

SS041: The UN Decade of Ocean Science: Milestones and Gaps in Bridging the Science - Policy and Society interface in Africa

Dr. Ibukun Adewumi

e.mwashinga@unesco.org

i.adewumi@unesco.org

The UN Decade of Ocean Science seeks to address the ocean challenges through transformative ocean science solutions. Joint strategic ambitions have been established to foster healthy and resilient ocean systems, enhance ocean observation, and bridge the science-policy and society interface. These strategies have been validated through endorsement of the Decade Actions. In Africa, the Ocean Decade Africa Roadmap, launched in 2022, is a framework that prioritizes nine key areas for Africa's focus. Across the region, Ocean Decade Actions (programmes, projects and activities) have been endorsed and are being implemented. For example, the Science and Knowledge for a Resilient and Sustainable Ocean Economy in Africa ([SEAWARD Africa](#)) is the umbrella Ocean Decade programme for Africa. SEAWARD Africa provides a coordinated framework for the various Decade Actions that implement the priorities of the Roadmap. This ensures that more impacts are realized and the duplications of efforts are avoided.