



2022 United Nations Ocean Conference Side Event

Fashion for the Oceans

29 June 2022, 12.00-1.00 PM Lisbon

Organized by: Runa Ray

Background on the event

The ocean has long been our ally in addressing climate change and taken the brunt of the impact of human-made global heating. There is an urgent need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to limit the scale of climate change impacts on the ocean and cryosphere, and increase resilience to the impacts on, and risks to, ecosystems and the livelihoods that depend on them.

Fashion has also contributed largely towards human-made global heating.

The session focuses on nature-based solutions that will increase ocean and coastal zone resilience. To discuss fashion, its current risks for climate change and future risks.

To offer a space for enhancing and strengthening learning. to discuss the way forward in relation to strengthening ocean and climate adaptation and mitigation action.

To engage people in the creative process of Fashion for the Oceans, engaging designers and industry stake holders to explore and invest in creative methods of garmenting. Revive ancient indigenous techniques and help bridge the gender gap. Invest in the three R's and use the power of Art and fashion as activism to create awareness, educate and advocate for policy change.

Key Issues discussed

- New textiles
- Seaweed in fashion
- Greenwashing of plastic recycling
- Fashion as activism to increase public awareness

- Revival of indigenous art for novel printing methods

Key recommendations for action

- Increase ocean based knowledge in schools
- Encourage designers to practice methods of garmenting that help marine ecosystems
- Always ask questions to avoid greenwashing in fashion
- Improve general public education about the oceans
- Use fashion as activism to educate and advocate for policy change
- Use fashion's waste for a social cause to increase ocean awareness

Voluntary Commitments

The Ocean Flag was created to bridge the gap between fashion's environmental pollution and educate the public on the detriments of climate change on our oceans by using fashion's waste as a vehicle.

The Ocean Flag is in accordance with the Adoption of the Paris Agreement, Article 12, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Article 6 and Kyoto Protocol to the UNFCCC, Article 2 and has educational and training programs.

These programs are necessary for the development and implementation of educational and public awareness, to encourage public participation in addressing climate change and its effects and developing adequate responses

By creating awareness and facilitating the exchange of information across all sectors of society, The flag aims to encourage public participation and be actively involved in climate action by creating solutions and commitments which can be associated with the future of our oceans.

By rescuing various pieces of clothing which would have otherwise ended up in a land fill and converting them into canvases, we have individuals make commitments towards a healthy ocean.

This encourages ocean literacy and translates commitments into actionable results. These canvases are joined together to form a flag which is displayed globally to enable more commitments