

Ocean Country Partnership Programme (OCP) in numbers

India

September 2026

The OCPP programme provided tailored support in India to help manage the marine environment more sustainably. This included strengthening marine science expertise, developing science-based policy and management tools, and creating educational resources for coastal communities.

Seeking long-term change to India's marine environment

The OCPP identified the following areas in which the programme could deliver change in the way these issues are addressed in India through the generation and use of scientific knowledge to better inform policymaking and action:

- **Marine knowledge and capacity:** providing expertise towards sustainable marine ecosystem science and better marine environment monitoring.
- **Education and awareness:** piloting models and approaches towards community engagement and raising awareness on marine-related topics.
- **Networks and partnerships:** supporting cross-learning and innovation through networks and partnerships.

The programme supported a number of stakeholders to achieve these objectives. These included:

- Government departments and agencies responsible for:
 - Fisheries
 - Marine environment
 - Agriculture
 - Science and education

Examples: Ministry of Earth Sciences, Ministry for Agriculture and Ministry for Environment, Forests and Climate Change

- Science and higher education institutions:

Examples: National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture (ICAR-CIBA) and Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI)

Funding for OCPP was provided through the overarching Blue Planet Fund (BPF) by the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). OCPP was delivered by three British government Arm's Length Bodies (ALBs): the Centre for the Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas), the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC), and the Marine Management Organisation (MMO).

More information on OCPP can be found at:

[DevTracker Programme GB-GOV-7-BPFOCPP Documents](#)

The data shown covers OCPP activities between 2023–2026 only.

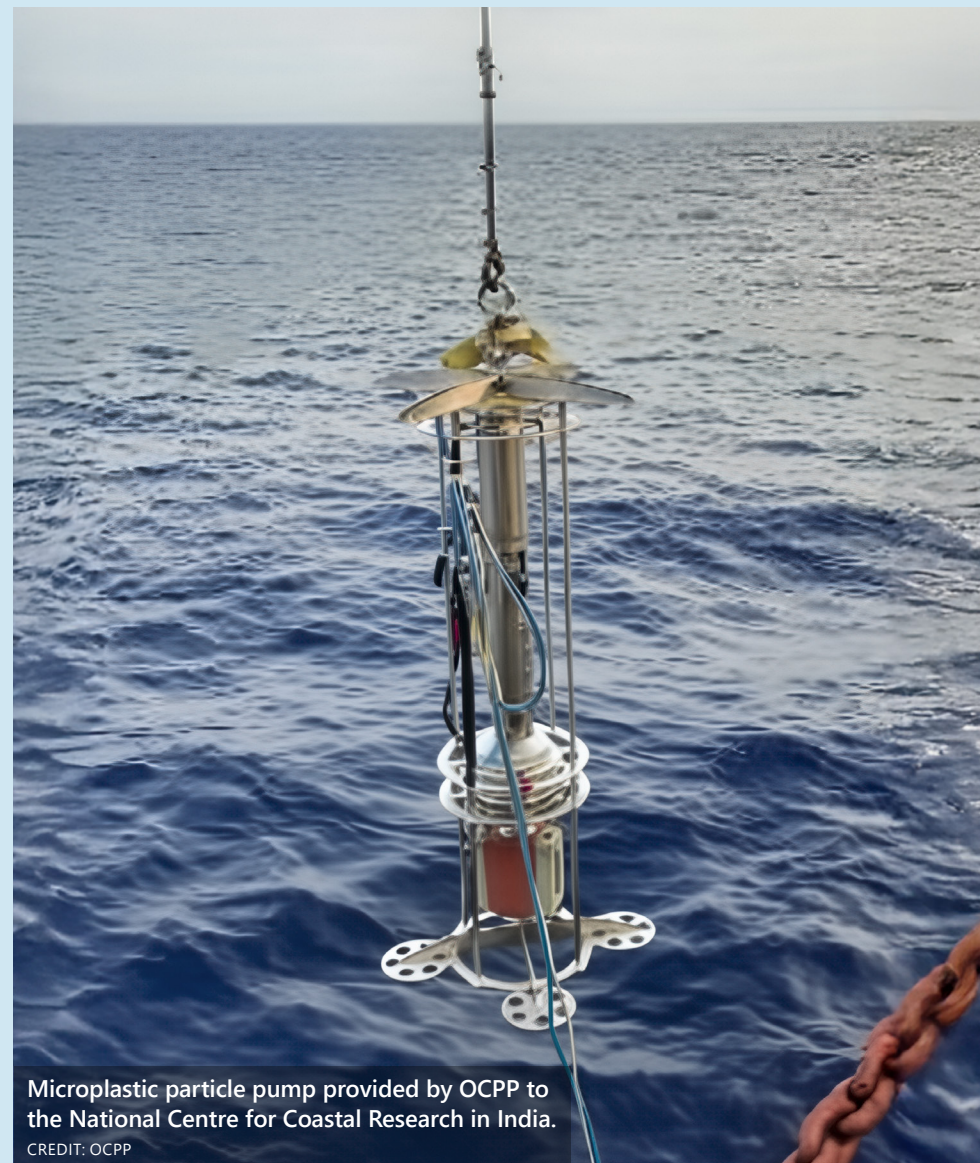
Key achievements in delivery

Outcome

Since receiving training from OCPP, the National Centre for Coastal Research in India are now using the microplastic pump for routine monitoring without assistance. The pump has been deployed at more than 30 locations offshore of the east and west coasts of India.

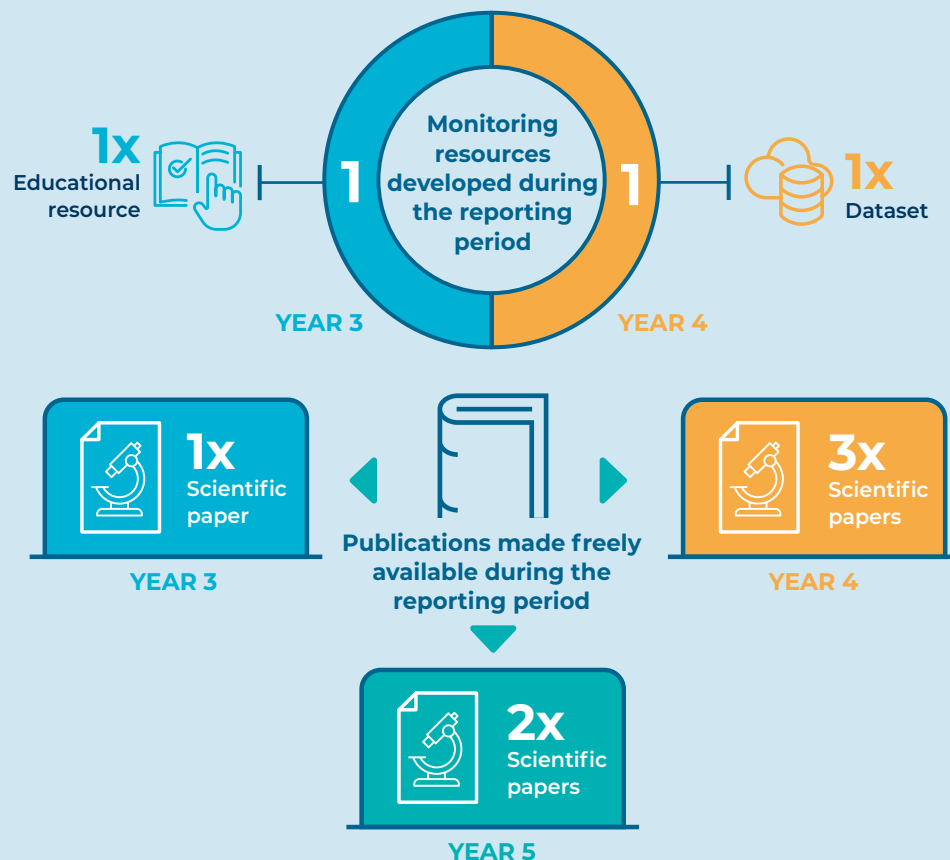
Marine knowledge and capacity

The programme worked to strengthen the capacity and capability of Indian stakeholders in marine science, management and governance. Of those surveyed, 100% of participants surveyed reported increased knowledge and capacity.



Education and awareness

The OCPP supported with enhancing education, awareness and the exchange of scientific, technical knowledge and data in India on a variety of topics concerning the marine environment.

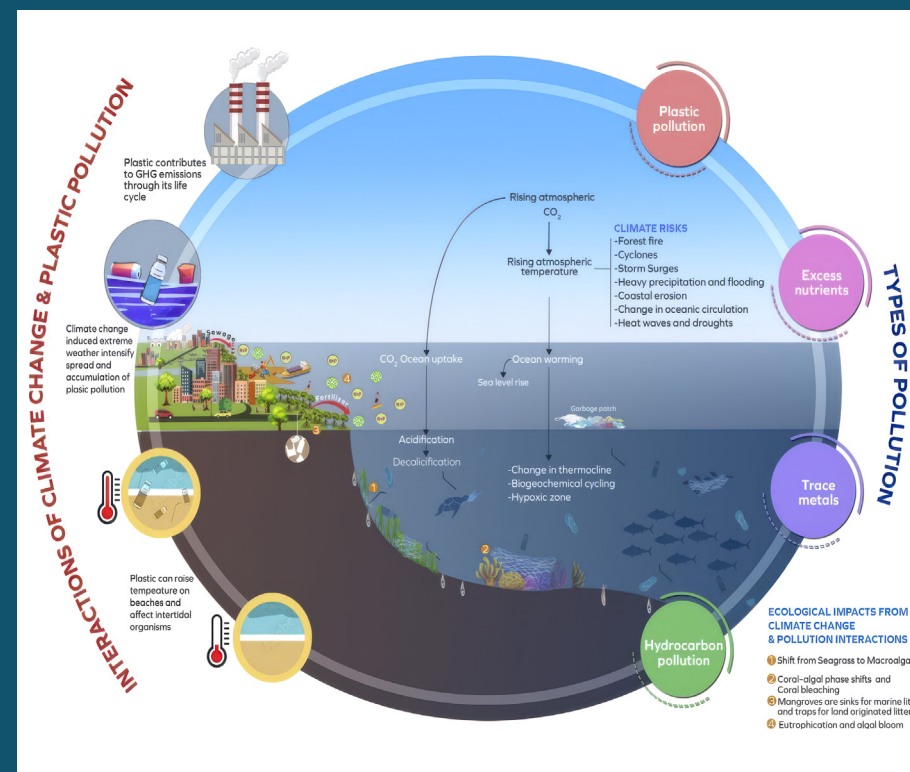


CASE STUDY

A Marine Litter Education pack was developed for the Kerala Government to raise awareness among students to tackle marine litter and plastic pollution. The educational packs were launched by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan while addressing the *UK in Kerala Week* organised by the British High Commission in November 2023.

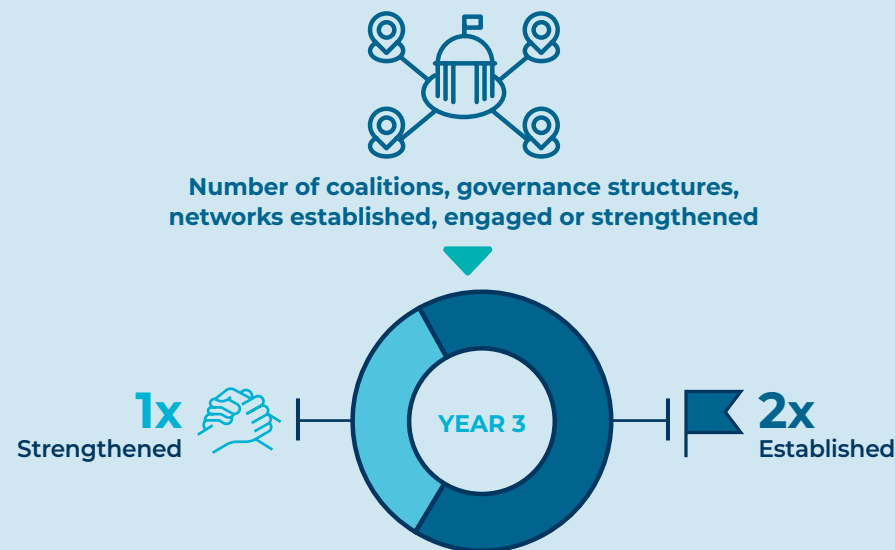
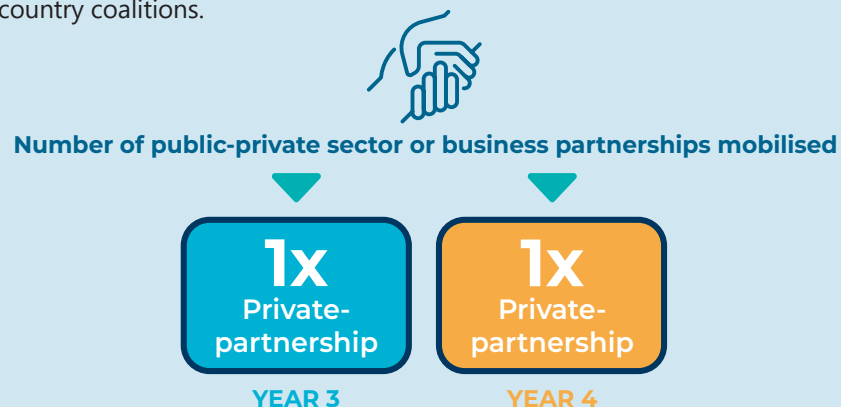
CASE STUDY

A paper, titled '[Interaction of Climate Change and Marine Pollution in Southern India: implications for coastal zone management practices and policies](#)' was published in December 2023. It provides an assessment of the interactions between climate change and marine litter in Southern India, focussing on key issues in the Gulf of Mannar and Malabar Coast. The paper also proposes policy and framework tools to improve the management of cumulative impacts. Of the ten authors, seven were female and three were in-country authors.



Networks and partnerships

The OCPP worked with the Government of India to develop and support active ocean-science related knowledge networks and partnerships – either as UK-partner country or in-country coalitions.



CASE STUDY

In January 2023, the One Health Aquaculture India Community was established to strengthen existing networks. In February 2023 a workshop was held in Kerala State to discuss how new and emerging technologies could be applied to support safe and sustainable aquatic food supply chains in India¹. The event was hosted by Cefas in partnership with the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), a division of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and funded by OCPP.

¹ <https://www.cefas.co.uk/news-and-resources/news/one-health-aquaculture-experts-gather-in-india-to-discuss-new-and-emerging-technologies-to-support-safe-and-sustainable-aquatic-food-supply/>