



INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE TO  
COMBAT OCEAN ACIDIFICATION

# ADVANCING OCEAN & COASTAL ADAPTATION



Submission to the UNFCCC Ocean  
and Climate Change Dialogue,  
June 2022

## KEY MESSAGES

Submitted by: OA Alliance

Endorsed by:



# KEY MESSAGES

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## FROM OA ALLIANCE SUBMISSION TO THE UNFCCC OCEAN AND CLIMATE CHANGE DIALOGUE

### For Parties, Observers and UN entities

- Recent UN climate change conferences (COP23, COP25 and COP26) have called for the integration of ocean issues across the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and other relevant UN frameworks.
- The decision at COP25 called for the first ever UNFCCC Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue to discuss options for strengthening ocean mitigation and adaptation across the UNFCCC and other relevant UN frameworks. The decision at COP26 called for an annual Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue to take place beginning in 2022.
- The OA Alliance has suggested topics for upcoming UNFCCC Ocean and Climate Dialogue. The topics have been endorsed by Friends of Ocean Action and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme.
- Ocean acidification (OA) is a direct result of human-caused carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions and is altering the chemical balance of seawater that marine life depends upon for proper functioning and survival.
- The recent AR6 IPCC WG2 report indicates that climate change has caused substantial damages—and increasingly irreversible losses—in terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and open marine ecosystems. Further, the extent and magnitude of climate change impacts are larger than estimated in previous assessments.
- This means that express guidance on ocean and coastal adaptation are needed across the UNFCCC.

## SPECIFICALLY, WE NEED TO:

1. **Increase and ease access to climate financing** for ocean and coastal climate monitoring and research, risk assessments and remediation or adaptation measures. This should be explored through the Global Environment Facility, Green Climate Fund, Adaptation Fund, Standing Committee on Finance and other appropriate mechanisms.
2. **Incorporate OA and other ocean-climate change indicators across a range of universally accepted adaptation strategies** like disaster risk management and recovery, cost-benefit frameworks, early warning systems, climate services and risk spreading.
3. **Consider and evaluate the role of and Nature-Based Solutions** across freshwater, coastal and ocean ecosystems to mitigate and build resilience to climate change.
4. **Expand guidance for incorporating ocean mitigation opportunities and adaptation needs across NDCs/ NAPs.**
5. **Emphasize proper financing and implementation for UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14.3.1:** to minimize and address the impacts of ocean acidification and to establish a common methodology for reporting measurements.



# KEY MESSAGES

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## FROM OA ALLIANCE SUBMISSION TO THE UNFCCC OCEAN AND CLIMATE CHANGE DIALOGUE

### For General Audience (twitter/ newsletters)

- There is growing recognition that the ocean and climate are intrinsically linked. The ocean is central for regulating our climate system and, at the same time, it is impacted by increased carbon emissions and changes to our climate.
- Building on this momentum, the OA Alliance has suggested topics for the upcoming UNFCCC Ocean and Climate Dialogue which will address ocean mitigation and adaptation measures across climate frameworks.
- Ocean acidification (OA) is a direct result of human-caused carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions and is altering the chemical balance of seawater that marine life depends upon for proper functioning and survival.
- Recent international reports indicate that climate change has caused substantial damages—and increasingly irreversible losses—in terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and open marine ecosystems.
- Enhancing regional knowledge of ocean and coastal risks and impacts caused by climate change will help inform the most meaningful adaptation options.
- This means that guidance on ocean adaptation and increased climate finance are needed across international frameworks.





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