



GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR OCEANS

www.globalpartnershipforoceans.org

A DECLARATION FOR HEALTHY, PRODUCTIVE OCEANS TO HELP REDUCE POVERTY

We the Participants in the Global Partnership for Oceans, commit to develop and help implement this Partnership, in recognition of humankind's dependence on healthy oceans to feed the planet's growing population, support millions of livelihoods, contribute hundreds of billions of dollars annually to the global economy, and to provide essential environmental services, including climate regulation.

Despite global commitments made to date as well as the efforts of many organizations, governments, enterprises and individuals, the oceans remain under severe threat from pollution, unsustainable harvesting of ocean resources, habitat destruction, ocean acidification and climate change.

Building upon and better coordinating existing efforts and programs, including in support of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, our Global Partnership will convene stakeholders to mobilize significant human, financial and institutional resources for effective public and private investments in priority ocean areas. These investments will improve capacity and aim to close the gap in implementing global, regional and national commitments for healthy and productive oceans.

The Partnership Will Work toward Meeting the Following Interrelated Objectives by 2022

Sustainable seafood and livelihoods from capture fisheries and aquaculture

In line with previous internationally agreed commitments* and taking into consideration growing impacts of climate change:

- Significantly increase global food fish production from both sustainable aquaculture and sustainable fisheries by adopting best practices and reducing environmental and disease risk to stimulate investment;
- Reduce the open access nature of fisheries by creating responsible tenure arrangements, including secure access rights for fishers and incentives for them to hold a stake in the health of the fisheries; and
- Enable the world's overfished stocks to be rebuilt and increase the annual net benefits of capture fisheries by at least \$20 billion, including through reducing subsidies that promote overfishing.

Critical coastal and ocean habitats and biodiversity

In line with previous internationally agreed targets and to address the growing impacts of climate change:

- Halve the current rate of natural habitat loss and reduce habitat degradation and fragmentation, by applying ecosystem-based approaches to management;
- Increase marine managed and protected areas, and other effective area-based conservation measures, to include at least 10% of coastal and marine areas; and
- Conserve and restore natural coastal habitats to reduce vulnerability and increase resilience to climate change impacts.

Pollution reduction

In line with previous internationally agreed commitments and taking into consideration the growing impacts of climate change:

- Reduce pollution to levels not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity; and
- Support implementation of the Global Program of Action to reduce pollution, particularly from marine litter, waste water and excess nutrients, and further develop consensus for achievable goals to reduce these pollutants.

The Global Partnership for Oceans is an inclusive partnership of Governments, civil society organizations, private sector companies and associations, research institutions, UN agencies, multi-lateral banks and foundations whose membership will grow over time. We will contribute resources according to our respective comparative advantages which may include capability for implementation, knowledge, and/or monetary support towards investment on behalf of healthier oceans in a number of priority ocean areas.

A Global Partnership for Oceans Fund will be established and governed by a committee representative of the diversity of the membership and stakeholders of the Global Partnership for Oceans, and with an advisory process that will ensure that investment choices are evidence-based. Within the next six months, the partners will seek to finalize the governance and working arrangements for the Partnership.

*Note: The previously agreed international commitments and targets referenced in this Declaration include those made in Rio in 1992 in Agenda 21, and subsequently at Johannesburg in 2002 and in the Aichi Biodiversity Targets in Nagoya in 2010.