



UNFCCC COP 27
Sharm El -Sheikh, Egypt

Climate Action Event
Concept Note - Ocean & Coastal Zones
**“Ocean for Climate: Implementing ocean-based climate
action to build coastal adaptation and resilience”**

Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action

Wednesday 16th of November 2022
10.00 AM - 12.00 PM

Action Room 1 - Climate Action Zone

Organised by MP-GCA Ocean & Coastal Zones, the Ocean & Climate Platform and the High-level Climate Champions.

With the support of: Blue Marine Foundation, Conservation International, FAO, Friends of Ocean Action, IOC-UNESCO, IUCN, Global Ocean Forum, OA Alliance, Ocean Conservancy, Ocean Kind, Ocean Hub Africa, Oceano Azul Foundation, Pew Charitable Trust, Plymouth Marine Laboratory, Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, Rare, Sustainable Ocean Alliance, The Nature Conservancy, UN Foundation, WHOI, WWF and partners.

MP “Ocean & Coastal Zones”:

Ocean for Climate: Implementing ocean-based climate action to build coastal adaptation and resilience

<p><i>Description</i></p>	<p>The Ocean Action Day at COP27 will gather Heads of State, IPLCs’ leaders, businesses, UN organisations, scientific institutions, experts and practitioners alongside climate-ocean focused initiatives and NGO leaders.</p> <p>The event will call for unity, raised ambition, increased finance and ocean-based climate action to accelerate mitigation pathways and support ongoing resilience and adaptation needs.</p>
<p><i>Headline</i></p>	<p>Ocean For Climate: Implementing ocean-based climate solutions to deliver a resilient, net-zero, equitable, and nature-positive future</p>
<p><i>Suggested outcomes aligned to narrative</i></p>	<p>Building on the Ocean For Climate Declaration, launched at COP26, and aligned with the COP27 narrative:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mainstream ocean-based climate solutions: Accelerate the development and implementation of science-based, climate-smart and nature-positive solutions - such as decarbonised shipping, marine renewable energy, climate-ready fisheries, and coastal and marine nature-based solutions - while building social trust and raising investor confidence. 2. Elevate coastal resilience and adaptation: Give central stage to coastal communities and IPLCs as stewards for implementing climate-resilient and nature-positive solutions. At the forefront of climate change and most vulnerable to its impacts, they must be the main beneficiaries of sustainable coastal development. 3. Recognise that more finance is needed for ocean and coasts: Identify opportunities for greater financing of ocean and coasts within broader climate finance. Explore the role of a call for Ocean Pledge to be prepared in the run-up to COP28. 4. Recognise Africa as an ocean action and innovation hub: Take the Africa COP27 as an opportunity to share, scale-up and accelerate successful ocean-based climate initiatives and solutions deployed at the regional level. Highlight adaptation needs, resilience strategies, and the opportunities and challenges of developing the blue economy.
<p><i>Objectives</i></p>	<p>According to the IPCC, limiting warming to 1.5°C requires GHG emissions to peak before 2025 at the latest and to be reduced by 43% by 2030. Ocean-based climate solutions can support the delivery of the Race to Zero and Race to Resilience through immediate action to halve global emissions by 2030 and deliver a healthier, more equitable, nature-positive and net-zero carbon world by no later than 2050, in line with global efforts to limit warming to 1.5°C. For example, the High-Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy found that full</p>

implementation of key ocean-based solutions could reduce the emissions gap needed to limit temperature increase to 1.5°C by 21% by 2050 (Hoegh-Guldberg et al, 2019).

The Ocean Action Day at COP27 will be the opportunity to take stock of meaningful action taken towards the implementation of mitigation, adaptation and resilience objectives in response to these ongoing, slow-onset changes. World leaders and non-state actors must make good on their promises.

It will build on the outcomes and progress of the first [Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue](#), convened on 15 June 2022 under the aegis of SBSTA, to strengthen ocean-based action in the context of climate change, as well as in existing work programmes and mandates under the UNFCCC.

The Ocean Action Day will align with the COP27 narrative and priorities, focusing on effective implementation, sustainable financing, mitigation, as well as adaptation and resilience solutions.

Moreover, the Ocean Action Day will **specifically focus on the African continent**, where people and ecosystems are at the forefront of climate impacts. This session will insist on the potential a sustainable blue economy holds for the continent - counting 38 coastal States out of 54 - and the social opportunities it offers in the pursuit of a just and equitable transition.

By convening key representatives across relevant stakeholders (governments, finance, ocean-based industries, IPLCs, scientists, IGOs and NGOs), the Ocean Action Day at COP27 will aim to highlight concrete implementation of ocean-based climate solutions, based on lessons learned on the ground and the latest science, to contribute to a net-zero and nature-positive future, **while enhancing adaptation and resilience-building of ecosystems and coastal communities**.

Participants will be invited to share their experiences, actions and strategies to drive sustainable, climate-smart and nature-positive change in their respective fields (most notably decarbonized shipping, ocean renewable energy, climate resilient and sustainable aquatic food systems, and coastal and marine nature-based solutions). The session will emphasise the need to combine climate-smart/resilient and nature-positive actions across sectors to avoid unintended negative impacts (e.g., on biodiversity - such as coastal development destroying coastal wetlands and thus resulting in release of carbon emissions). This session will also discuss opportunities to accelerate action and de-risk mechanisms for the transition via public and private initiatives, public-private partnerships, and other innovative modes of collaboration. Moreover, the session will explore how to elevate the role of ocean science to inform sound policy making, drive investment decisions and steer sustainable business actions.

This will highlight the value of incorporating ocean-based solutions in NDCs, including co-benefits, such as food security, enhanced adaptive capacity, job creation, and more, further encouraging Parties to also incorporate ocean-based solutions in their climate strategies and NAPs. Participants will further reflect on how to continue scaling-up ocean-based mitigation and adaptation action to achieve the objectives of the Paris Agreement.

Similarly, non-state actors, including entities from the private sector, will share concrete examples of ocean-based climate solutions, delivering on the Race to Zero, Race to Resilience, and new commitments to increase investments in ocean solutions. Building on the Ocean Action Pathway and the Ocean For Climate Declaration, the Ocean Action Day will strive to unlock key enablers to scale-up ocean-based climate solutions worldwide: wide-ranging political and

	<p>societal support; commitments to a sustainable and equitable well-managed ocean; and increased public and private investments.</p> <p>This event will be an opportunity to follow-up with the signatories of the Ocean for Climate Declaration, which committed in Glasgow to scale-up ocean-based climate action, and take stock of progress made.</p>
*Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Governments, IPLCs leaders ● Ocean-based industries and companies, including smallholders and small medium-sized enterprises ● Youth ● Financial institutions ● UN and related entities ● NGOs and other international organisations ● Scientific institutes, and other knowledge producers and brokers
Key messages	<p>Ocean and coastal solutions are scientifically proven, grossly underfunded, and central to adaptation, resilience and sustainable development.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is no Future without a healthy Ocean: A healthy and biodiverse ocean regulates climate, buffers our shorelines, provides abundant and nutritious food, ensures wellbeing, preserves cultural heritage, and supports sustainable livelihoods of billions of people. To protect the benefits the ocean and coastal zones provide, the world must meet the goals of the Paris Agreement to limit warming to 1.5°C, and ocean solutions can play a significant role. 2. Building momentum for sustainable blue economy: The IPCC AR6 clearly identifies the ocean, coastal and marine ecosystems, as a source of solutions contributing to climate mitigation, adaptation and resilience. Achieving a resilient future calls for urgent strengthening of adaptation responses globally that are effective, equitable and capable of reducing risks for both societies and ecosystems. Developing sustainable blue economies can deliver on job creation, food and energy security, and overall well-being. 3. Finance flows for ocean-climate solutions must substantially increase: With SDG 14 “Life Below Water” being the least funded of all the SDGs, investing in sustainable and equitable blue growth is paramount. Access to different types of financial resources must be strengthened and made available to coastal States - including through UNFCCC financial mechanisms, by involving the private sector and by building local economic capacities.
Logistics	<p><i>Room layout: Climate Action Room</i></p> <p><i>Capacity: 300 pax</i></p> <p><i>Davos style seating</i></p>

Draft Agenda

Timing	Session Description	Speaker suggestions
10 min	HIGH LEVEL OPENING	H.E. Yasmine Fouad , Minister of Environment, Arabic Republic of Egypt
40 mins	PANEL 1: Scaling-up coastal adaptation and resilience responses through science and technologies	<u>Moderator: Sylvie Goyet, Advisor to the CEO and Vice President, Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr Sarah Cooley, Coordinating Lead Author on WGII of the IPCC's 6th Assessment Report, IPCC - Dr Arthur Tuda, Executive Secretary, WIOMSA - Seydina Issa Laye Sambe, Mayor of Yoff, Dakar, Senegal - Alexis Grosskopf, CEO, Ocean Hub Africa
5 min	VIDEO TRANSITION	<i>'One Ocean. One Planet. One Future.'</i> Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
45 mins	PANEL 2: Financing ocean and coastal action	<u>Moderator: Joywin Mathew, Partner, DLA Piper</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beatriz Granziera, International Climate Policy Advisor, The Nature Conservancy - Arghya Sinha Roy, Principal Climate Change Specialist (Climate Adaptation, Asian Development Bank) - Julia Manning, Associate Director, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development - Marine de Bazelaire, Group Advisor on Natural Capital, HSBC (TBC)
15 mins	NEXT STEPS Wrap-up of progress and advancements made at COP27	<u>Moderator: Nigel Topping, HL Climate Champions of COP 26, Presidency of the United Kingdom</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mark Haver, Regional Representative for North America, Sustainable Ocean Alliance - Minna Epps, Director, Global Marine and Polar Programme, IUCN
5 min	CLOSING REMARKS	Barkha Mossaë , Blue Economy Advisor, African Union Commission