



A Blue Wave of Ocean Action

2022 GUIDE TO KEY OCEAN EVENTS

Prepared by Our Shared Seas

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OurSharedSeas.com



The Ocean Super Year Continues in 2022

The year 2020 was dubbed the Ocean Super Year given the confluence of critical global meetings for the ocean, as well as seminal events such as the kickoff of the [UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development](#). Although the COVID-19 pandemic led to the postponement or alteration in format for several key meetings, critical ocean action has continued both formally and informally across all levels and sectors. As we look to the remainder of 2022, we continue to see a “blue wave of ocean action” with pivotal decision points on the horizon—from creating the first generation of high seas Marine Protected Areas and adopting a post-2020 global biodiversity framework, to further integration of the ocean-climate nexus into formal UN processes and country commitments.

Our Shared Seas prepared this document to help the marine conservation community track ocean meetings, policy decisions, and reports due out in the second half of 2022. This guide aims to provide coverage of globally significant moments on the ocean calendar; it does not endeavor to feature comprehensive treatment of every ocean event or report.

Several key themes emerge in reflecting on ocean action this decade:

1) Threats to ocean health are unprecedented. Funding and innovation to advance ocean solutions are also at all-time highs.

Research indicates that the scale and diversity of humans' use of ocean resources is unprecedented. In response, the conservation community has devoted an unparalleled level of resources, innovation, and attention to advancing ocean solutions—as evidenced by philanthropy doubling its level of funding for marine conservation over the past decade and the emergence of new ocean innovation hubs and partnerships across sectors.

“Within the ocean community, there is a hunger for action. There's more momentum and understanding than ever before. But we need transformative ambition and action on a scale commensurate with the size of the problem.”

— RICHARD PAGE, CAMPAIGN DIRECTOR, RISE UP

2) This year has the potential to be a game-changer for ocean health.

There are numerous issues on the ocean policy docket this year — eliminating harmful fisheries subsidies, securing a biodiversity framework, advancing shipping decarbonization and offshore wind, developing a treaty to end plastic pollution, protecting the deep sea from mining activities, and more. Accelerating solutions will require active and inclusive engagement across the full ecosystem of ocean stakeholders.

“If we are to halt the decline in the ocean's health this year, we have to do the right thing at [each of the key international ocean gatherings], and while ‘we’ primarily refers to Member States, it also refers to every one of us. We must not squander the unparalleled opportunities presented by 2022's confluence of moments for decisive ocean action.”

— AMBASSADOR PETER THOMSON, UN SECRETARY GENERAL'S SPECIAL ENVOY FOR THE OCEAN

3) Ocean momentum must continue in 2023 and beyond.

Partners agree that regardless of whatever progress is achieved this year, efforts to safeguard the health of people and the planet must continue to be a focus in 2023 and beyond.

“As the ocean community looks ahead to 2023, it won't be a time to rest on our laurels. The world will see more climate-related disasters and other disruptions in the future. We need to be committed over the long haul to ensure that the ocean is on the frontline of solutions.”

— RICHARD PAGE, CAMPAIGN DIRECTOR, RISE UP

Given that meeting dates and formats are often evolving due to the pandemic, real-time updates to event listings can be found on the [Events Page](#) at Our Shared Seas. If you have any updates you'd like to share on specific events with our team, please reach out to oursharedseas@ceaconsulting.com.

Dive into this guide to learn more about key ocean events and decisions on the horizon in 2022.



International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture 2022

WHEN **January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022**
WHERE **Global**
MORE INFO www.fao.org/artisanal-fisheries-aquaculture-2022

The United Nations General Assembly has declared 2022 the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA 2022). The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is the lead agency for celebrating the Year in collaboration with other relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations (UN) system. IYAFA 2022 is an important recognition of the millions of small-scale fishers, fish farmers and fish workers who provide healthy and nutritious food to billions of people and contribute to achieving Zero Hunger.

IYAFA 2022 will stimulate actions aimed at supporting the achievement of a number of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the Agenda 2030. IYAFA 2022 will draw attention to the contributions that small-scale artisanal fisheries and aquaculture already make to the SDGs, in particular SDG 14.b, with a view to channel strong political commitment at national, regional, and global levels to further establish supportive measures intended for small-scale artisanal fisheries and aquaculture.



International Maritime Organization, Marine Environment Protection Committee

WHEN **June 6–10, 2022**
WHERE **Virtual**
MORE INFO <https://bit.ly/imo-mepec>

Event Background

The Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) addresses environmental issues under the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) remit. This includes the control and prevention of ship-source pollution covered by the MARPOL treaty, including oil, chemicals carried in bulk, sewage, garbage and emissions from ships, including air pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions. Other matters covered include ballast water management, anti-fouling systems, ship recycling, pollution preparedness and response, and identification of special areas and particularly sensitive sea areas.

As one of its core focal areas, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) is committed to cutting GHG emissions from ships. Mandatory energy efficiency measures were first adopted in 2011 and have been strengthened since *The Initial IMO Strategy on Reduction of GHG Emissions from Shipping* was adopted in 2018, setting out a clear pathway towards decarbonization of international shipping. In 2021 IMO adopted the “short-term measure” to reduce ships’ carbon intensity in accordance with the timelines set out in the Initial IMO GHG Strategy. At the 78th session of the MEPC in June 2022, the IMO will consider a set of guidelines to support the implementation of these short-term measures to reduce GHG emissions from shipping.

State of Play for Shipping Decarbonization

Synthesis of Key Events

2022 is the runway year for ambitious action in the maritime sector. Ahead of formally revising the *Initial Strategy on GHGs* at the 80th session of the Maritime Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) in 2023, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) has two key meetings this year. In June and December 2022, the IMO will work to build alignment on the content of the Initial Strategy on GHGs and discuss future measures to equitably reduce GHG emissions from shipping.

At Ocean Conservancy, we are keen to see momentum building from the recent *Our Oceans Conference* in Palau, where another 17 countries publicly committed to join the *Declaration on Zero Emission Shipping* by 2050. More than 30 countries have now signed onto this declaration. At the 78th session of MEPC this June, we hope to see countries continue to build on that strong show of support and create the shape for the Initial Strategy's revision. It will be key for this revision to include more than simply the overarching goal of zero emissions. This revision should also incorporate all GHGs in the targets, as well as an absolute target for 2030 and 2040 to drive ambitious action this decade, when it is critically needed.

Prior to the 79th session of the MEPC in December, the *Global Maritime Forum Annual Summit* will take place during 22-23 September 2022 and marks another promising stop on our path to zero emissions. I believe the Getting to Zero Coalition will continue to send a strong supportive signal that industry is working to meet a decarbonization goal aligned with the Paris Agreement that customers and the world are clamoring for. As a new member of the Getting to Zero Coalition, Ocean Conservancy is especially excited to work with our colleagues in the lead up to the forum this September. Finally, we look to the 79th session of the MEPC this December. At that meeting, I hope to see further alignment on a potential basket of mid-term measures, likely pairing a strong carbon levy with the low-GHG fuel standard proposed by the EU and United States. There is more work to be done in all of these aspects, but we're hopeful that the shipping sector will lead with a more ambitious climate course during the remainder of 2022.

— DAN HUBBELL, SHIPPING EMISSIONS CAMPAIGN MANAGER, OCEAN CONSERVANCY



Capitol Hill Ocean Week

WHEN June 7–9, 2022
WHERE Washington, DC (in person and virtual)
MORE INFO <https://marinesanctuary.org/chow-2022>

Event Background

Capitol Hill Ocean Week (CHOW), convened by the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, is a multi-day conference that convenes policymakers, scientists, managers, business leaders, conservationists, educators, students, and members of the public to engage in dialogue and debate on significant issues that impact the ocean and U.S. Great Lakes and to propose innovative policies and partnerships to address these issues. This year's conference will commemorate the 50th anniversary of landmark U.S. legislation which has been critical in protecting ocean and coastal health—including the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act; the Marine Mammal Protection Act; Coastal Zone Management Act; and amendments to the Clean Water Act. In addition, the 2022 edition of CHOW will bring a continued focus on elevating diverse perspectives and exploring how to make conservation, science, and policy efforts more inclusive and equitable.

WTO Negotiations on Global Fisheries Subsidies

WHEN **June 12–15, 2022**
WHERE **Geneva, Switzerland (in person)**
MORE INFO <https://bit.ly/wto-fisheries-subsidies>

Event Background

WTO negotiations on fisheries subsidies were launched in 2001 at the Doha Ministerial Conference, with a mandate to “clarify and improve” existing WTO disciplines on fisheries subsidies. That mandate was elaborated in 2005 at the Hong Kong Ministerial Conference, including with a call for prohibiting certain forms of fisheries subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing.

At the 2017 Buenos Aires Ministerial Conference (MC11), ministers decided on a work program to conclude the negotiations by aiming to adopt, at the next Ministerial Conference, an agreement on fisheries subsidies which delivers on Sustainable Development Goal 14.6.

The Twelfth Ministerial Conference (MC12) was originally due to take place from 30 November to 3 December 2021 but was postponed due to the outbreak of the Omicron variant of COVID-19, which led to the imposition of travel restrictions and quarantine requirements. Despite constraints, members have made much progress in the negotiations, and ocean conservation stakeholders are pressing the WTO to reach a final deal at MC12 to curb harmful fisheries subsidies.

“After more than 20 years of negotiations, World Trade Organization member governments are tantalizingly close to reaching an agreement to curb harmful fisheries subsidies, one of the key drivers of overfishing. World Ocean Day 2022 comes on the eve of the WTO’s 12th Ministerial Conference that starts on June 12 in Geneva, where trade ministers will meet and hopefully finalize a deal. Members of civil society can encourage forward momentum by expressing their support for their governments to reach a deal using the hashtag #StopFundingOverfishing on social media. Let’s make our voices heard: WTO, end the subsidies that drive overfishing.”

— ISABEL JARRETT, MANAGER OF THE PROJECT TO END HARMFUL FISHERIES SUBSIDIES AT THE PEW CHARITABLE TRUSTS



UN Ocean Conference

WHEN **June 27–July 1, 2022**
WHERE **Lisbon, Portugal (in person)**
MORE INFO **www.un.org/en/conferences/ocean2022**

Event Background

The second UN Ocean Conference, which the Covid-19 pandemic postponed from 2020 to this year, will be held in Lisbon between June 27 and July 1, co-hosted by Portugal and Kenya and where the international community will try to push for the adoption of “innovative science-based solutions” for the sustainable management of the oceans, including combating water acidification, pollution, illegal fishing and loss of habitats and biodiversity. The purpose of the UN Ocean Conference is to provide an accountability mechanism for tracking progress towards SDG14 focused on the conservation and sustainable management of ocean resources. The conference will include delegates from Member States and participants from civil society, academia, and the private sector.

“The first UN Ocean Conference in 2017 was a game changer in terms of waking the world up to the ocean’s problems. I think this conference in Lisbon in June is going to be about providing the solutions to the problems that we’ve alerted the world to. And I’m very confident that those solutions emerge when we get there.”

– PETER THOMSON, UN SECRETARY GENERAL’S SPECIAL ENVOY FOR THE OCEAN



International Coral Reef Symposium

WHEN **July 3–8, 2022**
WHERE **Bremen, Germany (in person and virtual)**
MORE INFO **<https://www.icrs2022.de/>**

Event Background

The 15th International Coral Reef Symposium is the primary international conference on coral reef science, conservation, and management, bringing together leading scientists, early career researchers, conservationists, ocean experts, policy makers, managers, and the public. The symposium will be the key event to develop science-based solutions addressing the present and future challenges of coral reefs, which are globally exposed to unprecedented anthropogenic pressures.

“The International Coral Reef Symposium (ICRS) is a timely gathering of the world’s experts in coral reef science. This year is the ‘make or break’ year for the ocean. With momentum building going into the UN Ocean Conference, UN Biodiversity negotiations and the next UN Climate conference, coral reefs are a critical ecosystem to achieve the world’s sustainable development, biodiversity, and climate goals. Without coral reefs, we lose.

A key need in motivating global action on coral reefs is to measure and communicate conservation wins for coral reefs. Combining success through data and stories from the frontlines of climate change can inspire further action. At ICRS, our team will be launching the first interactive experience of the MERMAID platform – this is where scientists can come together, share their expertise, and contribute to a global and data-driven understanding of coral reef health.”

– DR. EMILY DARLING, DIRECTOR OF CORAL REEF CONSERVATION, WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY



High Seas Treaty Negotiations

WHEN August 15–26, 2022
WHERE New York (in person)
MORE INFO <https://www.un.org/bbnj/>

Event Background

The high seas make up nearly two-thirds of the ocean but have been a significant gap in ocean governance as less than 1% is currently protected. Home to some of the largest reservoirs of biodiversity in the world, the high seas support a wide diversity of marine life; provide migratory routes for whales, sharks, tuna, and other marine life; and feature critical ecosystems such as deep-water corals. Given the sheer size of the high seas, securing a higher level of protection is also considered instrumental for reaching a global target of protecting 30% of the ocean by 2030.

The final stages of negotiations to create the first generation of high seas MPAs are underway. After years of working vigorously to progress discussions surrounding the need for a new international legally-binding treaty to protect marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ), world governments are now engaged in the conclusive stages of the negotiations at the United Nations. While 2020 was originally geared to be a “super year for the ocean,” and the year that many hoped to conclude treaty negotiations, there was a two-year delay of formal negotiations due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The fourth negotiating session of the Intergovernmental Conference (IGC4) recently took place at UN headquarters from 7-18 March, where encouraging progress was made on many key substantive treaty issues. However, due to the restricted meeting circumstances from COVID-19 (including inability for in-person meetings, high turnover of UN delegates, and limited country delegation and civil society participation for the full two weeks of the conference), it was not possible to conclude treaty negotiations during this last session.

Nonetheless, the Intergovernmental Conference still achieved remarkable success considering the circumstances. Many governments entered the negotiations with a renewed sense of urgency and flexibility, and States delved deeply into textual negotiations, with new areas of convergence amongst some regional groupings and progress emerging among positions.

While delegates and regional groups secured significant progress during IGC4, an additional negotiating session (IGC5) has been scheduled to address remaining gaps and sticking points. Scheduled to take place during 15-26 August, many regional groups and countries are maintaining the pathway to conclude the negotiations in 2022. In addition, many States including the 47 Heads of State of the BBNJ “*High Ambition Coalition*” (HAC), have committed to the goal of concluding the negotiations in 2022.

During the final months leading up to the negotiations in August, teams such as the High Seas Alliance are making every effort to keep and build momentum, including through upcoming opportunities at international fora (e.g., the UN Ocean Conference).

“After nearly two decades of discussions and negotiations, it is critical that we conclude the high seas treaty negotiations in 2022, which will transform ocean governance and finally put into place legal safeguards for the protection of marine life in our shared global commons, and for the benefit of generations to come.”

— PEGGY KALAS, DIRECTOR, HIGH SEAS ALLIANCE



15th Conference of the Parties (COP15)

WHEN Q3/Q4 2022 (date TBD)
WHERE Kunming, China (in person, tentatively)
MORE INFO www.cbd.int/conferences/2021-2022

Event Background

The 15th Conference of the Parties (COP15) to the U.N. Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was initially scheduled to take place in October 2020 and has been delayed four times due to the COVID pandemic. China is set to host the second part of the meeting in Kunming but has yet to set a new date as of mid-2022. Several members of the COP Bureau have requested that the CBD Secretariat propose options for potential dates and locations to hold the meeting during Q3 or Q4 2022.

The COP15 negotiations are the crucial decision point for adopting a post-2020 global biodiversity framework, which currently includes a target to protect at least 30 percent of land and water by 2030. A broad coalition of countries currently support the 30x30 target, though many suggest that sufficient funding and ongoing monitoring will be essential to the long-term success of a potential framework.

“The CBD needs to announce a firm date for COP15 and send a signal to the world that ending the extinction crisis is an urgent priority. Getting an ambitious agreement to conserve the world’s biodiversity, urgently transition away from nature destroying activities and support the people and communities doing the work on the ground is critical to ensure the planet’s health—now and in the future.”

— BRIAN O’DONNELL, DIRECTOR, CAMPAIGN FOR NATURE

“For biodiversity, COP15 is an all or nothing moment. To lead this meeting to success, we need considerable political momentum and high-level participation by Ministers and Heads of State in the negotiations. Equally, we also need to ensure that COP15 is being convened in a format that allows for the full and effective participation of not only all Parties to the CBD but also Indigenous People and Local Communities, Civil Society, Women and Youth. None of this can be organized last minute. We need firm dates for COP15 now and we cannot afford any further delays to their announcement. Otherwise, we risk COP15 to sink into political irrelevance.”

— CHRISTIAN SCHWARZER, STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBER, GLOBAL YOUTH BIODIVERSITY NETWORK

“We also need to think ahead to implementation of the post-2020 framework, particularly at national and sub-national levels. Indigenous Peoples and local communities who are sustaining collective lands and territories of life have the moral high ground and growing political leverage. Indigenous and community organizations and their supporters need to be creative and strategic about how we engage in advocacy with governments, funders, and conservation NGOs, while being very aware of the constraints and challenges of nation-state systems.”

— AMEYALI RAMOS, INTERNATIONAL POLICY COORDINATOR, ICCA CONSORTIUM



Global Maritime Forum Annual Summit

WHEN **September 22–23, 2022**
WHERE **New York City, NY (in person)**
MORE INFO <https://bit.ly/global-maritime-forum>

Event Background

The Global Maritime Forum is an international not-for-profit organization committed to shaping the future of global seaborne trade to increase sustainable long-term economic development and human wellbeing. To serve its mission, the Forum convenes leaders from across the maritime community with policymakers, NGOs, experts, and other influential decision-makers and opinion shapers from all geographies in a community of purpose to discuss collective challenges and to work together on developing new solutions and recommendations for action.

Geopolitical conflict, supply chain disruptions, as well as the urgent need for climate action and to ensure human sustainability both at sea and on shore will have profound ramifications for the maritime industry and for global trade for years to come. At the Global Maritime Forum's Annual Summit 2022 in New York, leaders, and stakeholders from across the maritime value chain and beyond will work together to understand these challenges and to generate ideas for practical actions that can help shape the future of global seaborne trade to increase sustainable long-term economic development and human wellbeing. This meeting will take place in conjunction with the UN General Assembly that is scheduled for the same week.

"The last two years we have seen dramatic changes: a global pandemic, the urgency of the climate crisis, and now a full-scale war on European soil leading to unbearable human suffering and economic uncertainty. These events will have a profound impact on the maritime industry and the people who work in and depend on it. Our ambition for this year's Annual Summit is to bring leaders together to better understand, collaborate, and act on these challenges – it is needed now more than ever."

– JOHANNAH CHRISTENSEN, CEO, GLOBAL MARITIME FORUM



World Ocean Tech and Innovation Summit

WHEN **October 4–5, 2022**
WHERE **Halifax, Canada (in person)**
MORE INFO <https://events.economist.com/world-ocean-tech/>

Event Background

The Economist Impact's World Ocean Tech and Innovation Summit will convene innovators, business leaders, thought leaders, and investors to learn about and engage with the latest "blue economy" innovators and technologies, and identify solutions that will form the roadmap to a sustainable, thriving ocean economy.

Taking place in Halifax, Canada, the two-day program will showcase local innovations that have the potential to be scaled globally, and welcome international business leaders, investors and scientists to share learnings and unleash new opportunities for cross-border partnership and investment.

OCEANS 2022 Hamptons Roads

WHEN **October 17–21, 2022**
WHERE **Virginia Beach, VA, United States (in person and virtual)**
MORE INFO <https://hamptonroads22.oceansconference.org/>

Event Background

Global thought leaders and innovators in the areas of marine technology, engineering, science, research, and education will gather at OCEANS 2022 Hampton Roads event to learn and experience cutting-edge technologies in the field of marine science. Participants will hear from industry experts and engineers regarding the latest research and innovations, discuss current environmental issues and policies affecting the field, and collaboratively work together to move the fields of marine technology and engineering forward. This year's theme is *Resilient Coasts: Adapting Today to Secure Tomorrow*.



Sustainable Ocean Summit Blue Finance Summit

WHEN **Sustainable Ocean Summit: October 17–18, 2022**
Blue Finance Summit: October 19, 2022
WHERE **Barcelona, Spain (in person)**
MORE INFO www.sustainableoceansummit.org

Event Background

The World Ocean Council is partnering with the City and the Port of Barcelona to develop a global Blue Economy hub, headquartered in Barcelona, Spain. In celebration of this new partnership, the World Ocean Council (WOC) will host two high-impact ocean events in this vibrant port city: the much-anticipated return of the Sustainable Ocean Summit – SOS 2022, taking place October 17-18; followed by the launch of the Global Blue Finance Summit – BlueFIN 22, WOC's new forum focused on blue finance, on October 19.



27th Conference of the Parties (COP27)

WHEN November 7–18, 2022
WHERE Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt
MORE INFO <https://cop27.eg/>

Event Background

The 2022 UN Climate Change Conference will take place in Egypt as the 27th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UNFCCC. Many in the marine conservation community pointed to COP26 in 2021 as a key turning point for the ocean-climate nexus, as the Glasgow Climate Pact recognized the ocean under the UNFCCC and proposed annual dialogues to strengthen ocean-based climate action. COP27 is considered a critical meeting for securing commitments and financing commensurate with the scale and pace of climate change, which has become the most pervasive and fast-growing threat to ocean health.

“There were two elements that I was very excited about coming out of COP26 in late 2021. First, the Glasgow Climate Pact acknowledges the interlinkages between the climate and biodiversity crisis, and the role that nature-based solutions—namely the protecting, conserving and restoring nature and ecosystems—play in that regard. While clear to many, this recognition continues to open minds and doors, that we can’t tackle one problem without the other. This is important for setting the right policy incentives as well as enabling more funding and finance to flow into nature-based solutions. It is, however, equally important to state that while nature-based solutions can provide win-win opportunities in some cases, they are not a silver bullet to tackle climate change. A myriad of other climate actions, including reducing GHG emissions at a rapid rate, are urgently needed.

The second highlight of COP26, in my opinion, was the establishment of a reoccurring Ocean-Climate Dialogue. This is a great opportunity for countries and other stakeholders to discuss current trends, opportunities, and hurdles on ocean-climate action. That said, the dialogue is not a signal to become complacent on ocean-climate action and to discuss ocean issues only in the dialogue. It remains important to integrate ocean matters across all relevant agenda items and work programs of the UNFCCC. Jointly with our many partners, the IUCN continues to provide guidance to decision-makers on means to strengthen ocean action, and in particular, using nature-based solutions, across the efforts of the UNFCCC, as well as beyond.”

— DOROTHÉE HERR, MANAGER, OCEAN AND CLIMATE CHANGE, IUCN



International Maritime Organization, Marine Environment Protection Committee

WHEN **December 12–16, 2022**
WHERE **Virtual**
MORE INFO <https://bit.ly/imo-mepec-december>

Event Background

The Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) addresses environmental issues under IMO's remit. This includes the control and prevention of ship-source pollution covered by the MARPOL treaty, including oil, chemicals carried in bulk, sewage, garbage and emissions from ships, including air pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions. Other matters covered include ballast water management, anti-fouling systems, ship recycling, pollution preparedness and response, and identification of special areas and particularly sensitive sea areas. The 79th session of the MEPC in December 2022 will build upon progress from the 78th session taking place in June 2022.



Fifth International Marine Protected Areas Congress (IMPAC5)

WHEN **February 3–9, 2023**
WHERE **Vancouver, BC, Canada (in person and virtual)**
MORE INFO www.IMPAC5.ca

Event Background

International Marine Protected Areas Congresses (IMPAC) are an opportunity for the global community of marine conservation leaders and practitioners to exchange knowledge, experience and best practices to strengthen the conservation of marine biodiversity and to protect the natural and cultural heritage of the ocean. IMPAC5 attendees include: marine protected area professionals, Indigenous leaders, conservationists, decision makers, young professionals, ocean friends and advocates. IMPAC congresses are a collaborative effort between the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the chosen host country. From 3-9 February 2023, the world's leading ocean conservation professionals will meet in Vancouver, Canada to chart a course towards protecting 30% of the global ocean by 2030.

"The International Marine Protected Area Congress (IMPAC5) is a global opportunity to create and announce the pathway to fulfill the Convention on Biological Diversity targets – namely 30% by 2030. The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation is proud to sponsor this event that will bring together practitioners from around the world, including Indigenous and other government leaders who are committed to achieving a healthy ocean through marine protection. We're excited to deepen collaboration and sharing on critical elements of the work, such as protection standards and conservation financing."

– MEAGHAN CALCARI CAMPBELL, PROGRAM OFFICER, GORDON AND BETTY MOORE FOUNDATION



The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture (SOFIA) Report 2022

AUTHOR Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
LAUNCH June 29, 2022
MORE INFO www.fao.org/state-of-fisheries-aquaculture

Report Background

The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture (SOFIA) is the flagship publication of the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Division. This document is published every two years to provide policymakers, civil society, and those whose livelihoods depend on the sector with a comprehensive, objective and global view of capture fisheries and aquaculture, including associated policy issues.

The 2022 edition of SOFIA will launch at the UN Ocean Conference and will be subtitled “Towards Blue Transformation.” The FAO is proposing a Blue Transformation, a visionary strategy for aquatic food systems that promises to meet the twin challenges of food security and environmental sustainability while ensuring equitable outcomes and gender equality.

“The Blue Transformation is about creating a process through which FAO Members and partners can maximize the contribution of aquatic food systems to enhance food security, nutrition and affordable healthy diets,” says Manuel Barange, director of FAO’s fisheries and aquaculture division.



Illuminating Hidden Harvests

AUTHOR FAO, Duke University, WorldFish
LAUNCH Date TBD
MORE INFO <https://www.fao.org/3/cb2879en/CB2879EN.pdf>



Report Background

Illuminating Hidden Harvests: the contribution of small-scale fisheries to sustainable development (IHH) is a collaborative study to assess the contributions, impacts, and drivers of small-scale fisheries globally to inform policy-making processes and empower fishing communities with key information. Led by the FAO, Duke University and WorldFish, the study will support implementation of the *Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries* and progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals. Funding for the study is provided by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, Oak Foundation, and CGIAR Trust Fund.



IPCC Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) Synthesis Report

AUTHOR Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
LAUNCH October 2022
MORE INFO <https://www.ipcc.ch/ar6-syr/>

Report Background

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the United Nations body for assessing the science related to climate change. The IPCC provides regular assessments of the scientific basis of climate change, its impacts and future risks, and options for adaptation and mitigation.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is currently in its Sixth Assessment cycle, during which the IPCC will produce the Assessment reports of its three Working Groups, three Special Reports, a refinement to the Methodology Report and the Synthesis report. The Synthesis Report will be the last of the Sixth Assessment Report products, due for release in 2022 in time to inform the 2023 Global Stocktake by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change as mandated by Decision 1/CP.21. 2023 is when countries will review progress towards the Paris Agreement goals, including the goal of keeping global warming to well below 2°C while pursuing efforts to limit it to 1.5°C.

The Synthesis Report of the Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) provides an overview of the state of knowledge on the science of climate change, emphasizing new results since the publication of the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) in 2014.

It is fully based on the reports of the three Working Groups of the IPCC, as well as on the three Special Reports on Global Warming of 1.5°C, on Climate Change and Land, and on the Ocean and the Cryosphere in a Changing Climate. It provides an integrated view of climate change as the final part of the Sixth Assessment Report. In February 2022, the IPCC released the second part of the Sixth Assessment Report (AR6), Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. In April 2022, the IPCC finalized the third part of the AR6, Change 2022: Mitigation of Climate Change.