

REPORTING FORM 2023

Please return completed form to imber@dal.ca by **10th March** (in order to give everyone enough time to collate and read all the reports before the April SSC meeting)

REPORTING PERIOD: WHAT YOU HAVE DONE since the annual report submitted for the SSC meeting held virtually in August 2022 ([Link to past annual reports](#))

and **PLANNED ACTIVITIES** over the next year (and beyond if details available)

N.B. The form focuses reporting on the research objectives (2022-2025) of the Grand Challenges (in order to align with how we are addressing IMBeR's commitments defined in the 5-year review process to SCOR and Future Earth)

Thank you.

IMECaN

Kaikkonen Laura, Rebecca Shellock, Shengui Li, Bia Dias, Sara Garcia-Morales Hurtado, Charles Addey, Ignacio Gianelli, Shan Jiang, Juliano Palacios-Abrantes, Katherine Maltby

1. Ongoing activities, in line with the IMBeR Grand and Innovation Challenges

(Among other uses, information will be used to update the Grand Challenge Factsheets)

1.a. Grand Challenge I

Understanding and quantifying the state and variability of marine ecosystems - with focus on Research Objectives 1 to 3:

Research Objective 1. *Evaluate and predict the cumulative effect of multiple stressors*

Research Objective 2. *Integration of climate change and climate variability*

Research Objective 3. *Impacts on society – preparation for a changed future*

NA

1.b. Grand Challenge II

Improving scenarios, predictions and projections of future ocean-human systems at multiple scales - with focus on Research Objectives 4 to 6:

Research Objective 4. *Development of integrated data systems and approaches for predictions and projections*

Research Objective 5. *Development of predictive models and projections for use at regional scales*

Research Objective 6. Development of alternative scenarios to bridge the gap between physical climate sciences and humanities

NA

1.c. Grand Challenge III

Improving and achieving sustainable ocean governance - with focus on Research Objectives 7 to 9:

Research Objective 7. Develop knowledge on best practices for multilevel governance approaches to ocean climate adaptation and mitigation

Research Objective 8. Develop understanding on key ingredients for transformation towards more sustainable, equitable and inclusive governance approaches to fisheries and aquaculture

Research Objective 9. Support implementation of post-2020 biodiversity targets for marine spatial planning and marine protected areas

NA

1.d. Innovation Challenge 3

To advance understanding of ecological feedbacks in the Earth System

NA

1.e. Innovation Challenge 4

To advance and improve the use of social science data for ocean management, decision making and policy development

NA

1.f. Innovation Challenge 5

Interventions to change the course of climate impacts

NA

1.g. Innovation Challenge 6

Sustainable management of Blue Carbon ecosystems

NA

2. Selected highlights

- IMECaN has expanded its membership to 1184 members in 103 countries

Class 2 publications are on topics relevant to the IMBeR Science Plan that benefitted from some interaction with IMBeR or ***IMBeR activities***, for example by IMBeR symposium attendees, past and present SSC members, working group, regional programme and endorsed project members, or national contacts.

Class 3 publications are on topics relevant to the IMBeR Science Plan but for which there is no direct link to or benefit from an IMBeR activity. These might include publications by SSC members, working group, regional programme or endorsed project members or members of the IMBeR international community that were written as part of the normal scientific activity of the authors and would have occurred irrespective of IMBeR's existence. You can report Class 3 publications, but they will no longer be logged in the IMBeR database.

[See "[What is an IMBeR publication?](#)" for further information]

Why list 'Class' and 'Activity'? This helps us to declare authentically which publications IMBeR has helped to generate, and it makes it easier for us to demonstrate the value of the Regional Programmes, the Working Groups, and IMBeR in general, and it helps us to justify support for IMBeR activities when we can list tangible outputs.

2.c. Events, Meetings, and Workshops

List all international and national events, meetings and workshops. Describe the level of participation: e.g. chairing session/workshop, organising meeting. Include Regional Programme / Working Group committee meetings and workshops.

Online workshop Fostering Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) into interdisciplinary marine research, 11 October 2022

IMECaN hosted an online workshop titled "Fostering Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) into interdisciplinary marine research" on 11 October 2022. The workshop consisted of a plenary session with invited speakers, and a workshop part which was attended by over 40 ECRs. The outcomes of the workshop will form a basis of a study focusing on the challenges related to DEI faced by ECRs and opportunities to overcome these challenges, co-authored by all workshop participants.

Project management for academics, 7 March 2023, webinar hosted for IMECaN members

IMECaN hosted a webinar for its members on project management for academics, facilitated by Dr. Carl Peters, founder-CEO of Pathfinder Academy and IMECaN member. The webinar was recorded and was made available for IMECaN members for later viewing.

3. International collaboration and links

NA

4. Input to management, policy and SOCIETY* over the last year

Add anything that is not covered under "1.c. Grand Challenge III"

**As previous reporting forms requested 'input to management and policy' only, please add any 'input to society' not captured in previous reports*

Add text...

5. Education, Outreach and Capacity Development

IMECaN collates a newsletter to its members every 3 months, highlighting content from our members, interesting reads, job opportunities and upcoming events. In addition, IMECaN has a strong online presence on Twitter ([@IMECaN4](#)), where we share events, papers, and opportunities and communicate with both our network's members and other ECR initiatives and associated projects. As per IMECaN's terms of reference, IMECaN activities are focused on capacity development for marine ECRs. To improve our activities, IMECaN conducted an online survey and a series of twitter polls to its members to learn more about what IMECaN members hope to see from IMECaN in the future.

6. Planned activities

IMECaN plans to continue to support IMBeR events in delivering activities, content, and outreach to early career marine researchers. The focus area for the upcoming year is furthering IMECaN work on diversity, equity and inclusion, as well as capacity building for ECRs to work in interdisciplinary projects. In addition, we are increasing our focus on career development, a topic that has been highly demanded by our members based on our membership surveys.

IMECaN will host a workshop in November 2023 back-to-back with the IMBIZO7 workshop. The topic of the workshop will be defined in due course. To increase accessibility, the event will most likely be held at least in part virtually to reach a wider range of early career researchers. We will also continue to engage with other existing early career networks, such as the UN Ocean Decade Early Career Ocean Professionals ([ECOPs](#)), as well as IMBeR related projects, such as the proposed project on developing an Ocean Action Plan.

6.a. Activities and Outreach and how they link to the Challenges (including, but not limited to convening sessions, meetings, summer schools, workshops, etc)

Add text...

6.b. Upcoming papers (Community-Position-Review-etc)

Manuscript in preparation: Fostering Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in interdisciplinary marine science

7. Funding

7.a. Funding from external sources

NA

7.b. Funding proposals in progress or planned

NA

7.c. Funding requested from IMBeR for 2023-2024

Include a brief budget and justify requests

We would like to request \$3000 to cover the costs of 1) organising an online/hybrid workshop focused on the future of interdisciplinary marine science and the any associated research costs, such as transcribing and technical assistance. This will be in line with the topic of the IMBIZO 7 workshop and the Grand Challenge 3 in the IMBeR Science Plan and Implementation Strategy; and 2) travel costs of facilitators to the IMBIZO7 workshop (or other IMECaN-led in person event in 2023-24). As the present organising committee has never had a chance to meet in person and is operating completely virtually, we would like to request funding to support broader participation from the IMECaN organising committee to the IMBIZO7 workshop or any other upcoming IMECaN event in 2023-24 (e.g., IMECaN workshop, contingent on availability of external funding for organising an in-person event).

8. Changes to Organisational Structure (e.g. SSC) of IMECaN

Samiya Selim stepped down as Chair of IMECaN in November 2022. The committee is now co-chaired by Laura Kaikkonen, Rebecca Shellock and Shenghui Li as of January 2023. In addition, Carl Peters has left the committee in early 2023 due to changes in working contracts. New members joined – Katharine Maltby and Juliano Palacios-Abrantes. Recruitment of new members to the committee is underway.

9. Images / Figures

*****It is always good to have some recent photos / figures / infographics to create more exposure for the Regional Programmes, Working Groups, etc. These can range from those suitable for a very scientific audience, to those that would engage the general public. IMBeR would use these, on the website (e.g. <http://www.imber.info/> and <http://www.imber.info/en/news>), in tweets (@imber_ipo), in presentations, etc. In addition, Future Earth (one of our sponsors) regularly asks us to provide high quality images for their glossy reports. These can highlight the activities of IMBeR and their other Global Research Projects (see pdfs of past Future Earth reports here <https://futureearth.org/publications/annual-reports/>)*

*So, please provide any images that you might think are useful. These can be pasted in this document or emailed as an attachment to imber@dal.ca.*****

10. Update on Action Items from 2022 SSC meeting

Please update the [table of Action Items](#)

Add text...

11. Anything not covered above

Add text...

12. How to improve this form

Please give suggestions on how to improve this form and make it better next time.

Add text...

13. Appendices

Add appropriate meeting / workshop reports and include URLs (this helps to track where online content is missing)

Add text...