



## SIDE EVENT AGENDA

### Ocean reporting in support of the ocean and climate nexus

15. April 2024, 13h00-13h50, Room: Book Castle

**Lead: Mercator Ocean international, France**

**Co-organizers: EC DEFIS**

The Ocean now plays a prominent role in the global science policy arena reflecting its importance in the Earth system. Ocean reporting is a central facilitator in this science-policy dialogue, delivering the foundation for the collection and sharing of Ocean knowledge for decision making based on the best available science, and to encouraging scientific innovation to drive climate resilience, adaptation and sustainability pathways. Scientifically qualified and reliable digital services provide the authoritative evidence base required for research and assessments of Ocean climate and biodiversity, substantiating Ocean reporting and allowing for the development of decision-support tools such as Ocean indicators and Digital Twin Ocean to explore scenarios of policy actions and their impacts. The EU Copernicus programme as a flagship of the European Union's Space Programme is the world's leading tool for environmental and marine monitoring. The UN Ocean Decade for sustainable development forms the foundation for a global and transversal community to co-build new Ocean activities and creates new opportunities to strengthen our capacities of Ocean knowledge transfer.

Hence, connecting Ocean data products and scientific knowledge through Ocean reporting with the Ocean and climate nexus informed by digital services provides us the opportunity to take action to protect the Ocean and improve the delivery of Ocean information with end-to-end products developed specifically to inform Ocean stewardship, policy and Ocean governance. Various international efforts such as the IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere, the World Ocean Assessment, or the IOC/UNESCO State of the Ocean Report elevate once more the critical role of Ocean reporting for the Ocean and climate nexus. Most recently, the Copernicus Ocean State Report has been recognized as an Action under the "Mission Restore our Ocean and Waters" Charter of the European Union. This side event will describe the critical role of Ocean reporting for the Ocean and climate nexus. Particularly, the side event will focus on ocean reporting in support of the science-policy nexus in Europe and discuss future opportunities for improvements. Moreover, the side event is aiming to discuss ways forward to activate a global dialogue to achieve coherent, reliable and enhanced state-of-the-art monitoring and reporting of Ocean change in support of the ocean and climate nexus.



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**Chairperson/Facilitator of the side event: Dr. Karina von Schuckmann, Mercator Ocean international, France**

**Setting the scene (30 min.)**

- Talk: Mission Restore our Ocean and Waters: Ocean Reporting and the role of Copernicus (Evangelia Georgitsi, Communication Officer, EC Representation in Greece)
- Talk: The Ocean in the Mediterranean Sea climate assessment report MedECC (Chair of MedECC, Anna Pirani, **remote**)
- Talk: The Copernicus Ocean State Report (Mercator Ocean international, Karina von Schuckmann)
- Talk: The Ocean in the IPCC & IPBES (Nathalie Hilmi, Centre Scientifique de Monaco)

**Panel discussion (25 min.)**

Major questions:

- How can we further improve ocean reporting to strengthen the science-policy dialogue?
- How can we further foster the global dialogue for coherent and international ocean reporting in support of the science-policy nexus?

*Panel members:*

- *Evangelia Georgitsi (Evangelia Georgitsi, Communication Officer, EC Representation in Greece)*
- *Nathalie Hilmi (Researcher, environmental economics, Centre Scientifique de Monaco, Monaco)*
- *Assunção Cristas (Professor at Nova School of Law, partner at VdA, former Minister of the Ocean, Portugal)*
- *Sarantis Sofianos (Professor of Physical Oceanography, University of Athens, Greece)*
- *Guillermo Ortuño Crespo (Towards IPOS (International Panel for Ocean Sustainability), France)*

**Q&A with audience & wrap up (5 minutes)**



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