



Virtual Ocean Pavilion

We would like to thank you for registering for and attending the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion. With twelve exhibit booths, eight live events, a COP28 ocean events calendar with over 300 events and a 40+ page Treasure Trove (with a final version updated on 18 Dec), we are delighted to have been able to share the features of this year's Pavilion with you.

COP28 Notable Outcomes

To review, the 28th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP28) held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates ended on 13 December 2023. The conference operationalized the [Loss and Damage Fund](#) and also concluded the first global stocktake of climate action under the Paris Agreement, adopting a [decision](#) calling for accelerated short-term action and an orderly transition away from fossil fuels – the first-ever UNFCCC COP decision to address fossil fuels. Thirdly, the parties adopted a [framework](#) for the global goal on adaptation (GGA), with 2030 targets for all parties to conduct assessments, adopt and implement adaptation plans and policy instruments, and set up monitoring and systems for their national adaptation efforts. [Breakthroughs](#) relating to nature-based climate action, including forests, mangroves, and oceans, were endorsed by Parties and stakeholders during COP28. Importantly, the ocean gained increased recognition with explicit mention in these decisions, though there is still much work to be done within the ocean-climate nexus.

Final COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion Events

On December 12, the COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion held an event titled ***Managing and Protecting Ocean Spaces for Climate, Biodiversity and People by 2030*** which focused on challenges and opportunities for marine protected areas and marine spatial planning to address the biodiversity and climate crises, the role of ocean carbon in the Global Stocktake, and implications for science, policy, management, and capacity building.

Also held on December 12, the final Pavilion event titled ***COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion High-Level Closing Event: Climate Change and the BBNJ Agreement*** explored the mitigation and adaptation potential of the vast high seas, along with its ecosystems and resources, presented by the recently adopted BBNJ Agreement. In response to the question “What’s next after the ship reaches the shore?” HE Mrs. Rena Lee, President of the Intergovernmental

Conference on BBNJ, set the stage for the discussion by stating that "We need to reprovision the ship so that it can set sail again in order for us to be able do what we say we want to do."

On-demand viewing of all COP28 Virtual Ocean Pavilion events is now available on the Pavilion Agenda page until January 12th, after which the recordings will be made available on the Global Ocean Forum's YouTube [channel](#).

Materials Available On-Demand

All materials currently available on the Virtual Ocean Pavilion will remain accessible through 12 January 2024. The Pavilion quiz and the resulting certificate will also remain accessible until that time.

During COP28, over 70,000 delegates came together and attended hundreds of side events at the climate conference in Dubai and the Virtual Ocean Pavilion COP28 Ocean Events feature can be a useful tool for finding COP28 events of interest which you may have missed or been unable to attend. To watch recordings of official COP28 Side Events, click [here](#) or [here](#) and please note that the COP28 Ocean Events feature will also remain accessible through 12 January.

Inviting Your Feedback

Finally, as this was the third Virtual Ocean Pavilion held at a UNFCCC COP, we are keener than ever to hear your feedback through this short [survey](#) (3-5min) which will feed into any future initiatives. Answers will be anonymous and we would greatly appreciate your comments and suggestions.

We thank you again for your interest in and engagement with the Virtual Ocean Pavilion and hope to see you again next year, for COP29.

Best,

The Virtual Ocean Pavilion team