

OCEAN DECADE WEEK  
OFF-SITE SATELLITE EVENT  
9 APRIL 2024

# GATHERING FORCES FOR SCIENCE-POLICY NEXUS, INNOVATION AND FUNDING

50 APPROX.  
PARTICIPANTS

This satellite event was led by the ECOP Programme and Deep Ocean Stewardship Initiative (DOSI) and presented by a wonderful team of partner organizations: Nippon Foundation - University of Edinburgh Ocean Voices Programme, Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (IMarEST), International Marine Center, and SOA. The event provided a dynamic platform for participants to engage with leading experts on key topics for Early Career Ocean Professionals, and served to illustrate some barriers ECOPs encounter, to discuss these barriers, and then foster collaborative and innovative solutions for positive change; finding entry-points into the science-to-policy interface and the startup market.

## INTRODUCTION TO DOSI FROM Maila Guilhon

Maila gave a introduction to the Deep Ocean Stewardship Initiative (DOSI), a global network of experts which integrates science, technology, policy, law and economics to advise on ecosystem-based management of resource use in the deep ocean, and on strategies to maintain the integrity of deep-ocean ecosystems within and beyond national jurisdiction. She invited participants to join the network and take the open survey.



LINK TO THE SURVEY: [HTTPS://DEEPSEACOPS.ORG/SURVEY-ENGLISH/](https://deepseacops.org/survey-english/)  
AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH, FRENCH, PORTUGUESE AND SPANISH.

The event was split into two panels and included an array of speakers (policymakers, scientists, innovators and industry leaders) to provide multifaceted insights on the key topics of science-policy nexus, innovation and funding.



The panels brought together subject matter experts and industry leaders to explore these in an open and inclusive manner, through structured questions and back-and-forth conversations. Using Slido platform, the audience was encouraged to engage in the discussion and moderators were able to obtain feedback from them in real time.



Venue: Barcelona  
Capital Nàutica,  
Barcelona.



# INNOVATION EVENT INNOVATIONS IN OCEAN POLICY

## PANEL 1

The main outcomes of this panel included:

- 1) shared insights about the challenges faced by early career professionals, specifically from deep-sea scientists, and showcased opportunities for ECOPs to be more engaged in the science to policy interface;
- 2) provided information on possible initiatives and programmes to enhance the participation of ECOPs in international negotiations. These include the Ocean Voices Programme Nippon Foundation and Deep Ocean Stewardship Initiative (DOSI);
- 3) shared the [questionnaire](#) to directly assess the aspirations, challenges, and needs of Early Career Ocean Professionals, in engaging in policy-making at all levels; and help evaluate DOSI's current support for ECOPs in these processes.



**MODERATOR:**  
**Mariana Caldeira**



**Amelia Bridges**



**PANELISTS:**  
**Ana Hilario**



**Mariana Andrade**



## PANEL 2

## FUNDING AND RESOURCES

This panel shared experience of their journey in securing funding for their ventures or organizations; discussed key challenges and requirements for funding, provided advice for individuals starting their own company, reflected on their own funding failures and lessons learnt.

Key outcomes were: 1) shared knowledge and learnings on funding in the start-up and innovation fields,

through which the participants gained a deeper understanding of current funding challenges for start-ups and organizations, and potential solutions;

2) promoted networking to encourage meaningful connections among attendees and panelists, fostering potential future collaborations.

**Leandro Angelo Pereira**



**PANELISTS:**  
**Adriana Ruiz Kyvik**



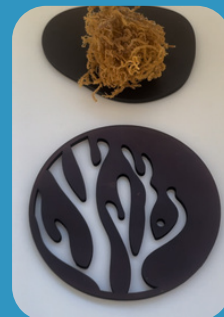
**Anastasiia Varlygina**



**MODERATOR:**  
**Evgeniia Kostianaia**



The event also showcased several products from B'zeos - a green tech company, founded by one of the panelists, Adriana Ruiz Kyvik, which is unlocking the power of seaweed to develop seaweed based packaging. After hearing Adriana's journey from student to ocean tech entrepreneur, it was helpful to understand the whole process of getting a product to market.



### Event outcomes:

The outcomes of this event are related to Challenge 9 of the Ocean Decade and will contribute to obtaining knowledge, resources or infrastructure, partnerships, capacity development, technology solutions and infrastructure required to achieve the objectives of the Ocean Decade by 2030.