

# UN Ocean Conference Side Event

*Ocean Advocacy: From Ordinary to Extraordinary*

Event date: 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022, Time: 1300hrs-1500hrs GMT

## Background

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Efforts to address the “wicked” challenges to ocean conservation and sustainability have extended across the globe. However, threats to the ocean space are expanding at a much faster rate and having exponentially adverse impacts on millions of livelihoods. To ensure that ocean sustainability and conservation efforts gain enough traction to effectively tackle concomitant challenges, there is the need to drive the widespread proliferation of science-based solutions and innovative approaches with a focus on youthful changemakers across the globe.

## Purpose of the Meeting

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In this highly interactive virtual session, delegates will be inspired to move beyond stereotypical perceptions of categories of individuals who can successfully serve as drivers of innovation and change to an understanding of the fact that anyone – regardless of background, profession or skill-sets – can be primed for great impact in advancing a sustainable ocean economy. They will learn about the unique role that youth have to play in using ocean scientific data to develop innovative solutions for a thriving blue economy, as well as the extensive, inter-disciplinary approaches that can be employed in doing so.

Using a mix of engaging motivational and empowerment techniques, youth will be inspired not only to love the ocean, but to take tangible steps towards being innovators in a global movement to conserve and sustainably manage the ocean space. The event also seeks to empower youth across various disciplines and professions to actively leverage their varying strengths and expertise towards developing innovative approaches to addressing challenges to the ocean economy, through the use of ocean scientific data.

## Thematic Areas

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- The role of youth; inclusion and diversity
- Youth as drivers of innovation
- Use of ocean scientific data
- Mentorship

## Forum Schedule/Agenda

*Time: 1300hrs to 1500hrs GMT*

1300hrs	Background/Introduction (Moderator)
1303- 1310hrs	Elevator-pitch style self-introduction from each of the four panelists (1 minute each)
1310- 1330hrs	<p><i>First Round:</i> Moderator addresses one personalized question to each panelist to draw out key messages building on their own experiences (5 minutes each)</p> <p><i>Speakers and Questions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Estanislau Baptista Lima - (Use of ocean scientific data)</b> Artificial Intelligence(AI) in Action to save the Ocean Ecosystem</li> <li>• <b>Lawrence Dogli - (The role of youth; inclusion and diversity)</b> What makes youth so crucial to addressing challenges facing the ocean space?</li> <li>• <b>Dr. Sherry Scully - (Youth as drivers of innovation)</b> How can youth serve as effective drivers of innovation and change in addressing ocean sustainability concerns?</li> <li>• <b>Dr. Fanny Noisette - (Mentorship)</b> In your opinion, how do we creating compelling opportunities for young people from diverse backgrounds to engage with experienced ocean practitioners?</li> </ul>
1330- 1350hrs	<p><i>Second Round:</i> Moderator will ask panelists to give their comments (2 minutes each for each question)</p> <p><i>Your Questions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>In your opinion, how do we harness the diversity in cultural, educational or training backgrounds among youth to promote ocean conservation and thriving sustainable blue economies?</i></li> <li>• <i>What needs to be done at national, regional and/or global levels to encourage active involvement of youth in science-based and innovative approaches to addressing ocean sustainability challenges?</i></li> <li>• <i>How can youth serve as effective drivers of innovation and change in addressing ocean sustainability concerns?</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Proposed Speakers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Richmond Quarcoo</i></li> <li>• <i>Dr. Ifesinachi Okafor Yarwood</i></li> <li>• <i>Steve Fletcher</i></li> <li>• <i>Mrs. Rekia Torgbor</i></li> <li>• <i>Michael Tinmouth</i></li> </ul>



1350-  
1410hrs  
1410-  
1445hrs  
1445hrs-  
1500hrs

Interactive session for Experts: Speakers and Invited Guests

Moderated Q&A session

Concluding remarks/statements from organisers (GoGMI, DOTCAN, Masser Afrique)