

Session 4: Marine stations and global policy -5
10:05 – 10:20

**④ Taking the Pulse of the Global Ocean: An Overview of the Partnership
for Observation of the Global Ocean (POGO)**

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The ocean produces half of the world's oxygen, most of its fresh water and much of its food. It regulates climate and weather; is critical to the cycling of heat, water and carbon; and is the source of huge biodiversity. However, far too little is known about the state and functioning of the ocean. Motivated by a common belief that advancing scientific understanding of the ocean is rooted in making systematic, high quality measurements, the Directors of major oceanographic institutions from around the world came together in 1999 and established the Partnership for Observation of the Global Ocean (POGO). POGO has evolved and grown over the past 25 years, but it remains true to its original mission: to expand international support for ocean observing, through innovation of the ocean observing system, capacity development and outreach/advocacy. Today, POGO brings together 56 oceanographic institutes from 32 countries to plan joint actions to advance sustained ocean observations for societal benefit. Over the years, POGO has developed and supported projects on technological innovation; fostered working groups on specific aspects, priorities or challenges related to ocean observing; provided training and capacity development opportunities for over 1,200 early-career scientists in developing countries; created and nurtured an alumni network; highlighted the need for ocean observations to policymakers, the general public and schools, through publications, high-level declarations, public events and citizen science, education and outreach projects. An overview of POGO's objectives, impact and current activities will be provided in this presentation.