

**Advancing the Marine Conservation Breakthroughs: Connecting Global Action to Scale
Nature-Based Solutions
COP16 CBD Agenda**

2030 Breakthrough Delivery Partners: Coral Reef Breakthrough, Mangrove Breakthrough, Seagrass Breakthrough, Ocean Breakthroughs

Partners: International Coral Reef Initiative, Global Funds for Coral Reef, Global Mangrove Alliance, United Nations Convention of Migratory Species, Climate Champions Team, Ocean & Climate Platform

Date/Time: October 27th 15:00 to 16:30

Venue: ICRI #ForCoral Pavilion

Duration: 90 minutes

Event description: Resulting from the joint efforts of the Marrakech Partnership on Ocean & Coastal Zones and the High Level Climate Champions, this high-level leadership session will unite the Coral Reef Breakthrough, Mangrove Breakthrough, Seagrass Breakthrough, to showcase how coastal and marine ecosystems can drive progress on both global biodiversity and climate goals.

These Breakthroughs harness the power of Nature-Based Solutions to address biodiversity conservation, climate adaptation and mitigation, making them key to accelerating the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the Paris Agreement.

To power the 2030 Marine Conservation Breakthrough goal of investing at least 72 USD billion to secure the integrity of ocean ecosystems by protecting, restoring, and conserving at least 30% of the ocean for the benefit of people, climate, and nature – this session will emphasize cross-sectoral partnerships, bringing stakeholders from finance, policy, and science.

The event will feature a “Implementation is Now” segment, followed by two panel discussions that will bring together governments, finance, private sector, and expert practitioners to showcase concrete opportunities and initiative.. The event will also invite the developing Marine Conservation Breakthroughs delivery partners — the Seagrass Breakthrough, and the Kelp Breakthrough, to share updates and progress since COP28.

Event objectives:

1. **Showcase Progress and Build Momentum:** Highlight key achievements of the Coral, Mangrove, and Seagrass Breakthrough since COP28; including the creation of the Mangrove Breakthrough NDC Task Force, the Coral Reef Breakthrough establishing a investable project-pipeline building across 23 developing states, and the Seagrass Breakthrough launching the Global Call for Experts, all while setting the stage for continued action at COP29, and beyond.
2. **Promote Cross-Sector Collaboration:** Facilitate dialogue amongst the various Marine Conservation Breakthrough delivery partners, to drive significant actions to maintain the integrity of ocean ecosystems by protecting, restoring, and conserving at least 30% of the ocean for the benefit of people, climate and nature.
3. **Increased financial flows and innovative solutions:** Engage with different stakeholders to identify financial mechanism opportunities that are essential to mobilize the 72 billion USD target. Urge State and Non-state Actors to invest in Coral and Mangrove action, including financial commitments, ahead of the 2025 UNOC and COP30.

Agenda

Time	Segment	Suggested Framing	Proposed Speaker
2 min	Welcoming remarks	MC welcomes the audience for joining, provides context and invites the CEO of Wetlands International to join the stage to deliver the keynote remarks.	- Loreley Picourt, Executive Director, Ocean & Climate Platform (confirmed)
5 minutes	Opening Keynote	<p>The opening keynote will set the stage for highlighting concrete opportunities and initiatives aimed at scaling up efforts to protect and restore coastal marine ecosystems on a global scale.</p> <p>The keynote speaker will emphasize the urgent need for collective action based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The significance of coral and mangrove ecosystems as vital ecosystems for marine biodiversity, coastal communities, and global economies. - Reflecting upon the challenges facing coastal marine ecosystems and the broader marine environments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Global Mangrove Alliance Steering Committee Organization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Han De Groot, CEO of Wetlands International (confirmed)
20 minutes	Segment 1: Showcase Progress and Build Momentum; “Implementation is Now”	<p>The needs for implementation of the Coral, Seagrass and Mangrove Breakthrough are clear, accelerated action and investments must be scaled to unlock the potential of the ocean as a source of solutions to the pressing challenges posed by climate change and biodiversity loss.</p> <p>This segment will be in “presentation style” to showcase the joint efforts across the 2030 Breakthrough Delivery Partners to build momentum and share updates from the Coral, Mangrove, and Seagrass Breakthrough since COP28, and to emphasize the urgent need for collective action.</p>	<p>Moderator: Loreley Picourt</p> <p>Presenters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tom Dallison, ICRI Secretariat (confirmed) - Carlos Correa, Mangrove Breakthrough Ambassador (confirmed) - Ms. Amy Fraenkel, CMS Executive Secretary (confirmed) - Aaron Eager, Kelp Forest Challenge (confirmed)
25 minutes	Panel 1: Government Leadership to Achieve the Marine Conservation Breakthrough	The Government Leadership panel will invite government representatives to discuss ambitious goals and commitments made (including via the inclusion of coastal and marine NbS in NDCs, NBSAPs, and national strategies	<p>Moderator: Global Mangrove Alliance Steer-Co Organization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ali Raza Rizvi, Head of IUCN Climate Change and Energy Transition Team,

		<p>and plans), and the necessary policy, finance and regulatory frameworks in place across local, national, and international levels needed for successful implementation.</p> <p>Country partners will share ambitious national strategies, and announcements of progress towards achieving the Breakthroughs targets on existing initiatives led by their governments.</p>	<p>Centre for Societal Transformation, (confirmed)</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Hiba Obaid Al Shehhi [MOCCA/ Mangrove Alliance for Climate] - Kenya Government (TBC) - Hilary Enos-Edu, Commonwealth Secretariat Blue Charter Programme (confirmed)
25 minutes	Panel 2: Mobilising Finance at Scale for Marine Coastal Ecosystems	<p>Outlining Investment pathways – presenting the established and emerging options for investors, philanthropies and other private actors to get involved and offer case studies [including global funds and mechanisms, local/national funds, mechanisms, business ventures, etc. presented by leading implementers of the mangrove and coral reef initiatives];</p> <p>In this Panel, we hear from the private actors already taking action – CAF, IDB Bloomberg, GCF– to explore what they’re doing, the critical roles they play, how (what financing modalities and how much, toward what aim and how their funding is supported by or offering de-risking).</p>	<p>Moderator: Ignace Beguin, Oceans & Coastal Zone Lead, Climate Champions Team</p> <p>Panelist: Mangrove Breakthrough Finance Task Force member</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mauricio Velasquez Principal Executive, Ecosystems & Biodiversity, CAF (confirmed) - Meirovich, Hilen Gabriela, IDB (confirmed) <p>Global Funds for Coral Reefs members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Henry Gonzalez, Chief Investment Officer, GCF (TBC) - Emily Small, Bloomberg Ocean Team (confirmed)
5 minutes	Closing remarks	<p>Building on the discussion and commitments made earlier in the event, the closing remarks will conclude with a “Call to action” to urge State and None-State Actors to translate commitments into ambitious action and to continue working together to achieve the Coral, Seagrass and Mangrove Breakthrough on the road to COP30.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pradeep Kurukulasuriya, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Capital Development