



COP29
Baku
Azerbaijan

Bridging ocean and freshwater challenges through collective science, industry and policy action

COP29, November 19, 16:30-17:30 (AZT), [Ocean Pavilion](#), Blue Zone



ABOUT:

Following the success of the 1st ever Ocean Pavilion & Water for Climate Pavilion joint event held at COP28 in Dubai, this event builds on that momentum with this cross-pavilion session bringing the ocean and freshwater communities together to discuss and identify opportunities to collaborate across science, policy and practice for healthy ecosystems and decisive climate action.

Event objectives:

1. Deepen understanding of the work being carried out by both communities and recognize the challenges for the communities to work together.
2. Identify opportunities where the freshwater and ocean communities can break down the silos of work across research, policy and finance to address some of the major challenges faced by both communities.
3. Highlight how different stakeholders working on water and ocean issues (public sector, academia and research institutes, private sector and CSOs) can act as catalysts for dynamic partnerships between the two communities.

Moderator: Dr. Kilaparti Ramakrishna, Director of Marine Policy Center at WHOI and Senior Advisor to the United States President on Ocean and Climate Policy

High Level Address:

- **Peter Thomson**, United Nations Secretary General Special Envoy for the Ocean
- **Retno L.P. Marsudi, Indonesia**, United Nations Secretary General Special Envoy on Water (video tbc)

Panel discussion:

- **Viviana Franco**, Sustainability Project Lead, Van Oord
- **Matthew Frost**, Head of the International Office, Plymouth Marine Laboratory
- **Tove Lexen**, Policy Advisor on Climate Change, WaterAid Sweden
- **Giovanna Valverde Stark**, as Special Advisor on Climate Change, Head of terrestrial and maritime borders, incl. transboundary waters, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica (tbc)

Followed by a Q&A with the audience