



**2021** United Nations Decade  
**2030** of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development



SASAKAWA PEACE FOUNDATION

# The Ocean Decade Catalysing Climate Action in Asia and the Pacific

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> November 10:30-12:00

Venue: Japanese Pavilion

Organizers: Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO  
Ocean Policy Research Institute of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgi2ONiz1XMpxT9tdMGKcnw>

When considering the impacts of climate change on the ocean and coastal areas such as sea ice reduction, extreme weather, sea level rise, and ocean heatwaves, scientific knowledge is indispensable. While the scientific community has been warning about the risks facing the ocean, ocean science is not always ready to deliver solutions to these challenges through adaptation and mitigation. In order to address these gaps between social issues and ocean science, the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science was launched in 2021. This event aims to showcase the diverse ways in which the Ocean Decade can contribute to climate action at the national and regional level in the Asia Pacific region, including in Pacific SIDS.

Programme: (MC: Tomohiko Tsunoda, Senior Research Fellow of OPRI-SPF)

Opening remarks 10:30-
Dr. Hide Sakaguchi, President of OPRI-SPF
Keynote speech 10:35-10:50
HE Dr. Satyendra Prasad, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Fiji to the United Nations "The Ocean Decade and Pacific SIDS – the example of the N-POC Initiative as a catalyst of climate action"
Dr. Margaret Leinen, Director Scripps Institution of Oceanography "The role of the Ocean Decade in climate action and the need for increased investment"
Moderated Panel Discussion 10:50-11:25 Moderated by Alison Clausen, Deputy Coordinator, Ocean Decade, IOC-UNESCO
Dr. Yutaka Michida, University of Tokyo "Japan's National Decade Committee – creating action at the national level"
Dr. Stephen Widdicombe, Plymouth Marine Laboratory "The ocean knowledge challenge in the Asia Pacific region"
Dr. Kazuo Nadaoka, Tokyo Institute of Technology "Comprehensive Assessment and Conservation of Blue Carbon Ecosystems and Their Services in the Coral Triangle (Blue CARES)"
Mr. Wenche Gronbrekk, Cermaq, Member of UN Global Compact "The role of the private sector in the Ocean Decade in the Asia Pacific"
Short Q&A from audience and virtual audience 11:25-11:50
Reflections on Key Messages & Closing Words 11:50-12:00
Dr. Vladimir Ryabinin, IOC Executive Secretary