

LME23

PARIS, FRANCE • 3-5 June 2024



INTERNATIONAL
MARITIME
ORGANIZATION



23rd ANNUAL CONSULTATIVE MEETING ON

LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEMS AND COASTAL PARTNERS (LME23)

3 – 5 June 2024

UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, FRANCE

CONCEPT NOTE & AGENDA

Goal of the meeting

The Consultation Meeting on Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) and Coastal Partners plays a crucial role in fostering the development of collaborative efforts and partnerships within the framework of LMEs. By actively engaging leaders in marine science, coastal management, biodiversity conservation, and projects focused on coastal climate change adaptation, this gathering serves as a dynamic platform for knowledge exchange and strategic discussions. It provides a global forum for Global Environment Facility (GEF)-funded and other marine and coastal practitioners, partner organizations and institutions, including Regional Seas organisations and Fisheries Management Organizations, international NGOs and regional community leaders. The primary goal is to exchange experiences and insights related to ecosystem-based management (EBM) of LMEs and effective ocean governance.

Overarching objectives

- To continue strengthening the LME process and partnerships;
- To promote collaboration among LMEs, Regional Seas Programmes (RSPs) and Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs), Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) and River Basin Organizations (RBOs) in pursuance of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular the SDG14;

- To foster a mutually supportive global network of leaders and institutions engaged in marine and coastal ecosystem-based management, including LMEs, integrated coastal management (ICM), marine protected areas (MPA), marine spatial planning (MSP), sustainable blue economy (SBE), sustainable ocean planning (SOP) programme, Source-to-Sea management (S2S) and others, for discussing experiences and lessons learned;
- To mobilize knowledge resources, new scientific applications and tools to support the implementation of LME and marine projects, and organizational action related to priority knowledge topics;
- To mobilize partners to enhance the LME community's efforts towards the implementation of Strategic Action Plans (SAPs), as well as the implementation of Agenda 2030.

Specific objectives of the LME23 Meeting

- To review progress in regions through GEF-funded marine and coastal projects, disseminating best practices, and discussing emerging issues requiring common responses;
- To consult the LME community on the progress of the work on updating the LME concept and strategy;
- To share the latest science, innovation, and knowledge from the ocean science community;
- To further elaborate on integrated approaches in the management of LMEs, such as the SOP Programme, S2S collaboration and inform on the status of GEF-8 Integrated Programmes (IPs);
- To discuss ways to sustain the results and impacts of the LME projects;
- To consolidate inputs to the Tenth International Waters Conference (IWC10) on sessions related to marine and coastal issues, other key events and processes, e.g. the United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC 2025) process and help shape strategic priorities for the GEF-9 replenishment cycle;
- To inform on the status of the Data and Information Management (DIM) workstream and brainstorm on the next steps.

Expected Outputs

- Input to the IWC10, UNOC 2025 & GEF9
- Roadmap for updating the LME concept
- Definition of outreach activities for the coming year
- Constitute a working group/s on DIM

Proposed set-up

The meeting will take place at the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris starting on Monday 3 June in the afternoon until Wednesday 5 June. The proposed set-up will include presentations, facilitated panel discussions, interactive sessions and break-out working groups. The break-out groups will build on the presentations and discussions of the preceding sessions. The last session on Wednesday 5 June afternoon will be dedicated to a workshop on Data and Information Management (DIM). The LME23 meeting will gather ~ 70 participants representing the GEF implementing and executing agencies, regional organizations, NGOs, governmental representatives familiar with IW projects, partners from the private sector, other partners and practitioners from LMEs and adjacent river basins. Participants to the DIM workshop will include LME project managers and relevant DIM partners.

Participation is by invitation only.

Enclosed documents

- [LME22 summary report](#)
- [Draft LME Community Medium Term Framework Strategy](#)

Draft Agenda-at-a-Glance

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
	3 June 2024	4 June 2024	5 June 2024
09.15-09.30	Bi-lateral meetings	Recap of Day 1 and introducing Day 2	Recap of Day 2 and introducing Day 3
09.30-10.00		Session 3 – Opportunities and challenges for advancing LMEs (+ 🎤)	Session 5 – Sustaining results and impacts of LME projects (+ 🎤)
10.00-10.30			Break-out session D
10.30-11.00			
11.00-11.30		Break-out session B	Session 6 – Towards IWC10, UNOC etc
11.30-12.00			Session 7 – LME23 closing session
12.00-12.30			
12.30-13.00	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
13.00-13.30			
13.30-14.00			
14.00-14.30	Session 1 - Opening	Session 3 – Opportunities and challenges for advancing LMEs (cont.)	Workshop on Data and Information Management (DIM)
14.30-15.00	Session 2 – LME Implementation progress (+ 🎤)		
15.00-15.30			
15.30-16.00			
16.00-16.30	Break-out session A	Break-out session C	
16.30-17.00			
17.00-17.30			
17.30-18.00	Reporting and wrap-up Day 1	Reporting and wrap-up Day 2	
18.00	Welcome cocktail		

DAY 1: Monday 3 June 2024 (afternoon)			
Session 1 - Opening			
Session Chair: Julian Barbière (IOC/UNESCO)			
Rapporteur: Fernanda Vilar			
Objectives of session: <i>To open the meeting, welcome the participants and set the scene for the subsequent sessions and discussions.</i>			
Time	Description	Name	Format of session
14.00-14.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome 	Julian Barbière (IOC/UNESCO) Andrew Hume (GEFSec) Adnan Awan (UNDP) Hartwig Kremer (UNEP) Gonzalo Cid (NOAA)	Plenary; individual addresses
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key developments in the ocean landscape since LME22 meeting 	Andrew Hume (GEFSec)	Plenary, presentation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structure and objectives of LME23 meeting & DIM workshop 	Claudette Spiteri (IW:LEARN)	Plenary, presentation
Session 2 – LME Implementation Progress			
Session Chair: Vladimir Mamaev (UNDP)			
Rapporteur: Sofia Tzavella			
Objectives of session: <i>To highlight the progress in the LME implementation by showcasing key results in terms of scientific results & tools; partnerships; governance, innovation and SIDS</i>			
Time	Description	Name	Format of session
14.30-16.15	5763 ISLME 10069 BOBLME & 10703 GotFish 10800 PROCARIBE+	Rudolf Hermes (expert) Yumi Son (IUCN) & Angela Lentisco (FAO) Sonia Gautreau (UNOPS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlights from LME portfolio (6-7 mins) Two slides per intervention. Template to be provided

	6920 ATSEA-2 10685 – Blue & stronger Med 5538 SCS-SAP 10558 Fisheries & EBM MS 9129 - GloFouling Partnerships Updated LME bibliography	Handoko Adi Susanto (PEMSEA) Carole Martinez (MedPAN) Anders Poulsen (UNOPS) Anna Carlson (GFCM) Lilia Khodjet el Khil (IMO) Claudette Spiteri (IW:LEARN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max. 8 interventions <p>Two slides:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduce project/region etc. 2. Describe highlight (scientific results & tools; partnerships; governance, innovation and SIDS)
Coffee (16.15-16.30)			
16.30-17.30	Break out group session A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation challenges of LME projects (Gonzalo Cid, NOAA) • Towards an ocean governance simulation game (CRS -video; tbc) • Gender mainstreaming and stakeholder participation/engaging youth and civil society (Virginia Gorsevski, STAP) 		
17.30-18.00	Reporting and wrap up Day 1 Group photo		

DAY 2: Tuesday 4 June 2024			
09.15-09.30	Recap of Day 1 and introducing Day 2		
Session 3 - Opportunities and challenges for advancing LMEs			
Session Chair: Andrew Hume (GEFSec)			
Rapporteur: Claudette Spiteri			
Objectives of session: <i>To highlight opportunities and address challenges related to a number of topics of interest to LMEs</i>			
Time	Description	Name	Format of session
09.30-10.05 (35 mins)	Leveraging science <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Latest from the Ocean Decade (Ocean Vision 2030; LME satellite event at ODC; endorsement of LME projects)• Updates from STAP	Niccolo Bassan (IOC/UNESCO) Claudette Spiteri (IW:LEARN) Julian Barbieri (IOC/UNESCO) Virginia Gorsevski (STAP)	Presentation
10.05-10.45 (40 mins)	Integrated approaches <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Source-to-Sea: LMEs & RBOs• National & regional integration	Ruth Mathews (SIWI) Laverne Walker (IWEco; UNEP Cartagena) Handoko Adi Susanto (PEMSEA) Dimitris Faloutsos (GWP-MED) Mohamad Kayyal (MedProgramme; UNEP/MAP)	S2S talk show Presentation
Coffee (10.45-11.00)			

11.00-11.30 (30 mins)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Update on IPs<ul style="list-style-type: none">Clean and Healthy OceanBlue and Green IslandsCircular Solutions to Plastic Pollution	Andrew Hume (GEFSec) Lorenzo Galbiati (FAO) Adnan Awad (UNDP) Isabelle Vanderbeck (UNEP)	5 mins per presentation
11.30-12.30	Break out group session B (World Cafe) UNDP OIC Innovators <ul style="list-style-type: none">Marie Fischborne - IUCN - SEA Success tailored advisory services to MPA managementRaffaella Guida - Surrey Space Centre - Space-Based Maritime Surveillance System for Fisheries Monitoring and Anomaly DetectionMiren Gutierrez - ODI - IUU fishing and unsustainable behaviour of Distant Water Fishing FleetsAnders Christian Erichsen - DHI Denmark - Mapping and Monitoring of Ecosystems at Scale with Copernicus Sentinel- 2 Imagery (MCSAV)Virginia Carvalho - AqualnSilico - PhosValue digital solutions for nutrient recyclingLuis Lombana - Ficosterra - Novel sustainable algae-based fertilizers		
12.30-14.00	LUNCH		
Session 3 - Opportunities and challenges for advancing LMEs (cont.)			
Session Chair: Hartwig Kremer (UNEP)			
Rapporteur: Fernanda Vilar			
Objectives of session: To highlight opportunities and address challenges related to a number of topics of interest to LMEs			
14.00-15.00	Synergies with regional processes	Mahesh Pradhan (COBSEA) Tatiana Hema (UNEP/MAP) Iryna Makarenko (BSC) Laverne Walker (UNEP Cartagena) Wenxi Zhu (WestPac)	Panel discussion 1. How do the LME projects contribute to advancing the regional processes? 2. What are the opportunities and challenges for LME projects?

Session 4 – From LMEs to high seas			
Session Chair: Isabelle Vanderbeck (UNEP)			
Rapporteur: Zoe Rochet			
Objectives of session: <i>To address the potential engagement and role of LMEs in the conservation and sustainable use of ABNJs in view of the latest developments on the BBNJ Agreement.</i>			
Time	Description	Name	Format of session
15.00-16.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update from GEFSec on ABNJ/BBNJ Common Ocean Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CP: Sargasso Sea CP: Deep Sea Fisheries 	<p>Andrew Hume (GEFSec)</p> <p>Viktoria Varga Lencses (FAO)</p> <p>David Vousden (UNDP GEF Sargasso Sea Project)</p> <p>Nicola Ferri (GFCM)</p>	<p>Panel (1 slide)</p> <p>How does the Common Ocean Program contribute to BBNJ?</p>
Coffee (16.15-16.30)			
16.30-17.30	<p>Break-out group session C</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Future of science in LMEs (Virginia Gorsevski, STAP) Update of TDA/SAP (Dimitris Faloutsos, GWP-MED) ABNJ and LMEs (David Vousden, GESAMP) 		
17.30-18.00	Reporting, discussion and wrap-up Day 2		

DAY 3: Wednesday 5 June 2024			
09.15-09.30	Recap Day 2 and introducing Day 3		
Session 5 - Sustaining results and impacts of LME projects			
Session Chair: Adnan Awan (UNDP)			
Rapporteur: Sofia Tzavella			
Objectives of session: <i>To address how to sustain results and impacts of LME projects through collaboration with the private sector and sustainable financing</i>			
Time	Description	Name	Format of session
09.30-10.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Perspectives of industry partners and government representatives as beneficiariesFunding partnerships: Perspectives of other donors	Gyorgyi Gurban (IMO) Cyrille Barnérias (OFB) Claire Blanchard (PEW/BNB) Rene Gomez (CAF) Eric Atsou Edem Amoussou (BOAD)	Panel discussion 1. What is required to sustain results and impacts of LME projects? 2. Attracting/designing sustainable financing that could be adopted by LMEs 3. Facilitating and sustaining financing through LMEs
Coffee (10.30-10.45)			
10.45-11.45	Break-out group session D <ul style="list-style-type: none">Which are the enabling factors for sustainable financing? Claire Blanchard (PEW/BNB)How to attract investments towards SAPs priorities? Cyrille Barnérias/Lucie Linossi (OFB)What is needed to establish partnerships with the private sector for sustainable financing from source-to-sea? (Gyorgyi Gurban, IMO)		
Session 6 – Towards IWC10, UNOC 2025 and GEF-9			
Session Chair: Lorenzo Galbiati (FAO)			
Rapporteur: Malek Ameri			
Objectives of session: <i>To design a roadmap on how to position LMEs in upcoming events and processes and agree on a vision for LMEs in upcoming events</i>			

Time	Description	Name	Format of session
11.45-12.15	LMEs in IWC10 Road to UNOC 2025 GEF-9	Claudette Spiteri (IW:LEARN) Cyrille Barnerias (OFB) Andrew Hume (GEFSec)	Presentations
Session 7 - Closing session			
Session Chair: Vladimir Mamaev (UNDP)			
Rapporteur: Fernanda Vilar			
Objectives of session: <i>To summarize key outcomes and next steps</i>			
Time	Description	Name	Format of session
12.15-12.30	Key outcomes and conclusions	Vidar Helgesen (IOC/UNESCO)	Two paragraphs from rapporteurs of each session
12.30-14.00	LUNCH		