

Blue Zone SDGs Pavilion

Proposal

Side Event: Innovation and social collaboration for climate change adaptation in the pursuit of sustainable blue economies

Monday 17 November 2025, 10:30-11:30

COP30 SDG Pavilion Side Event, Event ID: E41

Climate change continues to exert profound pressures on community-based initiatives that promote sustainable blue economies particularly in island and coastal communities that are prone to climate change impacts. To safeguard marine and coastal ecosystems while sustaining livelihoods, it is essential to design and implement effective climate adaptation strategies that foster innovation, strengthen social collaboration, and enhance international partnerships. Increasingly frequent and intense rainstorms, rising sea temperatures, and accelerating coastal erosion are among the major adverse effects of climate change disrupting marine productivity and coastal resilience.

At the same time, efforts to advance sustainable blue economies are further constrained by anthropogenic pressures such as unregulated coastal development, overfishing, marine pollution, and habitat degradation. These cumulative impacts threaten biodiversity, undermine local economies, and weaken the social fabric of coastal communities vulnerable to climate change. Therefore, stakeholder groups and community organizations must critically assess both the climatic and human-induced drivers of change, developing adaptive measures that not only mitigate climate impacts but also reduce the root causes of environmental degradation.

This event will bring together speakers to share experiences and case studies illustrating how climate and anthropogenic factors affect the pursuit of sustainable blue economies. Participants will exchange good practices and innovative approaches to strengthen community resilience through resource mobilization, cross-sectoral collaboration, equitable benefit sharing, and international cooperation aimed at achieving inclusive and sustainable ocean governance.

Proposed speakers

- Prof. Alexander Turra, Professor, Institute of Oceanography, University of São Paulo
- Dr. Leonardo Valenzuela Pérez, Director of International Partnerships, Ocean Vision
- Ms. Catalina Laura Catalina Reyes Vargas, Founder & Executive Director, Ocean Hub

Colombia

- Ms. Meredith Morris, Senior Director, Strategic Philanthropy, XPRIZE Foundation
- Ms. Farhana Haque Rahman, Senior Vice President and Executive Director, Inter Press

Service

- Mr. Masanori Kobayashi, Senior Research Fellow, Sasakawa Peace Foundation