# OCEAN Global Exchange Series

## Session 3:
## Innovation for Impact

01 October 2026



Image credit: Action for Ocean

Ocean Community Empowerment and Nature

UK International Development

Partnership | Progress | Prosperity

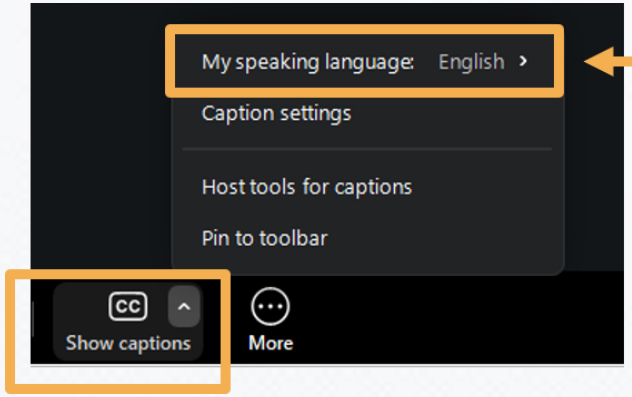
# Languages

**Live interpretation** is available in:

- French
- Indonesian
- Spanish
- Portuguese




**Closed captions (or subtitles)** are available in multiple languages.




Click here to select your language

# Session structure

| |
|---|
| Welcome & Introductions |
| Discussion Topic 1: Innovation in practice |
| Audience Interaction and Q&A |
| Break – 10 mins |
| Discussion Topic 2: Innovation to impact |
| Audience Interaction and Q&A |
| Close |

**Watch later:** A recording will be shared by email and available via the website after the session

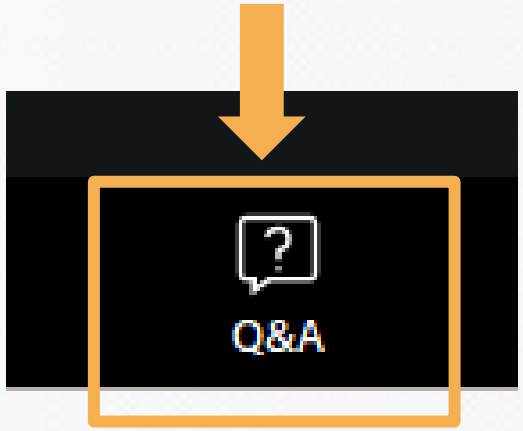



Image credit: Mare Nostrum Foundation

# Questions and Audience Interaction

- Audience – we want to hear from you!
- Post your questions in the Q&A throughout the discussion, and we will answer these during ‘Audience Interaction and Q&A’ section
- Vote for the questions in Q&A you would like to see answered
- The Q&A section is also where you can post answers to questions we ask the audience during the session
- We will do our best do answer all your questions. If we are short on time, we may prioritise questions with more votes.

**Ask your questions here!**




Email our helpdesk any time at helpdesk@oceangrants.org.uk with any feedback or issues during the session. Our 'Report a concern' page on the OCEAN website sets out how to raise something more serious.

# What is OCEAN?

- OCEAN is a global competitive grants initiative that aims to support the people most impacted by declining ocean health and climate change through funding local solutions to local problems.
- Funded by The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), through the UK's Blue Planet Fund (BPF).
- Expected to run until 31 March 2029.
- OCEAN aims to help bridge the gap by funding community-centred projects that aim to reduce multi-dimensional poverty and benefit the marine environment and its biodiversity.




Image credit: The Hunger Project

# Funding pathways

## Community Grants

- Grant Size: **Up to £250,000**
- Led by **small to medium sized organisations** legally registered in eligible coastal countries
- Projects focus on strengthening local capability & capacity of local communities and/or organisations.

## Partnership Grants

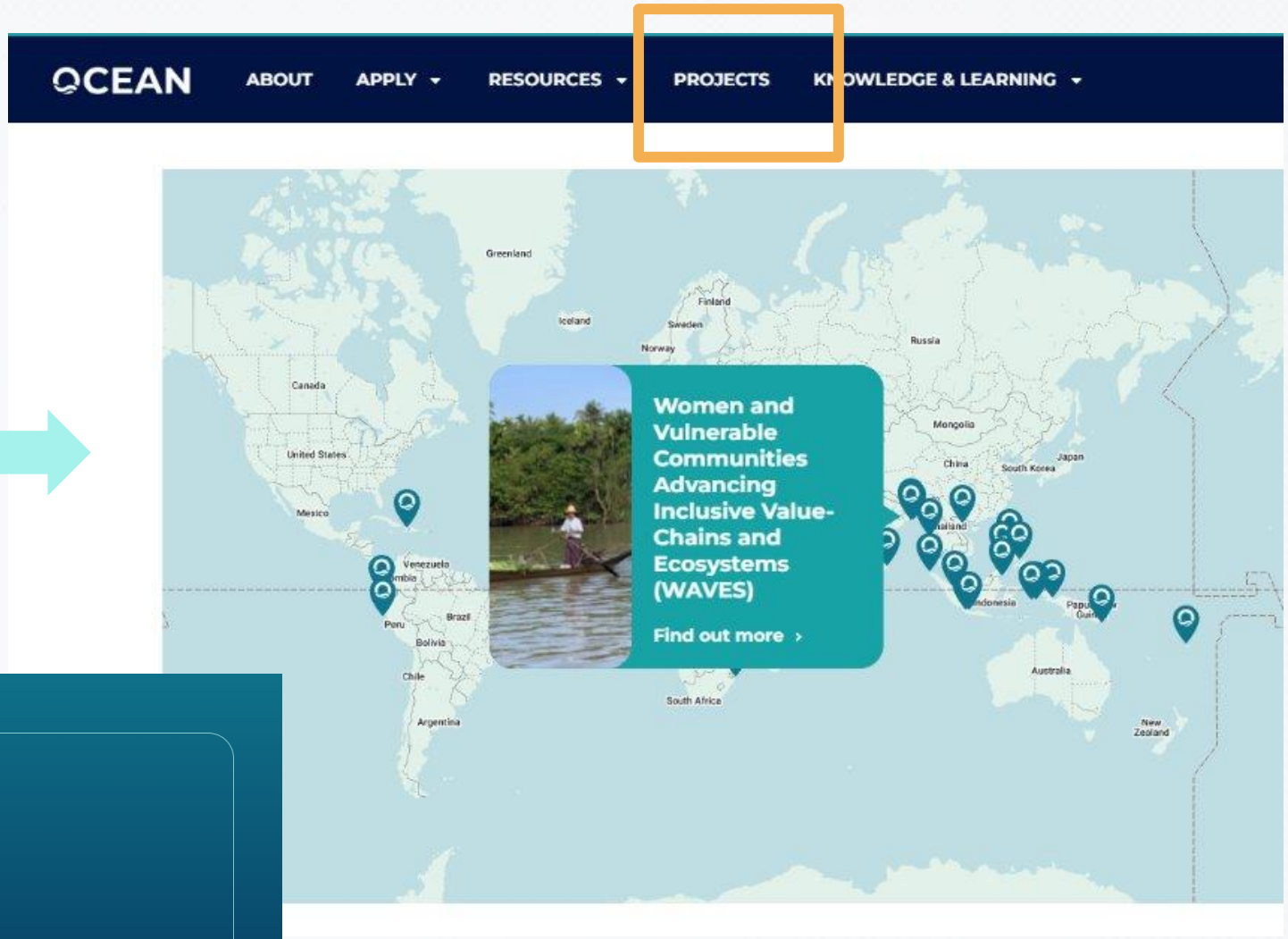
- Grant Size: **£500,000 - £3 million**
- Led by **medium to large sized organisations** with the capacity to deliver solutions at scale.
- Projects partnering with and working alongside local communities to deliver local solutions to local problems



Image credit: Action for Ocean

# OCEAN Projects

**Visit our website**




## Project Summary

GRANTEE
**Action for Ocean**

COUNTRY
**Tanzania**

PROJECT DATES
**01 Nov 2024- 30 Sep 2026**

CATEGORY
**Community Grant, Critical marine habitats for coastal resilience, Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, Marine Protected Areas and Other Effective Conservation Measures, Round 1 Grantee, Small-**

TARGET

**500**
**households**
Households directly involved in octopus fishing to benefit from increased yield.

**3**
**Reef enclosures**
New reef enclosures added in Masongoro, Kifinge and Kipakoni.

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# Introducing our Grantee speakers



**ALNER** -Bintang Ekananda, Indonesia
The project empowers women-led micro-retailers and waste banks to operate as refill stations: reducing plastic pollution and increasing income for communities in Jakarta.



**Bangladesh Environment and Development Society (BEDS)**
Shafiq Islam, Bangladesh
Supporting climate-vulnerable coastal villages in the Sundarbans Mangrove Forest through community-based mangrove restoration and development of sustainable income streams.



**Sea Women of Melanesia -** Abishag Maguapana, Papua New Guinea
Empowering communities to create and manage their own marine protected areas to improve the sustainability of artisanal fisheries. Women are supported to participate in conservation and deliver aid to communities.

# Introducing our Grantee speakers



**Mare Nostrum Foundation**- Jeffrey Leblanc, Ecuador
Reducing bycatch in Ecuador's gillnet fishery by training fishers to use bycatch reduction technology to protect endangered marine species.



**Zoological Society of London (ZSL)**
Jeremy Huet, UK/Mozambique
Establishment of community-managed fisheries areas in Nampula, and support to coastal communities through climate-resilient livelihoods such as oyster farming.

# Who else will we be hearing from?

## OCEAN Expert Committee

OCEAN's independent committee of marine conservation and international development experts.

- **Stuart Green:** Ocean policy and fisheries governance.
- **Michael Ketover:** Marine conservation and humanitarian response.
- **Lida Pet-Soede:** Conservation and fisheries management.

## Blue Planet Fund Regional Coordinators

Based in-country, and support the delivery of Blue Planet Fund programmes

- **Adriana Matamoros:** Latin America

# Topic 1: Innovation in Practice



**Bintang Ekananda**
ALNER, Indonesia



**Shafiq Islam**
BEDS, Bangladesh



**Abishag Maguapana**
Sea Women of Melanesia, Papua New Guinea



**Michael Ketover**
OCEAN Expert Committee



**Stuart Green**
OCEAN Expert Committee

# Topic 1: Innovation in Practice

What has been the most challenging part of putting the innovation into practice?



Image credit: Mare Nostrum Foundation

# Topic 1: Innovation in Practice

What evidence would you want to see before recommending that another organisation invest in, or replicate, one of these approaches?




Image credit: ALNER

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# Audience interaction and Q&A

Ask your questions in the Q&A section, and upvote the ones you would like to hear answered



Image credit: ZSL © Dave Johnston

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# Break

See you in 10 minutes!



Image credit: Sea Women of Melanesia

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# Topic 2: Innovation to Impact



**Jeffrey Leblanc**
Mare Nostrum Foundation, Ecuador



**Jeremy Huet**
ZSL, Mozambique



**Lida Pet-Soede**
OCEAN Expert Committee



**Adriana Matamoros**
Blue Planet Fund Regional Coordinator, Latin America

# Topic 2: Innovation to Impact

What evidence would you want to see before recommending that another organisation invest in, or replicate, one of these approaches?




Image credit: ZSL © Nuno Vasco Rodrigues

# Topic 2: Innovation to Impact

How do we distinguish an innovation that is simply new or interesting from one that has the potential to create lasting impact?




Image credit: BEDS

# Audience interaction and Q&A

Ask your questions in the Q&A section, and upvote the ones you would like to hear answered



Image credit: Sea Women of Melanesia

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# Thank you!

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helpdesk@oceangrants.org.uk

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Image credit: Project Zaccheus

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oceangrants.org.uk