



Mon, 24 Oct | 16:00-20:00 | Ridge Arena - Alisa Hotel

## SYMPOSIUM OPENING CEREMONY

15:00- Onsite registration & refreshments  
16:00

16:00- **Welcome Remarks**  
16:50

<b>GEO Blue Planet Secretariat</b>	Dr. Pierre-Yves Le Traon (Mercator Ocean International & EU4OceanObs action) Dr. Emily Smail (Univ. of Maryland and NOAA)
<b>University of Ghana</b>	Dr. Angela Lampety <i>tbc</i>
<b>University of Energy and Natural Resources</b>	Prof. Elvis Asare-Bediako (Vice Chancellor)
<b>Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI), Ghana</b>	Kwamena Quaison (Chief Director)
<b>European Commission Directorate-General for Research and Innovation</b>	Joanna Drake (Deputy Director-General for Mobility and Environment)
<b>European Union Delegation to Ghana</b>	Massimo Mina (Head of Cooperation)
<b>GMES &amp; Africa</b>	Ignatius Williams (University of Ghana)

16:50- **Introductory Keynote Presentations**  
18:00

<b>GEO Blue Planet Activities</b>	Dr. Emily Smail (GEO Blue Planet Executive Director (Univ. of Maryland and NOAA))
<b>UN Ocean Decade Roadmap for Africa</b>	Dr. Zacharie Sohou (IOC-Africa Vice Chair and Director of the Benin Fisheries and Oceanological Research Institute)

Q&A

18:00- **Welcome cocktail reception & Interactive Poster Forum**  
20:00

Informal roundtables & poster exhibitions to facilitate discussions on the six following themes:

- i) Fisheries, ii) Ecosystem Conservation, iii) Coastal Hazards, iv) Stakeholder Engagement, iv) Cooperation & Co-design and v) Capacity Development



5th SYMPOSIUM | 24 - 28 October 2022 | Accra, Ghana

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Tue, 25 Oct | 09:00-12:00 | Ridge Arena - Alisa Hotel

## PLENARY SESSION 1: FISHERIES

Co-chairs: Nikelene Mclean (NOAA), Dr. Isa Elegbede (TGER/CEESP/IUCN, Switzerland & Lagos State University) & Dr. Stewart Bernard (South African National Space Agency (SANSA))

### User Needs: Keynote presentations from end-users in Africa

9:00-9:05	<b>Introduction</b>	
9:05-9:15	<b>Small Scale Fishers</b>	Dr. Greg Duggan (Abalobi, South Africa)
9:15-9:25	<b>Commercial Fishing</b>	Nana Oyeman Ofori-Ani (Ghana Industrial Trawlers Association)
9:25-9:35	<b>Fisheries Economics</b>	Dr. Wisdom Akpalu (Institute of Management and Public Administration, Ghana)
9:40-10:00	<b>Panel Discussion</b>	Above speakers and Dr. Angela Lampety (University of Ghana) <i>tbc</i> Dr. Rebecca Essamuah (Centre for Maritime Law & Security (CEMLAWS) Africa)
10:00-10:15	<i>Break</i>	

### Fisheries Plenary | Tools & Opportunities

10:15-10:20	<b>Introduction</b>	
10:20-10:35	<b>Overview presentation on how Earth Observations can be used for Fisheries and Aquaculture</b>	Katie Geddes (University of Miami and ORTA NOAA)
10:35-10:50	<b>General presentation of the South African Oceans and Coastal Information Management System (OCIMS)</b>	Dr. Marie Smith (Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), South Africa)
10:50-11:05	<i>Break</i>	



## Fisheries Plenary | Inspiring Examples

11:05-11:10	<b>Introduction</b>	
11:10-11:25	<b>Earth Observations for fisheries and aquaculture site selections</b>	Amine Mohamed Taji (ACRI-EC Space Sciences)
11:25-11:40	<b>GMES and Africa safety at sea service</b>	Bennet Atsu-Foli (GMES & Africa   University of Ghana)
11:40-11:55	<b>Earth Observations to support Barbados fisheries</b>	Dr. Shelly-Ann Cox (Blue Shell Productions, Barbados)
12:00-14:00	<i>Lunch</i>	

## Tue, 25 Oct | 14:00-17:00 | Ridge Arena - Alisa Hotel

### PLENARY SESSION 2: **ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION**

Co-chairs: Dr. Rory Scarrott (University College Cork) and Prof. Isabel Sousa-Pinto (University of Porto, MBON and IPBES)

#### **User Needs: Keynote presentations from end-users in Africa**

14:00-14:05	<b>Introduction</b>	
14:05-14:15	<b>Perspectives: What are the priority ecosystem conservation challenges in African regional seas</b>	Dr. Zacharie SOHOU (IOC-Africa Vice Chair and Director of the Benin Fisheries and Oceanological Research Institute)
14:15-14:25	<b>Ecosystem conservation as a foundation for sustainable blue economies</b>	Gabriel Akoko Juma (ECOP Africa Coordination Unit)
14:25-14:45	<b>Panel discussion to help identify synergies</b>	Session speakers
14:45-15:00	<i>Break</i>	

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## Ecosystem Conservation | Tools & Opportunities

- 15:00-15:05 **Introduction**
- 15:05-15:20 **UNEP-GEMS Ocean: Harnessing multi-stakeholder partnerships to transform data into action**      Niccolo Bassan (UNEP-GEMS Ocean and Coasts)
- 15:20-15:35 **WIOMSA: Developing international and interdisciplinary research capacity in support of regional ecosystem conservation efforts**      Dr. Louis Celliers (Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA))
- 15:35-15:55 **Mission: Restore our Ocean and Waters**      Garry Kett (All-Atlantic Youth Ambassador, University College Cork) and Sigi Gruber (Active Senior Advisor to the European Commission)

15:55-16:10 *Break*

## Ecosystem Conservation | Inspiring Examples

- 16:10-16:15 **Introduction**
- 16:15-16:30 **The Sargassum Information hub: Exploiting satellite data to support Sargassum monitoring and forecasting**      Dr. Shelly-Ann Cox (Blue Shell Productions, Barbados)
- 16:30-16:45 **MANCOGA – Using data and co-design approach in understanding the role of mangroves in sustaining fisheries**      Senyo Adzah (The Development Institute)
- 16:45-17:00 **The issue of microplastics and the potential role for satellite data**      Dr. Ebenezer Nyadjro (Mississippi State University/NOAA)

17:00-19:00 **INTERACTIVE POSTER FORUM**





Wed, 26 Oct | 09:00-17:00 | Ridge Arena - Alisa Hotel

### PLENARY SESSION 3: COASTAL HAZARDS

Co-chairs: Dr. Fifi Adodo (Mercator Ocean International), Dr. Lisa Rebelo (Digital Earth Africa) and Tânia Li Chen (AIR Centre)

#### User Needs: Keynote presentations from end-users in Africa

09:00-09:05	<b>Introduction</b>	
09:05-09:20	<b>Keynote on coastal zone risks assessment and capacity building needs</b>	Prof. Kwasi Appeaning Addo (Institute for Environment and Sanitation Studies, University of Ghana)
09:20-09:30	<b>Perspectives on capacity building needs of ocean sciences stakeholders in Africa</b>	Dr. Temitope Sogbanmu (University of Lagos, Nigeria)
09:30-09:50	<b>Early Career Ocean Professionals (ECOPs) panel discussion on stakeholder needs</b>	Dr. Raphael Onguene (Douala Institute of Technology, Cameroon) Dr. Sandrine Djakouré (Université Felix Houphouet Boigny, Côte d'Ivoire) Dr. Temitope Sogbanmu, (University of Lagos, Nigeria) Gabriel Akoko Juma (ECOP Africa Coordination Unit, Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research)
09:50-10:05	<i>Break</i>	

#### Plenary Coastal Hazards | Tools & Opportunities

10:05-10:10	<b>Introduction</b>	
10:10-10:25	<b>Copernicus Marine and coastal zone monitoring and forecasting</b>	Dr. Pierre-Yves Le Traon (Mercator Ocean International, France)
10:25-10:40	<b>Demonstration of Copernicus data access and visualisation services</b>	Fabrice Messal (Mercator Ocean International, France)
10:40-10:55	<b>Digital Earth Africa coastline monitoring service</b>	Dr. Lisa Rebelo (Digital Earth Africa)



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10:55-11:10 Break

Plenary Coastal Hazards | Inspiring Examples

Table with 2 columns: Time and Session details. Sessions include Introduction, Examples of addressing coastal hazards challenges using space technology applications, Coastal erosion at regional scale, Using remote sensing and modelling for coastal detection, and Coastal monitoring and flooding risks mitigation.

12:15-14:00 Lunch

COPERNICUS PRIVATE SECTOR OPPORTUNITIES

Table with 2 columns: Time and Session details. Sessions include Overview of session and SMEs, Space for Sustainable Development, Copernicus Marine Services for Africa, GMES & Africa: Marine and Coastal Areas Management in Africa & Copernicus Partnership, and Showcasing Sustainable Innovation.

17:00-18:00 SYMPOSIUM CLOSING REMARKS

- Dr. Emily Smail (GEO Blue Planet Executive Director)
Ignatius Williams (University of Ghana)
Nikelene Mclean (NOAA)
Dr. Fifi Adodo (Mercator Ocean International)

