

# AN OCEAN OF LIFE: Knowledge & Solutions for Marine & Coastal Biodiversity under the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework



2021 United Nations Decade  
2030 of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development

16 DECEMBER 2022  
8:30 - 13.00 EST  
RIO CONVENTIONS PAVILION  
BLUE ZONE

The post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework is the most ambitious global plan ever developed for biodiversity and will be the central focus of negotiations at COP15. A major contribution to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, the Framework aspires to create a world living in harmony with nature and has an increased focus on marine and coastal biodiversity. Successful implementation of the Framework will require increased investment in the generation and uptake of relevant ocean science and knowledge, and partnerships across diverse groups of actors to transform science and knowledge to scalable action and practical solutions.

In its role as coordinator of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO is delighted to be hosting a flagship ocean event at COP15.

This event will explore the challenges and opportunities to move from knowledge to action in marine and coastal ecosystems in the context of the post-2020 Framework. It will bring together high level speakers from government, science, industry, and philanthropy to explore the data, infrastructure and knowledge needs of different user groups to inform policy and decision making and showcase global solutions for conserving and restoring marine biodiversity in a changing climate.

The event will also launch a major new publication highlighting the role of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development in achieving the ambitions of the post-2020 Framework.

**OCEANDECADE.ORG**



Convention on  
Biological Diversity



# OUTLINE PROGRAMME

8:30 – 9:00

## REGISTRATION AND COFFEE

9:00 – 9:30

## OPENING SESSION

- Audrey Azoulay, Director-General, UNESCO
- Elizabeth Maruma Mrema, Executive Secretary, Convention on Biological Diversity
- Ambassador Peter Thomson, UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Ocean
- H.E. Thérèse Coffey, Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, United Kingdom
- H.E. Tanya Plibersek, Minister for Environment and Water, Australia
- Jochen Flasbarth, State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany

9:30 – 9:45

## KEYNOTE ADDRESS

- David Obura, Founding Director, CORDIO East Africa

9:45 – 10:45

*Moderated by  
Ellen Stofan,  
Under Secretary  
for Science and  
Research,  
Smithsonian  
Institution*

## SESSION 1: MARINE AND COASTAL BIODIVERSITY KNOWLEDGE NEEDS FOR POLICY AND SOCIETY IN THE CONTEXT OF THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

- Anya Waite, Associate Vice-President Research (Ocean), Dalhousie University; Scientific Director and CEO, Ocean Frontier Institute
- Steven Dickinson, Group Biodiversity Specialist and Senior Environment Advisor, TotalEnergies
- Malu Nunes, Executive Director, Boticario Group Foundation
- Paul Snelgrove, Research Professor, Memorial University of Newfoundland
- Steve Widdicombe, Director of Science, Plymouth Marine Laboratory
- Fae Sapsford, Marine Research Fellow, Sargasso Sea Commission

10:45 – 11:15

## COFFEE BREAK

11:15 – 12:15

*Moderated by  
Vera Agostini,  
Deputy Director  
of Fisheries and  
Aquaculture  
Division, FAO*

## SESSION 2: SOLUTIONS FOR CONSERVING AND RESTORING MARINE BIODIVERSITY IN THE CONTEXT OF THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

- Alice Ortmann, Research Scientist, Fisheries and Oceans, Canada; Co-chair, AORA Marine Microbiology Working Group
- Loreley Picourt, Executive Director, Ocean and Climate Platform
- Clement Yow Mulalap, Adviser (Legal), Permanent Mission of the Federated States of Micronesia to the United Nations
- Kim Friedman, Senior Fishery Resources Officer, Marine and Inland Fisheries Division, FAO
- Francisco Armando Arias-Isaza, General Director of the Marine and Coastal Research Institute "José Benito Vives de Andreis", INVEMAR
- Andrew Rhodes, Special Envoy for Oceans attached to the Undersecretary for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights, Mexico

12:15 – 12:35

## PRIORITIES FOR JOINT ACTION ACROSS UN CONVENTIONS AND POLICY PROCESSES TO 2030

- Julian Barbière, Head of Section for Marine Policy and Regional Coordination, IOC-UNESCO; Ocean Decade Coordinator
- Jane Lubchenco, Deputy Director of Climate and Environment, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy
- H.E. Razan Al Mubarak, COP28 UAE Representative
- Olivier Poivre d'Arvor, Special Envoy of the President for UNOC 2025; Ambassador for Poles and Oceans, France

12:35 – 12:55

## HIGH-LEVEL CLOSING

- H.E. Espen Barth Eide, Minister of Climate and Environment, Norway
- H.E. Joyce Murray, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada
- Vladimir Ryabinin, Executive Secretary, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO; Assistant Director-General, UNESCO