



**ICESCO** (Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) and  
**LAS** (League of Arab States)  
**MHMC** (Marine Hazards Mitigation Center)

## **Harnessing Ocean Observations for Sustainable Development and Coastal Resilience.**

21 November 2024, 1 pm - 2 pm COP29, Baku, Azerbaijan

### **About the event**

As our planet faces the consequences of climate change, one of the most pressing challenges we confront is the rising sea levels, damaging floods from storm surges. The gradual encroachment of the seas upon our coastlines threatens coastal communities, ecosystems, and economies around the world. In the face of this imminent threat, innovative strategies and solutions are emerging to mitigate the impacts of rising seas. This session provides an opportunity to engage and discuss about recent sea level related hazard impacts, challenges, and resilient strategies and solutions.

### **Objectives**

- Raise awareness among stakeholders in the Islamic World and Arab Countries about the critical role of ocean observations in sustainable development, emphasizing the potential benefits for economic growth, food security, renewable energy, and climate resilience.
- Emphasize the significance of advancing ocean observations and monitoring networks to gather essential data on ocean dynamics, ecosystems, resources, and environmental parameters.
- Discuss recent sea level-related hazard impacts, such as increased frequency and intensity of storm surges, coastal flooding, and saltwater intrusion, emphasizing the need for proactive measures to address these risks.
- Showcase innovative strategies and solutions that have emerged to mitigate the impacts of rising seas, including nature-based solutions, infrastructure upgrades, and community-based adaptation measures.

### **Expected Outcomes**

- Gain a heightened awareness of the importance of ocean observations in driving sustainable development in the Islamic World and Arab Countries, recognizing the potential benefits for various sectors.

- Stakeholders will acquire knowledge and skills to enhance their capacity in developing and implementing coastal strategies for resilience, empowering them to take proactive measures to adapt to rising sea levels.
- Emphasizing the role of ocean observations in disaster preparedness and climate change adaptation, the session will contribute to building resilience in coastal communities and enhancing their ability to respond to environmental challenges.
- Driving positive change and progress in harnessing the potential of coastal areas in the Islamic World and Arab Countries.

### **Advancing Ocean Observations for Sustainable Development.**

This event will place a spotlight on the critical role that ocean observations play in fostering sustainable development within the Islamic World and Arab Countries. The focus is on empowering stakeholders to leverage data-driven insights to drive policy formulation, enhance resource management practices, and build resilience in coastal communities, ultimately paving the way for a more sustainable and environmentally conscious approach to oceanic development in the region.

#### **Agenda**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Speaker(s)</b>
5 min	Welcoming / Moderator	<b>Dr. Suzan El-Gharabawy</b> (NIOF)
15 min	Ocean observation networks to maintain coastal resilience.	<b>Prof. Matt Frost,</b> Head of the International Office at Plymouth Marine Laboratory (PML)
15 min	Leveraging Observations for Sustainable Development and Coastal Resilience.	<b>Dr Lilian Krug,</b> Scientific Coordinator for the Partnership for Observation of the Global Ocean (POGO)
15 min	Climate change impacts on coastal cities.	<b>Prof. Amr Hamouda,</b> President of Marine Hazards Mitigation Center (MHMC)
10 min	Open discussion  Wrap up and closing	Moderator: NIOF