

SUSTAINABLE
BLUE ECONOMY
CONFERENCE

NAIROBI, KENYA
26th - 28th November 2018



The blue economy:
Prosperous. Inclusive. Sustainable.





What is the conference?

- First global conference on the sustainable blue economy
- Dedicated to realizing the untapped potential found on our shores and in our oceans, seas, lakes & rivers
- Focused on integrating economic development and sustainability
- Will advance the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development & the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals)
- Will promote a blue economy which is:
Prosperous. Inclusive. Sustainable.



Why the conference?

- To accelerate the implementation of the UN's 2030 Agenda & SDGs
- To address the challenges of protecting our oceans, seas, lakes & rivers
- To realize the potential of our waters to create jobs & combat poverty
- To align the blue economy with the needs of society
- To bring together the players from all sectors of the blue economy
- To encourage businesses & private sector to collaborate with governments & civil society
- To harness the latest technology, innovation, science & research to ignite blue growth



Who should participate?

- Heads of State & government
- Ministers
- Governors & mayors of ocean- and lake-facing cities
- International, regional & national organizations
- Universities, research institutions & innovators
- Business & private sector
- Community leaders & civil society
- Women, youth & Indigenous people

Where will it take place?

- Nairobi, at the Kenyatta International Conference Centre

When do we gather?

- November 26 to 28, 2018
- 18 months after UN Oceans 2017
- 18 months before UN Oceans 2020



Participants

- 4,000+ participants
- Enabling developing states to participate

Participants will:

- Help shape the transition to a blue economy that is prosperous, inclusive & sustainable
- Help create new partnerships & projects that transcend boundaries
- Learn about success stories & concrete actions for driving sustainable blue growth
- Share strategies for transitioning to a blue economy in different countries
- Be mobilized for change

The Road to Nairobi

- The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development & the SDGs
- Climate Change Conference (COP 21), Paris
- UN Ocean Conferences 2017 & 2020
 - Bringing attention to the huge challenges facing the health of the oceans and the communities & industries that rely on them
- Most international conferences focused on finding solutions for sustaining ocean ecosystems
- Not enough focus on how economic development of our waters can go hand-in-hand with sustainability





Goals of the Conference



This conference will:



Share innovation including the latest science and cutting-edge technology to ignite promising sectors for blue growth



Promote strategies and best practices from around the world on how to implement the sustainable blue economy approach



Bridge the gap in participation and bring together all levels of government (local, regional, national) and non-governmental actors (scientists, academics, civil society)



Create and foster new partnerships and projects



This conference will:



Motivate the business community, philanthropists, and innovators to invest in blue economy sectors



Increase women and youth participation in the blue economy, ensuring marginalized groups & the poor benefit



Contribute to achieving the UN's 2030 Agenda, SDGs & the Paris Climate Change Agreement



Enhance collaboration between lake-facing cities & communities to address the challenges of growth & poverty alleviation





Conference Themes

Main theme:

The blue economy and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Cross-cutting themes:

- New technologies and innovations
- Financing the blue economy
- Priorities and partnerships
- Women, youth and the blue economy

Sub-Themes



Ending hunger,
securing food
supplies & promoting
healthy diets



Transportation
& global
connectivity



Energy, mineral
resources &
sustainable
development



Managing and
sustaining marine life
& conservation



Employment,
job creation &
poverty
eradication



Climate action,
agriculture &
pollution-free oceans



People, communities &
societies – the inclusive
blue economy



Cities, tourism,
culture & the
blue economy



Maritime security &
enforcement

Conference Events



- Opening plenary – all participants, with Heads of State
- Concurrent main events – on each sub-theme
- Side events – on specialized topics



- Seminars – on the latest academic & scientific thinking on the blue economy
- Exhibitions – trade, investment & tourism showcase for the blue economy



- Business forum – for businesses to network & pursue investment opportunities
- Closing plenary



Outcomes

- Blue Economy Pledge – by all conference participants
- Pledging Board – record of commitments by governments & stakeholders
- Strategic networks & clusters to promote the blue economy
- Final conference report
- Partnerships & joint projects across:
 - Governments
 - Parliaments
 - Businesses
 - Cities
 - Academia
 - Civil society
 - All sectors

International Partnerships





Opportunities to Contribute

- Participate & mobilize others to participate
- Become a co-host or co-sponsor
- Provide financial support
- Join the advisory committee – “Informal Friends of the Blue Economy”
- Organize side events and seminars
- Mobilize experts and speakers for program themes
- Encourage the private sector & business community to participate in the events, business forum & exhibitions

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www.blueeconomyconference.go.ke