



G7 Future of the Seas and Ocean Initiative Working Group Meeting

29-31 October 2024

National Research Council of Italy - CNR

Rome, Italy

SUMMARY REPORT 2024

The G7 Future of the Seas and Oceans Initiative (G7 FSOI) Working Group meeting was held from 29-31 October 2024, Co-Chaired by Giorgio Carpino (Italy) and Andrew Stewart (Canada) under the Italian G7 Presidency. The meeting was held at the National Research Council in Rome.

Established by the G7 members in 2016, the G7 FSOI Working Group unites marine scientists and representatives of G7 government agencies and ministries as well as the European Union to enhance global cooperation for ocean observing and sharing of data and information required for the health of our seas and Ocean, for weather and climate forecasting, and for the development of a sustainable Blue Economy.

As stated in the G7 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting Communiqué in July 2024: *"We commend the achievements of the G7 Future of the Seas and Oceans Initiative (FSOI) Working Group and endorse its name change to "G7 Future of the Seas and Ocean Initiative" in recognition of the concept of "One Ocean", widely accepted by the scientific community, and the revision of the action areas description to reflect the scientific-technological evolution. We promote the sharing of best practices from existing initiatives in line with the current G7 commitments and the G7 FSOI Working Group. We call for an integrated approach to leverage the potential of marine research infrastructures in the context of Sustained Ocean Observing, by strengthening partnerships and developing a common vision and coordinated action plans."*

In order to understand, monitor, and predict the Ocean comprehensively as one global system, it is essential to enhance observations of physical, biogeochemical, and ecological Ocean properties and their interactions with socio-economic systems in data-gap areas including both polar and deep seas. In this regard, the Working Group gathered to discuss the intersessional progress of the topics identified in its 2024 workplan, namely:

- Arctic Ocean Observing;
- Marine Research Infrastructure integration and harmonization;
- OneArgo;
- Ocean Carbon;
- Governance, Coordination, and Sustained Funding for the Observing System;
- Digital Twin of the Ocean (DTO);
- Augmented Observing and Forecasting for Marine Life;
- Global Ocean Monitoring Indicators;
- The World Ocean Assessment.

The Working Group Meeting also featured presentations from distinguished guest speakers, Julian Barbieri (Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO, remote), Pierre Bahurel (Director-General of Mercator Ocean International, remote), Margherita Cappelletto (Coordinator of the European Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership, in person), Joanna Post (GOOS Director, remote).

The Working Group discussed the updates from the priority topics in line with the 2024 workplan and agreed to extend the activities of 2024 to 2025.

Details about the G7 FSOI priorities and activities, news and events can be found on the web site at: www.g7fsoi.org