



## Treasure Trove



Explore a collection of presentations, ocean videos, music, art and poetry, games and puzzles, ocean and climate stories, reports, and other publications from around the world, and other finds from the **Program, Videos, and Resources** tabs of the Virtual Ocean Pavilion navigation bar.

### *Final Edition of the COP28 Treasure Trove*

The COP28 and COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion formally ended with closing events on December 12, 2023. This Treasure Trove edition will summarize COP28 ocean-related decisions with a particular focus on the final outcomes of COP28.

### COP28 Final Agreement and Notable Outcomes



The 28th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP28) held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, ended on 13 December 2023. The conference operationalized the [Loss and Damage Fund](#), which was established by COP27 in 2022, and

concluded the first global stocktake of climate action under the Paris Agreement. A [decision](#) calling for accelerated short-term action and an orderly transition away from fossil fuels towards climate-neutral energy systems, the first-ever UNFCCC COP decision to address fossil fuels, was adopted. The parties also adopted a [framework](#) for the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) with 2030 targets for all parties to conduct assessments, adopt and implement adaptation plans and policy instruments, and set up monitoring and systems for their national adaptation efforts.

The landmark COP28 final agreement, which came out early in the morning of December 13, notably included a call for “transitioning away from fossil fuels in energy systems, in a just, orderly and equitable manner,” which signals what some are calling the “beginning of the end” of the fossil fuel area. This is the first explicit request for countries to move away from the burning of fossil fuels by the United Nations. Dan Jorgensen, Denmark’s Minister for Climate and Energy, noted the significance of this message being issued in Dubai, a global leader in oil and gas production, saying “We’re standing here in an oil country, surrounded by oil countries, and we made the decision saying let’s move away from oil and gas.”

Critics of this year’s COP28 agreement have maintained that it does not go far enough. Anne Rasmussen, the representative for Samoa, noted that the agreement was finalized while 39 Small Island States were not in the room. She further stated that the agreement “made an incremental advancement over business as usual, when what we really need is an exponential step change in our actions.”

Nations will have two years to submit formal plans to curb greenhouse gas emissions through 2035, guided by the COP28 final agreement. While this agreement is not legally binding, it marks a critical shift in the global discussion of oil, gas, and coal that many are calling the beginning of the end for fossil fuels.

The [global stocktake](#), considered the central outcome of COP28, is a multi-year effort to assess progress on action to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement. Every element that was under negotiation is included in the stocktake, and it can now be used by countries to develop stronger climate action plans due by 2025. The stocktake calls on Parties to take actions towards achieving a tripling of renewable energy capacity and doubling energy efficiency improvements by 2030. The list also includes accelerating efforts towards the phase-down of unabated coal power, phasing out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, and, as mentioned earlier, other measures that drive the transition away from fossil fuels in energy systems. These actions should be undertaken in a just, orderly, and equitable manner with developed countries continuing to take the lead.

Other notable outcomes of COP28 include: provisions to help countries strengthen resilience to the effects of climate change with agreed targets for the Global Goal on Adaptation; increasing

climate finance, particularly for developing countries, with nearly US\$188 million pledged to the Adaptation Fund; the launch of the roadmap of 2030 Climate Solutions by the High-Level Champions under the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action; and efforts to increase transparency with transparency reporting and review tools showcased and tested at COP28. Progress on the [2030 Breakthroughs](#) included the launch of new breakthroughs on methane reduction in the oil and gas sector, electrification, decarbonization of the cement and concrete industry, and the buildings breakthrough aimed at climate-resilience buildings with near zero emissions. Breakthroughs relating to nature-based climate action, including forests, mangroves, and oceans were endorsed by Parties and stakeholders during COP28. Parties agreed to Azerbaijan as host of COP29 from 11-22 November 2024 and Brazil as host of COP30 from 10-21 November 2025.

### COP28 Event Recordings



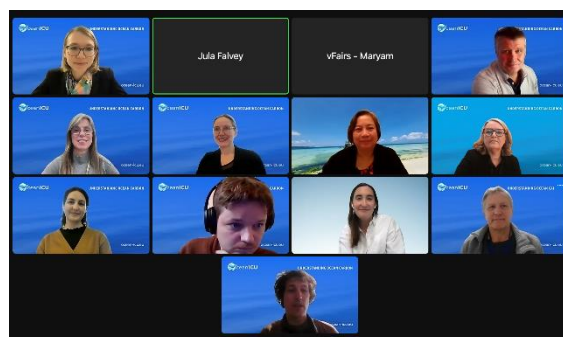
During COP28, over 70,000 delegates came together and attended hundreds of events at the climate conference in Dubai. Recordings of COP28 side events are now available on the [COP28 Calendar](#). Search the event name to access recordings from plenary talks, side events, press conferences, Global Climate Action events, and more. View a recording of the official side event ***Investing in Ocean Nature-based Solutions to Mitigate and Adapt to Climate Change***, co-organized by the International Coastal and Ocean Organization/Global Ocean Forum, Government of Chile, and Urban Coast Institute of Monmouth University, [here](#). Event photo courtesy of Sarah Davidson, Global Ocean Forum.

### Closing Events of the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion



On December 12, the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion held two final events: ***Managing and Protecting Ocean Spaces for Climate, Biodiversity and People by 2030*** and ***COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion High-Level Closing Event: Climate Change and the BBNJ Agreement***. These events were part of a series of eight live events held during the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion. On-demand viewing of all COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion events is available on the Pavilion Agenda page until January 12<sup>th</sup>, after which the recordings will be made available on the [Global Ocean Forum's YouTube channel](#).

### ***Managing and Protecting Ocean Spaces for Climate***



How should we manage and protect ocean spaces to address the climate and biodiversity crises by 2030? Management of ocean spaces is essential for reversing and adapting to the biodiversity and climate crises. This event included a panel discussion of challenges and opportunities for marine protected areas and marine spatial planning to address the biodiversity and climate crises, the role of ocean carbon in the Global Stocktake, and implications for science, policy, management, and capacity building. The panel, moderated by Dr. Pernille Schnoor, included Professor Mary S. Wisz, Dr. Richard Sanders, Dr. Marinez Scherer, Dr. Patrick Lehodey, Dr. Fabio Berzaghi, and Dr. Natalya Gallo.

### ***COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion High-Level Closing Event: Climate Change and the BBNJ Agreement***



This closing event of the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion discussed the collaborative and cooperative approaches that are being used to progress the ocean in the climate, biodiversity, and sustainable development agendas. The adoption of the new [BBNJ Agreement](#) in June and its subsequent signing by over 80 countries provides an opportunity to explore the mitigation and adaptation potential of the vast high seas, along with its ecosystems and resources. The panel discussions explored this potential within the context of a wide array of international bodies with respective governance arrangements that need to be harmonized.

The panel discussion was divided into three parts. Part 1, moderated by Mr. Tony MacDonald, discussed national and regional perspectives on climate and the BBNJ Agreement. Panelists included HE Ms. Rena Lee, Rt Hon Lord Benyon, Mr. Kestutis Sadauskas, Ms. Darcy DeMarisco, and Mr. Fuad Bateh. While discussing what the next steps should be now that the BBNJ Agreement is adopted, HE Ms. Rena Lee shared an apt metaphor, saying “What’s next after the ship reaches the shore? . . . We need to reprovision the ship so that it can set sail again in order for us to be able do what we say we want to do.” The interdependency of ocean and climate, ocean-based mitigation and adaptation, and the role the BBNJ Agreement must play in achieving the global 30x30 and other relevant targets emerged as key discussion points.

Part 2, moderated by Dr. Indumathie Hewawasam, discussed global and civil society perspectives on climate and the BBNJ Agreement. Panelists included Dr. Vladimir Ryabinin, Dr. Vladimir James, Dr. Vera Agostini, Ms. Isabelle Vanderbeck, and Ms. Kristina Gjerde. Initiatives discussed during the panel included the UN [Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development](#) and the Common Ocean Program’s [Cross-sectoral Project](#). Panelists highlighted strategies to support the ratification and implementation of the BBNJ Agreement and included perspectives from DOALOS as the Interim Secretariat of the BBNJ Agreement, opportunities to foster an ecosystem approach for climate-resilient and sustainable fisheries, and reconfiguring civil society’s role towards early action and ratification of the BBNJ Agreement.

Part 3 served as the official closing of the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion. Ms. Thecla Keizer discussed how the Pavilion provided access to the COP for those not able to join in person; this year’s pavilion had over 1,200 registrants from 112 countries. These participants were able to join eight live events of the virtual pavilion and visit 12 exhibition booths featuring activities and initiatives in the field of ocean and climate from around the world. Additional features of the pavilion included an overview of COP28 Ocean Events, on-location reporting and a COP28 interview, a chance to earn certificates for ocean knowledge, a Treasure Trove of ocean-themed events, stories, and art, and much more. The pavilion will be open until January 12, 2024, and is free to access. Dr. Miriam Balgos formally closed the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion after thanking all attendees, participants, and collaborating partners for their interest, attendance, feedback, questions, and contributions to the Pavilion.



## ***December 12<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Treasure Trove***

### **Highlights from COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion Exhibits**

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### ***Adapting Coastal Cities to Sea Level Rise: Recommendations and Leading Practices***



The Ocean & Climate Platform (OCP) launched the [Sea'ties initiative](#) to support cities' adaptation to sea level rise. After collecting the expertise of 230+ practitioners across [Northern Europe](#), the [Mediterranean](#), [North America](#), [West Africa](#) and the Pacific, the OCP released its "[Policy Recommendations for Coastal Cities to Adapt to Sea Level Rise](#)" now backed by 80 organizations engaged across the five continent. Intended for local, national, regional and international decision-makers they highlight four priority actions to accelerate sustainable adaptation: solutions, social justice, knowledge, and finance. Visit their [COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion exhibit](#) to review the policy recommendations and learn more about the many ongoing Sea'ties initiatives.

## Updates from COP28

### *Investing in Ocean Nature-based Solutions to Mitigate and Adapt to Climate Change*



On December 10<sup>th</sup>, the International Coastal and Ocean Organization/Global Ocean Forum, Government of Chile, and Urban Coast Institute of Monmouth University hosted an official side event on ***Investing in Ocean Nature-based Solutions to Mitigate and Adapt to Climate Change***. We invite you to view the event's on-demand video [here](#). Event photos courtesy of Sarah Davidson, Global Ocean Forum.



### *Celebrating the Adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework*



During the COP28 [event](#) ***From Agreement to Action: Harnessing 30x30 to tackle Climate Change*** held on 9 Dec 09:00-10:30 GST, governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, civil society, and private sector actors came together to celebrate the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Event discussion included examining how governments are delivering on their commitment to conserve, protect, and restore at least 30% of the planet's land and ocean by 2030; analysis of overall progress towards the implementation of the Framework; and ideas on how to accelerate progress on the mobilization of US\$200 billion per year for biodiversity funding by 2030 and at least US\$20 billion per year in international biodiversity finance by 2025. Photo courtesy of the [official X account of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity](#).

### ***Nature First: From Land to Ocean, Our Best Ally for Climate Action***



This [event](#), organized on Nature, Lands and Oceans Day by the Marrakech Partnership on Land Use and Ocean & Coastal Zones, the High Level Climate Champions, the Ocean & Climate Platform, FAO and IUCN, showcased initiatives across land and ocean spearheaded by non-state actors to reverse biodiversity decline by 2030, increase ecosystem and human resilience to climate change, and achieve a sustainable balance within planetary boundaries. The final segment, moderated by Shamini Selvaratnam, Ocean Conservancy, focused on solutions to support ocean conservation and coastal resilience, in connection to the Ocean Breakthroughs. Expert panelists discussed food security in the context of a changing climate and ocean. While acknowledging a large challenge ahead, conversation focused on actions that can be taken now to identify risks and promote resilient seafood. Photo courtesy of the [official X account of the International Alliance to Combat Ocean Acidification](#).



## ***Powering Ocean Breakthroughs with 100% Sustainable Ocean Management***



The Ocean and Climate Platform, High-Level Climate Champions, Ocean Panel, and COP28 hosts convened the Ocean High Level [Event](#) ***Powering Ocean Breakthroughs with 100% Sustainable Ocean Management***, which included two panel discussions. The first panel focused on efforts to develop Sustainable Ocean Plans and achieve the Ocean Breakthroughs. The second panel showcased leadership from non-State Actors to support the ocean breakthroughs. Learn more about this event and follow the discussion on [X](#). Photo courtesy of the [Ocean and Climate Platform X account](#).

## **Final COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion Events**

On December 12<sup>th</sup>, the final day of COP28, join the Virtual Ocean Pavilion for two live events to wrap up the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion.



**Managing and Protecting Ocean Spaces for Climate, Biodiversity and People by 2030.** How should we manage and protect ocean spaces to address the climate and biodiversity crises by 2030? Join the discussion and share your ideas on December 12<sup>th</sup> from 15:00 – 16:30 GST. Management of ocean spaces is essential for reversing and adapting to the biodiversity and climate crises. The panel will discuss challenges and opportunities for marine protected areas and marine spatial planning to address the biodiversity and climate crises, the role of ocean carbon in the Global Stocktake, and implications for science, policy, management, and capacity building.



## COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion Interview with Maria Brown



The [first interview](#) in a series of youth-led conversations with COP28 Party negotiators and key stakeholders to provide a better insight on COP28, the negotiations, civil society activities, and other on-location news is now available for viewing on the [Global Ocean Forum's YouTube Channel](#). These interviews are the result of a partnership between the Global Ocean Forum, the World Ocean Network, Youth & Environment Europe and the Youth4Ocean Forum, and are designed to create opportunities for interested youth and early career ocean professionals at COP28. This interview of Maria Brown, Superintendent at Greater Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries, was conducted by Emma Pagliarusco, Advocacy Coordinator, Youth and Environment Europe, on 9 December 2023, at the Ocean Pavilion, during the UNFCCC COP28, Dubai.

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## ***December 9<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Treasure Trove***

### **Highlights from COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion Exhibits**

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### ***IAEA Ocean Acidification International Coordination Centre (OA-ICC)***



The [International Atomic Energy Agency](#) (IAEA) [Ocean Acidification International Coordination Centre \(OA-ICC\)](#) promotes international collaboration on [ocean acidification](#). The OA-ICC organizes training courses in Member States and provides access to data and resources to advance ocean acidification research. The Centre promotes the development of data portals, standardized methodology and best practices. Visit their [exhibit booth](#) to learn more about the many resources OA-ICC provides for the ocean acidification community, including a daily [news stream](#) with relevant scientific literature, a [data portal](#) containing biological response to ocean acidification datasets, and a [bibliographic database](#) of ocean acidification literature.

## **Updates from COP28**

### ***Additional Signatory for the BBNJ Agreement***



During the COP28 proceedings, Vanuatu became the 84<sup>th</sup> country to sign the [BBNJ Agreement](#). UN member states formally adopted the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Agreement in June 2023 to safeguard biodiversity in and ensure sustainable use of marine areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ), which cover roughly half of the planet. Provisions of the treaty include procedures to establish large-scale marine protected areas, sharing of benefits from marine genetic resources, guidelines for environmental impact assessments, and capacity building and the transfer of marine technology. Photo courtesy of the [official X account for the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Vanuatu to the United Nations](#).

***From Principles to Practice: Building a Resilient Blue Economy for Ocean Health and Climate Resilience***



Members of the Global Ocean Forum COP28 delegation attended the panel ***From Principles to Practice: Building a Resilient Blue Economy for Ocean Health and Climate Resilience*** on December 8<sup>th</sup> in the India Pavilion. During the discussion, panelist Dr. Kumar shared a poignant quote regarding the importance of the ocean: ***“It is said we know more about the surface of the moon than about the ocean, though the livelihood of millions does not depend on the moon the way it does on the ocean.”*** See photos from this panel and other COP28 events below.

***Photos from COP28***

Members of the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion team are attending the conference in-person and will be sharing photos from the many engaging events, booths, and displays. See some of the highlights from the first week of the conference below.

Bottom right photo courtesy of Sarah Davidson, Global Ocean Forum. All other photos courtesy of Indumathie Hewawasam, Global Ocean Forum Board Director.





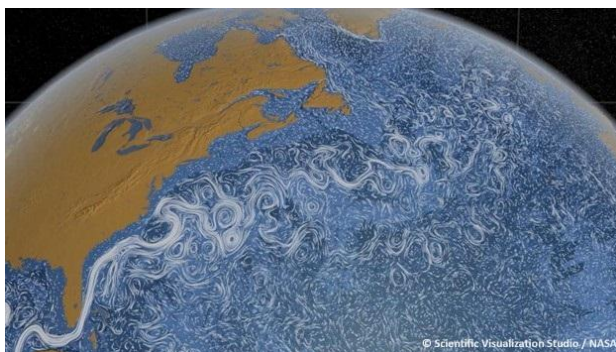
## Upcoming COP28 Ocean Events

***Nature First: From Land to Ocean, Our Best Ally for Climate Action***



For the first time, the Marrakech Partnership on Ocean & Coastal Zones will team up with their counterpart from Land Use to organize a joint Action Event at COP28 on December 9<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 – 12:30 GST at Arena 1 (Al Hur). The event will showcase remarkable initiatives across land and ocean spearheaded by a multiplicity of non-state actors to reverse biodiversity decline by 2030, increase ecosystem and human resilience to climate change, and achieve a sustainable balance within planetary boundaries. Discover the program [here](#) and register for the event [here](#).

### ***Investing in Ocean Nature-based Solutions to Mitigate and Adapt to Climate Change***



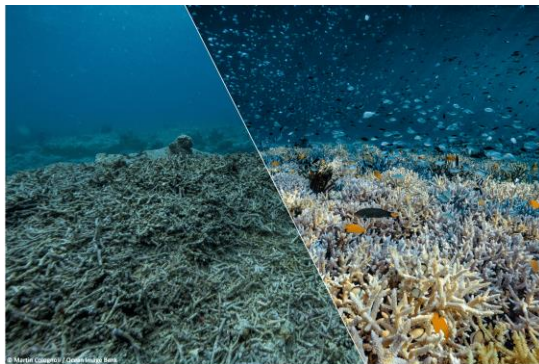
Join the International Coastal and Ocean Organization (ICO)/Global Ocean Forum (GOF), Government of Chile, and Urban Coast Institute of Monmouth University on December 10<sup>th</sup> from 18:30 – 20:00 GST in SE Room 1 for a COP28 official side event focused on nature-based solutions to climate change (see event brief [here](#)). This in-person event will showcase how national/international partnerships: 1) promote mitigation and adaptation through MPAs and other ocean nature-based solutions; and 2) foster investments on ocean nature-based solutions. Speakers include, among others, Gonzalo Guaiquil, Foreign Affairs, Chile; Richard Spinrad, US NOAA; Nathalie Hilmi, Monaco Science Center; and Tony MacDonald, UCI-Monmouth University. Watch this [vignette](#) from Tony MacDonald, UCI-Monmouth University Director and GOF Board Director, for a preview of what's in store at this timely and engaging event.

### ***Daily Updates for COP28 Ocean Events***

Visit the Lobby of the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion to view a list of [COP28 Ocean Events](#). Upcoming events in the second half of COP28 include [The Future is Blue: Innovation for Coral Reef Future](#) and [Te Ara Moana Blue Climate Innovation Hubs in the Pacific Islands](#) on December 9<sup>th</sup>; [Solutions that Scale: Harnessing Catalytic Capital to Finance a New Blue Economy](#) on December 10<sup>th</sup>; [Infinity Fish: The Climate Implications of the Future of Fish and Fisheries](#) and [Synthesizing COP28 Ocean Outcomes to Direct Youth Action](#) on December 11<sup>th</sup>; and [2030 Seagrass Breakthrough Dialogue](#) on December 12<sup>th</sup>, the final day of COP28.

## Upcoming COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion Events

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**COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion High-Level Closing Event: Climate Change and the BBNJ Agreement.** The closing event of the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion will take place on December 12<sup>th</sup> from 17:00 – 18:30 GST. A high-level panel will discuss the collaborative and cooperative approaches that are being used to progress the ocean in the climate, biodiversity, and sustainable development agendas. Experts will examine the opportunity provided by the adoption of the new BBNJ Agreement in June and its signing by over 80 countries in September to explore the mitigation and adaptation potential of the vast high seas, along with its ecosystems and resources. The session will conclude with a review of the role and success of



this COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion in engaging and reaching out to those not able to attend COP28 in person.

**On-demand viewing of COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion events is available on the Pavilion Agenda page.**

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## ***December 7<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Treasure Trove***

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### ***High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy***

The [High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy \(Ocean Panel\)](#) is a unique global initiative by world leaders across 18 countries working together to catalyze and implement ocean solutions around the world. The latest Ocean Panel-commissioned report, [The Ocean as a Solution to Climate Change: Updated Opportunities for Action](#), shows that actionable ocean-based climate solution can deliver up to 35% of the annual emission cuts needed in 2050 to limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C. Visit the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion [exhibit booth](#) to watch a [video summary](#) of this report and dive into the ambitious ocean action agenda of this ocean policy body.



## Updates from COP28

### *COP28 Day of Rest*



In the midst of a busy COP28 agenda, December 7<sup>th</sup> serves as an official day of rest for attendees. This marks the halfway point of the conference and serves as a chance for delegates to reflect and recharge ahead of the second week of the conference. The Virtual Ocean Pavilion team is looking ahead to December 9<sup>th</sup>, the conference day with a thematic program focused on “Nature, Land Use, and Ocean”. Keep reading to learn more about the exciting ocean events to come!

## Upcoming COP28 Ocean Events

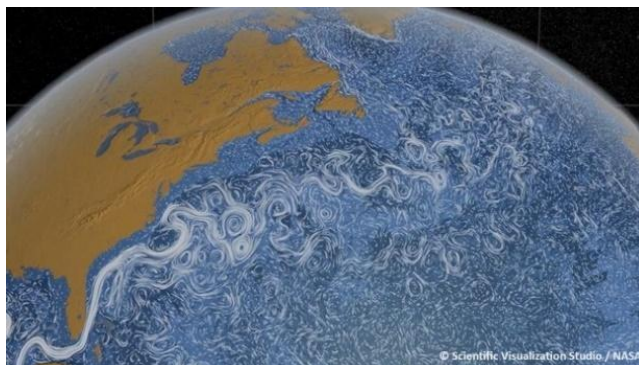
### *Nature First: From Land to Ocean, Our Best Ally for Climate Action*



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## ***Investing in Ocean Nature-based Solutions to Mitigate and Adapt to Climate Change***



Join the International Coastal and Ocean Organization (ICO)/Global Ocean Forum (GOF), Government of Chile, and Urban Coast Institute of Monmouth University on December 10<sup>th</sup> from 18:30 – 20:00 GST in SE Room 1 for a COP28 official side event focused on nature-based solutions to climate change (see event brief [here](#)). This in-person event will showcase how national/international partnerships: 1) promote mitigation and adaptation through MPAs and other ocean nature-based solutions; and 2) foster investments on ocean nature-based solutions. Speakers include, among others, Gonzalo Guaiquil, Foreign Affairs, Chile; Richard Spinrad, US NOAA; Nathalie Hilmi, Monaco Science Center; and Tony MacDonald, UCI-Monmouth University. Watch this [vignette](#) from Tony MacDonald, UCI-Monmouth University Director and GOF Board Director, for a preview of what’s in store at this timely and engaging event.

### ***Daily Updates for COP28 Ocean Events***

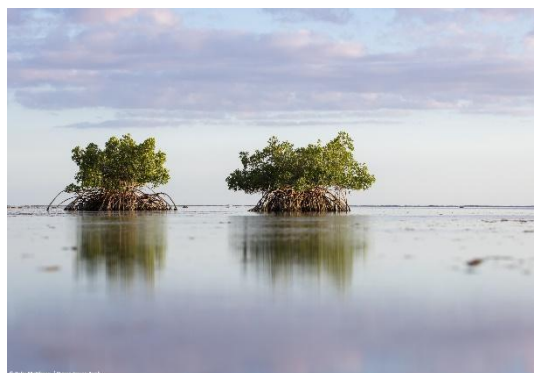
Visit the Lobby of the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion to view a list of [COP28 Ocean Events](#). Upcoming events in the second half of COP28 include [The Rise of Ocean Governance](#) and [Full Steam Ahead: Women’s Leadership in Ocean Science](#) on December 8<sup>th</sup>; [The Future is Blue: Innovation for Coral Reef Future](#) and [Te Ara Moana Blue Climate Innovation Hubs in the Pacific Islands](#) on December 9<sup>th</sup>; [Solutions that Scale: Harnessing Catalytic Capital to Finance a New Blue Economy](#) on December 10<sup>th</sup>; [Infinity Fish: The Climate Implications of the Future of Fish and Fisheries](#) and [Synthesizing COP28 Ocean Outcomes to Direct Youth Action](#) on December 11<sup>th</sup>; and [2030 Seagrass Breakthrough Dialogue](#) on December 12<sup>th</sup>, the final day of COP28.

## Upcoming COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion Events

**December 8<sup>th</sup>**



**Connecting Generations for Ocean and Climate Action.** As the impact of climate change becomes more concrete and eco-anxiety among the youth is rising, there is an urgent need to foster transgenerational cooperation and develop modern ocean / climate literacy tools that will accelerate societal transformations needed to address climate change. Join this event on December 8<sup>th</sup> from 13:00 – 14:30 GST for a youth initiated transgenerational workshop which is the first step of a global consultation by the Youth4Ocean Forum. Through a collective intelligence methodology, young people and senior experts will identify major youth concerns and existing practical solutions to respond to the climate challenges facing the youth. The results will feed a modern ocean literacy tool that will empower its users by providing them with reliable information and good practice to take ocean and climate action.



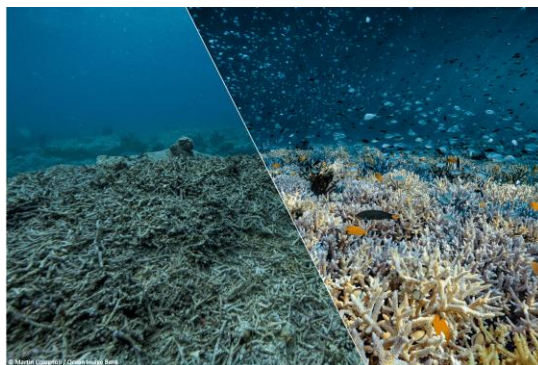
**Advancing the Coral & Mangrove Breakthroughs.** On December 8<sup>th</sup> from 15:00 – 16:30 GST, the Global Fund for Coral Reefs (GFCR), along with the Global Mangrove Alliance (GMA), the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the High-Level Climate Champions (HLCC), aim to present the Coral Reef Breakthrough and the Mangrove Breakthrough agendas

and targets to the public audience including policymakers, experts, practitioners and leaders from the public, private, and academic sectors. The event will feature high-level speakers (including state representatives and Climate Champions) and globally renowned scientists to hold panel discussions on key issues related to coral reef and mangrove conservation and restoration to accelerate awareness on and support to the Breakthroughs and leverage the public engagement to promote climate action. The event will conclude with a high-level Call To Action.



**Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) Role in Meeting Climate Change Goals: Investigating and Protecting Blue Carbon in MPAs.** Nature is at the heart of climate action. This event aims to provide evidence to national and international policy makers on the role MPAs can play to conserve biodiversity, mitigate climate change, and to adapt to climate change in order to inform and promote the role of MPAs as nature-based solutions to meet Nationally Determined Contributions. Protecting and restoring blue carbon habitats will be necessary to global climate change targets. This session will share methodologies to assess blue carbon habitats, blue carbon habitat restoration case studies, and methodologies to understand existing protection and potential gaps. Be sure to tune into this discussion on December 8<sup>th</sup> from 17:00-18:30 GST.

***December 12<sup>th</sup>***



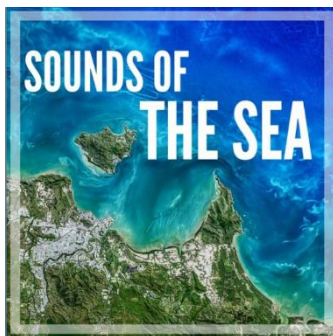
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2030? Join the discussion and share your ideas on December 12<sup>th</sup> from 15:00 – 16:30 GST. Management of ocean spaces is essential for reversing and adapting to the biodiversity and climate crises. The panel will discuss challenges and opportunities for marine protected areas and marine spatial planning to address the biodiversity and climate crises, the role of ocean carbon in the Global Stocktake, and implications for science, policy, management, and capacity building.



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### **Sounds of the Sea by NASA**



NASA's "[Sounds of the Sea](#)" project is touted as a symphonic tour of the ocean designed to provide a moment of zen. During the official rest day of a packed COP28, listen to this playlist and immerse yourself in the sonification of the Coral Sea, Indian Ocean, Rio de la Plata, and the Bering Sea. Originally recorded by a variety of ocean scientists for World Oceans Day in 2022, this playlist is available on [NASA's Soundcloud page](#).



## December 6<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Treasure Trove

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### Mangrove and Coral Reef Breakthroughs



Both the Mangrove and Coral Reef Breakthroughs are part of the [2030 Breakthroughs](#). The [Coral Reef Breakthrough](#) aims to secure the future of at least 125,000 km<sup>2</sup> of shallow-water tropical coral reefs with investments of at least US\$12 billion to support the resilience of more than half a billion people globally by 2030. [The Mangrove Breakthrough](#) aims to mobilize US \$4 billion to secure the future of 15 million hectares of mangroves globally by 2030, through collective action to halt loss, restore half of recent losses, double protection, and ensure sustainable finance for all existing mangroves. Visit the Mangrove and Coral Reef Breakthroughs [exhibit booth](#) to review the breakthrough agendas and learn how you can contribute to international efforts to preserve these critical ecosystems.

### Updates from COP28

#### Global Cooling Pledge Announced

The [Global Cooling Pledge](#) was announced during the Energy, Industry and Just Transition Day (5 December) by the COP28 President-Designate Dr Sultan Al Jaber and the UNEP Executive Director, Inger Andersen. Over 60 countries signed the pledge, which targets a 68% reduction in global cooling emissions by 2050. Achieving the Global Cooling Pledge targets would cut emissions by approximately 78 billion tons of CO<sub>2</sub>. Photo courtesy of the official [COP28 UAE X account](#).





**Watch the COP28 Ocean Events from December 5<sup>th</sup>**



Visit the [Ocean Pavilion YouTube channel](#) to watch recordings of the December 5<sup>th</sup> ocean events at COP28. Highlights include [Coral Action in a Sustainable Blue Economy Framework](#), [Confluence: Bridging the Ocean and Freshwater for Collective Science and Solutions](#), and [Collaboration Towards a Regional Pacific Pathway for a Resilient Ocean and Peoples](#).

### **Upcoming Ocean Events at COP28**

***Sea'ties: At the Frontline of Coastal Adaptation***



Sea-level rise projections conceal many uncertainties, including time scales or regional variations. Yet, up to a billion people could be living in coastal cities at risk from sea-level rise and its impacts (e.g., salinization, flooding, erosion) by 2050. This side event of the [Ocean Pavilion](#) will address the pillars of sustainable coastal adaptation for cities: knowledge, solutions, equity, and finance. Experts will share good practices from regional perspectives, as well as challenges and ways forward. Join the event organized by the [Ocean & Climate Platform](#) in-person at COP28 at the Main Theater from 11AM-12PM GST or view the [live stream](#) on the [Ocean Pavilion YouTube channel](#). Visit the Sea'Ties exhibit at the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion *Adapting Coastal Cities to Sea Level Rise: Recommendations and Leading Practices* [here](#).

***Daily Updates for COP28 Ocean Events***

Visit the Lobby of the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion to view a list of [COP28 Ocean Events](#). Upcoming events on December 6<sup>th</sup> include [Nordic Green Sailing](#), [Investing in the Blue Economy for a Better Future](#), and [Ocean Negative Carbon Emissions and the Mitigation of Climate Change among others](#).

## Dive into an Interactive Underwater Adventure



Visit the [Smithsonian's Learning Lab](#) to explore the hidden treasures of a coral reef in the [Secrets of the Sea](#) online interactive exhibit. From the tiniest plants to the largest hunters, discover the connections between the creatures in a coral reef. Recreate a healthy ecosystem by finding living things and returning them to the coral reef. This activity takes approximately 30 minutes to complete and includes closed captioning.

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## *December 5<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Treasure Trove*

### Highlights from COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion Exhibits

Each edition of the Treasure Trove will include highlights from our very own COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion Exhibit Hall to spotlight the amazing work our partners are doing. Keep an eye on the Treasure Trove for these exciting updates and be sure to dive in and explore these exhibits yourself!



### *Ocean Observing to Address Climate Change, Human Health and Food Security*



The [Partnership for Observation of the Global Ocean \(POGO\)](#) is supporting the development and implementation of a Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) for the benefit of society –

through innovation, capacity development and outreach/advocacy. Visit their [exhibit booth](#) to learn more about their current work, including the [BIOTTA project](#). This effort focuses on developing capacity for ocean acidification monitoring in West Africa in partnership with the Ocean Foundation. The project will provide training and equipment to 6 countries around the Gulf of Guinea to join the Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network (GOA-ON), as the extent and effects of ocean acidification are still poorly understood.

## Updates from COP28

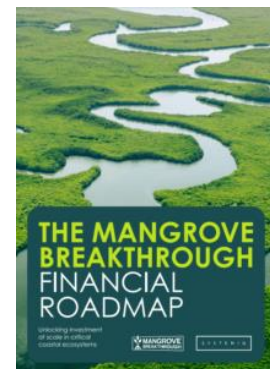
### ***COP28 Gender-Responsive Just Transitions & Climate Action Partnership***



The COP28 Gender-Responsive Just Transitions & Climate Action Partnership launched today and was endorsed by over 60 countries. This partnership aims to mainstream gender in the implementation of the Paris Agreement. Expected actions under the partnership include support for equal opportunities for work in emerging job markets, enabling finance flows to women and girls in climate-impacted regions, and support for the call for gender-aggregated data collection. Follow the discussion on [X](#) to learn more about this important initiative. Photo sourced from the official [COP28 UAE X account](#).

### ***Mangrove Breakthrough Financial Roadmap***

On December 4<sup>th</sup>, the [Global Mangrove Alliance](#) hosted the launch of the [Mangrove Breakthrough Financial Roadmap](#). Co-developed with investors, experts and practitioners, the Roadmap provides actionable recommendations for scaling mangrove-positive business models and developing innovative financial instruments to accelerate investment in mangroves. The event united stakeholders to garner support and action for large-scale capital for mangrove conservation and restoration. Learn more about the Roadmap and read the full report [here](#).



## Upcoming Ocean Events at COP28



Visit the Lobby of the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion to view a list of [COP28 Ocean Events](#). Upcoming events on December 5<sup>th</sup> include the [Collaboration Towards a Regional Pacific Pathway for a Resilient Ocean and Peoples](#), [Rising Seas: Coastal Strategies and Solutions](#) and [Hope House Oceans Day](#), among others.

## Songs of the Earth



Originally presented at COP26, [Songs of the Earth](#) is a climate change animation film and music album that tells a global story, weaving issues from climate migration, extreme weather to ocean pollution, deforestation and sustainable fashion through original narrative, songs and immersive visuals. The film will be screened again at COP28 by the British Council on December 9<sup>th</sup> on the Green Zone Stage. Not able to attend COP28 in-person? The film is also available for viewing on [YouTube](#).

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## *December 4<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Treasure Trove*

### Highlights from COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion Exhibits

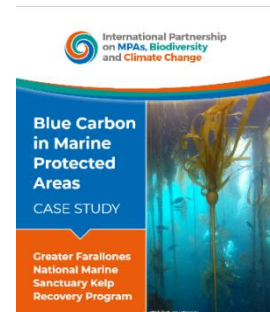
Each edition of the Treasure Trove will include highlights from our very own COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion Exhibit Hall to spotlight the amazing work our partners are doing. Keep an eye on the Treasure Trove for these exciting updates and be sure to dive in and explore these exhibits yourself!





## ***International Partnership on Marine Protected Areas, Biodiversity, and Climate Change***

The International Partnership on MPAs, Biodiversity and Climate Change is an alliance of government agencies and organizations from across the world, working together to progress the evidence base around the role of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and biodiversity in tackling climate change. Visit this [booth](#) to find more information on case studies regarding blue carbon in MPAs and climate-smart MPAs from around the world, including efforts to [bolster the Kelp Recovery Program of the Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary](#).



## **Updates from COP28**

### ***Launch of the COP28 Ocean Pavilion***



On December 2, 2023, the [Ocean Pavilion at COP28](#) officially opened. During the opening event, Bloomberg Philanthropies announced a US\$250 million pledge for the Ocean Resilience and Climate Alliance! The above photo, courtesy of the [Ocean Frontier Institute X account](#), captures the moment of this momentous announcement. The Ocean Pavilion will host over 70 in-person events during COP28 aiming to bring together leading ocean stewards and climate champions from around the world. Live feeds and videos from these events will be made available on the [Ocean Pavilion YouTube channel](#).

### ***UAE Declaration on Climate and Health***





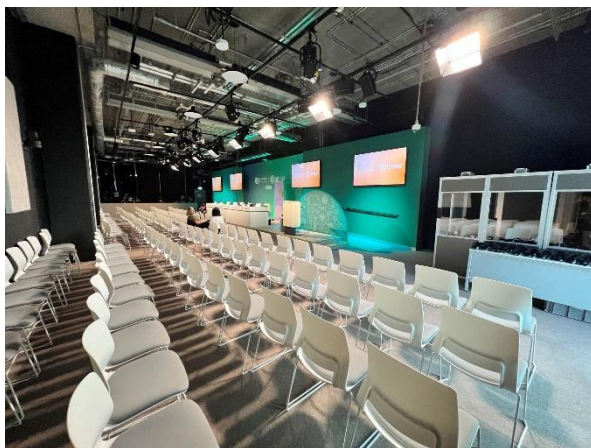
The COP28 Presidency, in partnership with the World Health Organization and UAE Ministry of Health and Prevention, unveiled the 'COP28 UAE Declaration on Climate and Health' to place health at the heart of climate action and accelerate the development of climate-resilient, sustainable and equitable health systems. The UAE Declaration on Climate and Health is now supported by 123 countries with financial commitments totaling over US\$400 million. Learn more about this declaration and its growing support [here](#). The above photo is courtesy of the [COP28 UAE website](#).

### ***In-person Reports from Peter Ricketts***



Peter Ricketts (Canada), Past-President and Vice-Chancellor and Professor of Earth and Environmental Science for Acadia University and Global Ocean Forum Board Director, is a member of the Global Ocean Forum's COP28 delegation. A selection of his reports from COP28 are included below. Please review his complete daily reports [here](#). All photos are courtesy of Peter Ricketts.

***Informal meeting on the 2023 Ocean & Climate Change Dialogue Report.*** The informal meeting was well attended with interventions from the following: Fiji and AOSIS; Singapore; European Union; Australia; United Kingdom; Brazil; the Ocean Conservancy; and the Ocean Pavilion. Attendees expressed general support for the report and its key recommendations and noted growing concern about the need to translate the dialogue into action and mainstream ocean into the UNFCCC. The Global Stocktake (GST) was highlighted as an important way to begin that process, coupled with the fact that 84 countries have included at least one ocean related component in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). GST discussions are held in a separate room at COP28, so it is necessary to ensure that parties at those discussions bring up the importance of incorporating ocean into the GST process.



***Rising Ocean session.*** The Rising Ocean session focused on preparing for the 3rd UN Ocean Conference, which will be held in Nice, France on 4-13 June 2025. There may be an additional One Ocean Science conference in Nice from 4-6 June 2025, which is likely a pre-UN conference session. The session introduced the possibility of a sub-event in San Jose, California in June 2024 prior to the conference.



***High Seas session.*** The High Seas session was all about the drive to ratification of the [BBNJ Agreement](#). As of the time of the session, 84 parties have ratified the Agreement. Parties aim to have full ratification before the 2025 UN Ocean Conference in Nice, France.



***Driving Ocean-Climate Action session.*** The Driving Ocean-Climate Action session included comments regarding the importance of getting oceans firmly into the GST. The upcoming review of NDCs was also highlighted as an opportunity to get more countries to include oceans



in their national policies. Niall O'Dea (Canada) serves as one of the two co-facilitators of the Ocean & Climate Change Dialogue and contributed to discussions during the session.



## ***December 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of the Treasure Trove***

### **Highlights from COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion Exhibits**

Each edition of the Treasure Trove will include highlights from our very own COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion Exhibit Hall to spotlight the amazing work our partners are doing. Keep an eye on the Treasure Trove for these exciting updates and be sure to dive in and explore these exhibits yourself!



### ***Coastal Zone Canada Association***

The Coastal Zone Canada Association (CZCA) is a nationally incorporated non-profit society of coastal zone management professionals committed to promoting Integrated Coastal Zone Management practices in Canada and abroad. Visit their [exhibit](#) to access a summary of the CZC2023 Conference held in Victoria, Canada. Approximately 600 delegates gathered to build a greater connection to the oceans and coastal zone environments while addressing



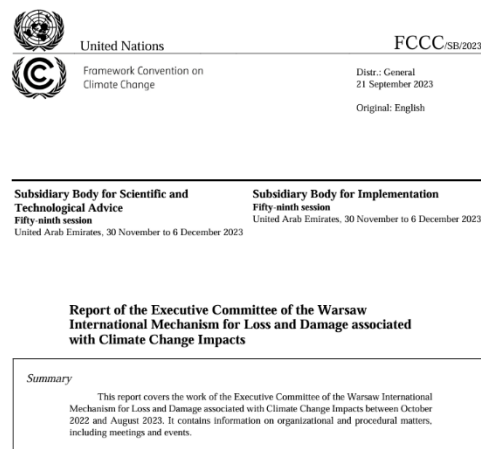
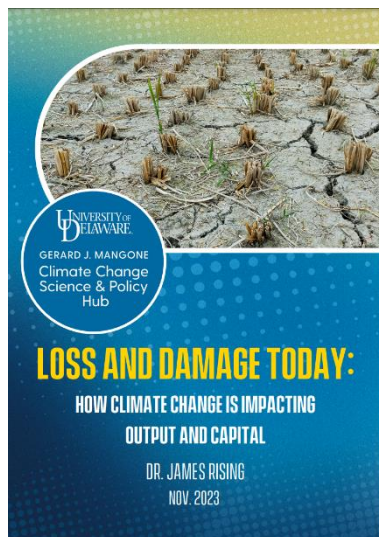
hazards associated with a changing climate and increasing development and resource pressures. The next conference will be held from June 8-11, 2025 in Charlottetown, PEI, Canada.

### **Youth4Ocean Forum**

The Youth4Ocean Forum is a free platform for young ocean changemakers. Initiated by the Directorate-General of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries of the European Commission and facilitated by Youth Environment Europe and Nausicaa, its goal is to empower and connect Europeans aged from 16 to 30 years old to work towards a healthy ocean that sustains us all. Visit their [exhibit](#) to learn more about their actions, events, and membership. Don't miss their [directory of online resources](#), a free online platform with content created by ocean advocates, for ocean advocates. Keep an eye out for the clean boating tutorial and learn how you can become a clean boating activist.



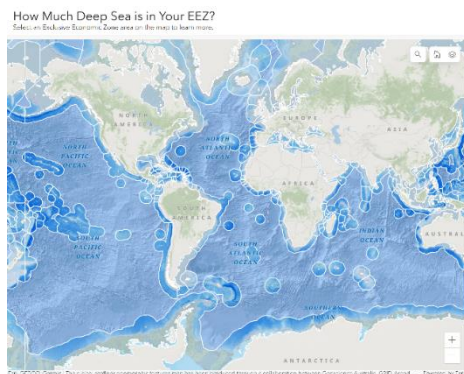
## **Reports on Loss and Damage**



Loss and damage related to climate change impacts has already become a focal point of COP28 with the establishment of a Loss and Damage Fund during the opening event of the conference. [A report](#) by Dr. James Rising of the University of Delaware documents effects of climate change on national economies to date. The research reveals significant disparities in the impacts of climate change across regions and economic groups. This report reiterates the findings of the [2023 Report of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts](#). A recommendation from the report includes

minimizing and addressing loss and damage that may be needed and requested by developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. These reports, among other resources, can provide a framework that delegates at COP28 can use when developing a framework for the new fund to help nations recover from the “loss and damage” caused by climate change.

### ***How Much Deep Sea is in Your Exclusive Economic Zone?***



An exclusive economic zone (EEZ) was first defined in 1982 by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. This area of the sea is a zone where a coastal nation has exclusive rights to living and nonliving resources. Do you know how much of the EEZ for your country includes deep sea habitat? Explore this [mapping tool](#) created by the University of California San Diego and find out for yourself.

### **Updates from COP28**

As the COP28 progresses, we will provide daily updates on exciting events, initiatives, delegates, and activities from Dubai. In particular, we will highlight outcomes at the ocean-climate nexus. Make sure to check the Treasure Trove daily to stay updated on the latest COP28 news and all things ocean at COP28. For a list of ocean-related COP28 Events, visit the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion Lobby.

#### ***Launch of the 2030 Coral Reef Breakthrough***

Join the [UNEP Pavilion](#) for the launch of the 2030 Coral Reefs Breakthrough on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 at 4:30PM GST. Coral reefs are essential to the security, resilience, and climate adaptation of many of the most climate-vulnerable nations on Earth, including low-lying island states. Yet the functional existence of these critical ecosystems is at stake due to the climate crisis and a





myriad of other anthropogenic stressors. The window for protecting these ecosystems is closing rapidly, and scientists globally are calling on public and private actors to take action for the future of coral reefs.

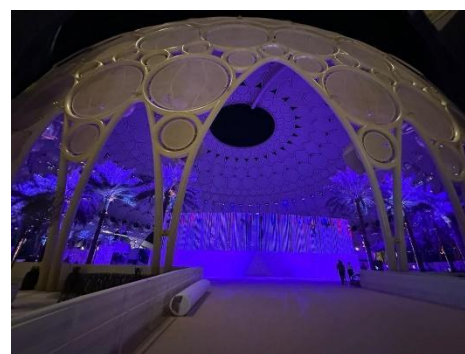
### ***Remarks from a COP28 Opening Plenary Meeting***

During the [SBSTA and SBI 1st plenary meeting](#), Niall O’Dea (Canada) and Julio Cordano (Chile), Co-Chairs of the Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue, emphasized the ocean’s important roles as a carbon sink and a vital source of food, and noted calls for solutions to problems facing the ocean and coastal areas to be incorporated into national climate policies.

### ***Photos from COP28***

Members of the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion team are attending the conference in-person and will be sharing photos from the many engaging events, booths, and displays. See some of the highlights from the opening days below and visit the Treasure Trove to catch a daily glimpse of the in-person COP28 experience.

Top left photo courtesy of [The Royal Family X Account](#), all other photos courtesy of Thecla Keizer, Plymouth Marine Laboratory. See [this video](#) for the making of the world leaders photo (top left).



## ***December 1<sup>st</sup> Edition of the Treasure Trove***

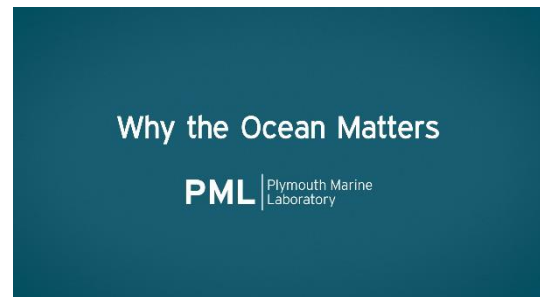
### **Highlights from COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion Exhibits**

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#### ***The Plymouth Marine Laboratory***

The Plymouth Marine Laboratory is internationally renowned as a crucial player in highlighting the importance of the relationship between the ocean, climate, nature and society. Visit their [exhibit](#) to view a series of videos on topics ranging from ocean acidification to artificial intelligence and learn more about the interplay between the climate, the ocean and its ecosystems and resources to support sustainable ocean management. Check out their [“Why the Ocean Matters” video](#) to better understand the critical role the ocean plays in global climate and environmental health.



#### ***The Common Oceans Program***



Are you familiar with Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ)? Visit the [Common Oceans Program booth](#) to understand why this important marine area is the focus of a collaborative, international effort to keep the oceans healthy through the sustainable management of marine resources and the conservation of biodiversity. While you're there, make sure to complete the [Common Oceans Program Survey](#) to share your knowledge of ABNJ and help project managers develop effective stakeholder engagement and training programs.

## COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion Live Events



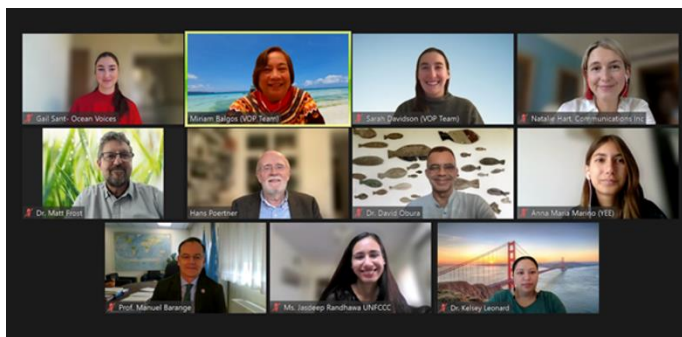
There are eight live events planned over the course of the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion featuring a wide array of marine experts presenting on ocean topics at the forefront of COP28 discussions. If you're unable to join an event, recordings are available on the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion Platform. Ready to dive in and access the first events now available for viewing?

**The Preview Event** on November 22<sup>nd</sup> showcased what's in store for the oceans community at COP28 and featured a [video address from Ambassador Peter Thomson](#) (featured in the photo below), the UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Ocean.



Two exciting events were held on November 30<sup>th</sup>: the **COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion Opening: Integrating Ocean and Climate Action**; and **Shifting Goals: What is the Ocean We Want?** The COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion Opening Event explored integrating ocean and climate action for integrated and ecosystem-based marine conservation, ocean and climate action, and sustainable development of ocean initiatives. Shifting Goals channeled the vision of the Ocean Decade “the science we need for the ocean we want,” and featured an engaging discussion on how to determine ocean stakeholder goals, guide ocean stewardship, and promote justice.





Visit the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion Lobby and enter the Auditorium to access the recordings of these exciting events and learn more about the talented speakers and engaging topics in store for the rest of the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion.

## Updates from COP28

As the COP28 progresses, we will provide daily updates on exciting events, initiatives, delegates, and activities from Dubai. In particular, we will highlight outcomes at the ocean-climate nexus. Make sure to check the Treasure Trove daily to stay updated on the latest COP28 news and all things ocean at COP28. For a list of ocean-related COP28 Events, visit the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion Lobby.



On the opening day of COP28, Parties collectively agreed to operationalize Loss and Damage. Within an hour, over USD\$420 million was pledged. This demonstrates the collective political will to support those most vulnerable to climate change. Communities that will bear the most severe climate change impacts, such as coastal cities affected by sea-level rise, are sure to benefit from this landmark decision. Notably, this marks the first time a decision has been adopted on the first day of any COP and sets an ambitious tone for the rest of COP28. Watch the moment the decision was adopted and see more reactions on [Twitter](https://twitter.com).

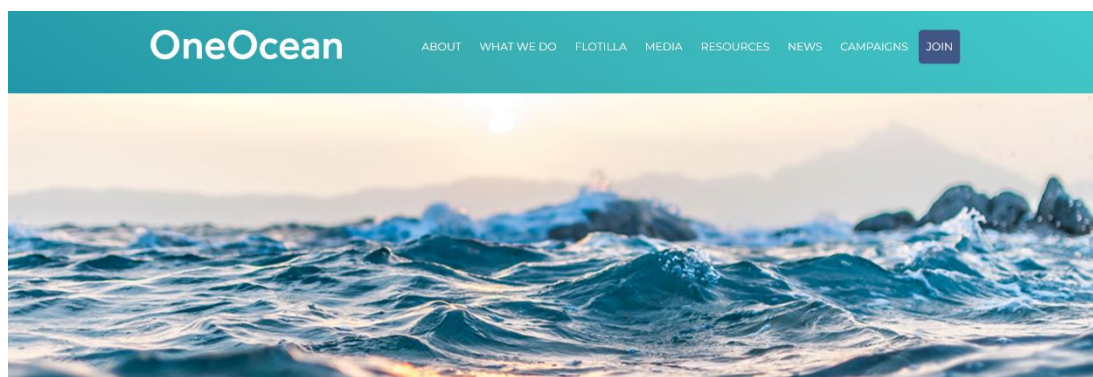


## Access and Download Marine Images from the Ocean Image Bank



Through the [Ocean Image Bank](#), beautiful and powerful imagery are made freely available (for non-commercial use) in support of ocean science and conservation. A project of [The Ocean Agency](#), this resource highlights marine photographers and captures countless marine ecosystems. Many of the photos featured in the Treasure Trove are sourced from this invaluable platform! The Ocean Image Bank is an officially endorsed project of the UN Ocean Decade. Usage of photos must include credit to the photographer and Ocean Image Bank.

## Welcome to the OneOcean Flotilla: Aligning Communication for Ocean Influence



### Welcome to OneOcean

It is ever more apparent that humanity is intricately connected to nature. We are all part of the natural world and achieving balance with the whole is vital for our collective survival and wellbeing. A cornerstone of that natural world is our ocean.

The OneOcean Flotilla, featured in the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion Opening Event, is a collective of non-governmental organizations seeking to influence ocean protection through aligned, impactful communication. With an overarching objective of a better protected ocean, the OneOcean Flotilla utilizes strategic communication to raise the voice of the ocean community together, with the right message, at the right time. This platform provides a space

for groups to share thinking, intelligence and approaches. Services offered include regular analysis of the communications landscape, strategic recommendations and communications products. Visit the [OneOcean website](#) to access publicly available resources, learn more about flotilla members, and join the efforts of this bold initiative.

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## ***November 30<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Treasure Trove***

### **Highlights from COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion Exhibits**



### ***Climate Change Science & Policy Hub - Building Bridges for Innovation***

Visit the [Mangone Climate Change and Science Policy Hub](#) to learn more about the [Oceans Video Game Jam](#), the first annual national climate change video game design competition!

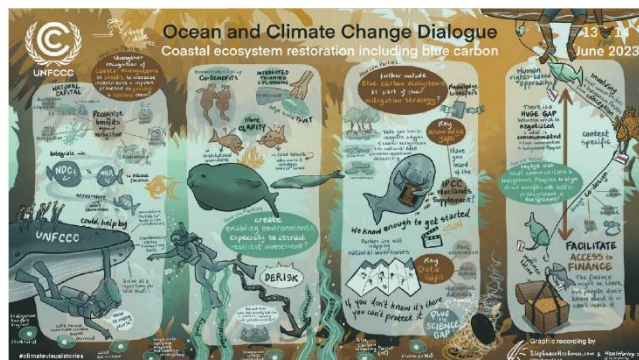


### ***Ocean Visuals - an Evidence-based Collection of Impactful, Diverse, Ocean and Climate Images***



[Ocean Visuals](#) has created a collection of 93 photographs curated in response to the urgent need for more impactful, diverse and accessible ocean-climate imagery while ensuring ethical and fair payment to photographers. The images were submitted in a global open call and are available for use for free by the non-profit, education and editorial sectors. Photo credit: Turpin Samuel / Climate Visuals Countdown.

## Join an Informal Meeting of the 2023 Ocean and Climate Dialogue



Want to get involved in events focused on the ocean-climate nexus at COP28? Join the co-facilitators of the 2023 Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue, Mr. Julio Cordano and Mr. Niall O’Dea, at an informal meeting to engage with the Parties and observers on possible outcomes for the ocean at COP28. The meeting will be held during COP28 on December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 13:00-14:00 GST at MR 3 in Zone B1. All registered participants can watch the meeting on the COP28 digital platform. Additional details can be found on the informal meeting webpage [here](#). View a summary report from the 2023 Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue [here](#).

## Welcome to the Ocean Generation!



Ocean Generation breaks down the biggest human-threats our Ocean faces, like plastic pollution and climate change; shifts the perceptions and behaviors that create them; and empowers the world to live more sustainably. To ensure an Ocean positive future, we need millions of people understanding the importance of a healthy Ocean. Ocean Generation believes the best way to do that is through education and empowerment – anchored by science and driven by storytelling. Complex Ocean science is translated into engaging content and practical actions. This [Ocean Intelligence approach](#) is endorsed by UNESCO and integrated into youth engagement programs, empowering an inclusive approach to sustainability. Visit their [video series](#) on YouTube to see learn more about this amazing work. See this [flyer](#) for an overview of Ocean Generation’s vast programs. While you’re at it, check out the first of a [series](#)



[of Instagram posts](#) about COP28. For every new follower, Ocean Generation plants a mangrove tree!

## The Ocean Decade Exhibition



Designer: Diogo Sampaio



Designer: Tim El-Helou



Designer: Siddhesh Katkar



Designer: Hansruedi Ramsauer

The [Ocean Decade Exhibition](#) is a showcase of art to inspire greater ocean awareness and action. The surreal artworks were all inspired by the UN's 7 Principles of Ocean Literacy and were created by artists from around the world. The Exhibition will be appearing in major cities, aquariums, conferences, and hundreds of other locations during the Ocean Decade. Visit [The Ocean Agency](#) to view the showcase online and support find some of the artworks available for download and display to support the Ocean Decade.

## Enter the 2023 NOAA Marine Debris Art Contest



The NOAA Marine Debris Art Contest is now open until December 15th, 2023! The NOAA Marine Debris Program holds an annual art contest to reach K-8 students and help raise awareness about marine debris. The resulting calendar, featuring the winning artwork, provides a daily reminder of how important it is for us to be responsible stewards of the ocean. Students are highly encouraged to check out resources on the [contest website](#) for information about marine debris. All students in kindergarten through eighth grade from all U.S. states and territories in recognized public, private, and home schools are eligible to participate. Featured artwork by Heidi K., past winner of the Annual NOAA Marine Debris Program Art Contest.



## Highlights from the Ocean Science Jam



The Ocean Science Jam united musicians, artists, dancers, performers, and marine scientists in Oldenburg, Germany. Participants responded in real time to marine-themed cues, showcasing collaborative co-creation and co-design. Highlights of this #OceanDecade Activity are available on [Twitter!](#)

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## ***November 22<sup>nd</sup> Edition of the Treasure Trove***

### **The COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion Preview Event: Showcasing the Ocean at COP28**



Join the Global Ocean Forum and Plymouth Marine Laboratory on November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 16:00 GST for a [live event](#) that focuses on what's to come for the ocean community at COP28. This will provide a preview of the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion and of ocean events at COP28 more generally. This event will offer a snapshot of Virtual Ocean Pavilion-specific exhibits, live events and highlight a searchable overview of COP28 ocean events. The event will also focus on what to expect for the ocean from the negotiations at COP28, including an overview of the

Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action activities on the ocean breakthrough areas and other initiatives as well as an overview of the Friends of the Ocean and Climate events to be held at COP28. In addition, the event will also launch the *Report on Assessing Progress on Ocean and Climate Action: 2022-2023*, with a summary of key findings and recommendations. A Q&A session and a recap will end the event.

### **The ROCA Report: *Assessing Progress on Ocean and Climate Action: 2022-2023***



This [report](#) on *Assessing Progress on Ocean and Climate Action: 2022-2023*, officially launched on November 22nd at the [COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion](#), is a multi-organizational effort which involves old and new partners that includes 67 co-authors from 46 organizations. The report aims to provide multidisciplinary updates on various sectoral and stakeholder initiatives in science, policy development, financing, capacity development and other cross-cutting efforts on ocean and climate action. This analysis is helpful in advancing more robust efforts toward the integration of ocean into various UNFCCC constituted bodies and work programme and contains key recommendations for Parties and non-Party stakeholders.

Highlighted key recommendations from the report include those emanating from the Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue 2023, which called on Parties to commit to mainstreaming ocean-based actions into national commitments. Key recommendations include, among others:

- Integrating mitigation and adaptation action for coastal ecosystems into national and regional policies, including NDCs and national adaptation plans.
- Integrating aquatic food climate solutions within national processes, as well as at the multilateral level - including within the UNFCCC process.
- Fostering partnerships, strengthening regulatory frameworks, and adopting a whole of society approach with Indigenous Peoples, local communities, vulnerable groups including youth and women and the private sector is essential to give climate policies social buy-in and stability in their implementation.
- Strengthening ocean-based systematic observation, research and data management must improve the understanding of carbon cycling and support science-based decision making, with a focus on first filling knowledge gaps that are preventing the ocean from being more widely and effectively included in the NDCs. Standardized data and

knowledge systems are essential to achieve this and must be communicated, coordinated, and openly shared among national and international agencies.

- Providing access to stable and accessible finance flows and capacity building.
- For Parties to mainstream ocean-related mandates from COP26 and COP27/ CMA4 into their national climate goals and in the implementation of these goals.
- Strengthening institutional linkages between partners at national and international levels and across UN mandates and processes such as the Global Biodiversity Framework and the BBNJ Agreement to enhance global ambition and action for a climate resilient ocean.
- The Global Stocktake (GST) is a unique opportunity to highlight the importance of the ocean in the global response to climate change and for GST political outcomes to promote the establishment of guidelines for Parties to be able to include and strengthen ocean-based measures in their updated NDCs, NAPs, and other national strategies throughout future implementation of the Paris Agreement.

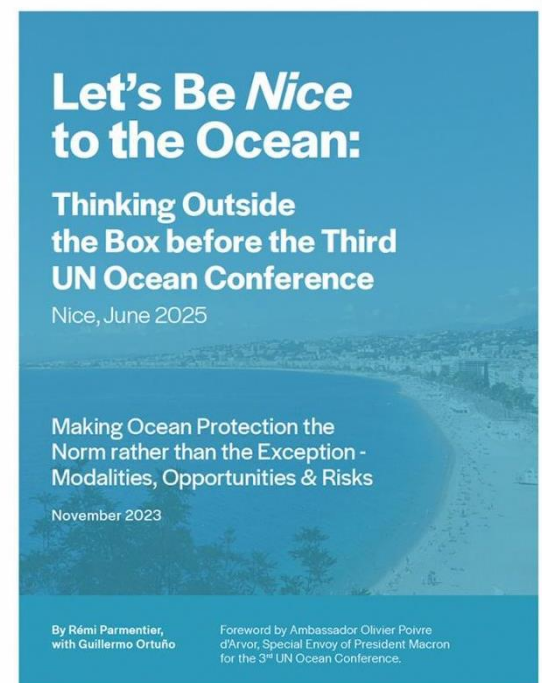
This report is dedicated to the memory of Dr. Patricio Bernal, co-founder of the Global Ocean Forum (GOF).

## Let's be *Nice* to the Ocean

In partnership with the [Varda Group](#), and in association with [Dona Bertarelli Philanthropy](#), [TBA21-Academy](#), the [Tara Ocean Foundation](#), [MedPAN](#), the [Ocean Born Foundation](#) and the [Ocean-Climate Platform](#), the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation website has published [\*Let's be Nice to the Ocean: Thinking Outside the Box before the Third UN Ocean Conference\*](#).

The title is a nod to the next UN Conference on the Ocean, to be held in the city of Nice in June 2025. The aim of this effort is to make ocean protection the norm rather than the exception. The document examines the modalities, opportunities and risks of the paradigm shift that the Protection Principle could present, enshrining the reversal of the burden of proof whereby it is no longer those who seek to protect the ocean, but those who exploit its resources, who must demonstrate the harmlessness of their projects and actions.

The Let's Be *Nice* [online platform](#) was launched alongside the publication to invite stakeholders to join the conversation in the run-up to the Nice conference.



the  
VARDA  
GROUP  
YEARS



[www.vardagroup.org](http://www.vardagroup.org)

## Mangrove and Coral Reefs Breakthroughs



This [live event](#) will take place on December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 on the [COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion platform](#). The Global Fund for Coral Reefs (GFCR), the Global Mangrove Alliance (GMA), the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI), The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the High-Level Climate Champions (HLCC) will present the Coral Reef Breakthrough and the Mangrove Breakthrough agendas. The Coral Reef Breakthrough and Mangrove Breakthrough, as part of the 2030 Breakthroughs Agenda, aim to mobilize action to halt loss, restore, protect, and ensure sustainable finance for these threatened and valuable ecosystems. The event will feature state representatives, Climate Champions, and globally renowned scientists to hold panel discussions on key issues related to coral reef and mangrove conservation and restoration in order to accelerate awareness of the Breakthroughs and promote climate action. Achieving these Breakthroughs is critical to address the pressing threats against mangroves, coral reefs, and the people that depend on them.

## COP28 Ocean Events

### ***POWERING OCEAN BREAKTHROUGHS WITH 100% SUSTAINABLE OCEAN MANAGEMENT***

*9 December 11:30-13:00 GST, Al Waha Theatre, Presidency Zone*



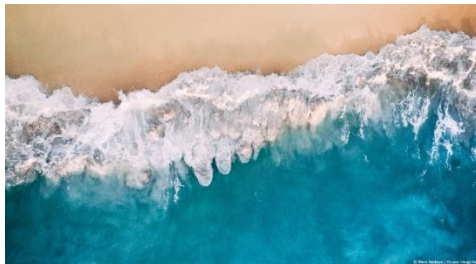


This high-level [event](#) will cast a spotlight on the Ocean and put forth country commitments towards the 100% Sustainable Ocean Management goal, showcasing tangible actions to support implementation of Ocean Breakthroughs. The event will feature ocean-based climate solutions to reduce the emissions gap by up to 35 percent on a 1.5°C pathway, and strengthen food security, energy capacity, and local livelihoods through enhanced climate action. It will set the way for a society approach with key actors showing how this agenda will secure the future. This event positions the ocean at the heart of humanity for a transition to net-zero.

*Organizers:* COP28, High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy; Ocean Action 2030; Ocean & Climate Platform on behalf of the Marrakech Partnership; High-Level Climate Champions

***FROM AGREEMENT TO ACTION: HARNESSING 30X30 TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE***

*9 Dec 09:00-10:30 GST*



This [event](#) will bring together governments, Indigenous Peoples and local communities, civil society, and private sector actors to celebrate the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF) and take stock of progress one year from COP15. Monitoring how governments are delivering their commitment to conserve, protect, and restore at least 30% of the planet's land and ocean by 2030, this event will underscore the importance of delivering the goals of the Paris Agreement. It will mobilize USD\$200 billion per year for biodiversity funding by 2030, and \$20 billion per year in international biodiversity finance by 2025.

*Organizers:* High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People (HAC N&P), Campaign for Nature, UN Climate Change High-level Champions