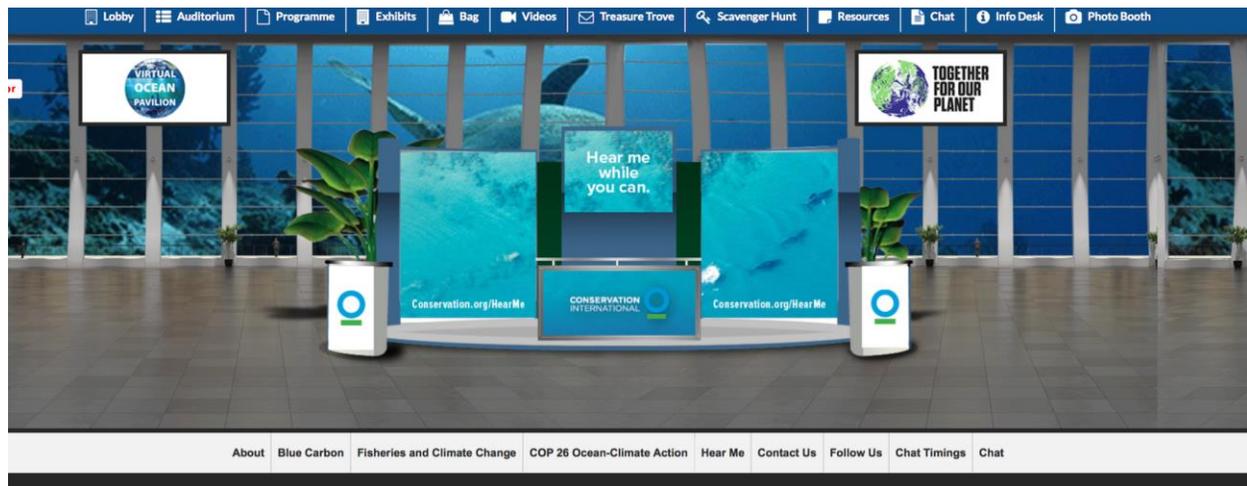


# COP26 VIRTUAL OCEAN PAVILION EXHIBITS

## Conservation International



### Description

Conservation International works to protect the critical benefits that nature provides to people. Through science, partnerships and fieldwork, Conservation International is driving innovation and investments in nature-based solutions to the climate crisis, supporting protections for critical habitats, and fostering economic development that is grounded in the conservation of nature. Conservation International works in 30 countries around the world, empowering societies at all levels to create a cleaner, healthier and more sustainable planet.

**About:** <https://www.conservation.org/about>

**Blue Carbon:** Coastal blue carbon ecosystems are critical to mitigating climate impacts and improving human well-being. Coastal ecosystems like mangroves, salt marshes and seagrass have a disproportionately large impact on communities, economies and the climate. They provide nearby communities with a stable supply of food and jobs, and play an important role in cultural practices and identity. When protected or restored, they sequester a globally significant amount of carbon, known as blue carbon. When degraded or destroyed, they emit the carbon they have stored for centuries, becoming a significant source of emissions. However, they are some of the most threatened ecosystems on Earth. Over 33 percent of global mangrove forests have already been lost, as a result of aquaculture, palm oil expansion and coastal development. Seagrasses around the world have also been declining at a rate of 7 percent per year. Over the last decade, Conservation International has spearheaded blue carbon conservation science, policy, and innovative financing approaches including carbon markets. We do this by building coalitions and convening experts to drive science and policy agendas, such through the Blue Carbon Initiative, the Global Mangrove Alliance, and the Global Green-Gray Community of Practice; pioneering financial and policy mechanisms to catalyze the

conservation and restoration of coastal ecosystems for climate change benefits; ensuring the inclusion of coastal ecosystems in international policy fora such as the UNFCCC; and providing governments with the tools to implement their commitments on the ground. Our recently published paper, Blue Carbon: Integrating Ocean Ecosystems in Global Climate Action, provides an overview of blue carbon ecosystems and how they contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation. For more information, visit

<https://www.conservation.org/events/un-climate-negotiations-2021>

**Fisheries and Climate Change:** Climate change is ocean change. This is a reality that has escaped much of the world's attention. The ocean and the atmosphere work together in one connected system to regulate our planet, and changes to one have dramatic effects on the other. Though the ocean has absorbed 93 percent of the heat generated by industrial-era CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and captured nearly 30 percent of the carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere every year, it has not done so without consequence. Today's ocean is warmer and more acidic, sea levels are rising, and extreme flooding events are occurring annually, with dramatic and long-lasting impacts on life in the ocean and coastal communities. By the end of the century, most of the low-lying regions around the world may face adaptation limits as sea levels continue to rise.

**Warming waters threaten tuna-dependent economies in the Pacific:** Global warming is expected to progressively push tuna populations from the waters of 10 Pacific Small Island Developing States (SIDS)\* into the high seas, disrupting island economies. This is a climate justice issue (<https://www.conservation.org/blog/shifting-tuna-populations-could-trigger-climate-justice-issue-study>). Pacific SIDS make negligible contributions to greenhouse gas emissions, but will lose substantial government revenue, on average 37 percent, as tuna shift from their waters. Limiting global warming is vital to stopping this climate injustice. For the Pacific SIDS, there must be negotiations around how they can maintain the benefits they receive from tuna as climate changes their habitat. This was realized through a recent multi-disciplinary study which used robust modelling that demonstrates that, if ocean warming continues at current rates, the tuna catch in the combined waters of the 10 Pacific SIDS is expected to decline by an average of 20 percent by 2050.

For more information, visit: [conservation.org/tuna](https://www.conservation.org/tuna)

Related studies:

For 1.2 billion people living in the tropics, basic human needs depend on nature (<https://www.conservation.org/press-releases/2021/10/04/study-for-1.2-billion-people-living-in-the-tropics-basic-human-needs-depend-on-nature>)

Warming waters threaten tuna-dependent economies in the Pacific (<https://www.conservation.org/press-releases/2021/07/29/study-warming-waters-threaten-tuna-dependent-economies-in-the-pacific>)

Shifting tuna populations could trigger 'climate justice issue' (<https://www.conservation.org/blog/shifting-tuna-populations-could-trigger-climate-justice-issue-study>)

\*The 10 SIDS included in this study are: Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tokelau and Tuvalu.

**COP 26 Ocean-Climate Action:** Climate health and ocean health are closely linked. The ocean plays a critical role in the global carbon cycle, and healthy ocean ecosystems, including mangroves, seagrasses, and tidal marshes, are vital for climate adaptation and coastal resilience. Conservation International has been working within the United Nations

Framework Convention of Climate Change (UNFCCC) to ensure the integration of blue carbon into climate strategies for mitigating and adapting to climate change.

At COP 26, Parties have a unique opportunity to strengthen and advance ocean-climate action under the UNFCCC. Building on the Ocean-Climate Dialogue: Options for strengthening action on the ocean under the UNFCCC (<http://www.conservation.org/UNFCCC-ocean-climate-options>). Of these recommendations, Parties may especially wish to strive for: Strengthened finance for ocean-climate action. Countries can increase and accelerate climate finance flows to coastal and marine ecosystems through all sources—public and private, market and non-market. To this end, Parties could call on the relevant bodies, including the Standing Committee on Finance, to explore the extent of finance flows and gaps for coastal and marine nature-based solutions, as well as identify actionable opportunities to increase needed finance flows. Incorporation of ocean-climate issues in scientific processes. Parties can prioritize ocean-related assessments as part of the Global Stocktake process and increase the development of relevant and actionable science on the ocean and climate through the work on Research and Systematic Observation. Establishment of a formal and regular forum for continued dialogue on the ocean-climate nexus. Formal, regular discussions through a recurring dialogue would allow countries and stakeholders to exchange on lessons learned, challenges faced, and opportunities to take action for climate mitigation and adaptation. Ocean ecosystems are part of the solution. Our recently published paper, Blue Carbon: Integrating Ocean Ecosystems in Global Climate Action (<http://www.conservation.org/blue-carbon-climate-action>), provides an overview of blue carbon ecosystems and how they contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

For more information, visit: [conservation.org/UNFCCC](http://conservation.org/UNFCCC)

**Hear Me:** <https://www.conservation.org/HearMe>

## Videos

1. What on Earth is Blue Carbon?: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ITwPDs2LdcU&ab\\_channel=ConservationInternational](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ITwPDs2LdcU&ab_channel=ConservationInternational)
2. Samoa to Manage 100% and Protect 30% of Ocean: <https://youtu.be/b6VTFPiQyA>
3. Conservation International Hawai'i | Return to an Abundant Ocean: <https://youtu.be/F3xdvw16dls>
4. About CI: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hp\\_toAX2bY0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hp_toAX2bY0)
5. Vida Manglar: A Blue Carbon Initiative in Colombia: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CqTjgycrB1o&ab\\_channel=ConservaciónInternacionalColombia](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CqTjgycrB1o&ab_channel=ConservaciónInternacionalColombia)
6. Warming waters threaten tuna-dependent economies in the Pacific: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xGS-wHRg3QM>
7. Guardians: <https://www.conservation.org/video?ytVideoid=Kmh5HmwlvRc/%20Youtube:%20https://youtu.be/Kmh5HmwlvRc>
8. Voyaging for Our People and Our Ocean: <https://youtu.be/CINkeDuxSFI>
9. A New Lifeline for the World's Mangrove Forests? <https://youtu.be/YGiUdWnKh7I>
10. Taking on a Scourge of the Seas: Ghost Nets: <https://youtu.be/DOuNM7IKoEY>

11. Penelope Cruz is Water: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fwV9OYeGN88>
12. Harrison Ford is The Ocean: <https://youtu.be/rM6txLtoac>
13. Jason Momoa is The Wave: <https://youtu.be/GpNeGuP-Gc>
14. Liam Neeson is Ice: [https://youtu.be/qBBOue\\_AdcU](https://youtu.be/qBBOue_AdcU)

## Documents

1. Building on the Ocean-Climate Dialogue: Options for strengthening action on the ocean under the UNFCCC:  
<https://vepimg.b8cdn.com/uploads/vjfnew/6281/content/docs/1634090786building-on-the-ocean-climate-dialogue-6-october-2021-pdf1634090786.pdf>
2. Blue Carbon: Integrating Ocean Ecosystems in Global Climate Action:  
<https://vepimg.b8cdn.com/uploads/vjfnew/6281/content/docs/1635539178blue-carbon-integrating-ocean-ecosystems-october-2021a-pdf1635539178.pdf>
3. Guidelines for Blue Carbon and Nationally Determined Contributions:  
<https://vepimg.b8cdn.com/uploads/vjfnew/6281/content/docs/1635278335blue-carbon-ndc-guidelines-single-pdf1635278335.pdf>
4. COP 26 Policy Recommendations (English):  
<https://vepimg.b8cdn.com/uploads/vjfnew/6281/content/docs/1635278812ci-cop-26-policy-recommendations-en-pdf1635278812.pdf>
5. COP 26 Policy Recommendations (Español):  
<https://vepimg.b8cdn.com/uploads/vjfnew/6281/content/docs/1635278835ci-cop-26-recomendaciones-de-politica-sp-pdf1635278835.pdf>
6. COP 26 Policy Recommendations (Français):  
<https://vepimg.b8cdn.com/uploads/vjfnew/6281/content/docs/1635278851ci-cop-26-recommandations-politiques-fr-pdf1635278851.pdf>