



## OCEAN ACTION

### Ocean Action Newsletter: Vol. 8

**December 2018: Science catalyses new efforts for the ocean-climate nexus**

[oceanconference.un.org](http://oceanconference.un.org)

Our ocean is already seeing the consequences of 1°C of global warming, via rising sea levels and diminishing Arctic sea ice, among other changes, the “[Global Warming of 1.5°C](#)” report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) confirmed in October. Even more, the IPCC projects that a 2°C rise in the global average temperature would lead to more significant global and regional climate impacts than a 1.5°C rise, making it critical that the global community take collective action now to limit this warming.

Recent activities in the ocean community at the end of 2018 frequently cited the report and drew out the interlinkages between Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 13, Climate Action, and SDG 14, Life Below Water, citing that action taken on behalf of one goal also benefits the other. The “Global Warming of 1.5°C” report is the first in a series of IPCC special reports, and next year the panel will release its Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate, anticipated to strengthen the ocean-climate nexus even further.

## **At COP24, leaders call for more ocean financing to benefit climate**

All of the ways the ocean plays a role in climate change adaptation and mitigation were central to discussions at the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP24) in Katowice, Poland, held from 2 to 15 December. In particular, the Oceans Action Day on 8 December—part of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action—highlighted ocean-climate issues like food security, disaster risk reduction, trade, scientific research, finance, and displacement and migration. Peter Thomson, the UN Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for the Ocean, participated in multiple discussions and high-level meetings, calling on world leaders to increase their funding for ocean-related projects as a way to mitigate climate change.

Ambassador Thomson moderated a special event highlighting the work of the Communities of Ocean Action (COAs), held 7 December in the SDG Pavilion organized by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA). At the event, titled “How are the Communities of Ocean Action Addressing Climate Change?” speakers representing six Communities of Ocean Action (COAs) (on science, ocean acidification, marine pollution, sustainable fisheries, mangroves, and marine and coastal ecosystems management)—from the Food and Agriculture Organization, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, The Nature Conservancy, the Ocean Conservancy, UNESCO and the Sasakawa Peace Foundation—shared how their latest projects relate to climate mitigation and adaptation, followed by an interactive discussion. As the event’s moderator, Ambassador Thomson highlighted the importance of a pragmatic, solutions-based approach to the implementation of SDG14.

## **Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean catalyses ocean action in Bangkok**

On 20 November, the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), in close cooperation with custodian agencies of the COAs and the UN Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for the Ocean Peter Thomson, organised the first regional event to take stock of progress made on voluntary commitments in support of SDG 14. The event, held in Bangkok, provided an opportunity to share lessons learned from ongoing efforts across the communities and catalyse new commitments for a healthy ocean in Asia-Pacific.

Activities toward achieving Goal 14 and voluntary commitments were reviewed through interactive discussions, presentations and exhibits. Breakout sessions during the day allowed participants to dive deep into topics such as marine pollution, ocean acidification, and sustainable fisheries. ESCAP identified unsustainable trade and transport, unplanned urbanisation, and inadequate coastal and marine governance as threats to ocean health and sustainable development. Countries in Asia-Pacific are both major sources of ocean degradation and highly vulnerable to its impacts, which are being exacerbated by climate change.

## **Sustainable Blue Economy Conference highlights role of Africa in SDG 14**

Can humans use the ocean as a tool for lifting people out of poverty, all the while protecting its valuable ecosystem? Most participants at the first-ever Global Sustainable Blue Economy Conference, held in Nairobi in November, think so. The Conference brought together more than 18,000 ocean experts and

activists to discuss how to sustainably use our ocean. Hosted by Kenya and co-hosted by Canada and Japan, the conference was a success in bringing Africa firmly into the global narrative on ocean action and in reinforcing the principle of sustainability in developing the blue economy. Participants discussed ways to harness the potential of our oceans, seas, lakes and rivers to improve the lives of all, particularly people in developing states, women, youth and Indigenous peoples, and leverage the latest innovations, scientific advances and best practices to build prosperity while conserving our waters for future generations. The Conference led to 191 commitments to build the blue economy from countries, UN agencies, the private sector, and international and regional NGOs, and resulted in the Nairobi Statement of Intent on Advancing the Global Sustainable Blue Economy, which contains a number of key political messages.

### **1,500 concrete actions now registered on UN platform to save our ocean**

A recent surge in pledges to protect and sustainably manage our ocean pushed the number of concrete actions registered on the UN's global platform for voluntary ocean commitments to 1,500, signaling that health of our ocean remains a priority for many governments, businesses and civil society organizations around the world.

The commitments build on the nearly 1,400 made during a global call for action at the UN Ocean Conference in June 2017. That 100 new commitments have been made in the year since the conference shows that progress towards achieving SDG 14, Life Below Water, is moving ahead. The new commitments, like the others, will join the nine Communities of Ocean Action, the thematic multi-stakeholder groups facilitated by the UN DESA, to follow up on implementation.

### **Looking ahead to the High-level Conference on Climate Change and Oceans Conservation in Brussels**

In order to build awareness of the impacts of climate change on the ocean and marine environment, and to build political momentum towards finding solutions to address them, Belgium is organizing a High-level International Conference on Climate Change and Oceans Conservation in Brussels on 19 February 2019. The conference aims at gathering ministers and representatives from industry, civil society, public authorities and research to discuss ways to mitigate and respond to the impacts of climate change on ocean conservation and to explore opportunities the ocean offers for zero-carbon energy production.

The conference will address three main topics: climate change and the impact on biodiversity, how to conciliate ocean energy with marine conservation, and how to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from ships. For further information, please contact [climateoceans@environment.belgium.be](mailto:climateoceans@environment.belgium.be).



### **Highlights of recent activities undertaken by the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Ocean, H.E. Mr. Peter Thomson**

Over the last quarter of 2018, the UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Ocean, Ambassador Peter Thomson, has continued his global activities in pursuit of SDG 14's implementation, urging the international community to take action in support of the ocean's health. These activities have included many media interviews and video recordings for international meetings he was unable to attend.

Most recently, at the UN Climate Conference (COP24) in Katowice, Poland, the Special Envoy was a keynote speaker at a number of ocean-related gatherings from 7 to 11 December. At the COP24 Oceans Action Day on 8 December, the ambassador spoke at the day's opening event on the subject of "A whole UN approach to the ocean and climate nexus," stressing the imperative of the UN system working together to achieve the positive actions required from the mutual-reinforcement of ocean and climate action platforms and programmes. The Special Envoy's other keynote addresses included Because the Ocean Coalition's event on enhancing ocean content in NDCs; Blue Pledge's event on socially responsible and sustainable pearl industries; the Indonesian Government's high-level event on correlating climate change action and sustainable development; the UK's Government's ocean acidification event; Conservation International's "Ocean-Climate" event following up on September's Global Climate Action Summit; and the Pacific Island Forum's "Ocean-Climate Crosswalk" event.

Taking advantage of the COP24 conference, the Special Envoy arranged and joined a meeting between the COP23 Presidency (Fiji) and Luis Alfonso de Alba, the UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the 2019 Climate Summit. He also advanced the Source-to-Sea SDG 6/SDG 14 cooperation through a coordinating meeting with SIWI's leadership and held bilateral meetings on the enhancement of ocean action in 2019 with Minister Sigrid Kaag of the Netherlands, Prime Minister Frank Bainimarama of Fiji, Minister Luhut Binsar Pandjaitan of Indonesia, and officials of the Swedish and Portuguese Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Following on from COP24, the Special Envoy attended the "Navigating Pacific Futures" High-Level Conference at Wilton Park, UK, 16-18 December, organized by the Governments of New Zealand and the United Kingdom, in tandem with the Pacific Islands Forum. Amb. Thomson opened and facilitated the conference's session on the ocean-climate nexus on 17 December.

Additionally, having played a guiding role in its conception and planning, the Special Envoy attended the Sustainable Blue Economy Conference in Nairobi, Kenya, from 26-28 November. In addition to speaking in the Leaders Segment at the opening of the conference, Ambassador Thomson made addresses at the opening of the Science and Research Symposium, at UN Environment's Regional Ocean Governance event, at the opening of the Business and Private Sector Forum, and was invited to make a wrap-up address at the conference's high-level closing ceremony. While in Nairobi, the Special Envoy chaired a meeting on 25 November of COA co-focal points to identify gaps and best practices in the implementation of SDG14 voluntary commitments (see COA section below).

The Special Envoy participated in the Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean organized by ESCAP in Bangkok on 20 November. In his keynote address, he underlined how a healthy ocean would benefit sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region, stressing the important role regional platforms must play in promoting ocean health. While in Bangkok on 21 November, Ambassador Thomson also addressed ESCAP's Committee on Environment on the state of ocean action.

The Special Envoy interacted with the marine private sector by attending the annual summit of the World Ocean Council in Hong Kong, from 15 to 16 November. He spoke at the summit on the need for trust and partnership between the public and private sector, and indeed all those involved in implementing the targets of SDG14 and advancing the sustainable use of ocean resources.

Ambassador Thomson undertook his regular quarterly visit to New York from 5 to 9 November to report to the UN Secretariat and brief interested parties. On this trip, he met with the ambassadorial Group of Friends of Oceans and Seas (GoFOS) and with the EU delegations to brief them on the progress of SDG 14 implementation. He called on the UN Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General and the heads of DESA, the Office of Legal Affairs, UNDP and other officials, along with Member State Permanent Representatives to take action.

From 28 to 31 October, Ambassador Thomson was in Bali, Indonesia, to participate in the Our Ocean Conference hosted by the Government of Indonesia. He gave a keynote address at the Youth Leadership Summit, at the conference plenary, and was invited to speak at side events on the subjects of coral reef protection, marine protected areas, the Blue Economy Finance Principles, ghost gear and funding for ocean action.

He attended the Ramsar Convention COP13 in Dubai on 22 and 23 October, where he gave a keynote address at the opening ceremony. While in Dubai, he also addressed the COA on Mangroves, in a well-attended meeting organized by the Ramsar Convention Secretariat and IUCN to stress that conserving mangroves is a vital nature-based solution for climate change mitigation.

The Special Envoy joined the International Symposium on the conservation and sustainable use of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ) on 16 and 17 October in Xiamen, China. In his opening address, he reported that the health of the ocean was suffering due to a variety of reasons such as marine pollution, habitat degradation, overfishing, IUU fishing and destructive fishing practices, as well as the adverse effects of climate change and ocean acidification. Since no single country can address these threats by itself, he urged close international cooperation in the conservation and sustainable use of ocean resources. While in China, Ambassador Thomson held bilateral meetings with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and with marine agencies.

From 11 to 12 October, the Special Envoy was in Colombo, Sri Lanka, at the invitation of the Sri Lankan Prime Minister, to deliver the opening address at the Indian Ocean Conference. As well as speaking at the conference on the ocean's problems and the emerging solutions, the Special Envoy met with Sri Lankan ministers and regional organisations to further enhance SDG 14 action in the Indian Ocean.

Ambassador Thomson was in Potsdam, Germany, from 8 to 9 October to speak at the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies about cooperation between regions in the governance of the ocean. While there, he held meetings with the Government of Germany and NGOs about greater support for global efforts on SDG 14.

You are invited to follow the Special Envoy's [Twitter account](#) and new [Instagram account](#), where he shares messages of solutions and strategies for achieving a healthy Ocean through implementation of SDG14 and fidelity to the Paris Climate Agreement. More information about his work can be found on the website [oceanconference.un.org/SpecialEnvoy](http://oceanconference.un.org/SpecialEnvoy).



## Updates from the Communities of Ocean Action (COAs)

### COA focal points meet in Nairobi

Focal points from all nine Communities of Ocean Action held a meeting, chaired by the UN Special Envoy for the Ocean, on 25 November on the sidelines of the Sustainable Blue Economy Conference in Nairobi. Participants gave updates on their work and discussed gaps, good practices and lessons learned in the delivery of the voluntary commitments, updates and progress in the preparation of the COA mid-term evaluations, and their 2019 workplans, with a view to maximizing contributions to the next anticipated Ocean Conference in 2020.



*COA focal points meet in Nairobi in November 2018.*



## Mangroves

Since the Ocean Conference in 2017, the Mangrove COA has had demonstrated growth in membership and recruitment of new voluntary commitments, with 17 new pledges this year, demonstrating the urgent need for attention to protect, restore, rehabilitate and better manage mangrove ecosystems. In December, the COA submitted its midterm progress report to UN DESA—a key finding of it was that more than 60 percent of the mangrove voluntary commitments included benefits for SDG 13, climate action. Mangrove commitments showcase climate mitigation measures such as enhancing blue carbon storage through protection and restoration of mangroves and associated ecosystems, as well as climate adaptation measures such as building the resilience of coastal communities through ecosystem-based adaptation and disaster risk reduction through the rehabilitation and protection of mangroves. COA activities in this quarter included a series of webinars and events at the Ramsar Convention COP13 in Dubai, the UNESCAP Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean in Bangkok, and at COP24.



*L-R: Elizabeth Mrema, Peter Thomson, Martha Rojas Urrego and Stewart Maginnis in Dubai. Photo by IISD/ENB*

**Meeting of the Mangrove COA at Ramsar COP13**  
The “UN Ocean Conference Community of Ocean Action on Mangroves: Progress and Opportunities” meeting was held at the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands COP13 in Dubai on 22 October. At the event, remarks were made by Ambassador Peter Thomson, Ramsar Convention Secretary-General Martha Rojas Urrego, Stewart Maginnis, the global director of IUCN’s Nature-based Solutions Group, and Elizabeth Mrema

from the Law and Conventions Division at UN Environment. Government representatives from Australia, Brazil, Fiji and Sweden presented insights from existing voluntary commitments, including actions on restoration, protection and blue carbon.

Honduras, on behalf of the fourteen countries of the Ramsar Regional Initiative for the Conservation and Wise Use of Mangroves and Coral Reefs (Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, and Venezuela) announced their intention to submit the initiative as a new voluntary commitment. The main actions of the initiative include the development of policies and regulations to promote the protection and conservation of mangroves and coral reefs, and achieve their effective management through integrated management of watersheds and marine/coastal areas.

The Regional Partnership for the Conservation of the Coastal and Marine Zone of West Africa (Cabo Verde, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Mauritania, Senegal, Sierra Leone) also announced their intent to join the COA and submit a new voluntary commitment ([#25433](#)). This partnership works on the mobilization of

stakeholder awareness and exchange of good practices on the coastal erosion and coastal risk management and the protection of coastal and marine wetlands.

### **Mangrove dialogues at Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean**

On 20 November, IUCN Asia and Mangroves for the Future (MFF) attended the Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean event in Bangkok. Aban Marker Kabraji, IUCN Asia Regional Director and Director of the IUCN Hub for Asia-Oceania, represented the Mangrove COA, co-hosting a session alongside Paul Marshall, Director of Reef Ecologic, who represented the COA for Coral Reefs. Kabraji set the scene for regional progress on healthy marine and coastal ecosystems. In the session, the Thailand Department of Marine and Coastal Resources (DMCR) gave a presentation on Thailand's voluntary commitment towards sustainable management of marine and coastal habitats ([#18211](#)) and Michael Stewart presented on the creation of a global platform focused on regenerating ocean health and mitigating climate change where individuals and companies can offset their climate impact by committing financial support to rehabilitation of mangroves ([#25401](#)).

The Mangrove COA tallies 116 voluntary commitments to date, with more than 40 percent of those coming from Asia-Pacific. Kabraji noted an opportunity to increase commitments in the Western Indian Ocean region, and also from the private sector. Alongside these opportunities, there are challenges, including a lack of data sharing. The solution identified for this was improved outreach, especially to regional networks and organisations such as the Coral Reef Working Group and Mangroves for the Future, an IUCN-UNDP initiative.

Moving forward, the COA on Mangroves plans to hold regional webinars to strengthen connections between members of the COA, share experiences and best practice, and discuss how to address common challenges to implementing Commitments. The COA will also hold a joint workshop in 2019 with the COA for Coastal and Marine Ecosystem Management. Continued outreach at regional and international events will secure more commitments and raise awareness of the need for action to on mangrove ecosystems so they continue to benefit people and planet.

### **Other recent Mangrove COA events:**

- **Tonga Mangrove Workshop:** Facilitated in collaboration between IUCN, the Mangrove Action Project, and the Tonga Ministry of Environment, a workshop held from 29 October to 1 November centred on capacity-training for participants on ecosystem-based adaptation and disaster risk reduction, and the process of mangrove valuation. The Tonga Ministry of Environment announced its intention to submit the development of its national mangrove management action plan as a voluntary commitment
- **“HuMANGROVES: The connection between sustainably managed mangrove and local development”:** At the Sustainable Blue Economy Conference in Nairobi, the HuMANGROVES session organized by Save Our Mangroves Now! highlighted opportunities to link innovative financing mechanisms to improve success rates of mangrove projects, discussed means to use legal frameworks to foster sustainable management of mangroves with clear local benefits, and highlighted the role of the Mangrove COA.
- **“How do we get there? The need for a coordinated mangrove conservation agenda”:** Global Mangrove Alliance members IUCN, WWF, TNC, CI, Wetlands International and Rare hosted an expert panel at COP24 in Poland on 5 December with Save Our Mangroves Now. The panel consisted of representatives by international organizations, NGOs and governments and reflected on the science and economics of natural climate solutions, with an emphasis on

mangroves, and how the mitigation potential of nature can help to answer the three questions in the Talanoa Dialogue: “Where are we? Where do we want to go? How do we get there?”, including highlighting the target of the Global Mangrove Alliance to increase mangrove cover 20% over current extent by 2030 ([#14787](#)).

- **Webinars:** Three regional webinars were held jointly by IUCN, Ramsar, and UN DESA for the Asia, Oceania, and Americas/Africa on 7, 12 and 20 September, with an emphasis on recruiting new voluntary commitments and reporting on progress and challenges community members are facing in the implementation of their pledges. Many members provided updates on their projects, including GRID-Arendal on the Blue Forests Project and Blue Carbon Code of Conduct Project ([#21548](#), [#20420](#)), IUCN Sri Lanka regarding their support to the government on marine and coastal resource management and sustainable livelihoods in Northern Sri Lanka ([#19874](#)), the Fiji Government through the Department of Lands and the Ra Provincial Council the creation of an Integrated Coastal Management Plan with ridge-to-reef planning and management ([#19984](#)), and the Fiji Locally Managed Marine Area Network ([#21668](#)). Recordings are available [here](#).



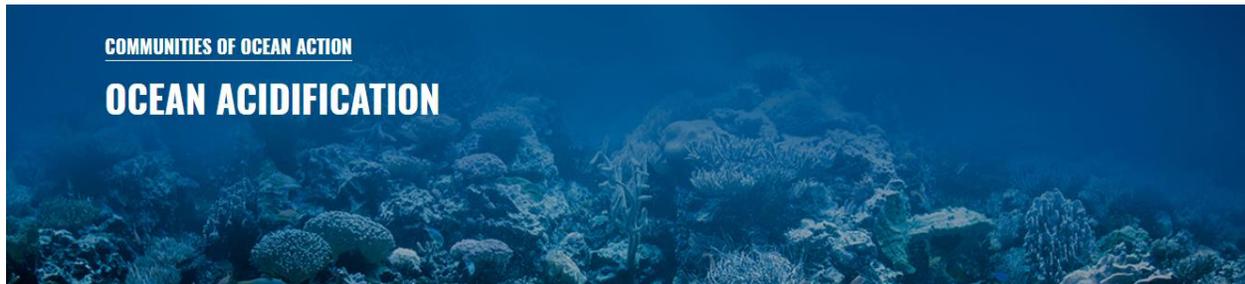
## Coral reefs

At the end of 2018, the Coral Reef COA has tallied its figures from the year:

- 122 Voluntary Commitments (VCs) from 104 members.
- 19% of VCs have submitted updates on progress via on the UN registry website.
- Most VCs are being led by Government (29%), NGO (25%), private sector (10%) or UN entity (9%).
- The primary contributions from VCs take the form of financing (44%) or staff/technical expertise (37%).
- The average estimated value of a coral reef VC is USD\$3.8 M; the cumulative total of all VCs registered under the coral reef theme is estimated at USD\$444 M.
- The state party with the most VCs registered is Indonesia (9), followed by the USA (7), the Maldives (5), France (5), India (4) and the Philippines (4). Twenty-six VCs are being led by global or multi-national coalitions.
- VCs range in scope from global-scale activities led by international NGOs to local-scale projects led by community groups or local conservation groups.
- VCs range in duration from less than 1 year to more than 45 years; the average time from inception to completion is 5.5 years.

## 2019 webinar

The Coral Reef COA will be hosting a Webinar for community members in mid-January 2019 and will feature a presentation on “Accelerating progress toward your VC: marketing, branding and partnerships for conservation outcomes.” Details on the webinar will be circulated to COA members soon.



## Ocean acidification

### First webinar of the COA on Ocean Acidification

The COA on Ocean Acidification launched its webinar series on 17 October with one hosted by the COA focal points, David Osborn of the International Atomic Energy Agency and Bronte Tilbrook of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation. This webinar included an analysis of the 240 voluntary commitments put forward for SDG 14.3, and webinar participants discussed current progress and future opportunities for collaboration. The next webinar, featuring presentations from two voluntary commitments, is tentatively planned for 10 January 2019.

### Ocean acidification session at the Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean

The community also participated in Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean in Bangkok, holding the session, “Ocean acidification, promoting scientific knowledge and accelerating action.” This session also included several presentations on the progress of ocean acidification commitments being implemented in the region and a video from David Osborn.

### SDG Indicator 14.3.1 upgraded to Tier II

The SDG 14.3.1 Indicator was upgraded in November from [Tier III to Tier II](#) by the Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators following a presentation by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO, the custodian agency for the Indicator. The Tier II classification means that the “indicator is conceptually clear, has an internationally established methodology and standards are available, but data are not regularly produced by countries.” The SDG Indicator 14.3.1 calls for “average marine acidity (pH) measured at an agreed suite of representative sampling stations.” The [Indicator Methodology](#), which provides guidance to scientists and countries about how to carry out measurements and how to report them, was developed with the support of experts in the ocean acidification community, including members of the Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network.

## New Voluntary Commitments

- Casa dei Pesci (Fish House), [28342](#) (Associazione Comitato per la Casa dei Pesci Onlus)
- Bottlenose dolphins in the Sicilian Channel: Increasing knowledge through research activities and people awareness on the marine environment conservation, [28338](#) (Associazione Me.Ri.S. Mediterraneo Ricerca e Sviluppo)
- Small-scale Fisheries Academy in Senegal, [28293](#) (Mundus maris asbl)
- Association of Arctic Expedition Cruise Operators' Clean Seas Project, [28230](#) (Association of Arctic Expedition Cruise Operators)
- Plastic pollution prevention through the development of sustainable sport events and voluntary beach clean ups, [28210](#) ( $\pi^3$ =Plastic Pollution Prevention)
- The Great Bubble Barrier, [28192](#) (The Great Bubble Barrier)
- Beach cleaning project on the Swedish west coast, [28186](#) (Väst kuststiftelsen/Ren Kust (Clean Coast))
- Turtle Excluder Device implementation in Malaysia, [28158](#) (Marine Research Foundation)
- Community-based sustainable development of the Sundarbans coastal ecosystem in Bangladesh, [28128](#) (Centre for Coastal Environmental Conservation)
- Mangroves Cultivation and Seawall Protection, [28101](#) (Cochin Social Service Society)
- Youth Ocean Explorers Summer Program, [28062](#) (Virgin Islands Marine Advisory Service-University of the Virgin Islands)
- Life Under Water-Physical and Mental Health Programmes for Kids and the Environment, [28059](#) (Mental and Environmental Development Initiative for Children)
- Life Under Water-Kids Beach Garden, [28047](#) (Mental and Environmental Development Initiative for Children)
- Humpback Whale Research Project, [28020](#) (Whales Bermuda)
- NO to littering of cigarette butts, [28004](#) (Rotaract Club of Triolet)
- Goal 14 Implementation by Ecologists Without Borders, [27975](#) (Ecologists Without Borders)
- Coastal Impact, [27969](#) (Venkatesh Charloo)
- Dr. Deepa Gavali, [27959](#) (Gujarat Ecology Society)
- Coastal Clean-ups and Marine Garbage Monitoring Project, [27953](#) (Guangzhou Green World)
- Reducing marine pollution, [27951](#) (Guangzhou Green World)
- OLIST: Ocean Literacy in Sail Training, [27955](#) (Coastal and Marine Experiential Education)
- Project M.A.R.E., [27931](#) (Protected Marine Area Punta Campanella)
- Promote an economic, integrated, sustainable and inclusive development, addressing climate changes challenges in Coastal West Africa, [27874](#) (International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN))
- BlueRibbon Ocean Conversation Association, [27880](#) (BlueRibbon Ocean Conversation Association)
- Protecting Kep Archipelago, [27759](#) (Marine Conservation Cambodia)
- Monitoring natural World Heritage sites to conserve mangrove ecosystems, [27747](#) (International Union for Conservation of Nature)
- Youth & MSP, [27744](#) (Atelier Caravela)
- Surfrider Ocean Friendly Program, [27741](#) (Surfrider Foundation Australia)
- Beach Clean-up, [27738](#) (Temple Reef Foundation)
- Sustainable Ocean Ambassador (SOA), [27732](#) (Agricultural and Food Marketing Association for Asia and the Pacific)

- Promotion of Best Practices, [27723](#) (respectOcean)
- Regional Incident Prevention and Emergency Response Capacity Through Planned Indigenous Marine Response Centre, [27714](#) (Heiltsuk Horizon Maritime Services Ltd)
- Strengthening the Resilience of Coastal Communities for Climate Change, [27677](#) (M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation)
- Create awareness and sustainability action on climate change adaptation and marine litter management along the east coast of India, [27668](#) (Centre for Environment Education)
- Mangrove Restoration Potential Map, [27592](#) (IUCN)
- Viet Nam Marine Megafauna Network, [27570](#) (Center for Biodiversity Conservation and Endangered Species (CBES))
- Save Our Mangroves Now!, [27534](#) (Germany, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ))
- Removal of marine debris from reef areas in Gulf of Mannar, Tamil Nadu, India, to reduce the stress to the bleached corals and to support recovery process, [27510](#) (Suganthi Devadason Marine Research Institute (SDMRI))
- Climate change caused bleaching and subsequent mortality in 2016 - post bleaching monitoring in Gulf of Mannar, Tamil Nadu, India, [27506](#) (Suganthi Devadason Marine Research Institute (SDMRI))
- Educating and engaging high school students in sustainable fisheries, [27502](#) (Diaries of the Ocean)
- Coastal Habitat Rehabilitation in Gulf of Mannar, Tamil Nadu, India, [27498](#) (Suganthi Devadason Marine Research Institute (SDMRI))
- Having a clean sea free from waste residue, [27489](#) (Beam of the Environment Association – BEA)
- Improving the effectiveness of coastal and marine resource management in the Philippines, [27475](#) (Marine Conservation Philippines)
- Mahim Beach Cleanup, [27469](#) (Dharavi Diary)
- Plastic Sustainability Guideline (PSG), [27466](#) (Association for Supporting the SDGs for the United Nations)
- SDG 14, [27463](#) (Conservation Action Trust)
- Participation in the International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) 2018-2020, [27430](#) (European Business Chamber in Trinidad and Tobago (EUROCHAMTT))
- Tripoli Lebanon-Beach Clean-ups, [27361](#) (Environmental Medics)
- Projeto Verde Mar de Limpeza Subaquática (Verde Mar Project - Diving Against Marine Debris), [27340](#) (Instituto Mar Urbano)
- International Coastal Cleanup Hong Kong, [27301](#) (Green Council Hong Kong)
- Educating people globally about the dangers of Plastic Pollution in our Oceans and how to deal with it, [27280](#) (Youth Ocean Action CIC)
- #NoPlasticStrawJakarta Campaign, [27277](#) (Navakara - Ways to Zero Waste)