

## **SDG14 activity plan 2020 from Ocean Sustainability Bergen, University of Bergen, Norway**

In January, the University of Bergen participated in an Arctic Ocean Decade Workshop arranged by the Research Council of Norway during the annual Arctic Frontiers event in Tromsø. Professor Lise Øvreås and Scientific Director for Ocean Sustainability Bergen (OSB) participated in the workshop. The report is now published on the Ocean Decades [webpage](#).

In February, SDG Bergen Science Advice (SDG BSA) hosted a workshop on Science diplomacy in the age of the SDGs as part of the annual national SDG Conference Bergen. Three Horizon 2020 projects presented their work and gave practical input on how to achieve results with science advice.

February also saw the presentation of the innovative SDG Bergen Policy Briefs series. Unlike other policy briefs, the series takes as its starting point a direct approach to the 2030 Agenda, with each brief providing policymakers with recommendations on the implementation of goals and targets based on peer-reviewed scientific publications. The SDG Bergen Policy Briefs will explicitly focus on maturing targets in the 2030 Agenda, with a particular focus on SDG14.

The third national [SDG Conference Bergen](#) once again united the university sector in Norway with policymakers, UN representatives, industry and civil society to discuss the sector's engagement with the 2030 Agenda. A number of speakers from all across the world participated in the conference.

The rest of the programme for 2020 is currently being revised due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. These are listed here with most of the dates TBA.

The launch of new interdisciplinary Pacific-Norway PhD programme in marine and climate sciences is due to be launched in spring 2020, supported by Norway's Ministry of Foreign Affairs in collaboration with the partners University of Bergen and University of the South Pacific, who will host the PhD programme.

For the second UN Ocean Conference, which was scheduled for Lisbon in June, the university was preparing a side event on SDG14 targets maturing in 2020, with partner universities, IAU, United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) and delegations from UN member countries. We keep working on securing a distinguished panel for a side event when new dates are set for the conference.

By extension the plan was to launch a series of articles on SDG14 and ocean science during the UN OC and to run throughout June. Despite the conference being cancelled, this series will be published and will instead be launched for World Oceans Day on 8 June and run throughout June.

For the second year running, the University of Bergen planned a side event for the High-level Political Forum (HLPF) at the UN in New York with a special focus on SDG14 and education, once again in collaboration with partner universities, IAU, UNAI and UN missions. With the forum likely to be cancelled (or postponed) we still plan to co-arrange a side event when new dates are set.

Also uncertain is Our Ocean 2020 in Palau. The University of Bergen plan to send a delegation and as a minimum to co-arrange a side event, like the one on the BBNJ process at Our Ocean 2019 in Oslo.

The BBNJ negotiations fourth instalment was postponed from its original March/April dates. New dates are yet to be determined, but we expect to be present with scientific advice and possibly a side event.

Autumn sees the second THE OCEAN conference in Bergen, a national arena where policymakers, industry, academia, local authorities, civil society, youth organisations/students and others meet to discuss issues regarding the ocean with a particular focus on sustainability.

Yet to be decided is a date for the second Ocean Sustainability Bergen Conference, which may also be integrated with THE OCEAN or another of the many ocean-related events taking place in Bergen in autumn 2020.

Sept-Oct: Horizon 2020 project S4D4C is hosting its 3rd Networking Meeting in Brussels (two days, dates TBA, official invitation forthcoming to UiB to contribute towards the science-policy nexus)

We also plan activities in connection to the following events:

24 Oct: UN Day / 2-year anniversary UNAI SDG14 Hub

03-06 Nov: IAU General Conference, Dublin / 2-year anniversary IAU SDG14 Team

09-20 Nov: COP26, Glasgow

02-04 Dec: Human Health & the Ocean in a Changing World, Monaco

Link to calendar event: <https://www.uib.no/en/sdgbergen/133891/human-health-ocean>