



## An Overview – “Moving from Fear to Hope”

OpenOceans Global wants to shift the focus on how we address ocean issues from the fear of loss of the ocean’s resources to hope that they can and will be sustainable. The goal is simple:

*To bring together and archive the world’s ocean data and creatively present that data so the public, the media and policy makers can understand what we know and don’t know about the ocean.*

OpenOceans Global intends to use a proven conflict resolution and consensus building strategy to build an international community of people and organizations from all ocean sectors to support this goal. This process intends to be supportive of more informed decisions that will result in a sustainable ocean, both for the environment and the economy.

### What OpenOceans Global Is Doing

To achieve its goal, OpenOceans Global is implementing the following two-step process:

1. **A Public Web Portal.** An innovative web portal designed to unify all sectors of the ocean community, from non-profit environmental groups to ocean-related corporations and all interests in-between
2. **An Ocean Data Infrastructure and Portal.** This infrastructure will bring together, archive and creatively present the world’s ocean data. A global research data portal does not exist and is not likely to be achieved by existing governmental or academic institutions due to the complexity of funding and politics governing ocean research.

### Five Projects for Success

OpenOceans Global’s work initially includes the completion of the following five projects:

- **Develop the Public Web Portal.** Complete development of the next phase of the public web portal. ([www.openoceans.org](http://www.openoceans.org))
- **Complete the Inventory.** Inventory the international sources of ocean data that must be accessed to populate the ocean research data portal.
- **Develop the Algorithms.** Develop the algorithms to aggregate ocean data into common formats.
- **Demonstrate the Concept.** Demonstrate the concept in an ocean region (i.e. The Arctic, Gulf of Mexico, or West Coast).
- **Host an International Summit.** Host the first OpenOceans Global Summit with 25 to 50 world’s leaders in oceanography, technology, business, philanthropy, and environmental protection. The summit would be a working session of leaders willing to work on a strategy to overcome any obstacles that might block successful implementation of OpenOceans Global’s work.

## What Makes OpenOceans Global Unique?

OpenOceans Global's is unique in two ways.

1. **The Process Links People Together.** OpenOceans Global was developed from experience with an underlying joint-fact-finding strategy that has been used by the founders in other disciplines.
2. **The Product Creates Common Data Sets.** OpenOceans Global's concept includes breaking apart data sets and combining them into common form. The OpenOceans Global data portal will allow researchers to simply draw a rectangle on a map of the ocean and the data desired from that areas will be downloaded and ready for analysis. This will save significant time and move research forward more quickly.

## About OpenOceans Global

OpenOceans Global was founded in November 2007 and is dedicated to "Linking People to the World's Oceans" through sharing information that will result in more informed decisions. The organization is not-for-profit, non-partisan and non-political. OpenOceans Global does not advocate (other than for collaboration and research), but works with communities to gather information, data, funding and options to be implemented for mutual benefit.

### Vision

A marine community aligned to help the people of the world visualize and understand ocean processes for the purpose of protecting, restoring, and maintaining the ocean's environmental and economic value and fully documenting the ocean's relationship to changes in the world's climate.

### Mission

Connecting the ocean community to build a GIS-based, web infrastructure designed to bring together ocean data, to recognize exemplary sources of ocean information, to visualize ocean processes, to help resolve ocean policy questions and disputes, and to better understand ocean processes.

**Incorporation:** November 8, 2007

**501(c)(3) Status:** April 17, 2009

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### Founding Partners

- Aquarium of the Pacific
- National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology/U.S. Geological Survey Science Impact Collaborative (MUSIC)

### Board of Directors

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