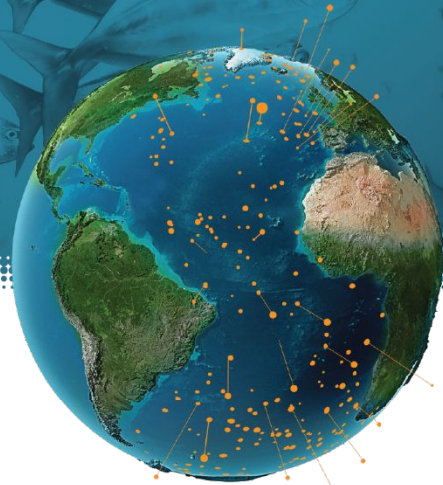


All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance (AAORIA)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



What is the All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance?

The All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance (AAORIA) is an ocean science diplomacy initiative uniting countries from both sides of the Atlantic Ocean in contributing to the science needed to support ocean policy, governance and management on domestic, regional and international scales in the Atlantic region.

AAORIA fosters a large and inclusive All-Atlantic community, advancing science cooperation in line with international law. The ultimate shared goal is to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of the Atlantic Ocean. AAORIA and its goals are underpinned by the All-Atlantic Declaration signed on the 14th of July 2022 in Washington DC by Argentina, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Canada, Morocco, South Africa, the United States of America and the European Union, with ever growing support from further partners and countries.

The Declaration builds upon and ties together the success of two previous cooperative agreements – the 2013 Galway Statement on Atlantic Ocean Cooperation and the 2017 Belem Statement on Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Cooperation, as well as on several other bilateral and multilateral agreements.

Why do we need it?

The Atlantic Ocean is an invaluable and extensive resource that supports numerous countries, cultures, and livelihoods. Effective cooperation is essential for its sustainable management and health. Recognizing this imperative, AAORIA fosters a shared vision to enhance scientific collaboration, advancing outcome-oriented Atlantic Ocean science and innovation.

How is it implemented?

The All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance (AAORIA) has been implemented through three main initiatives, each focusing on specific priorities and activities of mutual interest: the Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance Coordination and Support Action (AORA CSA), the All Atlantic Cooperation for Ocean Research and innovation (AANCHOR) CSA and the OKEANO CSA. The latter started in 2024 and is currently active.

What is the geographic scope of AAORIA activities?

AAORIA activities can be conducted throughout the Atlantic Ocean consistent with international law.

Who can participate in AAORIA science activities?

AAORIA is open to all governmental, non-governmental, and private organizations and institutions from nations throughout the Atlantic Ocean that are interested in cooperating on research and innovation activities in alignment with the shared vision of the Alliance, as described in the Declaration signed on the 14th of July 2022 in Washington. International organizations with interest in working in the Atlantic are also welcome to participate in AAORIA activities. For further information, consult the AAORIA Terms of Reference.

Must an organization or institute be a signatory to the Declaration in order to participate in AAORIA activities?

No. Participants do not need to be signatories to the Declaration signed on the 14th of July 2022 in Washington in order to participate in AAORIA activities. Any organization or institute from an Atlantic nation is welcome and encouraged to engage in and participate in joint science, research and innovation activities of the Alliance. International organizations with interest in working in the Atlantic are also welcome to participate in AAORIA activities. The original signatories of the AAORIA Declaration are committed to an open and transparent Alliance and equally dedicated to developing a process allowing for additional governmental institutions to join the Alliance in the near future.

How to become an AAORIA Partner?

If you want to become an official Partner or Supporter of the All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance, or if you are interested in AAORIA's working modalities, consult [the AAORIA Terms of Reference](#).

Are there any obligations and financial implications for the Declaration signatories or other participants?

The Declaration does not create legal rights or obligations under international law and has no financial implications.

Will there be an operation structure for AAORIA?

Working modalities for AAORIA will be developed that will provide clear guidance for AAORIA members and Alliance activities, including the addition of potential new members.

Who can I contact for more information?

Please contact the Marine Institute coordinating the OKEANO CSA at okeanocoordination@marine.ie for more information.