

# THE OCEAN FOUNDATION

The Ocean Foundation is pleased to have had the opportunity to collaborate, share, and learn regarding our work at the 2022 UN Ocean Conference. Thank you kindly to Kenya and Portugal for your hospitality and leadership.

## **Blue Resilience Initiative (BRI)**

The Ocean Foundation's Blue Resilience Initiative (BRI) is dedicated to advancing Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for climate change mitigation and adaptation through the lens of the ocean-climate nexus. BRI's portfolio of work includes coastal habitat restoration and conservation, as well as regenerative agriculture and agroforestry using seaweed-based inputs. BRI focuses on direct intervention activities, the creation of new or enhanced policy mechanisms, and local capacity development. BRI works closely with local organizations to realize NbS globally by equipping key stakeholders with the tools, technical expertise, and policy frameworks to achieve large-scale climate risk reduction.

## **Community Ocean Engagement Global Initiative (COEGI)**

The Community Ocean Engagement Global Initiative (COEGI) is dedicated to supporting the development of marine education community leaders and empowering students of all ages to translate ocean literacy into conservation action. Our philosophy is that if more marine educators are trained to teach people of all ages about the ocean's influence on us, and our influence on the ocean, and in a way that effectively inspires individual action, then society as a whole will be better equipped to make informed decisions and protect ocean health. Our vision is to create equitable access to marine education programs and careers throughout the world.

## **Deep Seabed Mining (DSM) Moratorium**

The Ocean Foundation (TOF) supports a moratorium on DSM and the advancement of the following key baseline points of understanding:

- DSM is not a sustainable or blue economy investment and must be excluded from any such portfolio.
- DSM is a threat to biodiversity and the global climate and ecosystem functions (not a potential climate change solution).
- The ISA – an organization that governs almost half of the planet – is not transparent and its draft regulations are years from being functional.
- DSM has a strong environmental justice component; it is a threat to underwater cultural heritage, food sources, livelihoods, liveable climate, and marine genetic material.
- DSM could only benefit a few companies and people, not humankind.

- Ocean literacy is key to building and sustaining opposition to DSM.

## **Equisea**

Ocean science capacity is distributed unequally, but a rapidly changing ocean requires widely and equitably distributed human, technical, and physical ocean science infrastructure. EquiSea: The Ocean Science Fund for All is a platform co-designed through consensus-based stakeholder discussion with more than 200 scientists from around the world. EquiSea aims to improve equity in ocean science by establishing a philanthropic fund to provide direct financial support to projects, coordinating capacity development activities, fostering collaboration and co-financing of ocean science between academia, government, NGOs, and private sector actors, and supporting the development of low-cost and easy-to-maintain ocean science technologies.

## **International Ocean Acidification Initiative (IOAI)**

The Ocean Foundation's International Ocean Acidification Initiative builds the capacity of scientists, policymakers, and communities to monitor, understand, and respond to OA both locally and collaboratively on a global scale. We do this by creating practical tools and resources that are designed to work all around the world. Together with our partners, The Ocean Foundation designed a suite of equipment that cut the cost of monitoring ocean chemistry by 90%. To further facilitate the use of these new tools, we hold global trainings and provide long term support through equipment, stipends, and ongoing mentoring.

## **Redesigning Plastics Initiative (RPI)**

The Ocean Foundation will pursue science-informed international treaty language and policy, as well as, national legislation, and sub-national legislation in plastic-producing countries to require reengineering of the chemistry of plastic itself, redesigning of plastic products, and limiting what is made from plastic.

The Ocean Foundation's solution will ensure...

- Plastic is used only in products and applications that provide a benefit to society.
- Plastic will be made from simplified polymers and ingredient mixtures using standardized formulations so that the products will better lend themselves to integration of plastic into the circular economy.
- Green chemistry concepts will eliminate concerns about toxicity of plastic products.
- The harm from production, use, and disposal will be minimized or eliminated and any plastics produced will not enter the waste stream and will be fully converted to usable resources.