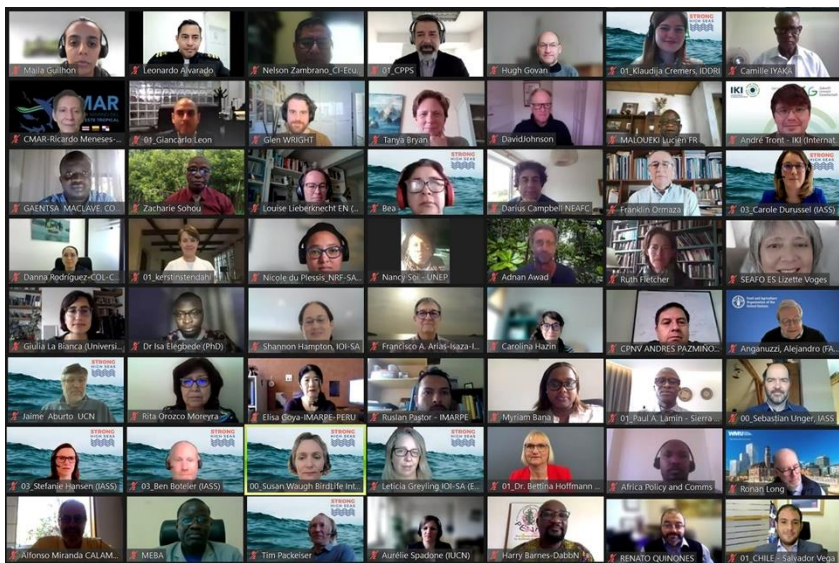


Towards Integrated Ocean Management of the High Seas: Lessons Learnt for Regional and Global Action

Dialogue Workshop organised by the STRONG High Seas Project and its regional partners the Secretariat of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (CPPS) and the Secretariat of the West and Central Africa Regional Seas Programme (Abidjan Convention)

29-31 March 2022



Dialogue
Workshop V
29 - 31 March 2022

Workshop Participants © STRONG High Seas Project, 2022

The workshop agenda can be found [here](#).
The workshop presentations can be found [here](#).

For more information about the STRONG High Seas project, please visit: <https://www.prog-ocean.org/our-work/strong-high-seas/> or contact: stronghighseas@iass-potsdam.de

Workshop summary

The [STRONG High Seas project](#) is a five-year project that aims to strengthen regional ocean governance for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ). Collaborating with the Secretariat of the Comisión Permanente del Pacífico Sur (CPPS; Permanent Commission for the South Pacific) and the Secretariat of the West and Central Africa Regional Seas Programme (Abidjan Convention), the project aims to develop and propose targeted measures to support the coordinated development of integrated and ecosystem-based management approaches for ocean governance in the Southeast Pacific and the Southeast Atlantic.

The workshop ‘Towards Integrated Ocean Management of the High Seas: Lessons Learnt for Regional and Global Action’, which took place online on 29-31 March 2022, is the final in a series of five Dialogue Workshops organised under the STRONG High Seas project in the Southeast Pacific and Southeast Atlantic region (see workshop agenda in Annex 2). The workshop series aims to bring together stakeholders to discuss current challenges as well as opportunities for global and regional ocean governance, foster exchange of knowledge and information, and build new networks. These Dialogue Workshops apply an interactive approach to enable information exchange between participants and explore various topics relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of BBNJ.

A total of 132 participants – State representatives including from both project regions, global and regional organisations, scientific institutions, academia, the private sector, and NGOs – took part in the workshop (see Figures 1 and 2, and Annex 1).

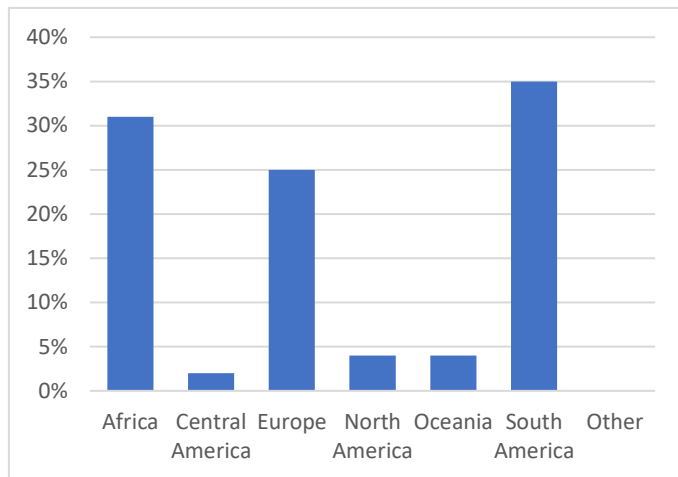


Figure 1: Geographic location of workshop participants

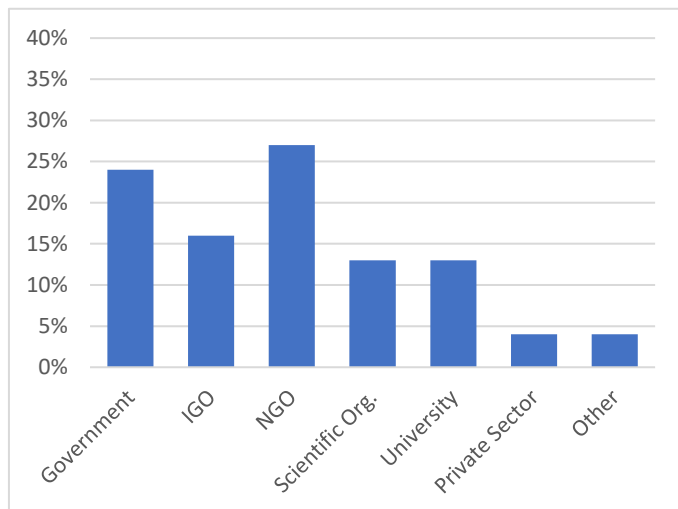


Figure 2: Stakeholder groups present at the workshop

The objective of this workshop was to provide a setting for States and stakeholders from the Southeast Atlantic and Southeast Pacific regions, and beyond, to share lessons learnt and identify key actions for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction. In particular, the workshop built on scientific findings from the STRONG High Seas project and reflections from participants to suggest and discuss targeted actions to:

- Foster multi-stakeholder cooperation both between governance levels and across sectors to support the successful implementation of the future agreement on marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement);

- Underpin ongoing as well as identify new regional initiatives and actions to enhance multi-stakeholder collaboration in an effort to underpin conservation efforts, such as through area-based management tools, in support of regional and global goals; and
- Identify key areas of convergence with the implementation of the future BBNJ Agreement across issues, such as climate change, blue economy, deep-seabed mining, post-2020 global biodiversity framework, where collaborative efforts are necessary to address cross-cutting challenges and underpin joint action.

Outlook and next steps

All workshops and events under the project are planned in close consultation with the CPPS Secretariat and the Abidjan Convention Secretariat, their member States, and other stakeholders to identify topics of relevance, need and interest for the Southeast Pacific and the Southeast Atlantic regions as well as adequate methodological approaches.

The summaries of all the Dialogue Workshops organised under the STRONG High Seas project can be found here: <https://www.prog-ocean.org/our-work/strong-high-seas/strong-high-seas-resources/>

Key messages

- There is a need for a BBNJ Agreement that can be **effectively implemented in the future**. This will **require multistakeholder partnerships and cooperation** to meet its objectives as well as ensuring that all nations can also benefit from its implementation.
- The “not undermining principle” is a key issue. Need to make sure there is a **harmonious coexistence between the BBNJ Agreement and existing instruments**. This is contingent on **dialogue** and **exchange of information**.
- There is a need **to establish in the BBNJ Agreement clear mechanisms for cooperation and coordination** with other relevant bodies. There is also a need to **clarify the role of bodies established under the future BBNJ Agreement**. If these are not clear, the BBNJ Agreement will not be effective.
- **Capacity** can only be beneficial if it is **focused on what people and countries need**. **Long-term needs-based support, stakeholder dialogues and engagement, exchanges in knowledge and technologies** as well as **regional structures** are important in this regard;
- The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) encourages States to cooperate on a regional basis to protect the marine environment and **the regional level can support global conservation goals**.
- **Various types of regional cooperation across different topics and levels** (e.g., scientific, combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU fishing)) exist in coastal waters and areas beyond national jurisdiction.
- There is **sufficient scientific information and knowledge to take action to conserve and sustainably manage ABNJ**. The **precautionary principle should be the basis** for all decision making.
- **Cooperation, especially at the scientific level, has been successful (e.g., NACES, Coral Reefs of the High Seas Coalition) and has helped to take decisions based on the best scientific knowledge available**. However, there is a need to find a way to **make the science-policy interface more direct and accountable**.
- There is still a **need to bring different types of information together** (e.g., across scientific disciplines) and **involve all relevant stakeholder groups to ensure multiple perspectives**

are involved in decision making, including e.g., the designation, design, implementation, and enforcement of management measures.

- Many initiatives have promoted the **importance of the ocean as a climate regulator and as a carbon sink**. However, **climate change is not a dominant factor in the BBNJ negotiations** due to geopolitical interests.
- All ongoing policy processes (BBNJ, climate change, Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), WTO fisheries subsidies) are **interconnected**. It is thus very **important to bring people together**, to **ensure their engagement**, and to **ensure synergies and complementarity between the various agreements and fora**. In particular, there needs to be **constant reporting between the International Seabed Authority (ISA) and the BBNJ regime**.
- We are lacking a **multilateral ‘home’ for ocean issues and the ocean community**. The future BBNJ Agreement could provide such a home for the ocean community.
- The BBNJ agreement is negotiated from a legal perspective, rather than an environmental perspective. **This will make it difficult to ensure the effectiveness of the BBNJ Agreement on the ground**. Furthermore, there **needs to be a stronger lobby for the environmental case** within the BBNJ negotiations, in the negotiations under the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and also in other fora.
- The **STRONG High Seas project** is one of the flagship projects financed by the German Government. It has had an **important and valuable contribution** in bringing people together and showing that cooperation, particularly at the national and regional levels, is crucial.

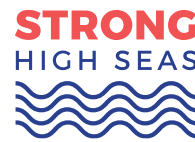
Summary of presentations and discussions

Welcome and Opening of the Workshop

Parliamentary State Secretary Dr. Bettina Hoffmann of the [German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection](#) welcomed participants to the Dialogue Workshop ‘Towards Integrated Ocean Management of the High Seas: Lessons Learnt for Regional and Global Action’. Dr. Hoffmann emphasised the importance of the health of oceans and seas for the economic, social, and ecological well-being of the entire planet. Marine conservation is a global task that depends on the mutual understanding and support of all States. She furthermore highlighted the importance of this workshop to exchange new findings on effective mechanisms for a functioning international marine protection policy. Without strong implementation mechanisms – especially at the level of the marine regions – the new goals of the BBNJ Agreement will remain mere declarations of intent.

Ambassador José Luis Pérez Sánchez-Cerro, General Secretary of the [Permanent Commission for the South Pacific \(CPPS\)](#), highlighted that the STRONG High Seas project has undoubtedly enabled and empowered scientists, technicians, and government officials in the Southeast Pacific region at the highest level, and supported countries in reaching a comprehensive understanding of the central aspects associated with ocean governance processes from a perspective based on the best available science, a central element to support decision making.

Ms. Kerstin Stendahl, Head of Ecosystems Integration Branch at [UN Environment](#), highlighted the importance of the timing of this workshop, which happened at a time when the international community is negotiating critical measures and actions on biodiversity including in areas beyond national jurisdiction, including on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework through the Convention on Biological Diversity and the BBNJ negotiations. As the world is facing a triple planetary crises of climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss, she emphasised the crucial role of UNEP’s Regional Seas



Programme as it provides solid platforms for multilateral action to protect and sustainably manage the use of vital coastal and marine resources. The recently adopted Regional Seas Strategic Directions 2022- 2025 aim to more effectively mainstream the conservation and sustainable use of oceans into policies and programmes, harmonise methodologies for tracking progress, and foster an integrated response to combat the ecological, climate, pollution, and health crisis for the health of the ocean and the people who rely on it. Ms. Stendahl also highlighted Decision CP13/13 adopted by the Abidjan Convention at its thirteenth Conference of the Parties in December 2021, which demonstrates a clear commitment from its member States to remain active and continue to engage with issues concerning the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity of ABNJ in the Southeast Atlantic region. She finally welcomed the work of the STRONG High Seas project, which has been instrumental in strengthening ocean governance for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction in the Southeast Atlantic and Southeast Pacific regions.

Dr. Carole Durussel, [IASS](#) and Co-lead of the [STRONG High Seas project](#), stressed the key role that the ocean, including ABNJ, plays in sustaining life on Earth and the importance of taking into account the ecological connectivity of the ocean. She reiterated that the STRONG High Seas project is dedicated to making tangible scientific contributions not only to strengthening ocean governance at the regional level but also to ensuring a link and coherence between the development of an international instrument on BBNJ and regional initiatives. The knowledge exchange that takes place through the STRONG High Seas project provides an important opportunity to enhance the understanding of and the role of regional cooperation, and therefore contribute towards a better understanding of how to improve ocean governance, both within the region and globally.

Session 1: The role of multi-stakeholder cooperation within the future BBNJ Agreement and its implementation

The first session of the workshop looked into the role of multi-stakeholder cooperation within the future BBNJ Agreement and its implementation.

Dr. Carole Durussel ([IASS](#)) presented key messages from the STRONG High Seas project and reflections for the panel discussion on the role of multi-stakeholder cooperation within the future BBNJ Agreement and its implementation.

The STRONG High Seas project is a five-year project (2017-2022) funded through the International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV). It is coordinated by the IASS and implemented together with IDDRI, BirdLife International, the International Ocean Institute (IOI) – Southern Africa, the Universidad Católica del Norte (UCN), WWF Colombia, and WWF Germany. Working with the [Secretariat of the CPPS](#) and the [Secretariat of the West and Central Africa Regional Seas Programme](#), this project focuses on two focal regions, namely the Southeast Pacific and Southeast Atlantic. The three main objectives of the project are: a) to facilitate the development of improved or new management approaches for the conservation and sustainable use of BBNJ in the Southeast Pacific and Southeast Atlantic regions; b) to identify best practices and provide support to regional institutions and national authorities for implementing existing regional instruments; and c) to develop options for regional governance in a future BBNJ international instrument and transfer regional lessons learned to the global level to promote ocean governance.

Since 2018, States have been negotiating an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Law of the Sea Convention (UNCLOS) on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in ABNJ ([BBNJ negotiations](#)). The negotiations revolve around four elements, namely marine genetic resources, area-based management tools including marine protected areas, environmental impact assessments, and capacity building and the transfer of technology. Due to the

COVID-19 pandemic, the BBNJ negotiations have been on hold in 2020-2021, though intersessional meetings have been organised online during this time to ensure continued discussions between States. The [fourth negotiation conference \(IGC 4\)](#) took place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, USA, between 7 and 18 March 2022. COVID-19 restrictions meant that only States were able to send a limited number of representatives to attend the negotiations in person and observers were denied access to the United Nations grounds during the first week of the negotiations. IGC 4 achieved a lot of progress in discussions on the four elements, but negotiations could not be concluded as planned. States therefore called for a fifth round of negotiation (IGC 5) to take place in August 2022. Ahead of IGC 5, the President of the Conference, Ambassador Rena Lee of Singapore, will update the draft text of the BBNJ Agreement.

Cooperation is not only a legal requirement under international law (incl. UNCLOS, UNFSA, CBD, 2030 Agenda, etc.), it is also an important consideration because of the ecological connectivity of the ocean. Yet coordination and integration across the large array of global and regional conventions, treaties, and other arrangements for governance of major ocean issues such as biodiversity, fisheries, pollution, and climate often remain weak. The conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in ABNJ can only be effectively achieved when the land-ocean-atmosphere nexus is considered, and this requires the application of integrated ocean management. Multi-stakeholder cooperation and coordination is the cornerstone of its achievement and implementation.

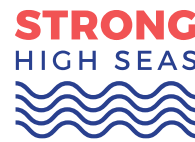
Between the terms cooperation, coordination, and collaboration, there is a difference in the level of commitment from parties involved:

- Cooperation requires the lowest level of commitment. It is when parties have independent goals with agreements between themselves not to interfere with each other. This is to avoid competition.
- Coordination is about efficiency. The actions of users are directed by a coordinator to achieve a common goal.
- Collaboration requires the highest level of commitment. It is about shared creation and using information to create something new.

There are different options for establishing processes for cooperation, coordination, and collaboration with and among relevant global, regional, and sectoral bodies, such as identifying and pursuing shared conservation goals, ensuring transparency between managing bodies, having a common vision and objectives, sharing management lessons between organisations, having shared research programmes, creating joint capacity programmes, and exchanging information and data, etc.

At IGC 4 in March 2022, international cooperation and coordination was discussed extensively, particularly regarding area-based management tools and capacity building and the transfer of technology. Brief overview of the current state of cooperation in the negotiations:

- The objective of the BBNJ Agreement remains unchanged: '[...] to ensure the [long-term] conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction through effective implementation of the relevant provisions of the Convention and further international cooperation and coordination'.
- Many delegations called on streamlining text in Article 6 on international cooperation.
- There was general agreement that cooperation and coordination is needed for the section on area-based management tools. There was however less agreement regarding the level of cooperation and there was resistance to creating obligations of cooperation or hierarchical structures. There were furthermore reservations about creating new instruments or frameworks, and some suggestions to use the BBNJ Agreement to establish State cooperation in, e.g., fisheries bodies or for the Conference of the Parties (COP) to be a platform for cooperation across bodies.



- There were mixed opinions regarding the application of strategic environmental assessments, with some States (and groups of States) supporting their application to address cumulative pressures and other States resist obligating their use, instead preferring voluntary use to inform scientific or technical decisions, when applicable.
- About capacity building and the transfer of marine technology, there was a push to move away from the binary options of mandatory versus voluntary. There were discussions regarding the setting up of a mechanism to facilitate technology transfer, setting out exceptions to obligations or establishing different standards such as “best efforts” to take care of the concerns of different delegations.
- There were suggestions to include a list of subsidiary bodies that the COP could establish.
- Many States agreed that the Scientific and Technical Body would be a subsidiary body to the COP and provide advisory services. However, it is still unclear how/if it should cooperate with other (external) bodies.
- Regarding the clearing-house mechanism, there was some hesitation about aspirational sentiments, for instance that this mechanism shall facilitate enhanced transparency, and international cooperation and coordination. There were also specific suggestions to link it to other publicly available exchange platforms.

Dr. Durussel also provided a brief overview of selected STRONG High Seas project recommendations:

- Successful cross-sectoral cooperation in conserving biodiversity in ABNJ requires a common goal or purpose and overarching set of principles, shared between managing bodies as well as transparent, participatory, and inclusive decision-making and coordination, and appropriate distribution of competence between the global and regional/sectoral levels.
- To enable effective global and regional cooperation, the BBNJ Agreement will need to include explicit State obligations to cooperate and adopt measures to safeguard marine biodiversity and include a mechanism to enable States to cooperate in good faith to achieve conservation objectives.
- Effective monitoring, control, and surveillance (MCS) of human activities impacting the ocean are critical for successful ocean management. This will require cross-sectoral and transboundary cooperation.
- Building blocks to galvanize cooperation, enhance coherence and integration:
 - A robust global body, such as a Conference of the Parties (COP), that can take decisions on issues such as the designation and management of marine protected areas and other area-based management tools, review and monitor environmental impact assessments, and promote consistent implementation of the BBNJ Agreement across regions, ocean basins and sectors;
 - A suite of mechanisms for integrated policy development and coordination, as are already developing in some marine regions;
 - Effective science-policy-society advisory mechanisms to ensure that critical scientific knowledge is acquired and communicated effectively;
 - A globally agreed set of environmental principles for conservation and sustainable use, such as the ecosystem and precautionary approaches (including variations of these terms), combined with obligations and mechanisms for their implementation; and
 - Operational principles to promote good governance and enable informed decision-making, such as transparency, accountability, participation, and efficiency.

Panel discussion: Reflections on the role of multi-stakeholder cooperation within the future BBNJ Agreement and its implementation

Panellists

Minister Giancarlo León Collazos, [Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Peru](#)

Mr. Salvador Vega, [Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chile](#)

Mr. Paul Lamin, [Environment Protection Agency, Sierra Leone](#)

Ms. Klaudija Cremers, [IDDR](#)

During this session, which was moderated by Mr. Sebastian Unger ([IASS](#)), panellists discussed and reflected on the current state of the BBNJ negotiations and the role of multi-stakeholder cooperation for the successful implementation of the BBNJ Agreement, including from an African and South American perspective, and necessary next steps and actions needed.

Summary of the discussions:

- Clear progress has been made at IGC 4. This IGC session was very dynamic and was probably the most productive session since the start of the negotiations. It allowed States to identify different points of convergence and points of compromise. It also provided a setting for fruitful and informal dialogues. Given the progress achieved at IGC 4 and if IGC 5 continues on the same path, there is hope that IGC 5 will be able to deliver a final treaty text.
- There is a need to ensure that the BBNJ Agreement can be effectively implemented in the future. This includes acknowledging treaty commitments and obligations, as well as ensuring that all nations can also benefit from its implementation.
- The BBNJ Agreement presents a great opportunity for everyone to benefit from conservation efforts. It will be essential to meet the Sustainable Development Goals and to conserve marine biodiversity.
- Multistakeholder participation and cooperation is crucial to meet the negotiations' objectives and achieve the development of a strong and robust BBNJ Agreement. Everyone needs to be able to participate in the negotiations and there needs to be concerted effort to achieve these objectives.
- The nature of the BBNJ Agreement requires multistakeholder partnerships for its implementation (e.g., knowledge, expertise, technology, financial resources). A cooperation framework should be established that includes all regions and helps to coordinate member States commitments (e.g., the transfer of technology).
- The “not undermining principle” is a key issue. Need to make sure there is a harmonious coexistence between the BBNJ Agreement and existing instruments (e.g., Regional Fisheries Management Organisations). This is contingent on dialogue and exchange of information.
- There is a need to establish in the BBNJ Agreement clear mechanisms for cooperation, coordination, and collaboration with other relevant bodies. Also need to clarify the role of bodies established under the future BBNJ Agreement. If these are not clear, the BBNJ Agreement will not be effective. In this respect, States need to coordinate their international obligations, and the BBNJ Agreement Secretariat will need to cooperate and coordinate with other UN and sectoral bodies.
- Capacity development must focus on the priorities and needs of countries, institutions, and individuals. Long-term needs-based support, stakeholder dialogues and engagement, exchanges in knowledge and technologies as well as regional structures are important in this regard.

- The clearing-house mechanism is key for stakeholder involvement. It is important to use existing platforms and avoid duplicating efforts in this regard.

Session 2: Applying multi-stakeholder cooperation in regional initiatives for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction

The second session of the workshop investigated applying multi-stakeholder cooperation in regional initiatives for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

Ms. Carolina Hazin ([BirdLife International](#)) presented key messages from the STRONG High Seas project and reflections for the panel discussions on applying multi-stakeholder in regional initiatives for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

The BBNJ Agreement will need to rely on competence, capacity, and action at multiple levels to be effective, while the preconditions for effective cooperation, coordination, and collaboration to this end require this global agreement. The BBNJ Agreement will therefore need to include sufficient arrangements and mechanisms to secure this and action across and between sectors and regions as well as fill gaps in geographic coverage, scientific understanding, and institutional capacities. To address global and regional biodiversity priorities, it will need to strengthen mechanisms for incorporating both regional biodiversity concerns at the global level and global biodiversity priorities at the regional and sectoral levels. At the same time, the BBNJ Agreement will need to contain the right mix of flexible and supportive provisions that can be tailored to the needs of regions and sectors, while building the capacity of all actors and sectors to contribute to and benefit from improved conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction.

What are the benefits of regional cooperation?

- First, regional cooperation provides an appropriate scale for the implementation of an ecosystem approach to conservation and sustainable management. From a scientific standpoint, the regional level is an appropriate scale for ecosystem-based management. As marine ecosystems and resources (e.g., fish stocks) do not respect national borders, and threats to biodiversity are often transboundary in nature (e.g., marine pollution), States cannot effectively address and manage these by working in isolation.
- Second, it supports political consensus among a limited number of parties sharing similar history, culture, and interests in the region. It can provide a platform for coordination, cooperation, and exchange across territorial and sectoral boundaries, fostering a shared understanding of common and interdependent challenges to marine sustainability and ecosystem health, and enabling the alignment of policies. Such coordination and integrated approaches are paramount to effectively responding to the multiple interlinked sustainability challenges the ocean and dependent communities are facing.
- Third, it provides access to new information, data, tools, or ideas, making it resource efficient. In addition, economically there is a clear added value in addressing common challenges and protecting common goods (e.g., ecosystem services) through regional cooperation.
- Last it helps to strengthen existing cross-sectoral management frameworks, as many organisations have limited mandates. Regional cooperation therefore can lead to improved political and social outcomes, as it underpins global initiatives and standards and moves towards shared or similar objectives that benefit common areas and shared spaces (including transboundary considerations).

Examples of existing regional cooperation:

- [OSPAR-NEAFC Collective Arrangement in the North-East Atlantic](#)
- [Sargasso Sea Commission](#)

- [Pelagos Sanctuary for Mediterranean Marine Mammals](#)
- [Sustainable Ocean Initiative \(SOI\)](#)

Existing efforts in the Southeast Atlantic:

- The Convention for Cooperation in the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Atlantic Coast of the West, Central and Southern Africa Region ([Abidjan Convention](#))
- [Benguela Current Commission](#)
- [Canary](#), [Benguela](#) and [Guinea](#) currents Large Marine Ecosystems
- Examples of memoranda of understanding in the Southeast Atlantic: Abidjan Convention – OSPAR Commission, COREP, FAO

Existing efforts in the Southeast Pacific:

- The [Permanent Commission for the South Pacific \(CPPS\)](#) coordinates and promotes the maritime policies of its Member States for the conservation and responsible use of natural resources and their environment for the benefit of the integral and sustainable development of their people.
- The [Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor \(CMAR\)](#) is a regional and cross-border initiative for the conservation and sustainable use of the region's marine and coastal resources. The aim is to properly manage the Eastern Tropical Pacific's biodiversity through ecosystem-based management and the development of regional intergovernmental strategies with support of non-governmental organisations and international cooperation agencies.
- Examples of memoranda of understanding in the Southeast Pacific: CPPS – IATTC, SPRFMO, FAO, IOC

Selected project recommendations: Options for States to strengthen ocean governance at the regional level:

- Implement a common approach for the regions on conservation priorities by championing flag State responsibility to impose regulations regarding areas or activities that are not currently covered by a competent management authority.
- Form coalitions to promote mutual interest in specific issues related to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in ABNJ within existing processes.
- Promote conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in ABNJ by voicing views and proposing management actions at global and regional fora.
- Support a robust scientific basis and the development of capacity for taking action to ensure the establishment of conservation and management measures and ensure the complementarity of sectoral measures.
- Cross-sectoral cooperation and coordination for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in ABNJ:
 - Can be eased if more States become parties to key international and regional agreements → shared basis for common action: and
 - Can be supported if institutions create joint programmes, Memoranda of Understanding, and participation in events.

Panel discussion: Applying multi-stakeholder cooperation in regional initiatives for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction

Panellists

Mr. Godfrey Baidoo-Tsibu, [FCWC-PESCAO Regional MCS Centre](#) (Monitoring, Control and Surveillance)

Dr. Tammy Davies, [BirdLife International](#) (NACES Marine Protected Area)

Dr. Kerry Howell, [University of Plymouth](#) (deep sea ecosystems)

Dr. Carlos Gaymer, [UCN](#) (Sala y Gomez & Nazca Ridges and STRONG High Seas Project)

Ms. Carolina Hazin, [BirdLife International](#) (STRONG High Seas Project)

During this session, which was moderated by Dr. Luis Germán Naranjo ([WWF Colombia](#)), panellists discussed and reflected on multi-stakeholder regional initiatives in the context of the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in ABNJ.

Mr. Godfrey Baidoo-Tsibu: Presentation on the [Fisheries Committee of the West Central Gulf of Guinea \(FCWC\) Regional Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Centre](#)

Importance of fishing in the West Central Gulf of Guinea in terms of tonnes and gross domestic product. It is an important industry that is estimated to be in the range of billions of dollars. The region collaborates and has established a fisheries resource management plan as well as several fishing bans. It has also established a working group looking into MCS issues around fisheries enforcement.

- [Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea \(FCWC\)](#):
 - Established through Cotonou Convention in 2007 by six member States (Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Togo) under FAO support;
 - Mission: to promote cooperation among member States and to ensure through appropriate management, the conservation and optimum utilisation of living marine resources in the marine waters under jurisdiction of the member States and encouraging sustainable development of fisheries based on such resources.
- Important lessons learned in multi-stakeholder cooperation:
 - Recognition and appreciation of leadership role of regional fisheries bodies as critical in expediting regional fisheries development;
 - Strong political support is very essential for commitment to the regional fisheries bodies;
 - Adoption of regional policies (Convention on Information Sharing, Convention on Access to Fisheries Resources, RPOA, RFMP, Transshipment Strategy);
 - Need for protocols and harmonization of national legal frameworks;
 - Institutional stability at national levels is key in implementation of projects.
- Who are you cooperating with?
 - Member states (Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Togo)
 - International Organisations (FAO, ILO, UNODC, ECOWAS)
 - Regional Fisheries Bodies (ATLAFCO, SRFC, ICCAT)
 - Regional Maritime Agencies (CRESMAO, MMCC Zone F, Regional Maritime University, ISMI)
 - International NGOs (TMT, SIF, GFW, Skylight)
 - Local NGOs (Hen Mpoano)
 - Donor Partners (EU, Norway)

- What does the cooperation look like?
 - Engagements and information sharing
 - Assessment of capacities
 - Capacity building
- How has the cooperation been achieved?
 - Through project/programme activities in/involving member states
- What hurdles have been essential to overcome?
 - Inadequate information sharing
 - Inadequate cooperation
 - Insufficient legal framework
 - Disparities in fisheries development
- Essential actions for the successful achievement of objectives
 - Protocols for regional cooperation
 - Assessment and identification of gaps
 - Capacity building and training
 - Coordination of efforts, harmonization
- Recommendations to foster regional action and enhance multistakeholder cooperation
 - Political commitment towards the achievement of the mission
 - Foster cooperation and collaboration
 - Partnerships for external support
 - Information sharing for actions

Dr. Tammy Davies: Presentation on [NACES Marine Protected Area](#)

- The North Atlantic Current & Evlanov Sea-basin (NACES) MPA (595,000 km²) aims to protect the seabirds and processes that support them at the site.
- This area is an important frontal zone and has a complex oceanography. It is an area where sharks, turtles, whales, tuna, etc. can be found. It is also important as some seabirds travel through this area and some others use this area permanently.
- It is the first high seas MPA identified from seabird tracking data (**79** contributors; **>2,000** tracks; **105** colonies). See [Seabird Tracking Database](#)
- Designated by OSPAR member States at the OSPAR Ministerial Meeting on 1st October 2021 (in force in April 2022).

Dr. Kerry Howell: Presentation on deep sea ecosystems

- Deep sea life provides services to people (e.g., supporting services (primary production, nutrient cycling, etc.), regulating services (e.g., carbon sequestration, natural hazard protection, climate regulation), provisioning services (e.g., fish/food for other species, genetic resources), cultural services (e.g., tourism, education, etc.).
- Large data gaps on how life is distributed – we fill them with habitat maps (e.g., One Ocean Hub, Mission Atlantic). Deep sea ecologists bring the connection between ecology and importance to the surface. Scientists attempt to map the different environmental niches in the deep sea: different environmental conditions, depth, etc.
- The South Atlantic has not been studied much.
- Maps (e.g., habitat maps, distribution of vulnerable habitats, connectivity, human use, etc.) can be used in spatial management and scenario modelling.

- [Challenger 150 programme](#) under the UN Oceans Decade to provide this spatial management support information to decision makers.

Dr. Carlos Gaymer: Presentation on the [Sala y Gomez and Nazca Ridges](#)

- The Sala y Gomez and Nazca Ridges entail over 110 seamounts, contain unique biodiversity (incl. threatened and endangered species), have highest known level of endemism on Earth, contain some of the deepest light-dependent reefs, are of cultural significance.
- Different threats: incl. marine litter and debris (South Pacific Gyre), fishing, climate change, and potentially seabed mining in the future.
- More than 73% of this area is unprotected (some parts of the ridges within national jurisdiction are protected as marine protected areas under Chilean and Peruvian law).
- In 2021, [President Piñera announced that Chile will advance a proposal to fully protect this area](#);
- Recommendations:
 - Restrict fishing activities through the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO) and the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC).
 - Restrict seabed mining activities through the International Seabed Authority (ISA).
 - Create a marine protected area once the BBNJ Agreement comes into force.
 - Strengthen marine pollution protection measures.

Summary of the discussions:

- UNCLOS encourages States to cooperate on a regional basis to protect the marine environment and regional level can support global conservation goals.
- Various types of regional cooperation across different topics and levels (e.g., scientific, combating IUU) exist in coastal waters and areas beyond national jurisdiction.
- There is sufficient scientific information and knowledge to take action to protect ABNJ. Precaution should be the basis for all decision making.
- Remote areas like those in ABNJ are very expensive to monitor, and thus the money required to collect information is very high. There is therefore a need for more coordinated effort to reach these remote areas.
- It is important to collect reliable data, convert it in a transparent way and make it accessible to decision-makers. In this respect, citizen science is important in collecting holistic data for ocean data sustainability.
- Cooperation, especially at the scientific level, has been successful (e.g., NACES, Coral Reefs of the High Seas Coalition) and has helped to take decisions based on the best scientific knowledge available.
- There is still a need to bring different types of information together (e.g., across scientific disciplines) and involve all relevant stakeholder groups to ensure multiple perspectives are involved in decision making, including e.g., the designation, design, implementation, and enforcement of management measures.
- It is important to recognise the leading role of regional fisheries bodies in fisheries management in the Southeast Atlantic region, as many of the challenges cannot be addressed individually by States (e.g., due to lack of capacities).
- There is a need for significant political support. Many issues can be addressed through international conventions but may be impossible to translate locally, unless there is the political will to incorporate them into the national legal system and national policies and transform legal texts into practical implementation.

Session 3: Collaborative action in global ocean governance to address biodiversity loss, climate change, and cross-cutting challenges

The third session of the workshop looked into collaborative action in global ocean governance to address biodiversity loss, climate change, and cross-cutting challenges.

Paula Bueno ([WWF Colombia](#)) presented key messages from the STRONG High Seas project and reflections for the panel discussions on where collaborative action is necessary to address biodiversity loss, climate change, and cross-cutting challenges.

Managing the ocean, including ABNJ, as a dynamic environment requires the application of an ecosystem-based integrated ocean management.

There are various policy processes that are currently underway:

- Under the umbrella of the Convention on Biological Diversity
 - 2010-2020 Biodiversity Strategic Plan/ Aichi Targets
 - Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework
 - Targets: 1 Spatial planning; 2 Restoration; 3 Protected areas; 5 Harvesting wild species; 6 Invasive species; 7 Pollution and plastics; 8 Climate change; 9 Benefits to indigenous communities; 10 Sustainable aquaculture; 13 Access to genetic resources
 - 30x30 Target – High Ambition Coalition and Global Ocean Alliance
- Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals
 - SDG 14 – Life Below Water underpins other SDGs (voluntary commitments and Communities of Action)
 - BBNJ Agreement supports progress towards SDGs
- Under the umbrella of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
 - 2015 Paris Agreement (integrate ocean dimension into Nationally determined contributions (NDC) action)
 - COP 26, Glasgow Climate Pact 2021 (High level commitments through 'Because the Ocean' and 'Ocean for Climate Declaration')
 - Ocean & Climate Dialogue 2022
 - Alliance of the 'Blue Leaders'
- United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030)
 - 'The science we need for the ocean we want'
 - Launched 1 January 2021
 - Research needed to underpin BBNJ Agreement and implementation
- Under the umbrella of the International Seabed Authority (ISA)
 - Issues linked to deep seabed mining are linked to BBNJ
 - Regional Environmental Management Plans (REMPs)
 - Areas of Particular Environmental Interest (APEIs)

Achieving coherence across global processes:

- The BBNJ negotiations is an opportunity to support increased coherence across these processes → linking actors and institutions.
- Requires coordination and cooperation across a diverse range of contexts, interests, and capacities – States have a major role to play.

- State coalitions established to help make the link between processes and initiatives → important steps towards linking these processes.
- Benefits for considering processes holistically and coordinating efforts efficiency gains, e.g., by sharing data, information, and resources, building capacity, progress towards global conservation and management goals.

Selected project recommendations for enhanced ocean governance – global and regional levels:

- Engage in the negotiations of the future BBNJ Agreement and propose provisions that set obligations, conditions, and incentives for a coordinated approach among the various sectoral organisations.
- Within the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, champion the inclusion of robust and smart goals and targets/milestones that include commitments for sustainable ocean-related practices, the implementation of nature-based solutions in the marine environment, and that have the appropriate means of implementation and enabling conditions, including sufficient and appropriate finance, to promote a sound and healthy marine environment.
- Strengthen engagement with the climate community, to follow up with implementation of ocean-related commitments made under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
- Ratify and implement ocean-related regional and global agreements and other instruments of relevance to ocean governance.
- Adopt decisions and resolutions to create and/or strengthen multi-institution and cross-sectoral coordination mechanisms.

Panel discussion: Collaborative actions to address cross-cutting challenges in the context of global ocean governance

Panellists

Ambassador Waldemar Coutts, [Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chile](#)

Dr. David Obura, [CORDIO East Africa](#)

Ms. Ilka Wagner, [BMUV, Germany](#)

Mr. Pradeep Singh, [University of Bremen](#)

Mr. Rémi Parmentier, [The Varda Group](#)

Ms. Paula Bueno, [WWF Colombia](#) (STRONG High Seas Project)

During this session, which was moderated by Dr. Julien Rochette ([IDDRI](#)), panellists discussed and reflected on collaborative actions to address cross-cutting challenges in the context of global ocean governance.

Summary of the discussions:

- Many initiatives have promoted the importance that the ocean has as a climate regulator and as a carbon sink. One of the most significant government decisions was the will of the UNFCCC to integrate the ocean into every single problem there is. However, climate change is not a dominant factor in the BBNJ negotiations due to geopolitical interests.
- All of the ongoing negotiations (BBNJ, climate change, CBD, WTO fisheries subsidies) are interconnected. Everything relates to one another. It is thus very important to bring people together, to ensure their engagement, and to ensure synergies and complementarity between the various agreements and fora.

- We are lacking a multilateral home for ocean issues and the ocean community. The future BBNJ Agreement could be one of the multilateral homes for the ocean community.
- The BBNJ agreement is negotiated from a legal perspective and not very much from an environmental perspective. This will make it difficult to ensure the effectiveness of the BBNJ Agreement on the ground.
- There is a need to find a way to make the science-policy interface more direct and accountable. There are currently two challenges in this respect: 1) direct – comes from developing countries doubting the weight and science coming from developed countries; 2) indirect – comes from those producing the data and analysis. Parties might not necessarily contest the science.
- Principal challenge around the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework negotiations is the unwillingness of wealthier countries to invest as much as is necessary which will have more impact on achieving the 2030 targets rather than conservation efforts.
- The WTO negotiations on fisheries subsidies started 21 years ago. Why does it take so long? There are reasons that have nothing to do with fish, the main one being is that the rule at the WTO is that nothing is agreed until everything is agreed. Then there are reasons that have more to do with fish, notably the need to consider special and differentiated treatment. The next negotiation session will take place in early June 2022, two weeks before the UN Ocean Conference.
- There is one category of harmful fisheries subsidies, namely those subsidies contributing to overcapacity, which are very relevant for marine areas beyond national jurisdiction and distant water fishing.
- The International Seabed Authority (ISA) has awarded 31 exploration contracts for deep-sea mining in ABNJ. In 2019, an advanced version of the draft mining code was published and that provides the basis for ongoing negotiations. In June 2021, the Republic of Nauru invoked a provision that gives a deadline to the ISA to finalise the mining code. The Council is currently meeting and making progress through the informal working groups.
- It is important to understanding the link between the Area and the High Seas, as well as between ABNJ and national waters: The environmental responsibility of the ISA extends beyond the Area ('irrespective of where the harm occurs'). Mining can also happen in EEZs where States have the right to exploit minerals that can have an impact on ABNJ. Additionally, the outer limits of the continental shelf that can be extended.
- It is important to move away from the 'not undermining' situation where it is assumed that the treaty should not 'undermine' existing organisations. It is important to ensure that 'not undermining' means in fact that coordination is necessary. There is a good opportunity at the moment for the BBNJ Agreement to set an ambition or vision.
- There needs to be constant reporting between the ISA and the BBNJ regime. An option could be to create a contact group between the ISA and the BBNJ processes to ensure that they are speaking with each other, and this could be developed into something more permanent. There could also be joint meetings of the technical bodies.
- Voluntary measures should be complemented by legally binding measures.
- Marine protected areas (MPAs) are interesting tools, but these tools alone do not solve the problem. They have to be accompanied by national State-led measures.
- There needs to be a stronger lobby for the environmental case within the BBNJ negotiations, in the UNFCCC negotiations, and also in other fora.
- Governments have different positions depending on who you talk to and depending on where they come from and which ministry they work for. This is a sign that ministries represent different parts of society.
- The STRONG High Seas project is one of the flagship projects financed by the German Government. It has had an important and valuable contribution in bringing people together and showing that cooperation, particularly at the national and regional levels, is crucial.

Summary Remarks and Closing of the Workshop

Mr. Ben Boteler ([IASS](#)) provided the summary remarks for the workshop.

This event marks the 5th Dialogue Workshop in the STRONG High Seas workshop series. This workshop maintained the project philosophy that it is highly important to offer such ongoing informal platforms to bring together individuals and organisations to discuss and exchange on critical issues surrounding the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction. This builds on the belief that the success of achieving conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction will depend on cooperation and collaboration amongst and between all States and stakeholders.

The first day of the workshop showed that, although there has been clear progress during the latest round of BBNJ negotiations, the success of its future implementation to achieve conservation and management targets will depend on multistakeholder partnerships and cooperation across governance levels and sectors. There is a great need to establish mechanisms and clarify roles for cooperation and coordination with other relevant bodies in the BBNJ Agreement. Long-term needs-based support, stakeholder dialogues and engagement, exchanges in knowledge and technologies as well as regional structures are also important to develop the necessary capacities to help achieve the BBNJ Agreement's objectives.

The second day of the workshop highlighted a few examples of the many types of regional cooperation both in coastal waters and in areas beyond national jurisdiction that need to be leveraged to support global conservation goals. While there is sufficient scientific information and knowledge to take action to protect ABNJ, there is still a need to bring different types of information together (e.g., across scientific disciplines) and involve all relevant stakeholder groups to ensure multiple perspectives are involved in decision making and, ultimately, in the implementation of regional initiatives.

The third day of the workshop highlighted that the BBNJ negotiations represent an opportunity to support increased coherence across ongoing global processes and topics, such as climate change and deep-sea mining. However, to do so, we must create the proper set of provisions, conditions, and incentives for a coordinated approach among the various bodies. Through such a coordinated and coherent approach, we can make greater progress towards the conservation and sustainable use of areas beyond national jurisdiction.

Closing of the Workshop

The workshop 'Towards Integrated Ocean Management of the High Seas: Lessons Learnt for Regional and Global Action' was closed on 31 March 2022 by Ms Ilka Wagner ([BMUV, Germany](#)), Ambassador José Luis Pérez Sánchez-Cerro, General Secretary of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific ([COPS](#)) and Mr. Ben Boteler ([IASS](#)), co-lead of the STRONG High Seas project.

Acknowledgements

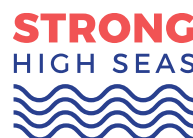
The workshop organisers wish to thank all participants for their active engagement and contribution to this event.

Annex 1: List of Participants

Name	Organisation
Abhold, Katrina	Global Maritime Forum
Aburto, Jaime	UCN
Adhekpukoli, Kome	Federal Ministry of Justice, Abuja
Agostini, Vera	FAO
Alegre Norza Sior, Ana Renza Paola	Instituto del Mar del Perú
Alomía, Carlos	Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
Alvarado, Leonardo	Dirección General de Intereses Marítimos
Alvarez Rubio, Sergio	Interpreter
Alzamora Batalla, Blanca Leonor	CPPS
Amador Rangel, Karen	University
AMRANI, Mohammed Chérif	Cofrepêche
Anganuzzi, Alejandro	FAO - Common Oceans ABNJ Program
ARIAS-ISAZA, Francisco A.	INVEMAR
Awad, Adnan	The Nature Conservancy
Baidoo-Tsibu, Godfrey	Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea
Bana, Myriam	Abidjan Convention
BANLA, Tchao	Direction de l'Environnement/Ministère de l'Environnement et des Ressources Forestières
Barnes-Dabban, Harry	Ports Environmental Network-Africa (PENAF)
Bawa-Bwari, Halima	Department of Climate Change, Federal Ministry of Environment, Abuja
Boteler, Ben	IASS
Bravo, Karla	Viceministerio de Acuicultura y Pesca
Briere Spiteri, Claudette	MCL Environmental Consulting
Brooks, Holly	UNEP-WCMC
Bryan, Tanya	GRID-Arendal
Bueno, Paula	WWF Colombia
Calmels, Ellie	Interpreter
Campbell, Darius	NEAFC
Castellanos Galindo, Gustavo	WWF Colombia
Charuka, Blessing	ACECoR/UCC
Chauca, Roberto	
CHOCHO, VICTOR	Environment Ministry
Correa, Joaquin	Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
Corzo Ruiz, Brayán	Universidad Externado de Colombia
Coutts, Waldemar	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile
Cremers, Klaudija	IDDR
Davies, Tammy	BirdLife International
Diz, Daniela	The Lyell Centre, Heriot-Watt University
du Plessis, Nicole	NRF-SAEON
Durussel, Carole	Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS)

Name	Organisation
Elegbede, Isa	Bradenburg university of technology, btu, cottbus-senftenberg, Germany
Enright, Sarah	Charles Darwin Foundation for the Galapagos Islands
Escudero, Luis	Instituto del Mar del Perú
Espinoza Bernal, Rebeca	Ministerio de Producción, Comercio Exterior, Inversiones y Pesca
Etuk, Arianne	Bahamas Permanent Mission to the United Nations
Fasheh, Jana	IASS
Finke, Gunnar	GIZ
Fletcher, Ruth	UNEP-WCMC
FONKOU CHANOU, Jean-Eric	Ministry of External Relations
Gaentsa, Romaric Maclave	Ministère de l'environnement, du développement durable et de bassin du Congo
Garcia Cruz, Diego	Calliope Interpreters
Gaymer, Carlos	ESMOI-UCN
González, Sonia	Comisión Colombiana del Océano
Gorny, Matthias	Oceana
Govan, Hugh	LMMA Network
Goya, ELISA	IMARPE
Grée, Daniele	c-Interpreters
Greyling, Leticia	International Ocean Institute - Southern Africa (IOI-SA)
Guilhon, Maila	Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies
Gutierrez Tong, Heylin Angela	Autoridad Maritima del Perú
Gutierrez Saez, Eric Camilo	MINISTERIO DE LA PRODUCCION
Hampton, Shannon	IOI-SA
Hansen, Stefanie	IASS
Hazin, Carolina	BirdLife International
Hernández, Cristóbal	High Seas Alliance
Hoffmann, Bettina	MdB
Howell, Kerry	Plymouth University
IYAKA, Ankao Camille	Ministère de l'environnement et Développement Durable Direction des ressources en eau
Jarrín, María Belén	DIGEIM
Johnson, David	Seascope Consultants GOBI
Karan, Elizabeth	The Pew Charitable Trusts
KATANSAOU, TCHAA	Ministère de l'environnement et des ressources forestières
Kenfack, Jean	Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Protection de la Nature et du Développement Durable
Kihumba, Lewis	BirdLife Africa
Kinavuidi, Miguel	Nacional Institute of Biodiversity and Conservation
KONG MUKWELE, Sheila	The Ministry of External Relations
La Bianca, Giulia	university of plymouth
Laborda, Cristian	THE PEW CHARITABLE TRUSTS
LAMIN, PAUL ABU	ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AGENCY - SIERRA LEONE

Name	Organisation
Lastra Mier, Roberto	Universidad del Atlántico Atlántico
Leon, Giancarlo	Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores del Perú
Lieberknecht, Louise	GRID-Arendal
LINGUEKE NGOYABY, Emilie	Ministère des Affaires étrangères du Gabon
Long, Ronán	World Maritime University
Malongo Iyangui, Auxence	Ministère des Affaires étrangères
Maloueki, Lucien	IRSEN
Manteke Kabay, Jean	Water Resources Dir./Ministry of Environment
Matthews, JM	Calliope interpreters
McQuaid, Kirsty	University of Plymouth; South African National Biodiversity Institute
MEBA, Toï Pagnibam	Ministère de l'environnement et des ressources forestières
Meinecke, Monica	AIIC
Mendoza, Javier	Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Movilidad Humana Ecuador
Meneses-Orellana, Ricardo	Corredor Marino del Pacífico Este Tropical
Miranda, Alfonso	CALAMASUR
Montes, Ivonne	Instituto Geofísico del Perú (IGP)
Naranjo, Luis Germán	WWF Colombia
Nilo, Marcelo	CPPS
Obura, David	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO
Olivares-Arenas, Marcelo	UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA DEL NORTE
Omagbemi, Constance	Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency
Ormaza-Gonzalez, Franklin	Escuela Superior Politécnica del Litoral
Orozco, Rita	Instituto del mar del Peru
Packeiser, Tim	WWF
Parmentier, Remi	The Varda Group
Pastor, Ruslan	IMARPE
Paz Ramos, Alejandra Ximena	Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
Pazmiño, Andres	DIGEIM
Perez Sanchez Cerro, Jose Luis	COMISION PERMANENTE DEL PACIFICO SUR
Pinzon, Aurélie	Calliope
Pinzon Mendoza, Zuleika	Comisión Permanente del Pacífico Sur - CPPS
Pletickosich López, Jianphier	Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores del Perú
Quinones, Renato	UNIVERSIDAD DE CONCEPCION
RAZAFINAIVO, Frida	Madagascar National Parks
Richardson, Anthony	University of Queensland
Rivadeneira, Marcela	Cancillería
Rochette, Julien	IDDR
Rodriguez, Danna	Comisión Colombiana Océano
Salvador, Juan Andrés	Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Movilidad Humana
Singh, Pradeep	University of Bremen
Sohou, Zacharie	Institut de Recherches Halieutiques et Océanologiques du Bénin (IRHOB)
Soi, Nancy	UNEP



Name	Organisation
Sotil, Giovanna	Instituto del Mar del Perú
Soto, Eulogio	UNIVERSIDAD DE VALPARAISO
Spadone, Aurélie	IUCN
Stendahl, Kerstin	UNEP
Tembisa, Sineke	Benguela Current Convention
Thomas, Tamara	Conservation International
Tront, André	ZUG IKI Office
Unger, Sebastian	IASS
Vega, Salvador	Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
Veintimilla, David	Ministerio del Ambiente, Agua y Transición Ecológica
Voges, Lizette	SEAFO
Wagner, Ilka	BMUV
Waugh, Susan	BirdLife
Wilson, Andrea	The Pew Charitable Trusts
Wright, Glen	IDDRI
Yannicelli, Beatriz	UCN and UdelaR
Zambrano López, Nelson	Conservación Internacional
Zamora, Rodrigo	SONAPESCA F.G.
Zapata, Luis	WWF Colombia

Annex 2: Workshop Agenda

Day 1 – 29 March 2022	
15:45 (German Time)	Online platform open for participants to login
16:00 – 16:05	Opening of the workshop and housekeeping rules Dr. Susan Waugh, BirdLife International
16:05 – 16:20	Welcome on behalf of the STRONG High Seas project from the German Government, CPPS Secretariat, UN Environment & the IASS Parliamentary State Secretary Dr. Bettina Hoffmann (BMUV, Germany) Ambassador José Luis Pérez Sánchez-Cerro (General Secretary, CPPS) Ms. Kerstin Stendahl (Head of Ecosystems Integration Branch, UN Environment Programme) Dr. Carole Durussel (Co-Lead, STRONG High Seas, IASS)
16:20 – 16:30	Workshop objectives & introduction round Dr. Susan Waugh, BirdLife International
16:30 – 16:35	Group Picture Dr. Susan Waugh, BirdLife International
16:35 – 16:55	Session 1: The role of multi-stakeholder cooperation within the future BBNJ Agreement and its implementation Presentation: Findings from the STRONG High Seas project on the role of multi-stakeholder cooperation within the future BBNJ Agreement and its implementation <i>Key messages from the STRONG High Seas project and reflections for the panel discussion</i> Dr. Carole Durussel, IASS
16:55 – 17:55	Panel Discussion: Reflections on the role of multi-stakeholder cooperation within the future BBNJ Agreement and its implementation <i>Discussion and reflections on the current state of the BBNJ negotiations and the role of multi-stakeholder cooperation for the successful implementation of the BBNJ Agreement, including from an African and South American perspective, and necessary next steps and actions needed</i> Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister Giancarlo León Collazos, Peru • Mr. Salvador Vega, Chile • Mr. Jean Kenfack, Cameroon • Mr. Paul Lamin, Sierra Leone • Ms. Klaudija Cremers, IDDRI (STRONG High Seas Project) Moderation by Mr. Sebastian Unger, IASS <i>Followed by Q&A</i>
17:55 – 18:00	Close of day 1 Dr. Susan Waugh, BirdLife International

Day 2 – 30 March 2022	
15:45 (German Time)	Online platform open for participants to login
16:00 – 16:15	Welcome and summary of day 1 Ms. Leticia Greyling, International Ocean Institute – South Africa
16:15 – 16:35	Session 2: Applying multi-stakeholder cooperation in regional initiatives for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction Presentation: Findings from the STRONG High Seas Project on applying multi-stakeholder in regional initiatives for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction <i>Key messages from the STRONG High Seas project and reflections for the panel discussions</i> Ms. Carolina Hazin, BirdLife International
16:35 – 17:55	Panel Discussion: Applying multi-stakeholder cooperation in regional initiatives for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction <i>Discussion and reflections on multi-stakeholder regional initiatives in the context of BBNJ</i> Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Godfrey Baidoo-Tsibu, FCWC-PESCAO Regional MCS Centre (Monitoring, Control and Surveillance) • Dr. Tammy Davies, BirdLife International (NACES Marine Protected Area) • Dr. Kerry Howell, University of Plymouth (deep sea ecosystems) • Dr. Carlos Gaymer, UCN (Sala y Gomez & Nazca Ridges and STRONG High Seas Project) • Ms. Carolina Hazin, BirdLife International (STRONG High Seas Project) Moderation by Dr. Luis Germán Naranjo, WWF Colombia <i>Followed by Q&A</i>
17:55 – 18:00	Close of day 2 Ms. Leticia Greyling, International Ocean Institute – South Africa

Day 3 – 31 March 2022	
15:45 (German Time)	Online platform open for participants to login
16:00 – 16:15	Welcome and summary of day 2 Dr. Gustavo Castellanos, WWF Colombia
16:15 – 16:35	Session 3: Collaborative action in global ocean governance to address biodiversity loss, climate change, and cross-cutting challenges Presentation: Findings from the STRONG High Seas project on where collaborative action is necessary to address biodiversity loss, climate change, and cross-cutting challenges <i>Key messages from the STRONG High Seas project and reflections for the panel discussions</i> Ms. Paula Bueno, WWF Colombia
16:35 – 17:45	Panel Discussion: Collaborative actions to address cross-cutting challenges in the context of global ocean governance <i>Discussion and reflections on collaborative actions to address cross-cutting challenges in the context of global ocean governance</i> Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ambassador Waldemar Coutts, Chile • Dr. David Obura, CORDIO East Africa • Ms. Ilka Wagner, Germany • Mr. Pradeep Singh, University of Bremen • Mr. Rémi Parmentier, The Varda Group • Ms. Paula Bueno, WWF Colombia (STRONG High Seas Project) Moderation by Dr. Julien Rochette, IDDRI <i>Followed by Q&A</i>
17:45 – 17:50	Summary Remarks <i>Summary remarks of the workshop</i> Mr. Ben Boteler, IASS
17:50 – 18:00	Closing of the workshop by the German Government, CPPS Secretariat, UN Environment and the IASS Ms. Ilka Wagner (BMUV, Germany) Ambassador José Luis Pérez Sánchez-Cerro (General Secretary, CPPS) TBD (UN Environment) Mr. Ben Boteler (Co-Lead, STRONG High Seas, IASS)

Annex 3: List of webinars and scientific reports relevant to the Southeast Pacific region published under the STRONG High Seas project to date

Project reports

- [Strengthening Regional Ocean Governance for the High Seas: Opportunities and Challenges to Improve the Legal and Institutional Framework of the Southeast Atlantic and Southeast Pacific](#)
 - Summary for Decision-Makers [\[English\]](#)
 - Resumen para tomadores de decisiones [\[Español\]](#)
 - Résumé à l'intention des décideurs [\[Français\]](#)
- [Regional Ocean Governance of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction: Lessons Learnt and Ways Forward](#)
 - Summary for Decision-Makers [\[English\]](#)
 - Resumen para tomadores de decisiones [\[Español\]](#)
 - Résumé à l'intention des décideurs [\[Français\]](#)
- [Ecological Baselines of the Southeast Atlantic and Southeast Pacific: Status of Marine Biodiversity and Anthropogenic Pressures in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction](#)
 - Summary for Decision-Makers – Southeast Atlantic [\[English\]](#)
 - Résumé à l'intention des décideurs – Atlantique du Sud-Est [\[Français\]](#)
 - Summary for Decision-Makers – Southeast Pacific [\[English\]](#)
 - Resumen para tomadores de decisiones – Pacífico Sudeste [\[Español\]](#)
- Strengthening Monitoring, Control and Surveillance in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction
 - [\[English\]](#)[\[Français\]](#)[\[Español\]](#)
 - Briefing for Negotiators [\[English\]](#)
- Options for Strengthening Monitoring, Control and Surveillance of Human Activities in the Southeast Pacific Region
 - [\[English\]](#)[\[Español\]](#)
- Options for Strengthening Monitoring, Control and Surveillance of Human Activities in the Southeast Atlantic Region
 - [\[English\]](#)[\[Français\]](#)
- Strengthening High Seas Governance Through Enhanced Environmental Assessment Processes
 - [\[English\]](#)[\[Français\]](#)[\[Español\]](#)
- Report on Socio-Economic Importance of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction
 - Southeast Atlantic region: [\[English\]](#)/[\[Français\]](#)
 - Southeast Pacific region: [\[Español\]](#)/[\[English\]](#)
- [Ensuring Effective Implementation of a High Seas Biodiversity Treaty: Lessons Learned and Options for an Implementation and Compliance Committee](#)
 - Briefing for negotiators [\[English\]](#)
 - Note à l'intention des négociateurs [\[Français\]](#)
 - Documento informativo para las negociaciones [\[Español\]](#)

- Study on Measures to Support Conservation Efforts for Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction
 - Southeast Atlantic region: [\[English\]](#)/[Version en français disponible prochainement]
 - Southeast Pacific region: [English version available soon]/[\[Español\]](#)
- Reflections from the STRONG High Seas Project: Capacity Development in the Southeast Atlantic and Southeast Pacific Region for Conservation of Marine Biodiversity in ABNJ
 - Southeast Atlantic region: [\[English\]](#)/[Version en français disponible prochainement]
 - Southeast Pacific region: [English version available soon]/[Versión en español disponible en breve]

Policy briefs

- Policy brief – Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biodiversity in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction: Options for Underpinning a Strong BBNJ Agreement through Regional and Sectoral Governance
 - [\[English\]](#)[\[Français\]](#)[\[Español\]](#)
- Policy brief – Keeping an Eye on the High Seas: Strengthening Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance Through a New Marine Biodiversity Treaty
 - [\[English\]](#)[\[Français\]](#)[\[Español\]](#)
- Policy Brief – Towards Ecosystem-based Management of the Global Ocean: Strengthening Regional Cooperation through a New Agreement for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biodiversity in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction
 - [\[English\]](#)[\[Français\]](#)[\[Español\]](#)
- Policy Brief – The Role of Regional Cooperation in Strengthening High Seas Governance: Conceptual Framework and Key Recommendations
 - [\[English\]](#)[\[Español\]](#)

Online Seminars

- STRONG High Seas Online Seminar: [Marine Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction in the Southeast Pacific and Southeast Atlantic](#)
- STRONG High Seas Online Seminar: [Marine Genetic Resources: Building Capacities for Ocean Governance](#)
- STRONG High Seas Online Seminar: [Strengthening Monitoring control and surveillance through a High Seas Treaty](#)
- STRONG High Seas Online Seminar (Español): [Strengthening MCS in the Southeast Pacific](#)
- STRONG High Seas Online Seminar: [Towards a Better Management of Western African Marine Resources: the Role of Monitoring, Control and Surveillance](#)
- STRONG High Seas Online Seminar (Español): [Aguas internacionales Cómo se manejan desde las Naciones Unidas y cuál es el futuro de la biodiversidad en ellas?](#)

About the STRONG High Seas Project

The STRONG High Seas project is a five-year project that aims to strengthen regional ocean governance for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction. It is coordinated by the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS) and implemented together with the Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI), BirdLife International, the International Ocean Institute (IOI) – Southern Africa, the Universidad Católica del Norte (UCN), WWF Colombia, and WWF Germany. Working with the Secretariat of the Comisión Permanente del Pacífico Sur (CPPS; Permanent Commission for the South Pacific) and the Secretariat of the West and Central Africa Regional Seas Programme (Abidjan Convention), the project will develop and propose targeted measures to support the coordinated development of integrated and ecosystem-based management approaches for ocean governance in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

The STRONG High Seas project has the following overarching objectives:

1. Facilitate the development of improved management approaches for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction in the Southeast Pacific and Southeast Atlantic regions;
2. Identify best practices and provide support to regional institutions and national authorities for implementing existing regional instruments;
3. Develop options for regional governance in a future international instrument under UNCLOS and transfer regional lessons learned to the global level to promote ocean governance.

For more information about the STRONG High Seas project, please visit: <https://www.prog-ocean.org/our-work/strong-high-seas/> or contact: stronghighseas@iass-potsdam.de.

Partners of the STRONG High Seas project



International Ocean Institute
African Region



Supported by:



Federal Ministry
for the Environment, Nature Conservation,
Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection

based on a decision of
the German Bundestag

The STRONG High Seas project is part of the International Climate Initiative (IKI; <http://www.international-climate-initiative.com/en/>). The Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV) supports this initiative on the basis of a decision adopted by the German Bundestag.