Investing in SDG 14
Tuesday, 10 November 2020
09:00 - 11:00 EST
Moderator:
Peter Thomson
UNSG's Special Envoy for the Ocean

Panelists:
Anthony Cox
OECD

Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana
UNESCAP

Tiago Pitta e Cunha
Oceano Azul Foundation

Lisa Helps
Mayor of Victoria, British Columbia

Babita Bisht
Green Climate Fund

Ingrid Van Wees
Asian Development Bank

Q & A and Discussion
The objectives of this webinar are threefold. First, it will explore the ways in which the public and private sectors, including NGOs and philanthropies, can more effectively finance the implementation of SDG14. Second, it will discuss how the important link between the Ocean and the Climate can be strategically factored into public and private investment decisions for the Sustainable Blue Economy. Third, this webinar aims to share best practices and examples of innovative financing tools and instruments that are showing positive results.

Ambassador Peter Thomson has served as the UN Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for the Ocean since September 2017. In this role he leads UN advocacy and efforts for the implementation of SDG14, including the many positive outcomes of the 2017 UN Ocean Conference.

Ambassador Thomson served as President of the 71st session of the UN General Assembly, 2016–2017. Ambassador Thomson was Fiji’s Permanent representative to the UN from 2010 to 2016.
Before serving as Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations, Ambassador Francisco Duarte Lopes was the Director-General for Foreign Policy, Political Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Portugal, 2014 to 2017. He has served as Director-General for European Affairs, 2012 to 2014 and was Diplomatic Advisor to the Prime Minister of Portugal from 2009 to 2011.

**Ambassador Francisco Duarte Lopes**  
Permanent Representative of Portugal to the UN

Ambassador Susan Mwangi is the Chargé d'Affaires and Acting Deputy Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations. Ambassador Mwangi served as an adviser to the Committee of Experts on the review of the Constitution of Kenya in 2010. She was later appointed as a Member of the Standards Tribunal of Kenya. She joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2013.

**Ambassador Susan Mwangi**  
Chargé d’Affaires of Kenya to the UN

Liu Zhenmin was appointed as the UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs in 2017. In this position, Mr. Liu guides UN Secretariat support for the follow-up processes of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. He has been designated as the Secretary-General of the UN Ocean Conference to be held in Lisbon in 2021, in which role USG Liu serves as the focal point within the UN Secretariat for the organisation of the conference.

**Liu Zhenmin**  
UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs
Miguel de Serpa Soares was appointed Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and United Nations Legal Counsel in 2013. He serves as the Secretary-General of the Intergovernmental Conference on an international legally binding instrument under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction. USG de Serpa Soares has been designated as the Special Adviser on Ocean and legal matters to the Co-Presidents of the UN Ocean Conference.

Anthony Cox is the Deputy Director of the Environment Directorate of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Since joining the OECD in 2000, he has led multi-disciplinary teams tackling a wide range of environmental issues including climate, water, fisheries, biodiversity, political economy of reform, green finance and the Ocean. He has coordinated major multi-agency projects on climate, finance and growth, and guides the OECD’s work on the sustainable Ocean economy. He also leads the OECD’s engagement on environment, climate and energy issues in the G7 and G20.

Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana has served as Executive Secretary of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) since 2018. Prior to assuming office at ESCAP, she was Professor of Economics at Universitas Padjadjaran and was Indonesia's Minister of National Development Planning and the Head of the National Development Planning Agency. Executive Secretary Alisjahbana obtained her Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Washington.
Tiago Pitta e Cunha has been working on Ocean policies for two decades as an advocate of the strategic importance of the Ocean, both for Portugal and for Europe. In 2016, he was awarded the European Citizen’s Prize by the European Parliament for his actions dedicated to promoting Ocean governance in the United Nations, the European Union and in Portugal. He is currently Chief Executive Officer for the Oceano Azul Foundation in Lisbon.

Tiago Pitta e Cunha  
CEO, Oceano Azul Foundation

Lisa Helps is the Mayor of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. She was elected to office on 2014, and was sworn in for her second term in 2018. Prior to her Mayoral election, Lisa Helps was the Executive Director of Community Micro Lending, a local non-profit where people lend directly to others in the community.

Lisa Helps  
Mayor of Victoria

As the Green Climate Fund's Deputy Director in the Division of External Affairs, Babita Bisht leads strategic outreach and partnerships with the UN, governments, civil society and the private sector. She also coordinated GCF communication and outreach strategy for a successful CGF-1 replenishment in 2019. While serving at the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (UN CERF) as the Chief of Resource Mobilisation and Communications, CERF achieved the highest income in its 12-year history.

Babita Bisht  
Deputy Director,  
Division of External Affairs,  
Green Climate Fund
Since 2016, Ingrid van Wees is Vice-President for Finance and Risk Management of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). She is responsible for the overall management of the operations of the Office of Risk Management, Controller’s Department, and Treasury Department. Before joining ADB, she was a senior director at the German Investment and Development Corporation (DEG) from 2004 to 2016. She has an MBA degree from INSEAD and a MSc degree from Delft University of Technology in The Netherlands.