

# FISHING VESSEL OCEAN OBSERVING NETWORK

## FISHING FOR DATA ●

While existing methods of data collection—including buoys, drones, and satellites—work well for monitoring the open ocean, they struggle to operate in coastal and shelf seas due to complex bathymetry and dynamic currents.



*Our mission is to **democratize ocean observation** through collaborations with fishers, improve ocean predictions and forecasts, promote sustainable fishing, and power a new data-driven blue economy.*

That's why FVON partners with fishers, who are already operating fishing vessels in data-sparse coastal waters. Fishers can conduct normal operations while sensors attached to their gear collect data as they go along for the ride. With more than four million fishing vessels globally, "fishing" for data has the potential to create a step change in our understanding of the changing oceans.

## MUTUAL BENEFITS ●

FVON data collected from near-shore waters is critical for blue economy activities and for the 2.4 billion people around the world who live within 100 kilometers of the ocean.

**Fishers** benefit from thriving marine habitats and cutting down on wasted time, fuel, and bycatch.

**Coastal communities** are on the front lines of climate change and directly benefit from data that improves hurricane forecasts.

**Policymakers** make more informed decisions when the needs of local communities are more visible and when **scientists** have the comprehensive data coverage needed to improve met-ocean models.

**Blue economy industries** (such as aquaculture, offshore energy, insurance, shipping, tourism, carbon storage and removal, and more) need ocean data to optimize operations, minimize environmental impacts, and safeguard workers.

## DIVE A LITTLE DEEPER ●

Read more on the FVON website (<https://fvon.org/>).



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