

# OCEAN SCIENCE IN ACTION

## 11.1 DECADE 2030: WHAT IS WITHIN OUR GRASP?

VIDEO DURATION– 05:04

**Dr Zoe Jacobs** – NOC, UK

*What I find most exciting is how fast global climate models are progressing, because it means we starting to see what is happening at smaller scales, which is important because it is going to help us understand what to expect in regions that are already experiencing the effects of climate change. Especially in those shallower, more coastal regions where industries like fishing and marine tourism are so vital for the livelihoods of people all around the world. So further improvements of these models are going to help us prepare and give communities time to adapt. I also think it is incredibly important that we work together, across disciplines with different nations to gain new perspectives on how we can combat the threat of global climate change.*

**Dr Fatma Jebri** – NOC, UK

*One of the biggest challenges of the Decade is reaching equality in our quest to understanding our oceans. Equality between the nations with advance marine technologies and those which are on their way of acquiring similar means and knowledge. Without such equality it will be much harder to face so many potential threats to ocean health and also to achieve a fairer, and more sustainable use of marine resources globally.*

**Dr Andrew Yool** - NOC

*As marine scientists we have been on the Climate change treadmill for decades, studying potential changes that we now see all around us. In Decade 2030 we have the chance to jump off this treadmill and actually start the journey of turning what we know about how the ocean works into its recovery. That will require us scientists to work less as passive observers and more as active participants in paths of adaptation. The process of designating parts of the ocean as marine protected areas has begun already. But a challenge Decade 2030 is drawing that out as far as possible across the world ocean and use our best science to help us ensure that marine ecosystem health is at the heart of its protection, for both the creatures that live in the ocean and the human societies that are dependent upon it.*

**Prof Meric Srokosz** - NOC

*One of the unusual and exciting things about the Decade of Ocean Science is that we get to work with people from many nations. Through this we can all learn more about the ocean, and its importance for different societies. We're all limited by our background, our experiences and cultures. Therefore, through this Decade, it would be good to be challenged in new and unexpected directions.*

**Prof Warwick Sauer** – Rhodes University, South Africa

*No travel and working remotely has made me realise that we need to relook at the way how we manage multi-country research teams, the way we teach and the way we communicate science to a broader audience. We're already seeing exciting changes in communications and I see the next Decade as producing a very different communication platform to the one we traditionally use. That's just one example that can give us better access to decision makers, thus enhancing the development of marine policy, and the management and protection of our marine environment.*

**Dr David Obura** – CORDIO East Africa, Kenya

*The UN Decade for Ocean Science & Sustainability will be running from 2021 to 2030, so the next 10 years. And it's important because it really provides a framework for all countries and all ocean science programmes to really come together to try to share data, to innovate and find out new ways to measure different aspects of ocean systems so that we can manage the oceans a lot better. The Decade aligns with the SDGs, and it will be very useful in our region, particularly to bring disparate datasets together, to get new technologies that have been developed elsewhere, and to innovate new ones here. And really to share and transform our data systems so they're much more useful and used in governance processes.*

**Sarah Taylor** – NOC, UK

*I think a key challenge for Decade 2030 will be achieving global food security. The ocean really needs to be considered within this conversation as the nutrient dense food it supplies is vital to the global food equation. To tackle this, I believe we need to create more self-sufficient and resilient local food systems. The challenge will be dealing with the uncertainty that climate change brings into this equation. For example, an increase in sea-surface temperature reducing productivity of seaweed farms and reducing food availability. But with strong scientific underpinning and more reliable projections, I believe the goal of food security would be achievable.*

**Dr Katya Popova** – NOC, UK

*What I find most exciting about Decade 2030 is the new generation of marine scientists which are just coming. I find them inspirational. They don't see marine science as abstract problem; behind scientific challenges they see societal challenges which we need to address, and they come fully equipped to address them. They come with fully interdisciplinary mindsets, and that is the most important thing we need for Decade 2030.*