

IOCARIBE participates in the CliMetS - Latin America Workshop on Methane Seeps Research

The IOCARIBE Sub-Commission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions closely followed the CliMetS - Latin America Workshop on Methane Seeps Research, held on October 6-7, 2025, at the Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana in Medellín, Colombia. The workshop was part of the Global Climate Impacts of Methane Seeps (CliMetS) programme, an endorsed action of the UN Ocean Decade, which seeks to advance understanding of how methane seeps influence the global climate system.



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Methane seeps are natural emissions from the seafloor that release methane gas—one of the most potent greenhouse gases—into the ocean. These areas support unique ecosystems where microorganisms use methane as an energy source, playing a key role in reducing the amount of

this gas that reaches the atmosphere. Understanding their dynamics is essential to improve climate models and guide sustainable ocean management.

The workshop gathered around 50 researchers, government representatives, and experts from across Central and South America to exchange knowledge, assess regional scientific capacity, and identify key research priorities. Discussions focused on the need for coordinated regional collaboration, capacity-building, and data-sharing mechanisms to strengthen the study of methane seeps and their ecological and climatic relevance.

IOCARIBE's participation reflects its commitment to fostering regional cooperation and promoting ocean science initiatives that align with the goals of the UN Ocean Decade. The outcomes of this workshop will support the development of a regional action plan that enhances scientific collaboration and contributes to a better understanding of the ocean-climate system in Latin America.

For more information about the CliMetS initiative and related research, please visit:

- [**Global Climate Impacts of Methane Seeps - Ocean Decade Action**](#)
- [**Frontiers in Marine Science - CliMetS Article**](#)