



2021 United Nations Decade
2030 of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development

Ocean Decade Data Coordination Group

Participant Profiles





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Data Coordination Group			
Name	Position & Institutional Affiliation	Short statement on the skills / focus you will bring to the Data Coordination Group.	Picture
Joana Akrofi	<p>Programme Management Officer, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)</p> <p>joana.akrofi@un.org</p>	<p>Joana Akrofi is a Programme Management Officer at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Science Division, Big Data Branch. She is currently leading the co-design of the Global Environment Monitoring System ocean (GEMS ocean) with partners to makes available relevant data, analysis, and information guiding action to conserve and sustainably use the ocean and coasts. This includes the coordinating the building and convening of a global Community of Practice across experts and society at large to provide capacity, analysis, innovation and synthesized information to decision and policy makers, civil society, international organizations worldwide in a holistic approach to keep the global ocean and coasts healthy and productive. GEMS Ocean promotes and convenes a transdisciplinary partnership approach including UN and civil society partners, data providers, observing systems and knowledge asset holders to translate the collective ocean and coastal knowledge and expertise into sustained, targeted information for decision-makers, and to trigger transformative action at scale focused on sustainable coastal and ocean use and ecosystem health as well as informing sustainable blue economy developments.</p> <p>She is also the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection (GESAMP) Technical Secretary for UNEP and the Focal Point for the World Ocean Assessment (WOA).</p>	
Edward Armstrong	<p>Science Systems Engineer, NASA/ California Institute of Technology</p> <p>edward.m.armstrong@jpl.nasa.gov</p>	<p>Edward Armstrong is a Science Systems Engineer at the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory supporting data management and engineering in the Physical Oceanography Distributed Active Archive Center (PO.DAAC). He has several decades experience applying data informatics principals to oceanographic remote sensing observations, including architecting, improving and evolving data science and services capabilities for remotely sensed data.</p>	

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		<p>His current interests include advancing data management and computing infrastructure together with data services to foster cross cutting interdisciplinary earth science investigations using space, airborne and <i>in situ</i> data.</p> <p>He has been a member of the Group for High Resolution Sea Surface Temperature (GHR SST) Science Team since 2002, is currently co-lead of the CEOS SST Virtual Constellation and has a long association with initiatives in the Earth Science Information Partners (ESIP) and NASA's Earth Science Data Systems Working Groups (ESDSWG).</p>	
<p>Jerome Aucan</p>	<p>Head of Pacific Community Center for Ocean Science, Pacific Community (SPC)</p> <p>jeromea@spc.int</p>	<p>Jerome is a physical oceanographer working as the head of the Pacific Community Center for Ocean Science, at the Pacific Community (SPC). He is based in New Caledonia since 2012.</p> <p>Before working for IRD, Jerome worked for 10 years within the University of Hawaii Sea Level Center, which is the program in charge of maintaining tide gauges throughout the Pacific Islands.</p> <p>He is the chair of the science committee of the Joint Task Force to investigate the use of submarine telecommunications cables for ocean and climate monitoring and disaster warning (SMART Cables).</p>	
<p>Uday Bhaskar</p>	<p>Head of INCOIS's Ocean Data Management Division, INCOIS</p> <p>uday@incois.gov.in</p>	<p>Udaya Bhaskar is heading the ocean data management division at INCOIS, India. He is associated with INCOIS since 2001 and has a degree in mathematics from Sri Satya Sai Institute of Higher Learning, India and a PhD in environmental science from Acharya Nagarjuna University, India.</p> <p>Uday has been working with observational data since beginning of his career and has extensive experience with processing, quality control and analysis of heterogeneous data collected and archived from different sources at INCOIS. He is currently heading the data management division at INCOIS, is a member of Argo Data Management Team since 2008, member of steering team for the International Quality-controlled Ocean Database (IQuOD) project under the SCOR WG-148 since 2014.</p> <p>Uday is also coordinator of International Training Centre for Operational Oceanography (ITCOOcean) which is a Category 2 Centre (C2C) under IOC and a Regional Training Centre (RTC) under Ocean Teacher Global Academy. Uday conducts various capacity building activities under ITCOOcean imparting training programs in operational oceanography resulting in skilled manpower in marine sciences.</p>	

<p>Ute Brønner</p>	<p>Senior Project Manager, SINTEF Ocean ute.broenner@gmail.com</p>	<p>Ute Brønner has been working at the Norwegian research institute SINTEF in Trondheim since January 2010. Since January 2021, Ute works with the topics Ocean Observations and Ecosystems and Digital Twins of the Ocean to apply her competence to environmental monitoring and digital ocean technology. Ute is also a research fellow at the Fraunhofer Institute for Computer Graphics Research IGD in Rostock, Germany, to enhance the collaboration between SINTEF and Fraunhofer in the topics Sustainable Sea and Ocean Solutions, Digital Twin Technology and Ocean Data Infrastructure Development.</p>	
<p>Pier Luigi Buttigieg</p>	<p>Digital Knowledge Steward and Senior Data Scientist, GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research. pier.buttigieg@awi.de</p>	<p>Pier Luigi Buttigieg (https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4366-3088) is a Digital Knowledge Steward and Senior Data Scientist at the GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research. His professional mission is to use data science to bridge our increasingly digitised ocean community across science, operations, and policy. Concurrently, he researches and develops operational-grade and internationally adopted knowledge representation technologies for ecology, planetary science, and - in collaboration with UN Environment - the Sustainable Development Goals. He also focuses on developing distributed and interoperable digital systems from sub-national to global scales, through work with the Earth and Environment Hub of the Helmholtz Metadata Collaboration and the International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE) of UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC). In these latter roles, he is co-leading the deployment of the IODE Ocean and Data Information System (ODIS) and Ocean InfoHub to enable regional stakeholders to co-develop a digital commons for the global ocean. He also serves on several other regional and international advisory boards, supporting the growth of a diverse but harmonised digital ocean ecosystem.</p>	




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<p>Jan-Bart Calewaert</p>	<p>Head of the Secretariat, EMODnet Secretariat</p> <p>janbart.calewaert@emodnet.eu</p>	<p>Jan-Bart Calewaert has worked as Head of the EMODnet Secretariat since September 2013, leading the Secretariat team based at the InnovOcean site in Oostende, Belgium.</p> <p>Jan-Bart is a Bioscience Engineer with specialisation in cellular and genetic biotechnology. He holds an additional Master’s degree in Ecological Marine Management with focus on aquatic ecotoxicology.</p> <p>Jan-Bart worked for more than 20 years as a (marine) science officer, project manager and project coordinator, initially at Flanders Marine Institute, the Maritime Institute and Laboratory of Environmental Toxicology and Aquatic Ecology (both Ghent University) and at the European Marine Board (2007-2013). During this time, he has specialised in the coordination of collaborative projects and initiatives at the interface between marine science, policy and society. He coordinated multi-partner and multi-disciplinary Expert Working Groups delivering European Marine Board position papers on a range of topics from biotechnology to marine microbial diversity, coordinated EMB’s work in selected EU-projects, and has organised many marine and maritime events from workshops to large conferences.</p> <p>Since 2013, Jan-Bart has coordinated the European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet) activities as Head of the Secretariat and drives progress towards developing a more efficient, effective, fit-for-purpose EMODnet which is better known and more widely used.</p>	
<p>Rebecca Cowley</p>	<p>Senior Experimental Scientist, Oceans and Atmosphere CSIRO</p> <p>rebecca.cowley@csiro.au</p>	<p>Rebecca is a Senior Experimental Scientist with CSIRO Oceans and Atmosphere, Australia, and has been with CSIRO since 1997. Rebecca has a double degree in Chemistry and Aquatic Biology from Deakin University, Australia.</p> <p>Rebecca has extensive experience with collection, quality control, analysis and publication of ocean observation data, including spending many weeks at sea on research vessels.</p> <p>Rebecca leads the Ship of Opportunity program at CSIRO, is a current member and former Chair of the international Ship of Opportunity Program Implementation Panel (SOOPIP), a member of the steering team for the International Quality-controlled Ocean Database (IQuOD) project, member of the Global Salinity and Temperature Profile Program (GTSPP) and former member of the Argo Data Management Team.</p>	

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<p>Taco De Bruin</p>	<p>Scientific Data Manager, NIOZ Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research</p> <p>Taco.de.Bruin@nioz.nl</p>	<p>Taco de Bruin (https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9149-2095) is a Scientific Data Manager at the NIOZ Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research. His background is in Experimental Physics with a major in Meteorology from Utrecht University in The Netherlands. He has over 25 years of experience in oceanographic and polar data management, ranging from data collection at sea to governance of global data management initiatives, such as co-chairing the International Polar Year (IPY) Data Policy and Management Subcommittee in 2005-2010. He has been actively involved, representing NIOZ and the Netherlands as a national delegate, in numerous oceanographic and polar data management projects and committees, for example the European SeaDataNet and EMODnet project series and the SCAR, SOOS and ICES data committees. Currently, he serves as co-chair (2019-2023) of the International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE) of IOC/UNESCO.</p>	
<p>Steve Diggs</p>	<p>Technical Director, Hydrographic Data Group (CCHDO) at Scripps Institution of Oceanography</p> <p>sdiggs@ucsd.edu</p>	<p>Steve is the Technical Director of the Hydrographic Data Group (CCHDO) at Scripps Institution of Oceanography. He got his start as an undergraduate engineering assistant in the 1980s. After spending a decade working as a DoD contractor, he returned to Scripps as a field data specialist and ended up working with instruments and software for PIs in almost every science domain at SIO and NOAA. His career has evolved into the design and maintenance of geoscience data resources. In addition to his work at Scripps, Steve teaches data best practices through his task groups with the International Science Council, and he reviews data systems and projects for the National Science Foundation.</p>	



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<p>Rob Emanuele</p>	<p>Geospatial Architect, Microsoft robemanuele@microsoft.com</p>	<p><i>Note: Rob is sitting in for Bruno Sanchez-Andrade Nuño of Microsoft who is on paternity leave until March, 2022</i></p> <p>Rob Emanuele is a Geospatial Architect at Microsoft where he leads the development of the Planetary Computer and works towards applying geospatial technology for positive environmental sustainability impact. Rob is a long time contributor to the open source geospatial ecosystem, a member of the SpatioTemporal Asset Catalog (STAC) Project Steering Committee, and was previously a Technical Fellow for the Radiant Earth Foundation supporting the advancement of the STAC open source ecosystem.</p>	
<p>Marco Filippone</p>	<p>Solution Director Hydrography, Fugro m.filippone@fugro.com</p>	<p>Marco works as Solution Director Hydrography for Fugro, he has several years of experience in hydrography and oceanography in various management and operational roles. He holds a PhD and EMBA with advanced degrees in system engineering, marine geomatics (IHO Cat A), and maritime and nautical science. After his career with the Italian Navy, Marco has been with Fugro for about 7 years, holding various roles within the company. In addition to his main position as Operations Manager and lately Service Line Manager Hydrography and Cable Route Surveys, Marco covered the role of Chief Hydrographer and Fugro Regional Ambassador for the Seabed 2030 and Ocean Decade as well as Hydrographic expert contributor for the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO).</p>	
<p>Evert Flier</p>	<p>International Coordinator, Norwegian Mapping Authority Chair, GEBCO Guiding Committee evert.flier@kartverket.no</p>	<p>After 21 years in the Royal Netherlands Navy, Evert left in 2010 to become the national hydrographer of Norway. Evert started the transition of Norwegian Hydrographic Service (one of four divisions within the Norwegian Mapping Authority) from classical nautical chart factory to a marine geo data agency in support of the Blue Economy. He currently chairs the IHO Capacity Building Sub-Committee and the IHO-IOC GEBCO Guiding Committee. After one six-year term as director, he became the international coordinator for the Norwegian Hydrographic Service</p>	


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<p>Jeanette Gann</p>	<p>Oceanographer NOAA</p> <p>Chair, Technical Committee on Data Exchange, North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES),</p> <p>jeanette.gann@noaa.gov</p>	<p>Jeanette Gann is an oceanographer with NOAA’s Alaska Fisheries Science Center in Juneau, Alaska.</p> <p>She has been involved in fisheries-oceanographic surveys within Alaska for over 13 years. Her research involves phytoplankton ecology in the Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska, where she focuses on the effects of climate change on phytoplankton community structure and changes in nutritional content of varying phytoplankton communities via fatty acid analysis.</p> <p>Additionally, Jeanette is a member of the North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES), where she serves as the chair of the Technical Committee on Data Exchange (TCODE) and is a member of the PICES Science Board.</p>	
<p>Hernan Garcia</p>	<p>Director, World Data Service for Oceanography, Oceanographer, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI)</p> <p>Hernan.Garcia@noaa.gov</p>	<p>Hernan Garcia is an Oceanographer at NOAA’s National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI), Center for Coasts, Oceans and Geophysics, Ocean Climate Laboratory. He is the U.S. Federal Data Manager representative to International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE) of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO and Director of the World Data Service for Oceanography hosted at NOAA’s National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI). His broad interests include helping develop the largest and most comprehensive open access digital representation of the global ocean by means of surface and subsurface historical and modern ocean data of known quality. He participates in a Team effort to develop and steward the World Ocean Database (WOD) hosted at NOAA and which is also an IODE project. The WOD serves as the foundation for developing quality-controlled global ocean statistical and objectively analyzed gridded climatologies of physical and chemical Essential Ocean Variables at various spatial and temporal scales for documenting ocean variability. He has a M.Sc. in Oceanography and Ph.D. in Chemical Oceanography both from Oregon State University.</p>	




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<p>Katherine Hill</p>	<p>UK G7 Marine Science Coordinator, National Oceanography Centre</p> <p>katy.hill@noc.ac.uk</p>	<p>Dr Katherine (Katy) Hill has over 18 years' professional experience in marine and climate science working at national, international and intergovernmental levels; particularly focusing on the development of sustained ocean observations.</p> <p>Katy is the UK G7 Marine Science Coordinator and Co-Leads the G7 Future of the Seas and Oceans Initiative (G7 FSOI) Coordination Centre. The G7 FSOI is focused on strengthening the sustained observing system in close liaison with GOOS, identifying priorities for coordinated action and craft science-to-policy narratives to mobilize resources and to translate 'knowledge-to-action'.</p> <p>Previously Katy worked for the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) and the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) and managed GOOS's relationship with the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO). She was responsible for overseeing the requirements, design and evaluation of the ocean observing system for physics and its delivery to climate and operational applications.</p> <p>Prior to that, Katy played a central role in the Australia's Integrated Marine Observing System from its inception. As Scientific Officer, Katy worked with a broad range of marine programmes and organisations to develop a National Science and Implementation Plan.</p>	
<p>Neil Holdsworth</p>	<p>Head of Data and Information, International Council for the Exploration of the Sea</p> <p>neil.holdsworth@ices.dk</p>	<p>Since 2007, Neil has led the Data Centre Team at ICES, and later adding the Information Technology team.</p> <p>With the North Atlantic ICES network of scientists and data managers, Neil has developed and implemented data governance and data management services to Regional Sea Conventions, RFMO's and the EU Commission. Adopting, advocating and developing international standards, accreditation and guidelines alongside global partners such as the FAO and IOC. Leading the formulation and implementation of the Data Strategy for the ICES organization and ensuring its relevancy for today's society and wide range of data providers and end users.</p> <p>In addition, Neil has been a long-standing supporter/partner/advisor of Project/Work package management of externally funded international data and IT projects (EMODnet Chemistry, EMODnet Biology, EMODnet Physics, various Horizon 2020/Europe).</p>	



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<p>Kirk Larsen</p>	<p>Senior Program Officer, Vulcan LLC / Paul G. Allen Family Foundation</p> <p>kirkl@vulcan.com</p>	<p>Kirk is responsible for developing and managing programs and projects in marine and terrestrial conservation science and technology. In his role as an engineer at Vulcan he made significant contributions to the engineering leadership of a number of Vulcan’s philanthropic projects, including The Allen Coral Atlas, Global FinPrint, The Great Elephant Census, and The Sea Around Us and the initiation of the Allen Mouse Brain Atlas.</p> <p>He holds a BA from the George Washington University and MA from the Claremont Graduate University.</p>	
<p>Kevin O’Brien</p>	<p>Senior Research Scientist, University of Washington/CICOES, NOAA/PMEL, GOOS OCG</p> <p>kevin.m.obrien@noaa.gov</p>	<p>Mr. Kevin O'Brien is a Senior Research Scientist at the University of Washington, and is a member of the Data Integration Group at NOAA's Pacific Marine Environmental Lab in Seattle, Washington.</p> <p>As the Vice-Chair for Data and Information for the GOOS Observations Coordination Group (OCG), Mr O’Brien is developing a data implementation strategy for the OCG global ocean networks to improve data interoperability and compliance with FAIR data principles.</p> <p>Mr. O’Brien is involved with the WMO as the current chair of the WMO Task Team on CF-NetCDF (TT-NetCDF) in an effort to improve data exchange as part of the evolution of the WMO Information System (WIS), or WIS 2.0. Mr O’Brien has also developed and leads the Open Access to GTS (Open-GTS) project whose aim is to increase the volume of marine in situ data that is available through the WIS/GTS. The Open-GTS has been endorsed by NOAA as a potential UN Decade of the Ocean project and is supported by the GOOS OCG.</p>	
<p>Harrison Ong’anda</p>	<p>Principal Research Scientist, Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute</p> <p>hochieng2003@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Working in Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI) as a Principal Research Scientist as Marine Ecologist.</p> <p>Involved in various regional research initiatives including: Coordinating the Data Management component of the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Project (SWIOFP); chairing the WIO task group on Marine Spatial Planning under the Nairobi Convention; coordination the IOC/UNESCO OTGA Regional Training Center (RTC) in KMFRI Mombasa, targeting mainly the English-speaking countries in Africa, and involved in the Ocean Data and Information Network (ODINAFRICA) project coordinated by IOC-UNESCO.</p> <p>Presently coordinating the Kenya National Oceanographic Data Center (KeNODC) hosted by KMFRI. Implemented the first GIS based Kenya coastal</p>	

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		resource database and atlas. Works on applications of GIS and Remote Sensing on management of marine and coastal resources.	
Ana Pinheiro Privette	Lead, Amazon Sustainability Data Initiative, Amazon apprivet@amazon.co	Dr. Ana Pinheiro Privette is a senior program manager with Amazon's Sustainability group and she is the global lead for the Amazon Sustainability Data Initiative (ASDI), a Tech-for-Good project that seeks to leverage Amazon's scale, technology, and infrastructure to help create global innovation for sustainability. Ana was trained as an environmental engineer and as an earth scientist at the New University of Lisbon (Portugal) and at MIT. She spent most of her career as a research scientist at NASA and NOAA. Later, Ana worked on the US National Climate Assessment (NCA) focusing on bringing more transparency and traceability of the data sources supporting this climate report, and led projects for the White House climate portfolio, including the Obama Climate Data Initiative (CDI) and the Partnership for Resilience and Preparedness (PREP).	
Nicolas Segebarth	Policy Officer, European Commission Nicolas.SEGEBARTH@ec.europa.eu	Nicolas Segebarth is Policy Officer at the European Commission. He joined the "Healthy Oceans and Seas Unit" of DG Research and Innovation, in June 2019, to develop and implement research & innovation policy on ocean observation, FAIR data and ocean knowledge. He leads the Digital Twin Ocean initiative in Horizon Europe, the European Research Framework Programme, a main component of the Digital Ocean and Water Knowledge System of the Mission "Restore our Ocean, Seas and Waters by 2030." He is the European Commission's Focal Point for the G7 working group Future of the Seas and Ocean Initiative and contributes to the development of the All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance.	
Rishi Sharma	Senior Fishery Resources Officer, UN Food and Agriculture Organization Rishi.Sharma@fao.org	I am a Sr. Fisheries Officer in FAO, Rome. I currently am the LTO for the ABNJ Projects and the EAF Nansen Projects in FAO. I am also the lead developer on evaluating the global stock status metric for FAO on sustainable fisheries and am also involved in various other activities related to stock assessment and capacity building in FAO. Prior to that I was at the Conservation Biology team at the NWFSC (Northwest Fisheries Science Center, NOAA, Seattle, WA) from Aug 2017-Sep 2019. I	

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		<p>moved from the Highly Migratory Stocks (HMS) team at SEFSC (Southeast Fishery Science Center) in Miami where I was since February of 2016 where I worked on large pelagics and was the lead scientist on the yellowfin Assessment in 2016 and Bluefin Assessment in 2017 on the Atlantic Oceans.</p>	
Gry Ulverud	<p>Acting Chief Executive Officer and Chief Governance Officer, C4IR Ocean</p> <p>gry.ulverud@oceandata.earth</p>	<p>Gry has extensive experience in governmental and policy positions. Before joining C4IR Ocean, she worked as a Senior Education Specialist at UNESCO in Eastern Africa.</p> <p>For more than a decade, Gry was Director of the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research, and later was appointed Deputy Delegate for UNESCO at the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, leading the Norwegian Delegation to UNESCO in Paris, France. Gry was a Special Advisor for the Confederation of Norwegian Enterprise (NHO), a position she held for more than 8 years.</p> <p>Gry earned a Political Science degree from Sciences Po in France, an MBA from the Norwegian Business School (BI), and a Political Science from the University of Oslo</p>	
Kate Wing	<p>Executive Director, Intertidal Agency</p> <p>kate@katewing.net</p>	<p>Kate Wing is the founder and Executive Director of Intertidal Agency, a non-profit working at the intersection of conservation, technology, and strategy. Through Intertidal Agency, she leads a team exploring innovations in data governance for a more connected and equitable Blue Economy as part of NSF's 2021 Convergence Accelerator. She's also a core partner at the Net Gains Alliance, a coalition supporting data modernization in U.S. fisheries, and the Senior Advisor for the Digital Ocean Pillar for the Friends of Ocean Action, a community convened by the World Economic Forum in collaboration with the World Resources Institute. She was The Nature Conservancy California's 2018 Ocean Data Fellow, where she supported the development of Fishnet.ai, the first open training library of commercial fishing images. She regularly serves as a mentor for ocean tech accelerator programs and has a breadth of experience in the social sector.</p>	

IOC Secretariat		
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