

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

**Input to 2019 SG report on oceans and the law of the sea**

**First report**

**Contribution of the IAEA Environment Laboratories to the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development**

For over six decades, the IAEA has been continuously developing and applying a suite of radiotracer techniques that can reliably and rapidly assess ocean change, including how its biota and ecosystems are affected by marine pollution and climate change impacts. As an example, the transport and possible effects of microplastics on marine life are being studied using controlled aquaria. Furthermore, to establish contaminant baselines, select radionuclides are an invaluable tool to develop reliable-geochronologies. Such information is essential in the reconstruction of contaminant inventories that can guide policy makers. Additionally, the IAEA develops and shares new analytical methods and reference materials that are then compared in proficiency tests at laboratories across the globe. The IAEA Environment Laboratories also host the Ocean Acidification- International Coordination Centre (OA-ICC), a platform for global collaboration on ocean acidification. In summary, the IAEA contributes to UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development by promoting and contributing to the development of solution-oriented ocean science.