



ECOP
Early Career
Ocean Professionals



**World
Ocean
Day**

REPORT

**WEBINAR
WORLD OCEAN
DAY**



www.ecsfindia.org

8 JUNE 2024



Report

World Ocean Day Celebration

The International World Ocean Day webinar, held on June 8, 2024, organized by the [Estuarine and Coastal Studies Foundation \(ECSF\)](#), aimed to raise awareness about the critical importance of ocean, discuss current challenges, and explore innovative solutions to protect and sustain marine ecosystems. The 2024 theme was '[Catalyzing Ocean & Climate Action](#)'. The webinar featured a diverse panel of experts including marine biologists, environmental activists, policy makers and educators.

Spotlight on the 'Early Career Ocean Professionals (ECOP)' and World Ocean Day (WOD) endorsed session

The ECOP session was exclusively designed to bring the early career researchers for a series of research talks and presentations, followed by a panel discussion. The Ocean Literacy Coordinator of ECSF, Debarati Sengupta, moderated the session as a representative of the ECOP programme and Youth Advisory Council (World Ocean Day).

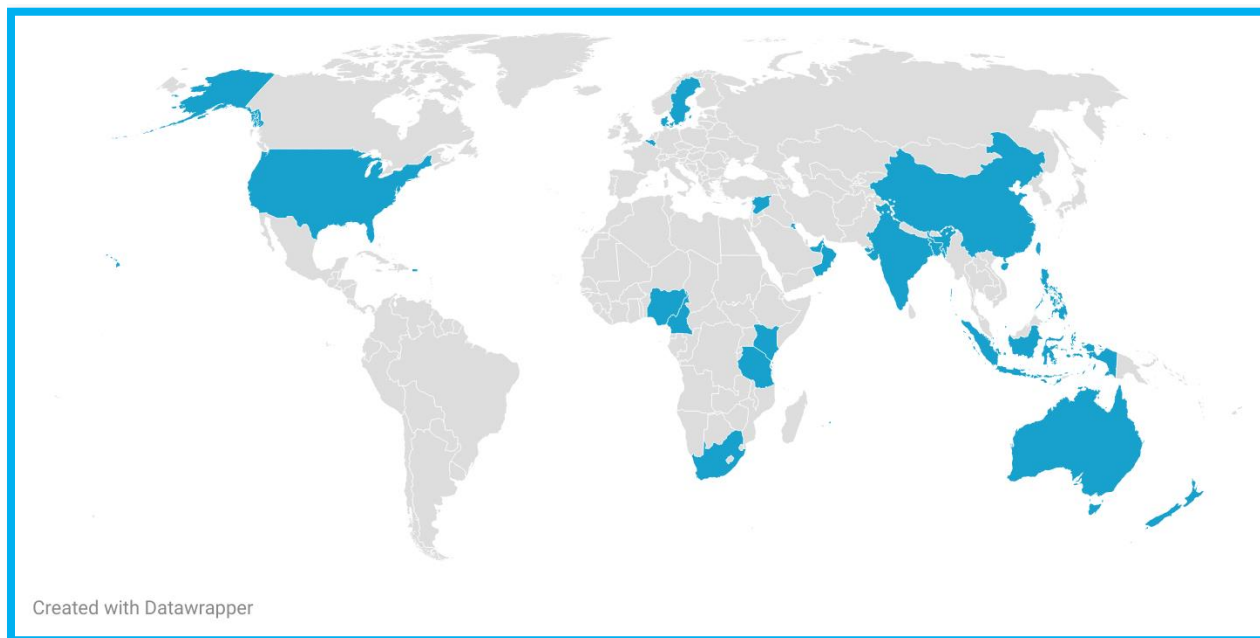


Fig 1. The world map is highlighting **Diversity of Participation**

The total registered participants were over 400 and the geographical distribution refers to 22 countries which include India, South Africa, Denmark, Tanzania, Philippines, New Zealand, Bangladesh, Australia, Mauritius, Nigeria, Taiwan, United States of America, UAE, Cameroon, Kenya, China, Syria, Belgium, Sweden, Kuwait, Oman and Indonesia. Around **120 participants** joined the webinar on 8th June from diverse background where ECOPs are enrolled in undergraduate, postgraduate, PhD and Postdoc programs globally.

Speakers

Dr. Sudheesh V, our first invited speaker talked about the *'Biogeochemical Response to Seasonal Oxygen Deficiency in the Eastern Arabian Sea Shelf'*. By profession, he is a Marine Biogeochemist with a Master's in Hydrochemistry and a Ph.D. in Marine Sciences from Cochin University of Science and Technology, India. His research focuses on oxygen minimum zone dynamics and associated biogeochemistry in the eastern Arabian Sea (EAS).

Dr. Biswajit Roy, the next speaker, presented a talk on the *'Understanding the distribution and fate of macroalgal-derived n-alkyl lipids in high-arctic fjords (Ny-Alesund)'*. Dr. Roy is an organic geochemist and sedimentologist with an expertise in stable isotopes. He joined IISER Kolkata in 2013 to pursue integrated MS-PhD in Geological Sciences. Further, he completed his PhD from IISER Kolkata in 2020. He joined IIT Gandhinagar in 2021 as Senior Research Staff under Early Career Fellowship, and after a stay of 1.5 years, he recently joined National Centre for Polar and Ocean (NCPOR) Goa in 2023 as DST-INSPIRE Faculty and a visiting researcher at University of Kiel, Germany.

The third speaker, **Dr. Shreelekshmi S**, emphasized on the question *'How do mangroves fit into ocean solutions?'* She is a Marine Biologist, working as a Post-Doctoral Researcher at the Department of Marine Biology, Microbiology, and Biochemistry, CUSAT. Her focus lies in marine ecology, particularly mangrove ecology, and she serves as a scientific consultant for several national and international organizations.

Mr. Kjeld Werther, an Ocean and Climate Justice Youth Advocate, enlightened the next invited space by delivering a talk on *'Youth Engagement and Ocean Conservation'*. Kjeld Werther is studying marine sciences, ecology and behavior at the University of Utrecht, with a great interest in the ocean, animal rights and climate justice. He has already worked at multiple environmental organisations, like the Dutch National Youth Council, Eurocean's Youth and the World Ocean Day Youth Advisory Council. Currently he is part of the Sustainable Ocean Community of the University of Utrecht and the Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research (NIOZ). He is also developing the Dutch node for the Early Career Ocean Professional (ECOP) Program.

Ms. Shreya Das, the last speaker from the ECOP session, presented a detailed work on the *'Sustaining with the impeding vulnerabilities of Mousuni island, Indian Sundarbans'*. She is currently pursuing a masters in geography from University of Calcutta and working as an intern with ECSF on the islands of Sundarbans focusing on Mousuni island.

Key Takeaways

Interconnectedness: The interconnected nature of ocean health and human well-being was a recurrent theme. Protecting oceans is vital the overall planetary health.

Collaborative Efforts: Collaboration between governments, NGOs, scientists, youth and local communities is crucial for effective ocean conservation.

Innovative Solutions: Technological and social innovations are essential in addressing ocean-related challenges. Continued research and investment in these areas are needed.

Policy and Legislation: Strong policies and international agreements are necessary to enforce conservation measures and promote sustainable practices.

Conclusion

The International World Ocean Day webinar successfully highlighted the importance of ocean and the urgent need for their protection. By bringing together experts from various fields, the event fostered a collaborative approach to addressing the challenges facing our ocean.



The poster for the World Ocean Day 2024 webinar features logos for the Estuarine and Coastal Studies Foundation, United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030), World Ocean Day, and ECOP. The main title is "World Ocean Day 2024" followed by "ESTUARINE AND COASTAL STUDIES FOUNDATION" and "United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) endorsed". The event is an "INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR" titled "'Catalyzing Ocean & Climate Action'". The venue is Google Meet, the date is 8 June 2024, and the time is 11AM-6PM IST. The poster lists several speakers and moderators, including Dr. Robert Costanza, Prof. A. Bujukumar, Dr. Anirban Akhand, Dr. Shaun H.P. Deyzel, Dr. Kunal Chakraborty, Dr. Sabyasachi Sautya, Dr. Biswajit Roy, Dr. Sudeedsh V, Dr. Sreelekshmi S, Mr. Kjeld Werther, Ms. Shreya Das, and Ms. Debarati Sengupta. It also lists the patron, secretary, advisors, and members of the event.

World Ocean Day 2024
ESTUARINE AND COASTAL STUDIES FOUNDATION
(registered with NITI Aayog DARPAN, Govt. of India)
United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) endorsed
INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR
'Catalyzing Ocean & Climate Action'
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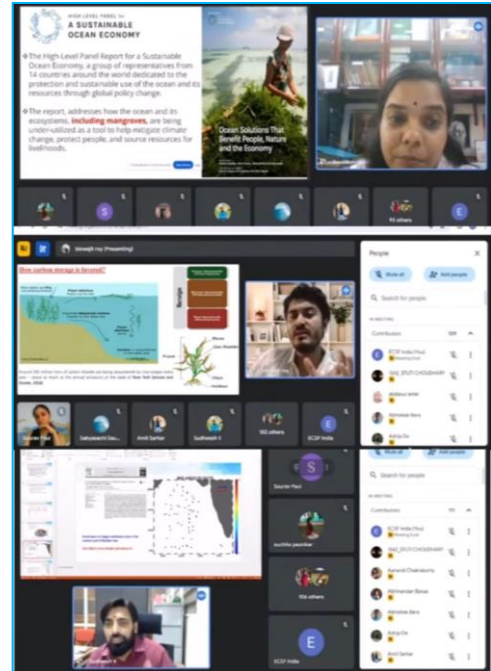
Speakers:
Dr. Robert Costanza, Professor, Institute for Global Prosperity, UCL, U.K.
Prof. A. Bujukumar, Professor & HoD, Aquatic Biology and Fisheries, KU, India
Dr. Anirban Akhand, Associate Research Fellow, Deakin University, Australia
Dr. Shaun H.P. Deyzel, Science and data co-ordinator, SAEDN, South Africa
Dr. Kunal Chakraborty, Scientist-E, INCOIS, India
Dr. Sabyasachi Sautya, Senior Scientist, C.S.I.R.-NIO, India

Early Career Ocean Professional (ECOP) Session
Moderator: Ms. Debarati Sengupta, Ocean Literacy Coordinator, ECSP World Ocean Day Youth Advisory Council Indian Representative (2023-24)

Other Staff:
Dr. Biswajit Roy, DST INSPIRE Faculty, NCPOR, India
Dr. Sudeedsh V, Technical Officer, Central University of Kerala, India
Dr. Sreelekshmi S, Post Doctoral Fellow, CSIR, India
Mr. Kjeld Werther, Marine Sciences, Utrecht University, Netherlands
Ms. Shreya Das, VECS-Intern, ECSP, India

Convenor: Dr. Sourav Paul
Patron: Dr. A. Mukhopadhyay
Secretary: Mr. S. Chatterjee
Advisors: Prof. S. Bijoy Nandan, Prof. S. Shenoi, Prof. S. K. Raut
Members: Dr. Kanailal Das, Dr. Jhimli Mondal, Dr. Arunodaya Gautam

Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/SUy8mN6hTkgLVsMP6>



Useful Links

YouTube: https://youtu.be/veabY8fSpiU?si=4Dzdoy97RboHDg_p

Website: <https://ecsfindia.org/>