

The future of ocean plastics: designing diverse collaboration frameworks

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Keynote speakers:

- Daniela Gabriel, National Government, Dept. of Environmental Affairs, South Africa
- Dr. David Taylor, University of Liberia
- Thor Sandberg Eriksen, South African Institution for Aquatic Biodiversity
- Henry-Court Evans, University of Eswatini
- Trishan Naidoo, University of Kwa-Zulu Natal
- Moderator: Refilwe Mofokeng, University of Kwa-Zulu-Natal

SESSION INFO

Documentaries: Communication with stakeholders [GMT+2]

Douw Steyn, Sustainability Director, Plastics SA

Involvement in community outreach and plastics management programs nationally. Working to promote innovation in the plastics sector.

Thor Sandberg Eriksen, South African Institution for Aquatic Biodiversity

Works extensively in ocean environment, vast knowledge of scale of ocean pollution

Henry-Court Evans University of Eswatini.

Journalism background, senior lecturer. Worked on film making and documentary on plastics pollution

Trishan Naidoo, University of Kwa-Zulu Natal, microplastics expert.

Extensive background on impact of microplastics and plastics in marine environments

Moderator Refilwe Mofokeng, University of Kwa-Zulu-Natal!

Co-Founder of environmental NPO, Worked on plastics documentary

[For more info on our panelists click here](#)

SESSION 1: PANEL DISCUSSION

Questions to Panelists

- Drag and drop sticky notes from this list
- What have we learned enough about to consider for action? (drag)
- What are the most important particular aspects to do first? (drag)
- What are the most important particular aspects to do last? (drag)
- What are the most important particular aspects to do in the middle? (drag)
- What are the most important particular aspects to do in the long term? (drag)
- What are the most important particular aspects to do in the short term? (drag)
- What are the most important particular aspects to do in the medium term? (drag)
- What are the most important particular aspects to do in the immediate term? (drag)
- What are the most important particular aspects to do in the long-term? (drag)
- What are the most important particular aspects to do in the short-term? (drag)
- What are the most important particular aspects to do in the medium-term? (drag)
- What are the most important particular aspects to do in the immediate-term? (drag)

A lot of data is waiting away in computer and storage devices. Due to the bias towards impactful data, how can we encourage data that though not impactful gets used and be used as basis for further research? (Gilbert Aigba)

SESSION 2: INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION

1. The role of the scientist

a) What should the role of scientists be in a multi-stakeholder project?

b) Who should influence the research questions and who should identify research priorities?

c) What made previous multi-stakeholder collaboration with scientists successful or not?

2. Communication

a) How should the stakeholders communicate?

b) Where should the stakeholders be defined?

c) How do we maintain collaborations/networks with local or global partners?

d) How do we build and maintain trust?

3. Missing stakeholders

a) Is there anyone missing in this conversation about plastic pollution?

b) How do we find and/or include them?

c) Why are they missing? (e.g. funding, communication, access to researchers beyond your region...?)

Drag and drop sticky notes from this list

Scientific evidence that could be used to plan actions/solutions

Stakeholders should communicate their problems, the sectors, what is happening and how to address it

The voiceless stakeholders i.e. the environment and species affected. We tend to speak on their behalf but with political and business as usual scenarios their voice is never factored in. (Gilbert Aigba)

Figure S1: An example of the layout of the miro boards used for the 2 workshop sessions (Panel Discussion and Interactive Discussion) per theme and region. The resolution has been reduced to conserve the anonymity of our participants.

Table S1: List of invited panelists to the April 2022 Ocean Plastic Workshop, indicating their affiliation, stakeholder groups and career level, as well as the session moderator. ECOP = Early Career Ocean Professional, EOP = Experienced Ocean Professional. All session moderators were ECOPs.

Panelist	Country	Affiliation	Stakeholder group	Career level	Moderator Name
Dr. Leela Rajamani	Malaysia	Center for Marine and Coastal Studies	Marine Conservation	EOP	Dr. Norlaila Mohd Zanuri
Mr. Japson Wong Yun Hueng	Malaysia	JF Production for Kota Kinabalu	NGO-Upcycling	EOP	Dr. Norlaila Mohd Zanuri
Mrs. Noor Rizan Binti Mohd Yusoff	Malaysia	Teluk Bahang Community	Community leader	EOP	Dr. Norlaila Mohd Zanuri
Assoc. Prof. Jacey-Lynn Minoi	Malaysia	Universiti Malaysia Sarawak	Gamification expert	EOP	Dr. Norlaila Mohd Zanuri
Mr. Douw Steyn	South Africa	Plastics SA	Plastic Production	EOP	Dr. Refilwe Mofokeng
Dr. Henri-Count Evans	South Africa	University of Eswatini	Research	ECOP	Dr. Refilwe Mofokeng
Mr. Thor Sandberg Eriksen	South Africa	South African Institution for Aquatic Biodiversity	Government	EOP	Dr. Refilwe Mofokeng
Ms. Katie O'Hara	USA	Loggerhead Marinelifelife Center	Conservation Manager	EOP	Mr. Kevin Lunzalu
Ms. Esther Maina	Kenya	Kenyan Youth Biodiversity Network	Young Policy Advocate	ECOP	Mr. Kevin Lunzalu
Ms. Rachel Kippen	USA	Santa Cruz County Office of Education	Environmental Consultant	EOP	Mr. Kevin Lunzalu
Prof. Atsuhiko Isobe	Japan	Kyushu University	Research	EOP	Dr. María Belén Alfonso
Dr. Mitsuko Hidaka	Japan	Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology (JAMSTEC)	Research	ECOP	Dr. María Belén Alfonso
Mr. Fujio Kojima	Japan	CEO of Pirika, Inc	Private Company	EOP	Dr. María Belén Alfonso
Prof. Tomoya Kataoka	Japan	Ehime University	Research	EOP	Dr. María Belén Alfonso
Dr. Artur Zolich	Norway	Norwegian University of Science and Technology	Research	ECOP	Ms. Andrea Faltynkova
Ms. Elizabeth Prentice	Norway	Eidsvoll Electronics AS (EIDEL)	Industry	EOP	Ms. Andrea Faltynkova
Mr. Laurent Lebreton	New Zealand	The Ocean Cleanup	NGO	EOP	Ms. Andrea Faltynkova
Senator Peter Whish-Wilson	Australia	Government of Australia	Government	EOP	Mr. Peter Puskic
Dr. Catarina Serra-Goncalves	Australia	University of Tasmania	Research	ECOP	Mr. Peter Puskic
Dr. Kathryn Willis	Australia	The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization	Research	ECOP	Mr. Peter Puskic
Ms. Sigi Gruber	Belgium	OceanBRIDGES (former EU Commission Officer)	European Commission advisor	EOP	Ms. Inès Boujmil
Mr. Aldo Drago	Malta	University of Malta	Physical oceanographer - Science diplomacy in Malta	EOP	Ms. Inès Boujmil
Prof. Chérif Sammari	Sweden	National Institute of Science and Technology of the Sea, Salambo (INSTM)	Physical oceanographer - Science diplomacy in Tunisia	EOP	Ms. Inès Boujmil
Ms. Patricia Villarrubia Gómez	France	Stockholm Resilience Center	Scientist	EOP	Ms. Inès Boujmil
Mr. Gianni Valenti	Tunisia	GAIA FIRST NGO	NGO	EOP	Ms. Inès Boujmil
Dr. Prof. Alexander Turra	Brasil	UNESCO chair & University of São Paulo	Research	EOP	Ms. Isabela de Carvalho
Dr. Maria Teresa Castilho Mansor	Brasil	Secretariat for Infrastructure and Environment of São Paulo State, Brazil.	Government	EOP	Ms. Isabela de Carvalho
Nathany Herrera	Brasil	Ecosurf Institute	NGO	ECOP	Ms. Isabela de Carvalho
Dr. Anna Michel	USA	Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution	Research	EOP	Mr. Ebenezer Nyadjro
Dr. Eric Sparks	USA	Mississippi State University	Research	EOP	Mr. Ebenezer Nyadjro
Ethan Edson	USA	Ocean Diagnostics	Industry	ECOP	Mr. Ebenezer Nyadjro