

International Platform for Ocean Sustainability Call for New Members – Acting Knowledge Committee (AKC)

The International Platform on Ocean Sustainability (IPOS) is seeking

Deadline for applications: 22 March 2026

Deadline for notification: Early to mid April 2026.

Topic: Additional members for the IPOS Acting Knowledge Committee

Context:

IPOS aims to bring together transdisciplinary knowledge — including natural, social and human sciences, as well as insights from the private sector, civil society, and local and Indigenous knowledge systems — to support decision-makers through concrete policy options. It seeks to strengthen dialogue and collaboration among diverse knowledge holders, notably through its three services: the Action Request, the Rapid Response and the Ocean Catalyst (see <https://ipos.earth/>).

The Acting Knowledge Committee (AKC) is a central governance body of IPOS. During the ramp-up phase (2025–2027), it is responsible for safeguarding the scientific integrity, methodological rigor, inclusiveness, and credibility of IPOS outputs. The AKC prioritizes and selects incoming Action Requests and Rapid Responses, approves IPOS knowledge products prior to publication, oversees peer-review processes, and supports monitoring, evaluation, and continuous learning.

Call for new members:

IPOS is launching a call for nominations to appoint new members of the AKC. We seek individuals with demonstrated expertise and experience at the science–policy interface, and a strong commitment to equity, transparency, and action-oriented knowledge production.

Relevant fields include natural (e.g., marine ecology, biodiversity, climate science, etc.) and human & social science (e.g., sociology, economics, law, anthropology, etc.). Local, traditional, professional and technical expertise are also valued (Indigenous and traditional knowledge, civil society practitioners, private sector representatives, policy experts, etc.). Based on the current composition of the AKC, **we particularly encourage applications from specific sectors including: Private sector, Art & Culture, Indigenous & Traditional Knowledge and Biodiversity.**

Time commitment and conditions:

As part of the IPOS ramp-up phase (2025–2027), AKC members will serve for a **one-year term (renewable once)**. Members are expected to contribute approximately **10 days per year**, including virtual meetings, review processes, and participation in deliberations. Financial support, including honoraria (USD 500/day) and travel/per diem where applicable, will be available for AKC members. Administrative, logistical, and (where possible) translation support will be provided by the IPOS Secretariat.

Application and Selection process:

Interested candidates are invited to contact Lucas Becquet (lucas.becquet@ipos.earth) with a short motivation letter (max. 1,000 words explaining interest for the position and how they could contribute to the AKC), a CV (max. 3 pages) and a brief statement of availability (confirming the possibility of committing to approximately 10 days per year). Applications should be submitted before **22 March 2026 (23:59 UTC)**. Selected candidates will be notified in April 2026.

The new members of the AKC will be selected by an independent selection panel of experts which was specifically appointed by the IPOS Interim Steering Committee. Members will be selected based on

- Demonstrated technical or scientific expertise in relevant fields;
- Experience working across knowledge systems;
- Commitment to equity, plural knowledge integration, and ethical standards;
- Ability to contribute constructively to collective deliberation;
- Availability to actively participate in AKC processes.

In line with IPOS values, the composition of the AKC will reflect:

- Geographic balance across UN regional groups,
- Gender and generational diversity,
- Diversity of knowledge systems and sectors,
- Representation of both academic and non-academic expertise.