

## FOREWORD

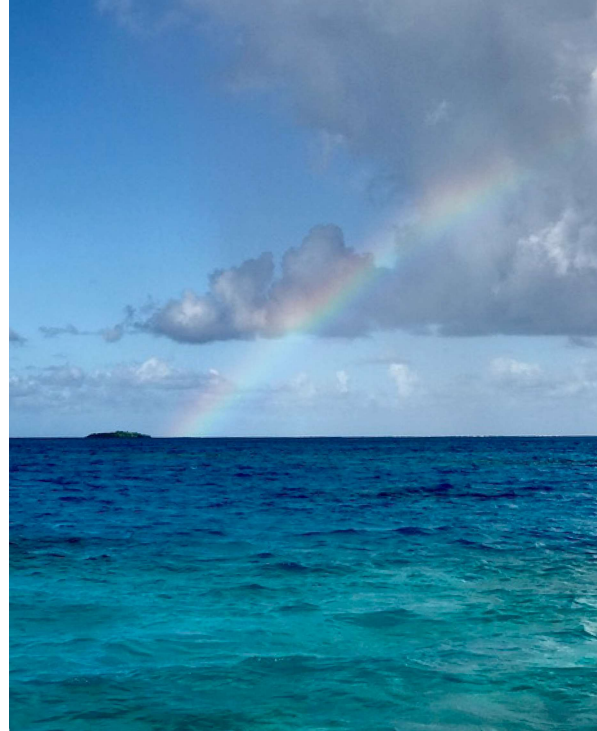
Our Ocean is precious. It is life-giving to humanity and the biosphere. By providing food, oxygen, medicines, income, and well-being, along with mitigating the impacts of climate change, the Ocean protects and sustains us wave after wave, year after year.

Every day we understand more about the Ocean. And every day—on our current trajectory—we harm it further. We need to reverse course. We need to transform what we do, how we do it, and who influences and advances ocean-focused action. We need to invest in ocean health, as it is our health.

Together, we can implement an agenda that elevates what we can and should do for the highest and most immediate impact—those actions that can best protect our ocean ecosystems, sustainably support humanity’s needs including energy and food, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, protect the lives of all people and communities, and sequester carbon. Together, we can rethink how we work—how we design and implement equitable, inclusive participation in science, how we reorient financial instruments and investments towards a blue economy, and how we protect our common heritage. And together, we can diversify who informs and drives this agenda—the names, faces, and hands that steward action—elevating Indigenous and local knowledge, designing around communities’ needs, and embedding principles of equity and accessibility across all that we do.

Each of us work on a different part of the ocean agenda, and we celebrate the many efforts already underway by a global community of stakeholders. To this growing ocean sustainability community we offer both our thanks and a challenge: we must do more. We must think, invest, and act in urgent, creative, and collaborative ways across all sectors, cultures, and generations. We have no time to lose.

We are delighted to lend our voices to this inspiring Compendium of Transformational Opportunities set out by the Blue Climate Initiative and its network. Let’s rise to this moment. Let’s embrace these ideas and translate them into action.



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