

OceanTeacher Global Academy: OceanTeacher goes global

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The **OceanTeacher Global Academy Project** will develop a global training centre network and utilize this network to increase national capacity in coastal and marine knowledge and management. It will do so by (i) promoting the establishment of Regional Training Centres as well as their close collaboration through advanced information technology; and (ii) further developing the OceanTeacher Learning System. The **OceanTeacher Global Academy** will change training from a 'north to south' culture to north-south, south-south, and south-north model. Whereas training was traditionally based on experts from developed regions to visit and teach developing country students, the OceanTeacher Global Academy will promote the expertise available in many developing regions.

Specifically, the OceanTeacher Global Academy will:

- i. Promote the establishment, and assist with the start-up, of Regional Training Centres that will plan, organize and implement training courses that are of relevance and serve needs within their region;
- ii. Promote the use of local experts as lecturers and training assistants by the Regional Training Centres;
- iii. Promote the collaboration between the Regional Training Centres by enabling (through advanced information technology) lecturers from multiple regions to contribute lectures;
- iv. Further develop the OceanTeacher Learning Management System to cover multiple IOC (and associate) programmes.

The new OceanTeacher Global Academy will build upon and expand the existing **OceanTeacher Academy** based at the IOC Project Office for IODE in Oostende, Belgium, to a truly worldwide training facility. It will provide a programme of training courses related to IOC programmes, contributing to the sustainable management of oceans and coastal areas worldwide, and relevant to Member States in the regions. A suitable governance structure will be created. All the aforementioned will lead to the following **benefits**:

Increase the annual number of trainees that can participate in OceanTeacher Academy courses.

1. Increase the availability/involvement and the level of expertise of trainers.
2. Alleviate the costs and other drawbacks of long-distance traveling by trainers/lecturers and trainees.
3. Increase the focus on local issues while keeping a global perspective.
4. Increase self-driven capacity development, including local training expertise.

The OceanTeacher Global Academy will further promote collaboration and expertise exchange through new internet-based technologies such as video conferencing, video streaming etc. between the Regional Training Centres (RTCs).

Key Deliverables

1. Regional Training Centres established, operational and resourced locally (including infrastructure, processes and management) in, *inter alia*, Europe, Africa (IOC-Africa), Latin America & Caribbean (IOC-ARIBE), Indian Ocean (IOC-INDIO) and Western Pacific (IOC-WESTPAC);
2. Competent resource persons available in all regions;
3. Well documented project governance structure established;
4. Courses organized and content provided through the OceanTeacher Learning Management System (OT LMS) and students trained in topics related to, *inter alia*, IODE, IODE/OBIS, IODE/ICAN, HAB, ICAM, GOOS, Tsunami, JCOMM, attended by students from one or more regions simultaneously;
5. Annual reports from Regional Training Centres on progress, including performance metrics;
6. Final Impact assessment of the Project.

Beneficiaries

- The Project will target the following trainees/groups:
- Staff of marine research institutions and related facilities,
- Staff of Government departments involved with marine science and services,
- Marine related practitioners (Government and Private Sector),
- University students (marine science and related disciplines).