

OOC Side Events Application

Event Title: Public-Private Collaboration as a Strategy to Ensure the Protection and Conservation of Marine Resources in the Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor (CMAR).

Lead Organization: Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor (CMAR)

Other Organizations:

- Pew Bertarelli Ocean Legacy
- Re:wild
- World Bank
- Conservation International
- Bezos Earth Fund
- Enduring Earth
- Pro Blue

Proposed Panelists

- Franz Tattenbach, Minister of Environment and Energy, Costa Rica.
- Cristian Samper, Managing Director and Leader for Nature Solutions, Bezos Earth Fund
- Giuseppe Di Carlo, Director, Pew Bertarelli Ocean Legacy.
- Shubash Lohani, Senior Director, Enduring Earth

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Areas of Action: Marine Protected Areas and Climate Change

Key Focus Areas: Sustainable Tourism in Coastal Areas and Islands

Event Description

The protection of marine conservation areas is currently a global priority, supported by studies that highlight their fundamental role in providing critical ecosystem services. Preserving these marine surface areas, as well as the ecosystems and ecological processes that occur within them, is essential not only to prevent biodiversity loss and combat climate change, but also to ensure the planet's health and our own existence.

Ensuring the protection of these vast marine ecosystems and the ocean in general, requires necessary measures such as the implementation national and regional policies and strategies, as well as the allocation of funding. This financial support should not only come from the governmental sector, but also from all sectors benefiting from the resources and ecosystem services derived from them. Currently, financing conservation actions is a fundamental challenge for achieving the biodiversity protection objectives of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).

The Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor (CMAR) is a voluntary initiative of the Ministries of Environment of Ecuador, Costa Rica, Colombia and Panama; made up by 10 MPAs, known as core areas, embedded in one of the most diverse and productive zones of the Eastern Tropical Pacific (ETP). This initiative seeks the adequate management of biodiversity and marine and coastal resources, through ecosystem-based management; through the establishment of joint governmental regional strategies, supported by the civil society, international cooperation agencies, and NGOs, since its establishment in 2004.

The great biological diversity and ecological connectivity processes within and beyond the CMAR boundaries provide invaluable benefits used by other sectors such as tourism, fishing, medicine, and production. However, ensuring responsible utilization remains a costly challenge. The effective management of these MPAs requires adequate funding to guarantee long-term local, national and regional benefits.

Mobilizing funds from various sources, whether public, private, or non-governmental, is crucial to fulfilling these commitments. In this sense, teamwork between governments and partners emerges as the key mechanism to achieve long-term conservation goals. The case of CMAR stands out for the commitment of the countries, providing investment security and financing through the collaboration of strategic partners that support the execution of its activities and projects. In a context where national coffers face challenges, innovation and effective partnerships are essential to complement efforts and ensure objectives.

CMAR has succeeded in channeling fund from various partners and financing mechanisms for the planning and execution of specific actions, which would have been very difficult to achieve without the support of these partners. Currently, it is designing a strategy to ensure long-term financial sustainability for the achievement of its objectives, with the support and accompaniment of partners whit whom a solid collaboration over time has been established.

This side event is expected to show how the collaboration of different stakeholders associated with CMAR, have bet on regional conservation through economic support for this initiative. It is expected that representatives of strategic partners and governments, will demonstrate how these alliances have been helping conservation, protection and sustainable use of marine and coastal resources, ensuring effectiveness in the management of the core areas that comprise it, and know this work generates benefits for different stakeholders who take advantage of the benefits of the existence of healthy marine protected areas.

Comments

The countries that make up CMAR are leading important regional actions for protection and conservation, with significant support from governmental and non-governmental partners globally. This joint support aims to ensure the implementation of policies and regulations for ocean protection.

Within the framework of the Conference, the presentation of the progress achieved by CMAR in the design and development of its financing mechanism is anticipated. This mechanism aims to ensure long-term sustainability for the actions undertaken by the Corridor with its strategic partners. Currently, an analysis is being carried out to determine the most appropriate financial mechanism/s for CMAR and the region. This process demonstrates the initiative's continued commitment to seeking solid financial solutions that support its conservation efforts and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Agenda

Hora	Tema	Ponente
1000-1005	Panelists presentation and opening remarks	J. Casas
1005-1010	Collaborative work with CMAR's Strategic Partners	F. Tattenbach
1010-1015	Creation of the "Connect to Protect" donors coalition for CMAR	C. Samper
1015-1020	Sustainable finance as a planning strategy	S. Lohani
1020-1025	Action Plan Analysis to define CMAR's roadmap	G. Di Carlo
1025-1030	Strengthening CMAR through legal binding	S. Muhamad
1030-1035	Presentation of the High-Level event Immersed in Change	F. Tattenbach
1035-1045	Questions and answers from the audience	J. Casas
1045-1050	Closing	J. Casas