

The following information is important in the narrative when sharing about OARS (and why to prioritize its existence) to audiences who have never heard of this programme.

Ocean Acidification Research for Sustainability (“OARS”) is a United Nations endorsed programme that provides society with observational and scientific evidence needed to sustainably identify, monitor, mitigate and adapt to ocean acidification, from local to global scales.

The role of the OARS community is to *inform* and *connect*. OARS works to break down barriers in communication by connecting non-science practitioners with OARS researchers.

People who use OA data generally fall under the category of *producers* of OA information (researchers), and those who *need* OA information in order to *take action* (policymakers, marine resource managers, and communities of stakeholders).

OARS believes that OA information *produced in a targeted way* is essential to helping user groups better understand the *impacts* of OA on marine resources. By providing a more complete picture of local drivers, conditions, risks and solutions, OARS helps user groups *co-identify* the most appropriate mitigation or adaptation actions to minimize and address the effect of OA.

In order to encourage a diversity of OA actions across different scales, OARS has developed a Framework for co-designing OA Information for Action. The framework identifies categories that guide various user groups in navigating the best opportunities to harness linkages between climate-ocean change science and policy priorities.

- 1) Impacts of CO₂ emissions on human and ocean health and resources
- 2) Food security and resilience of seafood economies
- 3) Best applications of marine management tools
- 4) Reduction of land-based pollution
- 5) Nature-based coastal solutions
- 6) Marine Carbon Dioxide Removal

The OARS website offers a dynamic User Guide and suite of case studies to help different actors navigate the Framework and understand how OA science can support their desired outcomes. www.oars-community.org

Talking Points

Here are a few key messages when communicating about ocean acidification:

- ***Ocean acidification is a consequence of carbon emissions***, and addressing it is central to global climate action, marine governance, and equity.
- ***Transitioning to renewable energy sources*** is the number one way to combat ocean acidification.
- ***Solutions exist and are being implemented***: This is not a lost cause. OARS showcases real, on-the-ground projects that help communities respond to climate change and acidification.
- ***This is a global equity issue***: Many regions around the world still lack scientific, policy, and financing support in responding to acidification at the local level.
- ***This is a critical moment for climate policy and financing***: Ocean acidification must be prioritized in climate and financing discussions.