



Call for Commitments & Tracking of Previous Commitments

Impactful, measurable, and concrete commitments for ocean sustainability are the cornerstone of the Our Ocean Conferences. The 8th Our Ocean Conference in Panama on March 2-3, 2023, requests that its invitees submit new commitments to be announced at the conference and provide progress updates on commitments made at past Our Ocean Conferences.

Submitting New Commitments

The conference organizers asks that all New Commitments be submitted by **January 30, 2023**. The organizers will consider commitment submissions after that time on a case-by-case basis.

Commitments should be based on at least one of the six Areas of Action: Marine Protected Areas, Marine Pollution, Sustainable Blue Economies, Climate Change, Sustainable Fisheries, and Maritime Security.

NOTE: Tackling Plastic Pollution, Sustainable Tourism and Ecological Connectivity will be specific areas of focus at the 8th Our Ocean Conference. New commitments that relate to these topics are greatly welcomed and encouraged. All commitments should be bold and measurable.

To submit a new commitment, log in at www.ouroceanconference.org. If you are not an existing user, you may create your profile by viewing the OOC User Manual and following the steps [User Manual - POC.pdf](#). If you require assistance accessing the commitment registry, please email commitmentsoocpanama@mire.gob.pa.

Please note that the conference organizers will review all submitted commitments for their boldness, measurability, and expected impact before inclusion in the Our Ocean Conference commitment registry.

We ask that new commitments include the full name of the organization proposing it in the main **Title** along with the main concept of the commitment. In the **Description** section, we ask that all commitments include a detailed summary of the proposal with comprehensive information of how the commitment will be implemented, anticipated date of completion and amount of funds destined for the commitment (if there are any). Please use the **Impact** section to provide updates on the commitment(s). If a new commitment involves multiple actions, please number and separate in the **Impact** section. Also, please indicate whether this commitment relates to a previously made commitment at an earlier Our Ocean Conference.

For Marine Protected Area commitments, please specify the following in the **Description** section:

- The intended surface area (km²).
- The current 'Stage of Establishment' (Proposed/Committed, Designated, Implemented, or Actively Managed), as defined by *The MPA Guide* (<http://mpa-guide.protectedplanet.net/explore/stages-of-establishment>).
- Actual or intended 'Level of Protection' (Fully Protected, Highly Protected, Lightly Protected, Minimally Protected), as defined by *The MPA Guide* (<https://mpa-guide.protectedplanet.net/explore/levels-of-protection/by-level>).
- If the protected area is zoned with different regulations and uses in different areas of the MPA, the different Levels of Protection, areas, and coordinates of each zone should be described.

Updating Previous Commitments

Over the past seven Our Ocean Conferences, participants have announced 1,800+ commitments worth over \$108 billion and have protected more than three million square miles of ocean. Transparency and accountability are an essential element of the Our Ocean Conference. It is important to track progress of previous commitments, provide detailed updates on the OOC Platform and demonstrate their impact to inspire future announcements and actions.

Panama and the 8th Our Ocean Conference urge invitees who have made commitments at past Our Ocean Conferences to provide updates on the progress of their previous commitments and their impact. Existing users of the commitment registry can log in at www.ouroceanconference.org to provide updates. If you are not an existing user or require assistance accessing the commitment registry, please email commitmentsooc2023@mire.gob.pa

If a previous single commitment involves multiple actions, please number and separate in the **Impact** section. Also, please indicate whether this commitment relates to a previously made commitment at an earlier Our Ocean Conference.

For Marine Protected Area commitments, please specify the following in the **Impact** section:

The current 'Stage of Establishment' of the MPA (Proposed/Committed, Designated, Implemented, or Actively Managed), as defined by *The MPA Guide* (<http://mpa-guide.protectedplanet.net/explore/stages-of-establishment>).

Level of Protection was not previously included or has changed, this should be specified as Fully Protected, Highly Protected, Lightly Protected, or Minimally Protected, as defined by *The MPA Guide* (<http://mpa-guide.protectedplanet.net/explore/levels-of-protection/by-level>). If the protected area is zoned with different regulations and uses in different areas of the MPA, then the Level of Protection, areas, and coordinates of each zone should be described.

The Conference organizers will be producing an analysis of updated commitments based on progress updates received as of January 30, 2022. Should you have any further questions about

the commitment submission and update process, please contact commitmentsoc2023@mire.gob.pa.

See below for commitment format example (zoom in for better viewing).

Edit Commitment **COMMITMENT EXAMPLE**

COMMITMENT INFORMATION HAS BEEN MADE UP FOR EXAMPLE PURPOSES

Please include your entity's name and a brief but detailed description of the commitment (if funds are involved, specify amount).

Title
Panama commits to invest 1.5 million dollars for the creation of an Action Plan for the Assessment and Rest

Theme
Marine Protected Area

Budget
1500000 \$

Deadline
21/11/2022 ✓ 📅

Progress
Completed

Announcer
The Government of Panama

Language
English

Description

Coral reefs are one of the main ecosystems that have been affected by the sudden effects of climate change. Corals aid in the regulation and absorption of carbon dioxide in the ocean water, they provide shelter for different species, and they also reduce the impact of waves on coastal communities. Studies of corals in the Panamanian Pacific are currently scarce compared to their large marine coverage. There are 14 different species in the Isla Iguana Wildlife Reserve, which covers around 345,574 km². However, the health status of those species remains unknown. Therefore, it is necessary to create a management plan for these organisms, defining the current species available in the area, their coverage, and associated organisms. The Government of Panama, following the provisions of Law 304 of May 31, 2022, seeks to protect, conserve, and generate actions for sustainable use, restore, prevent pollution and rehabilitate coral reef ecosystems and their communities. This is why the Government of Panama has taken the initiative to establish all necessary actions and measures to ensure the conservation and resilience of coral ecosystems. Our commitment seeks to create a management plan for the evaluation and restoration of coral reefs on the island.

Use this section to provide a detailed description of your commitment and include any information you consider to be relevant to your commitment.

Please use the Impact section to provide regular updates of your commitment.

Impact

1- (0-25%)
An inter-institutional commission was created to implement an Action Plan for the Evaluation and Restoration of Coral reefs in the Isla Iguana Wildlife Reserve. Within the commission, consultancies were made to the different entities related to the subject.

2- (25-50%)
US\$1,200,000 were destined for the necessary supplies, equipment, and field trips to gather information related to the status, health, and associated species of the coral reefs at the study site.

3- (50-75%)
US\$150,000 were destined for the analysis of previously obtained data, including the hiring of personnel, rental of necessary space, and the creation and publication of scientific reports.

4- (75-100%)
US\$150,000 were allocated for the necessary dissemination activities about the Coral Assessment and Restoration Action Plan, including participation in workshops, congresses, and symposiums for the stakeholders involved. In addition to this, the printing of advertising materials was made. With this commitment, we established a baseline of information about the coral reefs in Isla Iguana. This allows us to create strategies for the adequate and sustainable usage of the reefs by the stakeholders. This follows the National Ocean Politics and the environmental laws established by the Government of Panama.

The progress shown must match the information provided in the impact section.

When providing progress update (%), specify the actions taken to reach each percentage

Website

External attachments
[Add link](#)

Area actively managed

Protected area surface km²

Longitude 7.6321

Latitude 79.999



Leaflet | Credit: EC-GISCO, © EuroGeographics for the administrative boundaries, © OpenStreetMap contributors | Disclaimer

Insert link that provides supplementary information about your commitment

Use this section for MPA commitments

Provide exact coordinates of where the commitment is being developed

