

Making It Count

A 2-day symposium on creating actionable science and
facilitating the transition from science to policy

The Nest, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, 1-2 February 2023

Symposium programme

Day 1: Wednesday 1 February 2023	
Venue: Performance Theatre, The Nest	
08:15 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:10	Welcome & introduction to the symposium – purpose, objectives, format Presenter: David Johnson, GOBI Coordinator
SESSION 1: The GOBI concept, rationale, process and relevance Chair: David Johnson, GOBI Coordinator	
09:10 – 09:20	GOBI - The early years: Fourteen years ago, what was GOBI trying to achieve? What challenges did we encounter? What has since changed? Is there still a need for building science-policy bridges in international decision making? And if so, have the considerations changed? Presenter: Jeff Ardron, Commonwealth Secretariat

09:20 – 09:35	<p>GOBI today: How has GOBI evolved? Reflections on how the EBSA process stimulated GOBI's IKI-funded research programme, and what that has catalysed. Whose needs were we seeking to address, did GOBI meet those needs, and have those needs now changed in light of the evolving policyscape?</p> <p>Presenter: David Johnson, GOBI Coordinator</p>
09:35 – 09:50	<p>Audience Q&A</p>
09:50 – 10:30	<p>Success, challenges and barriers: Panel discussion with the GOBI core team</p> <p>Reflections on the challenges and barriers to achieving the GOBI agenda. Panel to conclude with setting some big-picture questions for group work/ discussion later in the programme</p> <p>Panel members: Daniel Dunn, Tammy Davies, Giuseppe Notarbartolo, Jorge Jiménez, Christopher Barrio Froján</p> <p>Panel Facilitator: David Johnson</p>
10:30 – 11:00	<p>Coffee break – Bukhman Lounge</p>
<p>SESSION 2: Making connections in the ocean</p> <p>Part 1: The science case for ocean connectivity</p> <p>Chair: Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara, Tethys Research Institute</p>	
11:05 – 11:20	<p>Species, sites and seas – GOBI's work on marine ecosystem connectivity</p> <p>Presenter: Tammy Davies, BirdLife International</p>
11:20 – 11:35	<p>Migratory species connect our oceans. Will 30x30 connect their habitats?</p> <p>Presenter: Daniel Dunn, University of Queensland</p>
11:35 – 11:50	<p>Threats and barriers to ocean connectivity: examples from the Mediterranean</p> <p>Presenter: Simone Panigada, Tethys Research Institute</p>
11:50 - 12:05	<p>Bermuda's humpback whales: estimating abundance and making the case for conservation measures</p> <p>Presenter: Andrew Stevenson, Whales Bermuda</p>
12:05 – 12:20	<p>Unseen, unknown, but connected: sponges, corals and seamount ecosystems</p> <p>Ellen Kenchington, Dept. Fisheries & Oceans Canada</p>
12:20 – 12:45	<p>Q&A to panel of speakers: We will explore how our speakers have managed to gain traction towards management efforts (5 mins each)</p>
12:45 – 14:00	<p>Lunch break – Bukhman Lounge</p> <p>"Making connections": We challenge you to introduce yourself to at least two other people wearing different-coloured badges to your own. Make new connections... to their field of expertise, to their part of the world, to their experiences – what links you with others?</p> <p>13:30 – 14:00: Practical demonstrations of the Migratory Connectivity in the Ocean (MiCO) system, and the Seabird Tracking Database</p>

SESSION 2: Making connections in the ocean

Part 2: How do we address ocean connectivity issues through policy?

Chair: Jorge Jiménez, MarViva Foundation

14:00 – 14:45	<p>Breakout session: We will break into small discussion groups to consider the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How can multiple important areas from different initiatives (IMMAs, IBAs, ISRAs, EBSAs, etc.) be used to strengthen the case for place-based protection? - What are the strengths and weaknesses of using overlapping areas? - How might existing important areas guide where new research should be focused. What should the priorities be, and why? - Threats to connectivity/migratory species are usually dealt with on a sectoral basis – is this effective enough? What are the risks/pitfalls? <p>Each group will be led by a facilitator and supported by a rapporteur</p>
14:45 – 15:15	<p>Reporting back from breakout groups, 5 minutes per group</p>
15:15 – 15:45	<p>Coffee break – Bukhman Lounge</p>

SESSION 3: Reality Check – science to policy stories from those at the sharp end

Session chair: Tammy Davies, BirdLife International

15:45 – 16:00	<p>The role of science in international marine policymaking: What roles currently exist for science in international decision making? Who plays them and how do they interact? What’s on the horizon?</p> <p>Presenter: Jeff Ardron, Commonwealth Secretariat</p>
16:00 – 16:45	<p>Story telling / experience sharing: We will present real-life examples of where scientists have interacted (successfully or otherwise) with ocean policy or management – four presenters will share their own experiences (10 mins each):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daniel Dunn, University of Queensland - Erich Hoyt & Giuseppe Notarbartolo, IUCN MMPATF - Sara Maxwell, University of Washington - Lance Morgan, Marine Conservation Institute
16:45 – 17:15	<p>Discussion: Participants will split into groups that each focus on the issues arising from one of the examples presented above. Groups will be facilitated by the presenters above, with support of rapporteurs</p> <p>We expect this to generate a “list of frustrations” that will provide further discussion points for Day 2 - reporting back at start of Day 2</p>
17:30 – 18:30	<p>Networking reception in the Bukhman Lounge</p>

Day 2: Thursday 2 February 2023

Venue: Meeting Room 2301, The Nest

09:00 – 09:10	Day 1 recap; setting the scene for Day 2 David Johnson, GOBI Coordinator
09:10 – 09:30	Reporting back on the “list of frustrations” arising from discussion groups in Session 3

SESSION 4: The mechanics of transitioning science to policy

Part 1 Chair: Tundi Agardy, Sound Seas

09:30 – 10:10	Creating actionable science – What exactly does that mean? How can we ensure that our research produces the right ‘actionable’ outputs? Series of short presentations from those with experience, 10 mins each: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lessons from working with international frameworks - OSPAR & PSSAs: David Johnson, GOBI Coordinator - Working at a regional scale: developing a regional governance model for the CRTD: Jorge Jiménez, MarViva Foundation - Lessons from working with national governments: Jeff Ardron, Commonwealth Secretariat - Lessons from studying specific features: Should we protect all hydrothermal vents? Elisabetta Menini, Duke University
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10:10 – 10:40	Facilitated discussion drawing on these presentations and referring back to the list of frustrations from Session 3 and other experiences from the audience. How does the scientist experience differ from the policymaker view?
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10:40 – 11:00	Coffee break – Bukhman Lounge
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SESSION 4: The mechanics of transitioning science to policy

Part 2 Chair: David Johnson, GOBI Coordinator

11:00 – 12:00	Rapid fire round: Floating discussion based around a series of thought-provoking and conversation-stimulating topics. Participants will have 10 minutes to rapid-fire interact at each discussion station before moving on. A facilitator and rapporteur will record and (try to!) synthesise input from each station.
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12:00 – 12:20	Reporting back and synthesis of discussions from the different stations in the exercise above
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12:20 – 12:30	A policymaker’s worst nightmare: We asked policymakers to be honest about what they liked and disliked the most about working with scientists – what does a successful science-policy collaboration look like, and what are their biggest frustrations? Presenter: Vikki Gunn, GOBI Secretariat
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12:30 – 13:45	<p>Lunch break – Bukhman Lounge</p> <p>A new challenge: to mine or not to mine (facilitated by David Johnson)</p>
<p>SESSION 5: Looking to the future</p> <p>Session Chair: Daniel Dunn, University of Queensland</p>	
13:45 – 14:05	Lunchtime exercise feedback (David Johnson)
14:05 – 14:20	<p>The BBNJ agreement – a new opportunity for science?</p> <p>Presenter: Renée Sauvé, Fisheries & Oceans Canada (remote)</p>
14:20 – 14:35	<p>A new construct to drive scientific ambition: the CBD Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</p> <p>Presenter: Joe Appiott, CBD Secretariat</p>
14:35 – 14:50	<p>Climate change impacts and governance challenges for marine ecosystems beyond national jurisdiction</p> <p>Presenter: Lisa Levin, Scripps Institute of Oceanography (remote)</p>
14:50 – 15:05	<p>Setting the agenda: science and priorities in the NGO sector</p> <p>Presenter: Nichola Clark, Pew Charitable Trusts</p>
15:05 – 15:20	Comments / Q&A / discussion
15:35 – 16:00	Coffee break – Bukhman Lounge
<p>SESSION 6: Symposium summary and wrap up</p> <p>Chair: David Johnson, GOBI Coordinator</p>	
16:00 – 17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflections on the symposium (David Johnson) • Perspective from the policy field (Jake Rice, DFO Emeritus) • Outlook and future pathways (Daniel Dunn, U. Queensland) • What does conservation and sustainable use of marine resources look like in 2030? Final discussion and comments from audience • Discussion of actions/next steps • Symposium close

The Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative (GOBI; www.gobi.org) is supported by the International Climate Initiative (IKI). The German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV) supports this initiative on the basis of a decision adopted by the German Bundestag.

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