

# INAUGURAL BLUE PROSPERITY LEADERS FORUM LAUNCHES AT UN OCEAN CONFERENCE IN LISBON

LISBON, PORTUGAL, June 28, 2022

[/EINPresswire.com/](https://www.einpresswire.com/) -- • Global leaders came together to advance ocean protection and sustainable ocean management

- Bully protecting at least 30% of the oceans in spaces where no extractive activity can take place is critical to keeping oceans healthy and functional for economic development, climate regulation, and protection of ocean ecosystems such as coral reefs, mangroves, and the deep sea.

- United Nations Sustainable

Development Goals (SDG 14) have placed a global target on protecting 30% of the world's oceans by 2030. Currently, only 2.7% of the world's oceans are fully protected. Individual nations must take urgent action to reach this collective target.

“

It is so encouraging to feel the energy in the room from these global leaders who are pioneering solutions that impact the challenges facing the world's oceans.”

*Ted Waitt*

- [Blue Prosperity](#) Leaders Forum roundtable is hosted by Ted Waitt, Founder and Chairman of the [Waitt Institute](#) and the Blue Prosperity Coalition

Today, the inaugural Blue Prosperity Leaders Forum took place on the first day of the 2022 [UN Ocean Conference](#) in Lisbon. The forum provides a platform to bring together island nations from around the world who are working to sustainably manage their marine resources to promote economic growth, social inclusion, and the preservation

and improvement of livelihoods while at the same time ensuring environmental sustainability of the oceans and coastal waters.

The global ocean economy is estimated at \$24 Trillion USD, and ocean health is critically important for climate regulation and food security, yet ocean resources are declining rapidly



Blue Prosperity Leaders Forum meet at UN Ocean Conference, Lisbon

worldwide - bombarded with human-imposed threats like overfishing, pollution and climate change. Scientific research shows that fully protecting at least 30% of the world's ocean is necessary to maintain and restore marine resources while maximizing fisheries yields and allowing for sustainable economic growth.



Inaugural Blue Prosperity Leaders Forum

The inaugural Blue Prosperity Leaders Forum was attended by leaders from This Forum will be ongoing to provide a platform for knowledge exchange. The goals of the inaugural forum were:

1. Build an impact network of like-minded ocean leaders
2. Learn from and share success
3. Explore how to build BPC Network and cross-partnership

Commenting after the event Ted Waitt Blue Prosperity Coalition and Waitt Institute Founder and Chairman said:

"It is so encouraging to feel the energy in the room from these global leaders who are pioneering solutions that impact the challenges facing the world's oceans. We are at a critical point in time where we have only a few years left to protect ocean ecosystems before it's too late. This collaborative impact network gives the tools and resources to ensure that we can keep the oceans healthy and productive for coming generations. Ultimately our goal is to ensure that people all around the world are empowered to take action to preserve and utilize their resources."

Amongst the leaders it was discussed that they are all facing similar challenges and this forum will allow them to share challenges and successes so that they can learn from one another and streamline their work to be able to reach the global 2030 target.

The Blue Prosperity Leaders Forum will continue with ongoing meetings of like minded leaders in order to support the UN's goal of protecting 30% of the world's ocean by 2030. Leaders from the Azores, Bermuda, Cabo Verde, Fiji, Maldives, Samoa and Tonga will continue to share information, drive change and inspire future generations. The Blue Prosperity Coalition's network of ocean experts will continue to support these leaders in developing and implementing sustainable ocean management plans to protect the environment and improve the economy at the same time.

The Blue Prosperity programs include Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) to achieve comprehensive ocean management that include a network of Marine Protected Areas that will be determined by stakeholder groups and community consultations. They will also often involve scientific expeditions and collecting, collating, and sharing existing knowledge and information about an

island's marine environment. A core focus of each program is Blue Economy (BE) Planning to promote economic growth and diversification, social inclusion, and the preservation or improvement of livelihoods while at the same time ensuring environmental sustainability of the oceans and coastal areas. The plans will develop sustainable fisheries strategies to safeguard long-term, viable ocean production, including a plan that supports local food security, fishery livelihoods, economic well-being, and ocean ecosystem health through a process that includes fishers, government, academic and other institutions.

-Ends-

Media Enquiries/Images: [press@waittinstitute.org](mailto:press@waittinstitute.org)

Attendees of the inaugural Blue Prosperity Leaders Forum:

Ted Waitt, - Founder and Chairman

Waitt Institute and Blue Prosperity Coalition

Dr. Kathryn Mengerink

Executive Director Waitt Institute

Hon. Minister Shauna Aminath

Republic of the Maldives

Jauza Khaleel

Senior Associate Economic Policy and Research,

Republic of the Maldives

Hon Prime Minister Hu'akavameiliku

Kingdom of Tonga

Dr. Tuikolongahau Halafihi

CEO of Ministry of Fisheries

Kingdom of Tonga

Hon. Minister Walter Roban

Minister of Home Affairs

Bermuda

Dr. Tammy Warren,

Senior Marine Resources Officer

Bermuda

H.E. Abraão Vicente,

Minister of Sea

Cabo Verde

Malik Lopes,  
President IMar  
Cabo Verde

Mr. José Soares dos Santos  
Founder, Oceano Azul Foundation

Dr. Emanuel Gonçalves  
Chief Scientist, Oceano Azul Foundation

Mr. Taholo Kami  
Ocean Convener

José Manuel Bolieiro  
Hon President ,  
The Azores

Mr. Ricardo Madruga da Costa  
Chief of Staff,  
The Azores

Mr. Chuck Fox  
Executive Director, Ocean 5

Danita Strickland  
Marine Programme Manager  
Conservation International, Samoa

Shayna Brody  
Waitt Institute  
+1 719-229-5237  
sbrody@waittinstitute.org

---

This press release can be viewed online at: <https://www.einpresswire.com/article/578838199>

EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire, Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information.

© 1995-2022 Newsmatics Inc. All Right Reserved.