

# CCICED SPS 1–3 Global Ocean Governance and Ecological Civilization



## Chinese Team Leader:

Mr. SU Jilan, Honorary President of the Second Institute of Oceanography, State Oceanic Administration; Academician of CAS; Member of the Council, Phase V

## Int'l Team Leader:

Jan-Gunnar Winther, Member of CCICED; Specialist Director, Norwegian Polar Institute

## Background

Ocean sustainable use depends upon many factors and agreements. Many problems are reasonably understood, but still lack effective action, for example, high seas fisheries. Others are emerging issues, for example, impacts of plastics on marine life, and the linkages between climate change and oceans, for example in the Arctic Ocean, on coral reefs, and sea level rise. Oceans are an important element in many SDG2030 initiatives. The Blue Economy is significant for many nations, including China. However global governance is fragmented, and particularly for the Law of the Sea Convention, not designed to fully address issues of sustainable development. Ocean sustainability is currently in the spotlight through efforts of many organizations with calls for more integrative approaches to science, management of uses, and better enforcement mechanisms. There are good reasons to believe that technology will drive these approaches and that innovation in global ocean governance is possible. The stakes are high since important biological resources are declining in many parts of the world, coastal infrastructure investments are endangered by climate change—while new opportunities for green development are possible. The ocean likely is the greatest genetic diversity bank on the planet, and the least understood. Ocean ecological services are the most significant and also poorly understood from the perspective of planetary boundary properties. It is very timely for CCICED to examine how China can help by its own commitments to ocean sustainable use, and through joint efforts on global ocean governance.

## Tasks

1. Integrated ecosystem-based ocean governance. This is theme of the final overview report;
2. Living marine resources and biodiversity;
3. Marine pollution, especially land-based sources, plastics, nutrients, etc;
4. Green shipping and maritime operations;
5. Renewable energy systems;
6. Mineral resource extraction.