



Partnership for
Observation of the Global Ocean

Observing the Global Ocean

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CEO

**ALL-ATLANTIC OCEAN
RESEARCH ALLIANCE**

Creating an Atlantic Ocean Community
by Implementing the Galway
and Belém Statements

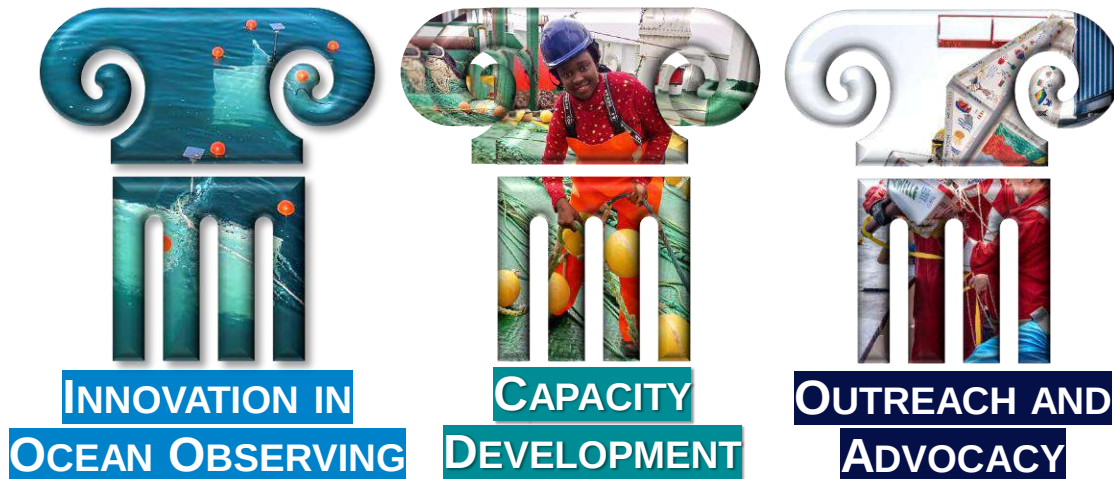
@SeaNetwork

March
2025

Who we are

- Works collectively as a global community to promote and deliver the development of the **truly global ocean observation system** needed to advance understanding of the ocean and its wise use for the benefit of science and society.

The 3 pillars of POGO



55 POGO members
31 countries

POGO members in @SeaNetwork



Benin



Egypt



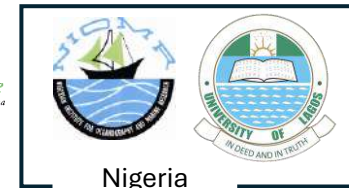
France



Germany



Ireland



Nigeria



United Kingdom

Pillar 2: Capacity Development



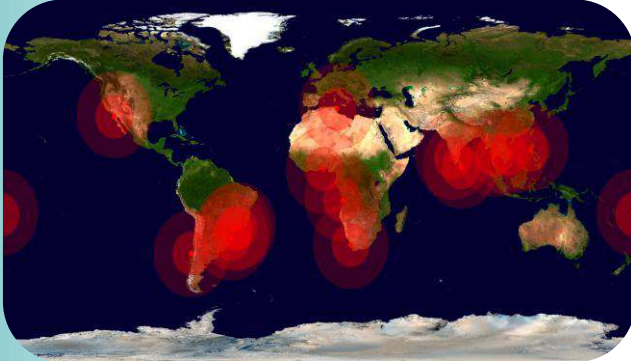
Training in developed countries

- Ten-month Observational Oceanography training
- 1-3 months training at advanced oceanographic institutions



Training in developing countries

- POGO's and members-led Regional Trainings
- Support well-established programmes
 - Austral Summer Institute (Chile)
 - Master programme in Physical Oceanography (Benin)



Training at sea

- Open Call (Feb-November)
- Cruise-specific calls
- Targeted fellowships
- Training-dedicated cruises



Training at sea

58 Cruises

166 Trainees

45 Countries

Pooling infrastructure, resources and expertise to provide practical hands-on, ship-board technical skills whilst building capacity in oceanographic observations



One-on-one training

Training-dedicated cruises



Partners



NF-POGO Shipboard Training Fellowship requirements

Who can apply:

- **Early career** scientists, technicians, postgraduate students (PhD or MSc) and Post-doctoral Fellows
- Nationals of, living and involved in oceanographic work in **developing countries and countries with economies in transition**

NF-POGO fellowships **cover**:

- round-trip travel between home institute and host institution/port of departure;
- subsistence allowance for up to two months' stay in the host country, depending on the particulars of the training;
- seafaring medical certification and sea survival course (if required);
- Personal protective equipment (if not provided by host).

NF-POGO fellowships **do not cover**:

- expenses incurred by the fellow in own nation (domestic travel, visa costs, health tests and/or vaccines, mandatory personal travel insurance etc.);
- Ship messing fees, travel insurance during cruise (covered by host), bench fees normally charged by the host institution (these will normally be waived/covered by the host institution);
- Salary.



POGO & @SeaNetwork



- Partners since establishment of @SeaNetowrk
- POGO is member of Advisory Committee
- Advertise opportunities via POGO, OTP & NANO mailing list & social media (>10K followers combined)
- Share experience in organise selection processes, logistics for trainees..
- Offers fellowships via NF-POGO Shipboard Training programme (subject to confirmation of funding)

2025 NF-POGO-SeaNetwork-UCT onboard SEAmester (TBA)

- 2 berths

2024 NF-POGO-SeaNetwork-UCT onboard SEAmester

- 2 berths (Cameroon, Sri Lanka)

2024 NF-POGO-SeaNetwork-UGent onboard Belgica cruise (Cancelled)

- 2 berths (Argentina, Brazil)

2023 NF-POGO-Seanetwork-UGent training onboard NORSEAT cruise

- 1 berth (Brazil)

2023 NF-POGO-SeaNetwork-UGent training onboard Belgica cruise

- 1 berth (Brazil)



More on POGO Shipboard training programme

SPECIAL ISSUE ON A VISION FOR CAPACITY SHARING IN THE OCEAN SCIENCES

ALL ABOARD!

PROVIDING SHIPBOARD TECHNICAL SKILLS WHILE BUILDING CAPACITY IN OCEAN OBSERVATIONS

By Lillian A. Krug, Fiona Beckman, Andrew P. Rees, Angelika Dummermuth, Cassandre Stymiest, Eva-Maria Brodte, Karen H. Wiltshire, Peter Croot, and Sophie Seeyave

ABSTRACT. Shipboard training equips early career ocean professionals (ECOPs) with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to tackle the challenges of marine research. Such training helps develop a workforce essential for implementing a truly global ocean observation system and advancing understanding of the ocean and its sustainable use. Working with other organizations and individuals, the Partnership for Observation of the Global Ocean (POGO) offers opportunities to ECOPs, mainly from developing countries, to join research cruises and acquire hands-on experience with real-world oceanographic work. These learning experiences can be organized either as one-on-one training on research cruises with spare berths or collective training on dedicated expeditions designed for larger groups of international students. This article introduces POGO's shipboard training program by presenting examples from each of the modalities, and it explores the program's long-term impacts and future directions.

THE POGO SHIPBOARD TRAINING PROGRAM

Observing the ocean is critical not only for understanding its natural cycles but also for monitoring the impacts of human activities, predicting changes, and providing evidence to support management strategies that protect and restore marine ecosystems and resources (GOOS Strategy, 2019). Nonetheless, opportunities to observe the ocean are limited by scientific, technological, and financial resources, particularly for those from developing nations (IOC-UNESCO, 2020). The Partnership for Observation of the Global Ocean (POGO, <https://www.pogo-ocean.org/>) is committed to addressing this imbalance by providing training, networking, and technology transfer opportunities for scientists and institutions in developing countries in order to enable development of new self-sustaining ocean science and observational communities (e.g., Krug

et al., 2021). The variety of approaches taken include supporting development of low-cost instruments (e.g., Marcelli et al., 2021), citizen science initiatives (e.g., Catarino et al., 2023), and outreach and advocacy.

As highlighted by the Global Ocean Science Report (IOC-UNESCO, 2020), the greatest need remains in increasing human capacity. Over the last 25 years, POGO has built a capacity development program that focuses on new generations of experts and leaders in ocean science and observations. It includes visits to state-of-the-art laboratories in advanced oceanographic institutions (e.g., Krieger et al., 2025, and Seeyave et al., 2025, both in this issue), regional training adapted to local resources and conditions (Urban and Seeyave, 2021), and training onboard research vessels.

The POGO shipboard training program is primarily aimed at early-career scientists, technicians, postgraduate (PhD

or MSc) students and postdoctoral fellows who are nationals of and working in developing countries or countries with economies in transition. However, a limited number of opportunities are also available for individuals from developed countries. The program is designed to equip participants with essential at-sea technical skills that should benefit development of their careers. Trainees gain valuable knowledge by working onboard state-of-the-art research vessels with advanced equipment under the guidance of experienced researchers, often collaborating within interdisciplinary teams. Furthermore, the program prepares participants to address real-world challenges encountered in the field by fostering a deeper understanding of the marine environment's complexities. It also cultivates a strong sense of responsibility for ocean protection, encouraging trainees to share their experiences through onboard science communication and outreach activities (see Box 1).

The POGO shipboard training program began in 2003, in partnership with the Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology (JAMSTEC), with 16 trainees participating in six different legs of the BEAGLE expedition aboard R/V *Minri*. Five years later, the Atlantic Meridional Transect (AMT) Shipboard Training Fellowship was established in collaboration with Plymouth Marine Laboratory (PML), funded by the Nippon Foundation (NF). In 2015, POGO and

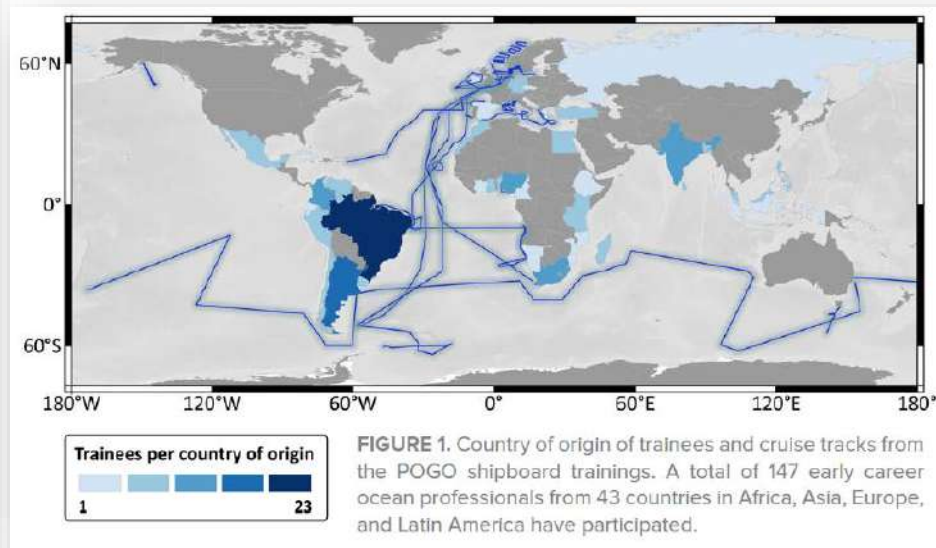
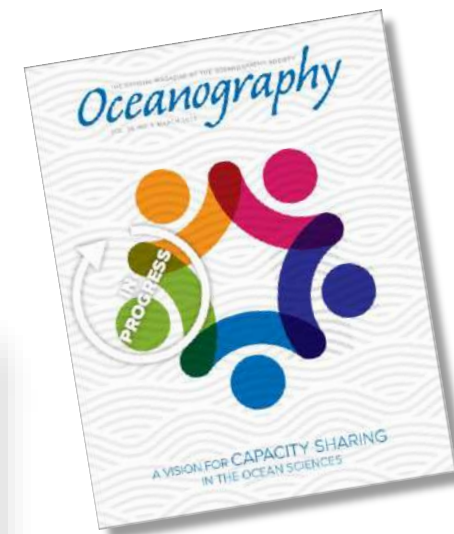


FIGURE 1. Country of origin of trainees and cruise tracks from the POGO shipboard trainings. A total of 147 early career ocean professionals from 43 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America have participated.



Krug, L.A., F. Beckman, A.P. Rees, A. Dummermuth, C. Stymiest, E.-M. Brodte, K.H. Wiltshire, P. Croot, and S. Seeyave. 2025. All aboard! Providing shipboard technical skills while building capacity in ocean observations.

Oceanography 38(1), <https://doi.org/10.5670/oceanog.2025.123>.

How to get involved

Become a
POGO
Member

Become an
Ocean Training
Partner

Encourage
ECOPs to
apply



POGO Strategy

عربي
English
Español
Français
Português



POGO annual report

English



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