURKMENISTAN, IN TURKMENISTAN**

Topics covered:

- Oceans and Seas, Governance Frameworks
- Managing our relations with the oceans and seas
- Governance for the Caspian Sea

**9TH TRAINING PROGRAMME IN OCEAN GOVERNANCE FOR AFRICA; 5 – 30 SEPTEMBER; ORGANISED BY IOI SOUTHERN AFRICA IN CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA**

Topics coverage:

- Oceans and Coasts – Opportunities and Threats
- The Governance Framework
- Governance Tools
- Governance in Action
- Creating a Supportive Environment for Effective Governance



**17 participants from 10 countries surrounding the regional seas: Egypt, Lebanon, Russia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Iran, Turkmenistan, Malta, Italy and Turkey. 5 participants from last year's online Malta Training Programme joined the 3rd component of this year's programme, thus also attaining the full course credits**



**22 Participants from Cameroon, DRC, Ghana, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia, South African and Tanzania**

**16TH IOI TRAINING PROGRAMME ON REGIONAL OCEAN GOVERNANCE FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN, BLACK, BALTIC AND CASPIAN SEAS; 7 NOVEMBER – 7 DECEMBER; OFFERED BY IOI MALTA AND THE UNIVERSITY OF MALTA, IN MALTA**

Topics coverage:

- Global Ocean Governance Framework and Managing Our Relations with the Oceans
- Managing Marine Space and its Potential as an Economic Resource
- Multilateral Diplomacy and International Rule-Making, and Regional Sea Governance

**AWARD OF THE 2022 IOI ELISABETH MANN BORGESE (EMB) BURSARY; MALTA, 30 SEPTEMBER**

The 2022 EMB Bursary was awarded to Ede Kossári-Tarnik, to carry out a preliminary quantitative and qualitative investigation of microplastics sampled from Maltese nearshore waters. The work to be covered by the EMB Bursary formed part of a Master of Science in Geosciences (by research) and aimed to uncover the current extent of the plastic polymer contamination within Maltese coastal waters as well as the degree of variability in the distribution of microplastics within different layers of the water column, according to their density, shape and size. The Bursary was used to fund and enhance the current research work by supporting additional sampling sites, and to extend the scope and range of chemical analyses. All equipment bought with these funds will be available for use at the University of Malta after the research period and recognised as a donation from the IOI.



L-R: Prof A Deidun, Pro-Rector Prof J Cacciattolo, Ms A Vassallo, Mr Ede Kossári-Tarnik (EMB2022 awardee), Prof L Cassar, Mr J Cauchi (EMB2021 awardee)



## 3

## IOI ALUMNI NETWORK AND PROGRAMMES IN 2022

Cosmin Chivu  
Project Officer IOI HQ

Since its foundation in 1972, IOI has trained hundreds of young practitioners, particularly from developing countries and countries in transition, and contributes towards a growing global network of trained and empowered leaders fully conversant with the latest developments in ocean governance. IOI Alumni have the knowledge, skills, and attitudes essential for effective ocean governance, and are empowered to apply contemporary approaches to coastal and ocean management. Over the years, the IOI training programmes in ocean governance have resulted in a critical mass of IOI Alumni and a global network of practitioners in ocean governance.

Engagement with and outreach to the IOI Alumni community continued over the year using mainly online events, since this was the principally agreed mode for interaction with the global community of IOI alumni.

### THE IOI ALUMNI CHANNEL

The IOI Alumni Channel accessed via the IOI's website (<https://www.ioinst.org/ioi-alumni/>) continues to offer a platform for the exchange and interaction of IOI

alumni, faculty and training directors. Usage of the site continues with more Alumni sharing career opportunities and news, and with successive cohorts of graduands from IOI training events registering as members.

### CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD) SERIES

IOI HQ spearheaded the global programme of online meetings targeting IOI Alumni with the principal intent of providing continuous professional development (CPD), increasing interaction and taking advantage of networks of expertise in the topic areas among different IOI Alumni cohorts and external experts. These efforts were greatly augmented by the efforts undertaken by the IOI network centres, who throughout 2022 enhanced the network of partnerships with local stakeholders and interested IOI Alumni to incentivise Alumni engagement. Overall, this year's events built on from 2021, with the provision of webinars, seminars and meetings on emerging topics in Ocean Governance:

#### **WEBINAR: Was 2022 truly the Ocean Super Year we hoped for? An online debate with ECOPs and Ocean experts; 25 November**

During this 90-min webinar hosted by the IOI and the ECOP Programme of IOC UNESCO, expert speakers engaged in a lively debate with ECOPs, IOI Alumni and Ocean experts on whether 2022 was truly the Ocean Super Year we hoped for.

The IOI was represented by two speakers at this event, with Antonella Vassallo and Awni Behnam sharing their experiences and insights on two major Ocean events that took place in 2022 - the UN Ocean Conference, and the Fifth Session of the IGC on an Internationally Legally

Binding Instrument under UNCLOS respectively. The third speaker, Ms Angélique Pouponneau, delivered a presentation on the outcomes of COP27, that had recently concluded in Sharm el-Sheikh Egypt in November. Introductions and moderation was done by Evgeniia Kostianaia (ECOP Programme Global Coordinator and Alumna of the 2019 IOI Malta Training Programme) and Cosmin Chivu (IOI HQ Project Officer, IOI alumna, Malta 2014).

**IOI Special Seminar: Ocean Governance - A Legacy Interrupted; 30th November, in Malta and via online streaming during the IOI Malta Training Programme**

The premise of the seminar highlighted the global concerns regarding the impasse in the sustainable management of the Ocean and how the future of Ocean governance depends on the effectiveness of holistic, cooperative management, and importantly, requires urgent and sustained action to address complex marine issues. Expert speakers brought attention to the latest developments in these areas while focusing on the interlinkages of climate change, biodiversity, the wellbeing of the Ocean and the subsequent interdependent impacts on humankind. This seminar was attended by the invited public, faculty and participants, and additionally by IOI Alumni following through the streaming link, who also engaged in the lively Q & A session that took place in the second half of the seminar.

**Besides these two hallmark events, a set of other online and hybrid events organised by the IOI were also explicitly disseminated to the IOI alumni so as to offer opportunities for attendance and to enhance knowledge outreach:**

- IOI hybrid side-event during UNCTAD's 4th Oceans Forum on Trade-Related Aspects of Sustainable Development Goal 14; Reflections on the Bridgetown Covenant and UNCTAD 15 outcomes: The role of knowledge-based institutions in achieving common aims through capacity development, 6th April; Organised as an event of the IOI's 50th Anniversary Celebrations.



- Thematic Session 2A: Resilient cities and coastal areas: policies, technologies and practices, at the upcoming 17th Annual Session of Global Forum on Human Settlements (GFHS) (online, 15 - 16 December).
- The provision of two special Ocean Governance courses for Early Career Ocean Professionals (ECOPs) from Africa in partnership with the ECOP Programme, an endorsed Action of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, IOC-UNESCO. The events were funded through the generous support of the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation. The central administration of the programme was carried out by the IOI Secretariat in Malta and implemented through the training Centre of IOI in South Africa:
  - Training Workshop on Basic Concepts of Ocean Governance for Early Career Ocean Professionals - focus on the African Seas; Online, 1, 3, 8 and 10 November;
  - IOI Training Workshop on Basic Concepts of Ocean Governance for Early Career Ocean Practitioners, with a focus on the African Seas; Online, 29 and 31 March; 5 and 7 April.
- Additionally, and exclusively for the IOI Alumni in China, the IOI China Training Centre organised the:
  - IOI China Regional Centre Celebrated the IOI's 50th anniversary with an Alumni Workshop in Tianjin; Hybrid Event, 7th September.

## 4

## IOI OCEAN ACADEMY PROGRAMME

Antonella Vassallo  
 Managing Director, IOI HQ  
 Cosmin Chivu  
 Project Officer, IOI HQ



 A banner with a background image of a sunset over the ocean. The text "Ocean Knowledge For All" is written in a white, clean sans-serif font, centered on the right side of the banner.
 

Ocean Knowledge  
For All

*Ocean literacy is an understanding of the ocean's influence on you - and your influence on the ocean. An ocean-literate person understands the essential principles and fundamental concepts about the functioning of the ocean; can communicate about the ocean in a meaningful way; and is able to make informed and responsible decisions regarding the ocean and its resources<sup>5</sup>.*

The purpose of the IOI Ocean Academy – launched as a hallmark event to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the IOI in 2022 - is to increase IOI's outreach through the implementation of regular IOI Ocean Academy Courses and thus expand the traditional IOI training portfolio and audience by offering Ocean literacy programmes online. The target audience for these IOI Ocean Academy Courses may be defined as interested persons.

An IOI Ocean Academy Course is designed to upgrade the Ocean literacy of the target lay audience by providing an understanding of regionally and locally relevant Ocean information at an appropriate level. The IOI Ocean Academy Courses address specific regional needs and have a clear link to Ocean Governance and the IOI mission.

The online IOI Ocean Academy Courses are offered under the oversight of the IOI and implemented by local partners who may be either IOI Alumni or other competent and knowledgeable individuals or persons having a proven relation to IOI. The online IOI Ocean Academy Courses are offered at no financial cost to registered participants.

**An IOI Ocean Academy Course is designed to provide regionally and locally relevant Ocean information delivered by local experts:**

- 20-hour modules delivered online;
- in local languages;
- free-of-charge for participants;
- Ocean knowledge that is locally relevant;
- overseen by the IOI and implemented by local experts.

**On completing the module, an IOI Ocean Academy Course participant will:**

- gain a basic understanding of the Ocean;
- learn about the importance of Ocean governance, sustainable and equitable human use, the principle of the common heritage of humankind, respecting the needs of future generations, all in locally relevant context;
- be empowered to become more active locally as stakeholders to positively influence their communities and beyond.

<sup>5</sup> <https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/education/literacy.html>

Ocean Academy Node	2022 IOI Ocean Academy modules Online	Dates	Language
<b>Costa Rica</b>	Coastal Risk Literacy for Stakeholders	5 - 16 Sep	Spanish
<b>Egypt</b>	Contribution of Sustainable development goals to marine environmental conservation	17 Jul - 7 Aug	Arabic
	Contribution of Sustainable development goals to marine environmental conservation	13 Nov - 4 Dec	Arabic
<b>India</b>	Ocean Literacy: Know Your Planet Beyond the Land	22 Mar - 4 Apr	English/Hindi
	Ocean Literacy: Know Your Planet Beyond the Land	12 - 23 Dec	English/Hindi
<b>Kazakhstan</b>	Marine Environmental Issues of the Caspian Sea and Potential Solutions	26 Mar - 24 Apr	Russian/Kazakh
	Marine Environmental Issues of the Caspian Sea and Potential Solutions	15 - 22 Oct	Russian/Kazakh
<b>Maldives</b>	Marine Security Issues for the Maldives	10 May - 23 Jun	Dhivehi
	Fair Treatment of Seafarers	10 - 22 Dec	Dhivehi
<b>Nigeria</b>	Ocean Knowledge for Sustainable Use, Exploitation and Conservation of Resources	6 - 15 Sep	English
<b>Pakistan</b>	Need For Understanding Linkage Between Oceans And Climate For Sustenance Of Life, Livelihood And Food Security With Special Reference To Pakistan	10 - 25 Aug	English/Urdu
	Conservation and governance of Oceans to sustain Life, Livelihood and Climate with reference to Pakistan	15 - 28 Sep	English/Urdu
	Judicious utilisation of blue resources to sustain life, livelihood and Climate for future generations with special reference to Pakistan - Role of Ocean Literacy	20 Oct - 4 Nov	English/Urdu
	Role of the Ocean in Preserving Climate and Sustenance of Life, Livelihood and Food Security with Special Reference to Pakistan	13 - 23 Dec	English/Urdu
<b>Portugal</b>	Navigate The Portuguese Sea	3 Oct - 11 Nov	Portuguese
<b>Singapore</b>	The Ocean, Our Source of Life of Life and Livelihood	21 Mar - 12 Apr	English
	The Ocean, Our Source of Life of Life and Livelihood	12 – 31 May	English
	The Ocean, Our Source of Life of Life and Livelihood	11 - 22 Jul	English
	The Ocean, Our Source of Life of Life and Livelihood	21 Oct - 3 Nov	English
<b>South Africa</b>	South Africa's Ocean and Opportunities in the Blue Economy	10 - 25 Aug	English
<b>Turkey</b>	Conservation and Sustainability of the Marine Environment in Turkish Seas	4 Apr - 15May	Turkish
	Conservation and Sustainability of the Marine Environment in Turkish Seas	17 Nov - 8 Dec	Turkish
<b>Ukraine</b>	Sustainable Coastal Tourism Development and Ocean Governance	29 Apr - 31 May	English
	Sustainable Coastal Tourism Development and Ocean Governance	17 Nov - 8 Dec	English

**In 2022, there was a roll-out and implementation of a total of:**

- 25 IOI Ocean Academy programmes offered globally
- 12 IOI Ocean Academy nodes
- in 10 languages
- for an audience of more than 900 persons.

The IOI Ocean Academy programme was carried out with IOI partner and Alumni from India, Kazakhstan, Maldives, Pakistan, Portugal, Singapore, Turkey, and Ukraine, as well as with the support of the IOI Centres in Costa Rica, Egypt, Nigeria, South Africa.

**Online Presence for the IOI Ocean Academy globally, social media**


In addition to the work to create and backstop effective partnerships, a complete online home for the project was set up <https://www.ioinst.org/ioi-ocean-academy-1/>. And the creation of a new logo for the IOI Academy, as part of the project branding and outreach.

The home site is always up to date with information on forthcoming events, registration forms and reporting, and inclusion of languages other than English makes this an especially effective marketing mechanism. Each IOI Ocean Academy open for registration is prominently shown on the Academy website, advertised in the IOInforma and reported on in the IOI e-bulletin so as to increase exposure of the programme and the opportunities to get involved.

**Marketing Bootcamp, network skills upgrading**

The Secretariat also coordinated and offered an online bootcamp for the Directors of the global IOI Ocean Academies "*Digital Marketing basics - Getting the most from your efforts!*" on the 20th July. The workshop introduced the basics of effective digital marketing strategy, allowing for effective discussion on issues identified so far, and highlighting ways to expand easily actionable good practices.






## Ocean Knowledge For All

**We need a healthy Ocean to survive.** But our Ocean is in trouble, and so are we. Understanding the individual human and collective impact on the Ocean and its impact on our lives and livelihoods can encourage and empower people to act in a positive way to preserve our Ocean and use it more sustainably. Increased Ocean literacy lays the foundations for more informed decision-making at all levels. An online IOI Ocean Academy provides regionally and locally relevant Ocean knowledge so that interested persons can understand basic ocean processes, the interaction between Ocean, climate, human activities and livelihoods now and in a changing future. **The IOI Academy Courses are:**

- 20-hour modules delivered online
- In local languages
- Free-of-charge for participants
- Ocean knowledge that is locally relevant
- Overseen by the IOI and implemented by local experts

**Sign up to an IOI Ocean Academy today, and be empowered with the knowledge to become more active in favour of Ocean protection and sustainable use.**


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Contribution of Sustainable Development goals to Marine Environmental Conservation

3 - 24 December 2023


[Register](#)



Critical Role of Oceans for Sustaining Climate and Life on Earth with Special Reference to Maritime Community of Pakistan

3-12 January 2024

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Conservation and Sustainability of the Marine Environment in Turkish Seas

22 October - 23 November 2023

[Learn more](#)









## 5

## SPECIAL EVENTS IN 2022



### IOI: EMPOWERING OCEAN LEADERSHIP

50 years since the IOI was established by Elisabeth Mann Borgese as a knowledge-based, ocean-focused NGO in 1972

2022 was significant to the IOI as the 50th anniversary year of the IOI since foundation by Elisabeth Mann Borgese, and thus several special events were organised globally to celebrate and support the IOI's first fifty years, not least the IOI Ocean Academy, endorsed by the IOI Governing Board as an important new programme on Ocean Literacy to complement the IOI's portfolio of Ocean capacity development.

The special events reported in this chapter celebrate the many achievements of the IOI over the past decades, shine a spotlight on the current efforts of the IOI globally, and underscore the way forward for the IOI network activities in the pursuit of its mission based on the strong foundations of Elisabeth Mann Borgese's vision.

**THE IOI OCEAN ACADEMY: OCEAN KNOWLEDGE FOR ALL, LAUNCHED AS A MAJOR ACTIVITY OF THE IOI'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY, AND AN IMPORTANT NEW PROGRAMME ON OCEAN LITERACY TO COMPLEMENT THE IOI'S PORTFOLIO OF OCEAN CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT.**

The IOI Ocean Academy was launched as part of the IOI's 50th Anniversary Celebrations with pilot courses in 2021 paving the way for a fully-fledged launch of global academies in 2022 to mark this special year. Under its slogan of "Ocean Knowledge for All", the IOI Ocean Academy focuses on making Ocean literacy accessible to an international audience from all walks of life. By providing regionally and locally relevant, entry-level online education programmes, the IOI Ocean Academy enables interested laypersons to acquire the skills and knowledge needed to understand the complexities of the Ocean and its local and global effects, now and in a changing future, laying the foundations for more informed understanding and personal daily decision-making. The first year of programme resulted in the successful delivery of 25 IOI Ocean Academy programmes offered globally by 12 IOI Ocean Academy Directors, in 10 languages, and reaching a global audience of more than 900 persons.







**LOGO AND POSTAGE STAMPS COMMISSIONED TO COMMEMORATE THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF IOI, IOI@50 COMMEMORATIVE WEBSITE LAUNCHED 1972 - 2022**

A special sector of the IOI website was designed and launched to provide a visual and summarised account of important developments in the IOI's activities since launch in 1972. It is our intention that these web pages shall be retained and updated frequently to provide a constantly evolving record of the IOI and its programmes and achievements.

As part of the IOI@50 celebrations, postage stamps were commissioned using the special IOI@50 logo created for use in 2022 by the IOI network globally.



Members of the IOI Governing Board and the IOI Secretariat with the President of Malta, HE George Vella



**COLLOQUIUM ON THE OCCASION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL OCEAN INSTITUTE (IOI); 1972 – 2022 UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF MALTA, 12TH DECEMBER**

The year-long celebrations of the IOI's 50th Anniversary came to a fitting close with a significant event hosted by HE George Vella, President of the Republic of Malta, at the Presidential Palace of San Anton in Malta. The Colloquium was an opportunity for the President and guest speakers to review the 50-year history of the IOI and to reflect on the Institute's very close links with Malta and the adoption of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea. During the event, high level addresses were given by Dr A Behnam – Honorary President of the IOI, HE Simone Borg – Ambassador for Climate Action, Malta and Representative of the Government of Malta to the IOI Governing Board, and HE Karmenu Vella – Former European Commissioner for Environment, Marine Affairs and Fisheries, followed by an address from HE President Vella to the IOI Governing Board members and invitees.

President Vella remarked that “Malta is a proud host to the IOI and, over the years, has afforded diplomatic status to this flagship organisation..... On this occasion, it is very fitting to applaud the work done by Professor Elisabeth Mann Borgese, Ambassador Arvid Pardo, and Ambassador Saviour Borg in this domain among others.” Furthermore “Nowadays, the IOI is globally renowned as an early pioneer in the struggle to protect the Ocean and ocean communities of island and

developing states..... Even more broadly this institute has remained a prominent contributor to Malta's highly respected standing in multilateral circles and acted in a concrete and longstanding commitment to a principle-driven agenda that promotes the collective global good. The IOI can rest assured of Malta's continued commitment and support in fulfilling its mission in the future.”

**IOI@50: PRESENTATION OF A TOKEN OF APPRECIATION FROM IOI TO HE GEORGE VELLA, PRESIDENT OF MALTA; 17TH JUNE**

During a ceremony at the Presidential Palace in Malta, the IOI Honorary President Dr Awni Behnam – via video message – conveyed to HE George Vella, President of Malta, the IOI's recognition and appreciation for hosting the IOI HQ over the first fifty years of its existence, building on the crucial legacy of Malta's Ambassador to the UN, HE Arvid Pardo, together with IOI's founder Elisabeth Mann Borgese, in the progress and ratification of UNCLOS. Dr Behnam also gratefully noted the



A Vassallo, Managing Director, IOI HQ presenting a token of appreciation to HE George Vella



important support of then Foreign Minister Dr Vella, who through Malta's support in the UNGA, provided crucial support to Elisabeth Mann Borgese in her quest to create an inclusive forum to address Ocean-related challenges to the UN General Assembly, eventually giving rise to the Open-ended Informal Consultative Process. On behalf of the IOI and its Board of Governors, a token gift of appreciation was presented to HE President Vella by IOI Managing Director Antonella Vassallo .

**SPECIAL SEMINAR: OCEAN GOVERNANCE - A LEGACY INTERRUPTED;**  
**HYBRID, AULA MAGNA, UNIVERSITY OF MALTA,**  
**VALLETTA CAMPUS, 30TH NOVEMBER**



As part of the annual IOI Training Programme on Regional Ocean Governance for the Mediterranean, Black, Baltic and Caspian Seas, organised by IOI Malta, the IOI organised this year's high-profile hybrid seminar in the context of three interlinked anniversaries: fifty-five years since Malta through its Ambassador Arvid Pardo, called upon the Membership of the UN to undertake a reform of the Law of the Sea; fifty years since Professor Elisabeth Mann Borgese founded the International Ocean Institute as a knowledge-based institution and as a thinktank in support of the negotiations of UNCLOS; and forty years since the adoption of UNCLOS by the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea.

The premise of the seminar highlighted the global concerns regarding the current impasse in the sustainable management of the Ocean and how the future of Ocean governance depends on the effectiveness of holistic,

cooperative management, and most importantly, urgent and sustained action to address complex marine issues. Expert speakers brought attention to the latest developments in these areas while focusing on interlinkages of climate change, biodiversity, the wellbeing of the Ocean and the subsequent interdependent impacts on humankind. This seminar was attended by the invited public, and faculty and participants of the Malta Training Programme class of 2022, comprising early career Ocean professionals from the coastal states of the regional seas. The class - encouraged by the recent statements of UN Secretary General António Guterres, highlighting the challenges to humanity for a sustainable Ocean - prepared a message which emphasised the critical nature of the nexus of Ocean and climate change and examined the legacy of 40 years since the adoption of UNCLOS. The message was presented on behalf of the class of 2022 by Ms Chiara Mondaini.

**IOI SIDE-EVENT DURING UNCTAD'S 4TH OCEANS FORUM ON TRADE-RELATED ASPECTS OF SDG14 REFLECTIONS ON THE BRIDGETOWN COVENANT AND UNCTAD 15 OUTCOMES: THE ROLE OF KNOWLEDGE-BASED INSTITUTIONS IN ACHIEVING COMMON AIMS THROUGH CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT, 6TH APRIL; PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA AND ONLINE**



Under the UNCTAD15 theme “From inequality and vulnerability to prosperity for all” and guided by Agenda 2030 and the pursuit of the SDGs, Member States of UNCTAD endorsed the Bridgetown Covenant which highlights that preservation of the planet needs to take place both on land and sea and calls for a greater understanding and clearer definition of the Ocean's economy in line with the SDGs.

The programmes and achievements of the IOI's pentadecadal Ocean commitment invited reflection on their synergies with the Bridgetown Covenant and UNCTAD 15

outcomes and served to highlight the role of civil society stakeholders in achieving common aims towards Agenda 2030 and beyond.

Welcome remarks were delivered by Awni Behnam, Honorary President, IOI, followed by a video keynote message from Dona Bertarelli, Special Adviser for the Blue Economy, UNCTAD. Distinguished panellists included: HE Chad Blackman, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Barbados to the UN and Other International Organizations in Geneva and Chair of the Group of 77 for 2022; HE Luis Vayas Valdivieso, Vice-Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ecuador; Peter Leder, Member, IOI Governing Board; Miho Shirotori, Acting Director, Division of International Trade and Commodities, UNCTAD. The panel was moderated by Antonella Vassallo, Managing Director, IOI.

**WEBINAR: WAS 2022 TRULY THE "OCEAN SUPER YEAR" WE HOPED FOR?  
ONLINE 25TH NOVEMBER**



During this 90-min webinar hosted by the IOI and the ECOP Programme, expert speakers engaged with Early career Ocean Practitioners (ECOPs) and Ocean experts in a lively debate on whether 2022 was truly the hoped-for Ocean Super Year.

The conclusions of the audience to the question “was 2022 the Super Year for the Ocean that you hoped for?” was that unfortunately, the year fell short of the initial expectations with most respondents mentioning that “*Outcomes from these events and negotiations fell short of expectations*” (68%) and that “*more needs to be done to include meaningful*

*civil society participation*” (48%), while others considered that “*there was not enough stakeholder participation*” (19%). This event formed part of the IOI’s Continuing Professional Development Series, and IOI’s commitment to enhancing the professional development of IOI Alumni.

**CHALLENGES OF SUSTAINABLE BLUE ECONOMY IN MARINE TRADE, SCIENCE AND AQUACULTURE  
A SESSION ORGANISED BY THE IOI AS A SPECIAL EVENT OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INSTITUTE DURING THE [VIRTUAL] INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MARINE SCIENCE AND AQUACULTURE (VICOMSA); 8TH MARCH, ONLINE**



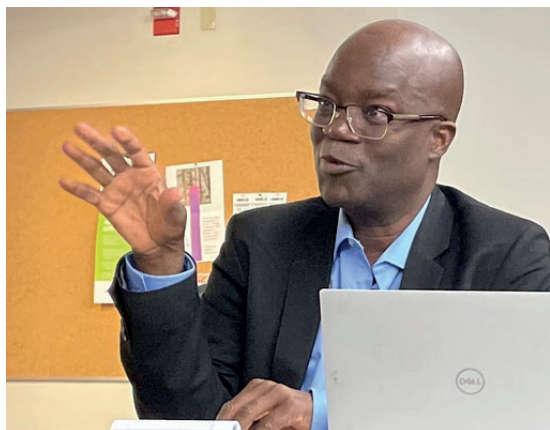
Invited expert speakers focussed their presentations with the intent to develop and emphasise the importance of a sustainable Blue Economy in Marine Science and Aquaculture, focussing on topics relevant to the thematics of marine science, fisheries, aquaculture, the Blue Economy and sustainability.

**IOI NETWORK 50TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS**

**IOI CANADA 2022 ELISABETH MANN BORGESSE OCEAN LECTURE,  
19TH MAY, DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY**

The evening began with an introductory online presentation from German author Tirza Meyer (KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm) based on her





Prof Rashid Sumaila delivering the keynote speech

new book, *Elisabeth Mann Borgese and the Law of the Sea*. The keynote address was given by award-winning academic, researcher and author, Rashid Sumaila, Professor and Canada Research Chair in Interdisciplinary Ocean and Fisheries Economics, University of British Columbia, who focused on Canada's Oceans and Coasts: Pathways to Sustainability in a Sea of Change. Moderated by IOI Canada Senior Research Fellow Ratana Chuenpagdee (Memorial University of Newfoundland and TBTI Partnership), a panel of discussants then reflected on the presentation and associated issues with Megan Bailey (Dalhousie University), Robert Rangeley (Oceana) and Nancy Shackell (Fisheries and Oceans Canada) providing the perspectives of academia, eNGOs and government respectively.

#### **IOI SOUTH AFRICA ONLINE EVENT "SHOWCASING IOI IN AFRICA", 4TH AUGUST**

The IOI centres in Africa came together for a virtual event to highlight the achievements of IOI activities in Africa. IOI Nigeria, IOI Egypt and IOI Southern Africa (IOISA) each shared what their centres are actively involved in, from training to Ocean literacy initiatives and marine pollution interventions; IOI works throughout Africa to try to create awareness and improve the capacity of those working in Ocean governance on the continent. The three centres have many overlapping interests and building on successful collaborations in the past opened the door for more opportunities going forward. Mika Odido (IOC-UNESCO) presented on the activities of the Ocean Decade and how Ocean literacy and Ocean governance capacity



development and the opportunities for African initiatives to engage more fully with the UN Ocean Decade and IOC UNESCO. Abdoulaye Diagana congratulated IOI on its 50th anniversary and expressed gratitude for the support IOI has been able to provide the Abidjan Convention over the years, including those with IOI SA through the MAMI WATA project.

#### **IOI CHINA REGIONAL CENTRE CELEBRATES THE IOI'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY WITH AN ALUMNI WORKSHOP IN TIANJIN; HYBRID EVENT, 7TH SEPTEMBER HELD DURING THE IOI OCEAN GOVERNANCE TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC REGION**

The National Marine Data and Information Service (NMDIS, host institute of IOI China) of China held a workshop for the alumni of the IOI China Centre to celebrate



IOI China Regional Centre celebrating the 50th Anniversary of IOI

the fifty-year anniversary of IOI as well as the twenty eighth anniversary of the IOI China Regional Centre. More than 70 people attended the hybrid event, including IOI alumni, participants of this year's Ocean Governance Training Course and special guests such as Dr Awni Behnam (Honorary President of IOI), Dr Shi Suixiang (Director-General of the NMDIS, and IOI Governing Board member) and Ms Chen Danhong, Director-General of the Department of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR). The workshop had the honour to invite outstanding Chinese IOI Alumni to share the impacts of IOI experiences on their careers. Mr Zhu Wenxi, head of UNESCO-IOC Sub-Commission for Western Pacific (WESTPAC), and an alumnus of the IOI Canada Training Programme in 1998, was invited to deliver a keynote presentation entitled "Intergovernmental Ocean Cooperation and the United Nations Ocean Decade".

#### IOI EGYPT CELEBRATES THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF IOI UNDER THE AUSPICES OF ITS HOST INSTITUTE NIOF, 1ST NOVEMBER

IOI Egypt, supported by host institute the National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries of Egypt, organised a special gathering to recognise the input and dedication of key local persons over the years. More than 127 guests including lecturers, IOI alumni and NIOF professors celebrated this event showcasing the activities of IOI Egypt over the years. Following this, Prof Amr Hamouda honoured the persons significantly supporting IOI Egypt by presenting Shields of Honour to each.



IOI Egypt Centre Director, Dr Lamiaa Mohamedein with professors from NIOF

#### OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS IN 2022

##### UNITED NATIONS OCEAN CONFERENCE, 27TH JUNE - 1ST JULY, LISBON

As an organization in special consultative status with ECOSOC, the IOI was represented at this event by a delegation consisting of three persons: Antonella Vassallo, Managing Director IOI HQ, Peter Leder, IOI Governing Board member, Cosmin Chivu, Project Officer, IOI HQ. The work of the IOI at the Ocean Conference built on the earlier meetings held in the preparatory phase and partnerships forged along the years and most recently UNCTAD's 4th Oceans Forum. During the Ocean Conference, IOI maximised the opportunity to contribute to the proceedings



A Vassallo, Managing Director, IOI HQ, delivering her presentation at one of the side events

in many ways.

- IOI joined partner organisations for two side events
- *From Ocean knowledge to action - developing capacity to create a sustainable Ocean economy.* Altice Arena, 30 June
- *Building a Bridge between Science and Sustainable Action in Managing Impacts of Non-Indigenous Species in the Mediterranean Sea; Lisbon, Pavilion of Knowledge, 28 June*
- Submission of a third Voluntary Commitment from the IOI: #OceanAction45943: IOI Ocean Academy – Ocean Knowledge for all

Placing its experience, commitment, and expertise at the service of the oceans community to achieve SDG14, the IOI, has this year, on its 50th Anniversary, submitted a new commitment #45943, is the lead partner in commitment #41327 and a partner also in #41315; the latter two submitted for the first Ocean Conference in 2017 and upheld by the IOI since then.

- Submission of a Statement to the UN Ocean Conference on the importance of Early Career Ocean Professionals (and IOI Alumni) to achieving Agenda 2030 and the vision of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development: A Written Statement was submitted jointly to UN Ocean Conference by the IOI and ECOP Programme .



**IOI WAS REPRESENTED AT THE EAST ASIA SUMMIT WORKSHOP ON MARITIME COOPERATION: TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION TOWARDS CLEAN, HEALTHY AND SUSTAINABLE OCEAN; 30 AUGUST - 1ST SEPTEMBER MANILA, PHILIPPINES**

Member countries of the East Asia Summit (EAS) reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthen regional cooperation towards clean, healthy, and sustainable oceans at a three-day workshop in Manila, hosted by the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Antonella Vassallo, Managing Director IOI HQ, delivered a presentation on “*Science-based Policy Making on Marine Sustainability: The Need for Informed Policy in*



A Vassallo, Managing Director, IOI HQ

*Negotiations*”. The presentation focused on Ocean literacy and its importance across all levels of stakeholders on marine and ocean issues and how the nexus between ocean literacy and governance would generate science-based decisions in Ocean governance leading to better policies. It is the nexus of knowledge and science application in universal rule making that determines the path to governance, compliance, and enforcement. As the representative of IOI, she underscored the participation mechanisms and capacity development opportunities implemented and overseen by IOI at different scales, such as the provision of training programmes on regional ocean governance, and the global IOI Ocean Academy programme. Through these initiatives, participants can be empowered to become more active locally as stakeholders to positively influence their communities and beyond to create a cohort of Ocean-literate decision makers at all levels, increasing regional coherence in policy making and cooperation, empowering pro-Ocean activities, and increasing awareness of the Ocean-Climate-Biodiversity interlinkage.

**IOI IS REPRESENTED AT THE TWENTY-SECOND MEETING OF THE UN ICP ON OCEANS AND THE LAW OF THE SEA: "OCEAN OBSERVING", 6 - 10 JUNE 2022**

The United Nations Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (ICP) was held at UN Headquarters in New York from 6–10 June on the theme: Ocean Observing. This was the first in person meeting of the ICP since the onset of the pandemic and Ms Liliana Rodriguez Cortes, Delegate of the IOI to the UN HQ, represented IOI during the first day of the meeting.



Ms Liliana Rodriguez Cortes, Delegate of the IOI to the UN HQ

*“We jointly recognise the importance of bidirectional mentoring between career-stages and sectors, which has been identified as a key common priority for ECOPs across regions, alongside increased funding and community cohesion. Through regional surveys, the ECOP Programme pinpointed contextual needs and challenges for ECOPs all over the world, helping to tailor the right kind of capacity development initiatives for knowledge production and sharing. The IOI will leverage these insights to provide innovative and equitable learning opportunities to the next generation of Ocean leaders.”*

**Antonella Vassallo, Managing Director, IOI HQ**



## 6

## INSTITUTE MANAGEMENT 2022

Antonella Vassallo  
 Managing Director, IOI  
 Peter Leder  
 Treasurer, IOI

### Report of the IOI Managing Director Antonella Vassallo

2022 was another year full of activity for the IOI with the main thrust of the IOI programmes and activities shaped by two main aspects. In the first place, the year was dedicated by the IOI Governing Board and Network to the commemoration and celebration of the achievements of 50 years since the IOI was established by Elisabeth Mann Borgese in 1972. Secondly, the new Ocean-focussed impetus and energy that arising from an increasingly global recognition of the importance of the Ocean and its links to Climate modulation, generated interest and new opportunities for Ocean communities world-wide, not least the IOI.

These developments spurred the IOI even further in its mission to reach out and develop capacity in professional and lay Ocean stakeholders alike. The IOI foresight to encourage hybrid-style training where suitable, as well as to encourage innovative thinking around programme delivery was critical in enabling the delivery of a rich programme of training and outreach events by the IOI globally. Thanks to the concrete actions of the IOI network and partners, our goals were achieved in spite of practical difficulties and the competitive environment of moving online, not least of which is the oversaturation of online events.

The total outreach of IOI via global capacity development and training offerings in 2022 was achieved through Training Events (In-Person, Online, Hybrid), the online IOI Ocean Academy programmes and other webinars, seminars and online workshops and programmes, including the IOI Alumni CPD programme.

### International Events and Activities in 2022

- IOI Delegation attended the *United Nations Ocean Conference, 27th June – 1st July*, Lisbon: IOI joined partner organisations for two side events, and contributed a Voluntary Commitment, and a statement to the Conference:
  - o Side event: *From ocean knowledge to action - developing capacity to create a sustainable ocean economy*. Altice Arena, 30 June. IOI partnered with, UNITAR, UNCTAD, One Ocean Hub, GOAL Global, and the Marine Institute - Foras na Mara/ the Department of Foreign Affairs of Ireland in this side event which focussed on developing capacity for a Sustainable Ocean Economy.
  - o Side event: *Building a Bridge between Science and Sustainable Action in Managing Impacts of Non-Indigenous Species in the Mediterranean Sea*; Lisbon, Pavilion of Knowledge, 28 June. IOI partnered with Turkish Marine Research Foundation (TUDAV), iSea, the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (SPA/RAC) from Tunisia and Middle East Technical University (METU)/Marine Sciences Institute from Turkey for this side event.
  - o IOI Contributes a third Voluntary Commitment on the IOI Ocean Academy: *#OceanAction45943: IOI OCEAN ACADEMY - OCEAN KNOWLEDGE FOR ALL*. This adds to the IOI's earlier Commitments submitted to UNOC2017: *#OceanAction41327: OCEAN GOVERNANCE TRAINING & CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT* and *#OceanAction41315: A MASSIVE OPEN ONLINE COURSE: ONE PLANET ONE OCEAN: FROM SCIENCE TO SOLUTIONS*.
  - o Submission of a Statement to the UN Ocean Conference on the importance of Early Career



Ocean Professionals (and IOI Alumni) to achieving Agenda 2030 and the vision of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development; IOI in partnership with the UN Ocean Decade endorsed Early Career Ocean Professionals Programme jointly submitted a statement to the UN Ocean Conference emphasising the unique role of Early Career Ocean Professionals (ECOPs) and the need to provide greater engagement and capacity building opportunities, the full text of the statement is shown in ANNEX II

- IOI was represented at the *Twenty-second meeting of the UN ICP on Oceans and the Law of the Sea: "Ocean Observing"*, 6 - 10 June: L Rodrigues Cortes in New York;
- IOI hybrid side-event during UNCTAD's 4th Oceans Forum on Trade-Related Aspects of Sustainable Development Goal 14; *Reflections on the Bridgetown Covenant and UNCTAD 15 outcomes: The role of knowledge-based institutions in achieving common aims through capacity development*, 6th April; Organised as an event of the IOI's 50th Anniversary Celebrations;
- IOI Special Session: *Challenges of Sustainable Blue Economy in Marine Trade, Science and Aquaculture* during vCOMSA; 8th March, Online; Organised as a special event of the 50th anniversary of the IOI;
- The IOI secretariat coordinated two special Ocean Governance courses for Early Career Ocean Professionals (ECOPs) from Africa in partnership with the ECOP Programme, an endorsed Action of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, IOC-UNESCO. The events were funded through the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation with programme administration by the IOI Secretariat in Malta, and implementation through the training Centre of IOI in South Africa.
- The IOI Focal Point in Chile (Dr Nicolás Ojeda), and the Universidad Autónoma de Chile co-organised a seminar titled, "*Oceans, Sustainability and Environment*", Hybrid, 25 October; IOI Managing Director contributed to the event;
- Thematic Session 2A: Resilient cities and coastal areas: policies, technologies and practices, at the upcoming 17th Annual Session of Global Forum on Human Settlements (GFHS) (online on 15-16 December).
- *East Asia Summit Workshop on Maritime Cooperation: Technical and Scientific Cooperation towards Clean Healthy, and Sustainable Ocean*, 30 August – 1 September, Manila, Philippines. In Session 2, A Vassallo delivered a presentation on "*Science-based Policy Making on Marine Sustainability: The Need for Informed Policy in Negotiations*";

#### **IOI Training Centres and IOI Centres events:**

- IOI Malta: 17th IOI Training Programme on Regional Ocean Governance for the Mediterranean, Black, Baltic & Caspian Seas (In Person): 7 Nov - 7 Dec
- IOI HQ & IOI South Africa: Training Workshop: Basic Concepts of Ocean Governance for Early Career Ocean Professionals, with a Focus on African Seas (Online): 1 - 10 Nov
- IOI Egypt: Red Sea Sustainable Development: Governance, Resources, impacts and Management Hurghada (In-Person): 2 - 5 Oct
- IOI Germany: Summer School: Ocean Governance for Sustainable Marine Ecosystems (Online): 19 - 30 Sep
- IOI South Africa: 8th Training Programme in Ocean Governance for Africa (Hybrid): 5 - 30 Sep
- IOI Egypt: Training Workshop on "The Egyptian Seas: Governance, Law, and Management for a Sustainable Future"; (In-Person): 4 - 7 Sep
- IOI China: Western Pacific Region Training Course on Ocean Governance (Hybrid): 29 Aug – 9 Sep
- Turkmenistan: Training Programme on the Sustainable Development and Governance of the Caspian Sea (Hybrid): 16 - 27 May
- IOI Canada: Course on Ocean Governance in the Decade of Ocean Science: Key Issues and Challenges (Online): 11 Apr – 2 Jun
- IOI HQ & IOI South Africa: Training Workshop: Basic Concepts of Ocean Governance for Early Career Ocean Professionals (Online): 29 Mar - 7 Apr
- IOI Brazil and IOI Costa Rica: 5th IOI Training Programme in this series for Latin America and the Caribbean (IOI LAC TC) titled "Ocean Governance, Ocean Sciences and Geoethics" (Online): 30 Nov 2021 - 24 Nov 2022

### The IOI Ocean Academy

Coordinated by the IOI HQ and offered with local partnerships as a 50th anniversary programme of the IOI saw the successful delivery of 25 IOI Ocean Academy modules globally by 12 IOI Ocean Academy nodes, in Arabic, Dhivehi, English, Hindi, Urdu, Portuguese, Russian, Kazakh, Spanish, Turkish languages, and reaching more than 900 persons.

The IOI Secretariat also organised an online bootcamp for the Directors of the global IOI Ocean Academies "*Digital Marketing basics - Getting the most from your efforts!*" 20th July, to introduce the basics of an effective digital marketing strategy, and highlighting ways to expand easily actionable good practices in reaching fresh audiences.

### Special programme in 2022 to celebrate the IOI's 50th Anniversary: IOI@50

The IOI HQ and the IOI network of Centres prepared a yearlong roster of activities to highlight and celebrate the fifty years since the IOI was established by Elisabeth Mann Borgese in 1972. Some highlights of the IOI@50 events are below:

- The IOI OCEAN ACADEMY: Ocean Knowledge for all, Programme launched as part of the IOI 50th Anniversary
- Colloquium on the Occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the International Ocean Institute (IOI); 1972 – 2022. 12th December 2022, Under the aegis of the Office of the President of Malta
- Creation of a dedicated logo and album website for the IOI@50 anniversary<sup>6</sup>
- IOI Special Seminar: Ocean Governance - A Legacy Interrupted; 30th November, Malta and online streaming during the Training Programme on Regional Ocean Governance for the Mediterranean, Black, Baltic and Caspian Seas, Malta
- IOI Egypt celebrates the 50th Anniversary of IOI under the auspices of its host institute NIOF, 1st November
- IOI China Regional Centre Celebrates the IOI's

50th ANNIVERSARY with an Alumni Workshop in Tianjin; Hybrid, 7th September

- IOI South Africa organised an event "Showcasing IOI in Africa"; ONLINE, 4th August
- Presentation of a token of appreciation from IOI to HE George Vella, President of Malta; 17th June
- Elisabeth Mann Borgese Ocean Lecture, 19th May, Dalhousie University, organised by IOI Canada
- IOI hybrid side-event during UNCTAD's 4th Oceans Forum on Trade-Related Aspects of Sustainable Development Goal 14; Reflections on the Bridgetown Covenant and UNCTAD 15 outcomes: The role of knowledge-based institutions in achieving common aims through capacity development, 6th April; Organised as an event of the IOI's 50th Anniversary Celebrations
- Challenges of Sustainable Blue Economy in Marine Trade, Science and Aquaculture during vICOMSA; 8th March, Online; Special Session Organised as a special event of the 50th anniversary of the IOI

### IOI Alumni Programme

Designed to support the professional development of IOI alumni via dedicated and exclusive online webinars, seminars, the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Series was offered again through 2022, with all online events organised by the IOI also explicitly disseminated to the IOI alumni. The IOI works through partnerships to offer the events to IOI alumni, taking advantage of networks of expertise in the topic areas. In 2022:

- WEBINAR: *Was 2022 truly the Ocean Super Year we hoped for? An online debate with ECOPs and Ocean experts*; 25 November 2022 - 14.00 CET; a 90-min webinar hosted by the International Ocean Institute and the ECOP Programme of IOC UNESCO
- IOI Special Seminar: *Ocean Governance - A Legacy Interrupted*; 30th November, in Malta and via online streaming during the IOI Malta Training Programme
- IOI hybrid side-event during UNCTAD's 4th Oceans Forum on Trade-Related Aspects of

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.ioinst.org/loi-50/>

Sustainable Development Goal 14; *Reflections on the Bridgetown Covenant and UNCTAD 15 outcomes: The role of knowledge-based institutions in achieving common aims through capacity development*, 6th April

- Thematic Session 2A: Resilient cities and coastal areas: policies, technologies and practices, at the upcoming 17th Annual Session of Global Forum on Human Settlements (GFHS) (online 15-16 December).
- Two special Ocean Governance courses for African Early Career Ocean Professionals (ECOPs) in partnership with the ECOP Programme, an endorsed Action of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, IOC-UNESCO.
  - o *Training Workshop On Basic Concepts of Ocean Governance for Early Career Ocean Professionals - focus on the African Seas*; Online, 1,3,8 & 10 November 2022
  - o *IOI Training Workshop on Basic Concepts of Ocean Governance for Early Career Ocean Practitioners, with a focus on the African Seas*; Online, 29 & 31 March; 5 & 7 April 2022

The Alumni Channel continues to offer a platform for the exchange and interaction of IOI alumni, faculty and training directors. Uptake of the site continues with more alumni using it for sharing of career opportunities and news.

### **Implementation of IOI bursaries and scholarships**

Danielle de St Jorre Scholarship: The Scholarship was planned to help fund participation in the eight-week Ocean Governance: Policy, Law and Management in Canada. In 2020, the scholarship awarded to Ms Lily WHEATLEY, from the Solomon Islands remains on hold until the in-person IOI Canada 40th Training Programme can be offered in-person.

IOI Elisabeth Mann Borgese Bursary, 2021 and presentation of the results of the 2022 Bursary: The 2022 EMB Bursary was awarded to Mr Ede Kossári-Tarnik to carry out a preliminary quantitative and

qualitative investigation of microplastics sampled from Maltese nearshore waters. The work aims to uncover the current extent of the plastic polymer contamination within Maltese coastal waters as well as the degree of variability in the distribution of microplastics within different layers of the water column, according to their density, shape, and size. All equipment bought with these funds remain available for use at the University of Malta after the research period and recognised as a donation from the IOI. The 2021 EMB Bursary awarded to Mr Justin Cauchi, was completed successfully.

### **Outreach, information dissemination, and publicity; IOI HQ Website and Connectivity**

IOI HQ serves as document repository for the IOI and additionally, the Secretariat takes responsibility for some of the general outreach, dissemination, and publicity required by the IOI and its network.

The IOInforma and digital outreach: The bi-monthly IOInforma, the IOI's electronic bulletin was published and disseminated with six issues in 2022. Social media outreach continues with Facebook and LinkedIn profiles regularly updated with information, links of interest, and invitations to relevant webinars, training and other meetings.

IOI Website: The intention of having the IOI website as an easy-to-consult, one-stop-site on all matters IOI remains of paramount importance. The website contains links to Training, Education and Capacity Development, the Global IOI Network and International Relations, information on the IOI Board of Governors, IOI Periodic Publications, Newsletters and Reports, Latest News and the Latest IOInforma. The bimonthly IOInformas are now offered through a series of topic-tagged links, allowing for continuous update of news blogs to the IOI news site. Additionally, 2022 saw the creation of two new sections of website:

The IOI Ocean Academy: continuously updated with all the IOI Ocean Academy events offered globally and – as well as adding IOI legitimacy to the diffused offerings – is also proving very useful in terms of collecting

expressions of interest and applications for specific IOI Ocean Academies through data gathering online forms. Some of the IOI Ocean Academy websites are offered in languages other than English to be more consonant with the IOI Ocean Academy principle of reducing the linguistic barriers to attaining Ocean literacy.

IOI's 50th anniversary celebrations: a special sector of the website was designed and launched to provide a visual and summarised account of important developments in the IOI's activities since launch in 1972. It is our intention that these web pages shall be retained and updated frequently to provide a constantly evolving record of the IOI and its programmes and achievements. <https://www.ioinst.org/ioi-50/>

**Report of the Treasurer**  
**Peter Leder**

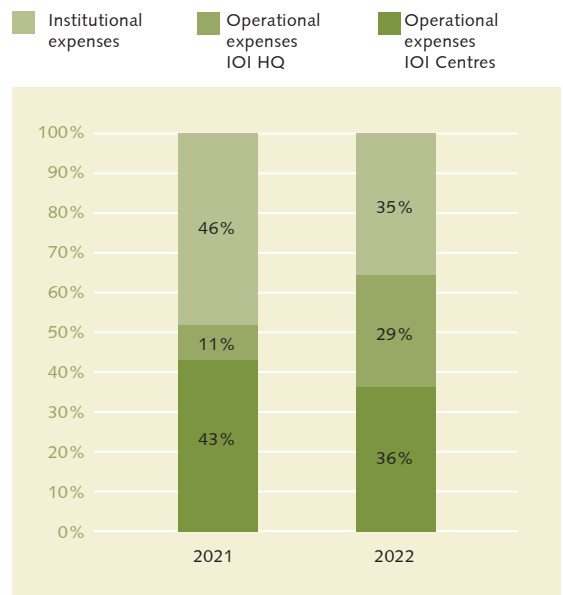
The global restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic continued to ease in the year under review, but the effects continued to influence the implementation of the IOI's programmes. In particular, increasing travel, accommodation and visa costs limited the opportunities to participate in face-to-face events and the implementation of individual IOI programs.

Because the IOI HQ had already created the technical and administrative requirements for hybrid/online training courses at the beginning of the pandemic, an extensive programme of training courses and outreach events could

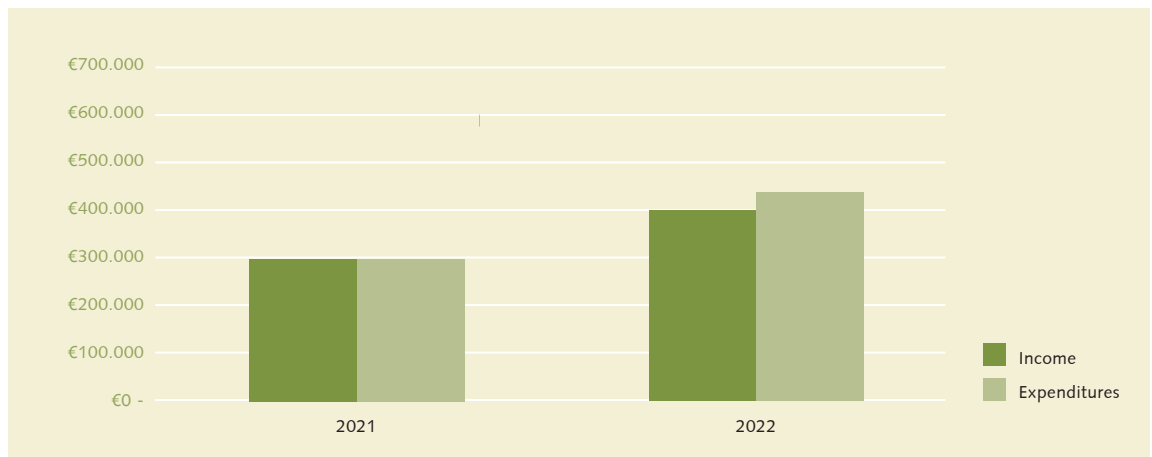
be offered in an overall still difficult environment. The budget for 2022 - and the work programme implemented herewith – reflected the IOI strategy of fully exploiting the possibilities of online or hybrid training and capacity development offerings. In 2022 many participants were reached who did not have access to face-to-face events.

The staff of the IOI HQ in Malta and our partners in the IOI centres have maintained the workability of the network through their commitment and diligence and continue giving important impetus for the future development of the IOI and its programmes.

**Composition of Total Expenditures 2022**



**Overview Income/ expenditures 2021 and 2022**





## Incomes/Expenses 2022

The financial year 2022 was again characterized by a flexible and pragmatic implementation of the financial plans, making it necessary to adapt to individual COVID-19 situations in different regions changing over time. The total incomes amounted to €398,000 and the Swiss based Ocean Science and Research Foundation (OSRF) remained the main donor. Incomes from other sources fell short of expectations as some of the planned capacity development and training initiatives did not materialize or were postponed.

The IOI kept its course of maintaining efficiency and effectiveness of the administration. Although many initiatives were implemented as planned, a few projects still were postponed and planned meetings and panels with physical attendance of IOI representatives were cancelled or implemented in online formats. At the end of the financial year 2022, total expenditures amounted to €459,000.

As expenditures exceeded incomes, the financial year 2022 was concluded with a planned deficit of €61,000. This deficit reduced the cash reserves accumulated on IOI accounts over the past years.

The continued easing of the COVID-19 constraints affected the structure of the IOI's expenses: compared to financial years under full pandemic restrictions, project expenditures under the direction of IOI HQ increased substantially to €134,000, making up 29% of total expenditures. Despite increased institutional (and fixed) expenditures, its share on total spending decreased to 35% of total spending. Funds transferred to and spent under the direction of IOI Centres worldwide increased to €159,000, making up 36% of IOI's total expenditures.

## Fundraising

The IOI is a not-for-profit NGO and strongly depends on voluntary, in-kind contributions from the individuals and institutions committed to and engaged in the IOI and its network. As in the past years, those contributions provided the basis for all IOI deliverables, but needed to

be complemented by financial contributions required to cover in-cash expenses related to IOI projects and administration.

The principal donor of the IOI remains the OSRF, contributing more than 90% to IOI's total income in 2022. This generous contribution again was crucial for the implementation of the work programme as well as for the effective management and administration of the institute and its network of centres.

Additionally, IOI Host Institutes provided funds to cover direct costs for specific capacity development and ocean literacy projects implemented by IOI Centres. Such contributions were instrumental for the delivery of the projects but did not affect IOI's accounts.

## Financial Outlook

The planned financial deficit in 2022 led to a reduction of funds on IOI accounts accumulated over the past years. IOI will continue in its efforts to secure required financial support from its main funder OSRF and to open up new financial sources to maintain and expand its work programmes and deliverables. With the IOI's Education and Training Fund (ETF), the IOI has implemented an instrument designed to facilitate fundraising for IOI and its portfolio of training and capacity development programmes – including its recently launched IOI Ocean Academy. It is planned to significantly increase efforts with regards to identifying and establishing new financial partnerships in order to accelerate the out-roll of the successfully started IOI Ocean Academy and to sustain this much needed initiative in the next years to come.

The approach of attracting additional funds through tailored projects - such as special topical seminars and workshops - prepared and delivered by IOI in co-operation with (co-) funding partners will also be continued in future.

## APPENDICES

The statutory term of Dr Chua Thia-Eng has come to an end and thus his role as member of the board. The IOI acknowledges with gratitude and appreciation his sterling work and wise advice to the IOI throughout his tenure. Dr Werner Ekau, previous Director, IOI Germany, was welcomed as a new Governing Board Member. The IOI continues to benefit immensely from the combined expertise and guidance of its members.

### **IOI Governing Board**

Honorary President	Awni Behnam
Patron of IOI	Nikolaus Gelpke
President	Mahindokht Faghfour
Treasurer	Peter Leder
Governors	Simone Borg (Representative of the Government of Malta to the IOI Governing Board), Anita Coady, Lamiaa Ismail Modamedein (Chair of the Network of Centres), Wendy Watson-Wright, Shi Suixiang, Werner Ekau.

### **Ex-Officio Member of the Governing Board**

Antonella Vassallo, IOI HQ Managing Director

## IOI TRAINING CENTRES, CENTRES & FOCAL POINTS

### IOI Centres

The IOI Centres engage in a wide range of activities ranging from work at the community level to very specialised scientific research as part of large international programmes. The centres are embedded in the work programmes of their host institutes which are mostly universities and independent research institutes.

The roles of the IOI Training Centres are:

- To prepare, organise, and conduct training programmes in Regional and Global Ocean Governance. The curricula applied will be developed in co-operation between a dedicated IOI Task Force, the IOI HQ and respective IOI Training Centres;
- Support IOI in its core activities and in delivering IOI “products”;
- All IOI training courses will be funded/co-funded by IOI and supervised by IOI HQ;
- IOI Training Centres will closely co-operate with a dedicated IOI Centre in the geographical vicinity.

The roles of the IOI Centres are:

- To collect information and provide organisational and operational support for IOI core activities and products such as training events and publications, and in international relations in the region;
- IOI Centres shall be associated with an IOI Training Centre in the region and IOI shall support activities funded or co-funded and supervised by IOI HQ in co-operation with the related IOI Training Centre.

This is the link to the Centres page on the IOI website  
<https://www.ioinst.org/about-1/secretariat-and-network/ioi-centres/>

### IOI Training Centres

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**IOI Focal Points**

IOI has established 19 Focal Points particularly in countries where IOI Centres do not exist. The Focal Points have proven association with IOI, held appropriate qualification and experience and are engaged in activities relevant to the mission of IOI. They are of good standing, associated with a reputed educational, scientific or other ocean-related activity.

Focal points (IOI Network Nodes) provide intellectual contributions to IOI on a voluntary basis and are not expected to receive any financial support from IOI as to their nomination or work as focal points. They receive when appropriate, intellectual and moral support from IOI in promoting their own objectives, project and career prospects.

Their function/roles are to:

- Promote IOI and identify opportunities for activities related to the IOI core activities and mission;
- Propose applicants for IOI training courses;
- Disseminate IOI Publications and IOI Newsletter;
- Identify sources for funding in the respective region;
- They are the IOI contact point in the respective country;
- Activities of IOI Focal Points/Network Nodes will be bonded together by the IOI Centres;
- Activities of IOI Focal Points/Network Nodes will principally not be funded (co-funded by IOI).

The designations of Focal Points are made preferably from the list of IOI Alumni. When deemed desirable to establish a focal point(s) in a country or region where there is an active IOI Centre, the designation of such a focal point(s) will be made in agreement with the Director of such a Centre.

This is the link to Focal Points page on the IOI website:  
<https://www.ioinst.org/about-1/secretariat-and-network/ioi-focal-points/>



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