

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

UN Side Event – Our Ocean Conference (OOC11)

World Oceans Day High-Level Side Event,

Tuesday 16 June, Shanzu, Mombasa.

**Mombasa Continental Resort, Shanzu, Mombasa / Hybrid
Event (In-Person & Virtual livestreaming)**

Combating nutrient pollution: from sewage diplomacy to alternative shipping fuels

1400-1515: Part 1

Sewage Diplomacy: From Pollution to Partnership:
Advancing Transnational Cooperation for Ocean and Coastal Resilience

1515-1545: Refreshments/Tea Break

1545-1700: Part 2

**Climate and nitrogen implications of alternative fuels
pathways for maritime shipping**

1700-1800: Cocktail reception.

Co-hosted by the GEF Clean and Healthy Oceans Maldives project, the Environmental Defense Fund, the Global Partnership on Nutrient Management and the Global Wastewater Initiative.

- Facilitate direct engagement between governments, development partners, private sector, and civil society
- Encourage formation of new partnerships and implementation coalitions
- Enable informal dialogue on financing and scalable wastewater solutions
- Bridge policy dialogue with investment and implementation pathways
- Foster cross-regional collaboration on ocean and coastal resilience initiatives.

Part 1:

Sewage Diplomacy: From Pollution to Partnership: **Advancing Transnational Cooperation for Ocean and Coastal Resilience**

Date: Tuesday, 16 June 2026

Venue: Our Ocean Conference (OOC11), Mombasa, Kenya

Format: High-Level Panel Discussion followed by Networking Cocktail Reception

Moderator: Ms. Amran Abdi, Sustainability and international development professional, Founder of Reviva Innovations

Organizers: Global Partnership on Nutrient Management (GPNM) in partnership with the Global Wastewater Initiative (GWWI). Partners:



Event Background: What is 'Sewage Diplomacy'?

Sewage Diplomacy is an innovative sustainability initiative that uses wastewater management as a platform for environmental cooperation, clean energy generation, and international collaboration.

The concept focuses on transforming sewage from a costly environmental problem into a valuable resource. Through biogas and nutrient recovery technologies, wastewater can be converted into renewable energy and nutrients that can be reused in agriculture and other productive sectors, while also recovering the water itself.

Sewage Diplomacy looks to mobilize opportunities for governments, diplomatic missions, cities, researchers, and development partners to work together on shared environmental challenges. It demonstrates how practical sustainability solutions can improve sanitation, reduce pollution, lower greenhouse gas emissions, strengthen public health outcomes, and foster stronger partnerships between institutions and nations.

This Sewage Diplomacy high-level event discusses how to position environmental stewardship as a diplomatic tool, showing how sustainable infrastructure can contribute to both local impact and global cooperation.

14:00 – 14:10 | Opening of Session

Welcome and framing remarks by Moderator

- Introduction to the concept of 'Sewage Diplomacy' as a transboundary ocean accelerator framework
 - Context setting on marine pollution, wastewater governance and coastal resilience
 - Overview of objectives and expected outcomes of the side event
 - Introduction of distinguished guests and partners
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14:10 – 14:25 | High-Level Opening Remarks

Theme: **Political Leadership for Sewage Diplomacy and Ocean Action**

Opening Statement:

- Professor Mark Sutton, Co-Chair, Global Partnership on Nutrient Management (GPNM)

High-Level Keynote Remarks:

- H.E. Shariff Nassir, Governor of Mombasa County (Host County)
- H.E. Arnaud Suquet, Ambassador of France to Kenya
- Ms. Heidi Savelli, Chief of the Source to Sea Pollution Unit, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- H.E. Monica Navarro, Minister for Environment and Energy, Costa Rica

Each speaker allocated approximately 3 minutes.

14:25 – 15:00 | High-Level Panel Discussion

Theme: **Sewage Diplomacy in Action – From Policy Gaps to Implementation Pathways**

Guiding Discussion Pillars:

- Scale and transboundary nature of sewage pollution and ocean impacts
- Strengthening international cooperation and diplomatic coordination
- Financing, infrastructure, and technology solutions for wastewater management
- Regional collaboration opportunities in the Western Indian Ocean
- Circular economy approaches to wastewater and nutrient recovery
- Public-private partnerships and implementation acceleration

Proposed Panel Composition:

- H.E. Peter Maddens, Ambassador of Belgium to Kenya
- Ms. Heidi Savelli-Soderberg, Chief of the Source to Sea Pollution Unit, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- H.E. Monica Navarro, Minister for Environment and Energy, Costa Rica
- Ms. Jos Hill, Wastewater Program Director, The Nature Conservancy

Discussion Format:

- Moderated discussion with guided interventions from each panellist
 - Interactive exchange between panellists on scalable implementation pathways
 - Focus on actionable partnerships and regional cooperation mechanisms
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15:00 – 15:10 | Interactive Audience Engagement

- Moderated audience questions and interventions
 - Focus on implementation pathways, partnerships, financing mechanisms, and regional cooperation opportunities
 - Opportunity for stakeholder contributions from governments, private sector, academia, and civil society
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15:10 – 15:15 | Closing Remarks

- Key takeaways from Moderator
- Summary of actionable priorities and partnership opportunities

Part 2:

Climate and nitrogen implications of alternative fuels pathways for maritime shipping

Date: Tuesday, 16 June 2026

Venue: Our Ocean Conference (OOC11), Mombasa, Kenya

Format: High-Level Panel Discussion followed by Networking Cocktail Reception

Organizers:



Target audience: Policymakers, maritime regulators, climate negotiators, fuel producers, scientists, NGOs

Organising team:

• Lucy Gilliam, One Planet Port • Marie Hubatova, Environmental Defense Fund Europe • Dola Oluteye, University College London • Secretariat, The Professional African Technical Network Advisory (PATNA) initiative • Xin Zhang, Global Nitrogen Innovation Center for Clean Energy and the Environment (NICCEE) and International Nitrogen Network (iN-Net)
Point contacts: • Lucy Gilliam lucy.gilliam@oneplanetport.org • Eduardo Boné-Morón ebone@edf.org

Event Background

As shipping accelerates its transition away from fossil fuels, alternative fuels like ammonia are gaining traction as decarbonization solutions — but current sustainability assessments focused on greenhouse gases fail to capture their broader environmental risks. This side event examines those risks through an ocean-centred nitrogen lens, bringing together scientists, fuel producers, policymakers, maritime regulators, and civil society to ask: are we decarbonizing shipping while externalizing harm to the ocean? And what role can African nations play in ensuring a safe, just and equitable transition?

Main issues covered:

- Gaps in current fuel sustainability frameworks, which focus on traditional GHGs and miss wider climate and pollution risks
- Reactive nitrogen pollution and nitrous oxide (N₂O) emissions across alternative fuel life cycles
- Nitrous oxide as a potent greenhouse gas and ozone-depleting substance
- Ocean health impacts: eutrophication, deoxygenation, and biodiversity loss from nitrogen deposition
- Consequences for coastal communities, port cities, and ocean-dependent economies
- Governance gaps in fuel standards and life-cycle assessments
- Safeguards needed to ensure shipping's climate solutions don't undermine ocean health or planetary boundaries
- The opportunities for African nations in driving a safe, just and equitable transition

Keynote Speaker:

Ambassador Nancy Karigithu, Advisor and Ambassador for Blue Economy, Kenya.

Moderator:

Mr. John Wesonga, Strategic Communications for African and Global Markets

Speakers: Marie Hubatova, Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), Lucy Gilliam, One Port Planet (OPP), Dola Oluteye (University College London and the Professional African Technical Network Advisory (PATNA) Initiative

Agenda:

15:45-15:48

Introduction by the moderators, (John Wesonga and Amran Abdi, 3 min)

15:48-15:53

Keynote Address (Ambassador Nancy Karigithu, 5 mins)

15:53-16:00

Presentation 1 - Maritime decarbonization in Africa (Dola Oluteye, 7 min)

16:00-16:07

Presentation 2 - Alternative fuels for shipping (Marie Hubatova, 7 min)

16:07-16:14

Presentation 3 - Nitrogen from marine fuels and risks to climate, health and ecosystems (Lucy Gilliam, 7 min)

16:14-16:35

Panel discussion (all speakers, 30 min)

16:35-16:45

Q&A (10 min)

16:55-17:00

Closing remarks to usher cocktail reception. (John Wesonga and Amran Abdi, 5 min)