

**Submission to Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue  
from the Deep Ocean Stewardship Initiative and Deep Ocean Observing Strategy  
March 6, 2024  
(Please share with the community online)**

The Deep Ocean Stewardship Initiative (DOSI) ([www.dosi-project.org](http://www.dosi-project.org)) is a global network of experts which seeks to integrate science, technology, policy, law, and economics to advise on ecosystem-based management of resource use in the deep sea. The Deep Ocean Observing Strategy (DOOS) (<https://deepoceanobserving.org/>) is a component of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) and a UN Decade Program. It advances and coordinates observation and exploration in the deep ocean in service of science and society.

**Recommended topics of Discussion:**

**1. Critical climate values, vulnerabilities, and solutions in the ocean's deep sea, high seas, and polar regions.**

Within this theme we recommend attention to (a) opportunities for understanding conserving carbon cycle services, (b) the intersection of resource extraction and climate services (for activities related to fishing, mining, energy) [c] climate mitigation and adaptation opportunities and risks, including marine carbon dioxide removal impacts, and trade-offs. [d] advancing biodiversity and climate goals through alignment of UNFCCC and the BBNJ Agreement.

**2. Representation of indigenous communities in ocean climate policy.** The UNFCCC and Ocean Dialogue, while crucial platforms, have historically lacked significant representation from Indigenous communities, who are integral stakeholders in all regions of the ocean. This includes ensuring that Indigenous communities have a say in the governance of activities impacting the deep-sea in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

**3. Ocean links to UNFCCC's Loss and Damage Mechanism, Global Stocktake and Article 6.** This approach recognizes the link between ecosystem health and human well-being, highlighting the importance of protecting these critical carbon sinks, and avoiding damage to fisheries and ecosystems (e.g., through marine geoengineering).

We support last year's Dialogue approach of keynote presentations and world-cafe style breakout groups to give all participants a voice. Interaction of states and non-state observers is a particularly valuable aspect of the Dialogue.

Optimal outcomes could include:

- New opportunities for non-state observers to work with states to pursue ocean issues together via negotiations
- Coordinated efforts to promote research and management and risk assessment alongside any proposed ocean climate intervention methods.
- Synchronization between climate and biodiversity policies in the ocean, particularly in areas beyond national jurisdiction, polar seas and the deep sea, to achieve alignment of Paris Agreement , SDG 13 & 14, CBD Framework 2030 and BBNJ Agreement goals.