Recommendations of the Oceans 20 Engagement Group
Energy Transitions Working Group, 15 July 2024, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Introduction

In the context of sustainable development and energy transition, it is essential to pursue a fair energy solution, in line with the low-carbon energy generation potential that the oceans offer, such as offshore wind, floating solar, tidal, current, wave, thermal gradient and geothermal. The use of ocean space can offer opportunities for green hydrogen production. Considering that about 40% of the world's population lives within 100 km from the coast, there will be significant opportunities to meet energy demand and create new jobs along the coastal areas, contributing to a fair energy transition.
Through an inclusive process and a series of ocean consultations conducted with key stakeholders in different parts of the world through 2024, the Oceans20 Engagement Group has collected inputs to elaborate critical recommendations that are consistent with and following up on previous statements by the G20.

General Recommendations to the WG on Energy Transition, arising from Ocean 20 Engagement Group:

The Oceans20 Engagement Group calls on participating governments to:
. Support the articulation of comprehensive Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) projects in critical areas such as digital twins of the ocean and observing systems, that could provide crucial data and information to ocean renewable energy sources, thus contributing to energy transition.
. Pursue a just energy transition by aligning ocean-climate solutions within Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) with other national strategies and international frameworks, e.g. the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
. Ensure progress in negotiations and support to the adoption of sustainable energy sources and strengthening of global standards for transitioning towards a fully decarbonized shipping by 2050;
. Support the adoption and implementation of Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) frameworks that balance conservation with economic activities, following the example of the Ocean Action 2030 Sustainable Ocean Plans (SOPs);
. Incentivize mainstream finance to support the green transition in ocean-related industries;
. Develop policies that support and streamline the implementation of energy efficiency measures, which in the short term offer the most economical route to achieving significant emission reductions, particularly in developing countries;
. Ensure that international regulation provides a balance between interests of the global South and North, being science-based, while avoiding protectionist policies that create inconsistent barriers to importing products from developing countries;
. Promote offshore wind energy production, as its proximity to ports facilitates cost-effective electrification and decarbonization of their operations; and
. Act decisively to increase visibility and recognition of the ocean-climate interlinkages and the opportunities for climate change mitigation and adaptation through sustainable ocean-based energy projects and actions, leading up to COP-30 in 2025.