

Call for Contributors
at the V.ECOP Day 2024
online; 09 -11 April 2024

**Here is your chance to share your contribution
to the UN Ocean Decade with ECOPs and the world!**

The Concept

The V.ECOP Days mission is to enable ECOPs to define and strengthen their role, their community and contributions to the UN Ocean Decade. V.ECOP Days 2024 will connect ECOPs from around the world under the motto “testimony of change” to share and make their contributions to achieving the UN Ocean Decade Goals visible.

The V.ECOP Days goals are to:

1. Provide a platform for the global networks of ECOPs.
2. Support the sharing and visibility of ECOP contributions to the implementation of the UN Ocean Decade Goals.
3. Inform ECOPs about the work of their peers from around the world.
4. Strengthen the network and global community of ECOPs through exchanging knowledge and experiences amongst ECOPs from different regions and professional disciplines.
5. Build bridges between the ECOPs and leading senior individuals and organizations to ensure the continuity and legacy of the UN Ocean Decade.
6. Equip the new generation of ocean leaders with skills to engage in complex international and intergovernmental processes.
7. Promote capacity development and exchange.
8. Prepare and enable ECOPs to participate actively and engage professionally (with senior peers, policy makers, etc.).
9. Create a more inclusive marine science community in terms of demography, ethnicity gender, and profession.
10. Test and implement easily accessible online formats that allow active involvement and engagement of ECOPs, especially from rural and underrepresented communities.

V.ECOP Days 2024

V.ECOP Days were conceived during the COVID-19 pandemic with the aim of providing an inclusive, accessible and useful platform for networking ECOPs from all around the world. V.ECOP Day 2021 ran live, non-stop for 24 hours with over 200 international contributions.

In 2024, V.ECOP Days will be a hybrid format linking the International UN Ocean Decade Conference in Barcelona with the global ECOP community. The programme will run for 3 days during conference hours. More details will follow soon.

The V.ECOP Day 2024 programme will encompass:

- Reports from selected satellite events
- Live broadcasts from the conference centre in Barcelona
- Interviews with ECOPs, senior scientists and decision-makers
- Training sessions to provide insights into networking techniques and soft-skills needed to build a successful career in the marine sciences and innovation sectors
- Insights from stakeholders active in sustainable ocean management

All sessions will be organized for ECOPs, by ECOPs and with ECOPs using an online conference platform. These sessions will be live and public, thus accessible to all interested public. The focus is on easy-to-use, interactive and participative virtual components so that everyone can participate for free and from everywhere in the world.

How to contribute

- Are you a motivated ECOP interested in sharing your “testimony of change” perspective to implementing the Challenges of the UN Ocean Decade?
- Are you interested in discussing with other ECOPs about what science and knowledge should contribute to implementing the UN Ocean Decade?
- Are you available between 9-11 April 2024 to present from a location of your choice anywhere in the world at V.ECOP Days 2024?
- Do you have a good internet connection?

If you answered these questions with Yes! we would love to hear from you.

Call procedure

Follow the steps below to propose a programme contribution to VECOP Days 2024. Your contributions can last up to 10 minutes. We strongly support proposals from indigenous or rural communities, Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries.

Step 1: Please complete the [application form](#) and submit your contribution online by **4 March 2024**.

Step 2: You will receive feedback whether your contribution has been selected as soon as possible afterwards.

Step 3: We will have a preparatory meeting with you, the hosts and organizers of V.ECOP Days 2024 to share further information and finalize the programme.

Step 4: V.ECOP Days 2024 will be promoted via social media and we encourage you to share these posts with your community.

Step 5: Your participation in V.ECOP Days 2024.

Evaluation criteria

1. **Science and knowledge:** Does your contribution highlight the contributions of science and community knowledge to implementing the UN Ocean Decade?
2. **Interdisciplinarity:** Does your contribution cover a variety of fields, backgrounds and target groups?
3. **Innovativeness:** Are your ideas innovative and creative, looking for potential solutions to challenges facing society and ecosystems?
4. **Inclusiveness:** Does your contribution reflect an open and diverse marine science community, which is promotes international cooperation and societal inclusiveness?
5. **Communication:** Are you seeking to communicate to increase the chances of building new partnerships and enabling networking, including with non-scientists, women, indigenous communities, communities in peripheral regions, etc.?

We are looking forward to your contribution!