

Open Call: 2030 Seagrass Breakthrough Pool of Experts

The 2030 Seagrass Breakthrough, a collaborative effort between the CMS Office - Abu Dhabi and the UN High-Level Climate Change Champions, represents a groundbreaking initiative for the conservation, restoration, and protection of global seagrass ecosystems. This initiative not only aims to safeguard these vital ecosystems but also recognizes their immense potential as nature-based solutions for addressing climate change, biodiversity loss, and promoting human well-being.

The 2030 Seagrass Breakthrough marks a significant advancement in marine biodiversity conservation, coastal resilience enhancement, and climate change mitigation efforts. Aligned with key global commitments such as the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (especially its Targets 2 and 3), the Paris Agreement, Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar), UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, UN Decade of Ocean Science, and others, the 2030 Seagrass Breakthrough provides a roadmap for non-State actors and governments to synchronize and mobilize their global pledges with grassroots and regional endeavors.

Sitting within the framework of the UNFCCC [Ocean Breakthroughs](#), the 2030 Seagrass Breakthrough emphasizes the critical importance of conserving and restoring seagrass ecosystems. This initiative underscores the pivotal role of seagrass in addressing climate change, preserving biodiversity, fortifying disaster resilience, and advancing sustainable development objectives.

More information on the 2030 Seagrass Breakthrough is available [here](#) and [here](#).

Objectives

The CMS Office - Abu Dhabi and the UN High-Level Climate Change Champions are collaborating to establish a pool of experts to support the shaping and operationalization of the 2030 Seagrass Breakthrough. This expert group will play a crucial role in:

1. Defining the spatial and financial goals of the 2030 Seagrass Breakthrough.
2. Identifying funding mechanisms and financial strategies to support seagrass conservation efforts.
3. Identifying seagrass ecosystem conservation, restoration and management needs, along with respective methodologies and approaches to address them.

Areas of Expertise

The CMS Office - Abu Dhabi and the UN High-Level Climate Change Champions are seeking passionate and experienced professionals from the following range of backgrounds:

1. **Marine Biology, Conservation and Management:** Expertise in seagrass ecology, conservation, restoration, and/or management.

2. **Environmental Economics:** Expertise in the economics of seagrass/marine ecosystem restoration.
3. **Climate Change:** Expertise in climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies relevant to seagrass ecosystems.
4. **Policy Analysis:** Expertise in analyzing and crafting policies and regulations to support seagrass/marine conservation, restoration or management.
5. **Remote Sensing and GIS:** Expertise in spatial analysis and mapping that can support the monitoring of seagrass habitats.
6. **Ecosystem Conservation and Management:** Hands-on expertise in implementing seagrass conservation, restoration and/or management projects and/or providing on-the-ground support.

Expected Commitment

Experts joining the 2030 Seagrass Breakthrough Pool of Experts do so on a voluntary basis, offering their time and advice to the best of their abilities by:

1. Sharing specialized knowledge and insights from their professional fields and experience to help shape and operationalize the 2030 Seagrass Breakthrough.
2. Participating in, and contributing to meetings, workshops, collaborative working groups, and other 2030 Seagrass Breakthrough-related activities.
3. Collaborating with the CMS Office - Abu Dhabi and the UN High-Level Climate Change Champions regarding a) and b).

Expression of Interest

Experts with profiles aligned with the above are invited to submit a written expression of interest, explaining how they meet the above criteria and why they are interested in joining the 2030 Seagrass Breakthrough Pool of Experts, to the CMS Office - Abu Dhabi at lauren.lloydlopes@un.org and yasmeen.telwala@un.org by 23 May 2024.