Ocean Decade 2021 - 2030: An Overview

Alison Clausen
Programme Specialist, IOC-UNESCO
The process so far…

• Global Planning Meeting in May 2019 with > 200 participants & 11 regional planning workshops with > 1900 attendees
• ECOP Informal Working Group created
• Three meetings of UN-Oceans contact group
• Ocean Literacy & UN agencies Data Management thematic meetings
• Ongoing engagement of Executive Planning Group
• Peer review of zero draft of Implementation Plan => 228 written submissions including 42 from IOC/UNESCO Member States
  ▪ IOC / UNESCO Member State and UN agency review of Version 1.0 of Implementation Plan => 44 written submissions from Member States & 7 from UN agencies

➤ This process resulted in Version 2.0 of the draft Implementation Plan that was adopted by the UNGA on 31 December 2020
Implementation Plan Structure

The Implementation Plan is a dynamic, living document that will evolve over the Decade.

It provides a strategic framework for Decade implementation.

The Implementation Plan is structured as follows:

- **Part 1**: provides the rationale, vision, mission and desired outcomes of the Decade.
- **Part 2**: presents the Decade Action Framework
- **Part 3**: presents the implementation mechanisms
Decade Vision & Mission

Vision
The science we need for the ocean we want

***

Mission
Transformative ocean science solutions for sustainable development, connecting people and our ocean.
Decade Action Framework

2030 Agenda & Regional and Global Policy Frameworks

Decade Outcomes

“The Ocean We Want”

Ocean Decade Challenges
The most immediate and pressing needs of the Decade, Challenges may evolve throughout the Decade and new Challenges will be added. Each Challenge contributes to one or more Decade outcomes.

Decade Objectives
The steps in the process from the ocean we have to the ocean we want. Objectives are relevant to all Challenges. Prioritisation and translation of objectives into Actions will vary depending on context.

Decade Actions
The tangible initiatives and endeavours that will be implemented by a wide range of Decade stakeholders to fulfil the objectives and thus achieve the Challenges.
Decade Outcomes

Describe the ‘ocean we want’ at the end of the Decade.

1. A clean ocean where sources of pollution are identified, reduced or removed.
2. A healthy and resilient ocean where marine ecosystems are understood and managed.
3. A productive ocean supporting sustainable food supply and a sustainable ocean economy.
4. A predicted ocean where society understands and can respond to changing ocean conditions.
5. A safe ocean where life and livelihoods are protected from ocean-related hazards.
6. An accessible ocean with open and equitable access to data, information, and technology and innovation.
7. An inspiring and engaging ocean where society understands and values the ocean in relation to human wellbeing and sustainable development.
Ocean Decade Challenges

Challenges will evolve over the life of the Decade.

Address land and sea-based sources of pollutants and contaminants.

Protect, monitor, manage and restore ecosystems under multiple stressors.

Optimise the role of the ocean to sustainably feed the world’s population.

Contribute to equitable and sustainable development of the ocean economy.

Understand the ocean-climate nexus, build resilience and improve predictions and forecasts.

Expand multi-hazard warning systems and mainstream community preparedness and resilience.

Ensure a sustainable ocean observing system that delivers timely data and across all ocean basins.

Develop a comprehensive digital representation of the ocean.

Ensure comprehensive capacity development and equitable access to data, information, knowledge and technology.

Identify and overcome barriers to the behaviour change that is required for a step change in humanity’s relationship with the ocean.
Objectives and Actions of the Ocean Decade

**DECADE OBJECTIVES**
1. Identify required knowledge for sustainable development
2. Generate comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the ocean
3. Increase the use of ocean knowledge

**DECADE ACTIONS**
- Programmes
- Projects
- Activities
- Contributions

**DECADE OUTCOMES**
- A clean ocean
- A healthy & resilient ocean
- A productive ocean
- A predicted ocean
- A safe ocean
- An accessible ocean
- An inspiring & engaging ocean

UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development
Reminder: Call for Decade Actions No. 01/2020

- First in a series of ‘Call for Decade Actions’ open for:
  1. Global or major regional programmes.
  2. Contributions including support to central or decentralised coordination functions (including collaborative centres and coordination offices).
- Actions that contribute to post-COVID-19 recovery welcome
- The Call is open until 15 January 2021 with decisions in Q1 of 2021 following facilitate dialogue between partners
- No geographic or thematic restrictions and no limit on who can apply
- Call will be followed by other Calls for programmes and projects in 2021
- The Call is not a funding call but the IOC may be able to help make connections to funders => potential Actions can be submitted without secured funding
Launch of process to endorse Decade Activities!

- Do you have an event, workshop, publication or conference planned for 2021 that will contribute to the Ocean Decade Challenges?
- As of today **you can request endorsement for your Decade Activity** via this link:  
- You will need to provide basic information on your Decade Activity including how it contributes to the Ocean Decade Challenges and aligns with the endorsement criteria contained in the Implementation Plan
- Decisions on endorsement will be made in early 2021 and will allow you to be officially recognized as part of the Ocean Decade movement!
Stakeholder Engagement

Global Stakeholder Forum: actively managed communities of practice that will collaborate online and in-person.

Opening soon! Registration of stakeholder engagement networks on www.oceandecade.org
Coordination of the Decade

"Simple, agile approach that builds on existing structures and processes"
Resource Mobilisation

1. **DIRECT SUPPORT TO DECADE**

- Member State / Donor provides support to Decade Action and/or Decade coordination costs using its own procedures.
- Support is recognised on Decade website.

2. **OCEAN DECADE ALLIANCE**

   2.a Support via - Earmarked Funding
   - Donor joins Alliance and commits support to a pre-identified Decade Action or Decade coordination costs that it has selected.
   - Financial flows are via donor’s own grant making procedures.
   - Support is recognised through Alliance platform.

   2.b Support via Virtual Resource Pool
   - Donor joins Alliance and commits support into virtual resource pool.
   - Decade Coordination Unit plays matchmaking role to match committed resources to priority Decade Actions or Decade coordination costs.
   - Financial flows are via donor’s own grant making procedures.
   - Support is recognised through Alliance platform.

3. **PARTNER-LED FINANCING / GRANT-MAKING FACILITY**

- An independent entity develops a financing / grant-making facility to support Decade & seeks endorsement.
- Entity selects the initiatives that it would like to support and they seek endorsement as Decade Actions.
- Financial flows are via the entity’s own grant making procedures.
- Support is recognised on the Decade website and/or through the Decade Alliance.

“The Decade is not a funding mechanism. It encourages alignment of resource mobilisation strategies with Decade priorities.”
Measuring Progress

M&E activities will underpin adaptive management and evolution of the Ocean Decade over the next 10 years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BIENNIAL ACTION PLAN</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2023</th>
<th>2024</th>
<th>2025</th>
<th>2026</th>
<th>2027</th>
<th>2028</th>
<th>2029</th>
<th>2030</th>
<th>POST-DECADEN 2031</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High level work plan showing priority Decade Actions for upcoming two-year period.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESOURCE NEEDS ASSESSMENT</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2023</th>
<th>2024</th>
<th>2025</th>
<th>2026</th>
<th>2027</th>
<th>2028</th>
<th>2029</th>
<th>2030</th>
<th>POST-DECADEN 2031</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Analysis of required vs. secured funding for Decade Actions and coordination costs.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVIEW AND UPDATE DECADE ACTION FRAMEWORK</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2023</th>
<th>2024</th>
<th>2025</th>
<th>2026</th>
<th>2027</th>
<th>2028</th>
<th>2029</th>
<th>2030</th>
<th>POST-DECADEN 2031</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Review of progress and emerging scientific issues and review and updating of Decade Action Framework.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GLOBAL &amp; REGIONAL CONFERENCE SERIES</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2023</th>
<th>2024</th>
<th>2025</th>
<th>2026</th>
<th>2027</th>
<th>2028</th>
<th>2029</th>
<th>2030</th>
<th>POST-DECADEN 2031</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Global and regional gatherings of Decade stakeholders to catalyse partnerships and review Decade priorities.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2023</th>
<th>2024</th>
<th>2025</th>
<th>2026</th>
<th>2027</th>
<th>2028</th>
<th>2029</th>
<th>2030</th>
<th>POST-DECADEN 2031</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overview of high-level operational, financial and scientific progress.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>'STATE OF THE DECADE' REPORT</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2023</th>
<th>2024</th>
<th>2025</th>
<th>2026</th>
<th>2027</th>
<th>2028</th>
<th>2029</th>
<th>2030</th>
<th>POST-DECADEN 2031</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flagship publication documenting the impact of the Decade and progress towards the Decade’s vision.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MID TERM REVIEW</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2023</th>
<th>2024</th>
<th>2025</th>
<th>2026</th>
<th>2027</th>
<th>2028</th>
<th>2029</th>
<th>2030</th>
<th>POST-DECADEN 2031</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive review of progress and update of the Implementation Plan.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FINAL REVIEW</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2023</th>
<th>2024</th>
<th>2025</th>
<th>2026</th>
<th>2027</th>
<th>2028</th>
<th>2029</th>
<th>2030</th>
<th>POST-DECADEN 2031</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive evaluation of Decade at the end of its implementation.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Next steps & key milestones

- **1 January 2021**: Decade starts!
- **15 January 2021**: First Call for Decade Actions closes
- **28 January 2021**: Virtual high-level supporters event and launch of Ocean Decade Alliance (stay tuned for registration details!)
- **January 2021 onwards**: Ocean Decade Virtual Series events continue
- **January – March 2021**: Dialogue with proponents of Decade programs to consolidate common ideas and finalise programme structures
- **March – April 2021**: Decisions on first group of endorsed Decade Actions (programmes and contributions)
- **May 2021 onwards**: Calls for Decade Actions for projects under endorsed programmes or for new programmes
- **March – October 2021**: Progressive establishment of coordination structures and roll-out of Stakeholder Engagement Mechanisms
- **June 2021**: High Level opening segment of First International Ocean Decade Conference (formerly Berlin kick-off conference) and start of “Ocean Decade Laboratories”
- **Q3 2021?**: 2021 UN Ocean Conference, Lisbon
- **Quarters 3 & 4 of 2021**: Regional kick-off events for Africa and Asia + others?