

## COURSE INFORMATION

The course:

- requires a full time commitment by participants on the basis of six hours of class work daily over a five-day week;
- involves traditional lectures and classroom sessions as well as hands-on sessions, field visits, practical classes, seminars, workshops and group exercises, and extra-classroom activities during some evenings and weekends;
- involves group work and each participant is expected to provide input to shared activities;
- will be conducted in English – therefore, participants must be able to understand, write and speak English fluently.

Successful applicants must be willing to complete some specified reading and preparatory work prior to the course.

## COURSE DATE AND VENUE

The course is held annually in Malta over a five-week period from mid-November to mid-December. Enquiries may be sent to IOI throughout the year and application forms are usually available from the IOI commencing from the previous July with an annual application deadline expiring in mid-September of that year.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND TARGETED PARTICIPANTS

The training programme is specifically designed to benefit policy-makers, civil servants, mid-career professionals, educators, researchers and post graduate students, media professionals, civil society members, having coastal or marine related responsibilities, functions or interests.

Additional considerations:

- preference will be given to candidates from developing countries of the regional seas;
- applicants from developed countries around the regional seas shall be considered if they have full funding or are registered at the University of Malta as postgraduate students;
- participants from other countries outside the region will also be considered on a case by case basis.

Participants should preferably be between 20 and 40 years of age, and possess at least a first degree in a field relevant to marine affairs, governance, or science.

## COURSE FEES AND SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT

A nominal course fee covering tuition and course materials, lodging in self-catering apartments, lunches and coffee breaks on the lecture days, and field trip expenses, will be charged to each accepted participant to cover full participation in the five-week programme in Malta.

A very limited number of full or partial scholarships for the course are available on a discretionary basis; all prospective applicants must seek funding for the training programme and, as part of the scholarship application process, candidates should submit proof of their attempts to find at least partial support. Enquiries on [ioihq@ioihq.org](mailto:ioihq@ioihq.org)

## APPLICATIONS AND DEADLINES

Course application forms may be received following a request by email or through download from the course website. Advance applications via email must be received by the deadline and be followed by mailed signed originals.

The relevant application form must be fully completed, including the Nomination form, and sent by the application deadline each year (mid-September) to the email address below: [IOITraining@ioihq.org](mailto:IOITraining@ioihq.org) with submission emails marked **Attention IOI Regional Governance Course in Malta - Applications.**

## COURSE MANAGEMENT

Course Academic Director: Dr. Awni Behnam, IOI

Course Manager: Prof. Alan Deidun, UOM

## ACCREDITATION

Completion of the full course and fulfilment of the course work to the required standards will lead to a Certificate in Ocean Governance accredited by the University of Malta.



"I realise how much this course has become a milestone in my career. I understand its importance for my future international academic life. I learned many different things including scientific knowledge, socializing with people from different countries and different cultures. Lectures, group project studies, field trips and other touristic trips and social activities have made up five fantastic weeks in all aspects"  
Sezgin Tunca, Turkey.

# The International Ocean Institute Training Programme on Regional Ocean Governance for the Mediterranean, Black, Baltic and Caspian Seas

5 week Training Programme  
November - December, Malta



UNIVERSITY OF MALTA  
L-Università ta' Malta



International  
Ocean Institute

## THE REGIONAL SEAS

The Mediterranean, Black, Baltic and Caspian Seas are characterised by a common feature of being geographically enclosed or semi-enclosed basins, subject to intense anthropogenic pressures while providing important resources on which major economic activities of international, regional and national importance rely. The regional seas connect the riparian countries and are also part subject to the countries within the national maritime zones. These seas have fragile coastal and marine ecosystems, with the activities and maritime policies of states affecting the quality of the marine environment of other regional states within the same basin. These regional seas exhibit different levels of experience in regional cooperation, sustainable development of the resources and services of the ocean, and this diversity and wealth of experience provides an opportunity for comparative learning.



This training programme builds upon the more than 35 years' experience of the International Ocean Institute in conducting training and capacity building programmes on ocean governance. The ocean governance content covers contemporary approaches to coastal and ocean management, with an emphasis on moral, ethical and legal values (equity and peaceful uses of the ocean) under the governance architecture of UNCLOS and related international instruments and agreements.



"Attending this training programme has been an excellent experience in my life. It has enhanced in a holistic manner my knowledge on ocean governance, marine spatial planning and other related subjects. The exchange of experiences with other participants and lecturers from different countries and nationalities served to widen my personal horizons"  
**Maria-Natasa Tatu-Vaidianu,**  
Romania.

### The programme

- draws upon the conduct of maritime affairs at the international and regional level with a holistic and integrated approach;
- focuses on linkages between natural, social and economic sciences, the research-management interface and the support of technology to enable the effective achievement of ocean management and sustainable development;
- considers the implications of international and regional policies, including the EU Integrated Maritime Policy for the European regional seas, with a science-based and holistic approach to policy undertakings that takes into account the impact of international governance structures;
- brings to the forefront the characteristics of seas as different and sensitive as the Mediterranean, Black, Baltic and Caspian within the ambit of ocean governance.

### Programme aims

- to advance basin-wide knowledge of governance and the linkages to socio-economic issues, and integrated and ecosystem ocean management;
- to provide a strong overview of the inter- and intra-sectoral interactions in ocean governance with the intention of strengthening knowledge and capacity in sustainably managing ocean and coastal services and resources;
- to contribute towards capacity development in ocean governance in the countries bordering the regional seas;
- to build stronger inter-regional coherence in countries' engagement in the governance of the regional seas;
- to promote inter-regional cooperation, shared experiences and exchange of best practice scenarios, and
- to foster interaction between participants from diverse countries bordering the regional seas under study.



## COURSE CONTENT

The course curriculum is divided into four main modules giving altogether a broad approach to the theme of the course.

### MODULE 1 - Global Ocean Governance

**Framework:** sets out the objectives of ocean governance and the linkages to socio-economic issues, integrated and ecosystem ocean management, and resource exploitation. During this module the international and regional governance structures, conventions and tools are presented and discussed with special emphasis on the governance architecture provided through UNCLOS.

### MODULE 2 - Managing our Relations with the Oceans:

covers traditional policy, legal and institutional tools of the Blue Economy and Blue Growth, focusing on the science-management interface and bringing to the fore the use of state-of-the art technology in support of ocean governance. Tools, techniques and processes which support and inform decision making and policy action are presented, as are relevant case studies and best practices; hands-on practical exercises are provided.

### MODULE 3 - Conflict Management, Consensus Building:

addresses those conflicting interests that can be a barrier to effective ocean governance and management and the mechanisms available for conflict prevention and management. During this part of the course, the UN system is presented as well as other mechanisms for high level negotiations, dispute settlement and the creation of consensus around common goals; case studies and simulated negotiation sessions help give practical experience and topical relevance.

### MODULE 4 - Regional Ocean Governance Frameworks for the Mediterranean, Black, Baltic and Caspian Seas:

targets the governance frameworks for these regional seas on the basis of current realities, future needs and an in-depth study of their geophysical, socio-economic and political contexts. The course, through this module, culminates in a hands-on policy making exercise where groups working on specific topics relevant to the regional seas are mentored by regional experts and policy makers to use the knowledge gained during the programme in a practical application of policy making and governance.



## MAJOR TOPICS COVERED DURING THE PROGRAMME

The programme seeks to inform on core governance topics and emerging ocean issues of a global and regional nature such as:

- the major conventions and instruments regulating oceans and their sustainable use: UNCLOS, the IMO Conventions, the regional seas conventions, IOC, FAO, UNCTAD and ILO, and many others;
- the roles of international and regional bodies such as the UN institutions, the EU and other major regional mechanisms governing the international oceans and the regional seas;
- emerging issues in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ); ocean governance and special issues in the Arctic areas; climate change, security and financial crises; the Blue Economy and ocean economics;
- tools and processes to manage the oceans and regional seas: ICZM, Maritime Spatial Planning; latest developments in data collection and interpretation for policy making, big data and large scale processes; ecosystem and regional scales of management;
- Sustainable Development Goal 14 to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.