

## Scientific Director

### International Platform for Ocean Sustainability (IPOS)

<b>Contract</b>	Full-time fixed-term contract, 18 months, with the possibility of evolving into a permanent role as IPOS develops beyond its demonstration phase.
<b>Start date</b>	September/October 2026; earlier handover period possible
<b>Location</b>	France / hybrid; international travel as required
<b>Working language</b>	English

### About IPOS and Role purpose

The International Platform for Ocean Sustainability (IPOS) is an international science-policy platform designed to support States and regional actors in implementing ocean sustainability commitments. IPOS is entering a critically important demonstration phase through the EU-funded TEST-IPOS project, during which its methods, governance and scientific added value will be tested under operational conditions.

IPOS is creating a new Scientific Director position to build and lead the scientific function of the platform during this demonstration phase. The role will turn IPOS' scientific strategy into practice: robust methods, co-designed ocean knowledge processes, high-quality outputs, and clear links between implementation experience and the wider scientific community. It is an opportunity to take a leading role at the forefront of transformative ocean science, helping shape how science can more directly support action for ocean sustainability.

### The position is structured around three complementary functions:

#### 1. Scientific strategy, standards and transformative science

Refine and implement IPOS' scientific strategy, including the scientific standards that guide evidence use, co-design, peer review, uncertainty treatment and scientific quality. The Scientific Director will position IPOS as a platform for implementation-oriented and transformative ocean science, bridging knowledge and action while learning from real-world cases to inform future research and global assessments.

#### 2. Scientific networks, partnerships and knowledge mobilisation

Structure the scientific mobilisation capacity of IPOS, including the Coalition of Scientific Institutions (CSI), thematic working groups, and strategic partnerships with scientific and science-policy organisations. The role includes maintaining active intelligence on European and international science-policy developments, particularly in relation to ocean governance, following advances in the scientific fields informing IPOS' work, and connecting relevant knowledge, policy processes and initiatives to IPOS activities

### 3. Service methods, quality and learning

Support IPOS implementation pathway processes (Action Requests and Rapid Responses) by ensuring that IPOS methods are scientifically sound, fit for purpose and consistently applied. This includes methodological support to service teams, scientific oversight of peer review and quality control, appropriate framing of AI-enabled evidence synthesis, and contribution to learning processes that improve future service cycles.

#### Profile

- PhD or equivalent professional experience in environmental governance, sustainability sciences, science-policy interfaces or a related field.
- At least 5–8 years of relevant experience in scientific coordination, assessment processes, expert groups, research-policy work or implementation-oriented ocean science.
- Strong understanding of ocean sustainability challenges and international frameworks
- Proven ability to work across disciplines and knowledge systems, such as social and natural sciences, policy, stakeholder expertise and local and Indigenous knowledge.
- Excellent analytical and writing skills in English; ability to structure complex material into clear strategic and operational documents.

#### Desirable experience

- Experience with co-design approaches in ocean science or sustainability science, including collaborative framing of problems, methods and outputs with users and knowledge holders.
- Experience with peer review, uncertainty treatment, quality assurance, scientific valorisation or multi-author scientific outputs.
- Familiarity with AI-enabled evidence synthesis tools and their scientific limits.
- French language skills are an asset but not required.

#### Position in the organisation

The Scientific Director will report to the IPOS Secretary General / Project Coordinator and work closely with the IPOS leadership and team, Knowledge Committee, Coalition of Scientific Institutions, service leads, peer reviewers, external experts and strategic partners.

#### Remuneration and benefits

IPOS offers a competitive gross annual salary in the range of €58,000–€66,000, depending on experience and profile, together with benefits under French employment rules, including complementary health insurance and partial reimbursement of public transport costs.

#### Application process

Candidates should submit a CV, a cover letter, one relevant writing sample and the names of two referees to [lucas.becquet@ipos.earth](mailto:lucas.becquet@ipos.earth) and [tanya.brodierudolph@ipos.earth](mailto:tanya.brodierudolph@ipos.earth).  
Deadline: **June 28th**. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to an interview.