Digital Ocean Forum 2024
High-Level Event

Programme

13 June 2024

10:00 – 17:00 CET

Palace of the Academies

Rue Ducale 1

1000 Brussels

In-person and online

Draft Programme

13 June – Palace of the Academies

	The European Digital Twin Ocean: A leap in ocean knowledge & sustainable action
10.00 – 10:10	**Welcome and Introduction to the Digital Ocean Forum 2024** ***Katrina Sichel,*** *Master of Ceremony*
10.10 – 10:35	**High-Level Interventions** ***Iliana Ivanova,*** *Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, European Commission* ***Johan Hanssens,*** *Secretary-General, Flanders Department for Economy, Science and Innovation* ***Olivier Poivre d'Arvor**, French Ambassador for the Poles and the Oceans* ***Pascal Lamy**, Chair of the Board of the EU Mission Restore our Ocean and Waters*
10:40 – 10:50	**Video: The European Digital Twin of the Ocean**
	Exploring the capabilities of the European Digital Twin Ocean
10:50 – 11:00	**Unveiling the European Digital Twin Ocean prototype** ***Kestutis Sadauskas**, Deputy Director-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, European Commission*
11:00 – 11:25	**European Digital Twin Ocean Demonstrations and 3 visual showcases** ***EDITO: the European Digital Twin Ocean public infrastructure, Pierre Bahurel**, Copernicus Marine Service, Mercator Ocean International* 1. ***Safeguarding marine environments and coastal communities from plastic pollution – Simon Von Gennip**, Mercator Ocean International* 2. ***Nature Based Solutions – Kelli Johnson**, Hereon* 3. ***Unravelling marine food webs towards marine biodiversity conservation, an EDITO-Blue Cloud cooperation - Sara Pittonet Gaiarin,*** *Trust IT Services*
11:25 – 12:05	**Panel "Digital Twin Ocean: a game changer for Ocean knowledge and action".** ***Kate Larkin,*** *EMODnet, Seascape Belgium* ***Thomas Klein**, Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management* ***Marilaure Grégoire**, University of Liège* ***Carlota Muñiz**, Flanders Marine Institute, DTO Bio-Flow* ***Margherita Cappelletto,*** *Ministry of Universities and Research, Italy**, Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership*
12:05 – 13:30	*Lunch break* *Attendees are invited to see the exhibition/booths*

	A community vision for the European Digital Twin Ocean: Weaving a thriving ecosystem of interoperable digital twins in support of the EU Green Deal, Mission Ocean & the UN Agenda 2030
13:30 – 13:40	**Keynote** *Thomas Skordas, Deputy Director-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology, European Commission*
13:40 - 14:00	**Current Digital Twins developments** 3 TEDx-like pitches from initiatives selected through a call for expression of interest 1. **Prediction and adaptation to rising seas and climate change (LISCOAST),** *Michail Vousdoukas, Joint Research Centre* 2. **Monitoring water quality for oyster aquaculture in the Galway Bay (BIODIVERCOAST),** *Tomasz Dabrowski, Marine Institute Ireland* 3. **Early warning system for meteo-tsunamis in the western Mediterranean,** *Emma Reyes, SOCIB*
14:00 – 14:45	**Panel "an ecosystem of interoperable twins"** Representatives of national & international initiatives *Evangelos Spyrakos, University of Stirling, DOORS project* *Lodewijk Abspoel, Ministerie van Infrastructuur en Waterstaat of The Netherlands, Digitwin North Sea and MSP challenge* *Pierluigi Buttigieg, Alfred Wegener Institute, UN Ocean Decade, ODIS and Ocean InfoHub* *Lou Masson, Grand Port Maritime de Bordeaux, Jumeaux numériques du fleuve (JNDF)*
14:45 – 15:15	*Coffee Break* *Attendees are invited to see the exhibition/booths*
	The future of the European Digital Twin Ocean: Your Ocean, Your Twin
15:15 – 15:35	**Keynotes** *Florika Fink-Hooijer, Director-General for Environment, European Commission* *Mauro Facchini, Head of Unit for Defense Industry and Space, European Commission*
15:35 – 15:45	**Short pitches (I): "**What will the future look like?" • *Hans Polet, Flanders Institute for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Research (ILVO), ILIAD* • *Francisco Campuzuno, CoLAB +Atlantic, Pipeline-DITO* • *Joanna Staneva, Hereon, OLAMUR*
15:45 – 15:55	**Keynote: a vision for the European Digital Twin Ocean** *Nadia Pinardi, Decade Collaborative Center for Coastal Resilience, University of Bologna*

15:55 – 16:40	**Panel "The long-term vision for the European Digital Twin Ocean"** Early Career Ocean Professionals, citizen initiatives, societal and ethical aspects, users *Wilco Hazeleger,* *University Utrecht,* DestinE *Scientific Advisory Board* *Tony Candela,* *Mercator Ocean, ECOPS* *Jackie Ashkin*, *University of Leiden, ECOPS* *Franziska Stressmann*, *European Citizen Science Association,* OTTERS project *Mariluz Parga,* SUBMON, *citizen science*
16:40 – 16:50	**Short pitches (II): "**What will the future look like?" • *Till Rasmussen,* *Danish Meteorological Institute*, NOrdic CryOSphere Digital Twin • *Jan Stahlberg,* Siliconhagen • *Igor Mayer,* *Breda University,* ILIAD
Closure	
16:50 – 17:00	**Conclusion speech** *John Bell*, *Director Heathy Planet, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission*
Networking Reception	