
Peace Boat and the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14

Peace Boat and the SDGs

Peace Boat is an international NGO with Special Consultative Status with ECOSOC of the United Nations and associated with the UN Department of Public Information (DPI). Since 1983, Peace Boat has been conducting advocacy and education programmes onboard a chartered passenger ship. Three global voyages are carried out each year for approximately three months each with around 1000 people on board. As a committed campaigner for the Sustainable Development Goals, Peace Boat works to inspire people onboard and in countries visited during voyages to make an active engagement in achieving the goals. Since August 2016, Peace Boat's ship has been sailing with the Global Goals logo on its hull, unveiled at a ceremony in cooperation with UNDPI and the UN Information Center Tokyo. This follows on from the partnership between Peace Boat and the UN Millennium Campaign, as the ship travelled with the MDGs End Poverty Logo on its hull until the repainting in 2016.

Peace Boat and SDG14

With three global voyages every year spanning the world's oceans and seas, Peace Boat is acutely aware of the importance of our oceans and supporting the implementation of SDG14. Peace Boat's voyages visit coastal communities on the front line of marine degradation and rising sea levels. Educational programmes are organized both onboard and in ports of call in collaboration with local CSOs and institutions, to raise awareness of the importance of ocean health and related issues including climate change. These range from active beach clean-ups to research on marine life, and cultural programmes with communities whose cultures and economies are deeply interconnected with the oceans. Since 2016 Peace Boat has also been working in collaboration with the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS).



Peace Boat's Contribution to the Ocean Conference

Side-event at the Prep-meeting: February 14, 2017: 6:15 - 7:30 pm
Conference Room B, UN Conference Building

Peace Boat will hold a side event "Sailing for Change: Peace Boat and the SDGs" at the preparatory meeting on February 14, 2017. This will bring together stakeholders from the tourism and shipping industries, together with civil society representatives, to consider the role of partnerships toward more sustainable shipping and tourism practices to implement the SDGs, in particular SDG14. This will focus on the cruise industry and efforts to reduce marine pollution, increase benefits for small island states through sustainable management of tourism, and transfer marine technology in relation to shipping and transportation.

Awareness raising event in Stockholm June 2, 2017

Peace Boat's 94th Global Voyage will call to Stockholm on June 2, days before the Ocean Conference begins in New York. At this time Peace Boat will use its ship as a vehicle for public awareness raising. With Sweden as a main conference organizer, this event will highlight key issues in collaboration with local stakeholders and civil society, appealing to conventional and social media both in Sweden and internationally.

"Voluntary commitment": The Ecoship Project

The Ocean Conference will collect "voluntary commitments" from participants and stakeholders. Peace Boat makes the solid commitment to the concrete action of the "Ecoship Project". Sailing in 2020 as a flagship for the SDGs, the 55,000 ton, 2000 passenger capacity nature-inspired vessel combines radical energy efficiency measures and the use of renewable energy at a level never achieved before in maritime transport. With zero Nox and sulphur emissions and 40% reduction in CO₂, the Ecoship seeks to address ocean acidification. The ship has closed water and closed waste systems to combat marine pollution. The Ecoship will not only offer a solution to climate change and contribute towards the implementation of SDG14, will take thousands of people around the world every year to places that are directly affected by rising sea levels and the degradation of marine ecosystems.



After the Ocean Conference

An "Oceans and Climate Youth Ambassador Programme" will be announced at the Ocean Conference in June, in collaboration with Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The programme will bring youth leaders from states on the front line of climate change and marine degradation to travel onboard Peace Boat's ship, engaging in capacity building and bringing their message to citizens and government representatives. The youth will embark in Europe connecting with civil society organizations and government agencies in ports visited, including Spain, France, the UK and Iceland. Participants will give testimony of their experiences and the impact of climate change and marine degradation on their communities, highlight the outcomes of The Ocean Conference and make a call for action. Their voyage will end in New York in October 2017 where they will report on their efforts to both the UN community and the public.