



# THE OCEAN FOUNDATION

An update from our **International Ocean Acidification Initiative (IOAI)**



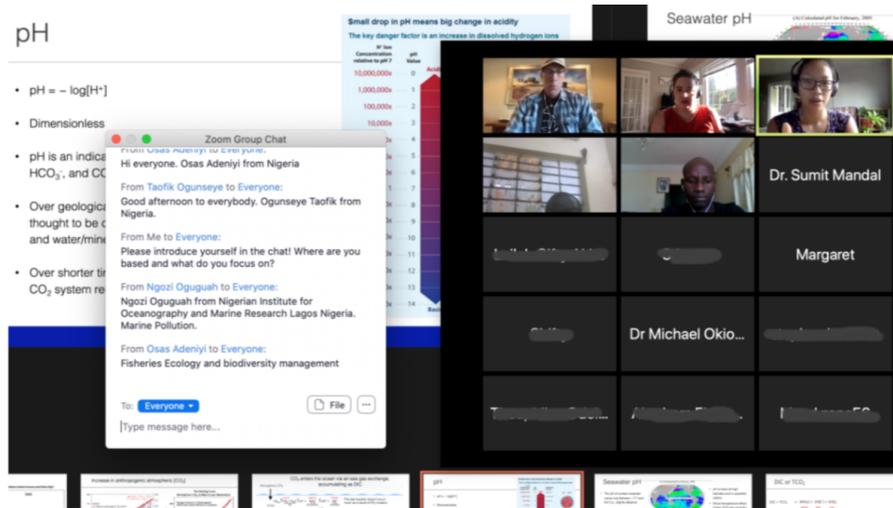
## Proving Remote Trainings Can Be Great

In a standard year, we might run two large workshops and support dozens of scientists by now - but this year is anything but standard. COVID-19 has halted our ability to conduct in-person training, but ocean acidification and climate change haven't slowed down. Our work is just as needed as ever.

This summer, The Ocean Foundation received the opportunity to design an online course for the Coastal Ocean and Environment Summer School in Ghana (COESSING). We recruited leading experts like Dr. Andrew Dickson and Dr. Christopher Sabine, who enthusiastically signed on. Our course was appropriate for students brand new to oceanography and also created opportunities for advanced research design and theory. The course consisted of pre-recorded videos, live discussions, and one-on-one coaching sessions. During the discussions, as many as 30 students tuned in at a time and interacted with world experts.

When the school concluded, we established six research groups with whom we have continued to hold conversations. We are committed to helping them determine and reach their goals, whether by coaching them on repairing equipment, assisting with data analysis, or providing feedback on experimental designs.

[Learn More](#)



## Taking Science to Policy

What do policymakers *really* want to know about ocean acidification, and how can you create a feedback loop between science and policy? On October 20th and 21st, The Ocean Foundation and the International Alliance to Combat Ocean Acidification teamed up to help more than 120 scientists answer those questions. During our two virtual training sessions, we showed scientists how their work directly supports international commitments that their governments have made, and how in turn they can work with their governments to strengthen science and increase their country's ability to respond to ocean acidification.

In addition to hearing from science and policy experts, each participant received a worksheet that guides them in shaping their strategy for enhancing science-based ocean acidification adaptation planning in their country. The Ocean Foundation and the OA Alliance will continue to work with workshop participants to help them develop and implement their strategies.

You can view the workshop recording and access the worksheet distributed to all participants using the links below. Attendees also received our [OA Legislative Guidebook](#) and an OA Action Plan Toolkit.

[Watch the Workshop](#) and [Download Materials](#)





## Building a Data Hub with Mexico

The Ocean Foundation has partnered with the Government of Mexico and the World Resources Institute (WRI) to design an information center that collects data from multiple sources, in order to promote a shared knowledge of our marine regions. The "Océanos D-I Data Hub" is currently under development.

The institutional and legislative frameworks that protect, preserve, and increase the wealth of coasts and ocean in Mexico need to be strengthened. The integration and articulation of data and information to develop knowledge and generate a national repository of ocean health data is a fundamental first step.

For instance, information gaps prevent effective and inclusive decisions on how to use the ocean and fulfill the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (an international plan of action developed by Heads of Government through the United Nations in 2015, which created a set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including SDG 14: Life Under Water). Therefore, effective ocean data management and sharing is essential to measure progress for a sustainable blue ocean economy.



The partnership has eight specific objectives which support joint policies toward a sustainable blue ocean economy, respond to international commitments, and allow continuous monitoring of ocean and coastal ecosystem health. Initial surveys on 51 ongoing projects in Mexico have informed the development of the data hub as an effective tool for transforming ocean science. The hub will deliver data and information in open formats, to allow free access and promote interactions between data providers and data users from government, academic, civil society, and private sectors.



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**Learn More About the  
International Ocean  
Acidification Initiative**

Our goal is for every country to have a robust national ocean acidification monitoring and mitigation strategy, driven by local experts to address local needs. We also coordinate regional and international action to provide the necessary governance and financial frameworks needed to address this international problem.



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