

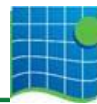


UNITED NATIONS  
**OCEAN**  
CONFERENCE

LISBON  
27 JUNE -  
1 JULY  
2022



An Roinn Gnóthaí  
Eachtracha agus Trádála  
Department of  
Foreign Affairs and Trade



*Foras na Mara*  
*Marine Institute*

## Concept Note

11.30 am–12.45 pm

**Thursday, 30 June 2022**

Room 1, Altice Arena

**Side Event for UN Ocean Conference 2022**

**From Ocean Knowledge to Action:  
Developing Capacity to Create a Sustainable Ocean Economy**

Event ID:

IBZTH303

Object:

Sharing knowledge about sustainable ocean economy while synergising networks is the uniting element of the initiatives of IOI, UNCTAD, UNITAR and GOAL Global which will come together at this event.

Names of organizing partners

International Ocean Institute (IOI)

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)

One Ocean Hub (as part of UNITAR)  
GOAL Global  
Contacts of partner organizations

IOI: Antonella Vassallo, [antonella.vassallo@ioihq.org.mt](mailto:antonella.vassallo@ioihq.org.mt)  
UNCTAD: David Vivas, [david.vivaseugui@unctad.org](mailto:david.vivaseugui@unctad.org)  
UNITAR: Katharina Sill, [katharina.sill@unitar.org](mailto:katharina.sill@unitar.org)  
GOAL Global: [vwalshe@goal.ie](mailto:vwalshe@goal.ie)

#### Overview of inputs:

IOI: Presentation of its long-standing capacity building initiatives and training opportunities. The session will specifically emphasise the IOI Ocean Academy, an online, easily accessible, free-to-all Ocean literacy product designed to support the local and regional literacy needs of stakeholders and interested persons. The presentation will be supported by pilot study results and local successes to demonstrate the effectiveness of the IOI Ocean Academy as a portable model with potential for scaling up globally.  
Possibly moderation of the panel discussion.

UNCTAD: David Vivas presents the UNCTAD Oceans Economy Database. This is the first database on ocean economy trade which is international in scope, covering exports/imports of ocean goods (fisheries and aquaculture, seafood, port infrastructure, vessels, ...) and services (ocean tourism, maritime transport, port services, R&D).

UNITAR: Elisa Morgera, Professor of Global Environmental Law, University of Strathclyde Law School, Glasgow (UK) and Director of the One Ocean Hub, will launch of the “One Ocean Learn” platform, developed in cooperation with UNITAR. The UNITAR Green Development and Climate Change Programme (GCP) produced the knowledge-translation platform "One Ocean Learn" in partnership with the University of Strathclyde Glasgow and One Ocean Hub.

GOAL Global: LAC (Latin America and Caribbean) Regional Director & Deputy Director, Bernard McCaul presents GOAL Global’s Resilience of the Blue Economy strategy. The strategy uses an innovative Local Systems Approach that leverages the potential of critical markets systems to create incentives for social inclusion and environmental conservation based on over 12 years of programmatic experience supporting small-scale fisheries and small-scale ecotourism and empowering indigenous and Afro-descendant coastal communities in the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region to lead the management of marine coastal resources. The presentation will emphasize the benefit and impact the aforementioned initiatives have in translating ocean knowledge to ocean action.

CAF: René Gómez-García, Head of Green Business Unit at the Development Bank of Latin America, will introduce the CAF Observatory for conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity, with a focus on the Caribbean and Easter Tropical Pacific Corridor (CMAR).

Short description of the side event (including thematic focus, speakers, potential contribution to the 2022 UN Ocean Conference)

It is only through synchronous layers of capacity development – from entry-level approaches for the wider public to knowledge-sharing between experts and high-level decision-makers and government officials – that the diffusion of Ocean Knowledge will turn into Ocean Action. While the urgency and timeliness of capacity development has been increasingly acknowledged internationally and regionally, knowledge remains somewhat scattered on what has been and is actually happening on the ground of SIDS in the Caribbean, the Indian Ocean and Oceania.

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the International Ocean Institute (IOI) and GOAL Global are joining forces to present the resources they can offer towards capacity development, which come to full effectiveness when synergized. UNITAR, in cooperation with the One Ocean Hub and the University of Strathclyde, will launch the knowledge-translation platform “One Ocean Learn”. UNCTAD will present its database on ocean trade drawing for the first time on all official data reported by UN member states and covering both goods and services. IOI will provide an overview of IOI’s long-standing capacity building initiatives and training opportunities, with special emphasis on the IOI Ocean Academy, an online, easily-accessible, free-to-all Ocean literacy product designed to support the local and regional literacy needs of stakeholders and interested persons. GOAL Global will present its Resilience of the Blue Economy strategy, which uses an innovative Local Systems Approach that leverages the potential of critical markets systems to create incentives for social inclusion and environmental conservation. The event will identify the partnerships that can be achieved to create synergies for ocean action.

List of speakers:

- **David Vivas Eugui**, Legal Officer at UNCTAD
- **Antonella Vassallo**, **Managing Director at the IOI**
- **Elisa Morgera**, Professor of Global Environmental Law, University of Strathclyde Law School, Glasgow (UK) and Director of the One Ocean Hub
- **Bernard McCaul**, LAC (Latin America and Caribbean) Regional Director & Deputy Director, Programme Design and Innovation, GOAL Global
- **René Gómez-García**, Head of Green Business Unit, Development Bank of Latin America (CAF)

Moderation:

- **Mr. Niall McDonough**, **Director of Policy Information and Research Support Services, Marine Institute**

Relevance to the theme of the UN Ocean Conference “Scaling up ocean action based on science and innovation for the implementation of Goal 14: stocktaking, partnerships and solutions”

This side event marks the beginning of a new project to foster capacity building in Ocean Governance and to scale up the diffusion of ocean knowledge. By providing knowledge resources that bridge science and political leadership, it will increase the impact on

government officials, diplomats and decision-makers to integrate scientific data in public and foreign policy.

IOI/UNCTAD have cutting-edge knowledge on the ocean economy, UNITAR has the platform and audience to create the training output and GOAL Global has an innovative local systems strategy which strengthens the evidence base and fosters partnership for a Resilient Blue Economy, based on more than a decade of programming with a full range of stakeholders throughout the Latin America and Caribbean region.

This links notably with the theme of the conference of scaling up ocean action based on science and innovation.

Scaling up is, first and foremost, based on scaling up the diffusion of knowledge about the challenges and opportunities of a sustainable Ocean economy with all its significant impact on the public and policymakers. In addition, synergising of networks and the building of momentum and excellence in Ocean knowledge and expertise offer clear benefits in achieving the SDGs, and SDG 14 more specifically.