

## OceanTeacher Global Academy: Delivering IOC capacity development for the ocean we need for the future we want

Delgado Claudia, Reed Greg and Pissierssens Peter

UNESCO/IOC Project Office for IODE , Wandelaarkaai 7/61 - B-8400 Oostende - Belgium  
E-mail: [c.delgado@unesco.org](mailto:c.delgado@unesco.org)

The OceanTeacher Global Academy (OTGA) is a global network of Regional Training Centre's (RTCs) delivering training on ocean sciences, services and management using the OceanTeacher e-Learning Platform.

The main goal of OTGA is to promote the sharing of training resources and expertise related to ocean sciences in a coordinated way, and that serve all IOC Member States capacity development needs. It does so by promoting the establishment of RTCs that can better address the training needs of the IOC Regions, provide training in local/regional language(s) whilst focusing on locally relevant case studies. The OTGA has currently a network of 9 RTCs across the globe, using 4 languages for training, with the possibility of expansion in the future.

The OceanTeacher e-Learning Platform enables the sharing of standardised, quality training contents in a coordinated framework. It is a comprehensive web-based training platform that supports classroom training (face-to-face), blended learning and online (distance) learning.

Courses cover a range of topics related to the IOC programs, contributing to the IOC Mandate and the implementation of the IOC Capacity Development Strategy, enabling equitable participation of all IOC Member States and IOC Programs. Furthermore, OTGA contributes to the Agenda 2030 and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including SDG 4, 5, 9, 10, 13, and 14. As of 2019 onwards, OTGA will focus on developing training courses focusing on the implementation of the SDG 14, including topics such as Ocean Acidification and Ocean Carbon, Marine Spatial Planning, but also others such as Operational Oceanography, Marine Scientific Research and the United Nations Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology (TMT), etc., besides updating already existing training courses on topics such as Marine GIS Tools and Applications, Ocean Data Management, Research Data Management, Marine Biological Data (OBIS related), etc.

All OceanTeacher content is freely and openly available and is licensed under a CreativeCommons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License.

Besides the IOC Programmes and its Member States, other users of the OceanTeacher e-Learning Platform include UGent, EMODnet, VLIZ, POGO, AWI, etc...

The UNESCO/IOC Project Office for IODE obtained its certification as a Learning Services Provider (ISO 29990:2010) in 2018. The OceanTeacher Global Academy is a Project of IOC/IODE, Oostende, supported by the Flanders-UNESCO Trust Fund for Science (FUST) of the Government of Flanders, Belgium.

Keywords: Capacity Development; IOC; Training; SDGs; Ocean Sciences; Online