



## **2022 United Nations Ocean Conference Side Event**

*Launch of “Urban Rivers” documentary: interactions among people, the urban environment, rivers, and the sea*

26/06/2022, 20:00-23:00, Pavilhão do Conhecimento

Instituto Mar Urbano; OceanPact; Ciência Viva; United Nations Development Programme; United by the Sea

### **Background on the event (one paragraph)**

Urban Rivers is a documentary, made by Ricardo Gomes, showing the aquatic life of two important rivers of Portugal, Sado and Tagus, and the interaction between the environment and the city. The purpose of the film is to show the life that still survives near urbanized environments, and the importance of acting to protect this threatened biodiversity.

### **Key Issues discussed (5- 8 bullet points)**

- The marine life of the Tagus and Sado estuaries, and the human impact on it.
- The lives of people who depend directly from the sea.
- The impacts of plastic and microplastics in aquatic environments.
- The importance of marine life in the production of new drugs.
- People's perception of their impact on the sea and rivers.
- The importance of knowing about the environment to protect it.

### **Key recommendations for action (5 - 6 bullet points)**

- Protect marine life and marine ecosystems.
- Show people the marine life, so that they become more engaged.
- Teach people about their impact in marine ecosystems.
- Make scientific discourse more accessible to people.

- Involve the community, governments, scientists and companies in the protection of marine biodiversity

**Voluntary Commitments (one paragraph)**

We are committed to scaling up our Guanabara Verde project, which has reforested 30,000 mangrove trees in Guanabara Bay, reaching a total of 1,000,000 trees. We believe that it is possible through a network of collaborators to gain a greater dimension. Thus having a huge impact not only environmental, but also social.