



## Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and Analog Devices Launch Ocean and Climate Innovation Accelerator

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*First-of-its-kind consortium focused on the critical role of oceans in combating climate change*

*Consortium to advance knowledge and develop new solutions at the intersection of oceans and climate*

WOODS HOLE, Mass. & WILMINGTON, Mass.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Apr. 20, 2021-- Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) and Analog Devices, Inc. (Nasdaq: ADI) today launched the **Ocean and Climate Innovation Accelerator (OCIA)** consortium. ADI has committed \$3 million over three years towards the consortium which will focus on advancing knowledge of the ocean's critical role in combating climate change as well as developing new solutions at the intersection of oceans and climate.

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Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and Analog Devices launch first-of-its kind consortium focused on the critical role of oceans in combating climate change. (Photo: Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution)

makers, enabling evidence-based stewardship of ocean health, and driving more accurate climate and weather predictions with real-time data.

"On behalf of WHOI's entire community of ocean scientists and engineers, we are incredibly excited about this collaboration," said Dr. Peter de Menocal, president, and director of WHOI. "The formation of the OCIA consortium comes at a time when support for science and ocean research is at a critical juncture. We are building a research innovation ecosystem that will drive new understanding to tackle global challenges facing society. It provides a new, scalable model showing how corporations can engage deeply on the climate crisis."

The consortium will be jointly led by WHOI, a world leader in oceanographic research, technology, and education dedicated to understanding the ocean for the benefit of humanity, and ADI, a world leader in the design, manufacturing, and marketing of a broad portfolio of high-performance semiconductor solutions used in virtually all types of electronic equipment. Designed to act as an engine for continuous innovation and powered by some of the world's leading minds and businesses, the OCIA consortium is open to participation by a wide range of leading organizations across business, academia, and non-profits that recognize the inextricable links between ocean and climate and wish to have a positive impact on the global climate crisis.

The OCIA consortium will also establish a robust, multi-stage innovation ecosystem, building on WHOI's existing strengths in education and research

"Carbon emissions feature as a centerpiece in global efforts to mitigate climate change. Oceans are among our most important defense mechanisms against a warming planet – yet their ability to continue to play this critically important role is being threatened by the effects of climate change," said Vincent Roche, CEO of Analog Devices. "Through the Ocean and Climate Innovation Accelerator, we are committed to engaging ADI's engineers and technologies to advance knowledge of the oceans in order to gain a better understanding of how oceans are impacted by climate change and to develop solutions to restore ocean health. By doing so, we hope to drive meaningful impact on the global fight against climate change."

The OCIA consortium is designed to be a highly scalable collaboration leveraging the unique resources and capabilities of its partner organizations. Among its goals, the consortium will focus on the development of the "networked ocean" – placing sensors across oceanographic environments that will continuously monitor critical metrics related to ocean conditions with the aim of informing business and policy decision

to drive solutions-thinking and allow scientists and engineers to focus on high-impact problems. This will include the launch of a new **Climate Challenge Grant Program** which will award seed-funding for smaller, competitively selected projects.

Initially, the OCIA will provide two types of awards:

- **Incubation Awards:** comprised of seed-funding awarded to dynamic individuals and teams. Incubation Awards will support design, exploration, and early execution of new, cutting-edge scientific initiatives that foster new avenues of research and engineering and encourage and incentivize collaborative engagement.
- **Acceleration Awards:** awarded to successful recipients of prior support for novel ideas and technologies, as well as other more mature projects, for the purpose of expanding these programs, increasing public engagement, and positioning and preparing projects to achieve lasting impact and receive durable outside support.

As the consortium grows over time, OCIA programs may expand to invest in people through the establishment of fellowships and other awards, along with a portfolio of other activities such as support for collaboration hubs to drive innovations in data processing, machine learning, and transdisciplinary science and engineering.

"Now more than ever, it is essential for people to understand that the ocean and climate are not two separate systems, but rather part of a single system that spans our entire ocean planet and affects the lives of people everywhere, even if they live far from the coast," said de Menocal.

"Recognizing this, it is critical for organizations like ADI and WHOI to find common cause and work in shared-mission partnerships to help mitigate the rapidly advancing threats brought on by a warming planet."

### About Analog Devices

*Analog Devices (Nasdaq: ADI) is a leading global high-performance semiconductor company dedicated to solving the toughest engineering challenges. We enable our customers to interpret the world around us by intelligently bridging the physical and digital with unmatched technologies that sense, measure, power, connect, and interpret. Visit <http://www.analog.com>.*

*The Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) is a private, non-profit organization on Cape Cod, Massachusetts, dedicated to marine research, engineering, and higher education. Established in 1930, its primary mission is to understand the ocean and its interaction with the Earth as a whole, and to communicate an understanding of the ocean's role in the changing global environment. WHOI's pioneering discoveries stem from an ideal combination of science and engineering—one that has made it one of the most trusted and technically advanced leaders in basic and applied ocean research and exploration anywhere. WHOI is known for its multidisciplinary approach, superior ship operations, and unparalleled deep-sea robotics capabilities. We play a leading role in ocean observation and operate the most extensive suite of data-gathering platforms in the world. Top scientists, engineers, and students collaborate on more than 800 concurrent projects worldwide—both above and below the waves—pushing the boundaries of knowledge and possibility. For more information, please visit [www.whoi.edu](http://www.whoi.edu).*

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