Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network (#2619)

GOA-ON provided a foundational building block for the workshop “International Workshop on Ocean Acidification: State-of-the-Science Considerations for Small Island Developing States (SIDS)” co-hosted by New Zealand and the United States, held in Apia, Samoa on August 28–29, 2014 as a parallel event preceding United Nations SIDS 2014 Conference. Groups of SIDS from Pacific, Caribbean, and AIMS regions discussed, along with OA science experts, their regional priorities for ocean acidification observing. The workshop, co-chaired by Dr. Libby Jewett (NOAA) and Melchior Mataki, (Solomon Islands Ministry of Environment) attracted over 40 SIDS representatives. GOA-ON provides access to the workshop proceedings and regional break-out summary documents at www.goa-on.org. The GOA-ON plan and results from the Samoa workshop were presented to the Oceans, Seas, and Biodiversity Multi-stakeholder Partnership Dialog at SIDS 2014 and to an Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) side event by Dr. Jan Newton, University of Washington.

GOA-ON continues progress on developing several facets of the network. Friends of GOA-ON foundation funds are being used to build capacity, an inventory map of OA observations is being maintained at the GOA-ON website, a biological observations working group is developing recommendations, a data portal is being discussed, and GOA-ON’s international Executive Council co-chaired by Dr. Libby Jewett, NOAA, and Dr. Phil Williamson, University of East Anglia, is guiding planning for future GOA-ON meetings.

GOA-ON was invited to the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States “Regional Workshop on Ocean Acidification in the OECS” organized by Dr. Asha Singh (OECS) and Ms. Rachel Allen (University of West Indies) in Saint Lucia on 26-27 May 2015. Ms. Allen had attended the Samoa OA SIDS workshop; this workshop was designed to promote further discussion among Eastern Caribbean SIDS. Exhibiting the GOA-ON Requirements and Governance Plan, lead author Dr. Jan Newton participated on behalf of GOA-ON to outline its goals and to offer the network’s template upon which to integrate existing resources and strategize on needs.