

# OPPORTUNITY

## Focusing on Capacity Development Regarding Marine Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) *ABNJ Regional Leaders Program*

**M**arine areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ) comprise 64% of the ocean's surface. ABNJ contain ecosystems, marine resources, and biodiversity of great ecological, socioeconomic, and cultural importance. A variety of human activities take place in ABNJ; however, lack of knowledge of marine biodiversity and ecosystems in ABNJ, difficulties in enforcement of existing conservation and management measures, and disagreements over appropriate policy responses have hindered the sustainable management of ABNJ. Additionally, there is insufficient communication and coordination between ABNJ processes at the regional and global levels and there is a need to identify and utilize best practices in different regions and sectors.

As part of the *GEF/FAO Program on Global Sustainable Fisheries Management and Biodiversity Conservation in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction* (Common Oceans Program) ([www.commonoceans.org](http://www.commonoceans.org)), the *GEF/FAO/Global Ocean Forum (GOF) project on Strengthening Global Capacity to Effectively Manage Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction* has designed an **ABNJ Regional Leaders Program to strengthen the capacity of leaders at the regional and national levels to better address ABNJ resources and issues and to more effectively participate in global and regional ABNJ discussions.**

**This ABNJ Regional Leaders Program will include a short course, focusing on: global and regional discussions on ABNJ management; issues related to the implementation of management tools; capacity needs of developing countries and Small Island Developing States (SIDS); and global and regional processes related to ABNJ.**

The course will be organized by GOF and the University of Delaware, together with FAO, with the participation of UNDOALOS.

**When:** 14-22 January 2015

**Where:** United Nations  
New York, NY, USA

### Participants Will:

- 1) Gain background information and knowledge on ABNJ policy issues across all sectors, especially fisheries and biodiversity conservation;
- 2) Gain an understanding of regional and global ABNJ policy frameworks that address ABNJ issues;
- 3) Gain understanding of global ABNJ processes by observing the UN BBNJ<sup>1</sup> negotiations; and
- 4) Develop appropriate leadership skills and acquire relevant information that the participant can apply towards improved regional and national policy-making, management, and the sustainable use of marine resources in ABNJ.

### Apply:

**Who should apply:** Leaders from developing countries and SIDS who want to learn more about ABNJ policy issues, tools and management approaches, and global policy processes related to ABNJ.

**How:** Please send resume/CV and enclosed application form to Dr. Miriam Balgos: [miriambalgos@globaloceans.org](mailto:miriambalgos@globaloceans.org)

### DEADLINE: 3 December 2014

Travel (economy) and daily subsistence allowance will be provided for up to 5 Regional Leaders

<sup>1</sup>Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction



## Project Partners:

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Secretariat

Deep Sea Conservation Coalition

French Marine Protected Areas Agency

Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology

Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (IOC-UNESCO)

International Maritime Organization (IMO)

International Ocean Institute

Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI)

Nausicaa Centre National de la Mer, France

Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA)

SeaOrbiter

UN Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (UNDOALOS)

UNESCO Natural Sciences

University of Delaware

Vietnam National University (VNU-University of Science)

Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA)

World Ocean Network (WON)

## Schedule:

**Jan. 14:** Arrival in New York

**Jan. 15, 16, and 17:** Introductory course on ABNJ. Courtesy visit to Permanent Missions.

**Jan. 18:** Free Day

**Jan. 19:** Preparation for the 20th January Event on ABNJ

**Jan. 20th:** GOF Event on ABNJ featuring the ABNJ Regional Leaders

**Jan. 20, 21:** Observe the BBNJ process; Session wrap-up and evaluation

**Jan. 22:** Departure from New York



The **Global Ocean Forum**, organized at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002, works with national ocean leaders from over 110 countries, to advance the global agenda on oceans, coasts, and small island developing States through policy analyses, multi-stakeholder dialogues, and public education and outreach.

See: <http://globaloceanforum.com/>

## For More Information:

Please contact:

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or

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