

INTERNATIONAL OCEAN INSTITUTE

Continuing Professional Development Courses in Ocean Governance for IOI Alumni

Course 2: New Developments and Emerging Issues in Ocean Governance



An IOI-Canada and IOI-Southern Africa Collaboration

4th October – 4th November 2021

Introduction from the Directors

The International Ocean Institute's Second Continuing Professional Development (aka Refresher) course, delivered virtually from 4 October to 4 November, 2021, was a collaborative initiative of IOI-Canada and IOI-Southern Africa. This collaboration between two of IOI's five Training Centres was the first of its kind within the IOI global network of Centres, at least in recent decades.



The first online Refresher course, as it was originally termed, was delivered in Nov.-Dec. 2020 by IOI-Canada in response to demand from its own alumni. Entitled "**Ocean Governance: Issues of Immediate Concern**", it was also the first online experience for IOI-Canada so the participants were limited to IOI-Canada alumni, in the knowledge that they would be forgiving of inevitable "technical glitches".

The collaborative course with IOI-Southern Africa benefitted from both Centres' experience with online deliveries in 2020 and 2021 (predicated by the Covid pandemic), including feedback from participants of previous courses. This second CPD course, entitled "**New Developments and Emerging Issues in Ocean Governance**" consisted of three modules and ten lectures. Of the lecturers who contributed to the course, six were selected by IOI-Canada and four by IOI-Southern Africa. The moderation of the course was jointly undertaken by personnel from both Training Centres. The participants, all IOI alumni, were selected from the five IOI Training Centres on the basis of their professional background, geographic location, gender etc.

To facilitate meaningful interaction, only 24 alumni were accepted and the course was limited to synchronous participation for financial and logistical reasons. However, to accommodate problems with scheduling or internet access on the part of the participants, the lectures were recorded, thus allowing subsequent review of the material. To qualify for a Course Certificate, the participants were required to confirm that they had completed the required readings, participated in, or subsequently viewed, the lectures and associated Q&As, and completed a course questionnaire that would assist us with the planning of future CPD programs. An ongoing challenge will be how to promote the engagement of **ALL** course participants, rather than a confident and vocal minority.

From the perspective of course management and logistics, the two IOI Centres were able to work together well, and the fact that the staff from both Centres appreciated the trial nature of the collaboration, ensured the successful delivery of the second Refresher/CPD course. We look forward to future collaborative opportunities.

Michael Butler, Director, IOI-Canada & **Lynn Jackson**, Director, IOI-Southern Africa

Overview

While the COVID-19 pandemic has caused massive disruption to the way events are run, it has also provided opportunities to adapt to virtual events and allowed for collaborations across continents. IOI-Canada and IOI-Southern Africa seized this opportunity to collaborate on a virtual continuous professional development course for the global IOI alumni. This course was designed to offer IOI alumni the opportunity to:

- update their knowledge and understanding of key topics relating to coastal and ocean governance,
- share experiences and best practices from around the world,
- network with a range of alumni and speakers,
- strengthen their links with IOI.

In the words of one of the participants: “although the covid 19 pandemic was a disaster but it made us to find new ways to be in touch, and having this kind of forums. the course was very useful and convenient for me to participate. I would like to thank all those who were holding the e-meetings. It was a great opportunity for me to be chosen and participate in this alumni course. it made me to widen my perspective and brought me new challenges that I could not see before especially with the issues that other participants discussed through the course.”

The intended audience was anyone who had completed an IOI training programme prior to 2020 and was keen to improve their knowledge of recent developments in the field. While we received 90 applications, the class was capped at 24 participants to encourage discussion and maximise networking opportunities. We aimed for geographic and gender balance and were pleased to include participants from seven different training locations across the network: Brazil, Canada, China, Malta, South Africa, Thailand and Turkmenistan.

The course aimed to cover some of the emerging and developing topics in ocean governance under three modules: UNCLOS and Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction; Climate Change and Health of the Ocean; and Small-Scale Fisheries. In addition to the nine live sessions online, there

As another participant stated: “It was so nourishing with discussions and sharing of experiences from multiple backgrounds and countries. The modules, subjects and the organization was so professionally prepared. Thank you again for the wonderful and addictive course.”

were background readings available for participants to delve deeper into each topic in advance of each session. Interaction and discussion were considered integral to engaging the audience and optimising learning opportunities so time was scheduled to allow for participants to interact with the speakers. The schedule is outlined below, with all sessions running for two hours from 11.00 ADT/14.00 GMT/16.00 CAT (except for 7th October when the webinar began one hour earlier).

Schedule		
Module 1: UNCLOS AND AREAS BEYOND NATIONAL JURISDICTION		
Mon. 4 th October	Course Opening: Welcome, Introductions The importance of ABNJ: the Ecology and Socio-economic Aspects	Mr Michael Butler , Director, IOI-Canada Dr Lynn Jackson , Director, IOI-Southern Africa Dr Carole Durussel , Co-Lead, STRONG High Seas, & Scientific Project Leader, Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies, Potsdam, Germany
Thurs. 7 th October	UNCLOS and ABNJ: Progress Towards a New BBNJ Treaty	Dr Susanna Fuller , Vice-President, Operations and Projects, Oceans North, & Senior Research Fellow, IOI-Canada, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
Tues. 12 th October	Area-based Management Tools (Including Marine Protected Areas)	Mr Glen Wright , Senior Researcher - Ocean Governance, Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations, Paris, France
Thurs. 14 th October	The Issue of Deep Seabed Mining	Dr Tony George Puthucherril , Associate Professor, Jindal Global Law School, Sonapat, Haryana, India; Research Associate, Marine & Environmental Law Institute, Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie University, & Senior Research Fellow, IOI-Canada, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
Module 2: CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH OF THE OCEAN		
Mon. 18 th October	Climate Change and International Legal Developments	Ms Ernesta Swanepoel , International Environmental Law Specialist, Cape Town, South Africa
Thurs. 21 st October	Impacts of Climate Change on the Ocean and Marine Biodiversity ----- Addressing Ocean Acidification: the Other CO ₂ Problem	Dr Peter Wells , Adjunct Professor, Marine Affairs Program, Dalhousie University, & Senior Research Fellow, IOI-Canada, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada Dr Kristina Barclay , Member, MEOPAR Ocean Acidification Community of Practice, & Banting Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada
Mon. 25 th October	Unpacking the IPCC Special Report on Ocean and Cryosphere	Dr Daniel Lane , Professor Emeritus, Telfer School of Management, University of Ottawa, Ontario, & Associate Professor, Centre de Recherche Marine, Université Sainte-Anne, Petit-de-Grat, Nova Scotia, Canada
Module 3: SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES		
Mon. 1 st November	The SSF Voluntary Guidelines: a Human Rights-based Approach	Dr Jackie Sunde , Researcher, One Ocean Hub, & Independent Consultant, Cape Town, South Africa
Thurs. 4 th November	Blue Justice for Small-scale Fisheries Course Closing: Final Remarks	Dr Ratana Chuenpagdee , University Research Professor, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St John's, & Senior Research Fellow, IOI-Canada, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada Mr Michael Butler, Dr Lynn Jackson

Course Participants

The 12 men and 12 women selected for the course represented 24 countries in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Europe, North and South America and the South Pacific and spanned time zones from GMT-7 to GMT+11. Specifically, they came from: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, Chile, DR Congo, Egypt, Ghana, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Nigeria, Romania, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Vanuatu.



These marine professionals had a broad range of educational and professional backgrounds, including, academia, aquaculture, blue economy, climate change, coastal communities, coastal zone management, environmental journalism, environmental management, fisheries, international affairs, geodesy, human rights, indigenous voices, law, marine biology, marine pollution, maritime delimitation, maritime safety, marine spatial planning, oceanography and policy research. They therefore brought a diversity of viewpoints and experiences to the course which enriched the multidisciplinary discussion.

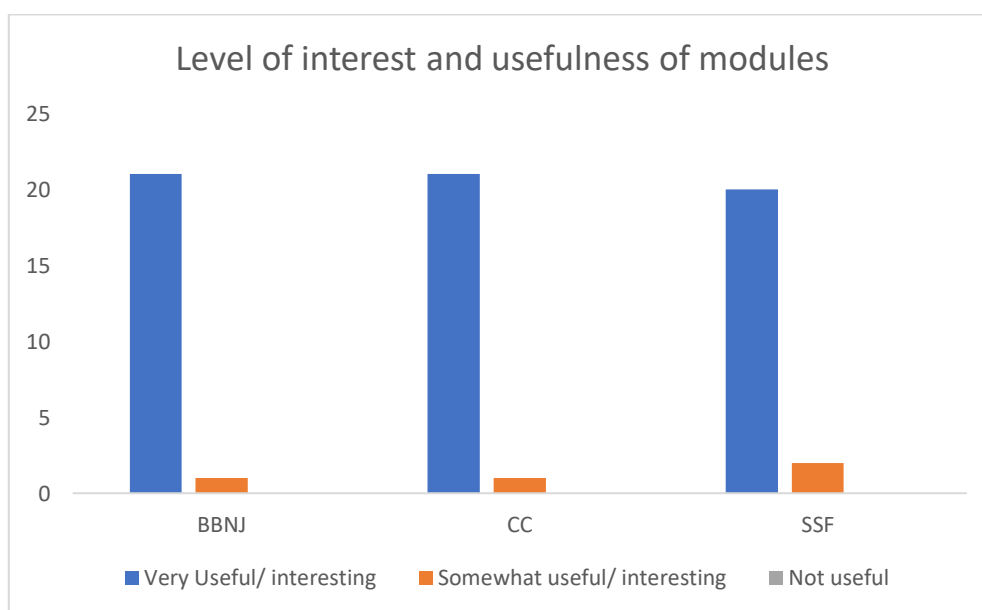
COUNTRY	NAME	POSITION
Algeria	Ms Katia ABBAD	PhD Student, National Higher School of Marine Sciences and Coastal Management, Bouzaréah, Algiers
Antigua & Barbuda	Mr Hilroy SIMON	Fisheries Officer, Fisheries Division, Ministry of Agriculture, St John's
Bangladesh	Dr Md. Wahidul ALAM	Associate Professor, Department of Oceanography, University of Chittagong, Hathazari
Brazil	Ms Elissama MENEZES	Research Assistant, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
Canada	Mr Michael	Formerly: Fisheries Officer, Department of Fisheries and

COUNTRY	NAME	POSITION
	BALLARD	Oceans, Campbell River, British Columbia
Chile	Dr Nicolas OJEDA	Online Tutor (Public International Law), Spires, Austria
Congo (DR)	Mr IYAKA ANKAO Camille	Head of Division, Transboundary Water Management and Ocean Governance, Environment Ministry and Sustainable Development, Kinshasa
Egypt	Dr Mariam HASSAN	Research Specialist - Marine Chemistry, National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries, Suez
Ghana	Ms Joyce GYEKYE	Chief Editor, Ghana Broadcasting Corporation, Kanda - Accra
Guyana	Mr Mikhail AMSTERDAM	Fisheries Officer, Fisheries Department - Ministry of Agriculture, Georgetown
India	Dr Grinson GEORGE	Principal Scientist, ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Kochi, Kerala; on deputation as: Senior Programme Specialist (Fisheries), SAARC Agricultural Centre, Dhaka, Bangladesh
Indonesia	Ms Esti BUDIYARTI	Legal Officer, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Jakarta
Iran	Ms Masoumeh PARSOON	Legal Expert, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tehran
Kenya	Ms Edna WAITHAKA	Research Officer, Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute, Naivasha
Madagascar	Ms ANDRIA- MANANTENA Johanne Francia Anja Harivelo	Head, International Affairs Section, Agence Portuaire Maritime et Fluviale, Haute Ville, Antananarivo
Malaysia	Ms Cheryl Rita KAUR	Policy Researcher, Maritime Institute of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur
Nigeria	Dr Olubunmi Ayoola NUBI	Assistant Director, Nigerian Institute for Oceanography and Marine Research, Lagos
Romania	Dr Natasa VAIDIANU	Associate Professor, Ovidius University of Constanta, Constanta
South Africa	Mr Ravi NAICKER	Senior Manager: Navigation, Security & Environment, South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA), Cape Town
Sri Lanka	Mr M.M. Aruna MAHEEPALA	Senior Scientist, National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency, Kobeigane
Thailand	Ms DOUNGPORN NA POMBEJRA	Legal Officer, Department of Fisheries, Bangkok
Turkey	Dr Elif ÖZGÜR	Member, Turkish Marine Research Foundation, Antalya
Turkmenistan	Mr Myrat ATAJANOV	Director, Caspian Sea Institute, Government of Turkmenistan, Ashgabat
Vanuatu	Dr Roel TARI	Desk Officer-Ocean Affairs, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Port Vila

Course Feedback

In addition to informal comments, we received feedback on the course from 23 participants via the final evaluation form. All found the training interesting and successful at updating their knowledge and understanding of key topics relating to coastal and ocean governance. Although the majority (20) of participants reported that the training successfully exposed them to new ideas or perspectives, and the sharing of experiences and best practices from around the world (20), there were mixed feelings about whether the event was successfully in allowing for networking with the participants and speakers (four participants were ambivalent and two thought it wasn't successful).

It is heartening to receive feedback such as *"The sessions were delivered in a manner that made it easy to receive updated information without repeating too much of the lessons received in the previous face to face course. Therefore it was easier to remain attentive knowing that I could always look forward to learning something new. The timing was also perfect, at a time where the news always seemed so depressing, it was very refreshing to shift focus for at least two hours on the days of the sessions."*



Level of interest and usefulness of modules: Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ), Climate Change (CC) and Small-Scale Fisheries (SSF)

Although there were some issues with internet connectivity, recordings of the presentations allowed for participants to catch up on any content they may have missed. The global nature of the training meant that the times of sessions were also a challenge for some of the participants. However, all of the participants that responded were satisfied with the live sessions happening twice a week, with one participant commenting: *"it provided me enough time to read some materials and update myself, and do not interfere with any of my programs."*

The participants were pleased with the length of the sessions but there were a couple of recommendations for more break-out rooms and facilitated interaction. Although the readings

were useful to most of the participants, some found them too technical or found that they didn't have sufficient time to read them all and would have liked other media for background information, e.g., podcasts, videos etc.

Suggestions for Future Topics

The final evaluation also invited participants to suggest other topics they would like to see covered in future. Their wide-ranging list certainly provides material for many more Continuing Professional Development courses!

- Aquatic ecosystem health
- Technological advances in regard to marine renewable energies
- Blue carbon and related international/ regional developments
- Activities of local NGOs and their relation with IOI
- Desalination and its effects on the marine environment
- Fisheries Subsidy
- Marine Spatial Planning
- Marine Pollution
- Negotiation skills
- Regional Fisheries Management
- Socioeconomic aspects of climate change
- Indigenous sovereignty and governance
- An intersection of interests leading to change economic ecological social cultural/ traceability in global conservation market based, ecology based, data sets traditional contemporary
- The Blue Economy and Developing Trends
- Social and Cultural aspects
- The impact of covid-19 on marine activities
- Monitoring, Control and Surveillance enforcement
- Integrated coastal zone management
- National rights beyond the EEZ