

Orsted

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The science is clear: we cannot afford to limit progress on climate or nature. And we cannot solve one crisis without solving the other. If we continue on our current path, we will live in an unrecognizable world with unrecognizable seas. To address shifting stocks to sea level rise, increasingly extreme weather events to mass extinction, It's time to radically shift how we do things.

From Paris to Montreal, we have two crises, two global agreements and two huge mountains to climb by 2030 if we're to stay on track to deliver on our goals for climate and nature. And our ocean is the key to solving both crises, providing solutions from coastal protection to blue carbon sequestration to offshore wind.

Clean energy projects like offshore wind can be a force for good for nature -- not just by helping us avoid emissions with dire consequences for ocean ecosystems, but integrating nature into the way we site, design and build projects. This has been the work of groups like the Ocean Breakthroughs led by the High Level Climate Champions, the UN Global Compact's Ocean Stewardship Coalition, Friends of Ocean Action, and many other groups. We in the renewable energy industry cannot address all threats to biodiversity – and there are many. But we can and must do our part.

Orsted has been delivering on this ambition, from developing innovative mitigation technologies to setting and measuring our progress to net-positive biodiversity impact. We are the first energy company to issue a blue bond to finance this work, and have done so in partnership with leading global and local NGOs.

As the world's leading offshore wind developer, we at Ørsted know we need collaboration to deliver ocean-climate solutions. Industry, governments, and civil society must act together, quickly, to stem the worst impacts of climate change. If we want to accelerate conservation and sustainable ocean economies, we need to mobilize the private sector for nature. The UN Ocean Conference is a critical forum to explore and enhance these solutions for climate and nature, driven by equity, the right data, and a better world in mind.

As such, we hope the UN Ocean Conference presidency will consider offshore wind in the final draft of the background note, and as a key pillar of the conference. We hope all parties can come ready to engage on where and how to accelerate a sustainable, science-driven offshore wind buildout that works for people and planet. We are here to offer our support, share challenges and opportunities in this promising industry for collective action, .and drive forward progress in this critical forum for ocean-climate action.