

ATTENTION ALL

IMCC attendees



CALLING RESEARCHERS, STUDENTS AND ATTENDEES TO BE A PART OF IMPORTANT AND TRANSFORMATIVE CONVERSATIONS BY JOINING OUR PRE CONGRESS FOCUS GROUP

Topic: Further discussions on equity and justice in marine research

Monday, 14 October 2024 | 08h00 - 11h45am
Cape Town International Convention Centre
Meeting Room 2.42

LIMITED SPACE
Sign up by 10th September 2024

For more information, stay tuned to
@OceanAccessForAll @IMCC2024



IMCC7 Focus Group:

Further discussions on equity and justice in marine research

Following a review of discussions around ocean equity and justice (de Vos et al 2023) we identified the four following topics that need further engagement - particularly addressing various challenges and reaching potential solutions specific to each topic:



TOPIC 1
Increasing access to the ocean and ocean research



TOPIC 2
The opportunity and challenges around pay-to-volunteer/ volunteer programmes



TOPIC 3
Inclusion of people living with disabilities (access, mobility and dexterity for lab work and fieldwork)



TOPIC 4
Passion exploitation



For more information, stay tuned to
@OceanAccess4All @IMCC2024

For those who are registered and attending the **7th International Marine Conservation Congress (IMCC)** in Cape Town this October, please see more information below regarding the IMCC7 Focus Group that I (Leila Nefdt) will be co-hosting with Dr Lucy Woodall, titled "**Further discussions on equity and justice in marine research**", which will take place on the Monday, 14 October 2024 from 8:00am - 11:45am/12pm (SAST) at the CTICC in Cape Town, South Africa (before the actual IMCC conference starts). Please Note: the Focus Group is FREE to attend!

We would love to see all walks of life from different spheres within the marine and conservation fields be well represented and share their thoughts and opinions on the topic 'Towards equity and justice in ocean sciences and address the missing gaps' and hopefully form an "Action Plan" to move forward in addressing these issues in our various geographical areas and on a global scale. Please see the abstract below for the Focus Group.

For more information, check out their website: <https://scbmarineprogram.org/meetings-imcc7-focus-groups/>.

You're able to [sign up for the IMCC7 focus group and workshops](#) until tomorrow **10 September**, so if you or anyone else you know may be interested in attending the focus group, please sign up and join the conversation!

Abstract: Further discussions on equity and justice in marine research [4 Hours]

There is growing recognition of exclusivity in marine research. This means that only a subset of people are being heard and are able to engage with their ocean, resulting in questions and answers being biased to those who are privileged enough to participate and lead marine research. While there are projects to address inequity and injustice in marine research, inclusive practises are far from the norm and there exists a collective imperative to further engage with these concerns, soliciting input from involved stakeholders, and developing innovative solutions.

Following a **review of discussions around ocean equity and justice (de Vos et al 2023)** we identified the following areas in need of further engagement i) increasing access to the ocean and ocean research ii) the opportunity and challenges around pay-to-volunteer/ volunteer programmes, iii) inclusion of people living with disabilities and iv) passion exploitation. In this session we will hear from those who have lived experience related to these topics, discuss and develop next steps that encourage further dialogue and action.

The paper provides an overview of some key topics and issues that the scientific community has debated over the last three to four years, with an emphasis on ocean research, coupled with actions per stakeholder groups (research community, institutions, funding agencies, and publishers). We also outline some key discussions that are currently missing and suggest a path forward to tackle these gaps. We hope this contribution will further accelerate efforts to bring more equity and justice into ocean sciences.

Feel free to give it a read and let us know your thoughts: "**Towards equity and justice in ocean sciences**" - Link: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s44183-023-00028-4>.