



## SIDE EVENT AGENDA

### TEN YEARS OF THE OUR OCEAN CONFERENCE: COMMITMENTS LEAD TO REAL OCEAN PROTECTION

April 17, 15:30-16:20, Book Tower

**Lead: Oregon State University**

**Co-organizers: UN Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC); Marine Conservation Institute; IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas**

- Since its inception ten years ago, the OOC has brought together leaders in ocean action to make commitments and, importantly, to report on their progress on these commitments. In this side event, we will bring together an international group of leaders to discuss the contributions to ocean protection made from OOC commitments over the last 10 years. Speakers will highlight key commitments made in the marine protected area (MPA) and other area-based management (ABM) theme, sharing insights from their own work implementing effective ocean protection.
- This side event will share the results of an analysis of the impact of MPA and other area-based commitments made at all OOCs to-date. This ten-year analysis of accountability is shared for the first time in this side event by scientists at Oregon State University. The methodology gauges progress on commitments made using *The MPA Guide* framework, which considers the quality of MPAs committed and their likely contributions to biodiversity conservation outcomes. It has been updated to deliver to each OOC host country since 2017. The analysis shows that the OOC has made outsized contributions to global ocean health, including progress to global commitments such as the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and its Target 3 for at least 30% effective and equitable ocean conservation by 2030. It gives concrete examples and robust reasons to celebrate what the OOC has accomplished thus far, and to galvanize the further action needed for the ocean and humanity.
- This side event will be organized to provide plenty of time for dialogue, where participants can listen and learn from each other's successes and challenges, and discuss what actions are still needed for ocean protection.



**OUR OCEAN**  
GREECE - APRIL 15-17, 2024

**AN OCEAN OF POTENTIAL**

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### **Facilitated by Dr. Kirsten Grorud-Colvert, Oregon State University**

15:30 – 15:35	<i>Welcoming remarks</i> Dr. Kirsten Grorud-Colvert, Associate Professor – Senior Research, Oregon State University and co-author on the OOC MPA/ABM Accountability Analysis
15:35 – 15:45	<i>An assessment of all OOC commitments in the MPA and other ABM theme: progress made and opportunities for improvement</i> Dr. Jenna Sullivan-Stack, Research Associate, Oregon State University and co-author on the OOC MPA/ABM Accountability Analysis
15:45 – 15:52	<i>Inclusive science for conservation decision making: commitments and accountability</i> Dr. Ana Spalding, Adrienne Arsht Community-Based Resilience Solutions Initiative, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panama
15:52 – 16:00	<i>Efforts to improve MPA quality using The MPA Guide: insights from the Blue Azores Program</i> Dr. Emanuel Gonçalves, Chief Scientist and Member of the Board of Trustees, Oceano Azul Foundation, Portugal
16:00 – 16:05	<i>Closing Remarks</i> Chairwoman Sheila Babauta, Friends of the Mariana Trench, Mariana Islands



16:05 –16:20

*Discussion*  
Moderated by Dr. Kirsten Grorud-Colvert
