

COP31 Virtual Ocean Pavilion
Connecting All on Our Incredible Blue Planet



Partnership Expression of Interest

The Global Ocean Forum and the Plymouth Marine Laboratory, the main co-organizers of the Virtual Ocean Pavilion held during meetings of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties (COP26, COP27, COP28, COP29, and COP30), welcome expressions of interest from interested parties and organizations in collaborating as sponsors for the COP31 Virtual Ocean Pavilion.

Co-organizers and sponsors are the main driving force behind the Virtual Ocean Pavilion and can play a wide range of roles, including involvement in liaising with the virtual service platform provider, design of virtual space, development of promotional materials to share on social media, list serves and interest groups, organization of live webinars and virtual exhibits, development of Pavilion thematic elements and key messages, among others.

The VOP is organized through a volunteer-led effort, and we are actively seeking financial support to ensure the successful implementation of the COP31 VOP and to ensure we continue to offer a free-of-charge and inclusive platform. Partnership opportunities are currently invited at three levels:

1. Lead Partner (US\$6,000; only one available)
 - a. Logo and link most prominently displayed in the Pavilion main welcome hall and landing page
 - b. Highlighted as Lead Partner in emails and newsletters
 - c. Logo on display in the preview, opening, and closing events as Lead Partner
 - d. Option to organize the headline opening event of the Pavilion
 - e. Option to place a speaker in one of the live events
 - f. Option to host a live event
 - g. Option to have a virtual exhibition stand
 - h. Option to host a roundtable
 - i. Option to provide an interview subject for the youth-led interview series
2. Convening Partner (US\$3,000; only two available)
 - a. Logo and link prominently displayed in the Pavilion main welcome hall and landing page
 - b. Highlighted as Convening Partner in emails and newsletters
 - c. Logo on display in the preview, opening, and closing events as a Convening Partner
 - d. Option to place a speaker in one of the live events
 - e. Option to host a live event
 - f. Option to have a virtual exhibition stand
 - g. Option to host a roundtable
 - h. Option to provide an interview subject for the youth-led interview series
3. Collaborating Partner (US\$1,000)
 - a. Logo and link displayed in the Pavilion main welcome hall and landing pages
 - b. Highlighted as a Collaborating Partner in emails and newsletters
 - c. Logo on display in the preview, opening, and closing events as a Collaborating Partner
 - d. Invited to facilitate events, exhibits, or roundtables through a suggested contribution of US\$1,000 per feature

With mounting challenges facing the ocean concerning each and every one of us, the Virtual Ocean Pavilion is engaging and reaching out to those not able to attend the COPs in person. Our goal is to democratize access to ocean-related events in climate negotiations while providing further background and insights into the ocean and its role in climate, the effects a changing climate has on the ocean, and the resulting impacts of a changing climate on the benefits we humans derive from the ocean. This virtual approach is a proven success, as shown through consistent positive feedback and support from participants and exhibitors alike. Throughout the five Virtual Ocean Pavilions held during past COPs (COP26, COP27, COP28, COP29, and COP30) there have never been fewer than 1,200 individual registrants.

If you are interested in being involved as a sponsor of the Virtual Ocean Pavilion at COP31, please reach out to Miriam Balgos (mbalgos@globaloceanforum.com) by 30 September 2026.

Organizing Live Events

The co-organizers of the Virtual Ocean Pavilion at COP31 invite expressions of interest in organizing live events. **There will be five (5) live event slots available.**

The live events, which should correlate with the thematic program of COP31, will be scheduled according to the preferences of the organizer, the thematic schedule of COP31 and the availability of slots provided by COP31 Virtual Ocean Pavilion organizers.

These event slots have a duration of 90 minutes and events should highlight intersections between the ocean and the goals laid out by the COP31 Presidency as well as other thematic focuses of the Virtual Ocean Pavilion this year. Collaboration among organizations is encouraged.

For enhanced attendance and participation in the Virtual Ocean Pavilion live events, translation in multiple languages will be made available during these sessions. The platform will also be designed to send notifications to registered users to remind them of events in a timely manner with the aim of increasing attendance and engagement as well as an automatic generation of an e-certificate of attendance.

If you are interested in organizing a live event, please provide the following information to Miriam Balgos (mbalgos@globaloceanforum.com) by 30 September 2026.

A maximum of one event proposal per organization will be considered. Proposals must include the following:

Name of requesting organization:

Contact person (full name):

Contact email:

Organizing partners (if any):

Contact emails for organizing partners (if any):

Preferred date:

Event title (max. 100 characters INCLUDING SPACES):

Event theme (max. 300 characters INCLUDING SPACES):

Brief event description, including topics and speakers (max. 500 characters INCLUDING SPACES):

In case your proposed live event is selected, a financial contribution in the amount of **\$1,000** that will be used to cover virtual platform services will be expected. The final event agenda, photos and short bios of speakers will be required for uploading on the Virtual Ocean Pavilion platform.

Organizing Exhibits

The co-organizers of the Virtual Ocean Pavilion at COP31 invite expressions of interest in organizing exhibits for featuring in the Virtual Ocean Pavilion Exhibition Hall. **There will be 15 exhibit slots available.**

The proposed exhibit(s) must: 1) showcase initiatives that offer ocean-based solutions to climate change and its impacts; 2) provide a novel aspect or information to the Virtual Ocean Pavilion; and 3) aim to attract, inform and engage external actors, thus expanding ocean and climate literacy. If possible, exhibits should highlight intersections between the ocean and the goals laid out by the COP31 Presidency as well as other thematic focuses of the Virtual Ocean Pavilion this year.

For increased accessibility to the Virtual Ocean Pavilion events hosted at the exhibits, the platform will be designed to send notifications to registered users to remind them of the exhibits and when exhibit resource persons are available for chats and discussions in a timely manner with the aim of increasing visits and interaction among guests.

If you are interested in organizing an exhibit, please provide the following information to Miriam Balgos (mbalgos@globaloceanforum.com) by 30 September 2026.

Proposals must include the following:

Name of requesting organization:

Contact person (full name):

Contact email:

Organizing partners (if any):

Contact emails for organizing partners (if any):

Exhibit title (max. 100 characters INCLUDING SPACES):

Exhibit theme (max. 300 characters INCLUDING SPACES):

Brief exhibit description, including topics and speakers (max. 500 characters INCLUDING SPACES):

If your proposed exhibit is selected, a financial contribution in the amount of **\$1,000** that will be used to cover virtual platform services will be expected.

Organizing Roundtables

The co-organizers of the Virtual Ocean Pavilion at COP31 invite expressions of interest in organizing roundtable discussions. **There will be four (4) roundtable slots available.**

Roundtables, which should correlate with the thematic program of COP31, will be scheduled according to the preferences of the organizer, the thematic schedule of COP31 and the availability of slots as provided by COP31 Virtual Ocean Pavilion organizers

These discussions should have a clearly defined focus (e.g. gender in ocean science, cross-sectoral ocean governance, promoting strategic communication) and have a duration of 60-90 minutes. Roundtables should highlight intersections between the ocean and the goals laid out by the COP31 Presidency as well as other thematic focuses of the Virtual Ocean Pavilion this year. Organizers are expected to facilitate the discussion and provide a report following the roundtable.

If you are interested in organizing a roundtable, please provide the following information to Miriam Balgos (mbalgos@globaloceanforum.com) by 30 September 2026.

Proposals must include the following:

Name of requesting organization:

Contact person (full name):

Contact email:

Organizing partners (if any):

Contact emails for organizing partners (if any):

Roundtable title (max. 100 characters INCLUDING SPACES):

Roundtable theme (max. 300 characters INCLUDING SPACES):

Brief roundtable description, including topics and speakers (max. 500 characters INCLUDING SPACES):

If your proposed roundtable is selected, a financial contribution in the amount of **\$1,000** that will be used to cover virtual platform services will be expected.