



2-3 March 2023
[#OurOceanPanama](#)
Hosted by the Government of Panama



Contents

1	Introduction	03
2	Commitments	06
	Climate Change	10
	Sustainable Fisheries	14
	Sustainable Blue Economies	18
	Marine Protected Areas	22
	Maritime Security	26
	Marine Pollution	28
3	Agenda	32
4	Side Events	36



1 | Introduction

Our lives are inextricably connected with the ocean. It regulates our climate and weather, generates approximately half of the planet's oxygen, and provides food and livelihoods for billions of people worldwide. Yet the health of the ocean is under threat. The impacts of greenhouse gas emissions, including ocean warming and acidification, make it clear that the climate crisis is an ocean crisis. At the same time, other human activities, such as overfishing and plastic pollution, are harming ocean ecosystems and communities around the globe.

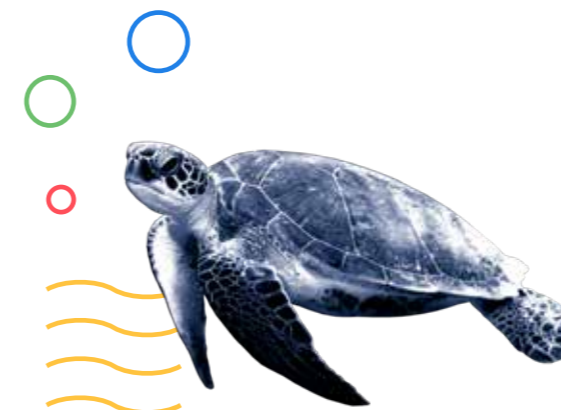
The eighth Our Ocean Conference—hosted by the government of Panama, in Panama City, on March 2nd and 3rd of 2023—continued to focus on six thematic areas: climate change, sustainable fisheries, sustainable blue economies, marine protected areas, maritime security, and marine pollution.

Like other Our Ocean conferences, Our Ocean Panama's ambition was to call on global leaders for more commitments to protect the ocean, both in terms of money and legal protections, but also commitments to technology and science, and sustainability for the people who rely on the ocean for their livelihoods.

As the first Our Ocean Conference to be held in Central America, the conference focused on exploring the success Our Ocean is having in meeting past commitments to bring transparency and accountability to the commitments made, understand and share models of best practices, and learn lessons across the Our Ocean Community.

Bringing together governments and non-state actors to make concrete commitments to protect ocean health and security, the conference closed with more than 360 commitments worth USD 22 billion across the six issue areas of the conference. Since 2014, the Our Ocean Conference has now mobilized more than 2,160 commitments worth approximately USD 130 billion.

This paper presents the commitments for the eighth Our Ocean Conference organized by thematic area. In addition, there are two commitments related to future Our Ocean conferences: the commitment of Greece to host the ninth Our Ocean Conference in 2024 and the commitment of the Republic of Korea to host the tenth Our Ocean Conference in 2025.







2 | Commitments



Marine Protected Areas

52 Commitments



Sustainable Fisheries

52 Commitments



Maritime Security

38 Commitments



Marine Pollution

65 Commitments



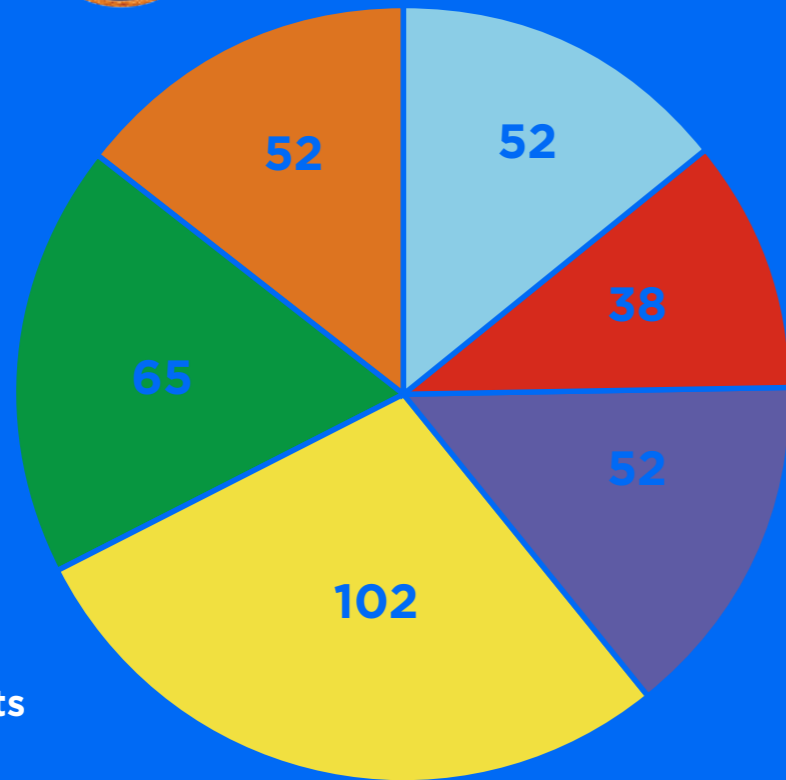
Sustainable Blue Economy

52 Commitments



Climate Change

102 Commitments



361

Total number of commitments

\$22 billion

Total value



Climate Change



Total number of commitments: 102
Worth a total of: \$13.9 billion

The contribution of our ocean to both mitigating and adapting to climate change is being increasingly recognized. Panama is one of only three countries in the world whose emissions are “carbon negative” (along with Bhutan and Suriname), making Panama a pioneer in the fight against both climate change and ocean degradation.

Titles of individual commitments for the climate session appear below. For details – including descriptions and budget, see the map viewer at <https://ouroceanpanama2023.gob.pa/commitments/>.

GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Government of Australia

- Australia partners with WWF-Australia through an AUD 13 million initiative to deliver nature-based solutions activities to the Indo-Pacific.
- Australia leads and coordinates the International Partnership for Blue Carbon.
- Australia commits to join partner countries in establishing green shipping corridors for the development, demonstration and deployment of low and zero carbon technologies.

The Government of Canada

- Canada announces Canadian Green Shipping Corridors Framework.
- Canada will conserve 25% of its marine and coastal areas by 2025.
- Canada announces CAD 69.5 million in funding to protect and restore ocean ecosystems in developing countries.

The Government of China

- China to stable its coastal wetland areas up to 2025.

The Government of Germany

- Solutions for Marine and Coastal Resilience in the Coral Triangle.
- CoralCarib: Pioneering a new strategic approach for conserving and restoring Caribbean coral reef ecosystems that targets Climate Resilient Refuges.
- National research to increase the carbon uptake of marine ecosystems.
- Germany supports a trilateral Research for a climate resilient World Heritage Wadden Sea.

The Government of Ireland

- Ireland commits EUR 1.2 million dedicated funding for a call in 2023 on ocean governance and law.
- Ireland to contribute EUR 100,000 to three United Nations Law of the Sea related Trust Funds in 2023.
- Ireland commits EUR 1.6 million in funding over four years for a Post-Doctoral Fellowship Call across a range of ocean research topics.

The Government of Japan

- Regional Decarbonization Model Project by Tidal Power Generation.
- International cooperation relating to JMA's Himawari geostationary meteorological satellites.
- Building Climate Resilient Safer Islands in the Maldives.
- Oceanographic observation using research vessels and Argo floats.
- Strategic promotion of Arctic research.
- Contribution to the Green Climate Fund.
- Contribution to the Adaptation Fund.

The Republic of Korea

- A USD 5.3 million Program announced by the Republic of Korea to enhance utilization of ocean renewable energy in the Marshall Islands through the provision of OTEC generator and capacity-building project.
- A USD 17 million Program announced by the Republic of Korea for Capacity-building and Joint Research on Blue Carbon with South East Asia and the Pacific Island Countries.

- A USD 3.5 million Program announced by Busan Metropolitan City, the Republic of Korea for Joint Research on Marine Fine Dust by utilizing micro-satellite.

The Government of Norway

- Norway will update its National Action Plan for green shipping to reduce climate emissions.
- Norway will support developing countries on the transition to zero emission shipping through the IMO. GreenVoyage2050 project.
- Norway will work together with Nordic Countries to establish a Nordic Green Shipping Corridor.

The Government of The Netherlands

- Government of Aruba joins in partnership with the Stimson Center for a proposed USD 300,000 investment for climate risk assessment in Aruba.

The Government of Panama

- Achieve Low Carbon Panama Canal Operations by 2030.

The Government of Peru

- Develop in Peru a Best-practice framework to address coastal marine deoxygenation, to improve the management of marine living resources in our country and the APEC economies.
- Implement the monitoring of ocean acidification of the Peruvian marine system under the 14.3.1 indicator of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) of SDG 14.
- Quantify the spatial distribution of marine resources in Peru in the context of climate change.
- Contribute to the reduction of plastic waste in the Eastern Pacific Ocean through activities that take place in the Peruvian Sea as a result of the collaboration established between IMARPE and the University of Exeter.
- Conduct the Oceanographic Cruise in the North and Center of the Peruvian Maritime Domain.
- Use of an Ocean Observation, Prediction and Early Warning System for Climate Impacts on Fisheries to ensure enhanced resilience and improved adaptive management of resources in the Humboldt Current Large Marine Ecosystem.
- Installation of the Ocean-Meteorological Coastal Station in the Peruvian Port of Chancay.

Secretary of State for the Sea

- Research and better knowledge of the deep sea.
- France's membership to the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (IAC).

National Energy Secretariat

- Establishment of the Green Hydrogen Transformational Hub.

JAMSTEC

- JAMSTEC contributes to the Global Ocean Ship-based Hydrographic Investigations Program (GO-SHIP) in 2023 and 2025.

Marine Research Center, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries - Indonesia

- Indonesia announces its USD 1,1 million investment through Ocean for Prosperity Project in 2023 to support blue carbon (seagrass) ecosystem management.

Ocean Affairs Council

- Conducting research on climate change and adaptation.

The Government of the United States of America

- The United States announced USD 25 million from NSF for the LEAP Center in order to reduce the uncertainties of climate projections.
- The United States announced USD 7.5 million from NSF for the CLIMATE Justice initiative to support a diverse and culturally competent ocean and geoscience workforce.
- The United States announced USD 6.5 million from NSF for ECO-CBET to support combating climate change and mitigating its impacts.
- The United States announced USD 5 million from NSF for NCAR ocean modeling and observation to improve our understanding of climate change and better inform decision-makers.
- The United States announced USD 4 million from NSF for research to understand dense water pathways that impact the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC).
- The United States announced USD 3.5 million from NSF for research on ocean-located renewable energy development.

- The United States announced USD 2.5 million from NSF to formalize interdisciplinary climate-training and professional development through the Climate Leaders Academy.
- The United States announced USD 82 million from NSF for Coastlines and People Hubs to further understanding of complex coastal systems and hazards, and to improve coastal hazard prediction, responses, and mitigation efforts.
- The United States is planning to spend approximately USD 11 million for the Biodiversity Survey of the Cape (BioSCape) Mission to better understand the distribution and abundance of biodiversity, the role of biodiversity in ecosystem function, and the impacts of biodiversity change on ecosystem services.
- The United States announced USD 3 million for a NASA coordinated multi-program effort to understand ecological changes and the resulting impacts on blue carbon ecosystems.
- The United States will spend USD 1.7 billion to restore ecosystems, increase community and habitat resilience, and employ nature-based solutions to prevent and clean up nutrient and other pollution across some of the nation's most essential, beloved, and populated watersheds.
- The United States announced USD 20.5 million for regional ocean partnerships and coordinated management of ocean and coastal resources.
- The United States announced USD 2.6 billion to build lasting climate resilience of marine resources and coastal communities.
- The United States announced USD 400 million to improve ocean, weather, and climate change observations, modeling, and research.
- The United States announced USD 30 million to expand understanding of marine carbon dioxide removal.
- The United States announced an intent to provide USD 5 million for the Resilience and Adaptation Fellowship Program for Rising Leaders, pending Congressional notification.
- The United States adopted a new policy under which it commits to preserving the legitimacy of maritime zones, and associated rights and entitlements, that have been established consistently with international law and that are not subsequently updated despite sea-level rise caused by climate change.
- The United States announced USD 5.8 million for the Resilient Pacific Blue Economies Program to help Pacific Islands climate-proof their blue economies.
- The United States provided USD 500,000 to expand Diminishing Dengue - a climate-based early warning system for dengue fever - across the Pacific Islands regions and build capacity through workshops.
- The United States announced an intent to fund USD 1.5 million for the first phase of the Green Shipping Corridors Initiation Project (GSCIP) pending Congressional Notification.
- The United States announced an intent to provide USD 15 million to expand early-warning systems in the Pacific SIDS, subject to the completion of domestic procedures.
- The United States announced an intent to provide USD 2.5 Million to support climate resilience and sustainable development in SIDS through the Local2030 Islands Network, subject to Congressional Notification and the completion of domestic procedures.
- The United States announced USD 2.7 million to expand early-warning systems in Caribbean SIDS.
- The United States and Norway launched the Green Shipping Challenge.
- The United States announced actions under the Green Shipping Challenge.
- The United States announced support for projects under the Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRA).
- The United States announced actions to help meet its offshore wind deployment goals.
- The United States joined the International Alliance to Combat Ocean Acidification and commits to drafting its national ocean acidification action plan.
- The United States announced an intent to provide USD 2.5 million of support for the U.S.-Caribbean Partnership to Address the Climate Crisis 2030 (PACC 2030) through the Local2030 Energy Resilience Community of Practice, subject to Congressional notification.
- The United States announced an intent to provide USD 1 million from the U.S. Department of State for the Climate Finance Access Network, to support their expansion into the Caribbean region, subject to Congressional notification.

The Government of the United Kingdom

- The UK Government commits to invest GBP 12 million into the ORRAA.
- The UK Government commits up to GBP 4 million to the World Economic Forum's Blue Carbon Action Partnership.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Asian Development Bank

- ADB will establish an Ocean Resilience and Coastal Adaptation Fund to provide USD 25 million in grant finance to support upstream planning, project preparation and capacity development for implementing investments in ocean health.

The European Union

- The European Union commits EUR 12 million to facilitate the access to Copernicus data and products through a Copernicus Regional Centre for Latin America and the Caribbean operated by Panama.
- The European Union announces a contribution of EUR 33.5 million in 2023 to strengthen marine environmental monitoring and forecasting, through its satellite-monitoring programme (Copernicus) and Wekeo service.
- The European Union will issue through its Copernicus marine service the annual ocean state report by June 2023 (in the "Science" journal special issue on "State of the Planet") to report on ocean state and ocean health over the globe.
- The European Union will renew its satellite constellation with the launch as soon as possible of Sentinel-1C, the third unit of the Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) Sentinel constellation for a value of EUR 250 million.
- The European Union commits EUR 36 million to support science on the ocean-climate nexus.
- The European Union will continue its support to the EU4OCEANOBS action by allocating another EUR 4 million.
- The European Union commits to address climate change and human activities threats to marine biodiversity in the Atlantic and Arctic basins, by allocating EUR 16 million.

Italo-Latin American International Organization (IILA)

- Preserving the health and the ecological integrity of marine ecosystems in Latin America: the interaction between biodiversity, ecosystem integrity and climate change.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

International Cooperation and Development Fund, TaiwanICDF

- The TaiwanICDF commits to invest USD 6.58 million in climate adaptation projects.

National Aquarium

- National Aquarium: Combatting Climate Change.
- Joint ACP Climate Commitment.

Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRAA)

- The Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance invests over USD 22 million into finance and insurance solutions that build coastal and ocean resilience for climate vulnerable communities around the world.

Plymouth Marine Laboratory

- Committing UK NERC USD 805,000 funding towards providing a radically improved understanding of how environmental changes are affecting oceanic plankton, the microscopic organisms at the foundation of the marine food chain which also play a vital role in generating oxygen for the planet.

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

Stimson Center

- TaiwanICDF and the Taiwan Ocean Affairs Council joins in partnership with the Stimson Center to invest USD 250,000 for climate risk assessment in Belize.
- Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation joins in partnership with the Stimson Center and invest EUR 169,000 for a climate risk assessment in Toamasina, Madagascar.

Walton Family Foundation (Philanthropist)

- Walton Family Foundation commits USD 5 million to support climate adaptation and resilience in fisheries.

Minderoo Foundation (Philanthropist)

- The Minderoo Foundation Exmouth Research Lab is a world-leading marine research facility that delivers high-impact, high-quality research on the doorstep of the Ningaloo Reef World Heritage site.

PRIVATE SECTOR

Philip Morris International

- Tackle climate change: Achievement of carbon neutrality of PMI's direct operations (scopes 1+2) by 2025.
- Tackle climate change: Reaching net-zero emissions for the entire PMI value chain (scopes 1+2+3) by 2040.
- Preserve nature: Zero net deforestation of managed natural forest and no conversion of natural ecosystems in our tobacco supply chain.
- Tackle climate change: 100% of electricity used and purchased in our factories derived from renewable sources.

Woolpert, Inc.

- Disaster Vulnerability and Climate Change Resilience Mapping of Island Nations and Coastlines.



Sustainable Fisheries

Total number of commitments: 52
Worth a total of: \$596 million

Sustainable fisheries are vital for feeding the global population, for the livelihoods and culture of coastal and island people, for protecting and restoring ocean biodiversity, and for fighting climate change. To reap the benefits of a resilient ocean, we must prioritize the protection of biodiversity and the long-term sustainability of the world's fish stocks.

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GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Government of Australia

- Australia invests AUD 1 million to strengthen Pacific fisheries monitoring, control and surveillance capabilities, and responses to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU).

The Government of Canada

- The United States, United Kingdom, and Canada launched an IUU Fishing Action Alliance.
- Canada launches the CAD 83.4 million Shared Ocean Fund as part of the Indo-Pacific Strategy.

The Republic of Korea

- The Republic of Korea announcing its ongoing program to prevent ghost fishing through the distribution of bio-degradable fishing nets.

The Government of Germany

- Germany funds research project "STELLA II" on modified gillnets to reduce bycatch.

Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales - El Salvador

- Commitment of El Salvador: Assessment of the current health of fisheries of commercial interest.

Ministry of Production, Foreign Trade, Investment and Fisheries - Ecuador

- Ecuador is committed to being the first country in the Americas to comply with the FITI Standard, to improve the accessibility, quality and credibility of national fishing information to achieve greater transparency in the fishing sector.

The Government of Ghana

- The Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development of Ghana commits to 100% transparency on industrial vessels operating in the country's EEZ by 2025.

The Government of Peru

- Promote and Preserve Traditional Knowledge for Ocean Sustainability. The case of prehispanic Peruvian Fishing Sailing Vessels.
- Promote the creation of a Marine Protected Area in the Tropical Sea of Peru.
- Implementation of a real-time display system for information on marine predators that interact with the industrial anchovy, horse mackerel, and mackerel fisheries in Peru.

The Government of Japan

- Economic and Social Development Programme (Kiribati).
- Economic and Social Development Programme (Tonga).
- Economic and Social Development Programme (Marshall Islands).



The Government of Norway

- Norway will continue the Global Action Network - Sustainable Food from the Oceans and Inland Waters for Food Security and Nutrition until 2030.
- Norway will extend the EAF-Nansen programme into a new phase for 2024-2028.

The Government of Panama

- Creation of La Esmeralda Coomanagement zone in the Republic of Panama.
- Panama proposed an International Day Against Abandon, Lost, Discarded Fishing Gear.
- Panama subscribes to the Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing Action Alliance Pledge.
- Panama Adopts The Transparency and Technology Leadership Statement.

The Government of the United States of America

- The United States announced USD 11 million from NSF for research on marine diseases connected with climate change and in commercially harvested marine species.
- The United States announced the signing of a new Memorandum of Understanding between the U.S. Coast Guard and nonprofit Global Fishing Watch, to further transparency in the fight against illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing.
- The United States announced USD 40 million to implement the Climate, Ecosystems and Fisheries Initiative (CEFI), which will increase the production and use of climate-related information for climate resilient fisheries and fishing communities.
- The United States announced over USD 8.7 million for Bersama Kelola Perikanan (Collaborative Fisheries Management) to protect marine biodiversity.
- The United States announced over USD 5.6 million for the PorLaPesca (ForFisheries) activity to reduce illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.
- The United States announced USD 723,180 for Tanggol Kalikasan to reduce illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing and poaching, particularly in critical fish habitats in the Philippines.
- The United States announced its intention to request from Congress funding to support a new ten-year Economic Assistance Agreement with Pacific Island Forum Fisheries Agency in connection with the South Pacific Tuna Treaty.

The Government of the United Kingdom

- The UK Government commits up to GBP 45 million to the WorldFish 'Asia-Africa BlueTech Superhighway' project.

Secretary of State for the Sea

- France joining the IUU Fishing Alliance pledge.

Ocean Affairs Council

- Improving working conditions on Taiwan's offshore fishing vessels.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

The European Union

- The European Union commits EUR 900 000 to support the FAO in the implementation of the decisions of COFI35.
- The European Union will finance actions to support RFMOs, RFBs and relevant International Agreements in the Atlantic, Pacific, Indian, Arctic and Antarctic Oceans and the Mediterranean and Black Seas, amounting to EUR 24 million.
- The European Union commits EUR 1 million to the WTO funding mechanism on fisheries subsidies.
- The European Union commits EUR 18 million to support mitigation and adaptation solutions to minimize climate change impacts on fisheries and aquaculture.
- The European Union commits EUR 17 million to support automatic species recognition and artificial intelligence to fight illegal fish discards and develop green and energy-efficient small-scale fishing fleets.
- The European Union commits EUR 3 million to develop a global toolkit to integrate the FAO Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security and community surveillance into the approaches of small-scale fishers and their representatives.
- The European Union commits EUR 600 000 to develop by 2024 a web-based platform to register catches from marine recreational fisheries in the EU.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Fundacion Tuna Conservation Group Tunacons

- Implementation of biodegradable fish aggregating device (FADs) to reduce impacts on the marine ecosystem in the EPO.
- Strengthen the strategy of good practices for the release of vulnerable species.

Conservation International, Ocean Outcomes, and Wildlife Conservation Society

- Commit to a Formal Partnership in Support of Thriving Global Small-Scale Fishing Communities.

International Cooperation and Development Fund, TaiwanICDF

- The TaiwanICDF commits to invest USD 3.32 million in sustainable fisheries projects in SIDS, landlock and desert countries.

Global Fishing Watch

- Global Fishing Watch commits to supporting data-driven governance of fisheries.

Marine Stewardship Council

- Marine Stewardship council commits to engaging a third of wild marine catch in its sustainable fishing programme by 2030.

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

CEDEPESCA

- Sustainable fisheries in Latin America and Caribbean.

Minderoo Foundation (Philanthropist)

- The Global Fishing Index - An independent assessment of progress towards SDG target 14.4.
- Building momentum for a global roll out of eDNA-based fisheries monitoring.
- Lifting the standards of flag state responsibility to ensure sustainable and responsible distant water fishing operation.

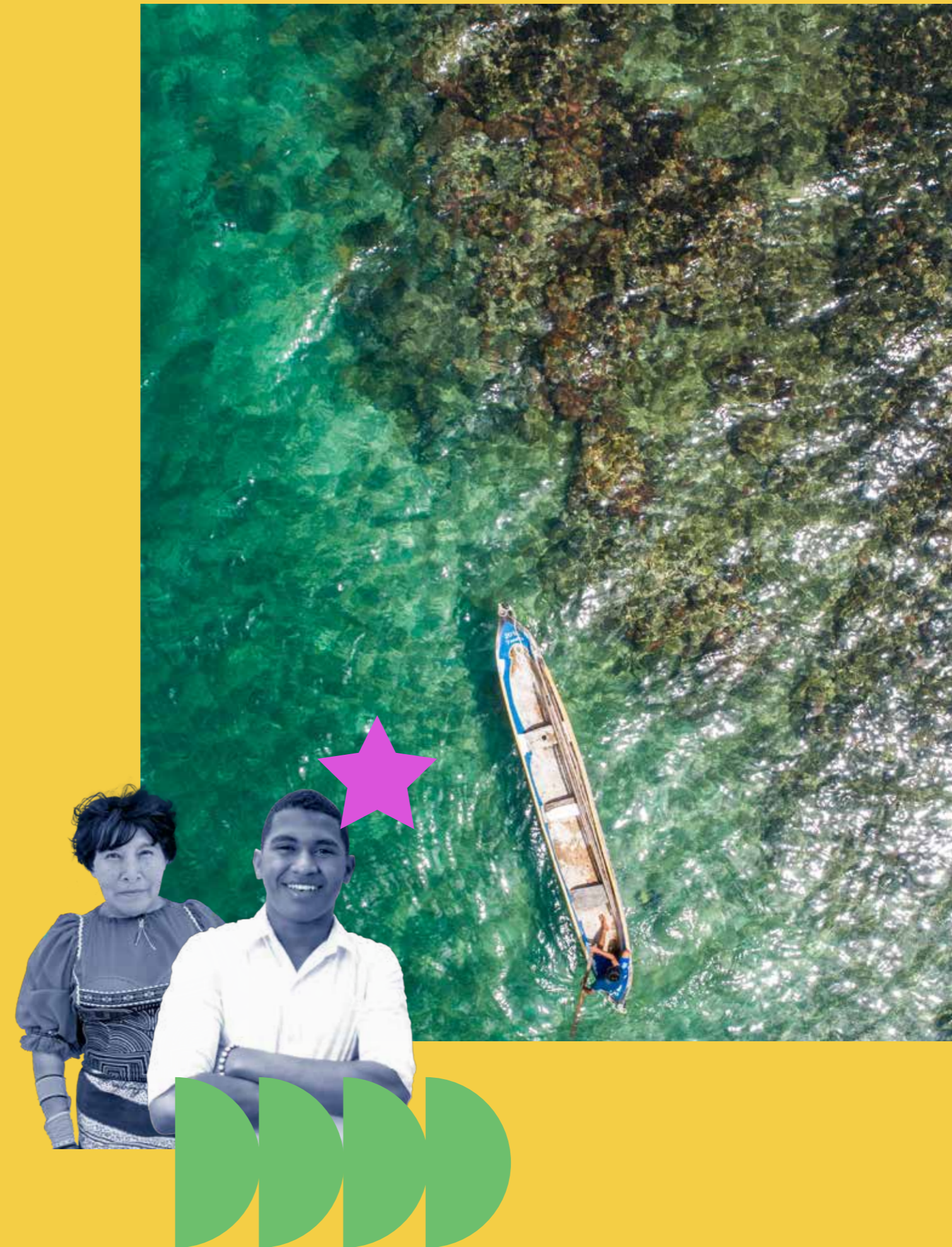
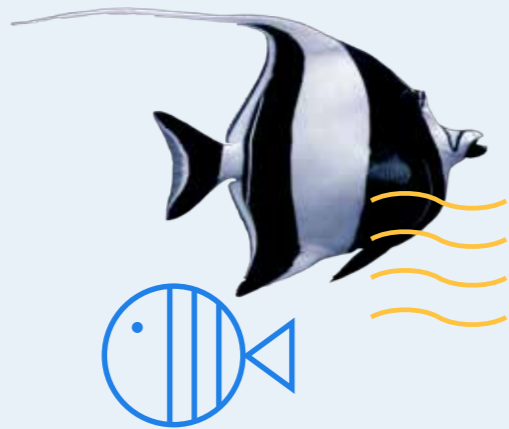
PRIVATE SECTOR

PanaSea Global S.A.

- PanaSea Caribbean Sea Cucumber Repopulation Initiative

Open Blue Sea Farms, S.A.

- Open Blue Sea Farms, S.A. commits to lowering the FIFO/FFDR score on our cobia production through a reduction of eFCR (Improved feed efficiency), and a reduction of pelagic (wild) Fish meal/Fish oil use in our farm diets.
- Open Blue Sea Farms, S.A. commits to converting annually 2000 metric tons of fisheries/aquaculture offcuts (previously sent to landfills) into high quality byproduct fish meal and fish oil to be reutilized in the animal feed industry.





Sustainable Blue Economies

Total number of commitments: 52
Worth a total of: \$490 million

The global blue economy of marine-related industries directly contributes about USD 1.5 trillion to the global economy every year and studies estimate the value of ocean resources and assets at USD 24 trillion, more than the GDP of the US. The livelihoods of hundreds of millions of people depend on the ocean. The eighth Our Ocean conference encouraged commitments that can help deliver a future of sustainable tourism that mutually benefits us all.

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GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Government of Australia

- Australia commits to developing a Sustainable Ocean Plan by 2025.
- Australia commits AUD 4.3 million to strengthening its leadership in global ocean issues.
- Australia invests AUD 59 million in the Marine Bioproducts Cooperative Research Centre - a science-industry partnership.

The Government of Belgium

- Belgium establishes a national legal regime regarding deep-sea mining.
- Belgium announces the development of the mobile app 'Yachting in Belgium'.

The Government of Costa Rica

- Advance in the implementation of several National Plans that are in effect.
- Formulation of the mechanism of payments for marine environmental services.

Marine Research Center, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries

- Indonesia announced its commitment to develop 60 fishing villages in 2023.

The Government of Norway

- Norway will leverage private sector engagement in ocean-related sectors.
- Norway will work towards finalization of the ISA Mining Code for seabed minerals under UNCLOS within 2023, and for the regulations to comport with robust environmental standards and the precautionary principle.
- Norway will donate to the voluntary funds for participation of developing states in the CLCS and LTC/Finance Committee at the International Seabed Authority (ISA).
- Norway will work towards finalization of a robust, strong and effective legally binding instrument under UNCLOS on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction.
- Norway will together with partners in the High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy support developing countries in the Panel in their efforts towards integrated and sustainable ocean management.

The Government of Panama

- Panama commits to the rehabilitation of 1,000 km of educational trails in marine-coastal zones.
- Panama commits to invest USD 4 million to set up visitor centers around the country focused on the conservation of the natural and cultural heritage with a high emphasis on the regeneration of marine-coastal ecosystems.
- The Government of Panama commits to create the Host Communities Program for Tourist Experiences.

The Government of the United States of America

- The United States announced USD 11.5 million from NSF for Sustainable Materials for Global Challenges in support of innovative “circular economy” approaches.
- The United States announced USD 30 million from NSF to tackle challenges related to the blue economy through the Convergence Accelerator Program.
- The United States, Argentina, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Canada, the European Union, Morocco, and South Africa announced the All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance (AAORIA).
- The United States announced USD 9.3 million to support ocean and climate technology innovation by small businesses.
- The United States Announced over USD 3.4 million for the Conserving Coastal Ecosystems activity in Honduras to improve coastal ecosystem management.
- The United States announced over USD 13.7 for Resilient Coastal Communities to improve the sustainable management of marine and coastal ecosystems in Mozambique.
- The United States announced USD 726,820 for the Implementation Project Philippines to improve coastal sustainability.
- The United States announced USD 500,000 for the Coastal Resilience, Carbon, and Conservation Finance (C3F) activity through the Climate Finance for Development Accelerator, which will partner with the private sector on activities that support coastal resilience, blue carbon, and biodiversity conservation.
- The United States announced an additional USD 2.2 million for USAID’s Central America Regional Coastal Biodiversity Project to conserve biodiversity in targeted coastal-marine areas and associated upland ecosystems.
- The United States announced an additional USD 522,983 for USAID and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Grants to Reduce Threats to Caribbean Biodiversity.
- The United States announced an additional USD 1.4 million for the Women Shellfishers and Food Security activity.

Ocean Affairs Council

- Developing smart marine meteorology information services.
- Promoting the development of marine current power generation technology.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

The European Union

- The European Union reiterates its commitment to support a thriving European sustainable blue bioeconomy through its Horizon Europe Framework Programme for research and innovation (2023-2024) and the allocation of EUR 60 million to support international partnerships such as the European Partnership for a climate-neutral, sustainable and productive blue economy.
- The European Union commits EUR 4 million to support the implementation of the All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance (AAORIA) and the priorities identified in the AAORIA Declaration signed in Washington in 2022.
- The European Union commits EUR 65 million to develop selective breeding programme for organic aquaculture and new biotechnology applications from aquatic organisms.
- The European Union commits EUR 12 million to step up the development of the Digital Twin of the Ocean (DTO) to deliver actionable ocean knowledge to all ocean actors.
- The European Union commits EUR 5.9 million to support new solutions for offshore renewable energy and for repurposing offshore infrastructures under decommissioning, with an initial focus in European waters.
- The European Union announces a contribution of EUR 2.5 million to contribute towards an inclusive and sustainable socio-economic development of Kiribati through the construction of a multi-purpose port in Kiritimati in line with the EU’s Global Gateway strategy.
- The European Union announces a contribution of EUR 1.5 million to increase scientific capacity and create opportunities for ocean science to feed into decision making and bridge the gap between science and policy.
- The European Union announces a contribution of EUR 10 million to the IMO’s Global Maritime Technology Cooperation Centres (MTCC) Network project – Phase 2.



- The European Union announces a contribution of EUR 110 million to support the development of a sustainable blue economy in Tanzania.
- The European Union commits EUR 7 million to the development of the Port of Cotonou.

UN - Food and Agriculture Organization

- FAO is committed to supporting aquatic food systems transformation, including through the development and promotion of sustainable aquaculture and the implementation of the FAO Guidelines for Sustainable Aquaculture (GSA).

CAF, Development Bank of Latin America

- Blue Economy Technical Cooperation projects in Latin America and Caribbean countries.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

EarthEcho International

- EarthEcho International to create a regenerative aquaculture externship program for youth of color in frontline communities.

International Cooperation and Development Fund, TaiwanICDF

- The TaiwanICDF commits to invest USD 2.06 million of blue stimulus in Belize and offer capacity building to developing countries officers in blue economy and eco-tourism.

Local2030 Islands Network

- The Local2030 Islands Network announced the first in-person meetings of its Sustainable and Regenerative Tourism Community of Practice (CoP) and Data for Climate Resilience Community of Practice (CoP) bringing together over 20 islands for peer-to-peer knowledge exchange to support islands in developing sustainable blue economies.

Think Beyond Plastic Foundation

- Think Beyond Plastic Foundation and partners to grow the established Blue Pioneers Accelerator.

World Coastal Forum

- Establish World Coastal Forum.

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

Fundacion Desarrollo Sustentable y Cambio Climatico

- Monitoring and protection of the Sea Turtle species through a Tortuguero camp.
- Mitigation of the excessive presence of Sargasum fluitans and S Natans in tourist and marine activities on the coasts of the Mexican Caribbean Sea.
- Conservation and Restoration of the mangrove swamp of the Michoacan Coast.

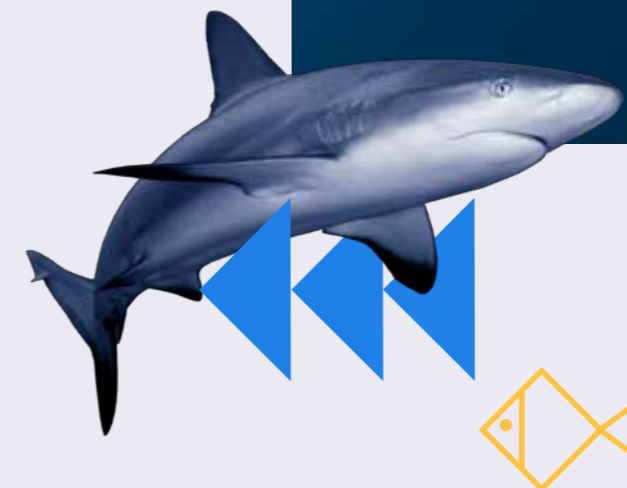
Minderoo Foundation (Philanthropist)

- Minderoo Foundation commits to closing the ocean finance gap and growing the blue economy.

PRIVATE SECTOR

Fugro

- Fugro commits to expanding in-transit bathymetry contributions to The Nippon Foundation-GEBCO Seabed 2030 Project.





Marine Protected Areas

Total number of commitments: 52
Worth a total of: \$1.3 billion

Well-designed, effectively managed Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) are proven, science-based tools for biodiversity conservation and management. They are also increasingly recognized for their contribution to climate action, sustainable livelihoods, and food security. Our Ocean Panama focused on the global responsibility to create marine biological corridors to create the connectivity needed to boost both biodiversity conservation and climate resilience.

Titles of individual commitments for the climate session appear below. For details - including descriptions and budget, see the map viewer at <https://ouroceanpanama2023.gob.pa/commitments/>.

GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Government of Australia

- Australia invests AUD 231.5 million to support the Indigenous Protected Areas (IPAs) Program, including Sea Country IPAs, over five years.
- Australian Government partners with Google to better understand and utilize blue carbon ecosystems in Indo-Pacific and Australian coastlines.
- Australia invests an additional AUD 195.4 million to better protect and restore the Great Barrier Reef.
- Australia invests AUD 2.8 million to improve Indigenous-led marine management on Marra Sea Country.

The Government of Belgium

- Nature Restoration in the Belgian part of the North Sea.

The Government of Canada

- Canada releases the 2023 Protection Standards for MPAs and key areas Canada intends on pursuing for marine protection.
- Canada signs a Memorandum of Understanding with the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council, the Council of the Haida Nation, Pacheedaht First Nation, and Quatsino First Nation to cooperatively manage proposed Marine Protected Area.
- Canada announces up to CAD 800 million in funding to support up to four Indigenous-led conservation initiatives.
- Canada establishes marine refuge within the Northern Shelf Bioregion.

The Government of China

- China to rehabilitate and restore at least 20,000 hectares of coastal wetlands and 400 kilometers of coastlines by 2025.

The Government of Costa Rica

- Blue Fund for marine conservation in coastal and oceanic areas.

Ministerio de Ambiente, Agua y Transición Ecológica de Ecuador

- Conservation of 8 Miles of coastal marine zones In Ecuador.
- Physical delimitation of marine coastal protected areas.
- Generation of tools for the management of Marine Coastal Protected Natural Areas.

Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales - El Salvador

- Delimitación Física de áreas protegidas costero marinas.
- Generación de herramientas para el manejo de Áreas Naturales Protegidas Costero Marinas.

The Government of Finland

- Finland commits to expand the marine protected area network and improve the effectiveness of marine conservation measures.

- Finland commits to increase and improve marine literacy, to add knowledge and understanding of the ocean's influence on all of us, our influence on it, and provide guidance on how all of us can improve the environmental status of the ocean and seas, and act sustainably.
- Finland commits to provide support to the joint UN operation to transfer oil from decrepit FSO Safer.

The Government of Germany

- Germany contributes to the voluntary trust fund to support the BBNJ Process.

The Government of Israel

- Israel doubles its MPA with the declaration of the "Palmachim Disturbance" and commits to protecting 30% of its marine areas by 2030.

The Republic of Korea

- A 1.3-million-dollar Program announced by the Republic of Korea to enhance capacity for conservation and management of MPAs in Asian developing countries through technical assistance and sharing Korea's policies and best practices.

Marine Research Center, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries - Indonesia

- In 2023, Indonesia to designate 2 million hectares of marine protected areas (MPAs).

Ocean Affairs Council

- Improving MPA management.
- Ensuring marine resource conservation and sustainable management.

Government of Japan

- Japan announces USD 635,000 towards 'Marine Worker' - a project to appropriately manage marine parks.
- Designation and area expansion of national/quasi-national parks.

The Government of Norway

- Norway will develop a new act, which will provide the legal basis for establishing marine protected areas in all sea areas under Norwegian jurisdiction beyond 12 nautical miles.

The Government of Peru

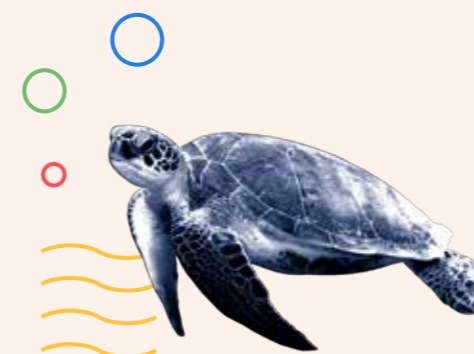
- Development of the Nasca Dorsal National Reserve Master Plan.
- Peru will add five marine-coastal areas to the sectoral list of vulnerable ecosystems in order to promote local and sustainable management of forest resources and wildlife for the benefit of the local population.

Secretary of State for the Sea

- Clipperton / France joining the CMAR MPA network.

The Government of the United States of America

- The United States announced USD 3 million in grants to enhance coral reef health and resilience.
- The United States announced USD 1.93 million in grants and cooperative agreements to support coral reef conservation in the Caribbean, Mesoamerica, Micronesia, and Coral Triangle regions.
- The United States initiated the designation process for the proposed Hudson Canyon National Marine Sanctuary.
- The United States announced USD 6 million for Konservasi Laut Efektif (Effective Marine Conservation) to improve the management of national and provincial MPAs.
- The United States announced the first cohort of endorsers of the Ocean Conservation Pledge to conserve or protect at least 30% of their jurisdictional ocean waters by 2030.
- The UK Government commits an additional GBP 24 million to the Global Fund for Coral Reefs (GFCR) over the next three years to mobilize action and resources that protect, restore and safeguard coral reef ecosystems and the communities that depend on them.



INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

The European Union

- The European Union will commit EUR 8.5 million to develop the NECCTON Research and Development project.
- The European Union will commit EUR 44 million from Horizon Europe Framework Programme for research and innovation (2023-2024) to science-based MPAs, to hybrid blue-grey nature-based solutions for marine and coastal infrastructures, to protect and restore degraded marine and coastal habitats (including deep-sea habitats) and to improve the knowledge of ocean and coastal carbon- and biodiversity-rich ecosystems and habitats.
- The European Union commits EUR 12 million to protect biodiversity and fight climate change in Benin.
- Capitalising on previous EU support for mangrove protection and management in Guyana, the European Union commits EUR 4.62 million to support institutional inter-agency coordination leading to an integrated coastal protection plan (including establishment of MPAs).
- The European Union commits to fully implement the Marine Strategy Framework Directive in view of achieving good environmental status of Member States' marine waters and aims to revise the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, in order to ensure the effective and efficient protection of the marine environment.
- The European Union commits to effectively protect at least 30% of Member States' marine waters by 2030, including 10% under strict protection, in line with the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 and the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Marine Conservation Institute

- Marine Conservation Institute to Accelerate Effective MPA Coverage with USD 600,000 commitment to Blue Parks and Marine Protection Atlas (MPAtlas.org) in 2023.

National Ocean Protection Coalition

- The National Ocean Protection Coalition commits USD 500,000 to support the advancement of Tribal, Indigenous, and locally-led proposals for stronger ocean protection across the United States.

WildAid

- WildAid Marine commits to continued support of the Palau Protected Areas Network (PAN) through on-going field, professional and legal training and a USD 100,000 2-year match through a NOAA grant to strengthen enforcement and improve protection of coral reefs.

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

Minderoo Foundation (Philanthropist)

- Catalyse Ocean conservation to safeguard global ocean biodiversity.
- Minderoo Foundation commit USD 25 million through the Blue Nature Alliance.
- New Indian Ocean Connect research project.
- The Minderoo Foundation commits to invest USD 6.1 million to expand our knowledge of the deep sea and to reduce the threat from deep-sea mining.
- Minderoo Foundation's OceanOmics program is working with partners to revolutionize how we measure, understand, and conserve life in the ocean using environmental DNA (eDNA).

PRIVATE SECTOR

Esri (Environmental Systems Research Institute)

- Esri and National Geographic Commit a Free, Online Priority MPA Siting and Monitoring Tool.





Maritime Security

Total number of commitments: 38
Worth a total of: \$128 million

Maritime security is essential for creating a safe and accessible maritime environment, encompassing trade and shipping routes, fisheries, ports, and other marine infrastructure such as pipelines, oil and natural gas platforms, and trans-oceanic telecommunications cables.

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GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Government of Australia

- Australia invests AUD 8.59 million to support maritime safety, security, and disaster response in the North East Indian Ocean.
- Australia invests AUD 0.25 million in Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Search and Rescue Exercises 2022.

The Government of Belgium

- Belgium strengthens its enforcement policy for the Belgian North Sea and Belgian flagged vessels.
- Development of a secure platform on maritime security.

The Government of Finland

- Finland commits to reduce underwater noise from e.g. shipping, boating and marine construction activities and reduce its impact on marine fauna by giving spatial and/or time-specific regulations.
- Finland commits to improve the status of marine habitats and species by restoration measures and reducing pressures from different human activities, in particular from boating, shipping and dredging.
- Finland commits to improve the preparedness and capability to combat oil and other chemical spills in shipwrecks, marine and coastal areas, and improve the surveillance of the risks.

The Government of Japan

- Strengthening the maritime law enforcement capacity through cooperation with the UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime) FY 2022.
- Economic and Social Development Programme (Micronesia).
- Economic and Social Development Programme (Samoa).
- Capacity Building for Foreign Coast Guard Agencies by the Mobile Cooperation Team.
- Fostering mutual understanding and promoting communication among coast guard agencies of Asian countries by "Maritime Safety and Security Policy Program".
- Promotion of cooperation with other Coast Guard organizations by JCG academy training ship "KOJIMA"
- Operation of MDA Situational Indication Linkages (MSIL).

The Government of Norway

- Norway will host an international conference in March 2023 on combatting fisheries crime using digital innovation within the framework of the Blue Justice Initiative.
- Norway will in 2023 continue to engage in maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea and work to implement SC Resolution 2634.

The Government of the United States

- The United States announced USD 49 million from NSF for the National Deep Submergence Facility (2022-2026) to support the operations of deep submergence science vehicles.
- The United States announced USD 5 million from NSF for the Near-Trench Community Geodetic Experiment to better understand and predict major hazards to maritime security.
- The United States announced the release of a new National Security Memorandum on Combating IUU Fishing and Associated Labor Abuses.

- The United States announced USD 8.9 million for the establishment of the United States Coast Guard Southeast Asia Training Team (SEATT) to enhance maritime law enforcement, security, and interoperability in the region.
- The United States announced USD 3 million for partner capacity building in the Blue Pacific for maritime security and maritime law enforcement.
- The United States announced USD 2.19 million in support for maritime law enforcement and maritime security capacity building efforts through United States Coast Guard mobile training teams.
- The United States announced the signing of expanded operational procedures to complement the existing bilateral agreement with the Federated States of Micronesia to combat illicit transnational maritime activity.
- The United States announced a set of actions and collaborations, pursuant to a MOU signed last year at the Summit of the Americas with the governments of Ecuador, Colombia, Costa Rica and Panama, to strengthen the Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor (CMAR).
- The United States announced USD 120,000 for a West Africa-focused Global Counterterrorism Forum Maritime Security Implementation Workshop.
- The United States announced USD 1.53 million of support for the Export Control and Border Security (EXBS) Yemen Coast Guard Interdiction Capacity Building Project, pending Congressional notification.
- The United States announced USD 1.53 million of support for the Export Control and Border Security (EXBS) Yemen Coast Guard Interdiction Capacity Building Project, pending Congressional notification.
- The United States announced the release of a Five-Year National Strategy for Combatting IUU Fishing.
- The United States announced USD 2.3 million in new assistance to the Global Defense Reform Program to enhance maritime security.
- The United States announced that they intend to sign new maritime law enforcement agreement with Papua New Guinea.
- The United States, United Kingdom, and Canada launched an IUU Fishing Action Alliance aimed at increasing ambition and momentum in the fight against IUU fishing.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

The European Union

- The European Union announces a EUR 5 million programme (GoGIN II) aimed to improve maritime safety and security in the Gulf of Guinea to favour a sustainable blue economy economic development of the countries in the region.
- The European Union commits EUR 10 million to extend CRIMARIO II (Critical Maritime Routes Indo-Pacific project) to the Pacific, with a duration extended until April 2025, to counter maritime threats and encourage inter-agency, cross-sectorial and interregional approaches.
- The European Union commits EUR 5 million to strengthen the cohesion of the EU's efforts in enhancing maritime security and economic prosperity in the Gulf of Guinea.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

WildAid

- WildAid Marine commits USD 4.4 million to expand to 25 additional marine areas and reach 100-sites by 2024 to apply effective enforcement solutions to deter illegal fishing and strengthen protection of critical wildlife and habitats.
- WildAid Marine commits USD 1 million as part of a jointly funded project to strengthen marine enforcement capacity and coordination for the Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor (el Corredor Marino del Pacifico Este Tropical - CMAR).

PRIVATE SECTOR

Allen Institute for AI

- The Allen Institute for AI (AI2) commits USD 3 million to accelerate the way AI can be leveraged in the fight against IUU fishing.



Marine Pollution

Total number of commitments: 65
Worth a total of: \$5.57 billion

The eighth Our Ocean Conference highlighted the impact that marine pollution has on each of us and its role in cross-contaminating our shared global commons. Whilst sources of rivers and mouths of estuaries are national responsibilities, the impacts of unmanaged marine pollution affect other countries and migratory species. Only comprehensive, joint action will solve this cross-border problem.

Titles of individual commitments for the climate session appear below. For details – including descriptions and budget, see the map viewer at <https://ouroceanpanama2023.gob.pa/commitments/>.

GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Government of Argentina

- New lab for monitoring sources of marine pollution (mainly persistent organic pollutants –POPs-, micro plastics and trace metals).

The Government of Australia

- Australia invests AUD 0.6 million to eliminate single use plastics from beach precincts.

The Government of Belgium

- Belgium implementation of its second Federal Action Plan to combat marine litter.

The Government of China

- China to achieve excellent and good water quality of 79% of its marine areas by 2025.

The Government of Canada

- Canada commits CAD 30 million to address the impacts of Ghost Gear due to severe weather (Hurricane Fiona Relief) in 2023.

The Government of Finland

- Finland commits to reduce nutrient loading into the sea, especially from agriculture.
- Finland commits to reduce plastic and micro-plastic input to marine environment by improving waste collection in near-shore recreational areas and from marinas, agriculture, artificial turfs, roads, urban storm water and wastewater systems.

The Government of Germany

- Support for the UNEP INC-Process/Secretariat through funding and providing staff.
- German Funding program against marine litter.
- Immediate action programme for German territorial waters aiming at the retrieval of dumped munitions from the Baltic Sea and the North Sea.

The Government of Greece

- Greece commits that a 40% (weight/weight) of fishing gear containing plastic will be collected and directed to recycling starting from 2025.

The Government of Israel

- To prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, under the guidance of the Ministry of Environmental Protection, the principles for the restoration of the soil and groundwater at the former electrochemical industries site in Acre were approved the beach will be restored and opened to the general public.
- “The Clean beach program” is Israel’s National Action Plan on Marine Litter Management Continues to show progress as 2022 has been the cleanest year yet for Israel’s Beaches. To keep moving forward the MoEP will support an unprecedented multi-year budget for the local authorities that have undeclared beaches, in the amount of up to NIS 26,463,253 for carrying out cleaning operations on undeclared beaches for bathing until 2024.

- The Minister of Environmental Protection Idit Silman announced that she will advocate for the law of preparedness and respond to incidents of oil pollution of the sea and the coastal environment.

Government of Japan

- Safe and Environmentally Sound Managed Treatment and Technology on the COVID-19 related healthcare and plastic waste.

The Republic of Korea

- A USD 15.7 million Program announced by the Republic of Korea for International Cooperation toward Zero Marine Plastic Pollution.
- A USD 2.6 million Program announced by Busan Metropolitan City, the Republic of Korea for the reduction and management of marine debris based on advanced technology.
- Coral Reef Ecosystem Conservation.
- Japan’s Resource Circulation Strategy for Plastics and Act on Promotion of Resource Circulation for Plastics.
- The Basic Policy on the Comprehensive and Effective Promotion of Measures Against Articles that Drift Ashore.
- National Action Plan for Marine Plastic Litter.
- Research and development of ocean acidification, marine biodiversity and microplastics.

Marine Research Center, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries - Indonesia

- In 2023, Indonesia through the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries will intensify efforts to manage marine waste through the “Love the Ocean Month/Bulan Cinta Laut” program.

The Government of Norway

- Norway will support (USD 4 million) capacity building and participation of developing countries in the INC negotiations for the global plastic treaty.

The Government of The Netherlands

- The Kingdom of the Netherlands to host the Conference of Parties of the Cartagena Convention.

Ocean Affairs Council

- Engaging in environmental maintenance and ocean pollution prevention and control at military ports.

The Government of Panama

- The Government of Panama, in consultation with the organization Oceana, commits to reduce the sale and import of single-use plastic and virgin plastic raw material by 50% by 2030.
- Plastics Action Platform of Panama dedicated to solving the problem of plastic pollution in partnership with the World Economic Forum.

Secretary of State for the Sea

- France Mer 2030 Strategy - Zero CO2 emission shipping.
- France joining the Global Ghost Gear Initiative (GGGI).

The Government of Thailand

- Thailand has developed the action plan for plastic waste management phase 2 (2023 -2030).

The Government of the United States

- The United States announced USD 3.5 million from NSF for research into sea ice-ocean exchange of microplastic in the Arctic.
- The United States expects to award USD 140 million in improvements to recycling infrastructure to reduce land-based sources of plastic waste to the marine environment.
- The United States announced support for capacity building engagements with Taiwan, Guyana, Nigeria, and Mauritius to strengthen oil spill preparedness.
- The United States announced plans to participate in five international exercises to strengthen oil spill response preparedness.
- The United States announced USD 3.4 million for hurricane-related marine debris removal.
- The United State announced USD 40.5 million for the Save Our Seas Initiative with the goal to eliminate plastic leakage into the environment by 2040.
- The United States provided USD 985,000 of funding from the Department of Energy to the International Atomic Energy Agency’s regional Latin America project on using radiation techniques to reduce the environmental impact of polymer wastes.

- The United States announced plans to provide USD 500,000 to the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum's Marine Debris Management and Innovation Subfund.
- The United States announced a USD 10 million donation for the United Nations Development Programme's critical mission to address the FSO Safer tanker.
- The United States announced over USD 1.1 million of funding previously provided as voluntary contributions to the International Atomic Energy Agency under the Peaceful Uses Initiative to the Agency's NUTEC Plastics initiative, including support to a project with Indonesia on recycling plastic wastes before they can reach the ocean.

The Government of the United Kingdom

- UK Government commits to restricting and banning the supply of a number of single-use plastic items.
- UK Government joins the High Ambition Coalition to End Plastic Pollution as a founding member.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

European Investment Bank

- Clean Oceans Initiative doubles its commitment and extend the deadline.
- Caribbean Water Sanitation and Clean Ocean Programme Loan.

CAF, Development Bank of Latin America

- CAF's Equity investment of USD 10 million in Circulate Capital Ocean Fund (CCO Fund).

The European Union

- The European Union commits to set targets by 2024 for reducing the number of litter items below 20 items for every 100 meters of coastline and to set additional regulatory thresholds at least for seafloor and floating marine litter, including plastic litter.
- The European Union has in November 2022 endorsed maximum acceptable levels for impulsive and continuous underwater noise in Member States' marine waters, to ensure a good environmental status of the marine environment.
- The European Union commits EUR 28.5 million to monitor emerging pollutants in the marine environment and to address nutrient pollution in the landscape-river-sea system in the Mediterranean Sea basin.
- The European Union commits EUR 5 million to enhance effective policy action in ASEAN and its Member States to prevent marine plastic pollution.
- The European Union reiterates its commitment to improve the availability and use of adequate port reception facilities for the delivery of ship-generated waste by efficiently implementing the Directive on Port Reception Facilities.
- The European Union reiterates its commitment to decrease discharges of polluting substances into the marine environment, including by taking measures targeting polluters through a revision of the Directive on ship-source pollution to be proposed in 2023.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Cámara Nacional de Pesca y Acuicultura de Panamá

- The National Chamber of Fisheries and Aquaculture of Panama Commits to Reducing Marine Pollution by Recycling Fishing Nets.

Delterra

- Delterra commits to supporting companies in Brazil and Indonesia to tackle plastic waste at source.

International Cooperation and Development Fund, TaiwanICDF

- The TaiwanICDF commits to invest USD 1.15 million in waste management in St. Kitts and Nevis and capacity building for developing countries officers.

SkyTruth

- SkyTruth commits to launching Cerulean: a free, public tool powered by satellite data and artificial intelligence to detect marine oil pollution from vessels and offshore oil platforms, and identify the sources of this pollution.

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

Global Center for Good Governance in Tobacco Control (GGTC)

- Global Center for Good Governance in Tobacco Control (GGTC), a founding member of the global Stop Tobacco Pollution Alliance (STPA), a global movement committed to help raise awareness about tobacco's toxic plastic to address marine plastic pollution. We will fully utilize the processes associated with the Treaty to end Plastic pollution, and tobacco control treaty (WHO FCTC), to achieve tobacco control objectives such as a full ban on single use plastics associated with tobacco filters (cigarette filters and all other single use plastics).

Fundacion Desarrollo Sustentable y Cambio Climatico

- Water Platform Quality Monitoring.

Minderoo Foundation (Philanthropist)

- Scaling Solutions to Plastic Waste in Indonesia - Minderoo Foundation Commits USD 5.1 million towards Delterra's initiative.

PRIVATE SECTOR

Aerodata AG/Optimare Systems GmbH

- Detection and Quantification of Plastic Waste in the Ocean through Aerial Surveillance Platforms equipped with Optical Sensors.

Circulate Capital

- Circulate Capital and partners commit to catalyze more than USD 100 million to fight plastic pollution and advance the circular economy across Latin America and the Caribbean.

Searious Business

- Helping business do more with less.



Opening Performance, Video and Keynote Addresses

- **H.E. Janaina Tewaney** Mencomo Minister of Foreign Affairs - Republic of Panama
- **Mr. Juan Monterrey** Director of Geoversity's School for Biocultural Leadership
- **H.E. Milciades Concepción** Minister of Environment - Republic of Panama

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: **H.E. Laurentino Cortizo Cohen** President of the Republic of Panama

High-Level Opening Panel | Effective Response to Global Action

Developing approaches on taking effective actions among countries is a foremost requirement in fostering ocean care. We welcome actions, solutions, and new policies among different actors to strengthen partnerships towards achieving our ocean sustainability goals and enhancing our networking capabilities for such purposes.

PANELISTS:

- **H.E. Janaina Tewaney Mencomo** - Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Rep. of Panama
- **H.E. John F. Kerry** - Special Presidential Envoy for Climate - USA
- **H.E. Surangel Whipps** - President of Palau
- **H.E. Sitiveni Rabuka** - Prime Minister of Fiji

Marine Protected Areas: Expanding The Protection of Our Ocean

PANEL 1 | THEME: Ecological Connectivity, Governance, Finance, and Economy

Science has demonstrated that properly designed and implemented marine protected areas (MPAs) are effective tools for the conservation of marine biodiversity and ocean resources management. Such areas have been recognized for their contribution to climate change resilience and food security. MPAs provide secure habitats for endemic and endangered species and offer protection for entire marine ecosystems and for the communities that depend on them for their sustainability. The success of MPAs requires effective and efficient governance strategies that promote ecological connectivity as well as integrity, among the social and economic activities directly related to these areas.

INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE: **Sylvia Earle** - Founder - Mission Blue / Sylvia Earle Alliance

MODERATOR: **Joshua Tewksbury** - Director of the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute

PANELISTS:

- **H.E. Arnoldo André Tinoco** - Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship - Republic of Costa Rica
- **H.E. Virginijus Sinkevičius** - European Commissioner for Environment, Oceans and Fisheries
- **H.E. Gustavo Manrique Miranda** - Minister of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition - Ecuador
- **Maximiliano Bello** - Global Ocean Policy Advisor - Mission Blue
- **David Hance** - Chief Operating Officer and Director of LATAM Operations - Marine Protection Alliance, Inc.
- **Cristian Samper** - Managing Director and Leader for Nature Solutions - Bezos Earth Fund
- **Mohd Kushairi Mohd Rajuddin** - Executive Director of the CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat
- **Michaela Dommissé** - Head of Marine Research and Innovation - The Minderoo Foundation National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority, Liberia
- **Rocky Sanchez Tirona** - Managing Director, Fish Forever at Rare

COMMITMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

Marine Pollution: Ridding The World Of Ocean Contamination

PANEL 2 | SUBTHEME 1: Global Action against Plastic

The inappropriate disposal of waste has caused pollution and degradation of the ocean, progressively deteriorating the quality of its waters, affecting the environmental balance, negatively impacting human health, biodiversity, and seafood production. Through effective public policies, as well as technological and scientific innovation, together we can find efficient solutions.

MODERATOR: **Brenda Mallory** - Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) - White House

PANELISTS:

- **Albina Ruiz** - Ministry of the Environment - Republic of Peru
- **Arsenio Domínguez** - Director of the Marine Environment Division - IMO
- **Kristin Hughes** - Director GlobalAction on Plastic - WEF
- **Andrew Sharpless** - Executive Director - Oceana
- **Cyrrill Gutsch** - CEO - Parley for the Oceans

PANEL 2 | SUBTHEME 2: Science and Innovation, Keys to Positive Results

MODERATOR: **Elizabeth Wilson** - Senior Director, Environmental Policy - The Pew Charitable Trusts

PANELISTS:

- **H.E. Wang Hong** - Vice Minister of Natural Resources & State Oceanic Administrator - People's Republic of China
- **Ricardo Mourinho Félix** - Vicepresident - European Investment Bank
- **Jeremy Douglas** - Director of Partnerships - Delterra
- **Martin Thiel** - Director of Citizen Science Program, Litter Scientists
- **Boyan Slat** - CEO and Founder - The Ocean Cleanup

Climate Change: Facing Climatic Consequences

PANEL 3 | SUBTHEME: The effect of climate change on the health of the ocean: biodiversity and coastal communities

We are currently facing a critical situation where human activities have caused an imbalance in global climate processes. Marine and coastal ecosystems, such as mangroves and seagrass meadows, have enormous potential as carbon sinks, biodiversity hotspots and buffers against climate risks. Therefore, we must promote science and ecosystem-based management approaches, supported by regional and global assessments, to develop better practices and conservation strategies, as well as restoration projects globally, as they are essential for the well-being of coastal communities around the world.

MODERATOR: **Vladimir Ryabinin** - Executive Secretary and Deputy Director General of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO

PANELISTS:

- **H.E. Steffi Lemke** - Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection - Germany
- **H.E. Miguel Ceara Hatton** - Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources - Dominican Republic
- **Alicia Montalvo** - Manager of Climate Action and Positive Biodiversity - CAF - Development Bank of Latin America
- **Aulani Wilhelm** - Senior Vice President for Oceans at Conservation International
- **Melissa Garvey** - Global Director, Ocean Protection - The Nature Conservancy
- **Jessie Turner** - General Secretary - International Alliance to Combat Ocean Acidification

TESTIMONY: **Laura Dihuinidili Huertas Thompson** - Coastal Community

COMMITMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

Sustainable Fisheries: Finding Answers

To reap the benefits of a resilient ocean, we must prioritize the protection of biodiversity and the long-term sustainability of the world's fish stocks. In this sense, we must face the challenges to protect the ocean and ensure food for coastal communities, sustainable fishing and reproduction of marine species. To accomplish this goal, we must promote fishery certification processes and apply new technologies to ensure sustainability and transparency in our fisheries.

PRE-RECORDED MESSAGE: Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala - General Director - World Trade Organization

PANEL 4 | SUBTHEME 1: Responsible Fishing: Sustainable and Certified

MODERATOR: Manuel Barange - Director of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Division at FAO

PANELISTS:

- H.E. Carmen Evelize Van-Dúnem do Sacramento Neto dos Santos - Minister of Fisheries and Marine Resources - Republic of Angola
- Edgardo Díaz Ferguson - Executive Director - Coiba Scientific Station - COIBA AIP
- Werner Kiene - Chair of the Board of Directors - Marine Stewardship Council
- Juan Corrales - CEO - Tri Marine Group

PANEL 4 | SUBTHEME 2: Innovation, Technology and Traceability: Key tools to guarantee transparency in fishing

MODERATOR: Tony Long - Chief Executive Officer - Global Fishing Watch

PANELISTS:

- H.E. Anne Beathe Tvinneim - Minister of International Development - Norway
- Julio Morón - CEO - Organization of Producers of Frozen Tuna
- Brad A. Wiley - Policy Officer and Regional Office Coordinator of Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission
- Valeria Merino - Founder and Advisor, Entrepreneurial Systems & Chair of Fisheries Transparency Initiative

COMMITMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

Blue Economy: Building Better Opportunities

The ocean is the primary source of nutrition, jobs, and income for about 40% of the global population. The ocean's continued contribution to the global economy requires a balance between economic, social activities and needs, as well as the sustainable use of marine resources and services. It is urgent to adapt economic activities related to the ocean and others that affect it, such as tourism, directing them towards a model that adjusts to current environmental and social demands for the benefit of present and future generations.

PANEL 5 | SUBTHEME 1: Towards an equitable, viable and sustainable economy

MODERATOR: Andrés Cisneros-Montemayor - Deputy Director - Nippon Foundation Nexus Center

PANELISTS:

- H.E. Thérèse Coffey - Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs - United Kingdom
- Valerie Hickey - World Bank Global Director for Environment, Natural Resources and Blue Economy
- Kacky Andrews - Chief of Strategy - Ocean Conservancy
- Antha Williams - Bloomberg Philanthropies Environment Team Lead

PANEL 5 | SUBTHEME 2: Tourism and its role in the blue economy: towards an equitable, regenerative and sustainable tourism model

SPECIAL INTERVENTION: Guy Harvey - Founder and Chair Emeritus - Harvey Foundation

MODERATOR: Daniel Crocket - Director, Ocean and Climate - Blue Marine Foundation

PANELISTS:

- H.E. Iván Eskildsen - Tourism Minister of the Republic of Panama
- Erika Harms - Coastal Health Strategy Director - Iberostar Group
- Mario Gómez - Founder & Director - Beta Diversidad
- Frédéric Degret - CEO / Founder NOAH REGEN & UNWTO Special Advisor for Ocean and Climate Action

Maritime Security: Actions For Innovative, Sustainable, Safe And Secure Maritime Transport

PANEL 6

Over 90% of global trade happens on the ocean. Although maritime transport causes fewer environmental impacts than air or land alternatives, it is still responsible for greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants. That's why it is necessary to integrate science and new technologies to improve safety and maritime transport procedures, friendly with the marine environment. Likewise, to strengthen capabilities and alliances, as well the participation of stakeholders from the private and public sectors, to achieve adequate surveillance and control of the activities that take place on the ocean.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Kitack Lim - Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization

MODERATOR: Major Lloyd Jones - Belize Port Authority Chairman

PANELISTS:

- Carlos Del Toro - United States Secretary of the Navy (Tbc)
- Ilya Espino de Marotta - Deputy Administrator - Panama Canal Authority
- Andrew Stephens - Executive Director - Sustainable Shipping Initiative
- Denis Aheto - Director of the Center for Coastal Management - The Africa Centre of Excellence in Coastal Resilience
- Cleopatra Dombia-Henry - President of the World Maritime University

Youth Panel – Transformation For A Sustainable Future

PANEL 7

The world is changing at breakneck speed, but technology is changing even faster, giving us powerful tools to face the challenges regarding the ocean. The role of youth is key in the search for effective solutions, incorporating new technological developments, from a fresh perspective and ensuring generational change, on which the future of our ocean will depend.

MODERATOR: Masanori Kobayashi - Senior Research Fellow - The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

PANELISTS:

- Smiljana Knez - Ambassador-at-Large for Climate Diplomacy - Slovenia
- Alejandro Castillo López - Senior Program Officer - Alumbra Innovations Foundation
- Nion Murray - Founder of Nesus Energy

CLOSING CEREMONY AND OFFICIAL HANDOVER

4 | Side Events

Thursday 2 March 2023

- **Ministry for Maritime Affairs and Investment of the Republic of Indonesia** *Salon Caribe 1*
Scaling Up Blue Carbon Actions through Partnerships
- **Central American Commission for Environment and Development (CCAD)** *Salon Caribe 2*
Managing our coastal-marine resources with an approach from the basin to the sea and preventing pollution in the seas of Central America and the Caribbean, involving relevant stakeholders
- **Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF)** *Salon Caribe 3*
Sustainable blue economies in island and low-lying countries and communities - Enabling factors and international partnership
- **Benioff Ocean Science Laboratory|Marea Verde Panama | Coca-Cola** *Salon Caribe 4*
Tangible and tested solutions that turn off the tap of plastics reaching the ocean
- **Plastic Oceans** *Salon Caribe 5*
Impact of Fishing Gear on marine life and local communities
- **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)** *Salon Pacifico 1*
Latin American Economic Outlook 2022: Towards a green and just transition
- **European Union (EU)** *Salon Pacifico 2*
Copernicus Program and the Protection of Our Oceans
- **World Bank Group** *Salon Caribe 1*
Catalyzing investment in seaweed aquaculture and discussing key messages from a forthcoming new World Bank Global Seaweed Market study
- **SkyTruth** *Salon Caribe 2*
From Data to Action: Revealing and Addressing the Impacts of Offshore Oil and Gas Production on the Ocean and Climate
- **Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)** *Salon Caribe 3*
Coastal fisheries and 30x30 for people and nature: biodiversity conservation and sustainable use led by Indigenous Peoples and local fishing communities
- **The Stimson Center** *Salon Caribe 4*
Strengthening Climate Resilience in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and coastal Least Developed Countries (LDCs)
- **Global Fund for Coral Reefs** *Salon Caribe 5*
Future of Reefs Innovative Finance Solutions to Increase the Resilience of Coral Reefs and their Guardian Communities
- **ProPanama** *Salon Pacifico 1*
Sustainable Blue Economy
- **Ministry of Environment of Panama | McKinsey & Company** *Salon Pacifico 2*
Panama, implementation Strategy for 30x30
- **The Shark Conservation Fund (SCF)** *Salon Caribe 1*
Maximizing the Impact: Prioritizing Shark Management in 30x30 Initiatives
- **Interamerican Association for Environmental Defense (AIDA)** *Salon Caribe 2*
From Palau to Panama: the growing momentum for a halt to deep-sea mining
- **International Maritime Organization (IMO)** *Salon Caribe 3*
Supporting Blue Economies through Sustainable Maritime Transport (BE SMART): Building Global Partnerships to address Climate Change and Marine Pollution through IMO's Voyage Together Initiative
- **National Ocean Protection Coalition (NOPC)** *Salon Caribe 4*
The Culture of Conservation: Understanding the Integrated Indigenous Relationship between People, Culture, and Place
- **United States Agency for International Development (USAID)** *Salon Caribe 5*
Working with Cities - Building Capacity to Address Ocean Plastic Pollution and Transition to a More Circular Economy
- **Chile|Ministry of Foreign Affairs** *Salon Pacifico 1*
Pacific Marine Corridor: strategic opportunity for ocean conservation
- **German Federal Ministry for the Environment (ZUG)** *Salon Pacifico 2*
Preventing Marine Litter: An Interactive Event on Reuse, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and Sustainable Plastic Substitutes

4 | Side Events

Friday 3 March 2023

- **Office of Ocean and Polar Affairs | United States Department of State** *Salon Caribe 3*
Decarbonizing Shipping: A Pathway to Achieve the Paris Climate Goals and Promote Sustainable Blue and Green Economies
- **MigraMar** *Salon Caribe 1*
Advancing Marine Conservation in the Eastern Pacific Marine Corridor Through Science and Collaboration
- **University of Washington|Nippon Foundation Ocean Nexus Center** *Salon Caribe 2*
Towards an Equitable Approach to Marine
- **National Audubon Society (NAS)** *Salon Caribe 4*
Mangrove ecosystem conservation - blue carbon synergies in Latin American and the Caribbean
- **UNEP|Caribbean Biological Corridor (CBC)|Cartagena Convention Secretariat** *Salon Caribe 5*
Regional and Sub-Regional Cooperation for improving oceans governance in the Wider Caribbean Region - Cartagena Convention and Caribbean Biological Corridor
- **World Economic Forum** *Salon Pacifico 1*
Launch of the Global Sustainable Aquaculture Roadmap: Charting a Course for Sector Transformation
- **Charles Darwin Foundation (CDF)** *Salon Pacifico 2*
Coastal Ocean Marine Biosecurity Integrated Network for the Americas (COMBINA)
- **Galapagos Conservation Trust** *Salon Caribe 1*
5 years of Plastic Pollution research in the Galapagos Islands - from Science to Solutions
- **Walton Family Foundation (WFF)** *Salon Caribe 2*
Por la Pesca: How Cross-sector Collaboration Is Helping to Drive Legal and Responsible Artisanal Fisheries in Peru and Ecuador
- **World Resources Institute** *Salon Caribe 3*
Sustainable, Regenerative and Resilient Coastal and Marine Tourism as the Foundation of Sustainable Ocean Economies
- **RARE** *Salon Caribe 4*
Local Governments and Small-Scale Fisheries: Fostering Partnership for Co-Management
- **MarViva** *Salon Caribe 5*
Ecological and socioeconomic sustainability through integrated Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) encompassing jurisdictional waters and the High Seas
- **Global Ocean Accounts Partnership (University of NSW SDR Hub)** *Salon Pacifico 1*
Ocean Accounts: Setting the Foundation for Sustainable Blue Economies
- **Minderoo Foundation** *Salon Pacifico 2*
Increasing oversight of fishing vessels by their flag states - considerations for a reform agenda
- **Blue Nature Alliance** *Salon Caribe 1*
A sustainable Blue Caribbean advancing opportunities towards unlocking new and effective large-scale ocean protection in the Caribbean by 2030
- **Ocean Conservancy** *Salon Caribe 2*
Gigawatt Dreams to Reality: Realizing the global potential of offshore wind to avert a climate crisis
- **Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (NOAA)** *Salon Caribe 3*
Enhancing the Climate Readiness of MPAs: Tools to integrate climate change resilience and adaptation into MPA planning Plastic Pollution
- **Development Bank of Latin America (CAF)** *Salon Caribe 4*
CAF Strategic Ocean Vision for Latin America and Caribbean Countries
- **OSPESCA** *Salon Caribe 5*
Guidelines of the Blue Growth Strategy of the Countries of the Integration System Central America (ERCA)
- **Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)** *Salon Pacifico 1*
The Asia-Africa Blue Tech Superhighway: Boosting climate-resilient, nature-positive aquatic food production
- **PACÍFICO | Re:Wild, Bezos Foundation | WildAid | Fundación Natura** *Salon Pacifico 2*
Partner organizations: Re:Wild | Bezos Foundation | WildAid | Fundación Natura





Our **Ocean**
Our **Connection**



Our Ocean Conference 2023

2-3 March 2023

#OurOceanPanama

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