



DATA FOR THE UN OCEAN DECADE

A EUROPEAN FOCUS

Early Career Ocean Professionals Programme

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PROGRAMME OF THE
EUROPEAN UNION



In collaboration with
the UN OD Data
Coordination Office



Decade
Coordination
Office



2021
2030 United Nations Decade
of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development



ECOP
Early Career
Ocean Professionals



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What is an ECOP ?



An Early Career Ocean Professional (ECOP) is an individual with 10 years or less of professional experience, regardless of age, and covering all sectors, disciplines, and knowledge systems. ECOPs include students, researchers, community leaders, divers, entrepreneurs, lawyers, government officials, and NGO staff members.

Our Mission

To support early career ocean professionals in their capacity development and work by providing meaningful **networking, training, professional development, funding opportunities** and creating capacity for **cooperation and knowledge exchange**.



50+ Programmes



330+ Projects



90+ Contributions



650+ Activities



Endorsed in **2021**





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What are the main objectives and outcomes of the ECOP Programme?



Enhance understanding of **needs and challenges of ECOPs** in various regions and countries,



Provide **free, accessible, and inclusive training opportunities** to strengthen ECOPs' capacity,



Ensure that science and other ocean-related opportunities are **shared with everyone**,



Facilitate access to **funding, employment, and mentorship** opportunities,



Elevate and amplify the voices of ECOPs. Foster **leadership** and ensure meaningful engagement in **decision-making processes**.

Global ECOP Community: > 5,200 Members

5 Regional Nodes

1. Africa
2. Asia
3. Caribbean SIDS
4. Central America
5. Pacific Islands
6. Europe (coming in 2024)

40+ National Hubs

- Brazil
- Canada
- Costa Rica
- Italy
- Japan
- Senegal
- USA
- Etc....

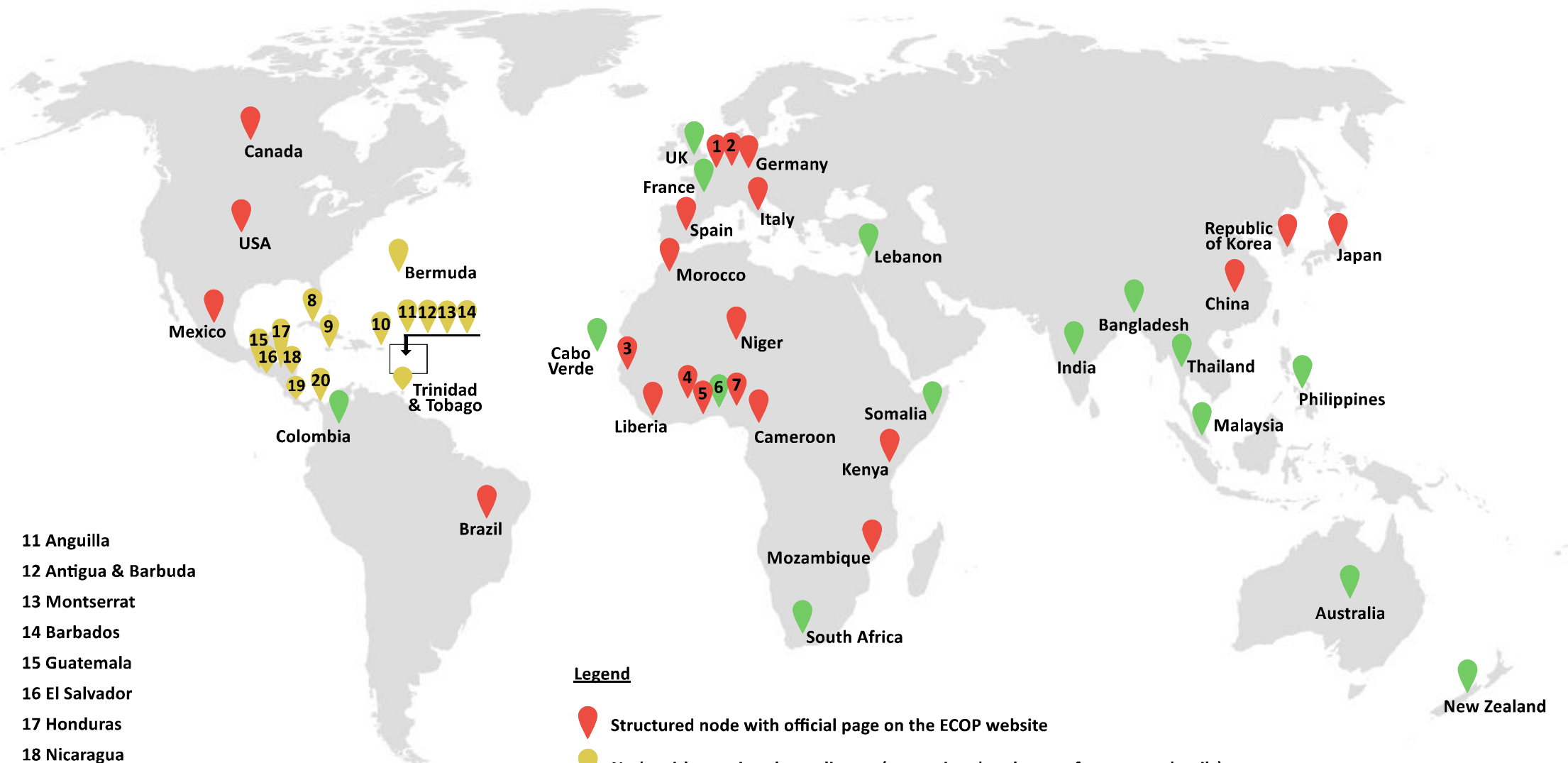
5 Task Teams

- ❖ Ocean Literacy,
- ❖ Training & Mentoring,
- ❖ Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI),
- ❖ Private Industry,
- ❖ OceanBRIDGES,
- ❖ Deep Ocean (coming soon)

9 Endorsed Projects



Global Distribution of National ECOP Hubs (June 2024)



Country Code

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 Belgium | 11 Anguilla |
| 2 Netherlands | 12 Antigua & Barbuda |
| 3 Senegal | 13 Montserrat |
| 4 Ghana | 14 Barbados |
| 5 Togo | 15 Guatemala |
| 6 Benin | 16 El Salvador |
| 7 Nigeria | 17 Honduras |
| 8 Cuba | 18 Nicaragua |
| 9 Jamaica | 19 Costa Rica |
| 10 Puerto Rico | 20 Panama |

Legend

-  **Structured node with official page on the ECOP website**
-  **Node with appointed coordinator (see regional node page for contact details)**
-  **In the process of being established (no information on the website yet)**

List of regional and national nodes

Below is the list of regional and national nodes in the alphabetical order, with hyperlinks to their webpages:

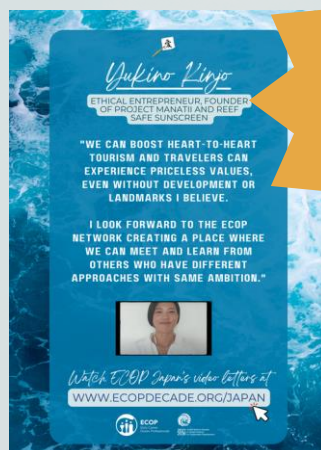
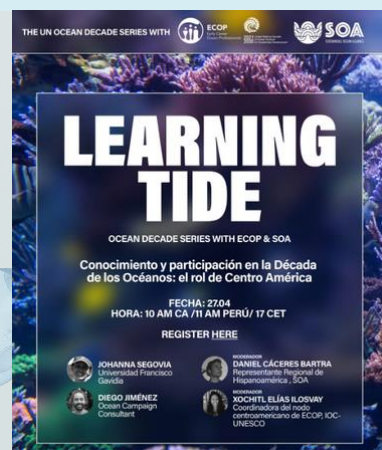
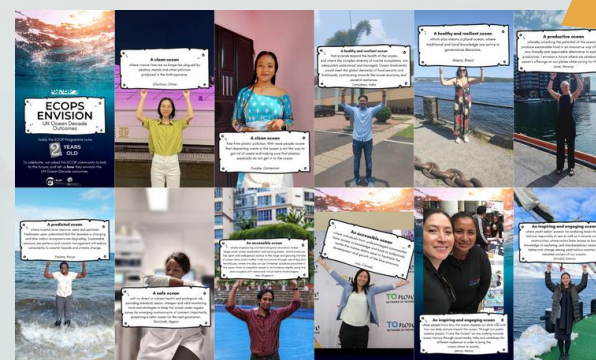
1. Africa (national nodes in [Cameroon](#), [Ghana](#), [Kenya](#), [Liberia](#), [Morocco](#), [Mozambique](#), [Niger](#), [Nigeria](#), [Senegal](#), [Togo](#)).
2. Asia (national nodes in [China](#), India, Japan, [South Korea](#)).
3. Australia/New Zealand – coming soon.
4. Brazil.
5. Canada.
6. Caribbean countries (Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Bermuda, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Trinidad and Tobago).
7. Central America (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama).
8. Europe ([Belgium](#), France, [Germany](#), [Italy](#), Netherlands, Spain, UK).
9. [Mexico](#).
10. United States.

Communications and Engagement Campaigns

Partnering
to provide
learning
resources

Reaching a global network of 5000+ ECOPs

Aligning
with the
Ocean
Decade
framework



Helping
ECOPs
promote
their work



Building
momentum
for ECOP
engagement in
the Decade



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Capacity development

1. ECOP Programme webinar series

1. "How to start an NGO?" 29.09.2022
2. "The blue economy" 27.10.2022
3. "The Ocean Decade in Africa" 10.11.2022
4. "Was 2022 truly the Ocean Super Year we hoped for?" 25.11.2022
5. "Using ArcGIS software for Oceans-related work: An Overview with Keith Van Graafeiland, from ESRI" 21.12.2022
6. "Basics of acoustics in underwater applications with Suleman Mazhar from IEEE OES" 29.05.2023
7. "Funding, opportunities, tips and challenges for ECOPs" 30.06.2023
8. "Emerging ocean technologies supporting polar science for the next decade" 28.08.2023
9. "Plastics in the Pacific and on Hawaii with the ECOP Programme Endorsed Project STORAGE" 30.08.2023
10. "Exploring Ocean Literacy in India with ECOPs and organizations" 02.10.2023
11. "Stoked about Ocean Science with Citizens of Surf" 12.12.2023
12. "The Use of Drones in Marine Science" 19.12.2023
13. "Experiencia Erasmus Mundus – MER + & Global Ocean Carbon Uptake (in Spanish)" 18.01.2024
14. "Seagrass conservation and restoration in West Africa" (27.02.2024)
15. "Programa de la Red Early Career Ocean Professionals (ECOP)" (22.03.2024)
16. "Unlocking Ocean Insights: Innovative Low-Cost Technologies for Marine Ecosystem Study" (14.06.2024)



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Capacity development

2. Cooperation with SOA for joint SOA-ECOP regional webinars

Seven regional webinars: Asia, Central America, Africa, Lusofonia region, North America, Europe, Caribbean.



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3. Cooperation with OceanTeacher Global Academy (OTGA) (pilot project for Africa, now expanding to Asia and Central America)

- ✓ Ocean Colour Remote Sensing and Data Analysis (6-25 June 2022);
- ✓ Data Management and Analysis with R Programming (6-24 February 2023);
- ✓ For ECOPs in Asia: Ocean Data Analysis with R Programming for Early Career Ocean Professionals (9-31 October 2023);
- ✓ For ECOPs in Central America: Data Analysis with Python Programming for Early Career Ocean Professionals (26 February – 19 March 2024)



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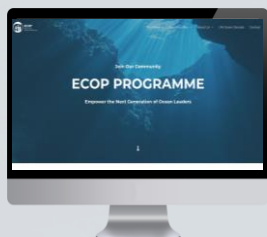
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4. ECOP Programme databases

1. Mentorship programmes database – <https://www.ecopdecade.org/ecop-mentoring-programmes/>;
2. Database for funding (grants, funding calls) and training (internships, summer schools, workshops) resources;
3. Database of networks (list of 200+ networks identified).

Our online presence



Website:

<https://www.ecopdecade.org/>



Email to: ecop.oceandecade@gmail.com



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monthly newsletter



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Ocean Decade Network



Twitter: @OceanDecadeECOP



LinkedIn: @Early Career Ocean Professionals



Instagram: @ecop_programme



Facebook: @ecopprogramme



YouTube: @ecopprogramme

A satellite with solar panels is shown orbiting a turbulent ocean surface. The satellite is positioned on the left side of the frame, with its solar panels extended. The ocean below is characterized by large, white-capped waves, creating a high-contrast, textured appearance. The text "THANK YOU" is centered in the middle of the image in a bold, orange font.

THANK YOU

#EUdata4OceanDecade

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