



Why and how to join POGO?



Membership benefits

By becoming a member of POGO, your institute will be recognised as belonging to the group of the world's major oceanographic research institutes, and will actively contribute to developing the global agenda for ocean observing.

Some specific benefits of POGO membership include:

Attendance at Annual Plenary Meetings, with the opportunity to discuss issues of mutual concern with the Directors of other major oceanographic institutes.

Sharing best practices, infrastructure, and data e.g. best practices in industry engagement; best practices in communications through Ocean Communicators United (OCU); identifying data-sharing and collaboration opportunities through POGO's Cruise Information Database.

Opportunity to serve as Chair of POGO, or on the POGO Executive Committee, and to elect the POGO Chair and Executive Committee members.

Connecting with global organisations and programmes e.g. Group on Earth Observations (GEO) and its initiative, "Oceans and Society: Blue Planet".

Hosting a POGO Plenary Meeting, thereby showcasing your institute's research facilities and programmes.

Representing your institute's interests through obtaining endorsement and support for your ocean observing programmes.

Representation at major public outreach events e.g. World Expo, GEO Ministerial Summits, UNFCCC COP meetings etc.

Enhanced visibility for your institute through the POGO website, newsletter, social media, and Plenary Meetings.

Participating in POGO's prestigious observational training programmes by hosting students or providing instructors or students for training initiatives.

Participating in collaborative ocean observing initiatives by joining existing initiatives, proposing new initiatives, and coordinating applications for funding opportunities.



What is the cost of POGO membership?

POGO is a subscription-based organisation, with two types of membership:

- **Full membership** (dues-paying, voting status, for oceanographic research and academic non-profit institutions)
- **Associate membership** (dues-paying, non-voting), for (a) oceanographic research and academic non-profit institutions who cannot be bound by the Constitution) and (b) for private, for-profit companies with an interest in ocean observations). Membership dues fall into 21 categories, based on the country where the member institute is located and the size of the member institute.

Step 1. What is the Country Category for my institute?

If your institute is located in one of the countries listed in Table 1, you can check your 'Country Category'. For countries not listed here, the POGO Secretariat will provide the necessary information based on the latest data from the World Bank. Email pogoadmin@pml.ac.uk to find out.

Country Category	Countries
Least Developed Countries (LDC)	e.g. Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Senegal, Sudan, Togo
Other Low Income Countries (OLIC)	e.g. Zimbabwe
Lower Middle Income Countries (LMIC)	e.g. Egypt, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Tunisia, Ukraine, Vietnam
Upper Middle Income Countries (UMIC)	e.g. Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Namibia, Peru, Russia, South Africa, Thailand, Uruguay, Venezuela
A	e.g. China, Croatia, Estonia, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Spain
B	e.g. Belgium, Canada, France, Ireland, Netherlands, United Kingdom
C	e.g. Australia, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Israel, Norway, Japan, Republic of Korea, Sweden, United States

Table 1

Step 2. What is the Size Category of my institute?

Calculate your institute's number of marine science staff (including scientists, technicians, administrative staff; excluding students, volunteers, and ship's crew) and check the Category in Table 2.

Can several institutes join as a Consortium?

Individual institutions from the same country are permitted to form a consortium if (1) they are located in countries classified 'A' or below, and (2) they each comprise fewer than 100 staff (as defined above). The consortia will pay their dues according to the total, combined number of staff.

Institute Size Category	Number of Marine Staff
1	Up to 200
2	201-500
3	Over 500

Table 2

Step 3. What level of dues will I be required to pay?

Refer to the membership dues in Table 3.

Introductory rates for low-income countries:

To facilitate the membership of institutions from low-income countries (LDC, OLIC, LMIC and UMIC), the following rates will apply for the first 3 years of membership:

- LDC, OLIC and LMIC countries: *no fee for the first two years, followed by a 50% reduction in membership dues for the third year;*
- UMIC countries: *50% reduction in membership dues for the first two years.*

Annual membership dues in EUR	Institute Size Category 1	Institute Size Category 2	Institute Size Category 3
Country Category LDC	250	400	550
Country Category OLIC	500	800	1,100
Country Category LMIC	1,000	1,600	2,200
Country Category UMIC	2,000	3,175	4,325
Country Category A	4,000	6,350	8,650
Country Category B	4,600	7,500	9,800
Country Category C	5,200	8,650	11,000

Table 3

Step 4. How do I apply for membership?

All that is required to apply for membership is a letter providing an overview of the prospective member institute's activities and its alignment with POGO interests, for review by the POGO Board of Trustees.