

GLOBAL OCEAN FORUM



One Ocean Voice at Rio+20

On June 8, 2011, World Oceans Day, the Global Ocean Forum launched "Rio+20 Friends of the Ocean" and a blog (<http://globaloceanforum.org/>) for the benefit of the planet and of half of the world's peoples living in coastal areas in 183 countries, including 44 small island developing States. The Global Ocean Forum calls on ocean leaders from governments, international agencies, non-governmental organizations, scientific institutions, and the private sector to mobilize and seize the opportunity to achieve a significant ocean outcome at the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) at Rio de Janeiro to be held on June 4-6, 2012. The new vision embodied in the 1992 Earth Summit (UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED)) represented a major paradigm shift that changed the world. Twenty years later, Rio+20 is an opportunity to assess what has (or has not) been achieved since 1992, and to craft the way to a new future where all can live and prosper in a low-carbon global economy in health and harmony with nature.

The Mission of Rio+20 Friends of the Ocean

The Rio+20 Friends of the Ocean aims to: 1) Support governments participating in the Rio+20 Conference to achieve a significant ocean outcome; 2) Provide a "rallying point" and unified voice for ocean and coasts at the Rio+20 Conference; 3) Provide a multi-stakeholder platform by which the needs, interests, and concerns of all sectors of the ocean community can be voiced in the Rio+20 process, including through critical policy assessments and recommendations (see Draft Plan of Rio+20 Assessments at: <http://www.globaloceans.org/content/rio20>), Internet services and information dissemination, consultations, and an Oceans Day at Rio+20 (see Roadmap to Rio+20 at: <http://www.globaloceans.org/content/rio20>); and 4) Raise the global profile of ocean and coastal issues, both within the high-level political community and the general public, on the importance of the world's oceans and coasts to the three pillars of sustainable development.

About the Global Ocean Forum

The Global Ocean Forum, first mobilized in 2001 to help governments place issues related to oceans, coasts, and small island developing States (SIDS) on the World Summit on Sustainable Development agenda, brings together ocean leaders from all sectors from 110 countries to advance the global ocean agenda. The Global Ocean Forum promotes the implementation of international agreements related to oceans, coasts, and SIDS by assessing progress made, and identifying obstacles and opportunities for achieving sustainable development. Through expert working groups and multi-stakeholder dialogues, the Global Ocean Forum, with support from the Global Environment Facility and other collaborating organizations, has been reporting on progress achieved on each of the WSSD ocean-related goals. For Rio+20, the Global Ocean Forum is mobilizing the Rio+20 Friends of the Ocean and carrying out assessments on the implementation of 1992 UNCED and 2002 WSSD targets on oceans and coasts to provide input towards the development of a vision and action program for the next phase, through a UNDP-GEF project on "GEF IW:LEARN: Portfolio Learning in International Waters with a Focus on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands and Regional Asia/Pacific and Coral Triangle Learning Processes."

Get Involved!

Organizations and individuals interested in participating are kindly invited to register by sending the attached form to Ms. Gwenaelle Hamon (Email: gwenaellehamon@globaloceans.org; Fax: +1-302-831-3668). For further information regarding Rio+20 Friends of the Ocean and how to participate, please email Dr. Miriam Balgos (miriambalgos@globaloceans.org) or call at +1-302-831-8086.

Blog:

<http://globaloceanforum.org/>

Twitter:

<http://twitter.com/GlobalOceans>

Website:

<http://www.globaloceans.org/content/rio20>

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REGISTRATION

First Name:

Address:

Last Name:

Organization:

Telephone:

Fax:

Position:

Email:

Participation (Check one)

As an individual

As an organization

Contribution

Drafting/Review of Rio+20 Assessments

Facilities/venue for dialogue/consultations

Participation in consultations (travel costs and time)

Participation in networking

Participation in Oceans Day at Rio+20 (travel costs and time)

Public education/outreach

Artistic expression

Internet/Technological services

Financial contribution (tax deductible)

Amount:

Comments:

For more information on how to participate, contact:

Dr. Miriam Balgos (miriambalgos@globaloceans.org; Tel: +1-302-831-8086)

Please email form to:

OR

Fax form to:

Ms. Gwenaelle Hamon

(gwenaellehamon@globaloceans.org)

+1-302-831-3668

A confirmation email will be sent to you upon receipt of the registration form.