

# Ocean Decade Endorsement Process

*How and why to seek endorsement  
for your work*

*(last revised April 2023)*



# UN Decade of Ocean Science “The Ocean Decade”



2021 United Nations Decade  
2030 of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development



## 10 Ocean Decade Challenges



Sustainably feed the global population



Develop a sustainable and equitable ocean economy



Unlock ocean-based solutions to climate change



Increase community resilience to ocean hazards



Expand the global ocean observing system



Create a digital representation of the ocean



Understand and beat marine pollution



Protect and restore ecosystems and biodiversity

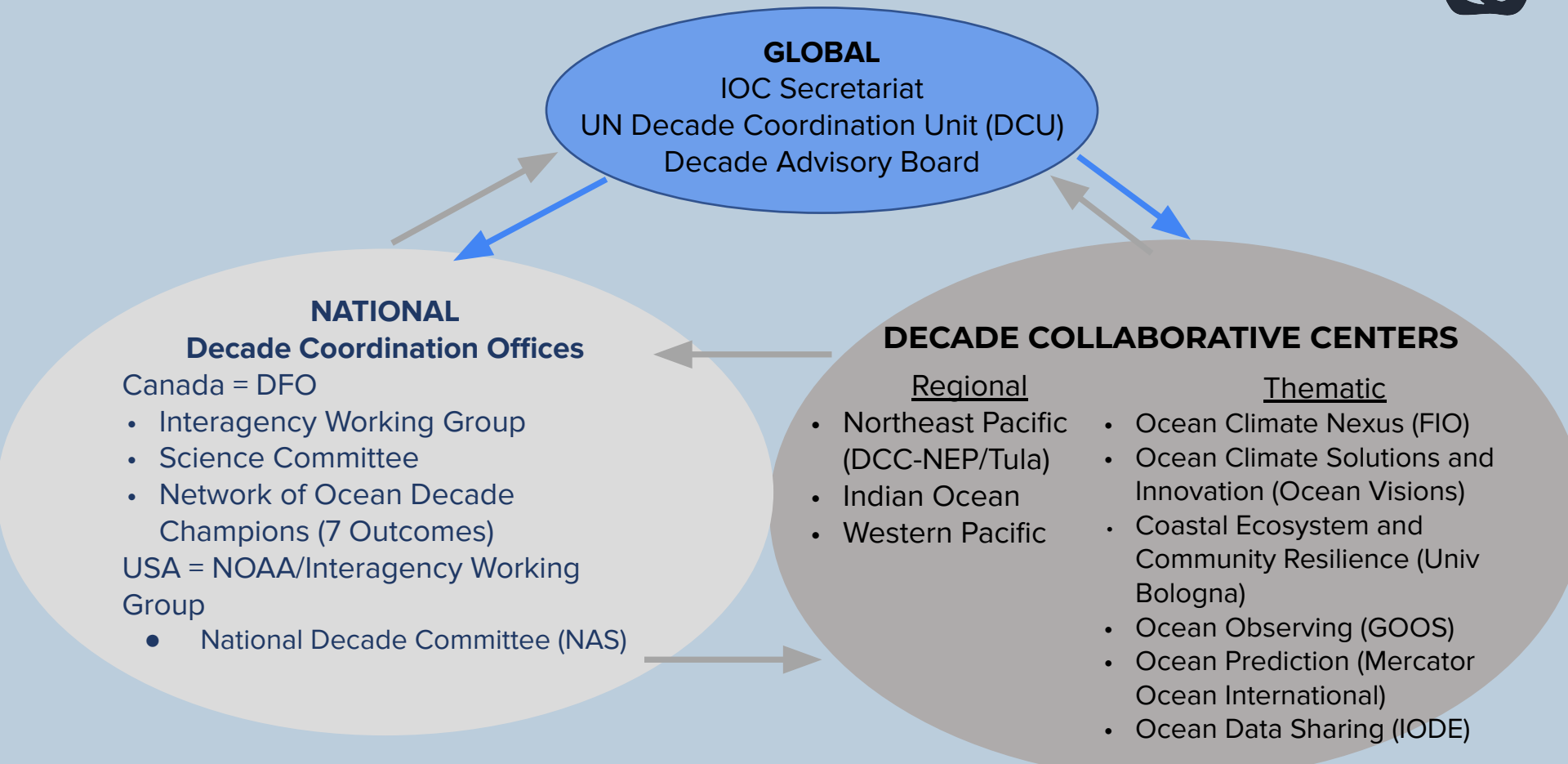


Skills, knowledge, and technology for all



Change humanity's relationship with the ocean

# UN Ocean Decade Coordination



# Why seek endorsement?



Endorsement provides:

- Official recognition that the initiative is part of a collective, global effort to meet the Ocean Decade vision.
  - Increased collaboration when part of a Decade Programme
- Opportunities for new participation and partnerships across disciplines, geographies and generations
- High visibility for the initiative
- Opportunities to access new sources of support



**2021**  
**2030** United Nations Decade  
of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development

# Decade Actions



There are 4 types of Endorsed Decade Actions:

- **Programmes:** Long-term, overarching initiatives that usually tackle multiple challenges; often global, can be regional
- **Projects:** Discrete or focused undertakings at regional, national, or sub-national scales; these can be ‘nested’ under one or more Programmes
- **Contributions:** Financial or in-kind resources
- **Activities:** Stand-alone initiatives, often enabling a Projects or Programme or contributing to a Challenge

# Endorsement Process



**Invitation → Proposal → Review → Endorsement**

# Invitation: Decade Activity



Decade Activities can be submitted for endorsement at any time

- Sign up to Global Stakeholder Forum [forum.oceandecade.org](https://forum.oceandecade.org)
- If needed, send your proposal to the DCC-NEP for review
- Submit a proposal through the online form [bit.ly/Decade-Activity-Form](https://bit.ly/Decade-Activity-Form)



Technical review by the DCU will take at least 6 weeks.

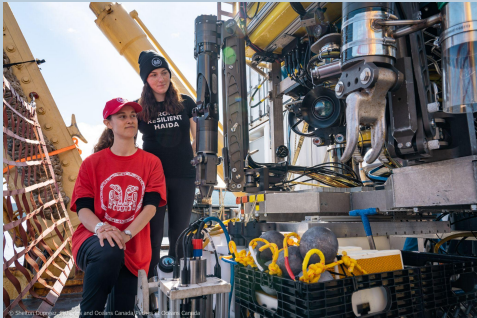
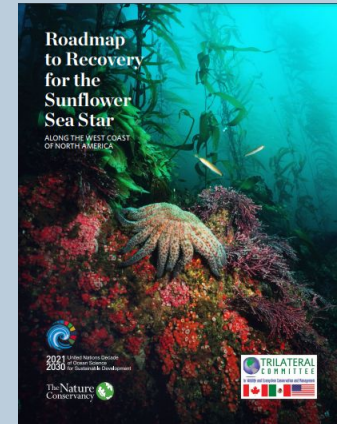


Photo credit: Shelton Du Preez, DFO



# Invitation: Calls for Programmes and Projects



Announced every 6 months (March/October)

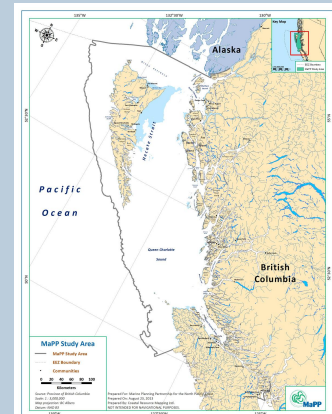
<i>Call timeline</i>	<i>Programme focus</i>	<i>Projects</i>
Call 01 October 2020–January 2021	Programmes and Contributions across all priorities and challenges	
Call 02 October 2021–January 2022	Programmes that address priority issues including marine pollution, multiple stressors on marine ecosystems or the ocean-climate nexus	
Call 03 March 2022–August 2022	Challenge 3—Sustainable Blue Food, Challenge 4—Sustainable Ocean Economy	Projects that have synergies with one of the 17 Programmes that have indicated that they are ready to solicit projects under the call
Call 04 October 2022–January 2023	Challenge 6—Coastal Resilience and Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems, Challenge 8—Digital Representation of the Ocean	Projects that have synergies with one of the 25 Programmes that have indicated that they are ready to solicit projects under the call
<b>Call 05 (OPEN)</b> <b>April 2023–August 2023</b>	<b>Challenge 1 – Marine Pollution</b> <b>Challenge 2 – Ecosystem Restoration and Management</b>	<b>Projects that have synergies with one of the 18 Programmes that have indicated that they are ready to solicit projects under the call</b>



# Proposal: Requesting endorsement for a project



- Sign up to Global Stakeholder Forum [forum.oceandecade.org](https://forum.oceandecade.org)
- Read the Call documentation
- Reach out to Programme(s) (DCC-NEP can identify and make these connections)
- If needed, send your proposal to the DCC-NEP for review
- Submit a proposal through the online form



Marine Plan Partnership study area

# Proposal:

## Requesting endorsement for a project



Tips for a successful project proposal:

- Succinct written answers
- Well-articulated responses to the endorsement criteria showing how you already or will align with them through action
- Explain clearly how co-design processes are embedded in your proposed Action including which stakeholders and how the results will be shared/used
- Describe how your project aligns with a global programme
- Ensure all listed partners are made aware of the proposal
- Provide accurate information about project financing and describe plans for sourcing additional support



# Proposal:

## Endorsement criteria (from guidance document)

1. Contribute to fulfilling the Ocean Decade Challenges and to achieving the Decade objectives and the associated sub-objectives.
2. Accelerate the generation or use of knowledge and understanding of the ocean, with a specific focus on knowledge that will contribute to SDGs.
3. Are co-designed or co-delivered by knowledge generators and users, and facilitate the uptake of knowledge for policy, decision making, management and/or innovation.
4. Ensure that all data and resulting knowledge are provided in an open access, shared, discoverable manner, and are deposited in recognized data repositories.
5. Strengthen existing or create new partnerships.
6. Contribute toward capacity development.
7. Overcome barriers to diversity and equity.
8. Collaborate with and engage local and indigenous knowledge holders.



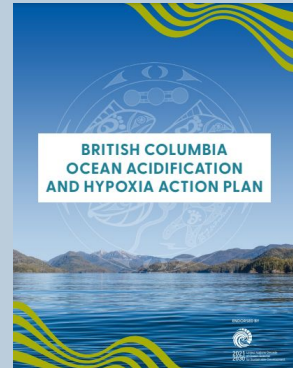
# Review:

## Requesting endorsement for a project

Review is expected to take 3-6 months:

- DCU technical review, for Projects applying through a Programme will include advice of relevant programme
- DCU may consult with Decade Coordination Offices and Decade Collaborative Centers to request advice that may fall within their purview

Once through review, DCU will recommend endorsement to the Executive Secretary of the IOC.



# Project Endorsement:



After a decision for endorsement is made by the IOC Secretariat, project proponents will receive:

- An endorsement letter from the DCU including a charter for endorsed Decade Projects
- Information on joining relevant Community of Practice(s) through the Global Stakeholder Forum
- Use of the Ocean Decade logo to signify endorsement



**2021**  
**2030** United Nations Decade  
of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development

# Ocean Decade Collaborative Center NE Pacific

Aim: To make the Ocean Decade a success in our region



## Our role in the endorsement process:

- Amplify Calls to Action
- Coordinate and connect with global Programmes, Projects, and Contributions
- Solicit and review proposals
  - Support co-design process and facilitate stakeholder engagement
  - Foster leadership and participation from Indigenous and Early Career Ocean Professionals

## Following endorsement:

- Amplify Action milestones and deliverables
- Coordinate, connect and facilitate stakeholder engagement



# Links



Call for Decade Actions: <https://forum.oceandecade.org/page/take-action>

Activity endorsement form: [bit.ly/Decade-Activity-Form](https://bit.ly/Decade-Activity-Form)



Global Stakeholder Forum: [forum.oceandecade.org](https://forum.oceandecade.org)

Ocean Decade Collaborative Center for the Northeast Pacific: [oceandecadenortheastpacific.org](https://oceandecadenortheastpacific.org)