

Statement Note

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The Ocean: A Critical Life-Supporting Component of the Planetary System

The ocean plays a vital role in sustaining life on Earth. It produces oxygen, absorbs heat and carbon, and helps regulate the global climate. However, increasing atmospheric carbon concentrations and rising temperatures are having clear and adverse impacts on the marine environment.

Building Capacity to Monitor and Understand Marine Environmental Change

Changes in marine and coastal environments are being driven by the combined effects of climate change and other human-induced factors. Due to the complex and dynamic nature of these changes, it is often challenging for local stakeholders to fully understand the drivers and their impacts. Strengthening capacity to monitor, analyze, and interpret these changes is essential to developing effective adaptation measures.

Localizing Adaptation Measures

Impacts vary significantly even within the same coastal and marine regions, and there may be seasonal and annual variability. It is therefore crucial for local stakeholders to monitor environmental conditions and understand the trends of change. Supporting capacity development for marine monitoring and data analysis at the local level remains a high priority.

Aggregating Projects for Financing

Climate change interventions aimed at promoting sustainable blue economies must be tailored to the specific conditions of each community. As a result, many of these projects are small in scale. To align with the criteria of international financing mechanisms, it is important to aggregate these small-scale initiatives at a larger spatial scale possibly at the sub-regional or regional level—while maintaining their local relevance and customized features.

Developing Leaders and Practitioners Through Interdisciplinary Training

Community-based climate change mitigation and adaptation in blue economy sectors require diverse, cross-sectoral, and interdisciplinary skills. Effective action in the field depends on holistic knowledge. Intensive and practical training programs can be developed and implemented through international partnerships to cultivate the next generation of leaders and practitioners.

Supporting Startups and Entrepreneurs in Climate Action

Young professionals and entrepreneurs can bring innovative solutions to emerging climate challenges. Supporting the financing of climate-related startups offers strong incentives for them to develop new business models and initiatives that promote climate mitigation and adaptation, while also improving livelihoods, creating jobs, and generating income.

Sharing Good Practices and Analyzing Success Factors

Many stakeholders are experimenting with innovative approaches, learning through trial and error. Promoting the exchange of good practices and case studies, and conducting analyses of success factors and enabling conditions, can help replicate and scale up innovative climate actions in support of sustainable blue economies.