

ACHIEVING 30X30 IN THE OCEAN: RECOGNIZING LOCAL AND NATIONAL ACTIONS AND ANNOUNCING THE 2024 BLUE PARK AWARDS

April 17th, 09:00-09:50 EET, Book Castle

Co-organizers: Bloomberg Ocean Fund and Marine Conservation Institute

Event summary

Protecting and conserving 30% of the ocean is essential to safeguard both our ocean's diverse ecosystems and human health and livelihoods. In December 2022, governments adopted the Global Biodiversity Framework, with its landmark global target of protecting 30% of land and ocean by 2030 ('30x30'). With the focus now on implementation, it is essential that countries demonstrate leadership and continue momentum for our ocean by announcing new marine protected areas and enhancing and improving existing protections.

This event will increase momentum towards 30x30 by announcing and showcasing contributions to the global target while underlining the need for new and existing marine protected areas (MPAs) to be high quality. This message will be reinforced through the announcement by Marine Conservation Institute of the winners of the 2024 Blue Park Awards and a discussion of best practice for the effective biodiversity conservation in MPAs.

Event goals

- Announce and showcase contributions to 30x30
- Announce the winners of the 2024 Blue Park Awards
- Showcase examples of ambition and best practice



Chairperson/Facilitator of the side event

Time (from-to)	Title of intervention/presentation Name, Affiliation
09:00-09:05	 Opening remarks H.E. Dr. Iziaq Salako, Minister of State for the Environment, Federal Republic of Nigeria Ms. Melissa Wright, Bloomberg Ocean Initiative Lead at Bloomberg Philanthropies
09:05-09:25	 Panel 1: National and local contributions to 30x30 (20-minute discussion chaired by Rita El Zaghloul, Director of the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People) H.E. Miguel Ceara Hatton, Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, The Dominican Republic H.E. Mahantante Tsimanaoraty Paubert, Minister of Fisheries and Blue Economy, Republic of Madagascar H.E. Ernesto Adobo Jr, Undersecretary, Dept of Environment and Natural Resources, Republic of the Philippines



	Dr. Petros Varelidis, Secretary General Natural Environment and Waters in the Ministry of Environment and Energy, The Hellenic Republic
09:25-09:50	Panel 2: Blue Park Award presentation and panel on science-based standards for effective biodiversity conservation (25-minute discussion chaired by Minna Epps, Head of IUCN's Ocean Program)
	 Dr. Kirsten Grorud-Covert, Oregon State University Dr. Lance Morgan, Marine Conservation Institute Prerecorded remarks from Doug Neasloss, Blue Park Award recipient (video) Andy Schofield and prerecorded remarks from James Glass and Janine Lavarello, Blue Park Award recipient (video) Jose Mazo and Cliff Richard Astor, Blue Park Award recipient Dr. Giuseppe Di Carlo, Pew Bertarelli Global Ocean Legacy Camila Rimoldi Ibanez, Youth Leader from EarthEcho International