



Let's talk about Coastal Challenges

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

📍 Inspire Area – European Digital Ocean Pavilion

🌐 United Nations Ocean Conference 2025

Abstract

Ocean and Coastal Observation and Monitoring at scale: The value chain from data to impact through a partnership approach

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UNEP's Global Environment Monitoring System for the Ocean and Coasts Programme (GEMS Ocean), employs a collaborative partnership approach, including global, regional and national observing systems, data providers, civil society and knowledge asset holders to optimise resources, avoid duplication and meet the needs of a wide range of users.

Ocean observation systems capture a multitude of ocean-related data that contributes to science-based decision-making for sustainable development, serves various stakeholders, and provides relevant information for the benefit of society. UNEP recognizes that the challenge lies in compiling, synthesizing and analyzing output data and information from the multiple ocean monitoring and observation systems worldwide in order to have knowledge and services at hand that can be operationalized and help prioritize targeted actions towards coastal challenges. The main objective of GEMS Ocean is therefore not primarily to generate new data on its own but to coherently use and translate data through contextualizing and synthesizing information from existing data streams.

Leveraging existing data and information on the user side is critical to delivering an end-to-end value chain of services. This supports action toward a sustainable blue economy transformation, ocean forecasting and to respond to challenges related to climate change, ecosystem degradation and pollution. Ultimately, with the outputs of GEMS Ocean and coordinated action with people concerned at their relevant scale, a localized 2030 Agenda can be informed.

