



OA observing News

issue 1, October 2015

Newsletter of the Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network (GOA-ON)

This e-newsletter is an effort by the GOA-ON Executive Council to keep the community engaged and informed about all the various related activities that are happening around the world. We intend to produce it quarterly. If you have any upcoming activities or any comments or suggestions of items that you would like to see in this newsletter please email Erica Ombres at erica.h.ombres@noaa.gov.

Message from the Co-Chairs



Libby Jewett
NOAA Silver Spring,
USA



Phil Williamson
NERC & Univ of East
Anglia, UK

It now exists! The first edition of the GOA-ON Plan (more formally “Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network: Requirements and Governance Plan”) is now online, on the new GOA-ON website, www.goa-on.org. Special thanks are due to Jan Newton for all her work on the Plan, and to Cathy Cosca for (re-)establishing the website. Printed copies of the Plan will be available shortly.

As you can see from the information below, these have not been the only GOA-ON activities: there is no shortage of other opportunities for developing ideas, wider engagement and stimulating the meaningful measurement (and interpretation) of ocean acidification and its impacts on a global basis.

Whilst the two of us work closely together in sharing the chairing, there is never quite enough time to do all the things we would like to in moving GOA-ON forward. The main strength of the network is, however, in its participants (you!!) and YOUR interactions; on that basis, we have no doubts as to GOA-ON’s future success.

Future issues of the OA Observing news will provide the opportunity for other GOA-ON Executive Council members to provide introductory remarks. EC members are Richard Bellerby, Chen-Tun Arthur Chen, Sam Dupont*, Dick Feely, Albert Fisher, Kitack Lee*, Jeremy Mathis, Pedro Monteiro, Jan Newton, Yukihiro Nojiri, David Osborn, Benjamin Pfiel*, Maciej Telszewski, Bronte Tilbrook and Luis Valdez.

**Appointed 2014 to widen EC expertise and representation*

Updates:

The GOA-ON website has a new home! www.goa-on.org. Please share this new website with your networks. If you don't see your data sets represented on the interactive map, please fill out this [new input form for the interactive GOA-ON map](#).

April 2014 – The IAEA Ocean Acidification International Coordination Centre (OA-ICC) organized an expert meeting on the management of ocean acidification biological response data at the IAEA Environment Laboratories in Monaco, 23–24 April. The meeting brought together ocean acidification scientists and data managers from 10 countries, with a common goal to work towards improved data management practices in order to enhance access, integration and inter-comparison of ocean acidification data and to foster global scientific collaboration. Information on the outcomes of the meeting can be found [here](#).

May 2014 – First GOA-ON Executive Council meeting: Paris 26-27 May 2014. Although not all EC members were able to attend, more than half were able to directly finalize the GOA-ON Plan, at a meeting hosted by IOC-UNESCO (Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission). Sponsors' roles and future priorities were reviewed, and discussions were held with Mark Spalding, of [The Ocean Foundation](#), on developing the 'Friends of GOA-ON' initiative. Read more about this initiative on the TOF website.

June 2014 – The United States Department of State hosted the “Our Ocean” Conference in Washington DC, 16-17 June. The conference brought together individuals, experts, practitioners, advocates, lawmakers, and the international ocean and foreign policy communities to gather lessons learned, share the best science, offer unique perspectives, and demonstrate effective actions. Although ocean acidification was not the only agenda item, there were only two others: over-fishing and pollution. The ocean acidification panel consisted of Scott Doney, Ove Hoegh-Guldberg, Carol Turley, Alexis Valauri-Orton, Bill Dewey, Yimnang Golbuu and Phil Williamson, and the Action Plan arising from the conference included the goal of “creating worldwide capability to monitor ocean acidification” through the Global OA Observing Network. [Click here to learn more](#).

Aug 2014 – An [exciting workshop](#) was held in August 28-29 in Samoa and broadened awareness of ocean acidification among the Small Islands and Developing States (SIDS) community. The workshop was organized jointly by the Government of New Zealand, the U.S. State Department and the South Pacific Regional Ecosystem Programme (SPREP). It brought together technical and policy experts with experience in observing and addressing the impacts of ocean acidification at global and regional levels. The goal was to identify emerging best practices applicable to Small Island Developing States (SIDS), as participants shared adaptation and monitoring experiences and developed a network for



experts to disseminate this critical information across the Pacific, Caribbean, Atlantic and Indian Ocean regions. The results from this workshop [were reported](#) at the United Nations Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States on September 1-4 by Jan Newton. Jan also contributed a GOA-ON presentation to a UNESCO IOC – sponsored side event at the SIDS Conference. She and Wendy Watson-Wright (IOC) who chaired the side event also both urged support of GOA-ON at the Oceans, Seas and Biodiversity panel.

*Scientists at the Ocean Acidification workshop aboard the P&O cruiseliner Pacific Jewel in Apia, Samoa
-- Samisoni Pareti*

September 2014 - For the first time, the World Meteorological Association [Greenhouse Gas Bulletin](#) featured a two page article on ocean acidification. UNESCO-IOC, OA-ICC and SCOR made this possible.

Upcoming events:

ABSTRACTS are DUE 10 October for OA sessions at ASLO 2015 in Granada Spain. The Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography (ASLO) will hold its Aquatic Sciences Meeting on 22-27 February 2015 in Granada, Spain. The theme of this meeting is quite appropriate to GOA-ON: “Global And Regional Perspectives — North Meets South.” ASLO organizers are especially emphasizing global and regional issues from northern and southern hemispheres. There are many OA sessions proposed at the meeting; however, please note [session 54](#): “Advances in our global understanding of Ocean acidification”, that was organized by GOA-ON participants Kim Currie, Pedro Monteiro, and Jan Newton, and specifically requests observational, experimental, and modeling, contributions on scales local to global. [For full meeting details visit the meeting website.](#)

OSPAR-ICES Ocean Acidification Study Group. The third (and final) meeting of a working group jointly set up by OSPAR and ICES is meeting now in Copenhagen, 6-9 October. The main task of the group is to develop recommendations to monitor ocean acidification and its impacts in the north-east Atlantic. Three GOA-ON EC members (Feely, Pfiel and Williamson) serve on the group, and have helped to establish close congruence between the two initiatives. [For more details visit this website.](#)

12th Conference of the Parties on the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 12) is taking place in Pyeongchang Korea October 6-17th. An OA side event will be held October 8th to announce the launch of the [CBD OA report](#). At this side event Nina Bednarsek (Univ. of Washington/NOAA) will be giving a presentation on the use of pteropods for OA monitoring. This talk is based on the work presented in a [recent publication in the Proceedings of the Royal Society B](#).



Photo credit: Nina Bednarsek

IOC International Ocean Research Conference (17-21 November 2014: Barcelona Spain). Several ocean acidification sessions will be presented. Also, please don't miss the TV Corner on Ocean Acidification at this conference which is being organized jointly with the International Coordination Centre on OA. A movie will be displayed which was compiled with help from several partners, programs and organizations (AMAP, World Bank, PML, AWI, EFOCE, MedSea and EPOCA).

The IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific (WESTPAC) aims to establish regional study and monitoring networks on Ocean Acidification in the Western Pacific and its adjacent regions, and develop a regional program, as one regional component of the Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network (GOA-ON), to monitor the impacts of ocean acidification on coral reef ecosystems, mainly through a series of regional workshops & trainings, selection of pilot areas, and transfer of knowledge and technology among experts, institutions within and outside the region. **The first Regional Workshop is scheduled for early 2015 in Phuket Thailand.** The regional workshop will serve as a starting point and is designed to: i. establish the OA monitoring and research network among scientists, institutions and agencies in the region; ii. share existing and proposed OA monitoring and research initiatives/techniques; iii. recommend efficient, robust, and cost-effective monitoring approaches; iv. identify challenges, gaps in the development of a regional program to monitor the impacts of ocean acidification on coral reef ecosystems; and v. explore the possibility, building on existing coral reef monitoring initiatives, of a joint long-term monitoring program on the OA's impact on coral reefs, and/or joint research on OA and its related changes/process in seawater chemistry in the region. For more information please contact Rusty Brainard rusty.brainard@noaa.gov.

This is the first announcement and call for abstracts for the **1st Brazilian Ocean Acidification Research Workshop** that will be held jointly with the *Third International Symposium on the Effects of Climate Change on the World's Oceans* in Santos, Brazil, 23rd-27th March 2015. The workshop will occur prior to the symposium, 21st-22nd March 2015. The workshop will evaluate the progress and direct the actions in the near future of the Brazilian Ocean Acidification Research Group (BrOA; www.broa.furg.br). We invite colleagues to submit your studies and/or intentions of work on ocean acidification issues. It will also provide the opportunity to integrate BrOA activities with international ocean acidification programs and networks from several regions of the world. The workshop will combine invited and selected talks, along with breakout group discussion corresponding to the main BrOA network topics: (i) marine biogeochemistry (coastal and open ocean areas); (ii) response of marine organisms to ocean acidification effects (bio-assays); (iii) paleoceanography and proxies of past ocean acidification events and carbonate system; (iv) biogeochemistry and ecosystem modeling; and (v) physical and biogeochemical processes controlling sea-air CO₂ fluxes.

Conference program, key dates and registration are available at the conference [website](#).

Abstracts can be submitted until **31st October 2014**.

Announcements:

From the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission: The German government kindly has announced financial support, starting January 2015, for the IOC-UNESCOs initiatives related to Ocean Acidification, which include support for the GOA-ON. IOC would also like to thank the Republic of Korea for its continuing support for the second phase of the IOC's OA work.

Continental Shelf Research Special Issue: Coastal marine and continental shelf environments: Anthropogenic impact, environmental responses, and mitigation strategies. Potential topics to include: 1) physical processes in estuaries, coastal wetlands, and continental shelf environments, 2) sources, distribution, migration, and transformation of pollutants, risk assessment, 3) biological and ecological response to coastal change, 4) nutrient cycling, eutrophication, hypoxia, and their interactions, 5) ocean modeling of physical and biogeochemical systems, 6) air-sea and water-sediment processes and interactions, 7) effective management responses and mitigation strategies to deal with anthropogenic impact.

Submission information:

- Refer questions to the Managing Guest Editor, [Chen-Tung Arthur Chen](mailto:ctchen@mail.nsysu.edu.tw) ctchen@mail.nsysu.edu.tw
- **Submission deadline is 31 March 2015.**

Recruitment: Do you know someone who should be a part of the Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network? Please have them email erica.h.ombres@noaa.gov for more information about GOA-ON and how to join. Feel free to share this newsletter as well.

If you no longer wish to receive these emails or participate in the GOA-ON, please email erica.h.ombres@noaa.gov with the heading UNSUBSCRIBE GOAON.

