



2021 United Nations Decade  
2030 of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development

# Ocean Acidification Research for Sustainability (OARS)

Decade Programme

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

## Lead Institution

### Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network (GOA-ON)

Contacts:

Kirsten Isensee: k.isensee@unesco.org

Jan Newton: janewton@uw.edu

Steve Widdicombe: swi@pml.ac.uk

## KEY PARTNERS

Global Ocean Oxygen Network (GO2NE)

Marine Life 2030

International Ocean Carbon

Coordination Project (IOCCP)

International Alliance to Combat

Ocean Acidification

The Ocean Foundation

## DECADE CHALLENGES ADDRESSED

**CHALLENGE 2:** Protect and restore ecosystems and biodiversity

**CHALLENGE 5:** Unlock ocean-based solutions to climate change

**CHALLENGE 7:** Expand the Global Ocean Observing System

**CHALLENGE 8:** Create a digital representation of the Ocean

**CHALLENGE 9:** Skills, knowledge and technology for all

## OCEAN BASINS

North Atlantic

Indian

South Atlantic

Arctic

North Pacific

Southern

South Pacific



GOA-ON @goa\_on

#OARS

#oceanacidification



www.facebook.com/GOAON/

## Summary

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

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

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

## Priority Activities (first 2 years)

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

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

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

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

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

Steve Widdicombe  
Co-chair, GOA-ON

