

Driving the transition to a resilient and inclusive future: the role of the ocean

See all outputs at: <https://www.scottishinsight.ac.uk/Programmes/UNGlobalGoals/RoleoftheOcean.aspx>



- AIMS:**
1. Explore **interdependencies** between marine and cross-cutting policy themes to understand **synergies** and **trade-offs** and promote **policy coherence** for a sustainable Blue Economy.
 2. **Mobilise** the science and policy communities in **co-developing** knowledge for policy impact.

Through two virtual and interactive workshops with participants from across Scottish Government and the marine science community, we **highlight**:

1. INTERACTIONS between Ocean and Climate

- Marine sector adaptation to climate change
- Nature-based solutions e.g. 'blue carbon'
- Net Zero and ocean-based renewables
- Green Recovery and the Just Transition

2. INTERACTIONS in Seafood Production & Consumption

- Socio-economic contribution
- Synergies with health and nutrition, and tourism
- Sustainability challenges
- Need for low-carbon food systems
- Over-reliance on import and export markets
- Opportunities to influence market through policy, trade and education

3. ACTIONS for Planning & Management

- National Marine Plan revision
- Participatory, place-based approaches
- Regional marine planning
- Island-scale opportunities for innovative approaches
- Enhanced ocean literacy and marine citizenship

4. ACTIONS for Science

- Understanding long-term trends and trajectories
- Defining thresholds and goals
- Informing natural capital assessment
- Social science – education, attitudes & behaviour
- Interdisciplinarity for integrated decision-making
- Measuring progress and adaptive approaches

5. ACTIONS for the Science-Policy Interface

- Evolve science and policy 'cultures' for more effective interaction
- Specific skills, training and professional recognition
- Boundary organisations & knowledge brokers
- Training of students and ECRs
- Support policy experts in understanding emerging research

6. To Promote Policy Coherence, WE NEED:

- Recognition of limits to growth, trade-offs, and winners and losers
- Strong leadership: transparent decision-making & collaboration
- Raise awareness of 'marine' across government
- Cross-ministerial co-ordination and Advisory Groups
- Identifying 'champions' for specific outcomes of the Blue Economy
- Focus on marine natural capital to integrate 'value' across decision-making

7. Looking Ahead...

- Significant progress is being made in Scotland
- Emerging Blue Economy Strategy is key
- Development of BE delivery plan critical, including through a revised National Marine Plan and Regional Marine Plans
- Measure progress, including through NPF
- Continued engagement with scientific community and all stakeholders



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