



Blue Climate Initiative

Solutions for Ocean, People, Planet

2022 Impact Report



2021
2030 United Nations Decade
of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development





Dear Friends,

2022 witnessed growing global awareness and alarm about the urgency of climate action. There is also an increasing appreciation of ocean-related climate solutions. We at the Blue Climate Initiative are honored to be accelerating ocean protection and programs in concert with a tremendous network of collaborators.

2022 was a major year for us, with strides in all of our programs. There's no doubt that the challenges we face mandate collaboration and cooperation at unprecedented scale.

Our year's highlight was the Blue Climate Summit in French Polynesia in May 2022. This provided the opportunity to work with many ocean and climate advocates in advancing important programs and initiatives. We were fortunate to have enormous support from the Government of French Polynesia -- which has become a global leader in ocean protection with highly effective traditional programs and advocacy of a moratorium on deep sea mining.

Support from ocean leaders in 2022, including the visionary Richard Bailey and other generous ocean/climate advocates, enabled us to encourage, incentivize and support other innovative projects and community programs through our Ocean Innovation Prize and Community Awards. This was a powerful way to maximize impact at a global level.

We have many to thank for allowing us to have the impact we had in 2022. Rather than attempting to list everyone, we want to simply, gratefully and humbly thank all of our collaborators, partners and donors for helping us to achieve the impact we have had and enabling us to continue with our efforts.

With deep appreciation and a renewed sense of urgency,



Stan Rowland
For the Blue Climate Initiative Team

BLUE CLIMATE SUMMIT

This global convening in French Polynesia brought together 250 ocean and climate advocates from around the globe to advance 20 projects targeting ocean protection and climate change. Participants included scientists, community and cultural leaders, government officials, youth representatives and environmental organizations.



The Summit Co-Conveners included Prince Albert II of Monaco, Richard Bailey, Marc Benioff, Dr. Sylvia Earle, Andrew Forrest, French Polynesia President Edouard Fritch, Laura Turner Seydel and Nainoa Thompson.

Projects ranged from a new blue carbon exchange and an MPA watch to a wave energy incentive competition and a deep sea mining (DSM) moratorium project. Traditional knowledge and youth involvement were a major focus - providing valuable new perspectives and insights.

Special thanks go to the Government of French Polynesia, which provided invaluable support and hosted the opening session at the Presidential Palace, a special welcome ceremony at the sacred site of Taputapuatea, and an Ocean Concert which brought together Summit participants and the public.

For more information, please see the following on our website:

[Blue Climate Summit Website Page](#)

[Summit Outcomes Report](#)

[Summit Highlights Video](#)



OCEAN INNOVATION PRIZE

We raised \$1 million to encourage and support innovations that mitigate climate change through ocean-related strategies. We then conducted a global incentive challenge in collaboration with the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Ocean Alliance that attracted 235 applicants from 60 countries. In 2022, we had the honor of awarding \$1 million to the most promising programs. The winners were:



USA - Seaweed feed supplements reducing livestock methane emissions by 90%



Guadeloupe - Carbon capture and energy from Sargassum seaweed



Indonesia - A seaweed-based solution for a plastic-free ocean

The Honorable Mentions were:



*Clean energy from
ocean waves*



*Clean electricity from
ocean and sea waves*

Special thanks to our High Level Judges: Richard Bailey (Pacific Beachcomber), Craig Cogut (Pegasus Capital Advisors), Daniela Fernandez (SOA), Françoise Gaill (CNRS), Margaret Leinen (Scripps), Vladimir Ryabinin (IOC/UNESCO), and Jyotika Virmani (Schmidt Ocean Institute), plus our Expert Evaluators listed at the end of this report.

For more information, see: BCI's Innovation Prize Website Page

COMMUNITY AWARDS

for Ocean-Related Solutions to Climate Change

At the Blue Climate Summit we recognized the winners of our global challenge seeking the most promising community-based programs working on ocean-related solutions to climate change. Winners have been successfully expanding their projects, building on the total of \$200,000 awarded to these programs in 2021.

Blue Action Lab

Bahamas - Turning urgently needed ideas for coastal climate resilience solutions into reality



Futuro Sostenible

Peru - Strengthening adaptive and resilient development in the northern part of the great marine ecosystem of the Humboldt current in Peru



TePuAtitia

French Polynesia - Moorea 2030 Citizens Assembly for Island Sustainability.



Rare

Philippines - Building a network of climate-resilient coastal communities through community engagement and behavior adoption



SeaPoWer

Tanzania - Improved seaweed farming for women's empowerment, livelihoods and environmental protection



OneReef

Micronesia - The Ocean Guardian Project, combining Pacific Island traditional stewardship with science and tech to build a nature-based climate solution



2022

Missions & Projects

Our 2022 missions and projects included the following:

Ocean Carbon Dioxide Removal: Sequestering carbon through ocean-related strategies

- *The Blue Carbon Exchange (BCX)*

Blue Climate Change Mitigation: Avoiding carbon emissions through ocean-related innovations

- *Tahiti Wave Energy Challenge*
- *Marine Permaculture Project*
- *Solar Power Installation at Moorea Research and Cultural Center*

Ocean Protection: Scaling up conservation efforts benefitting nature and people

- *Deep Sea Mining Moratorium*
- *Rights of the Ocean Coalition Building*
- *Mangrove Restoration*
- *MPA (Marine Protected Area) Watch*

Sustainable Blue Tourism: Supporting tourism programs contributing to climate change mitigation

- *Net Zero Tahiti*

Ocean/Climate Outreach and Education: Advancing climate and ocean protection awareness, education and action

- *“Blue Climate” Education Program in French Polynesia Schools*
- *“Deep Rising” Deep Sea Mining Moratorium Impact Campaign*



2023

Ocean/Climate Priorities

The following are our top priorities for 2023:

Deep Sea Mining (DSM) Moratorium

Help achieve a DSM moratorium through work with governments, ports, corporations, individuals and the International Seabed Authority

Net Zero Tahiti

Support an effort to reduce the carbon footprint of tourism in Tahiti through engagement with policy-makers and the tourism industry

Tahiti Wave Energy Challenge

Support an international wave energy demonstration project in Tahiti in conjunction with the 2024 Olympic surfing competition in Tahiti

Marine Permaculture

Help establish a seaweed farming and carbon capture and sequestration pilot project in French Polynesia that can be scaled and replicated globally

Blue Ecosystems & Carbon Exchange

Assist in the development of a blue carbon exchange that avoids the problems with green carbon exchanges

MPA Watch / Marine Protection Atlas

Support partners in the adoption of global standards and a monitoring and evaluation system for MPAs

Hokulea/ Moananuiakea Voyage

Support the Polynesian Voyaging Society's historic circumnavigation of the Pacific carrying a call for greater ocean protection



THE BLUE CLIMATE

Network

We thank our many supporters and collaborators including the following who have generously provided their time, energy and ideas to support our programs. Please visit our website for a more comprehensive list.

Summit Co-Convenors

H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco
Sylvia Earle, *Mission Blue*
President Edouard Fritch, *Government of French Polynesia*
Richard Bailey, *Pacific Beachcomber*
Marc Benioff, *Salesforce*
Andrew Forrest, *Minderoo Foundation*
Nainoa Thompson, *Polynesian Voyaging Society*
Laura Turner Seydel, *Turner Foundation*

Prize Judges

Tamatoa Bambridge, *CNRS*
Kate Brown, *GLISPA*
Craig Cogut, *Pegasus Capital*
Daniela Fernandez, *Sustainable Ocean Alliance*
Françoise Gail, *CNRS*
Margaret Leinen, *Scripps Institution of Oceanography*
Vladimir Ryabinin, *UNESCO IOC*
Rebekah Shirley Lukera, *World Resources Institute*
Jyotika Virmani, *Schmidt Ocean Institute*

Ocean Innovation Prize Expert Evaluators

Louis Metzger, *Rejuvenate Bio*
Bela Hanratty, *Keeling Capital*
Nina Boys, *Beyond Green Travel*
Christian Vanizette, *MakeSense.org*
Teresa Christopher, *Amazon*
Thierry Chopin, *University of New Brunswick*
Donna K Hazard, *SeaAhead*

Trisha Atwood, *Utah State University*
Elena Perez, *World Economic Forum*
Tony Charters, *Global Ecotourism Network*
Imogen Rose-Smith, *Combinat Capital*
Alison Clausen, *Ocean Decade*
Neil Davies, *Gump Research Station*
Craig Dudenhoeffer, *Sustainable Oceans Alliance*
Mevin Kistnassamy, *Blue Pelican Capital*
Megan Morikawa, *Iberostar Group*
Loreley Picourt, *Ocean & Climate Platform*

Summit Program Committee

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Loreley Picourt, *Ocean & Climate Platform*
Lorin Fries, *FutureTable*
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Fabien Laurier, *Deloitte*
Rebekah Shirley Lukera, *World Resources Institute*
Megan Morikawa, *Iberostar Group*
Hinano Teavai Murphy, *Te Pu Atiti'a*
Gerard Siu, *Maritime Cluster of French Polynesia*
Torsten Thiele, *Global Ocean Trust*



Transformational Opportunity Leads

Diva Amon, *Benioff Ocean Initiative*

Robert Blasiak, *Stockholm Resilience Centre*

Costas Christ, *National Geographic*

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& Human Health*

Lora Fleming, *University of Exeter*

Steve Gaines, *UC Santa Barbara*

Sandra Howard, *Colombia Vice-Minister of Tourism*

Dan Kammen, *UC Berkeley*

Phil Landrigan, MD, *Boston University*

Yadvinder Malhi, *University of Oxford*

John Stegeman, *WHOI*

MEET

The Team

Core Team



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BCI SUPPORTERS

and Summit Partners



To support our work, please make a donation through our website or contact Victoria Rowland at victoria@blueclimateinitiative.org.