



ISA  
Partnership  
Fund

# FACTSHEET





# Overview

The International Seabed Authority (ISA) Partnership Fund is a multi-donor trust fund established on 3 August 2022 by the ISA Assembly during its twenty-seventh session. The Partnership Fund aims to promote and encourage marine scientific research in the Area for the benefit of humankind and to contribute to dedicated capacity development programmes and activities aligned with the priority needs identified by developing States Members of ISA.

The Partnership Fund supersedes the Endowment Fund for Marine Scientific Research in the Area and is administered by the Assembly under the terms of reference adopted upon recommendation of the Finance Committee.



## Objectives

The ISA Partnership Fund aims to

- promote marine scientific research in the Area for the benefit of humankind
- provide qualified scientists and technical personnel from developing countries with opportunities to participate in international marine scientific research programmes
- finance the design, development and implementation of development programmes and activities aligned with the priority needs identified by developing States Members of ISA
- contribute to the implementation of the Action Plan in support of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development
- enhance ISA's contributions to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.





## Activities eligible for funding

Activities that can be financed under the ISA Partnership Fund include:

- the development and implementation of marine scientific research programmes in the Area in line with the strategic research priorities identified in the **ISA Action Plan in support of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development**, which will benefit qualified scientists and technical personnel, as well as relevant national and regional institutions from developing countries and regions
- the development and implementation of training programmes in line with the decision of the Assembly relating to the **implementation of a programmatic approach to capacity development**, particularly those addressing the priority needs for capacity development identified by developing States Members of ISA
- the development and implementation of technical assistance programmes and activities that will enhance the implementation of the ISA Strategic Plan for 2019-2025, the High-Level Action Plan, the **ISA Action Plan in support of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development** and the **programmatic approach to capacity development**
- the engagement of multilevel partnerships on the conduct of marine scientific research programmes in the Area and dissemination and sharing of their results with interested Member States, contractors, relevant ocean industry sectors, the United Nations and its funds and programmes, relevant subregional, regional and international organizations, scientific communities and relevant civil society organizations.

The Partnership Fund may finance eligible expenditures for ISA-executed activities, such as staff costs, contractual services, equipment and office premises lease costs, media, workshops, conferences and meetings and travel expenses. All recipient-executed activities funded by ISA must follow the applicable policies and procedures of ISA.



# Partnership Fund Board

Under the terms of reference of the Partnership Fund, a Partnership Board is established to provide strategic guidance and direction on implementing the Partnership Fund activities and endorsing strategic priorities. It consists of two representatives of the ISA Secretariat, the Chairs of the Finance Committee and the Legal and Technical

Commission and eight representatives of Member States, including the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries or small island developing States. Donors contributing to other ISA-administered trust funds may also be invited to participate in the discussions.

The current members of the ISA Partnership Fund are:



**H.E. Marcelo Balbi Calvo**  
Permanent Representative of  
Argentina to ISA



**Dr. Wan-hyun Choi**  
President, MABIK Republic of Korea



**Mr. Erasmo Lara Cabrera**  
Chair, ISA Legal and Technical  
Commission



**H.E. Mr. Dwight CR  
Gardiner**  
Ambassador Extraordinary and  
Plenipotentiary, Antigua and  
Barbuda



**H.E. Mr. Michael Imran  
Kanu**  
Permanent Representative of  
Sierra Leone to the ISA



**H.E. Mr. Duncan  
Muhummuza Laki**  
Ambassador and Deputy Permanent  
Representative of the Republic of  
Uganda to the United Nations



**Ms. Jorun Sigrid Nossun**  
Leader, Department for Climate and  
Environment, section Oceans,  
NORAD, Norway



**Dr. Mario Sprovieri**  
Director of the Institute for  
Marine Science, Italian National  
Research Council



**Professor Fang Yinxia**  
Director General of the Second  
Institute of Oceanography,  
Ministry of Natural Resources,  
China



**Mr. Kenneth Wong**  
Chair, ISA Finance Commission



**Mr. Yongsheng Cai**  
Director, Office of Contract  
Management and Capacity-  
Building  
ISA Secretariat



**Mr. José Dallo**  
Director, Office of Stewardship,  
Environment and Resources  
ISA Secretariat



# Contributions to the Partnership Fund

Contributions to the Fund can be made by any State, contractor, international organization, academic and scientific institution, private corporation, philanthropic entity or private individual.

Since 2022, the Fund has already received contributions from:



France  
USD 250,807



Russia  
USD 90,024



Monaco  
USD 74,047



Greece  
USD 52,520



China  
USD 40,000



Ireland  
USD 21,440



Mexico  
USD 10,000



Spain  
USD 4,756

## Potential donors can contribute to the Partnership Fund by

- formally notifying the ISA of their intended contribution by email to [MadamSecretary-General@isa.org.jm](mailto:MadamSecretary-General@isa.org.jm), indicating the amounts to be contributed and stating if the funds are earmarked for specific projects or unearmarked and
- kindly advising the ISA when the contribution has been transferred. An official receipt will be issued once the transfer has been received.

Contributions to the Fund can be deposited to the following bank account:

Name of account holder:	International Seabed Authority
Bank name:	JPMorgan Chase Bank
Account number:	000-000-899-308-032
Bank address:	277 Park Avenue, 23 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, New York, NY, 10172-0003, U.S.A.
Swift code:	CHASU33
ABA:	021000021



# Meetings of the ISA Partnership Fund Board

## First meeting: June 2023

The Board endorsed the allocation of a total of **USD 382,000** to four projects and initiatives.

Project Funded	Funding Allocated (USD)
Development of a data visualization platform for the Area.	100,000
<p>Building and developing capacities of least developed countries (LDCs) in deep-sea related sciences, technology and innovation in support of the sustainable development of blue emerging economies.</p> <p>Through the United Nations Technology Bank for Least Developed Countries, sub-projects supported included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the three-month secondment of two experts from LDCs to work on a marine science and technology research project in the ISA Secretariat and</li> <li>a six-month fellowship for a doctoral/postdoctoral visit of a scientist from an LDC at a partner institution in the field of ocean science and technology.</li> </ul>	110,000
Enhancing capacity and knowledge-sharing in meiofauna research through the establishment of a "MeioScool" in partnership with Ifremer	172,000



## Second meeting: January 2024

The Board endorsed the allocation of a total of USD 547,500 to five ground-breaking projects.

Project Funded	Funding Allocated (USD)
The development of a training course on environmental impact assessment for exploration activities carried out in the Area	125,000
<u>African Academy for Deep Sea Diplomacy</u>	170,000
Enhancing and leveraging the knowledge of African experts in deep-sea research through the establishment of the <u>ISA-Egypt Joint Training and Research Centre</u>	100,000
Promoting deep-sea research in the Indian Ocean	52,500
Advancing the Caribbean blue economy through the Centre for Excellence for Oceanography and the Blue Economy	100,000

## Third meeting: July 2024

The Board endorsed the allocation of a total of **USD 318,000** to four capacity development and marine scientific research initiatives in celebration of ISA's thirtieth anniversary.

Project Funded	Funding Allocated (USD)
From Surface to Depth: Fostering Deep-Sea Literacy in Mozambique's Early Career Ocean Professionals, in partnership with Early Career Ocean Professionals in Mozambique & Centro de Pesquisa e Tecnologias Marinhas de Moçambique	20,000
Women in Blue: training opportunities in ocean science, in partnership with the Italian National Research Council	98,000
Women in Science Expedition, in partnership with the Cook Islands Seabed Mineral Authority	100,000
A methodology for adaptive management of deep-sea mining sediment plumes, in partnership with at depth LLC	100,000

# Administration of the Partnership Fund

The ISA Secretariat is responsible for providing indicative budget information, accounting and financial reporting, grants to recipients and supervision of activities financed under any grant agreement on the Partnership Fund website. ISA will enter into grant agreements with recipients and maintain separate records and ledger accounts for funds deposited in the Partnership Fund and disbursements made. The ISA Secretariat is responsible for supervising activities financed under any grant agreement.

**For further information, please contact**

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