

# 2024 WEST P&I BURSARY STUDENTS



### **Genia Fernanda**

University of the Basque Country Spain

#### What is the focus of your research study?

The intricate interplay of Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC), current European heatwaves and North Atlantic Oscillation (NAO) using RAPID array at  $26^{\circ}$  N.

#### What are you most looking forward to about this bursary?

I'm particularly excited about the prospect of being mentored by professional researchers from NOC. Moreover, the chance to establish collaborations and connections with other researchers is something I eagerly anticipate. I believe that engaging with a diverse community of scholars will significantly broaden my horizons within my focused research area. It's not just about individual growth; it's about contributing to and learning from a collective pursuit of knowledge.



# **Leonardo Rodriguez**

Central University of Venezuela Venezuela

#### What is the focus of your research study?

Combining acoustic methods to assess geo-hazards.

#### What does the ocean mean to you?

To me, the ocean is a source of life and natural resources, essential not only for human's existence but also of many other species, a way of transportation and commerce, of adventure, a place of tranquillity that can at times serve as a reminder of the power of nature, a place filled with hints that help us understand Earth's history and evolution, and the fact that the vast majority of it remains undiscovered serves as a motivation to keep on exploring and diving into the unknown.



#### **Ehoumi Paul Sossou**

Universiy of Abomey-Calavi Benin

#### What is the focus of your research study?

Biochemical study of sediments and macrobenthic fauna of coastal aquatic environments in the South-East of Benin.

#### What are you most looking forward to about this bursary?

Through this bursary, I will have the opportunity to acquire skills in sediment sampling techniques, biogeochemical data analysis techniques and statistical processing of this data.







## **Marianne Glascott**

University of Sussex UK

#### What is the focus of your research study?

The impact of suspended particulate matter on kelp recovery in Sussex Bay.

#### What does the ocean mean to you?

The ocean is life. It is an endless source of fascination, inspiration, and wonder. It is where I feel happiest, most free and most insignificant. It represents untapped knowledge, beauty and unfettered power. The ocean is dynamic, playing an often less publicised role in regulating our planet's climate and its biodiversity. It also serves as a living laboratory, offering insights into physical processes, biological adaptations, and chemical interactions essential for understanding the natural world. The ocean reminds me of our planet's interconnectedness and our responsibility to respect and cherish it.



# **Akhil Varghese**

# Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies India

#### What is the focus of your research study?

Understanding of the interannual mesoscale variation of the Arabian Sea with special emphasis on coastal ocean dynamics.

#### What does the ocean mean to you?

Since I became an oceanographer working in the field of extreme events and their influence on the coastal ocean dynamics and the fishery or nutrients, my perspective on the ocean has shifted dramatically. Now I recognise the ocean as a vital ecosystem, home to millions of species and a critical player in regulating global climate. 97 percent of the world's water is found in the ocean. Because of this, the influence of the ocean ranges from the smallest organisms such as phytoplankton to humans to the largest creatures. The ocean is solely responsible for us the people on the southwest coast of India to get a calm and pleasant climate, the seasonally reversed current system in the North Indian Ocean and the effect of the summer monsoon help the inhabitants in many ways. Along with this most of the climate variabilities originated from the ocean; its effects are causing severe casualties, loss of properties and triggering other extreme events during this era of climate change. Even though the climate variabilities are normal the intensity increased because of anthropogenic reasons. Because of this, the ocean is one which always wants to be monitored and protected for future generations.

