

# strategy 150

Pioneering Science for the  
Health of Our Ocean, Our Life

**Our 2025 to 2030 strategy –**  
charting a course towards 150 years  
of the establishment of the MBA



Marine  
Biological  
Association



# foreword



2024 was the first calendar year to pass the symbolic 1.5°C threshold (above pre-industrial average) and the world's hottest on record. **With this sobering news we are reminded of the importance of our mission.**

As a Learned Society, our strategy is an urgent call to action. It will allow us to offer evidence and solutions on the impacts of environmental threats to biodiversity.

Working together with our Members, public and wider stakeholders within governments, NGOs and the private sector, we will empower these

groups with knowledge to make a difference. In turn, informed decisions can be made about the future sustainability of our ocean.

Delivering a sustainable future through scientific evidence provision, from our world-class research, cannot be achieved in isolation; national and global partnerships will be critical for creating comprehensive solutions.

We have an exciting, yet challenging decade ahead as we chart a course that will mark 150 years of scientific integrity and excellence at the MBA.



**Dr Gill Rider CB,**  
President



# a bold vision for the future

## OUR VISION

Pioneering science for the health  
of our ocean, our life

## OUR MISSION

Focussed on marine biology, our mission is to  
understand and disseminate the causes and  
consequences of environmental change in the  
ocean through research and discovery

## OUR VALUES

we inspire

anchored by integrity

be visionary

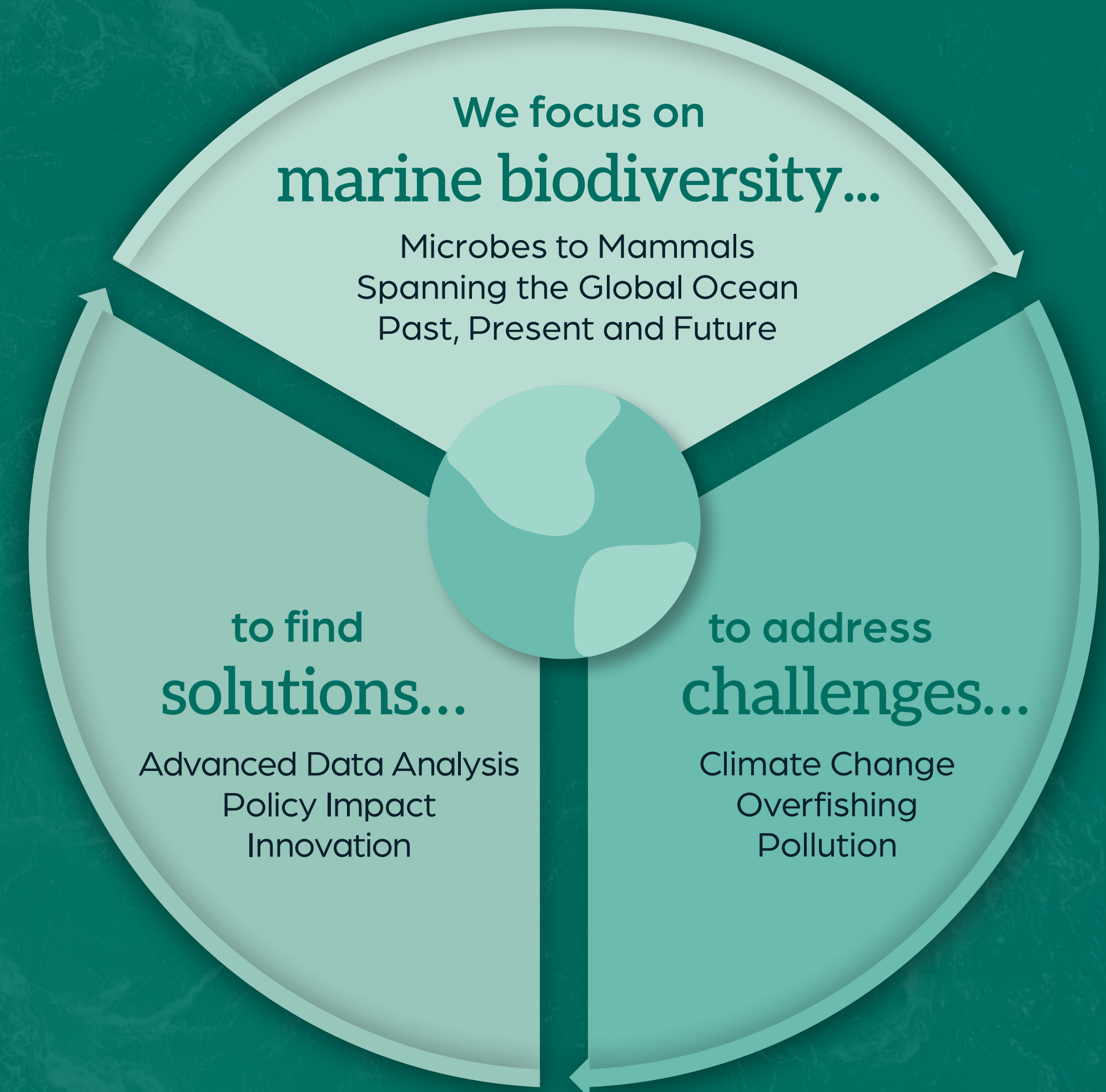


# science seascape at MBA

Marine ecosystems hold a vast **biodiversity** from microscopic microbial life to the largest animals on our planet. MBA scientists work across spatial scales from the molecules in cells, to global biodiversity patterns. Our scientific tools allow us to probe the past, monitor the present and predict future impacts and change.

In this era of extreme environmental **challenges**, marine biodiversity is under unprecedented threat. It is being eroded by human-impacts including climate change, overfishing and pollution. We will investigate the threats by integrating our scientific excellence into applied science approaches to help address the challenges.

Our visionary science underpins **solutions** for a healthy ocean. Increased application of autonomous technologies will be supported by advanced data analysis tools. Knowledge gained will be shared widely to validate and strengthen the voice of marine biology, continuing to inspire our community and demonstrate impact.





# our strategic initiatives

Through excellence, we will create greater scientific synergy, strengthen global connections and continue our voyage of discovery to achieve our goals.



## synergy

Curiosity-Driven  
Research that Drives  
Real-World Solutions



## connection

Membership and  
Key Partnerships



## discovery

A Marine Biology  
Destination



# synergy

## Synergy is our way of working.

Our science programme will generate knowledge, develop individuals and derive value by contributing to wider society through interdependence of curiosity-driven scientific excellence and solutions-driven applied research.

### outcomes will include

World-class research programme generating societal impact

Wider policy engagement, informing legislation for a healthy ocean

Promoting innovative data consultancy services



# connection

Elevating the voices of marine biology through stronger connections.

We will strengthen partnerships from local to global, scientific and commercial.

We will play a leading role in connecting the marine biology community by cultivating a vibrant, engaged and inclusive Membership.

outcomes will include

Growing the Membership community

Bringing together passionate supporters who share our values and believe in our lasting impact

Catalysing new commercial opportunities from MBA science



# discovery

## Together, we are on our voyage of discovery.

We will create a destination for marine biology discoveries. From archives to algorithms, this will be a home that curates and connects knowledge for all to better understand the environmental threats to marine biodiversity, leaving a positive legacy and inspiring the next generation.



Marine  
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## outcomes will include

Destination where knowledge of marine life is shared, explored and celebrated

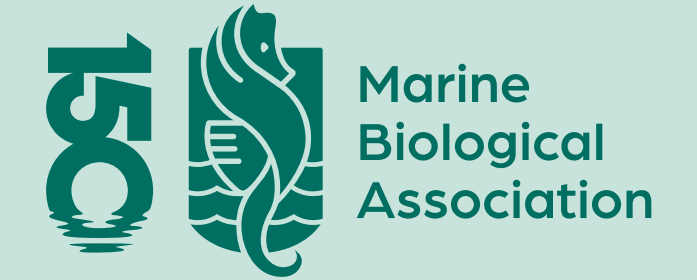
Fueling ocean intelligence and the next wave of ocean minds

Accessible and inclusive facilities



# implementation

## Key Milestones



Our key measures of success by March 2030 will include strengthened financial resilience, an enhanced supporter base, and the development of a destination for marine biology discoveries.

### synergy

Curiosity-Driven  
Research that Drives  
Real-World Solutions

### connection

Membership and  
Key Partnerships

### discovery

A Marine Biology  
Destination

Full  
implementation  
plan

Year 1  
2026

Accelerate  
strategic  
initiatives

Year 3  
2028

Enhanced financial  
resilience for a  
healthy ocean

Year 5  
2030

A separate detailed implementation plan will be co-developed internally and aligned with a business case. Business plans and milestones will be reviewed annually by Trustees.



From the seashore to the seafloor, we're on a voyage to discover more about our ocean and all aspects of marine life for the advancement of knowledge.



[mba.ac.uk](http://mba.ac.uk)

