

LEADING BY DOING

Latest large-scale actions and new announcements on ocean conservation to achieve 2030 goals



MONDAY 27TH JUNE | 11:30-12:45
SIDE EVENT ROOM 2, ALTICE ARENA

Event Overview

This side event aims to further discussions on the challenges and successes of implementing MPAs in various countries across the globe and present the necessary frameworks required to ensure local, regional, and national buy-in and stakeholder engagement in the effective establishment and management of MPAs.

This session will be divided into three sections, where various governmental and civil society actors from Portugal, the Dominican Republic, Uruguay, Mozambique and globally by the Global Mangrove Alliance will present and discuss examples of marine protection, as well as announce new commitments to achieve 2030 ocean conservation goals.

In the **“New Hope Spots and 30x30 announcements”** section Uruguay will join Dominican Republic in announcing an ambitious commitment to protect 30% of its domestic marine waters by 2030. This announcement will position Uruguay and the Dominican Republic along with other leaders in Latin America who are advancing marine protected areas free from extractive and destructive activities to safeguard the ocean in the face of the devastating impacts of climate change and biodiversity loss.

In the **“Showcasing mangrove bright spots and success stories”** section, partners of the Global Mangrove Alliance will share how they are working together towards collective goals for a transformative change in the global protection and conservation of mangrove ecosystems. The Global Mangrove Alliance brings together technical experts, civil society organizations, governments, local communities, businesses, funding agencies and foundations to accelerate a comprehensive, coordinated, global approach to mangrove conservation and restoration at a scale that matters. Then, we will hear from national and provincial authorities and partners in Mozambique about the mangrove restoration efforts in Maputo National Park and the wider bay area of the Maputo Protected Landscape, as well as the new **“Mangroves for Peace”** project in Cabo Delgado Province and how they are working to accelerate mangrove protection in policy and practice through the development of the national Marine Spatial Plan, the National Territorial Development Plan and the National Mangrove Strategy, in an integrated and sustainable manner, including a combination of grey and green infrastructure, designating mangroves as protected zones and generating blueprint for alternative income for women and youth towards accelerated climate resilience and ecosystem restoration.

In the **“Portugal Case Studies”** section, the Government of Portugal will highlight examples of different approaches to achieve success in fast-tracking designation, implementation and



management of coastal and offshore MPAs. The Regional Government of Madeira will take the floor to showcase the success of Selvagens Islands Marine Reserve, which expanded from 94km² to 2,676km², making it the largest fully protected MPA in the North Atlantic and Europe. Additionally, the Regional Government of Azores will also take the floor to talk about the program “Blue Azores”, which has secured 30% of the Azorean Sea as marine protected areas, accounting for almost 300.000 km² with 15% of the EEZ of the Azores fully protected. Lastly, the Marine Natural Park of the Algarve Reef will be represented, highlighting the creation of Portugal’s first Marine Protected Area of Community Interest, through a bottom-up and community lead process, using scientific, legal, economic and social studies to protect Portugal’s largest coastal rocky reef that is essential to the economic activity of the Algarve region.

