

The Ocean University Initiative, managed by the University of Western Brittany (UBO) in France, was initiated by the Breton communities. Its aim is to create the conditions for the establishment of a United Nations University institute dedicated to the ocean and coasts, and with the means of carrying out prefiguration actions in three fields: research, training and communication.

One of these actions is a **foresight analysis** on research priorities to support ocean and coastal policies in the Southern Atlantic.

More information about the initiative and its actions at ocean-univ.org



Identifying the research priorities in the Southern Atlantic Ocean to analyze the synergies and the gaps with the policy priorities for the next decade

The South and Tropical Atlantic Ocean and the Antarctic Ocean (referred to as the South Atlantic Ocean in the survey) are the least studied systems of all ocean masses, despite their influence on global climate change and their economic importance. In this context, the Ocean University Initiative, in collaboration with the French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development (IRD), aims to identify research priorities in the South Atlantic Ocean to analyse synergies and gaps with respect to policy priorities for the next decade. In particular, the objective of the project is to develop an agreed set of priorities for research related to the needs of a target audience, namely, researchers and public policymakers/managers/practitioners, both on an individual basis, and to analyze the gaps between these two sets of priorities. Responses to this survey will be analysed and consolidated in two seminars in South America and Africa in 2019. The final result, a report, will be available from October 2019. The project will seek to inform the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) coordinated by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO. The project has been launched at the UNESCO conference 'From COP21 towards the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030)' on the 10th and 11th of September 2018 at Paris.



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