



## Let's talk about Marine Biodiversity

📅 9 June 2025 – 10:30 am - 1:30 pm CEST

📍 Inspire Area – European Digital Ocean Pavilion

🌐 United Nations Ocean Conference 2025

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### Abstract

# The Fishing Vessel Ocean Observing Network (FVON)

## Cooper Van Vranken – Ocean Data Network

Showcasing the **Fishing Vessel Ocean Observing Network (FVON)**: the first citizen-science or science-industry collaboration to be endorsed as a network of the Global Ocean Observing System. FVON is built upon a foundation of partnerships with fishers ranging in diversity from African canoes to large vessels fishing in Arctic sea ice. Today data are used for applications ranging from tropical cyclone forecasting to improving climate resilience of fisheries. Including stakeholders who have local knowledge of the ocean and depend on it as a source of sustenance and economic security is key for a sustainable future for our seas. Furthermore, this collaborative approach is incredibly cost-effective, and with three million candidate platforms globally, the opportunity to observe and monitor the ocean at scale is too big to ignore. By including key stakeholders in data collection, and by making ocean observation affordable and accessible this is an opportunity to democratize ocean observation. FVON is on a mission to fundamentally change what is possible with data driven ocean intelligence, by unlocking data at previously unfathomable scales in an inclusive and FAIR manner.

