



Session 8

*Maximizing synergies with other processes,
initiatives and ambitions*

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Strengthening ocean-based action under the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement

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One Climate System



The Blue Marble from Apollo 17, taken in 1972
NASA Johnson Space Center

Atmospheric CO₂ levels were approx. 330 ppm

Article 1.3 "Climate system" is defined as "the totality of the atmosphere, **hydrosphere**, biosphere and geosphere and their interactions."

Article 4.1 Commitments: "all Parties shall promote sustainable management, and promote and cooperate in the conservation and enhancement, as appropriate, of sinks and reservoirs of all greenhouse gases, including biomass, forests and **oceans** as well as other terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems."

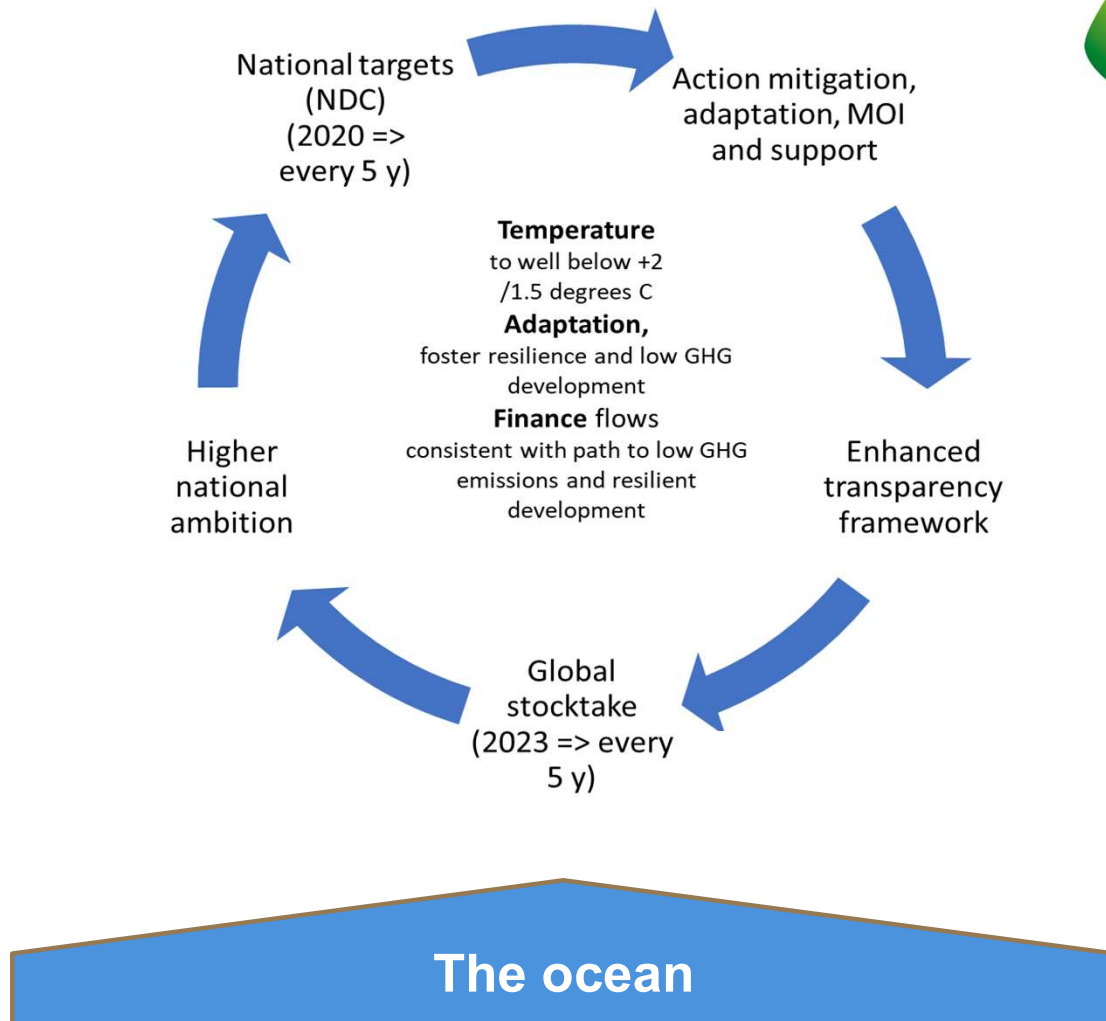
Paris Agreement pre-amble "the importance of **ensuring the integrity of all ecosystems, including oceans**, and the protection of biodiversity..."



The Chile Madrid Time for Action 2019 and Glasgow Climate Pact

- **At COP 25**, the Chile Madrid Time for Action 2019, governments recognized the need to strengthen the understanding of, and action on, ocean and climate change under the UNFCCC. COP 25 mandated the first Ocean and climate change dialogue, drawing upon the knowledge and scientific findings from the IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a changing climate.
- Noted the importance of ensuring the **integrity of all ecosystems**, including forests, the ocean and the cryosphere, and the protection of biodiversity (preamble);
- Emphasized the importance of protecting, conserving and restoring nature and ecosystems, including forests and other terrestrial and marine ecosystems, to achieve the long-term global goal of the Convention by acting as sinks and reservoirs of greenhouse gases and **protecting biodiversity**, while ensuring social and environmental safeguards (para 2);
- Recognized the importance of protecting, conserving and restoring **ecosystems** to deliver crucial services, including **acting as sinks and reservoirs** of greenhouse gases, reducing vulnerability to climate change impacts and supporting **sustainable livelihoods**, including for indigenous peoples and local communities (para 50);
- Invited the **relevant work programmes and constituted bodies** under the UNFCCC to consider how to integrate and strengthen ocean-based action in their existing mandates and workplans and to report on these activities within the existing reporting processes, as appropriate (para 60);
- Invited the SBSTA Chair to hold an **annual ocean and climate change dialogue**, and prepare an informal **summary report that is made available to the COP** at each subsequent session (para 61).





Nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement. Synthesis report by the secretariat

38. An increasing number of Parties (40 per cent) are targeting ocean-based climate action.

Some Parties (26 per cent) include an ocean-based climate target, policy or measure.

Ocean-related measures reported in the NDCs relate more often to adaptation than to mitigation, there has been an increase in adaptation measures identified related to fisheries and aquaculture

(and relatively few Parties mentioned offshore renewable energy as a mitigation solution)

<https://unfccc.int/documents/619180>



National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)

- The National Adaptation Plan Process facilitates adaptation planning in least developed countries and other developing countries.
- Ocean-related supplementary information to the technical guidelines include those by the CBD and FAO.
- The ocean and coastal zones are addressed in over 70% of new or revised NAPs

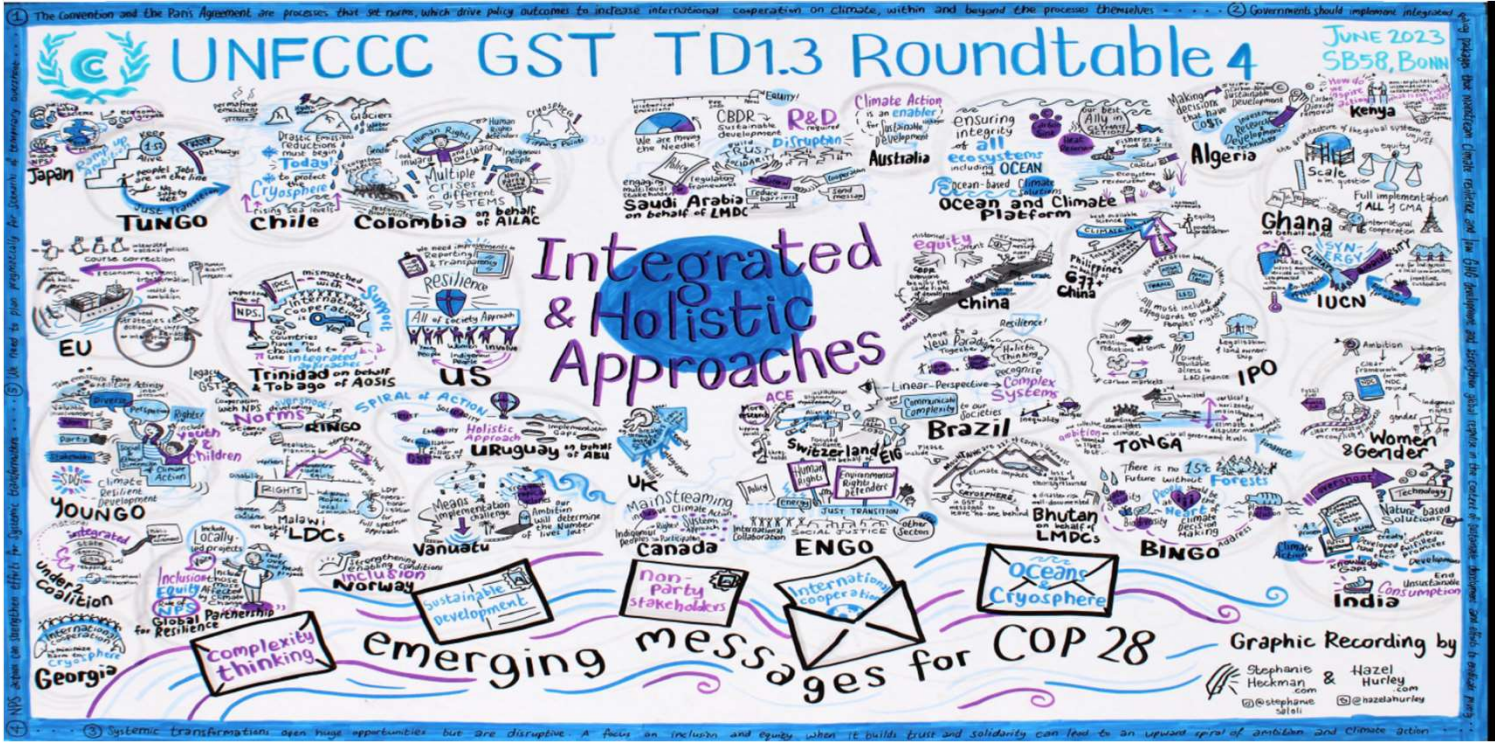


Glasgow–Sharm el-Sheikh work programme on the global goal on adaptation

- The fourth workshop focussed on communicating and reporting on adaptation priorities.
- Discussions at the workshop emphasised the importance of incorporating ocean and coastal-based adaptation priorities and actions in communicating and reporting on adaptation under the UNFCCC.
- Linking to key messages from the 2022 ocean dialogue, the workshop reported how integrated ocean-based solutions can be reflected in national climate policies and strategies



Global Stocktake under the Paris Agreement



Rolling workplan of the Technology Executive Committee for 2023–2027

Activity ID	Activity	Expected outputs/deliverables					Potential partners (not exhaustive)
		2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	
C.4. Promote innovative technology solutions related to nature and ecosystems							
Climate objectives: Adaptation and Mitigation (co-benefits)							
C.4.1	Innovative Ocean Climate Solutions: Building on the TEC's previous work on innovative technological and ecosystem-based approaches to strengthening ocean and coastal adaptation, analyse the contributions of innovative solutions and technological innovations for ocean-based actions, including how technology can help address issues related to marine protected areas and achieve the SDG 14.	i. Participation in the UNFCCC Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue (8c, 16a)					Enterprise Neurosystem IUCN UN Ocean UNESCO WIPO



Nairobi work programme on knowledge for adaptation action

- The NWP Ocean Expert Group aims to strengthen action on ocean and climate adaptation under the UNFCCC process.
- There is an opportunity for Parties to consider how this expertise could be mobilised to develop a long-term partnership between the experts, NWP partners, and other Parties to address key ocean-climate gaps through collaboration with NWP and the UNFCCC constituted bodies.
- The NWP Ocean Expert Group is continuing its work in support of the ocean agenda
- SB58 mandate: high latitude areas and cryosphere new thematic work





The Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue 2022

Key messages – Blue the Paris Agreement

The ocean offers a space for integrated solutions that can be reflected in national climate policies and strategies (e.g. NDCs, NAPs, BTRs, TNAs, Adaptation Communications etc.)



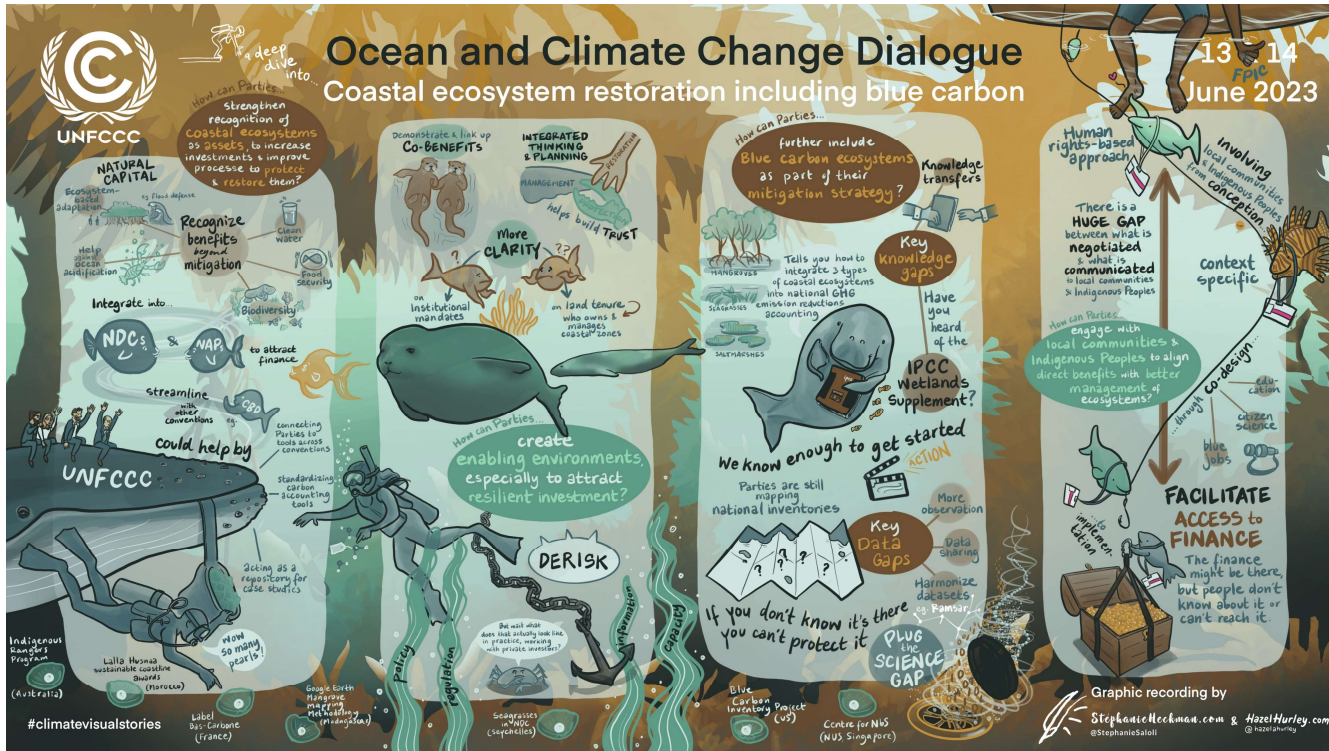
<https://unfccc.int/event/ocean-and-climate-change-dialogue-2022>

COP 27 Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan

- Continued to strengthen ocean-based action under the process and encouraged Parties to consider, as appropriate, ocean-based action in their national climate goals and in the implementation of these goals, including but not limited to nationally determined contributions, long-term strategies and adaptation communications.
- COP 27 decided that future dialogues will, from 2023, be facilitated by two co-facilitators, selected by Parties biennially, who will be responsible for deciding the topics for and conducting the dialogue, in consultation with Parties and observers, and preparing an informal summary report to be presented in conjunction with the subsequent session of the Conference of the Parties.
- Parties at COP 27, Decision 22/CP.27, emphasized the need to address systematic observation gaps, particularly in developing countries and for ocean, mountain, desert and polar regions and the cryosphere in order to improve understanding of climate change, climate-related risks and tipping points, and adaptation limits and to ensure enhanced delivery of climate services and early warning systems.



Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue 2023 : Topic 1



In conclusion – one ocean - one climate - one planet – urgency for

- Where the process is moving to in COP28. Need to place the ocean within the solution space coming out of the GST and (as reported at UN-Ocean conference last year) 100% Parties must blue their commitments.
- Ocean action –Ocean management for conservation and restoration of nature and sustainability – There are a large number of case studies collected from the recent ocean dialogue that show this work is being undertaken already – and these can be used and communicated more widely continue . Annual ocean dialogue is a space where enabling discussions can happen
- Commitment to finance/funding – and must embrace complexity of funding in the ocean space – and consider how this can be communicated and reported. Science/observations can help provide indicators . LME – SAP/TDA uptake in the national commitments- NAPs/ NDCs
- Opportunities to link at national level with other UN communications and reporting , including NBSAPs/CBD and at the international level with the Biodiversity framework and the BBNJ Agreement
- The ocean is a victim of climate change but also MUST be a space for ocean-based climate ambition Increasing recognition not just of the impact of climate change on the ocean but also that the ocean is a place where urgent climate action is needed and can provide significant positive potential.



United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Ocean action = Climate action

Climate action = Ocean action



<https://unfccc.int/topics/ocean>