

## DITTO Steering Committee

### Open Call for members

**Deadline for self-nomination: 31 January 2024**

[Application form](#)

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The [Digital Twins of The Ocean \(DITTO\) program](#), supported by the IOC in the framework of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, establishes and advances a **digital twins of the ocean framework** on which all marine data, satellite data and reanalysis, modelling and simulation along with high-performance computing (HPC) capacities, artificial intelligence (AI) algorithms and specialized tools including relevant best practices will form a new globally shared capacity to access, manipulate, analyse, and visualise and effectively use marine information.

It will enable users and partners to create ocean related development scenarios addressing issues such as development of Maritime Spatial Planning, marine protected area setting, adaptation to climate change, nature-based solutions, sustainable Blue Economy, green energy developments, shipping activities, offshore exploration, production and transportation, resource extraction impacts, fisheries and mariculture, and ocean-based tourism.

Digital twins will have access to a wide range of open source data hubs to allow for forecasting and predictive scenarios quantifying various environmental impacts. They will provide powerful visualizations based on data and model derived knowledge. DITTO will empower ocean professionals including scientific users to create their own local or topical digital twins of 'their ocean issue' by using standard workflows.

DITTO will facilitate training and capacity exchange action connecting communities that already have vast experience in digital twinning with those who desire to build up capabilities, expertise and capacity. Moreover, the program will support a broad outreach and engagement activity.

#### **About the Steering Committee (SC)**

The SC is responsible for providing scientific and technical insights, overseeing the DITTO implementation, and determining time-limited task specific working groups. The SC is made up of experts from the ocean and digital twinning community. We strive to maximise diversity and encourage representatives from different sectors including:

- Marine Sciences
- Ocean Observations
- Ocean Modeling
- Marine industry / Blue Economy
- Digital technology
- Data Science and Data Management
- Ocean Governing and Regulations
- Ocean Literacy and Training

We equally aim to equitably representing regions and countries as well as levels of professional experience.

The SC has direct communication with the network of DITTO implementing partners, the Ocean Decade Coordination Unit, the Ocean Prediction DCC, other relevant Ocean Decade Programs, DITTO affiliated projects, and regional, national and community based digital ocean twinning activities.

### Call for members

If you are passionate about the future of ocean science, technology, and sustainable development, and have expertise in relevant fields, we invite you to submit your expression of interest to join the Steering Committee of the DITTO program.

Self-nominations for membership in the DITTO steering committee can be submitted through the following on-line application form including a CV of no more than 4 pages. SC members will be selected by an election committee composed of former SC members, and Ocean Decade representatives. The chair and vice chairs are to be elected, from within the SC committee once it has been formed. Steering committee members are elected for a 3-year term and one renewal is possible. The members are expected to engage in the work of DITTO by actively contributing time and energy to advance the program.

### Expected workload and additional information.

The steering committee is expected to meet once a year in person most likely in association with the DITTO summits. In addition, quarterly virtual meetings of 2-3 hours duration are foreseen every calendar year. The expected workload for each committee member is on the order of one day a month.

The steering committee is supported by a part time secretariat to cover some of the administrative work. There are no central funds to support SC members in their engagement.

We look forward to assembling a dynamic and diverse Steering Committee to drive the success of the DITTO program.

### Timelines:

- **January 31, 2024:** Self-nominations through the [application form](#)
- **Early-February 2024:** The selection committee will meet.
- **Mid February 2024:** The new DITTO steering committee will be announced and take up its work.