



UN Ocean Conference Side Event

Sustainable Ocean Development Beyond GDP: Scaling global efforts to make nature and people count through ocean accounts

Lisbon, Portugal | Thursday, 30 June 2022, 13:00–14:15 | Altice Arena Convention Centre, Side Event Room 1

Hosted by the [Global Ocean Accounts Partnership](#) with the [UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific](#), the [High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy](#), [Capitals Coalition](#), and Governments of [Australia](#), [Canada](#), [Indonesia](#), [Mexico](#), [Norway](#), [the United Kingdom](#) and [the United States](#).

Background

The 2030 Agenda recognizes that “social and economic development depends on the sustainable management of our planet’s natural resources”, including oceans and seas and the biodiversity and ecosystems therein.¹ To achieve the future we want for our ocean, we need to change our measures of economic success to guide us on a more sustainable path.²

Commitments to measure and manage progress “beyond Gross Domestic Product” are now embedded in the [Sustainable Development Goals](#),³ first draft [Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework](#),⁴ and 2020 commitments of the sixteen (16) Heads of Government represented on the [High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy](#) (Ocean Panel).⁵

Meeting these commitments depends on urgent collaborative action to compile and use Ocean Accounts—which connect social, economic and environmental information about the ocean in coherent and comparable formats, in line with international statistical standards.⁶

Purpose and focus

The purpose of this side event is to strengthen mutual awareness and action planning among global leaders concerning ocean accounting and recognise their critical role as a foundation of measurement, innovation, investment, management and planning of progress towards sustainable ocean development. Discussions will build on progress achieved at GOAP’s March 2022 [3rd Global Dialogue on Ocean Accounting](#) which brought together 200+ delegates from 65 countries to exchange lessons learned on implementation and scaling of ocean accounts.

The event will feature a scene-setting dialogue between senior officials from GOAP Member countries and institutions, taking stock of global efforts to implement ocean accounting, now spanning more than 20 countries. The dialogue will be followed by facilitated, open discussion to identify potential elements for a global action agenda to scale and accelerate progress towards ocean accounting to help deliver the future we want for our ocean by 2030 and beyond.

¹ [UNGA A/RES/70/1](#), preamble paragraph 33.

² See e.g: Final Report of the [Dasgupta Review on the Economics of Biodiversity](#) 2022, High Level Panel [Blue Paper on National Accounting for the Ocean and Ocean Economy](#) 2020, and [Report on the Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress](#) 2009.

³ Complementing SDG 14, see: SDG15.9 focusing on integration of ecosystem and biodiversity values into decision-making, and SDG17.19 focusing on measurement of progress complementing GDP and statistical capacity building.

⁴ See e.g: Paragraphs D5 (Theory of change), E9 (2050 Vision and 2030 Mission); F11 (2050 Goals and 2030 Milestones).

⁵ See [Transformations for a Sustainable Ocean Economy](#) Priority Actions on accounting for the value of the ocean.

⁶ In particular, the United Nations et al [System of Environmental Economic Accounting](#).



Summary Agenda

Agenda Item	Participants and roles
Welcome and introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opening remarks: Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Under-Secretary General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of United Nations ESCAP
High level discussion panel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitator (national action): Dr. Eli Fenichel, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, United States Government Facilitator (international cooperation): Mr. Taholo Kami, Former Special Representative for Oceans, Government of Fiji <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Panellist: Dr. Rick W. Spinrad, Undersecretary of Commerce and Administrator of National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, United States Government Panellist: Mr. Victor Gustaaf Manoppo, Director General for Marine Spatial Management, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Government of Indonesia Panellist: Ms. Aminath Shauna, Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Technology, or Dr. Abdulla Naseer, Minister of State for Environment, Climate Change and Technology, Government of the Maldives Panellist: Ms. Briony Coulson, Head of International Sustainable Blue Finance, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Government of the United Kingdom Panellist: Dr. Russell Reichelt, Prime Minister's Representative for the High-Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy, Government of Australia. Panellist: Dr. Graciela Márquez, President of the National Institute of Statistics and Geography, Government of Mexico Panellist: Mr. Henrik Harboe, Prime Minister's Sherpa to the Ocean Panel, Government of Norway Panellist: Mr. Chip Cunliffe, Co-Chair, Ocean Risk and Resilience Alliance Panellist: Mr. Sylvain Taboni, Director, Impact Investing, BNP Paribas Corporate Social Responsibility Department
Audience questions and panel reflections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitator: Mr. Taholo Kami, Former Special Representative for Oceans, Government of Fiji
Closing remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closing remarks: Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Under-Secretary General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of United Nations ESCAP