Contribution ID: 5d96c196-8a5d-4a45-ab83-aff3f57baa7e
Date: 15/10/2020 15:17:50

Targeted Consultation on International Ocean Governance

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Introduction

Background

The International Ocean Governance Agenda (JOIN(2016) 49 final) has contributed to a concerted and targeted approach to improve the governance framework, to protect the oceans, strengthen international ocean science and develop a sustainable blue economy worldwide. Despite good progress by the EU and the global community to improve ocean governance as presented in the progress report on the delivery of the agenda (JOIN(2019) 4), further action is necessary to ensure oceans are healthy, clean, safe, secure and sustainably used.

Objectives

The targeted stakeholder consultation aims to assess the need and how to develop the EU International Ocean Governance Agenda. In particular, the consultation aims to identify opportunities for targeted action in light of today's challenges in international ocean governance to deliver the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and in particular the sustainable development goal on the ocean (SDG14) in support of the objectives of the European Green Deal

Concretely, the objectives of the consultation are to:

i) re-examine the EU's role in international ocean governance;
ii) re-examine the three priorities of the current Agenda, its goals and the actions thereunder (JOIN (2016) 49 final); and
iii) identify new policy areas or actions to tackle existing and emerging challenges

Scope

The targeted consultation seeks contributions from relevant stakeholders including Member States, third countries, international organisations, NGOs, financial institutions, academic, scientific, social and economic partners

The consultation consists of 5 sections:

1. Personal information
2. Scope and objectives of the International Ocean Governance Agenda

3. Strengthening the International Ocean Governance framework
4. Reducing pressure on the ocean and seas and creating the conditions for a sustainable blue economy
5. Strengthening international ocean science: research, data and knowledge systems

After the first two sections, you can submit your answers or choose to answer one of the three thematic sections in addition. You can also choose to answer all sections. Each section consists of 5-10 questions.

About you

* Language of your contribution

Dutch

* First name

* Surname

Email (this will not be published)

* Country

NL - Netherlands

Please identify below your organisation, geographic context and main scale of activity

	EU	non-EU	local	national	regional	global	sectoral
Academia	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Policy	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Public authority	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐
Civil society	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Business	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Finance	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

* What is your main field of activity/expertise

at most 1 choice(s)

Governance

Other, please specify

50 character(s) maximum

* Publication privacy settings

The Commission will publish the responses to this consultation. You can choose whether you would like your details to be made public or to remain anonymous.

- **Anonymous**
  Only your type of respondent, country of origin and contribution will be published. All other details (name, organisation name and size, transparency register number) will not be published.
- **Public**
  Your personal details (name, organisation name and size, transparency register number, country of origin) will be published with your contribution.

☑ I agree with the personal data protection provisions

Privacy_statement_targeted_consultation_IOG.pdf

☑ I give consent that the Commission keeps my data to inform me about future stakeholder consultations on International Ocean Governance related matters including through the International Ocean Governance Forum

Scope and objectives of the International Ocean Governance Agenda

In your view, is the current objective of the EU's International Governance Agenda "*to ensure safe, secure, clean and sustainably managed oceans through a coherent, cross-sectoral and rules-based international approach"* still relevant and coherent with global sustainability objectives pertaining to the ocean, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and in particular the sustainable development goal on the ocean (SDG14) thereunder?

- ☑ Yes
- ☐ No

Keeping in mind the scope of EU competences and the challenges to deliver global sustainability objectives pertaining to the ocean, are the three policy pillars of the International Ocean Governance Agenda (JOIN (2016) 49 final) still relevant and concrete enough?

Pillar 1: Improving the international ocean governance framework
Pillar 2: Reducing pressure on oceans and seas and creating the conditions for a sustainable blue economy
Pillar 3: Strengthening international ocean research and data

- ☑ Yes
- ☐ No

Does the EU lead by example in the delivery of global sustainability objectives relevant to the oceans in particular SDG14 through its marine, maritime and fisheries policies?

- ☑ Yes

- [ ] No
- [x] Partially

* Please explain why and describe the policy areas where improvements are particularely needed.

350 character(s) maximum

Nederland waardeert de focus van de EU op holistische, cross-sectorale oplossingen in de EU's International Ocean Governance Agenda uit 2016 en de raadsconclusies over Oceanen en Zeeën uit 2019 en moedigt de EU aan deze focus te versterken.

What actions are necessary for the EU International Ocean Governance Agenda to address more effectively the balance between the need for conservation and the sustainable use of ocean, seas and marine resources?

350 character(s) maximum

Voortzetting van de werkzaamheden die de Europese Commissie 2019-2024 (EU Green Deal) beoogt, daarbij de raadsconclusies op het gebied van Zeeën en Oceanen uit 2019 in acht nemende. Daarnaast zou Nederland extra aandacht willen vragen voor de punten die in de rest van deze consulatie door ons als 'most important' of 'important' zijn gemarkeerd.

Thank you for answering the general questions on the scope and objectives of the International Ocean Governance Agenda.

Please choose the section(s) you would like to continue with:

at most 3 choice(s)

- [x] Improving the international ocean governance framework
- [x] Reducing pressure on the ocean and seas and creating the conditions for a sustainable blue economy
- [x] Strengthening ocean science, research, data and knowledge systems for International Ocean Governance
- [ ] None

Improving the international ocean governance framework

Please rate the following goals according to the need for further action by the EU to improve the international ocean governance framework.

	most important	important	less important	not important	don't know
Addressing legal and institutional gaps within and beyond areas of national jurisdiction	◉	○	○	○	○
Enhancing coordination and cooperation between international organisations	◉	○	○	○	○

Promoting the integration of ocean governance frameworks with other relevant governance frameworks such as for climate and biodiversity	◉	○	○	○	○
Supporting efforts by relevant bodies such as regional fisheries bodies, regional sea conventions and other multilateral organisations for the conservation and sustainable use of the ocean and marine resources	◉	○	○	○	○
Strengthening ocean knowledge systems and interfaces	○	○	○	○	○
Strengthening compliance with /implementation of existing regulations and policies	○	○	○	○	○
Promoting policy coherence among relevant instruments	◉	○	○	○	○
Other	○	○	○	○	○

Please explain your choice. Which action(s) would need to be carried out or scaled-up to meet the most important goal(s) and at which level (local, national, regional sea, global or sectoral)?

500 character(s) maximum

De EU-lidstaten hebben gezamenlijk belang bij duurzaam en vreedzaam beheer en gebruik van de oceaan. Dit vraagt om een internationale en ambitieuze inzet binnen de kaders van het zeerecht. De huidige mondiale juridische en bestuurlijke structuur is ontoereikend om de toekomstbestendigheid van de oceaan te waarborgen. Het beheer van internationale zeegebieden is een mondiale opgave waarbij het VN-Zeerechtverdrag en daarmee verbonden overeenkomsten leidend moeten zijn.

How can the EU promote coordination and cooperation among regional and global organisations with complementary mandates to maximise their synergies and facilitate coherent policy application?

	most important	important	less important	not important	don't know
Support the development and implementation of cooperation instruments such as memoranda of understanding, collective arrangements and complementary conservation and management measures	○	○	○	○	○
Support joint action plans including for data-collection, monitoring and complementary conservation and joint management strategies	○	◉	○	○	○

Strengthen organisational capacity for implementation, collaboration and coordination	○	◉	○	○	○
Support cross-organisational initiatives, platforms and forums for information sharing, dialogue and exchange of good practice	○	◉	○	○	○

Other (please specify)

250 character(s) maximum

What further actions could the EU undertake to support an integrated approach for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development considering interactions between SDG14 and other goals and the cross-cutting role of the ocean and marine resources?

250 character(s) maximum

Nederland is voorstander van een holistische aanpak van de 2030 Agenda. Specifiek voor SDG14 kan extra worden ingezet op circulaire economie (met name SDGs 2, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13) en Source-to-Sea management (met name SDGs 6, 11, 12, 13, 15).

Which actions support best the establishment of networks of effective marine protected areas and other area-based management tools for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity?

	most important	important	less important	not important	don't know
Implementation of ecosystem-based integrated coastal zone management	○	◉	○	○	○
Use of ecosystem-based maritime spatial planning	◉	○	○	○	○
Establishment of strict protection zones	○	○	○	○	○
Design and implementation of robust and adaptive management plans	○	◉	○	○	○
Promotion of cross-sectoral management arrangements	◉	○	○	○	○
Use of remote monitoring	○	○	○	○	○
Implementation of regular performance reviews	○	○	○	○	○
Support of organisational capacity development for identification, design and implementation of MPA networks'	○	◉	○	○	○

Sustainable funding	○	○	○	○	○

Other (please specify)

250 character(s) maximum

What should the EU undertake to promote Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements as a tool for international ocean governance?

250 character(s) maximum

Reducing pressure on the ocean and seas and creating the conditions for a sustainable blue economy

Please rate the following goals according to the need for further action by the EU to ensure reducing pressure on the ocean and seas and creating the conditions for a sustainable blue economy

	most important	important	less important	not important	don't know
Addressing cumulative pressures on the marine environment	◉	○	○	○	○
Strengthening adaptive policy and management approaches	○	○	○	○	○
Addressing pollution from land-based and sea-based sources	◉	○	○	○	○
Mitigating and adapting to the harmful effects of climate change	◉	○	○	○	○
Preventing overfishing and managing ocean food resources sustainably	◉	○	○	○	○
Conserving and protecting marine ecosystems	◉	○	○	○	○
Managing marine space sustainably	○	○	○	○	○
Creating the right socio-economic conditions for a sustainable blue economy	○	○	○	○	○
Supporting the effective implementation of international obligations	○	○	○	○	○
Eliminating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing	◉	○	○	○	○

Ensuring a level-playing field based on decent work and social sustainability in blue economy sectors	◉	○	○	○	○

Please explain your choice. Which action(s) would need to be carried out or scaled-up to meet the most important goal(s) and at which level (local, national, regional sea, global or sectoral)?

500 character(s) maximum

Prioriteiten zijn (I) de beperking van zeespiegelstijging, oceaantemperatuur en -verzuring (global, regional en sectoral), en (II) het verminderen van marien zwerfafval en de transitie naar een circulaire economie (regional and local). Belangrijk is dat inlandse gebieden en rivieren worden meegenomen aangezien veelal het land de bron is van de CO2-uitstoot en vervuiling. Daarnaast vraagt NL extra aandacht voor de bescherming van koraalecosystemen en de risico's van antropogeen onderwatergeluid.

Which specific action(s) should be done to address pollution from land-based and sea-based sources?

	most important	important	less important	not important	don't know
Promote the use of life-cycle approaches and circular economy models	◉	○	○	○	○
Strengthen the use of integrated coastal zone management and maritime spatial planning	◉	○	○	○	○
Strengthen land-based pollution prevention by applying integrated river-basin management	◉	○	○	○	○
Promote measures to prevent pollution from ships such as Emission Control Areas, contingency planning and port reception facilities	◉	○	○	○	○
Support the development of a global agreement on plastic	◉	○	○	○	○

Other (please specify)

250 character(s) maximum

How can the EU promote an ecosystem approach for addressing cumulative pressures to the marine environment regionally and globally?

	most important	important	less important	not important	don't know

Support regular monitoring of the marine environment status at national and regional levels by relevant authorities in close cooperation with Regional Seas Conventions	○	○	○	○	○
Support regular integrated assessments of cumulative pressures of economic activities and climate change impacts at national and regional levels (contributing to relevant global assessments)	◉	○	○	○	○
Support measures to ensure clean, healthy and productive seas at local, national and regional levels with the support of international organisations with relevant mandates	◉	○	○	○	○
Ensure a stricter implementation of existing EU rules (e.g. MSFD, WFD)	○	○	○	○	○
Ensure cumulative pressures are duly considered in environmental impact assessments	○	◉	○	○	○
Support compliance mechanisms that take account of cumulative pressures	○	○	○	○	○

Other (please specify)

250 character(s) maximum

Which groups should be targeted for capacity building for conservation and sustainable use of ocean, seas and marine resources?

	most important	important	less important	not important	don't know
Global organisations	◉	○	○	○	○
Regional organisations	○	○	○	○	○
National authorities	○	○	○	○	○
Local authorities	○	○	○	○	○
Economic sectors	○	○	○	○	○
Private and public investors	◉	○	○	○	○
Academia	○	○	○	○	○

Citizens	◉	○	○	○	○

Others -please specify

100 character(s) maximum

How could the EU strengthen the effectiveness of capacity building and development cooperation for conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources?

	most important	important	less important	not important	don't know
Promote donor coordination	◉	○	○	○	○
Promote donor-recipient coordination	○	○	○	○	○
Build recipient capacity for the acquisition, management and use of development support	○	○	○	○	○
Support the exchange of good practices	○	○	○	○	○
Support regional programming	○	○	○	○	○
Support organisations competent for the conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources	○	○	○	○	○
Support cross-sector and international coordination and cooperation	◉	○	○	○	○

Others -please specify

250 character(s) maximum

What actions would contribute to a level playing field among blue economy operators and ensure compliance with international standards on environment, labour law, fisheries, maritime safety and fair taxation?

	most important	important	less important	not important	don't know
Address the use of flags from States taking limited action to ensure compliance with existing standards	○	◉	○	○	○

Strengthen the application and coordination of ex-ante and ex-post assessments of blue economy projects and strategies including environmental impact assessments	◉	○	○	○	○
Promote consideration of marine and ocean impacts in ex-ante and ex-post assessments of land-based projects	○	◉	○	○	○
Promote financing conditionalities including donor coordination that give priority to sustainable blue economy opportunities	○	○	○	○	○
Ensure ocean health considerations are included in financing conditionalities for land-based projects	○	○	○	○	○
Address justice and equity concerns related to blue economy development building on inclusive processes (associating in particular local coastal communities)	○	○	○	○	○
Promote fair mechanisms for benefit sharing	○	○	○	○	○
Support blue economy initiatives with business models accounting for ecosystem protection and social inclusion	◉	○	○	○	○
Promote maritime spatial planning that accounts individual and cumulative pressures on ecosystems	○	○	○	○	○

Others -please specify

250 character(s) maximum

Which actions should the EU and its Member States carry out/support to maximise the ocean's, seas' and coastal zone's potential for climate change adaptation and mitigation while ensuring ocean conservation and sustainable use?

	most important	important	less important	not important	don't know
Ensure maximum sustainable yield (MSY) of fisheries	○	○	○	○	○
Strengthen climate change resilience considerations into fisheries management	○	○	○	○	○

Support restoration and maintenance of marine habitats that sequester carbon dioxide	◉	○	○	○	○
Support the establishment of coherent networks of Marine Protected Areas and other area-based management tools	◉	○	○	○	○
Support coastal area adaptation to the consequences of sea-level rise	◉	○	○	○	○
Promote offshore wind energy	○	○	○	○	○
Promote tide and wave energy	◉	○	○	○	○
Promote low-emission fisheries and aquaculture practices	◉	○	○	○	○
Develop an international ocean climate and forecasting centre	○	○	○	○	○

Others -please specify

250 character(s) maximum

Strengthening international ocean science: research, data and knowledge systems for International Ocean Governance

Please rate the following goal(s) according to the need for further action by the EU to strengthen international ocean science.

	most important	important	less important	not important	don't know
Support ocean research	◉	○	○	○	○
Strengthen research alliances	○	○	○	○	○
Strengthen research alliances in particular with the global south and developing countries	○	○	○	○	○
Strengthen and sustain operational ocean observation	○	○	○	○	○
Support interoperable data frameworks	◉	○	○	○	○
Improve ocean science-society-policy interfaces	○	◉	○	○	○

Support operational ocean and climate forecasting services	○	○	○	○	○
Strengthen governance and human sciences in ocean research	○	○	○	○	○
Support the inclusion of traditional and local knowledge in ocean research	○	○	○	○	○

Please explain your choice. Which action(s) would need to be carried out or scaled-up to meet the most important goal(s) and at which level (local, national, regional sea, global or sectoral)?

500 character(s) maximum

Voor een effectief oceaanbeleid is het nodig dat we meer van de oceanen begrijpen, bijvoorbeeld hoe ze reageren op de gevolgen van menselijke activiteiten. Het momentum van de Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) kan hiervoor worden aangegrepen. Belangrijk is dat data open wordt gedeeld via de FAIR-principes (Findable, Accessable, Inter-operable, Re-usable).

How could the EU support effective science-society-policy interfaces to ensure that ocean research is translated into actionable knowledge and swiftly taken up by policy developers and decision makers?

350 character(s) maximum

Should the transition from research to operational ocean services, accessible to local and international communities for decision-making, impact assessment and development of best practices be promoted?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

Are further efforts needed to ensure the regular assessment of progress in the attainment of global ocean sustainability objectives in particular SDG14, building on regional ocean assessments and other reports on the state of the marine environment and its resources?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

How could the EU and its Member States strengthen, possibly reshape, research alliances further to support international collaboration for societally relevant ocean research, data and knowledge?

	most important	important	less important	not important	don't know
Support the implementation of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, and in particular the strengthening of its social/human science component	◉	○	○	○	○

Develop a “digital twin” ocean that includes open, multidisciplinary and interoperable data, and provides actionable knowledge for decision-making	○	◉	○	○	○
Explore the potential of new research alliances e.g. that include the Indian, Pacific, and Southern Oceans	○	○	○	○	○
Support the full participation of the Global South in research alliances	○	○	○	○	○
Ensuring research alliances work transdisciplinary and are inclusive of all dimension of science (natural, social, humanities), knowledge (including practical and traditional knowledge) and the various dimensions of the ocean (time, space, and human dimensions)	○	○	○	○	○
Support marine research programs that are transdisciplinary and based on sustainability science	◉	○	○	○	○
Support operational oceanography with an international ocean climate and forecasting centre	○	○	○	○	○

Other options -please specify

350 character(s) maximum

Document upload

Should you wish to provide additional information (e.g. a position paper, report) or raise specific points not covered by the questionnaire, you can upload your document here. Please note that the uploaded document will be published alongside your response to the questionnaire, which is the essential input to this consultation. Any documents uploaded are optional and will be used as additional background information to better understand your position.

The maximum file size is 1 MB

Contact

EU-Ocean-Governance-Forum@ec.europa.eu