

UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development 2021- 2030 (UNDOS): Arctic Regional Process

Update provided by Craig Lee and Molly McCammon



Danish Centre for Marine Research Ocean Decade Initiative

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Arctic Process

Regional Arctic Ocean Decade Action Plan development 2020-2021

To implement the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development in an Arctic Ocean context, a Task Force is presently preparing the development of an Arctic Ocean Action Plan.

This process is a part of a global preparation process for the Ocean Decade, and will offer an opportunity for stakeholders to formulate, discuss and prioritize concrete proposals for actions in support of the Ocean Decade.

The development of an Arctic Ocean Action Plan process will include workshops centered around the societal goals of the Ocean Decade and provide stakeholders with the opportunity to:

1. Network with other Arctic actors from science, governance, industry and NGOs to identify key shared Ocean Decade priorities for the Arctic Ocean.
2. Participate directly in dedicated working groups to draft the key inputs to the Arctic Ocean Action Plan, including potential partnerships for Arctic activities that support the goals of the Ocean Decade. Participation in working groups include participation in at least two online meetings.
[Learn more about the workshop process](#)
3. Support the final drafting and presentation of the action plan.

The workshops will be hosted by the Danish Center for Marine Research in collaboration with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC). The process has been slightly delayed due to COVID-19, but are now progressing again, after the adoption of a fully digital format.

Unlike the former Ocean Decade regional workshops, the Arctic process will take place after the adoption of the implementation plan by the UN General Assembly, and will thus have stronger focus on identifying and drafting actual realistic actions.

- Re-envisioned as a series of virtual workshops leading to production of an Arctic region action plan.
- Focus and structure imposed by overarching UNDOS process.
- Implementation differs greatly from the process followed for other regions.

<https://www.oceandecade.dk/arctic-workshop>

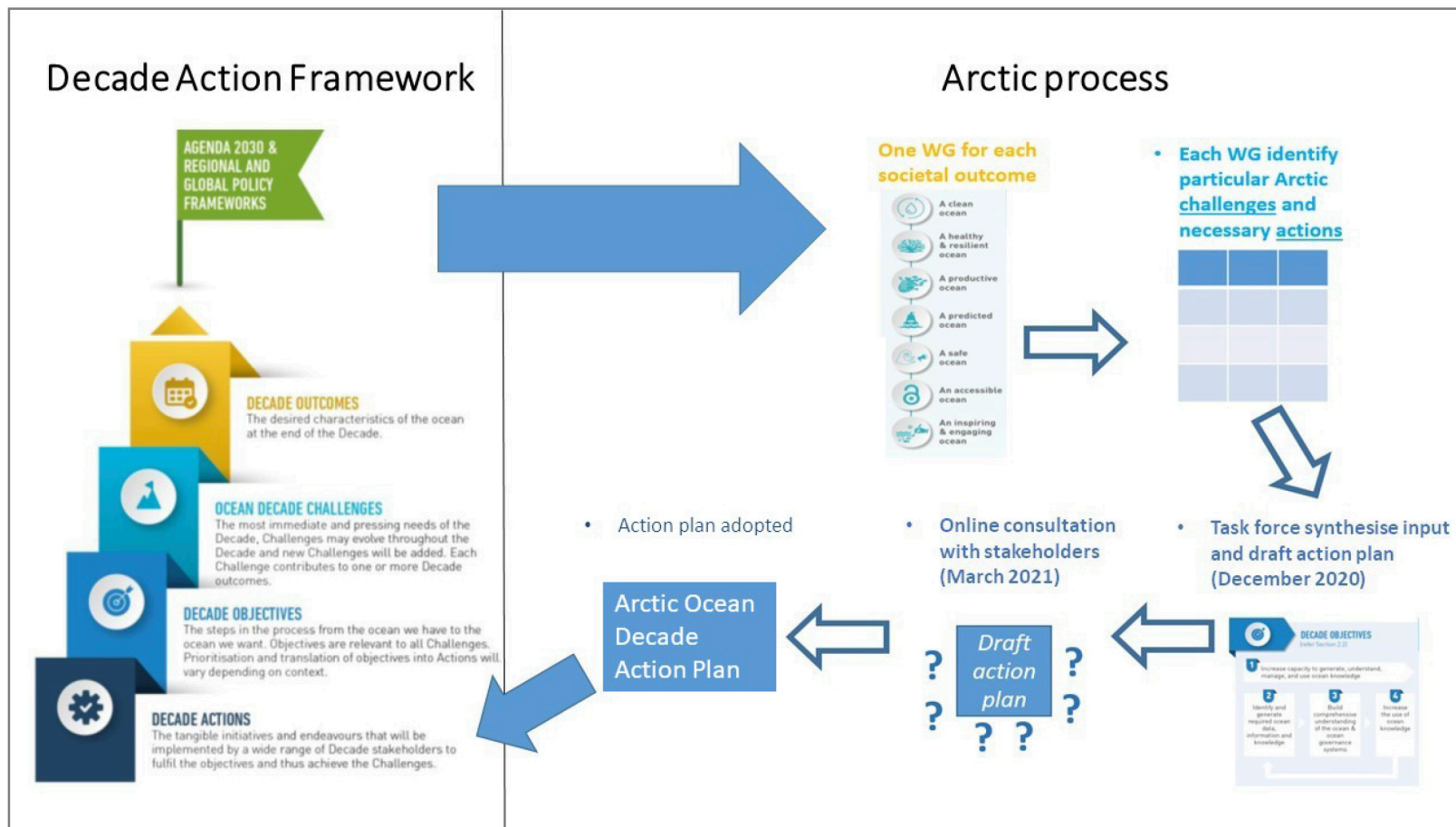
Arctic Ocean Decade Task Force

- Membership drawn from research and policy communities working in the Arctic in addition to IOC UNESCO (to ensure alignment with the wider Ocean Decade process) and representatives from Danish Centre for Marine Research.
- Advisory body for planning process, scope key documents, review action plan resulting from Working Group outputs.

- **AMAP** (Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme). Represented by Jan Rene Larsen / Craig Lee
- **ArcticNet** (Canadian Network of Centres of Excellence). Represented by Jackie Dawson
- **AOOS** (Alaska Ocean Observing System). Represented by Molly McCammon
- **APECS** (Association of Polar Early Career Scientists). Represented by Anna Gebruk
- **DCMR** (Danish Centre for Marine Research) who organizes and lead the process. Represented by Colin Stedmon, Steffen Olsen, Karen Edelvang and Christian Riisager-Simonsen
- **DPS** (Danish Polar Secretariat at the Agency for Science and Higher Education), Represented by Frej Sorento Dichmann
- **IASC** (International Arctic Science Committee). Represented by Lee Cooper
- **ICES** (International Council for the Exploration of the Seas) represented by Julie Kellner
- **IMO** (International Maritime Organization). Represented by Sascha Pristrom Goal-based-Standards (GBS) Implementation Officer in the Maritime Safety Division, and Loukas Kontogiannis head of marine pollution in the Marine Environment Protection Division
- **IOC UNESCO**, who plans the Ocean Decade. Represented by Henrik Enevoldsen and Marie-Elaine Boivin
- **Kawerak Marine Program**, who works better inclusion of Indigenous priorities. Represented by Austin Ahmasuk and Adelaine M. Ahmasuk
- **PAME** (Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment Working Group, Arctic Council). Represented by Paula Kankaanpää
- **Research Council of Norway**, who organized the preparatory “Arctic Ocean Decade Policy-Business-Science-Dialogue” in Troms January 2020. Represented by Jon L. Fuglestad

The plan for the Arctic regional process

- how to make an '*Arctic interpretation*'



Where are we?

	July			August			September			October			November			Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	Beyond
	1.-10.	11.-20.	21.-31.	1.-10.	11.-20.	21.-31.	1.-10.	11.-20.	21.-31.	1.-10.	11.-20.	21.-30.	1.-10.	11.-20.	21.-31.	-	-	-	-	
Workshop preparation																				
WG format development																				
DCMR draft Action Plan v 0																				
WG charge development (template)																				
TASK FORCE review and adopts Action plan format (v0) and WG charge																				
DCMR announces ARCTIC UNDOS process																				
DCMR develops a non-paper on UNDOS/policy alignment																				
WG lead invitation and dialogue																				
WG lead accept					20.															
WG participant invitations					21.															
WG finalised									25.											
WG activities																				
WG chair kick off meeting									1.											
WG kick off meeting										22.										
1st WG meeting											23.									
2nd WG meeting											5.									
3rd WG meeting (if necessary)												18.								
WG delivery of input																1.				
Action plan drafting																				
DCMR drafting of action plan v 1																				
TASK FORCE review action plan																				
Online Arctic UNDOS workshop (consultation on draft)																				
DCMR produce action plan v.2.																				
TASK FORCE adopts action plan																				
Presentation of outcomes at Arctic Science Summit Week																				
Community outreach																				
Arctic action plan presented online and in Berlin at UNDOS launch																				
TASK FORCE MEETINGS					10.				23.							10.		18.	19.	

Overview of the working groups

Outcome	Chair	
1. Clean oceans <i>55 participants</i>	Colin Moffat – Scottish Government (UK)	Toril I. R. Utvik - Equinor (Norway)
2. Healthy & resilient <i>63 participants</i>	Brendan Kelly – U. of Alaska Fairbanks (USA)	Katherine Richardson – U. of Copenhagen (Dk)
3. Productive ocean <i>52 participants</i>	Anne Christine Brusendorff - ICES (Int.)	Henry Huntington – The Ocean Conservancy (USA)
4. Predicted ocean <i>76 participants</i>	Sandy Starkweather - NOAA (USA)	Mark Payne – Technical University of Den. (Dk)
5. Safe ocean <i>33 participants</i>	Matthew Owen – Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland (DK)	Lena Holm Saxtoft - SKULD (DK)
6. Accessible ocean <i>44 participants</i>	Nicole Biebow – Alfred Wegener Inst. (GE)	Molly McCammon – Alaska Ocean Observing System (USA)
7. Inspiring & eng. O. <i>37 participants</i>	Raychelle Danielle – Pew trust (USA)	Gunn-Britt Retter – Saami Council (Norway)