

OVS2023: INNOVATING SOLUTIONS AT THE OCEAN-CLIMATE NEXUS

We are pleased to announce The Ocean Visions Summit, which will be held in Atlanta, GA from 4-6 April 2023. We are seeking applicants to chair sessions within the 5 tracks identified as part of the Summit. All entries for chair should include a CV, preferred track and a brief cover letter describing the applicant’s interest and qualifications to run their preferred track. Please send this information to nikhil@oceanvisions.org by 10/5/2022. Ocean Visions will make a decision and inform the candidates of this decision by 10/21/2022

Conference Brief	
Event	Ocean Visions Summit 2023: Innovating Solutions at the Ocean-Climate Nexus
Date / Time	4-6 April 2023
Location	In-Person in Atlanta, GA
Digital Extension	This will predominantly be an in-person event, but with a modified virtual component
Primary Objectives of Event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on existing and emerging problems at the interface of the ocean and climate crises, and especially with a forward look of projected climate conditions and how current and potential approaches and solutions can be effectively and sustainably implemented. • Focus on the requirements in ocean science, engineering, policy, governance, and economics etc. that will help to create the conditions for trajectory-changing solutions to be in place in the next 7-10 years • Expand and strengthen the community working on solutions at the ocean-climate nexus.
Schedule	Exact schedule TBD. Currently there are five (non-concurrent) main sessions proposed, with additional set-asides for networking sessions, a poster session, or flash talks of 3-5 minutes.
Tracks	<p>1. <u>Ocean-Based Contributions to Global Decarbonization</u></p> <p>In the race against dangerous climate change, the ocean has an important role to play in reducing global greenhouse gas emissions. The High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy calculated that ocean-based climate mitigation might be able to deliver up to one-fifth (21 percent, or 11 GtCO2e) of the annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emission cuts needed in 2050 to limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C. This session will explore what is needed to make these estimates a reality, with a focus on the specific solutions and innovations to advance ocean-</p>

based contributions to global decarbonization which could include but are not limited to ways to decarbonize shipping; ocean-based renewable energy sources; decarbonizing fisheries and aquaculture; and producing zero or low carbon food (blue foods).

2. Ocean-Based Contributions to Carbon Dioxide Removal

Given the large buildup of historical emissions in our atmosphere and our slow pace at achieving decarbonization, we now face the reality that we must also remove massive quantities of carbon dioxide from our atmosphere. [According to the IPCC](#), the target is somewhere between 100 and 1000 billion tons of carbon dioxide this century to have a chance of avoiding warming the planet by more than 1.5°C, a threshold that scientists have identified at which climate impacts become substantially more severe. There are many potential [ocean-based CDR pathways](#) being explored. This session will invite contributions around both the technologies themselves as well as elements of the enabling environment needed to advance ocean-based CDR research and development, including, economic, policy, and social aspects.

3. Ocean Ecosystem Regeneration

Carbon emissions from human activities already in the atmosphere are causing dangerous changes to the ocean, driven by warming, acidification, and deoxygenation. These system-wide stresses are driving deterioration of key ocean ecosystems and functions that are also critical to global climate stability, such as Arctic ice, coral reefs, nutrient cycling, and primary production. This section will invite the exploration of prospective human-led interventions that might help to slow, stop, and ultimately reverse losses to these critical ecosystems and functions to avoid tipping points.

4. Human Adaptation to a Changing Ocean

Faced with sea level rise, deoxygenation, fish migration, the intensification of extreme events, and other effects of a warming and acidifying ocean, human populations living on the coasts must develop an array of responses to address a changing ocean. This session will invite exploration of a full array of potential responses, such as managed retreat, reinventing coastal ocean livelihoods, building coastal resilience to dangerous events, adaptation to sea level rise and other new climactic conditions, habitat/species restoration/rewilding for multiple benefits, among others.

5. Building a Global Community of Solvers at the Ocean-Climate Nexus

	<p>While all the tracks above should address social, economic, and cultural impacts and innovations, this track is an opportunity to focus exclusively on social and economic solutions and innovations in critical aspects of building and expanding a global community of ocean ‘solutionists’, such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Expanding justice, equity, and diversity in the arena of ocean-climate solutions ii. Increasing ocean literacy/education iii. Integrative and systemic design challenges for a global ocean solutions sector: movement building, communication challenges, capacity sharing, knowledge transfer/exchange etc. iv. Governance including innovative participatory and deliberative democracy that engages citizens directly
Responsibilities of the Chair	<p>Along with an Ocean Visions representative or a co-chair, the track chair will do the following</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify potential speaker(s) for the track plenary 2. Manage the selection of session participants from an open call (along with volunteers identified by OV and AGU) 3. Other activities to help organize a well-run and well-attended session <p>Approximate time: 10 hours per month</p>
Notes	<p>Each major session would follow a similar format</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an opening plenary 2. additional shorter talks and/or a panel 3. a breakout or some form of full participation
Design Mandatories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solution-focused • Activate attendees • Global perspective • Focus on justice, equity and diversity