

### GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OCEAN POLICIES

- *The overarching ambition of the G20 should be to ensure a clean, healthy and productive ocean, while fostering a sustainable and equitable ocean economy by scaling up responsible ocean industrial activities;*
- *As the ocean transcends national, regulatory, industrial and scientific boundaries, global policies and frameworks must be integrated and coherent, based on an inclusive multi-stakeholder approach, guided by shared principles and collective responsibility to safeguard the ocean as a common good for all of humanity;*
- *Given urgency to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, and the Brazilian G20 Presidency priorities, governments, regulatory bodies, private sector and civil society must act in unison, coordinating efforts efficiently;*
- *Governments must act swiftly and decisively to recognise the ocean-climate nexus and the opportunities for climate change mitigation and adaptation through sustainable ocean-based actions.*

### SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO THE PRIORITIES OF THE ECSWG:

#### 1. DEVELOPMENT OF A TOOLKIT TO SUPPORT COUNTRIES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF MSP AS A TOOL TO MANAGE MARINE AREAS BEST

- Promoting Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) and Capacity Building: Promote integrated strategies for marine and coastal zone planning and management through sustainable ocean plans and international cooperation mechanisms. This includes funding MSP projects, as well as initiatives in ocean literacy and capacity-building for decision-makers;
- Transdisciplinary Science and Governance: Institutionalize and fund transdisciplinary science to support adaptive ocean governance. Tools such as ocean accounting frameworks and knowledge-policy platforms are essential for sustainable and inclusive development;
- Support capacity-building initiatives, including funding MSP projects and ocean literacy programs for decision-makers.
- International Cooperation and Science-Policy Interfaces\*\*: Strengthen the interface between scientific knowledge, public policies, and society through international cooperation. Groups like O2O and initiatives focused on ocean accounting and spatial planning are key to globally disseminating sustainable practices and linking the blue economy with environmental justice.

#### 2. INCREASE CREATION AND FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF MARINE PROTECTED AREAS (MPAS) AND OTHER AREA-BASED CONSERVATION MEASURES

- Expand and Improve Marine Protected Areas (MPAs): Set targets to protect 30% of marine areas by incorporating MPAs into Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Prioritize the establishment of no-take MPAs, improve existing areas to meet international standards, and engage stakeholders, including indigenous communities, in the planning and management of these areas;
- Strengthen Monitoring and Conservation Efforts: Utilize advanced monitoring technologies, such as AI and satellite imagery, to combat illegal activities in MPAs. Establish global standards for biodiversity data collection and promote partnerships for scalable, sustainable solutions, including marine pollution reduction strategies;
- Strengthen monitoring and data sharing: Promote the use of advanced technologies for monitoring illegal activities in MPAs, establish global standards for marine biodiversity data collection, and invest in capacity building and scalable monitoring technologies.

#### 3. MAPPING ALL OCEAN-BASED USES AND ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING UNDERREPRESENTED AND UNDER MAPPED SUCH AS LOCAL FISHERIES, COMMUNITY-BASED TOURISM OR AQUACULTURE, AMONG OTHER, GIVING VOICE TO ALL IN THE PLANNING PROCESSES

- Empower Small-Scale Fishers and Coastal Communities: Secure tenure rights for small-scale fishers, foster their participation in Marine Spatial Planning (MSP), and develop national strategic plans to support their sustainable livelihoods. Emphasize the integration of local, traditional, and indigenous knowledge in decision-making processes;
- Integrate Marine Ecosystems into National Policies: Develop national policies that account for critical marine ecosystems, such as kelp forests, and encourage the use of digital twinning for more effective MSP. Support global goals for ocean conservation by aligning national strategies with international sustainability commitments;

- Enhance Ocean Literacy and Regional Collaboration: Provide financial and technical support for projects aimed at improving ocean literacy and science-based decisions in MSP. Promote regional collaboration through joint projects and foster international cooperation for advanced ocean monitoring technologies.

#### **4. CONTRIBUTION TO THE ELABORATION OF COUNTRIES' NDCs INCLUDING CONSERVATION OF OCEAN AND COASTAL ZONES AS A WAY TO COLLABORATE WITH THE GLOBAL GOAL OF REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS**

- Integrate Ocean-Based Climate Solutions into NDCs: Develop Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) that incorporate ocean-based climate solutions. Ensure these solutions are aligned with national and international strategies, and secure financing for their implementation. Invest in capacity building to support these efforts and promote inclusive participation in NDC development;
- Support Fair Energy Transition and Carbon Reduction: Promote equitable access to renewable energy through fair energy transition plans. Governments should focus on carbon reduction and energy transition by developing and implementing policies that support sustainable marine practices and reduce carbon emissions;
- Protect Fishing Communities and Enhance Social Protection: Develop social protection programs for fishing communities linked to NDCs. Recognize sustainable ocean investments as crucial climate and nature solutions, and integrate these considerations into broader climate and environmental policies.

#### **5. PROMOTE RATIFICATION AND MOBILIZE RESOURCES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BBNJ AGREEMENT**

- Swift Ratification and Implementation of the BBNJ Treaty: Prioritize the rapid ratification of the BBNJ Treaty, encourage other states to follow suit, and support its early operationalization for High Seas biodiversity conservation;
- Strengthen Global Governance for Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction: Promote international cooperation and governance frameworks to effectively manage and protect marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction under the BBNJ Treaty;
- Enhance Monitoring and Capacity Building for BBNJ: Invest in capacity building, technological advancements, and international collaboration to monitor and safeguard biodiversity in the High Seas through the BBNJ framework.