

Programme CommOCEAN 2026

The 7th CommOCEAN conference takes place in Bergen, Norway on 2-3 September with an icebreaker reception on the evening of 1 September.

The conference venue is **UiB Learning Arena, Nygårdsgaten 5 (NG5), 5015 Bergen** ([location](#)), with an 'icebreaker' Reception on 1 September at the Medieval castle **Håkonshallen** ([location](#)). For this edition of CommOCEAN the overarching theme is '**Communication for and within the UN Ocean Decade: Setting Sails for 2030**'.

- Online programme overview on [this webpage](#).
- We refer you to the [FAQ sheet](#) for logistical conference information.

TUESDAY 1 SEPTEMBER

16:00-17:00 CommOCEAN 2026 has secured three guided tours in the afternoon on the day before the conference proper starts.

- [Read more on the guided tours and how to book your spot.](#)

18:00-19:30 Icebreaker reception, Håkonshallen ([location](#))
Welcome by the Mayor of Bergen, Ms. Marit Warncke

WEDNESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER

08:00-09:00	Arrivals and registrations, mingling
09:00-09:15	Welcome and practical information with welcome statements by: • Vice-Rector and Professor Kristoffer Chelsom Vogt, University of Bergen • Professor Bjørn Egil Asbjørnslett, Chair of the Norwegian Marine University Consortium and Director at NTNU Ocean and Coast • Professor Tymon Zieliński, Institute of Oceanology Polish Academy of Sciences (IO PAN) and Chair for the European Marine Board Communications Panel
09:15-10:15	Opening keynote by Emmy Award winning TV producer James Honeyborne of Freeborne Media
10:15-11:15	<u>Plenary session 1: Communication and impact to benefit the ocean and society</u>
11:15-11:30	Coffee break and moving to circus sessions
11:30-12:30	<u>Circus sessions</u> (2 x 30 minutes)
12:30-13:30	<u>Workshops session 1</u> (1 x 60 minutes)
13:30-14:30	Lunch break, incl poster session
14:30-15:15	Keynote 2: CEO Haakon Vatle of tall ship Statsraad Lehmkuhl
15:15-16:00	<u>Plenary session 2: Use of new technologies in ocean science communications</u>
16:00-17:00	<u>Workshops session 2</u> (1 x 60 minutes)
17:00-19:30	Break
19:30-22:00	Conference dinner at Bien Litteraturhuset , Østre Skostredet 5-7, Bergen (location)

THURSDAY 3 SEPTEMBER

08:00-09:00	Arrivals and mingling
09:00-09:30	Keynote 3: Senior Research Scientist Dorothy Jane Dankel , SINTEF Ocean
09:30-10:30	<u>Plenary session 3: Increasing citizen engagement and ocean literacy through communication</u>
10:30-10:45	Coffee break and moving to workshops
10:45-11:45	<u>Workshops session 3</u> (1 x 60 minutes)
11:45-12:45	<u>Workshops session 4</u> (1 x 60 minutes)
12:45-13:40	Lunch break, incl poster session
13:40-14:10	Keynote 4: Researcher Didrik Hjertaker Grevskott , Institute of Marine Research
14:10-15:10	<u>Workshops session 5</u> (1 x 60 minutes)
15:10-15:25	Coffee break and moving to final plenary session
15:25-16:25	<u>Plenary session 4: Taking science communication to ocean action</u>
16:25-16:55	Keynote 5: OceanX present how they work to bridge ocean science and communication
16:55-17:00	Close of conference: Thank you and goodbye!