

## Responding to the impacts of COVID-19

### 2020 United Nations – Nippon Foundation Alumni Network Virtual Training Series

In light of the far-reaching impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on people, societies, and efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, DOALOS is refocusing its capacity-building activities.

In particular, under the auspices of the United Nations - Nippon Foundation Programme Alumni Network, DOALOS is developing a series of seminars and training sessions to be delivered in an adapted virtual format and which aim at providing opportunities for continued learning, discussions, and engagement in key ocean-related spheres, including to identify and address the new and additional challenges stemming from the impacts of COVID-19 for the sustainable



The UNNF Virtual Training Series encompasses three training streams: (1) Seminars on current and specialized ocean-related themes; (2) Training programme on the law of the sea; and (3) Professional skills development. The series, details of which may be found on the programme below, is open to Fellows and Alumni of the UNNF Programmes, as well as HSA Fellows and invited guests. Eligible individuals may also opt to participate in related programmes leading to the award of a training certificate, upon completion of the necessary requirements. Two training certificate programmes are available: the UNNF Training Certificate on Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea – Impacts and Solutions in the Age of COVID-19 and the UNNF Training Certificate on the Law of the Sea

### Programme

(Updated as new dates are confirmed)

*Series One: Seminars on current and specialized ocean-related themes*  
*November 2020*

*May-*

Innovative, interactive and action-oriented, this series of events provides a space for participants – UNNF Alumni, Fellows, and beyond – to discuss key themes in ocean affairs, including impacts and challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, and potential solutions offered by ocean sectors.

<p><i>COVID-19 and its implications for ocean affairs</i></p> <p>1. <u>Pilot sessions:</u></p>	<p><u>Date and time:</u></p>
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<p>Discussion to identify challenges to ocean governance due to the impacts of COVID-19, and opportunities offered by ocean science, nature-based solutions and sustainable blue economies to the fight against those impacts.</p>	<p>7 May 2020, 7pm ET; and 8 May 2020, 11am ET</p> <p>See the programme <a href="#">here</a></p> <p>See the summary report <a href="#">here</a></p>
<p>2. <b><u>Inaugural open session:</u></b></p> <p>Based on the inputs received during the pilot sessions, this session will aim to share with the broader Alumni group an overview of the <i>impacts</i> of COVID-19 on ocean governance, sectors and the implementation of the law of the sea, with a particular focus on disruptions in supply chains and impacts on small scale fisheries, as well as some measures that have been implemented to address these impacts in the short-term. The session will also provide an overview of the longer-term <i>solutions</i> that the ocean can offer, including how nature-based solutions, sustainable blue economies and innovative financing can be reimagined to address the new and interconnected challenges posed by COVID-19.</p>	<p><u>Date and time:</u></p> <p>22 May 2020, 10-11.30am ET</p> <p>See the programme <a href="#">here</a>, which includes links to the presentations and video recordings</p>
<p><b><i>Knowledge and innovation in promoting sustainable ocean development, including in the context of the COVID-19 recovery</i></b></p> <p>This session will begin with a moderated interactive discussion on the role of knowledge development and transfer in promoting sustainable ocean development. The second part of the session will, in conjunction with partners, examine a specific example of an innovative platform designed to improve access to, and the sharing of, knowledge in the field of ocean affairs.</p>	<p><u>Date and time:</u></p> <p>18 June 2020, 8-10am ET</p> <p>See the programme <a href="#">here</a></p> <p>See the presentation <a href="#">here</a></p> <p>See the recording <a href="#">here</a></p>
<p><b><i>Marine pollution, with a focus on marine plastics, including in the context of COVID-19</i></b></p> <p>Session dedicated to marine environmental challenges, including plastics, on the ocean and its resources and the possible interplay between such impacts and the additional challenges stemming from COVID-19.</p>	<p><u>Date and time:</u></p> <p>26 August 2020 9am-10:30am ET</p> <p>See the programme <a href="#">here</a></p> <p>See the recording <a href="#">here</a></p>
<p><b><i>An introduction to ocean governance</i></b></p> <p>Sessions devoted to introducing concepts and frameworks related to ocean governance.</p>	<p><u>Date and time:</u></p> <p>17 September 2020 2pm-3:30pm ET</p> <p>See the programme <a href="#">here</a></p> <p>See the recording <a href="#">here</a></p> <p>See the presentation <a href="#">here</a></p>
<p><b><i>Sustainable blue economies</i></b></p> <p>Session devoted to the latest developments in relation to sustainable blue economies, with a focus on possible economic disruptions due to COVID-19, including in relation to value chains, employment, governance frameworks, and financing.</p>	<p><u>Date and time:</u></p> <p>15 October 2020 (TBD)</p>
<p><b><i>IUU fishing in the era of COVID-19</i></b></p> <p>Session devoted to developments in relation to IUU fishing, with a focus on impacts arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	<p><u>Date and time:</u></p> <p>22 October 2020 (TBD)</p>
<p><b><i>Climate change, compound impacts and resilience, including in the context of the COVID-19 recovery</i></b></p>	<p><u>Date and time:</u></p>

Session dedicated to challenges relating to climate change, including compound impacts and additional challenges stemming from COVID-19.	19 November 2020 (TBD)
<b><i>Sessions hosted by UNNF partners</i></b> Several partners of the UNNF Programme will be hosting virtual training sessions to which Fellows and Alumni will be invited. Details of these sessions will be included here as they become available.	
○ <u>Marine science discoveries through pictures</u> Hosted by the One Ocean Hub at Strathclyde University, this event will offer a unique opportunity to hear directly about the challenges, accomplishments and emotions of a deep-sea ecologist that has worked at the science-policy interface in South Africa. Based on a series of images that summarise turning points in the personal and professional experience of a marine scientist, the audience and discussants will exchange views on enhancing the ocean science-policy interface from economic, social and legal perspectives.	<u>Date and time:</u> 29 May 2020, 10.30am-12 midday ET See the recording <a href="#">here</a>
○ <u>Connecting social science to policy</u> Hosted by the One Ocean Hub at Strathclyde University, this event will provide an opportunity to explore the distinctive contributions of a variety of social sciences to the ocean science-policy interface. A series of images will illustrate key contributions from law, anthropology, sociology, economics and history. The audience and the discussants will then exchange views about how marine and social sciences can be better integrated as part of the UN Decade on Ocean Science.	<u>Date and time:</u> 26 June 2020, 10.30am-12 midday ET See the recording <a href="#">here</a>
○ <u>Gender mainstreaming in ocean affairs</u> Hosted by the One Ocean Hub at Strathclyde University, this event will consider the importance of gender mainstreaming, with a focus on ocean processes, key issues, current developments, and threats posed by the COVID-19 pandemic to efforts to promote gender equality	<u>Date and time:</u> 30 July 2020, 10am-11.30am ET See the recording <a href="#">here</a>
○ <u>Domestic customary law and ocean governance: an introduction to different perspectives and approaches</u> Hosted by the One Ocean Hub at Strathclyde University, this session focuses on an introduction to domestic customary laws of the coast and sea within the context of ocean governance.	<u>Date and time:</u> 28 September 2020, 09.30am-11.00am ET

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**Series Two: Training programme on the law of the sea 2020**

**August-December**

These sessions dedicated to the law of the sea provide a primer for current Fellows, and an opportunity for interested Alumni to refresh their knowledge of key topics and to stay up to date with current developments.

<b><i>Ocean affairs and the law of the sea at the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Nations</i></b> Session focusing on major international law of the sea and ocean affairs milestones achieved during the 75 years of the UN Charter; the UN's contribution to the development of ocean affairs and the international law of the sea; and the addressing of future challenges.	<u>Date and time:</u> 20 August 2020, 10am-11.30am ET See the programme <a href="#">here</a> which includes links to the video recordings
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<p><b><i>Introduction to international law and UNCLOS</i></b></p> <p>Session providing a general introduction to international law, international legal processes, and the law of the sea, with UNCLOS as the overarching legal framework.</p>	<p><u>Date and time:</u> 1 September 2020 3pm-4:30pm ET See the programme <a href="#">here</a> See the presentation <a href="#">here</a> See the video <a href="#">here</a></p>
<p><b><i>Introduction to maritime zones and jurisdiction</i></b></p> <p>Session providing a general overview of the key concepts of maritime zones, sovereign rights and jurisdiction.</p>	<p><u>Date and time:</u> 10 September 2020 12pm-1pm ET See the programme <a href="#">here</a> See the presentation <a href="#">here</a> See the video <a href="#">here</a></p>
<p><b><i>Jurisdiction seminar</i></b></p> <p>Seminar addressing the concept of jurisdiction under international law, and particularly the exercise of jurisdiction in the ocean context.</p>	<p><u>Date and time:</u> 24 September 2020 10am-11.30am ET, and 4pm-5.30pm ET</p>
<p><b><i>An introduction to the SDGs</i></b></p> <p>Session introducing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals thereunder, with a focus on their relevance to ocean affairs.</p>	<p><u>Date and time:</u> 1 October 2020 (TBD)</p>
<p><b><i>An introduction to fisheries under UNCLOS and related instruments</i></b></p> <p>Session providing an overview of current issues relating to the fisheries sector, including developments related to sustainable fisheries management and the relevant legal frameworks.</p>	<p><u>Date and time:</u> 8 October 2020 (TBD)</p>
<p><b><i>Fisheries seminar</i></b></p> <p>Seminar providing an opportunity to consider the legal frameworks related to fisheries in greater detail through scenario-based discussion.</p>	<p><u>Date and time:</u> 29 October 2020 (TBD)</p>
<p><b><i>Introduction to the human dimension in the law of the sea</i></b></p> <p>Session providing an introduction to the human dimension in the law of the sea, including an overview of current issues, with a particular focus on the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	<p><u>Date and time:</u> 12 November 2020 (TBD)</p>
<p><b><i>Human dimension seminar</i></b></p> <p>Seminar providing the opportunity for detailed discussion of the human dimension in the law of the sea and ocean affairs context.</p>	<p><u>Date and time:</u> 26 November 2020 (TBD)</p>
<p><b><i>Maritime delimitation</i></b></p> <p>Session providing an introduction to the law of maritime delimitation.</p>	<p><u>Date and time:</u> 1 December 2020 (TBD)</p>
<p><b><i>BBNJ series</i></b></p>	<p><u>Date and time:</u></p>

Sessions offering an opportunity to learn more about background and current developments in relation to the ongoing intergovernmental conference on an international legally binding instrument under UNCLOS on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction. Topics cover each of the four main themes in the package of issues, providing a general introduction to the relevant concepts, and consideration of the provisions found in the President's draft text of an agreement.	7-9 December 2020 (TBD)
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**Series Three: Professional skills development**

**May-December 2020**

These sessions provide an opportunity for interested Fellows and Alumni to develop professional skills.

<b><i>e-Workshop on Negotiation</i></b> For selected participants, with priority to Alumni from SIDS and LDCs. Delivered by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR).	<u>Date and time:</u> 26-28 May 2020
<b><i>Presentation and communication skills seminar</i></b> Seminar providing an opportunity to improve presentation and communication skills, through the provision of virtual training and feedback.	<u>Date and time:</u> TBD (mid-October)
<b><i>Negotiation skills seminar</i></b> Session introducing negotiation skills, including concepts underlying successful negotiating techniques, interspersed with several practical activities.	<u>Date and time:</u> TBD

*The United Nations family ... will support all governments, working with our partners, to ensure first and foremost that lives are saved, livelihoods are restored, and that the global economy and the people we serve emerge stronger from this crisis. ... More than ever before, we need solidarity, hope and the political will and cooperation to see this crisis through together.*

United Nations, *Shared Responsibility, Global Solidarity: Responding to the socio-*