

Let's Be Nice to Coral Reefs



Wednesday, 30 October
11h00-12h30 COT



[#ForCoral](#) Pavilion
Blue Zone

Event brings together experts and civil society advocates to **explore pathways to effective protection and conservation solutions for coral reefs, in the context of the upcoming UNOC 2025 in Nice**. Session will feature three concise and engaging segments, all followed by a Q&A session. See dedicated page [here](#).

<p><i>Coral Reefs: Guardians of Marine Biodiversity and Coastal Protection</i></p>	<p>An overview of why being <i>nice</i> to coral reefs is crucial for marine biodiversity and for the survival of millions of people. Segment will delve into global frameworks supporting their conservation.</p> <p>Speakers include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ambassador Peter Thomson UNSG's Special Envoy for the Ocean • Katherine Arroyo, Executive Director, MarViva • Moderator: Rémi Parmentier, Coordinator, Let's Be Nice to the Ocean, and Director, The Varda Group
<p><i>Justice for Coral Reefs: Enforcing Protection Against Plastic Proliferation</i></p>	<p>Featuring the issue of plastic proliferation and its direct impact on reef health, with a discussion on how legal frameworks and enforcement can curb damaging activities.</p> <p>Speakers include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Siri Bjune, Head of the UNODC Global Maritime Crime Programme • André Abreu, Head of International Policy, Tara Ocean Foundation • Moderator: Isabel Leal, Project Manager, The Varda Group
<p><i>Bottom Trawling's Lasting Destruction of Coral Reefs</i></p>	<p>Segment will highlight the devastating impact of bottom trawling on coral habitats, offering insights into policy interventions and sustainable alternatives.</p> <p>Speakers include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sian Owen, Director, Deep Sea Conservation Coalition • Pierre Cannet, Head of International Policy, ClientEarth • Moderator: Rémi Parmentier, coordinator, Let's Be Nice to the Ocean, and Director, The Varda Group