



## **AHA HONUA Coastal Indigenous Peoples' Declaration at OceanObs'19**

We, the Indigenous delegates at OceanObs'19, present this declaration known as Aha Honua to our fellow members of the global ocean observing community. Indigenous peoples continue to perpetuate our cultures and governance systems as we have done for generations. Our ancestral, cultural, and spiritual connections to natural resources maintain our inherent governance systems as well as establish the foundation for our principles of sustainability. Our existence comes from all life and therefore we, as first stewards, have a responsibility to our oceans and shoreline ecosystems.

We call on the ocean observing community to formally recognize the traditional knowledge of Indigenous peoples worldwide as well as the articles within the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. We will work with the ocean observing community to advance the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the goals of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development.

We call on the ocean observing community to establish meaningful partnerships with Indigenous communities, organizations, and Nations to learn and respect each other's ways of knowing; negotiate paths forward to design, develop, and carry out ocean observing initiatives; and share responsibility and resources.

Delivered this twentieth day of September in the year two thousand and nineteen by the Indigenous delegates at OceanObs'19, in Honolulu, Hawai'i.