EVENT 3: 9 APRIL 2024

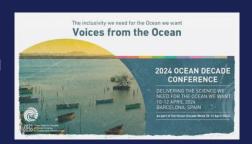
"THE INCLUSIVITY WE NEED FOR THE OCEAN WE WANT"

75 APPROX. PARTICIPANTS

This co-hosted satellite event aimed to identify the systemic barriers that lead to the exclusion of underrepresented groups and communities, thus preventing true inclusivity in ocean conservation and governance. It was exploring this key theme using two lenses (and panels) on geopolitical and intersectorial inclusivity.

SHORT FILM SCREENING

The event began with an 8 minute film, showing a compilation of interviews with members of coastal communities from the Global South. Participants were asked about the biggest challenges they are currently facing or likely to face, and if they had a message they would like to share. The film was a call to the rest of the world to respect and value these voices when discussing the future of our shared ocean (the photos below are a few of those featured).



Malaysia

Sierra Leonne Honduras

El Salvador

Costa Rica

Brazil

India















The full series, which includes 13 interviews with participants from the countries listed above, can be accessed here: www.ecopdecade.org/voices-from-the-ocean.

After the introductions and short film, the interactive element in the form of Slido was launched, giving audience members, in person and online, the opportunity, and encouragement, to participate.

The panels were organized to discuss concrete ways to include and amplify the voices of underrepresented groups in high-level national and international fora, spanning from nations in the Global North and the Global South.







Venue: Barcelona Capital Nàutica, Barcelona.





















INCLUSIVITY EVENT

GEOPOLITICAL INCLUSIVITY

This panel featured speakers from underrepresented geopolitical regions, highlighting barriers to their participation in global ocean events and efforts to tackle Ocean Decade Challenges. The discussion underscored structural obstacles that perpetuate existing inequalities that persist in the international ocean community. The main challenges of geopolitically underrepresented voices that the panelists and participants drew attention to were: economic limitations to attend events, political marginalization due to global political issues, and no access to data from their regions.

Xochitl Elias



Laura Khatib



Lebanon

Shevla Ravelo Perez



Cuba

Khushboo Jhugroo



Mauritius

Ilena Zanella

PANEL



Costa Rica

INTERSECTORAL INCLUSIVITY

PANEL 2 This panel represented different sectors in relation to the ocean, and discussed how bringing a variety of stakeholders "to the table" in order to work towards a common objective is an opportunity to practice inclusivity in action. However, to achieve the Ocean Decade Outcomes and SDG14 targets, all sectors must realize the bigger picture - which may take time. Time is also money, therefore new avenues of funding need to be made available. Integrating and co-creating projects with vulnerable communities is an inclusive way to tackle ocean issues, yet reframing the vulnerable as resilient is a way to show respect and encourage more equal partnerships.

Allan Krelling



Antonella Vassallo



Policy & Education

Herland Cerveaux



Private Industry

Laura Meyer



Law/Engineering

Laura Hernandez Merlano



As moderator

The panelists and attendants of this event proposed several key recommendations:

- a) Changing the location of future events, such as International Conferences, to more accessible areas for both the Global North and South,
- b) Ensuring timely responses about acceptance to conference participants should be a priority, in order to allow enough time for people from both the Global North and South to obtain visas;
- c) Decentralizing communication with coastal communities,
- THE EVENT ORGANIZERS AND GUEST SPEAKERS https://youtu.be/gaYAo5ZwoDg
- d) Providing more options in funding requirements that do not marginalize certain communities, countries, and regions,
- e) Creating greater incentives and opportunities for intersectoral solutions to intersectional problems,
- f) Ensuring communities are core beneficiaries when transitioning to circularity, and
- g) Designing solutions through collaboration across various sectors and lived experiences. These proposals aim to enhance inclusivity, accessibility, and effective problem-solving.