

Pacific Rim Ocean-Climate Action Partnership

Climate change and its effects—including ocean acidification, warming, and deoxygenation—are devastating the ocean. At the same time, the ocean is a critical source of overlooked climate mitigation and adaptation solutions. There is still broad lack of awareness, however, of the ocean-climate connection. Ambitious and coordinated leadership is necessary to address the interrelated ocean and climate crises.

As stewards of the world's largest ocean, Pacific leaders are working together in the face of climate change to protect the Pacific and the billions of people who rely on its health. It is notable that countries on the Pacific Rim account for more than 60 percent of the world's economy. The Pacific Rim Ocean-Climate Action Partnership (PROCAP) will be a voluntary initiative of willing non-state and state actors, including organizations, corporates, towns, cities, provinces, states, and countries. The members of this national-subnational partnership will resolve to:

- Drive ambitious reductions in greenhouse gas emissions,
- Maximize sustainable ocean-related mitigation measures, and
- Build the climate resilience of ocean and coastal ecosystems as well as the communities and economies on the front lines of ocean and climate change.

Specifically, members of the partnership are dedicated to the near-term actions and longer-term goals in its Charter to Protect the Pacific.

Charter to Protect the Pacific

Members of the partnership pledge to:

- **Take Action on Carbon Pollution.** Members will maximally increase ambition to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, communicating this ambition in updated climate plans—such as nationally determined contributions, long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies, and subnational climate commitments—and aiming to reach carbon neutrality by midcentury. This includes maximally increasing ambition to reduce carbon dioxide emissions to combat ocean acidification.
- **Take Action for Ocean Mitigation.** Members will maximize ocean-related mitigation through efforts such as protecting and restoring coastal blue carbon ecosystems, increasing well-sited offshore renewable energy, reducing emissions from fisheries and other ocean industries, and reducing emissions from domestic and international maritime transport, as appropriate to national or subnational circumstances. Members will communicate their ambitions for ocean-related mitigation in updated climate plans.
- **Take Action for Ocean Resilience.** Members will maximize ecosystem-based adaptation to build the resilience of ocean and coastal ecosystems and the communities and livelihoods on the front lines of ocean acidification, sea-level rise, and other climate impacts. This includes reducing other human-caused stressors on the ocean. It also includes:
 - Supporting the goal to highly protect at least 30 percent of the global ocean by 2030, and
 - Supporting ecosystem-based management through marine spatial planning or other integrated ocean management approaches for 100 percent of ocean waters under their jurisdiction by 2030.

Members will communicate their ambitions for ocean ecosystem-based adaptation in updated climate plans, such as nationally determined contributions, adaptation communications, or subnational climate commitments.

In addition, members will leverage the resources, expertise, and actions of related efforts and initiatives of members, such as the Ocean Pathway Partnership.

The Pacific Rim Ocean-Climate Action Partnership is a voluntary initiative. It does not create any legally binding rights or obligations and creates no legally cognizable or enforceable rights or remedies, legal or equitable, in any forum whatsoever. In addition, the pledges in the Charter are not conditioned upon reciprocal actions by other participants in the Partnership; each Member retains full discretion over implementation of its pledges in light of the Member's individual circumstances, laws, and policies; and each Member is free to withdraw from the Partnership.