

Ocean Conservancy at UNFCCC COP27



COP27 - the **27th UNFCCC Conference of the Parties set to take place in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt 6 November - 18 November, 2022**. It is an opportunity for governments, the private sector, civil society, and communities to champion and invest in realizing pledges on climate action to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement and limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius. Ocean Conservancy will attend COP 27 to elevate ocean-climate mitigation and adaptation solutions, advance the outcomes of the Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue report, and advocate the ocean's vital importance for livelihoods and biodiversity and as a fundamental component of the climate system. We will convene dialogues on critical intersectional issues, participate on panels as experts, and as the informal Secretariat of the Friends of Ocean and Climate, we will be supporting parties in their climate negotiations and support for greater ocean-climate action.

IPCC projections & planning for extreme sea level rise risk

Monday, Nov. 7 @ 13:00

Intl Cryosphere Climate Initiative (ICCI) Pavilion

This event will focus on low-likelihood/high impact sea level rise and what this means for coastal adaptation. Panelists will highlight insights from the IPCC AR6 Working Group I and II reports.

Ocean Conservancy speaker and moderator: [Dr. Sarah Cooley, Director Climate Science](#)

Thinking outside the shell: Toward the sustainable blue future we need

Tuesday, Nov. 8 @ 08:30-10:00

Nature Pavilion, Blue Zone

This event will feature discussions around key opportunities to harness the potential of the ocean as a major source of clean energy with a focus on opportunities to sustainably plan and manage offshore wind production to meet mitigation and energy security goals, and to meet the food and nutrient needs of the world's growing population. It features speakers representing governments and non-governmental organizations.

Ocean Conservancy moderator: [Anna-Marie Laura, Director Climate Policy](#)

Harnessing finance for addressing climate-ocean change

Wednesday, Nov. 9 @ 14:00-15:00

[COP27 Virtual Ocean Pavilion](#)

Despite the IPCC's dire warnings, the impacts of ongoing ocean warming, acidification, and deoxygenation are often under-recognized by policy and decision-makers, misunderstood, or excluded from mainstream climate mitigation, financing, or adaptation priorities. Hear from national governments, Global Fund for Coral Reef and OA practitioners on innovative and interdisciplinary projects that will help us leverage finance for more holistic climate-ocean adaptation.

Ocean Conservancy speaker: [Sarah Cooley, Director Climate Science](#)

Accelerating the clean energy transition by ending plastic pollution: Capitalizing on climate commitments, community action and a strong global plastics agreement

Friday, Nov. 11 @ 16:15–17:15

The Nature Pavilion, Blue Zone

This event will feature perspectives of national and subnational governments and community leaders on how efforts to end plastic pollution, from source to sea, can be harnessed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, prevent fossil fuel lock-in, and build climate resilience for coastal communities and marine ecosystems.

Hosted by Ocean Conservancy and featuring [Aarthi Ananthanarayanan, Director Climate and Plastics Initiative](#)

Innovations at the ocean-climate nexus to accelerate decarbonization, address climate change, and improve the blue economy

Saturday, Nov. 12 @ 09:00-10:00

Ocean Pavilion

In this session, we aim to discuss policy innovations and lessons in sustainable aquaculture and seafood as a decarbonization pathway, ocean-based renewable energy, shipping & reducing plastic production and usage, and research for blue carbon & marine-based carbon sequestration.

Ocean Conservancy speaker: [Anna-Marie Laura, Director Climate Policy](#)

Incorporating all knowledges: How Indigenous Knowledge can help preserve ocean resources in a changing climate

Saturday, Nov. 12 @ 12:00

Ocean Pavilion, Blue Zone

This event will highlight the importance of meaningfully incorporating Indigenous knowledge (IK) into climate change research, management, and governance of ocean resources. Speakers will discuss topics including how successful the IPCC has been at incorporating IK in previous and current Reports, challenges and how they can be overcome in future Assessment Reports, and future pathways forward to meaningfully incorporating IK into Assessment Reports.

Ocean Conservancy moderator: Sarah Cooley, Director Climate Science

Subnational Leadership on Climate-Ocean Action: Assessing Risk and Deploying Local Response

Saturday, Nov. 12 @ 11:30-12:30

America is All In Pavilion, Blue Zone

Regional ocean and coastal acidification networks (CANs) in the U.S. have effectively leveraged collaborations with U.S. State, Tribal and municipal governments to accelerate local actions and regional strategies. Panelists will highlight strategies they are using to advance climate policy and build support for targeted ocean mitigation, risk assessments, adaptation, and resilience.

Ocean Conservancy speaker: Anna-Marie Laura, Director Climate Policy

Healthy Planet Healthy People: What does adaptation mean for ecosystems and why does it matter to people?

Saturday, Nov. 12 @ 18:00

Science Pavilion

This session aims to present main findings of the latest IPCC report on adaptation options for conserving biodiversity and Ecosystem-based Adaptation for people.

Ocean Conservancy speaker: Sarah Cooley, Director Climate Science

Community risk is climate risk: aligning finance and policy to empower communities in the clean energy transition

Saturday, Nov. 12 @ TBC

Climate Justice Pavilion, Blue Zone

This event will highlight original case study research on the community risks of fossil fuel and plastics projects and the financial costs faced by companies that disregarded them. It will feature perspectives from policymakers, civil society leaders, and investors on strategies to internalize community risks.

Hosted by Ocean Conservancy and featuring Aarthi Ananthanarayanan, Director Climate and Plastics Initiative

Panel on Ocean microplastic pollution: Links to climate, ecological impacts, and human health risks

Monday, Nov. 14 @ 09:00-10:30

Ocean Pavilion, Blue Zone

Like CO2 emissions, the flow of plastic waste to the environment, especially the ocean, is an adverse side-effect of economic activity. Unlike CO2, the social cost of plastic pollution is not well understood and effective management require a better resolution of risks. This panel will focus on the current state of knowledge about plastic in the ocean, potential links to climate, and potential impacts on human and environmental health.

Ocean Conservancy speaker: Aarthi Ananthanarayanan, Director Climate and Plastics Initiative

Transforming human behavior to enable ocean-focused climate action, biodiversity protection and sustainable development

Tuesday, Nov. 15 @ 09:00-10:30

Science Pavilion

This session will discuss how transitioning toward managing simultaneously for multiple ocean crises – climate impacts, biodiversity loss and unsustainable fisheries – while meeting the objectives of climate resilient development can contribute to achieving the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals and a sustainable ocean.

Ocean Conservancy speaker: Sarah Cooley, Director Climate Science

Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR) as an Ocean Climate Solution: Urgently taking a precautionary approach

Tuesday, Nov. 15 @ 15:00-16:30

Conference Room 5, Blue Zone

The side event will consider the complexities of ocean CDR and explore actions to minimize negative impacts. It will feature perspectives from scientists, representatives from non-governmental organizations, and technical experts who focus on ocean CDR planning and nature-based climate solutions.

Hosted by Ocean Conservancy and featuring Sarah Cooley, Director Climate Science & Anna-Marie Laura, Director Climate Policy

Ocean-Climate-Society: challenges & opportunities for ocean mitigation, adaptation, finance & UNFCCC
Tuesday, Nov. 15 @ 16:45-18:45 **Conference Room 5 (Memphis), Blue Zone**

This side event will showcase examples of ocean adaptation, including in Africa and Asia-Pacific, and of blue finance and the need for its further expansion, especially for the sustainable development of coastal ecosystems and communities in vulnerable coastal and island nations such as Africa. It will highlight action-driven global scientific collaboration and equitably with local communities in helping to understand and manage the challenges placed on the marine ecosystems and so improve sustainable development. The session will explore the summary of the mandated UN Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue for ocean integration into the UNFCCC processes.

Ocean Conservancy speaker: [Dr. Sarah Cooley, Director Climate Science](#)

Ocean Climate Action Day
Wednesday, Nov 16 @ 09:00 **Climate Action Zone**

This event will call for ambition, increased finance, and to accelerate the implementation of ocean-based climate solutions to deliver a resilient, net-zero, equitable, and nature-positive future. It will feature perspectives from scientists, non-governmental organizations, and local governments.

Ocean Conservancy speaker: [Sarah Cooley, Director Climate Science](#)

Uncovering Climate's Secret Ally: the value of nature in the IPCC 6th Assessment Report
Wednesday, Nov 16 @ 17:30-18:30 **WWF Panda Pavilion**

IPCC Sixth Assessment Cycle is finishing in 2022(23) with the AR6 Synthesis Report. There is a lot of information in the reports already published about the interactions between climate change, nature and people. In this event WWF launches our summary report, bringing to life this latest IPCC science on climate and nature. We will explore some of the key messages and what they mean for how we approach the climate crisis.

Ocean Conservancy speaker: [Sarah Cooley, Director Climate Science](#)

Working with Nature for People and the Planet: Nature-based solutions in the IPCC 6th Assessment
Wednesday, Nov. 16 @ 14:00-15:00 **Science Pavilion, Blue Zone**

This event will present the findings from the latest report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and briefly discuss what nature-based solutions (NbS) are and provide an overview of the evidence for nature-based solutions NbS as both adaptation and mitigation strategies. It will also present some of the risks associated with poorly designed or poorly implemented nature-based solutions...We will highlight multiple benefits of NbS, and aids and barriers to NbS.

Ocean Conservancy speaker: [Sarah Cooley, Director Climate Science](#)

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