

World Economic Forum Ocean Action Agenda

Ensuring sustainable use of the ocean for healthy people and a thriving planet

The World Economic Forum's Ocean Action Agenda connects international frameworks, national policies, business leaders, ocean-based industries and civil society to scale science-based solutions that can restore ocean health and underpin a sustainable and equitable ocean economy.

We champion a broad range of initiatives to accelerate new ways of fostering ocean health and preserving this vital global resource. Through four impact areas, the Ocean Action Agenda catalyses change by creating new and elevating existing initiatives at the nexus of science, business and policy – and enables partnerships across industry, government, academia

and civil society to accelerate ambitious and innovative solutions for ocean health.

As part of the Forum's Centre for Nature and Climate, the ocean team collaborates and cross-fertilizes with multiple platforms working to ensure the long-term sustainability of natural systems.

The Ocean Action Agenda convenes a wide range of stakeholders across sectors and communities, including the Friends of Ocean Action, a unique group of global leaders who are fast-tracking scalable solutions to the most pressing challenges facing the ocean.

The impact we seek

Business and policy transformation

Accelerating business and policy actions for a sustainable and equitable ocean economy that supports people and planet in line with global climate, nature and development goals

Initiatives

- [Ocean 100 Dialogues](#)
- [Ocean 20](#)
- [Sustainable Blue Partnership Cooperation Network](#)
- Communications efforts to strengthen ocean governance

Blue food

Promoting sustainable, accessible seafood to meet the nutritional needs of a growing global population

Initiatives

- [Blue Food Partnership](#)
- [Global Tuna Alliance](#)
- [Seafood Loss and Waste](#)
- [Supply Chain Risk Project](#)

Climate and resilience

Unlocking the power of the ocean for climate change mitigation and adaptation and supporting the resilience of coastal communities

Initiatives

- [Blue Carbon Action Partnership](#)
- [Blue Recovery Hubs](#)
- [Mangroves Working Group](#)

Ocean innovation

Enabling a thriving ocean innovation ecosystem that is mature, global, diverse and well invested to drive transformation to a sustainable blue economy and a healthy ocean

Initiatives

- 1000 Ocean Startups
- [UpLink Ocean](#)

Follow the Forum's Ocean Action Agenda work on [our website](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and get in touch [here](#).

The challenge

By 2030, the world will need to meet the ambition of global goals and targets such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Global Biodiversity Framework and advance towards the Paris Agreement. Integrating the ocean across all agendas and multilateral processes is key to successfully working towards this ambition as the ocean is essential for humanity's prosperity and well-being, food security, global economies and jobs, addressing the climate crisis and securing intergenerational equity.

The impact we seek

Through cross-cutting projects and leveraging the convening power of the Forum, this impact area drives the business and policy transformations needed to accelerate ocean health and promote a sustainable and inclusive ocean economy that supports nature, people and climate.

Our initiatives

[Ocean 100 Dialogues](#)

A science-business platform enabling business leaders in the ocean economy to deliver cross-industry action that accelerates ocean stewardship for the protection and restoration of marine biodiversity.

→ **How to engage:** Join other [Ocean 100 companies](#) in this cross-industry collaboration to realize wide-ocean impacts.

[Ocean 20](#)

The Ocean 20 initiative provides a platform for G20 countries, the private sector and civil society to leverage market opportunities in the ocean economy and realize commitments to a sustainable, inclusive ocean.

→ **How to engage:** Join governments and other partners to shape the Ocean 20 initiative, elevating the role of the ocean in the global economy.

[Sustainable Blue Partnership Cooperation Network](#)

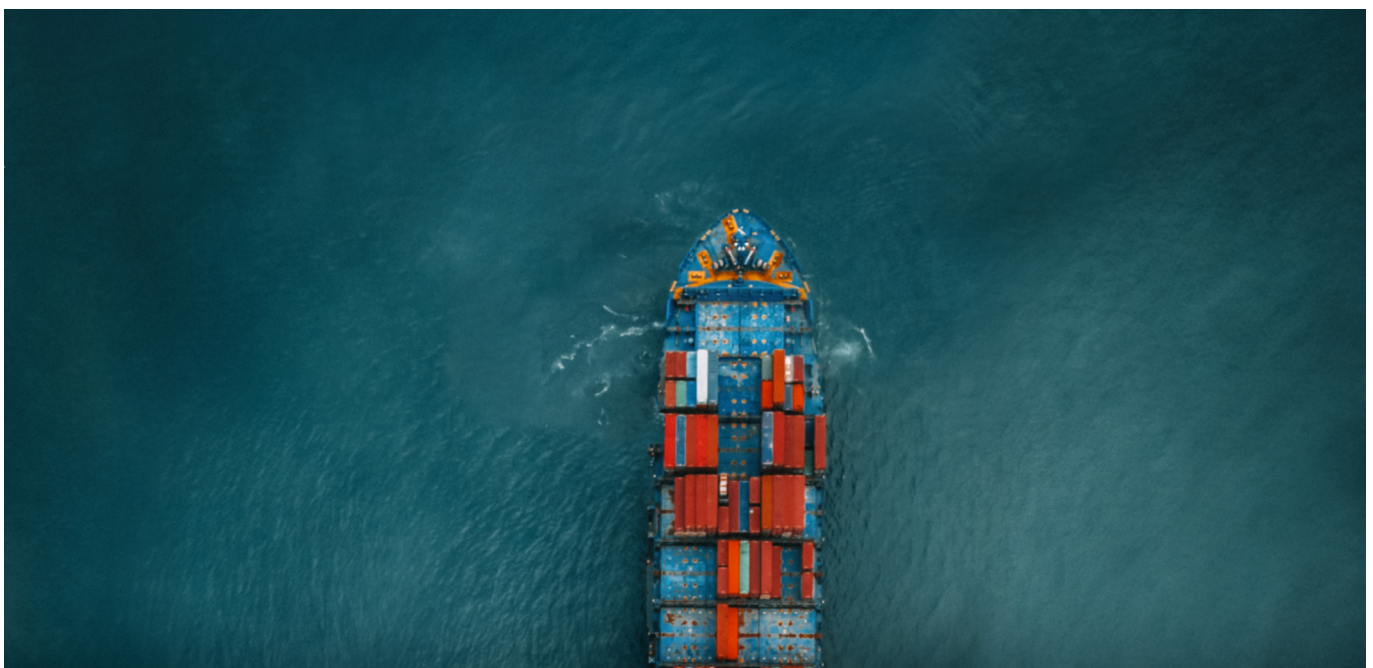
In collaboration with the China Oceanic Development Foundation and with the support from the Ministry of Natural Resources of China, this initiative facilitates multistakeholder cooperation for sustainable ocean governance.

→ **How to engage:** Endorse the [Blue Partnership Principles](#) as a guideline for carrying out ocean practices and support the network in different ways, including but not limited to supporting the operation and development of the network, participating in the network's activities, and investing and taking action in the key areas of cooperation under the Blue Partnership Principles.

[Communications efforts to strengthen ocean governance](#)

Advocacy for bold action to solve critical ocean issues through relevant global multilateral forums, such as ending harmful fisheries subsidies (entry-into-force and strengthening of measures), creating marine-protected areas (protection of at least 30% of the ocean by 2030), and safeguarding marine biodiversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (conclusion of a robust High Seas Treaty).

→ **How to engage:** Follow and promote our content on the Friends of Ocean Action [website](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#) and leverage your networks, profile and media platforms to help share [Ocean Action in 2023](#) and other statements, calls to action and messages drawing attention to ocean governance priorities.



Follow the Forum's Ocean Action Agenda work on [our website](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and get in touch [here](#).

The challenge

The ocean faces multiple stressors from the impacts of the climate crisis. Impacts to the ocean extend beyond its coastlines and determine the lives of people and economies around the world. Fortunately, healthy marine ecosystems are better able to adapt to and recover from negative impacts and also serve as our greatest ally in the fight against climate change. The world must harness the potential of nature-based solutions from the ocean to advance the health of both planet and people.

The impact we seek

Through developing public-private collaborations that address pressing policy, economic and scientific questions, the Climate and Resilience impact area unlocks the long-term contributions of the ocean to climate-change mitigation and the resilience of coastal communities.

Our initiatives

[The Blue Carbon Action Partnership \(BCAP\)](#)

BCAP supports national governments in achieving their blue carbon ambitions and works across sectors globally to unlock the potential of the blue carbon market and make connections to meet the demand for high-quality blue carbon credits.

→ **How to engage:** Join BCAP at a national or global level in support of blue carbon markets, high-quality blue carbon projects, and investment in blue carbon ecosystems for benefits to people, biodiversity and climate.

[Mangroves Working Group](#)

The Mangroves Working Group enables companies and investors to contribute to the conservation and restoration of mangrove forests with support from non-profit actors that provide complementary expertise and networks.

→ **How to engage:** Endorse the [High Quality Blue Carbon Principles and Guidance](#), a community knowledge product developed by the Mangroves Working Group in collaboration with other leading partners.

[Blue Recovery Hubs \(BRH\)](#)

This joint initiative between the World Economic Forum and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) aims to rebuild and diversify ocean economic activities to deliver a more sustainable, equitable and resilient ocean economy. The BRH works with Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) and other targeted countries and currently supports the Governments of Fiji and Samoa, providing a detailed understanding of the vulnerabilities and resilient growth opportunities available through mobilizing finance for their ocean economies.

→ **How to engage:** Join other development partners, private investors and stakeholders from SIDS countries interested in contributing to financing local initiatives in support of SIDS' growing needs for resilient ocean economic development.



Follow the Forum's Ocean Action Agenda work on [our website](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and get in touch [here](#).

The challenge

By 2050, the human population is estimated to have grown to 10 billion people. The current land-based system of food production cannot meet the nutritional needs of a growing and more urbanized population. Turning to blue food (food from aquatic sources) could be a solution. However, the ocean is being rapidly depleted of fish and other aquatic foods, while unsustainable fishing and aquaculture practices are degrading both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. Progress is being made but further work is required to secure ethical, legal and sustainable seafood that is accessible, especially to those most nutritionally in need.

The impact we seek

Through supporting projects with industry, government and civil society organizations and providing new insights and knowledge on key blue food topics, this impact area elevates and secures the long-term role of blue food as a primary source of livelihoods, cultural values and nutrition for society.

Our initiatives

[Blue Food Partnership](#)

The Blue Food Partnership catalyses science-based actions for healthy and sustainable blue food value chains. To this end, it is developing the Global Sustainable Aquaculture Roadmap with the four pathways of responsible production, better livelihoods, healthy consumption, and a resilient enabling environment to guide the sustainable growth of aquaculture.

→ **How to engage:** Support the Blue Food Partnership by endorsing our [Global Sustainable Aquaculture Roadmap](#) and apply the recommendations to your own actions. If you would like more details about the roadmap, contact the [Ocean Action Agenda team](#).

[Global Tuna Alliance](#)

The Global Tuna Alliance (GTA) is an independent group of retailers and supply chain companies, working to ensure that tuna ultimately meets the highest standards of environmental performance and social responsibility. Learn more [here](#).

→ **How to engage:** Join dozens of other tuna retailers and supply-chain businesses as a [GTA partner](#) to promote tuna traceability, environmental sustainability and social responsibility.

[Seafood loss and waste](#)

The Forum is bringing together policy-makers, business leaders and civil society organizations to create an aligned approach to maximizing by-product utilization in Namibian hake fisheries, thereby both capturing more nutrition and reducing seafood loss.

→ **How to engage:** Find out more about the project [here](#) and [get in touch](#) to promote the repurposing of seafood by-products to maximize the socio-economic and environmental value of blue food.

[Supply chain risk project](#)

This project is working to improve ocean data transparency to enable companies throughout seafood supply chains to avoid products from illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.

→ **How to engage:** Read our pilot project [results](#) and [get in touch](#) if you want to engage in future testing phases. Follow best practices to improve traceability in seafood supply chains and engage your governments to publicly share relevant information to combat IUU fishing, such as vessel registration lists and satellite tracking data.



Follow the Forum's Ocean Action Agenda work on [our website](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and get in touch [here](#).

The challenge

Business as usual is not an option. Change must be propelled by innovation. To fast-track the innovations urgently needed to save the ocean, we must tap into the wealth of creativity from youth leaders, social and technology entrepreneurs and finance innovators passionate about ocean health. The world needs a facilitator to make the right connections and remove obstacles.

The impact we seek

Through elevating the role of ocean innovation in global conversations, supporting innovators to reach new heights and driving coordinated action across multiple stakeholders, this impact area enables a thriving ocean innovation ecosystem that is mature, global, diverse and well invested, driving transformation to a sustainable blue economy and ocean health.

Our initiatives

1000 Ocean Startups

This coalition aims to accelerate innovation by scaling at least 1000 ocean positive solutions by 2030.

→ **How to engage:** Find out more about the project and get in touch with the [Ocean Action Agenda team](#).

UpLink Ocean

UpLink Ocean provides an innovation platform that creates bridges for ocean entrepreneurs to connect to the investors, corporate partners, experts and governments they need to scale.

→ **How to engage:** Join a future UpLink Challenge as a supporting partner or as an expert reviewer. Partner with UpLink to enable the innovation ecosystem in a thematic relevant to your work. Submit your own idea to one of our challenges!



Follow the Forum's Ocean Action Agenda work on [our website](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and get in touch [here](#).