

Progress Update

(November 2021)



SIDA REFERENCE 61050352, COST-SHARING AGREEMENT SIGNED 2 JAN-2019

SET-UP AS COMPONENT 4 OF UNDP GLOBAL WATER AND OCEAN GOVERNANCE SUPPORT PROGRAMME

- PROJECT 00115482, ATLAS OUTPUT 00117778- ACTIVITY 4

ALSO CONSTITUTING AREA B2 (OCEAN GOVERNANCE) OF SIDA-UNDP STRATEGIC COLLABORATION PROGRAMME ON ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

- PROJECT 00124739, ATLAS OUTPUT 00120004- ACTIVITY 2

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1. Introduction and Background

Building on the successful 2017 Ocean Conference including its 1,400 voluntary commitments, UNDP has established the **Ocean Innovation Challenge** (OIC) dedicated to spur action by identifying, financing, and mentoring a suite of pilot initiatives that demonstrate highly innovative approaches to ocean sustainability, cutting across SDG14 targets and associated sustainability challenges.

By providing seed financing, advice, and guidance, technical, knowledge and networking support, the Challenge will help to remove key barriers by demonstrating approaches that can deliver transformational changes in ocean and ocean-relevant land-based resource management. The OIC's resources and support are targeted to the private sector, NGOs, local communities, national and sub-national government agencies, UN system organizations and development banks, intergovernmental organizations, and others positioned to pilot replicable and scalable innovations for ocean transformation.

The OIC was officially launched in December 2019, and the first challenge call – addressing SDG 14.1 marine pollution – was announced in January 2020, ahead of the Preparatory Meeting for the 2nd UN Ocean Conference. The first cohort of OIC Round 1 Innovators was awarded in March 2021, and the second call Challenge was issued at that time – addressing the sustainability of fisheries – these are outlined below. The OIC Secretariat has grown and evolved in response to the needs of innovators and requirements on UNDP resulting in the creation of the UNDP OIC Incubator. Details are provided on expenditures to-date, along with budget projections and administrative plans for combining funding sources.

The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) provided the initial 'proof-of-concept' funding for the OIC. This funding, aided by a one-million-dollar contribution by Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad) directed to innovations addressing the challenge of plastics pollution, covered the innovation projects being awarded under the first call on SDG 14.1 challenges. Norad expressed a strong interest in supporting the second call on sustainable fisheries, and the final amount and full commitment are expected by the end of 2021.

2. Ocean Innovation Challenge – Round One Innovations for SDG 14.1 – Marine Pollution

The first Call, which opened in January 2020, focused on reducing marine pollution, i.e., SDG target 14.1: “By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution”. The Call received a huge amount of interest, with more than 10,000 users from 199 countries and territories¹ visiting the website during the period of the Call, and more than 180 enquiries and requests for support assisted.

609 proposals (concept notes) were received at the time of closing of the first call in March 2020. The concept notes have since been internally reviewed, and after this first screening against the OIC selection criteria, the 13 most promising proposals were shortlisted and were invited to submit full proposals which will be subject to both external expert peer review and further internal review towards final selection of 2020 awards.

Notably, four of the finalist proposals were for innovations in Small Island Developing States (Cape Verde, Mauritius, Maldives, Comoros). 12 full proposals were received, and these were matched against the profiles of expert reviewers for technical peer reviews. The peer review process proved to be very valuable for evaluating and strengthening proposals. The OIC

¹ Source: Google Analytics.

Secretariat then took the successful proposal through the UNDP due diligence, partner capacity assessments and social and environmental safeguards reviews, and full procurement required reviews for large UNDP Contracts, prior to consideration by the OIC Technical Review Board. The OIC Technical Review Board made final recommendations in January 2021, and the finalist advanced to the UNDP Advisory Committee on Procurement for final clearance before contract issuance to the successful innovation proponents.

Given that some of the proponents were start-up companies with less experience than required to issue a contract of this size, additional oversight, monitoring, and evaluation criteria were developed for the Ocean Innovation Challenge. This included the establishment of ten Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the innovators to follow throughout the implementation period. The SOPs provide guidance for Communications; Deliverables and Reporting; Finance Management; Meetings, including Inception Workshop; Detailed Monthly Work Plan and Gantt Chart; Monthly Progress Reporting Requirements; Quarterly Reporting; Risk Management; Social and Environmental Commitment Plan; and Subcontracting. Additionally, in line with UNDP requirement, no payments are released to innovators without receipt of OIC approved deliverables. To provide sufficient support, guidance, and mentoring, the OIC Secretariat has expanded to include an operations officer, a management mentor, a promotions and communications expert, and a fundraising expert to support connection to capital for innovators to ensure post OIC sustainability. Additional technical mentors are available to be brought on board as needed on a case-by-case basis. This full process is outlined in the Management and Administration section below.

Table 1. OIC Innovations Round 1 – Addressing SDG target 14.1

#	Innovator organisation name and abbreviation	Project (concept note) Title	Country / Region	Project time frame	Budget Request (USD)	Proponent type / location	Funded by
410	Adelphi Consult GMBH (ADEL)	Developing an EPR scheme for plastic and packaging waste in the Maldives (EPR Maldives)	Maldives	24 months	233,725	Private, Germany	Norad-funded
522	AqualnSilco Lda (AQUA)	Phos-Value - Sustainable solutions for recycling Nutrients	Cape Verde	24 months	249,984	Private, Portugal	Sida-funded
479	COMOROS UNDP (COMO)	Comoros sustainable financing mechanism setting for PET bottles and aluminium cans recycling to reduce waste pollution in the ocean	Comoros	24 months	250,000	UNDP, Comoros	Norad-funded
530	Duke University (DUKE)	Tracking government responses: the Global Plastics Policy Inventory	Global	12 Months	50,000	NGO, United States	Sida-funded
161	Ficosterra S.L. (FICO)	NUTRIALGAE - novel sustainable algae-based fertilizers	Mexico, Morocco	18 months	247,317	Private, Spain	Sida-funded
372	Fortuna Cools, Inc. (FORT)	Fortuna Coconut Coolers	"Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines	24 months	250,000	Private, United States	Norad-funded
603	Forum for the Future Asia Pacific Limited (FOFF)	Tackling the global problem of marine pollution from microplastics through	Indonesia, Vietnam, Malaysia	20 months	250,000	NGO	Sida-funded

#	Innovator organisation name and abbreviation	Project (concept note) Title	Country / Region	Project time frame	Budget Request (USD)	Proponent type / location	Funded by
386	Fundación OneSea (ONES)	apparel design and manufacturing innovations that reduce microfibre shedding. Promoting laws to protect our oceans, with the support of civil society and coastal communities	Costa Rica	24 months	241,565	NGO, Costa Rica	Norad-funded

The round one innovators have proven to be exciting to work with and have initiated their work with great enthusiasm. The OIC Secretariat team meets with innovators monthly to review project progress, troubleshoot any challenges or issues to implementation, provide mentoring support and guidance as needed, and coordinate communications and promotion efforts. The addition of the fundraising strategist to the OIC team in September 2021 has enabled project innovators to begin considering strategies for post OIC success. This includes connecting them to potential angel investors, venture capitalists, larger-scale incubators, potential funding sources for larger scale projects, and other revenue sources.

UNDP OIC Round One Innovators Main Outputs to Date:

Adelphi: Report on EPR strategies in Maldives

AquaInSilico: Stakeholder engagement event for wastewater treatment plant improvements in Cape Verde

UNDP Comoros: Waste surveys for plastics management in Comoros

Duke University: Database of 500+ plastics policies globally

Ficosterra: Trainings for farmers on alternative ocean friendly fertilizers in Mexico (soon in Morocco)

Forum for the Future: Collaboration with major textile manufacturer in Malaysia

Fortuna Cools: Upscaling alternatives to polystyrene coolers underway in the Philippines

OneSea: Multi-stakeholder alliances on plastic wastes including cigarette butts, ghost fish gear, single-use plastic, and microplastics in Costa Rica

The attached Sida Annex 1 OIC First Cohort Progress Report provides a more detailed overview of the implementation of the innovations. This includes the summary of each of the eight innovators, including start and end dates, innovator name, OIC grant, beneficiary country/countries, category as public or private sector, focal point, summary objective of the innovation, funding source, main outputs to date, catalyzed funding and sources for each innovation. This Annex also includes the major OIC outputs and highlights of each of the innovators work to date.

It should be noted that the initial UNDP OIC investment to the First Cohort Innovators was \$1.770 million USD supplied by Sida and Norad, and to date the cumulative co-financing, including anticipated co-financing, is \$1.705 million USD. This is detailed in Table 2 below.

Table 2. Co-financing by Innovator Round 1

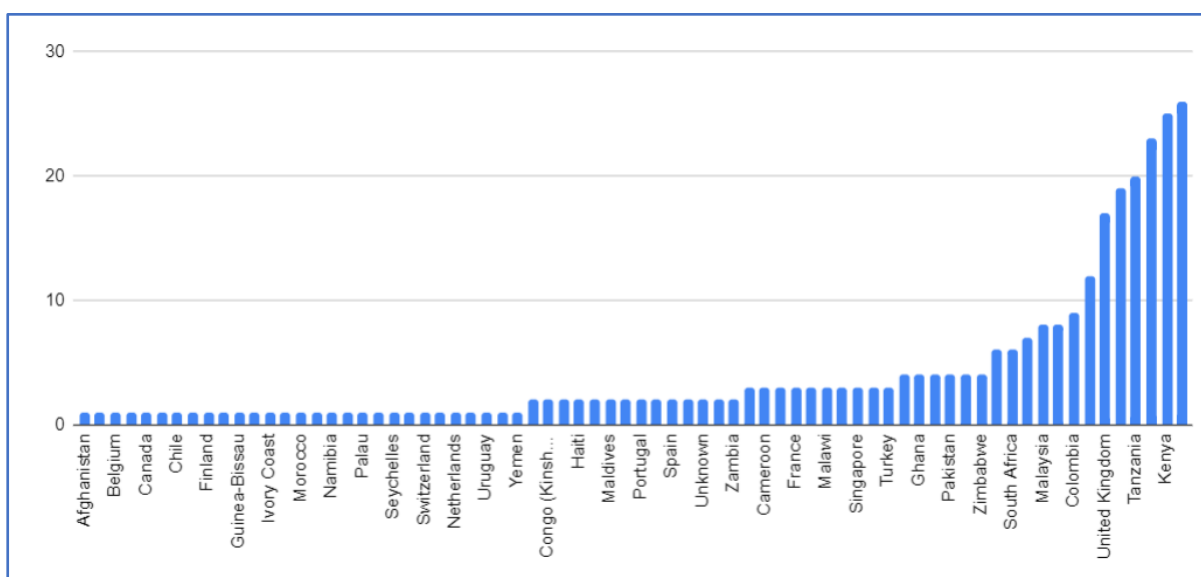
Round 1 Innovators	Co-financing per proposal	OIC Innovator realized co-financing and in-kind support	Additional anticipated co-financing and in-kind support
Adelphi	\$0	\$0	In discussion - GEF 8 Plastics Initiative, with Adel, Duke, Como and OneSea Exploring support and engagement through Corporate Social Responsibility network Exploring potential partnership with PlasticBank
AqualnSilico	\$0	\$69K 2020- Grant funding from EIT Raw Materials	
UNDP Comoros	\$100K co-financing \$150K in-kind	Information pending	In discussion - GEF 8 Plastics Initiative Exploring support and engagement through Corporate Social Responsibility offices Exploring potential partnership with PlasticBank
Duke University	\$150K Pew Charitable Trusts - May 2019 – July 2020. Pew funding allowed the Duke Project team to publish the 20 Years of Government Responses to the Global Plastic Pollution Problem report and the initial version of the inventory.		In discussion - GEF 8 Plastics Initiative Exploring support and engagement through Duke University Development office Exploring additional support from Pew Charitable Trusts Exploring potential partnership with PlasticBank
FicosTerra	\$48K in-kind	\$7K University of Valladolid R&D program with Ficosagro, 2021	TBD CDTI Proposal submitted, 2021, for funding of scale up of new product (cystium-a)
Forum for the Future	\$62K co-financing \$55K in-kind	\$31K Ramatex Group, 2021 Ramatex Group, 2020 – Letter of Intent committing to contribute workforce resources and offer their facility in Johor, Malaysia, for the collection of test samples for the project.	\$125K Nike planned for 2021/2022 \$50K Circulate Initiative planned for 2021/2022 \$30K H&M planned for 2022 TBD NORAD - KIV - 2022/2023 TBD The Microfibre Consortium (TMC) – member strategy

Round 1 Innovators	Co-financing per proposal	OIC Innovator realized co-financing and in-kind support	Additional anticipated co-financing and in-kind support
Fortuna Cools	\$210K via Asia Development Bank Ventures	\$600K Katapult Ocean, Manila Angels, she1k, mid-2020 \$150K Kickstarter campaign raised	Anticipated 2022 VC investment round
OneSea	\$0	\$0	In discussion - GEF 8 Plastics Initiative Corporate Social Responsibility strategy Exploring potential partnership with PlasticBank
Total	\$625K	\$875K	\$205K

While the selection criteria for the OIC innovators does not include co-financing, the ability to attract additional funding provides support to the innovators. In several cases, innovators reported that once a potential donor was able to confirm that they were short-listed, or contracted with UNDP OIC, the potential donor/supporter was much more eager to provide support. As such, the OIC Connecting to Capital Team, is harvesting these experiences to share and advance other innovators and proponents as they advance through the Ocean Innovation Challenge experience.

3. Ocean Innovation Challenge – Request for Proposals #2 - Sustainable Fisheries

The second OIC Call focuses on sustainable and equitable fisheries, SDG targets 14.4, 14.7 and 14.B, which will also contribute significantly to increasing benefits to Small Island Developing States. This second Challenge was launched in March 2021, was open for two months and drew nearly 300 concept proposals for the initial review by the UNDP OIC Technical Review Board.



The Technical Review Board was expanded to 8 members, all UNDP Staff Members, with ocean and fisheries experience. A review of all concept proposals was conducted over five weeks. With each member reviewing approximately 40 proposals. The ranking of proposals was conducted based on scoring for technical feasibility; innovativeness; transformative ability; replicability and scalability; poverty reduction, livelihood, and gender mainstreaming potential. Each reviewer selected their top 3 to 5 scoring proposals which were then presented to the other members of the technical review board for discussion, re-scoring, and further assessment.

Of the top scoring proposals, a total of 22 were invited to submit detailed technical and operational proposals for review. Top international experts in the very specific topic of each proposal were recruited to review and conduct anonymous expert peer reviews of the proposals to assess the feasibility and innovativeness of each of the proposals. Concurrently the OIC Secretariat conducted operational proposals review to ensure that all criteria required for contracting will be met, and that all advancing proponents will be capable of implementing their proposed projects. The technical and operational review process is ongoing as of the end of November 2021 and is expected to be concluded in December 2021, with the advancing finalist proponents subjected to a full social and environmental safeguards screening process.

Table 3 below is an anonymized presentation of the 22 short listed proposals under consideration for support, including: Project Title; Country/Region; Project Timeframe; Budget Request, and Proponent Type and Country of Origin. The # column contains the number assigned to the proposal, at the time of submission. In consideration of proponent confidentiality, the name of the proponent is not included.

Two proponents on the list have elected to drop out and did not submit a full proposal. Additional proposals may be eliminated from consideration, should they fail to be “fully recommend” by the Technical Expert Peer Reviewer, after submitting proposal revisions based on constructive comments from the reviewer.

Table 3. Full Proposals Received from 2nd OIC Call – Addressing Sustainable Fisheries

#	Project (concept note) Title	Country / Region	Project Timeframe	Budget Request (USD)	Proponent type / location
059	Aquatrac Farmers Insect Meal	Nigeria	24 months	249,240	NGO/Private sector, Nigeria
067	Development of Renewable based Intelligent Support System with Fish Hotspot and Catch Monitoring Unit for Sustainable Fisheries and Enhancement of Fishermen Livelihood	India	24 months	52,000	Academic, India
075	Value Rescue in Small-Scale Fisheries in Mexico	Mexico	24 months	240,000	NGO, Mexico
089	Supporting fisher communities to monitor Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing using integrated conservation technology in the Bohol Sea, Philippines	Philippines	24 months	250,000	NGO, Singapore

#	Project (concept note) Title	Country / Region	Project Timeframe	Budget Request (USD)	Proponent type / location
098	A Space-Based Maritime Surveillance System for Fisheries Monitoring and Anomaly Detection	Mauritius	24 months	249,768	Academic, UK
101	Global Fishing Watch Marine Manager	Gabon	24 months	250,000	NGO, USA
109	Solar Ice Makers: Building Equity And Resilience Through Renewable Technology In Remote Indonesian Small-Scale Tuna Fisheries	Indonesia	24 months	250,000	NGO, Indonesia
110	Caribbean spiny lobster – developing innovative fisheries management and aquaculture practices to sustain ecosystems and livelihoods	Bahamas, Greater Caribbean	24 months	250,000	Academic, UK
115	Improving market recognition and access for small-scale tuna fisheries through the Sourcing Transparency Platform (STP)	Maldives, Indonesia, South Africa, India, Viet Nam, Brazil	24 months	250,000	NGO, UK
118	Tracking sharks – applying novel solutions to address Malaysia’s unsustainable shark fisheries	Malaysia	24 months	250,000	NGO, Malaysia
119	Illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing and unsustainable behaviour of Distant Water Fishing Fleets	Ghana, Senegal, Philippines, Peru, Ecuador	24 months	248,500	NGO, UK
127	Universal Fishery IDs: Expanding transparency, data flow, and equity for fisheries globally	Philippines, Argentina, USA	24 months	250,000	NGO, USA
130	Ending IUU in Peruvian small-scale fisheries through traceability technology	Peru	24 months	190,000	NGO, Peru
133	Transformational best practices towards responsible longline fisheries in Costa Rica	Costa Rica	24 months	250,000	NGO, Costa Rica
145	Small Vessel Tracking	Kenya	20 months	249,251	Private sector, Kenya
171	Detect, characterize, and track non cooperative vessels from space to fight IUU	Seychelles, Global	24 months	250,000	Private Sector, France
179	A comprehensive and equitable regional fishery agreement scheme for the Western Indian Ocean	Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Somalia,	24 months	250,000	Academic, UK

#	Project (concept note) Title	Country / Region	Project Timeframe	Budget Request (USD)	Proponent type / location
		South Africa, Tanzania			
189	Transforming Fish waste into organic fertilizers and Animal feed	Somalia	12 Months	170,000	Private Sector, Somalia
238	Increasing economic benefits for women fisherfolk in the Maldives	Maldives	18 months	250,000	Private Sector/NGO, Maldives
265	Voluntary Innovative Tracking And Logging of Fisheries data	Kenya, Papua New Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire	18 months	250,000	Private Company, France
278	Combatting Fisheries Bycatch of Endangered Marine Species: A Pilot Project to Test Bycatch Reduction Technologies in the Ecuadorian Gillnet and Longline Fishing Fleets	Ecuador	16 months	225,152	Private Sector/NGO, UK
311	Abalone stock restoration and ranching for rural communities	South Africa	24 months	250,000	Private Company, South Africa

It is expected that of the 22 short-listed proposals, approximately 8 - 14 will become finalists, having passed both technical and operational reviews, pending confirmation of the additional support from Norad expected by mid-December 2021. The determination will be based on the combined scoring of the technical expert peer reviewer and the technical and operational reviews. The UNDP OIC Technical Review Board will meet to determine which proposals are selected to advance to the final procurement stage of the OIC, clearance through the UNDP Advisory Committee on Procurement and final contracting.

The determination of the number of successful UNDP OIC Round 2 Innovators will depend on the number of highly innovative, transformative, technically feasible, replicable, scalable, poverty reducing, livelihood creating, gender mainstreaming, operationally and safeguards approved proposals. It will also depend on the available resources to support these innovations. As of the end of November 2021, Norad has indicated a strong interest in providing 25M NOK (~US \$2.755 million) towards the sustainable fisheries round. It is anticipated that this will be confirmed by mid-December 2021. The final awarding of the 2nd Call Innovation Challenge is hence awaiting confirmation about the amount of funds available to commit for this activity.

4. COMMUNICATIONS

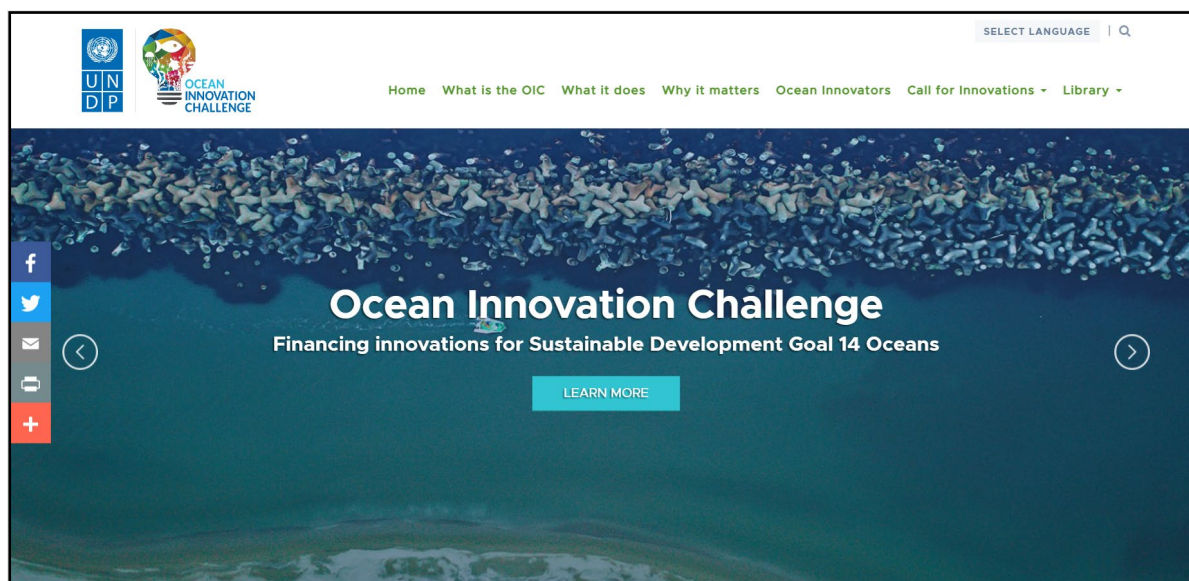
Following the successful launch of the first OIC call in 2020 made possible with a wide range of communication campaign, in 2021, several activities, additional online platform, and approaches were initiated to keep the ocean and innovation community engaged.

4.1 Establishing a Communication and Promotion Team

An OIC Communications Specialist was hired in late January to update, manage and implement the OIC communications plan and map out outreach and promotional campaigns. The Communications Specialist also provides mentorship and technical support to the first cohort of ocean innovators during the monthly meeting with innovators and on an ad-hoc basis based on individual needs and leads the OIC Secretariat in managing the OIC online platforms (website, social media channels, etc.).

4.2 New OIC website (<https://oceaninnovationchallenge.org>)

On 9 March, a comprehensive OIC website was launched, which was developed using Drupal content management system (CMS), the same technology behind *undp.org*. This new setup enables the OIC Secretariat to feature the OIC vision and goals, as well as profile the innovators and the work they are doing. The website also provides information on upcoming events, news, announcements, and links to multimedia materials relevant to specific SDG14 themes relevant to the OIC calls. The OIC Secretariat has administrator access to the website, and as such, can create new contents and modify existing ones. The website also comes with other features such as a map visualization of where the innovators are working, online subscription to updates, tweet embed and Google Translate to Spanish and French buttons.



4.3 Launch of the First Cohort of Ocean Innovators (aka 2020 Ocean Innovators) and the Second Call for Proposals on Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture

The main highlight during the launch of the OIC website is the launch of the 2020 Ocean Innovators and the announcement of the second call for proposals. Each innovator has a [profile page](#) on the OIC website. At the same time, a [6-min video](#) was produced by the Secretariat to briefly showcase the innovators and the challenges they are going to address and the solutions they present, which has received positive feedback from viewers.

The second call, on the other hand, was made accessible in a section dedicated to [OIC call for proposals](#). Building on lessons learned in 2020 on the first call, many improvements were made to the online application form and the announcement that removed pain points from

applicants and lessened the time spent by the Secretariat assisting applicants and troubleshooting online form issues. These improvements include:

- ✓ clearly stating eligibility, criteria, and application deadline with the exact time and zone.
- ✓ redesigning the online application form, as well as making a downloadable Word version of the application form available to help applicants prepare all required information offline, enabling them to copy and paste information with ease, and preventing server timeouts and errors. The application form itself was streamlined to make sure that each form field collects only one unique data where it should, e.g., by having *street*, *house number*, *city/province*, *country* as separate fields instead of lumping them in a single *Address* field. Inline form-field validation and friendly error messages were used to clearly communicate the required format and assist applicants. Through Drupal, the database is stored securely on the website and can be downloaded in various formats anytime.
- ✓ The Google Translate option made it possible for applicants to instantly change the English application form to French or Spanish. Likewise, when viewing on Google Chrome received applications in French and Spanish can be downloaded in English within a couple of clicks.
- ✓ a living [online FAQ](#) has been made accessible in the OIC website while the exclusive FAQ for shortlisted applicants is made available only by accessing the link sent via email to select proponents.
- ✓ a live webinar was organized on 29 July to explain in detail the next stage of the selection process and additional requirements to shortlisted applicants and answer any clarifications they might have. New questions arising from the webinar and succeeding emails were added to the exclusive FAQ for shortlisted applicants.

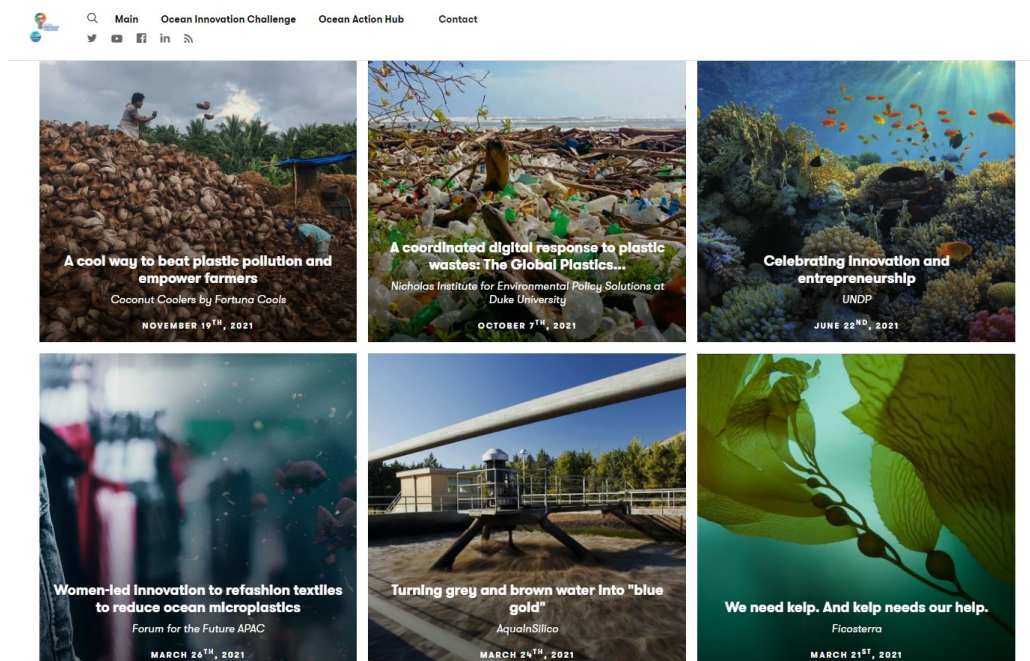
Both launches were announced and promoted using the most suitable channels –

1. A [press release was posted on undp.org](#) with UNDP Bureau of External Relations and Advocacy (BERA) support which resulted in country offices and partner organizations redistributing the news.
2. Six days ahead of the launch, tweets providing a teaser to the launch were posted on the then newly created OIC Twitter account ([@UNDPOceanInnov](#)) and Ocean Action Hub Twitter, which helped attract followers for the OIC Twitter. Images and short videos were produced and used too.
3. Re-packaged versions of the press release were sent to mailing lists of communities and news services which focus on the ocean and coasts, plastic waste management, fisheries, such as GEF IW:LEARN, IISD, SevenSeas, OpenChannels.
4. An email containing details of the second call were sent directly to RFMOs/research centres/NGOs with a stake in sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, universities offering marine environment management courses, and over 300 subscribers in the OAH Mailchimp list.

Information on the 2020 Innovators is regularly maintained while the 2nd call announcement and application database are archived on the website system for easy access on- demand

4.4 Exposure site (<https://oceaninnovationsandactions.exposure.co>)

Stories are being published on Exposure to unfold exciting updates on the Innovators' journey, challenges they have encountered and how they overcame them, lessons learned, and vital insights, in a highly visual and engaging way. Six stories have been published since March.



An upcoming story on innovators working on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), namely Adelphi/EPR Maldives, UNDP Comoros, OneSea/Costa Rica, is planned for Q1 2022.

4.5 OIC Twitter ([@UNDPOceanInnov](https://twitter.com/UNDPOceanInnov))

Created on 3 March and curated daily, the OIC Twitter is its most vibrant online platform. It is currently followed by more than 500 accounts which include global ocean leaders and influencers such as UN SG Special Envoy for the Ocean Peter Thomson, Kristian Teleki of Friends of Ocean Action for the World Economic Forum, UNDP Ocean Ambassador Cody Simpson, among others. This twitter account is being used to increase awareness on ocean innovations, share latest news/events/grants and competitions especially those promoting SDG14, and inspiring insights on why we should #SaveOurOcean. Donors Sida and Norad are tagged in the tweets, whenever appropriate, to acknowledge their generous support to the OIC and the innovators. Tweets and interaction multiple times a day with relevant organizations and personalities is ongoing.

4.6 UNDP 2021 World Oceans Day High-level Celebration: A Conversation with UNDP 2020 Ocean Innovators

Co-organized by the OIC and UNDP Nordic Regional Office, powered by Sida and Norad, the OIC organized UNDP's virtual World Oceans Day event on 8 June in a high-level fashion featuring global ocean leaders: HRH CP Victoria of Sweden; UN SG Special Envoy for the Ocean Peter Thomson; UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner; Norad Director-General Bård Vegar Solhjell; with UNDP Assistant Administrator Ulrike Modeer moderating the event; and HRH CP Haakon of Norway interviewing the 2020 Ocean Innovators, in an hour-long, [live webcast](#) in English with live translation into [French](#) and [Spanish](#). Bård Vegar Solhjell exclaimed "What an inspiring hour!" in his closing remarks as the messages from the high-level speakers and the conversation between CP Haakon and the innovators relayed hope and demonstrated a community ready to embrace and nurture outstanding innovations that would save our oceans and positively transform the society. The event attracted a total of 2,035 viewers. An archive of the details and videos remain accessible at the [OIC website](#).

WORLD OCEANS DAY 2021
UNWORLD OCEANS DAY.ORG

A Conversation with the UNDP 2020 Ocean Innovators

8 JUNE 2021
0730 - 0845 EDT / 1330 - 1445 CEST

Featuring high-level speakers:

- Her Royal Highness Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden
- His Royal Highness Crown Prince Haakon of Norway
- Ambassador Peter Thomson, UN Special Envoy for the Ocean
- Deputy Prime Minister Per Bolund, Minister for Environment and Climate of Sweden
- Administrator Achim Steiner, UNDP
- Director General Bård Vegar Solhjell, Norad
- Moderated by: Ulrika Modéer, UNDP Assistant Administrator

OCEAN INNOVATION CHALLENGE

- “An EPR Scheme for plastic and packaging wastes in the Maldives”
- “Phos-Value nutrient recycling digital technology”
- “Establishment of a PET recovery and buy-back center in the Comoros”
- “Nutrialgae – novel algae-based fertilizers”
- “World’s first coconut-based coolers”
- “World’s first Open global plastics policy tracking tool”
- “Promoting laws to protect our oceans in Costa Rica”
- “Reducing microfiber pollution from the fashion industry”

SDG icons: SUSTAINABLE, POVERTY REDUCTION, SCALABLE, GENDER MAINSTREAMING, REPLICABLE, TRANSFORMATIONAL, INNOVATIVE.

UNDP

POWERED BY: Sweden, Sverige, Norad

<https://oceaninnovationchallenge.org>

COMMENTS FROM VIEWERS:

"This was an exciting event! "

- Astrid Hillers, GEF Secretariat, Senior Environmental Specialist, International Waters

Congratulations on such a timely and inspiring initiative. Congratulations to all the winners!

- Jose Matheickal, IMO, Chief Technical Advisor (GloBallast) and Head, ITCP Implementation and Major Projects

Breath of fresh air! Could not agree more! I had goose bumps throughout the event which had such a friendly feeling of 'family' and positive contribution towards a better world...And let's see where the coconut cooler – and all the amazing governance and technical innovations – will take us! Ah... THANK YOU ALL THE ORGANIZERS BEHIND THE SCENE FOR THIS AMAZING FEAT!!!

Marianne Kjellen, UNDP, Senior Water Advisor

"I attended today's World Ocean Day 2021 UNDP webinar presenting the OIC 2020 Ocean Innovators on Plastic Pollution. Just wanted to let you know how inspiring this event is."

- Sylvie Giraud, Sustainable Fisheries Business Unit at CLS Group (Collecte Localisation Satellites)

"Thank you! It was well organized and very informative way of celebrating this Day. "

Asha Giriyan, The Energy and Resources institute

Building up on the success and lessons learned of the WOD event, the Team has started to pull ideas and visions together towards the OIC's participation in the UN Ocean Conference in June 2022 in Lisbon and a potential presence in the One Ocean Summit organized by the Government of France.

4.7 Mentoring and management support: Communication and Promotion

The regular monthly mentoring provided by the Secretariat to Innovators is a crucial step to securing success during the OIC incubation phase. Topic experts in the Secretariat help innovators reach their maximum potential, adapt to changes, mitigate risks, and explore untapped resources. To foster experiential learning on strategic communication and promotion, Innovators are regularly consulted and engaged through collaborative storytelling and joint social media campaigns. Innovators are equally encouraged to initiate independent communication and outreach plans. The OIC Communications SOP serves as guide for innovators intending to promote their work within the UNDP brand with the Communications Specialist. As a two-way street, the Secretariat also gains new media contacts and distribution channels plus new perspectives from the ground that can benefit cohorts of innovators.



To date, Fortuna Cools has been featured by CNN International, Bloomberg, AsiaTechDaily, Philippine national media ABS CBN, featured in Norad's report "Making Waves: Norway's support for a sustainable ocean – ocean report 2020", and many others. Ficosterra, on the other hand, has been very proactive with their media campaigns tied up with various local and industry-wide outfits. The Team is continuously working with individual innovators to help boost their presence through various media. An OIC-wide communications and promotion jam is being planned to enable peer-to-peer knowledge and experience sharing while collaboration on a campaign highlighting 2020 innovators accomplishments, lessons, and experience during the first semi-annual implementation through a series of videos to be launched on the OIC website and social media early next year, kickstarted in October and is ongoing.

4.8 Ocean Action Hub platforms

<https://www.oceanactionhub.org>,
<https://twitter.com/OceanActionHub>

<https://www.facebook.com/oceanactionhub>

The Ocean Action Hub (OAH) focuses specifically on promoting implementation of SDG 14: Life Below Water in UNDP's programme countries. It was launched in advance of the 1st UN Ocean Conference in 2017 with support from Sweden and continues to be the OIC 'sister platform' providing extended information on SDG14 and #SaveOurOcean actions, news, events, and documents. News and updates are posted multiple times a day on the OAH Twitter, and innovator stories are shared on the Facebook account. By reposting key OIC

messages on the OAH platforms, OIC benefits from the four-year head start the OAH platforms has – more than 271,000 Likes and Followers on Facebook and close to 5,000 Followers on Twitter.

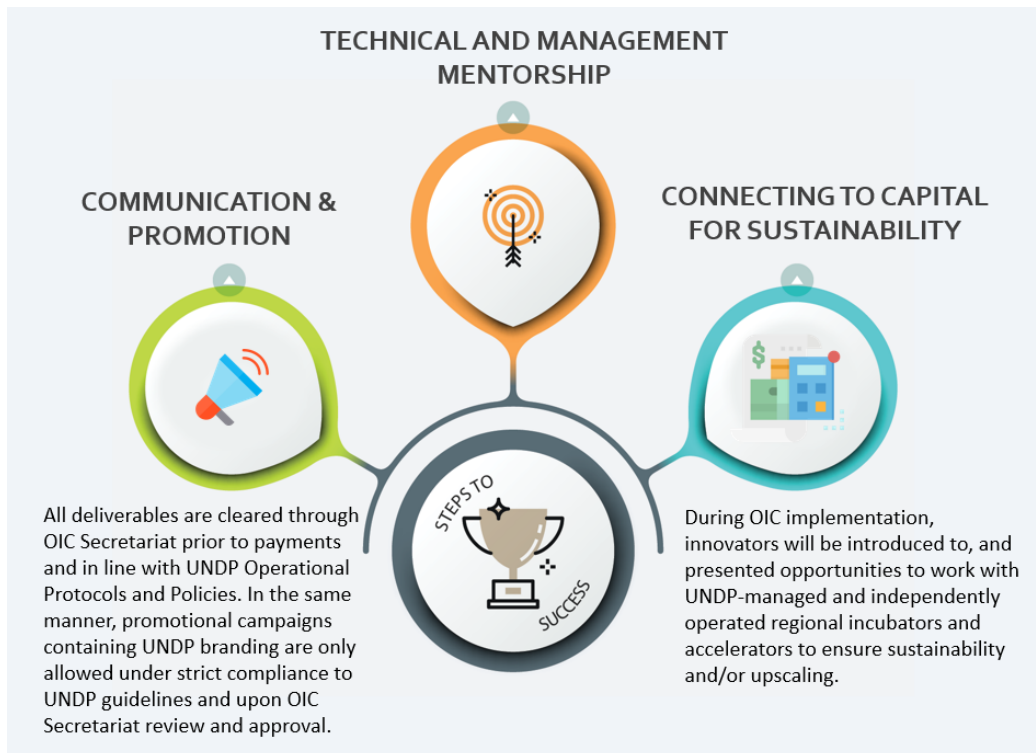
To keep the OAH website engaged, the SDG14 status will be updated before the end of 2021 and additional information will be uploaded. The OIC Team, together with UNDP Water and Ocean Governance Programme, will also conduct an evaluation of the OAH website to help plan the next steps in maintaining and enhancing the website, especially in line with the digital technology transitions, including corporate websites, taking place at the UNDP headquarters.

The [UN Ocean Conference](#) is set to take place in Lisbon, Portugal, from 27 June to 1 July 2022, and the OIC Team is actively working on potential outreach and profile building opportunities. There have been discussions with other Ocean Incubators (e.g., WEF Ocean UpLink) about potentially combining efforts to further raise profiles of innovators and support their connection to capital.

5. Management and Administration

As referenced above, the management and administration of the OIC Secretariat has evolved considerably since 2020. It has become evident that this pilot of the scaled-up UNDP Model Innovation Challenge Modality requires deliberate hands-on administration, management, support, and oversight of innovators, which includes technical and management mentoring, communications and promotions support, and connecting to innovators to capital.

In the first full year of OIC implementation the management and administration arrangements have evolved to meet the needs of the OIC Innovators, concurrently with the requirements of UNDP Bureau for Management Services for contracting using the Model Innovation Challenge Modality. The OIC has emerged as a fully functional Ocean Innovation Challenge Incubator, requiring significant management and administrative coordination under the Secretariat.



OIC Innovators project enter implementation in the OIC Incubator with hands-on management and technical mentoring, innovation-specific communication and promotion, and connections to capital to ensure successful and sustainable implementation of innovation post-OIC

Support. This process is between 12-24 months, and facilitated by the OIC Secretariat, with additional expertise brought in as needed. These three concurrent emerging functions are outlined below:

5.1 Technical and management mentoring from the OIC Mentoring Team

The OIC Mentoring Team consists of Management Mentors with extensive experience in project management, both within and outside of UNDP, governments, and the private sector. The OIC Management Mentors provide guidance on project implementation, risk management and mitigation, review of deliverables, coordination with UNDP Country Offices, and troubleshooting support as needed. The Technical Mentors both serve as hands on mentors and as needed support in the identification and recruitment of technical expertise through a global network of technical experts to support innovators on an ad hoc basis to ensure innovators can reach their full potential.

All technical deliverables are reviewed by the OIC Mentoring Team to ensure that they align with the detailed proposal, and are improved upon, as necessary, to further strengthen their innovations. The OIC Mentoring Team holds monthly meetings with each innovator to discuss progress, provide early guidance in troubleshooting potential implementation challenges, and liaising with stakeholders. Additional ad hoc meetings are scheduled, as needed. Mentoring includes quarterly review of the risk matrix with risk mitigation strategies, lessons learned, and adaptive management strategies as needed.

In addition to the technical and management mentoring by the OIC Secretariat, a trend in innovator-to-innovator mentoring is emerging, and we as mentoring to others outside of OIC. For example, the Duke Plastics Policy Database innovation has coordinated and provided guidance, and received inputs, from other projects working in extended producer responsibility, such as OneSea, Adelphi in Maldives, and UNDP Comoros. In another example, the runaway communications success of Fortuna Cools has resulted in their innovation team offering to conduct workshops with the OIC Communications Team on how to build up brand awareness. The innovator OneSea, who is working to form a Latin American Plastic Policy Network, has liaised with the UNDP Country Office in the Dominican Republic, where they have been building waste management strategies, and have requested some additional insights to the local challenges.

As soon as the finalists are selected for sustainable fisheries, they will enter the more formal incubator process with regularly engaged mentoring noted above. This begins immediately upon contracting. Currently they are undergoing technical and management mentoring in the proposal selection phase as described above.

5.2 Innovation communication and promotion mentoring

The OIC Communication and Promotion Team is well-versed in advertising approaches, UNDP branding rules, and application of these to build the social media presence of the innovators necessary for future upscaling and replication opportunities.

From the earliest stages of incubation, innovators are supported to develop and implement communication strategies to reach local, national, regional, and international audiences. The OIC Communication and Promotions Team provides outreach and event support for innovators, including in organizing media and awareness events, and trainings for stakeholders. Furthermore, the OIC actively promotes the work of the innovators across both the UNDP and UN system and the international ocean and innovation community through wider social media channels for increased global awareness, to improve opportunities for replication. This includes creating multiple materials for promotion on the OIC social media accounts, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram. More detailed feature pieces using

exposure.com has allowed the OIC incubator to increase wider awareness of the exciting work and developments of these innovators.

The events described in the communications section above are a result of the communications and promotions work that the OIC Communications and Promotions Team. The UNDP OIC High Level Event for World Ocean Day in June 2021 has been heralded as one of the best virtual events of UNDP this year by the UNDP Nordic Office, and positive comments are still being received from participants and audience members alike.

As of November 2021, the sustainable fisheries innovator cohort will include a featured launch, UNDP Administrator level press release, and additional promotions once contracts are complete. It is expected that OIC will also feature innovators at the UN Ocean Conference in Lisbon in June 2022, to promote innovators, which will support OIC efforts to upscale and replicate and connect innovators with potential financial investors and other partners.

5.3 Connecting to capital for sustainability

Early in the implementation of the OIC, it became evident that many innovators have just started their journey and are piloting their innovations under OIC. Others may be more developed, when engaged as an OIC innovator, but need support to access additional capital sources and connections to broaden the reach of their innovations. To promote sustainable growth, upscaling, and replicability, the OIC Incubator provides a suite of support activities to Innovators, to enhance capital engagement readiness.

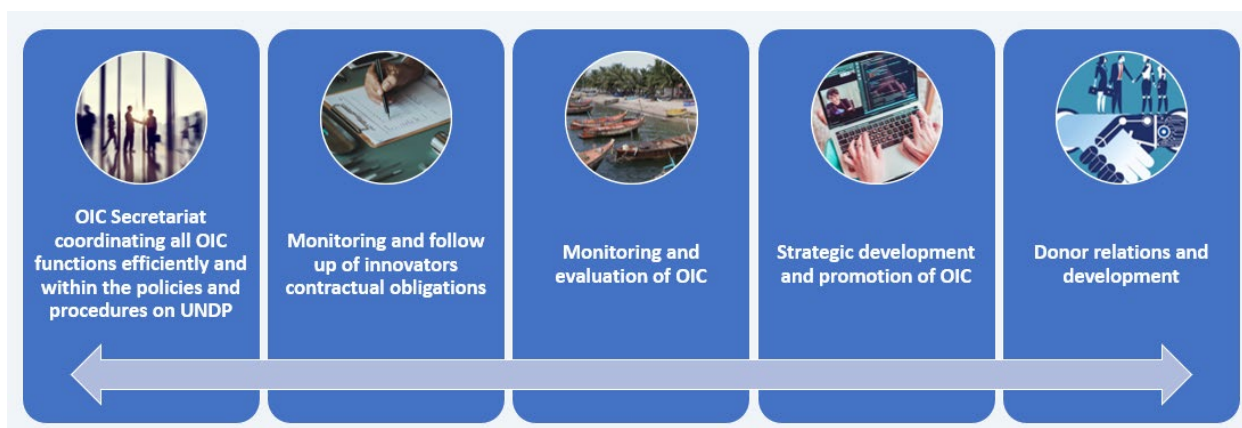
The Innovation upscaling efforts are two stages. The first round of activities include: project vision articulation; critical message differentiation; social media self-promotion; Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis; and funding opportunity research and identification. Throughout the project implementation, Innovators will be introduced to, and presented opportunities to work with UNDP-managed efforts, and independently operated regional incubators and accelerators.

In the second stage, the OIC Incubator will connect Innovators to capital through: facilitated engagement with venture capital and angel investors; counsel on pursuing existing institutional development opportunities; and where appropriate incorporation in larger UNDP Oceans portfolio initiatives, including upscaling through vertically funded projects as appropriate to facilitate upscaling and replication.

Linkages with incubators, accelerators, philanthropists, venture capitalist, and other resources are now being established by the OIC Secretariat, with the intention of catalyzing additional support for innovators as their time in the OIC Incubator reaches fruition.

6. OIC Secretariat Oversight

Successful OIC innovations go through an intensive selection process, and to support the incubation stage, the OIC Secretariat level coordinates annual calls, and implementation of innovation projects, with strategic development including funding the OIC to expand opportunities for current and future Ocean Innovators. This enables the OIC to replicate the work being done and upscale efforts for subsequent calls focusing on additional ocean issues under SDG 14 targets. The management arrangements of the OIC Secretariat have evolved to conduct multiple iterative, and ongoing processes within the realm of its responsibility.



6.1 OIC Secretariat coordinating all OIC functions efficiently and within the policies and procedures on UNDP

The OIC is piloting the UNDP Model Innovation Challenge Modality at a higher funding level than originally envisioned. The maximum funding level for OIC innovations is \$250K as opposed to \$40K/innovation for all other Model Innovation Challenges. As such, there is not a clear, easily replicable template to guide the OIC Secretariat, as our innovations are generally broader in scope and more complex. To function according to the policies and protocols of UNDP, the OIC Secretariat must have enough capacity to effectively incubate and implement current innovations, as well as manage future annual calls for new innovations. The Secretariat requires sufficient technical and administrative staff to undertake this work, on a rolling basis as initial rounds conclude, while subsequent rounds are planned and implemented.

The OIC Secretariat is functioning as needed for implementation and incubation of the initial cohort of eight innovations. It is anticipated that with the second round for sustainable fisheries, adding approximately 8-14 additional innovators, pending the evaluation process above, the OIC Secretariat will need to increase staffing levels to ensure the needs of innovators are fully met, and pending additional resources funding is secured to launch a third call for proposals on blue economy, coastal ecosystems, and marine protected areas.

6.2 Monitoring and follow up Innovators contractual obligations

In line with UNDP ACP requirements all OIC Innovators are supported to guarantee successful project implementation. Project review, monitoring and counsel ensures innovators thrive within the UNDP project management process, without undue bureaucratic burdens. The OIC Secretariat and Operations Team works with innovators, to document full contract compliance and to meet quality assurance guidelines. All OIC contract payments are deliverable based. Advanced payments can be made for large ticket items, with review and approval by OIC Operations team, if UNDP Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP) policies are met.

The Round one cohort of OIC innovators are well underway and meeting contractual obligations. Where implementation complications were encountered, due to Covid-19, force majeure was applied. The management mentoring team is providing guidance and support to ensure timely completion of successful elevations.

6.3 Monitoring and Evaluation of OIC

The novel nature of the OIC requires regular self-assessment and monitoring, to evaluate, refine and improve the process, with the intention of being replicated across UNDP. The innovative approach to OIC, with higher value contracts warrants close scrutiny and therefore the OIC Secretariat welcomes the opportunity to share their work with bi-annual evaluators and auditors to ensure compliance with UNDP POPP. The OIC will be evaluated by an external evaluator in 2-year cycles to ensure that all functions of OIC are being fulfilled, and recommendations for improvements can be captured within the process.

The Secretariat is actively working to collect lessons learned and create guidance notes for replication of the upscaling of the UNDP model innovation challenge modality to address other SDGs in the near future.

Table 5. OIC Project Monitoring Framework

Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action	Cost
Track results progress	Progress data against the results indicators in the results framework will be collected and analysed to assess the progress of the project in achieving the agreed outputs.	Monthly for each innovation	Issues related to timing/quality of progress will be addressed by project management. This tracking forms basis for summary report to Board / TAG.	Part of (preparing for) annual project board and advisory group meetings, respectively. (Forms part of duties of key project staff/ personnel)
Monitor and Manage Risk	Identify specific risks that may threaten achievement of intended results. Identify and monitor risk management actions using a risk log. This includes monitoring measures and plans that may have been required as per UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards. Audits will be conducted in accordance with UNDP's audit policy to manage financial risk.	Discussed monthly, and Risk Register updated quarterly for each innovation	Risks are identified by project management and actions are taken to manage risk. The risk log is actively maintained to keep track of identified risks and actions taken.	Continuous and regular activity. (Forms part of duties of key project staff/personnel)
Learn	Knowledge, good practices, and lessons will be captured regularly, as well as actively sourced from other projects and partners and integrated back into the project.	Discussed monthly, and Lessons Learned updated quarterly for each innovation	Relevant lessons are captured by the project team and used to inform management decisions.	Part of (preparing for) annual reporting. (Forms part of duties of key project staff/personnel)

Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action	Cost
Project Quality Assurance	The quality of the project will be assessed against UNDP's quality standards to identify project strengths and weaknesses and to inform management decision making to improve the project.	14 Oct 2021: Discussed monthly, and all quarterly deliverables are technically reviewed and cleared prior to quarterly payment approval	Areas of strength and weakness will be reviewed by project management and used to inform decisions to improve project performance.	Part of project budget
Review and Make Course Corrections	Internal review of data and evidence from all monitoring actions to inform decision making. ²	Discussed monthly, and in line with documented risk register adaptive management applied as needed for each innovation with OIC approvals	Performance data, risks, lessons, and quality will be discussed by the project board and used to make course corrections.	Part of (preparing for) annual project board and advisory group meetings, respectively. (Forms part of duties of key project staff/personnel)
Project Progress Report	A project progress report will be presented to the Project Board and key stakeholders, consisting of progress data showing the results achieved against pre-defined (gender disaggregated) annual targets at the output level, the annual project quality rating summary, an updated risk long with mitigation measures, and any evaluation or review reports prepared over the period.	Annually, and at the end of the project (final report) Conducted for each innovation annually, and for OIC Annually also	Approve reports and decide on future course of actions.	Forms part of duties of key project staff/personnel
Donor Reporting	The progress report presented to the Project Board will be complemented to serve also as the annual progress report to the key donors (Gov. of Sweden and Norway) The donor reporting will report progress in compliance with each agreement that	Annually, and at the end of the project (final report) Conducted for each innovation annually, and for OIC Annually also	Approve reports and decide on future course of actions. Basis for payment of contribution from donor.	Forms part of duties of key project staff/personnel

² Sex-disaggregated data will be used to the greatest extent possible. A gender analysis in the second year of the project is envisaged to review the present level of monitoring and advise on improvements.

Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action	Cost
	contributes to the funding of the project.			
Project Review (Project Board)	The project's governance mechanism (i.e., project board) will hold annual project reviews to assess the performance of the project and review the Multi-Year Work Plan to ensure realistic budgeting over the life of the project. In the project's final year, the Project Board shall hold an end-of project review to capture lessons learned and discuss opportunities for scaling up and to socialize project results and lessons learned with relevant audiences.	OIC conducted Annually, also conducted for each innovation annually with a key stakeholder committee made up of local UNDP COs, OIC Secretariat, relevant government authorities and other key partners.	Any quality concerns or slower than expected progress should be discussed by the project board and management actions agreed to address the issues identified.	Forms part of duties of key project staff/personnel
Project Advisory (Technical Advisory Group)	The project's technical/strategic advisory mechanism (Technical Advisory Group) will hold annual project reviews to assess the relevance and performance of the project and review partnerships and collaborative arrangements over the life of the project.	Annually	Identification of strategic activities and alliances to leverage project endeavours.	(Included as part of duties of key project staff/personnel)
Gender Analysis	Beyond continuous gender analysis within existing project monitoring and progress reporting, a more in-depth gender analysis will be conducted; provisionally during the second year of the project.	Gender data collected and reported by all Innovators, and in aggregate OIC collects and analyzes annually.	Learning tool to improve design of training and to monitor outcome-level results.	project budget
Technical and Management Mentoring	OIC provides comprehensive fostering of innovations to ensure all unexpected challenges are addressed and innovations can reach their potential. The technical mentoring is from Peer reviewer expertise, additional	Monthly and additional ad hoc support as needed	Troubleshooting and additional fostering of innovators to help them to navigate the difficulties encountered in initial stages of implementation of innovations to bring them to successful fruition	Forms duties of key OIC Secretariat staff

Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action	Cost
	<p>expertise garnered from the UNDP WOGP network, and from the OIC Secretariat. The Management Mentoring comes from the OIC Secretariat with senior level project managers providing hands on month-to-month guidance and additional support on an as needed basis</p>			
Communications and Promotion	<p>Innovators often do not have fully developed communication strategies or promotion strategies, therefore oh I see secretary at staff with experience in advertising, communications, and promotions provide regular ongoing and positive support to innovators. Additionally using the large global network in social media, the OIC Secretariat communication team can promote the progress and garner excitement for the developments realized by innovators.</p>	<p>Monthly and additional ad hoc support as needed</p>	<p>Conducting initial trainings on communications, strategic use of branding approaches for innovators, regular widespread social media campaigns, frequent themed postings on social media, conducting high-level events to celebrate innovations</p>	<p>Forms duties of key OIC Secretariat staff</p>
Connecting to Capital	<p>OIC provides dedicated support to help facilitate innovations success after UNDP support concludes. This includes a series of offerings to innovators such as partnering with existing incubators and accelerators counselling on engaging with existing development agencies, media opportunities, consulting with innovators about additional funding opportunities, reviewing desired impacts and objectives</p>	<p>Monthly and additional ad hoc support as needed</p>	<p>By the third quarter of implementation, the OIC Secretariat is working closely with innovators to help them identify and build connections to support replication and upscaling of OIC piloted innovations</p>	<p>Forms duties of key OIC Secretariat staff</p>

Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action	Cost
	and articulating those with innovators, conducting venture-capital Boot Camp workshops, articulation of project vision, and additional fundraising opportunity assessments for each innovator			

6.4 Strategic development and promotion of OIC

The UNDP Water and Ocean Governance Programme, with high level guidance from UN and other Ocean dedicated actors, key donors, and other international Ocean focused organizations will select the OIC Advisory Board to provide strategic guidance and support in the global promotion of OIC across various industries and sectors. The OIC Secretariat will coordinate all outreach OIC Activities, including liaising with other incubators, accelerators, top level ocean advocates, activists, and ambassadors to build an advisory body to promote OIC and OIC Innovators.

The OIC Advisory Board has not yet formed, however it is anticipated to be in place by the time of the 2021 UN Ocean Conference to be held in Lisbon Portugal. The mandate/TOR of this body will be to provide high level strategic advice and guidance to the OIC in support of its continued growth and success in achieving its mission. The anticipated composition of the Board will be a range of global ocean leaders cutting across academia, NGOs, UN, IGOs and the private sector. This OIC Advisory Board will complement the work of the UNDP Water and Ocean Governance Technical Advisory Group, which has a wider and more engaged facilitation role for ensuring smooth and coordinated functioning across the broader freshwater, coastal, and marine portfolio of UNDP.

6.5 Donor relations and development

The initial Sida seed money, support from the Sida framework agreement, combined with first cohort support on SDG 14.1 Marine Pollution from Norad, has enabled the OIC to launch as a proof of concept. To realize the vision of identifying and elevating a combination of technological innovations, cutting-edge policy, and financial and economic incentives to address SDG 14 and transform ocean-related sectors, the OIC continues to evolve. Further investment will be required, from additional private, philanthropic, government and other investors. The OIC Secretariat, in concert with the UNDP Bureau for External Relations (BERA), The UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF), and the OIC Capital Connections team, will appeal to traditional and non-traditional UN supporters, including governments, corporations, foundations, and individuals. Establishment of a high-level OIC Advisory Board (Output 3.4) will serve to raise the profile of the OIC and enhance identification, engagement, and solicitation of potential donors. The development team, with executive leadership, review, and supervision, will undertake proposal conception, production, and submission, as well as plan and conduct stewardship activities and fulfil all reporting requirements.

The OIC Secretariat is working with UNDP’s Bureau of External Relations and Advocacy, and the partnerships team of UNDP to establish longer term goals and funding objectives for the OIC. The ambition must be balanced with the capacity of the Secretariat, including the OIC incubator, to ensure effective project implementation oversight and successful innovation upscaling and replication. The ambition must be

balanced with the capacity of the Secretariat, including the OIC incubator, to ensure successful project implementation and innovation upscaling and replication.

7. Lessons Learned

Throughout the first year of implementation of the Ocean Innovation Challenge, the OIC Secretariat has been collecting experiences and lessons learned to strengthen and refine the entire process. The table below provides the summary of these lessons learned, including the area of the lesson learned, the challenge faced, and the lessons learned with adaptive management applied.







	Payment only on deliverables as per UNDP requirements for high value contracts		OIC is an innovation incubator with technical and management mentoring
	Continuous monitoring required for all innovations to mitigate risk		Communications support to all innovators to support promotion of efforts
	COVID-19 creating delays requiring adaptive management for implementation		Support provided for catalyzing capital for innovators to foster sustainability, replication, and upscaling

Table 6. Lessons Learned in the first year of OIC implementation.

Area	Challenge	Lesson Learned
Selection of Innovators	During the short-listing process of proponent selection, a strict cut-off date needs to be set for questions from the long-listed Innovators related to technical, operational, or other issues tied to the RFP (request for proposals).	Post steps and dates for proposal evaluation stages on the webpage and update the status regularly throughout the selection process.
Selection of Innovators	The current mechanism for selection of the short-listed proposals using the technical review board may lead to having more than one proposal addressing the same issue while having no proposals addressing other critical issues. Therefore, this process needs to be more structural and robust to ensure that the selected	When initial proposals are submitted, have proponent self-select area they are addressing for their proposal (e.g., for the Fisheries call: fisheries: aquaculture; IUU fishing; supply chain management; by-catch reduction; etc.) and group these for Technical Review Board members with relevant expertise to review common themed proposals.

	proposals are covering the major issues of each call.	
Selection of Innovators	Technical peer reviewers' selection, collection of documentation, evaluation and contracting for review of 20-30 proposals needs to be allocated 3 months. The selection of the peer reviewers for each call is taking longer time than expected, and creating bottlenecks.	Consider possibility to contract a university department that has valuable experience in the topic of the call to identify peer reviewers for the technical proposals for UNDP to contract, with UNDP maintaining strict quality control over the final selection of expert peer reviewers. This will ensure efficient utilization of the OIC team time and effort and ensure highest quality of peer reviewing.
Selection of Innovators	In the first round, operational preparation of all advancing short listed proposals was not formally weighted in the consideration of the proposals. This resulted in proposals requiring significant additional work from the operations team, rather than including it in the proposal development stage	Create a systematized operational proposal linked to the technical proposal for review and refinement by the operational team, as pre-contracting mentoring for all short-listed proponents.
Implementation of Innovations	UNDP procurement rules require payments only on deliverables.	Payments are only made on deliverables of approved by the OIC Secretariat.
Implementation of Innovations	UNDP procurement rules require that all high value (over \$200K USD) contracts be awarded to firms/NGOs with more than 4 years proven experience with comparable contracts. OIC supports all innovators, including start-up companies and NGOs.	Additional oversight and monitoring developed, including 9 OIC Specific SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures) for innovators and hands on technical and management mentoring of all innovators, regardless of experience levels. Continuous monitoring requirements for all innovations mitigate risks and empower innovators.
Implementation of Innovations	The mentoring of the OIC innovators plays a significant role in the successful implementation of the OIC innovation projects. Some of the innovators faced certain obstacles during the implementation of their projects due to COVID-19 restrictions.	The monthly mentoring and progress meetings provided them with guidance in implementing the adaptive management approach to select the best alternative option to keep the successful implementation of their projects.
Implementation of Innovations	Oversite of multiple projects, payments, schedules, and due diligence for all subcontractors can	Weekly review of budget expenditures ensures effective monitoring of all financial activities, due payments, tracking and preventing possible delays

	be a significant organizational challenge.	and ensures innovators identify and take preventive measures.
Communication	The "One Size Fits All" approach to communications does not work for persuasive campaigns and should be avoided as much as possible.	Targeted marketing has been beneficial to OIC in getting the most results and engagement in a resource-efficient way.
Communication	Using the lessons learned from the 1st call on communication planning and website development, OIC saved time, energy, and budget.	Lessons learned help improve management decision making and a solid basis for enhancements in work processes, quality, and cost effectiveness, etc.
Communication	Outreach about ocean issues is challenging in already crowded social media.	Global influential leaders are more than willing to contribute their time to the promotion of sustainable development and innovations. To spread the word about the OIC and the innovators as widely as possible, the OIC should not hesitate to seek the support of high-level personalities and influencers even through simple retweets.
Communication	Innovators may not have extensive experience in communications and promotions, and UNDP branding regulations can be daunting for most innovators.	UNDP OIC communications and promotions expertise and mentoring can help innovators to develop a strong public profile, adhere to the UNDP branding regulations, and benefit from UNDP OIC Promotions.
Communication	Innovators are often early in their journey and may not have the experience and resources to cultivate connections to capital.	UNDP OIC Team can provide support to catalyze capital for OIC innovations to foster sustainability, replications, and upscaling.
Communication	The multiple types of support needed for innovators to thrive require that the team increase in size and scope. Building the team requires an innovative approach to supporting innovators, and coordinating closely with them to understand their needs, aspirations, and opportunities.	The combined support to UNDP OIC Innovators, including technical and management mentoring, communications and promotions guidance, and identifying tailored approaches to connecting innovators to capital for long term sustainability has led to the creation of the UNDP Ocean Innovation Challenge Incubator.

8. Budget, Expenditures and Resource Mobilization

Efforts are underway to attract additional funding to the OIC. The ambition is to mobilize the necessary resources for the OIC to make additional awards beyond the first two rounds that are currently financed. Discussions are ongoing with potentially interested financial partners to support call #3 and to secure funding for additional future calls.

The OIC success to-date in resource mobilization relates to the already granted continuation of the OIC through the above-mentioned Sida-UNDP Strategic Collaboration Programme on Environment and Climate Change. Further, a contribution has been secured from Norway (just over USD 1 million) to fund innovations and solutions related to plastics and marine litter under the first call for proposals. In addition to that, Norad expressed their interest to provide additional funding to support OIC innovations Call # 2 for sustainable fisheries. OIC management submitted official proposal to Norad for additional funding of 25,000,000 NOK (approximately 2.86 million USD). This proposal under consideration from Norad and will get the formal response in mid December 2021.

Table 6 on the next page sums up expenditures until 25 November 2021 for both Sida and Norad funding. In addition, this table presented the projected annual budget for years 2022, 2023, and 2024. The table included the expected additional fund from Norad that is under consideration to support the OIC second call for fisheries management and sharing portion of the OIC management staff for years 2022-2024.

The presentation in Table 6 is color-coded with cost items drawing on the OIC 'proof-of-concept' funding shaded in yellow, grants paid from Norad's contribution shaded in green, (committed in light green and anticipated in darker green) and parts drawing upon the 'Sida-UNDP Strategic Programme' budget (area B2 – ocean governance) shaded in blue.

Both 2019, and 2020 expenditures have already been reported to Sida (as part of Global Water and Ocean Governance Support Programme reporting). For 2021, the expenditures to-date (January-October) are summed up first, and then the remaining 2021 (November-December) expenditures and commitments are estimated, together presenting the estimated total expenditure for 2021.

As the awarding of call #2 is now being prepared, the budget estimates to contract all the winning innovation projects during the first half of 2022. The estimated number of proposals to be funded during this call is around 12 proposals with an estimated budget of 3.24 million USD. This budget will be distributed between both Sida and Norad where Sida will contribute to the innovators contracts with 1,351,661.6 USD (42%) while Norad will contribute with 1,888,338.4 USD (58%). The OIC programme is also planning to announce the successful innovators for call # 3 that will address marine and coastal ecosystem, marine protected areas and blue economy in late 2022 and early 2023, and secure around 1.40 million USD from Sida to support the innovations for this call plus any additional funds that will be raised during year 2022 for this call.

Table 6. Ocean Innovation Challenge Expenditures and Planned Budget, by year and funding source (USD)

	Year	2019	2020	2021			2022	2023	2024	All Years
Budget/Item		Spent & reported	Spent & reported	Jan-Nov. Spent	Nov.-Dec. Committed	Total Year 2021	(Jan. - Dec.) Estimated	(Jan. - Dec.) Estimated	(Jan. - June) Estimated	2019-2024
Budget Account	Cost Item									
72100 Innovations	RFP # 1 (SDG # 14.1)			194,552.39	113,391.21	307,943.60	474,303.15	17,976.00		800,222.75
72100 Innovations	RFP # 1 - (SDG 14.1)			167,665.67	212,508.62	380,174.29	501,835.00	90,375.00		972,384.29
72100 Innovations	RFP # 2 - (Fisheries)						699,384.59	874,230.74	174,846.15	1,748,461.47
72100 Grants	RFP # 2 – (Fisheries)						625,769.26	625,769.26		1,251,538.53
72100 Grants	RFP # 3 - (Marine Ecosystem + Blue Econ)						644,295.65	644,295.65		1,288,591.31
61200 Salaries Costs - GS Staff	General Services Staff		83,485.82							83,485.82
			48,691.20	38,995.63	7,713.04	46,708.67	46,708.67	46,708.67		188,817.21
			15,499.28							
61300 Salary & Post Adj Cst-IP Staff	International Professional Staff		36,744.60					106,676.07		143,420.67
61300 Salary & Post Adj Cst-IP Staff	International Professional Staff			186,009.08	34,060.17	220,069.25	220,069.25	118,072.31		558,210.81
			69,547.50	117,175.88	17,367.57	134,543.45	100,907.59			304,998.54

Progress Update - Ocean Innovation Challenge (November 2021)

	Year	2019	2020	2021			2022	2023	2024	All Years
Budget/Item		Spent & reported	Spent & reported	Jan-Nov. Spent	Nov.-Dec. Committed	Total Year 2021	(Jan. - Dec.) Estimated	(Jan. - Dec.) Estimated	(Jan. - June) Estimated	2019-2024
Budget Account	Cost Item									
61300 Salary & Post Adj Cst-IP Staff	International Professional Staff								114,285.73	114,285.73
							15,000.00	50,000.00	25,000.00	90,000.00
										22,012.08
71200 International Consultants	International Consultants	27,000.00	20,008.09							47,008.09
			744.02				-			
71200 International Consultants	International Consultants			105,932.62	69,100.84	175,033.46	175,000.00	107,000.00		457,033.46
71200 International Consultants	International Consultants						191,250.00	238,167.50	158,167.50	587,585.00
72100 Contr. Services - Companies	Websites & comms	36,250.00								36,250.00
72400 Connectivity Charges	Websites & comms, etc.		319.96							319.96
74200 Dissemination and Outreach	Publications etc	5,041.95	1,090.18							6,132.13
			207.49							207.49
			715.50							

Progress Update - Ocean Innovation Challenge (November 2021)

	Year	2019	2020	2021			2022	2023	2024	All Years
Budget/Item		Spent & reported	Spent & reported	Jan-Nov. Spent	Nov.-Dec. Committed	Total Year 2021	(Jan. - Dec.) Estimated	(Jan. - Dec.) Estimated	(Jan. - June) Estimated	2019-2024
Budget Account	Cost Item									
72100 Contr. Services - Companies	Web-sites & comms									-
72500 Publications	IW Learn Publications			2,950.00						-
74200 Dissemination and Outreach	Publications etc				10,000.00	10,000.00	14,000.00	14,000.00	2,351.70	40,351.70
74200 Dissemination and Outreach	Publications etc						35,000.00			35,000.00
73100 Rental, Maintenance-Premises	- various: provision for JPO									-
74500 Miscellaneous Expenses	Miscellaneous Expenses			2,911.56	1,000.00	3,911.56				3,911.56
75700 Training, Workshops	Learning events						2,000.00	2,000.00		4,000.00
75700 Training, Workshops	Learning events						25,000.00			25,000.00

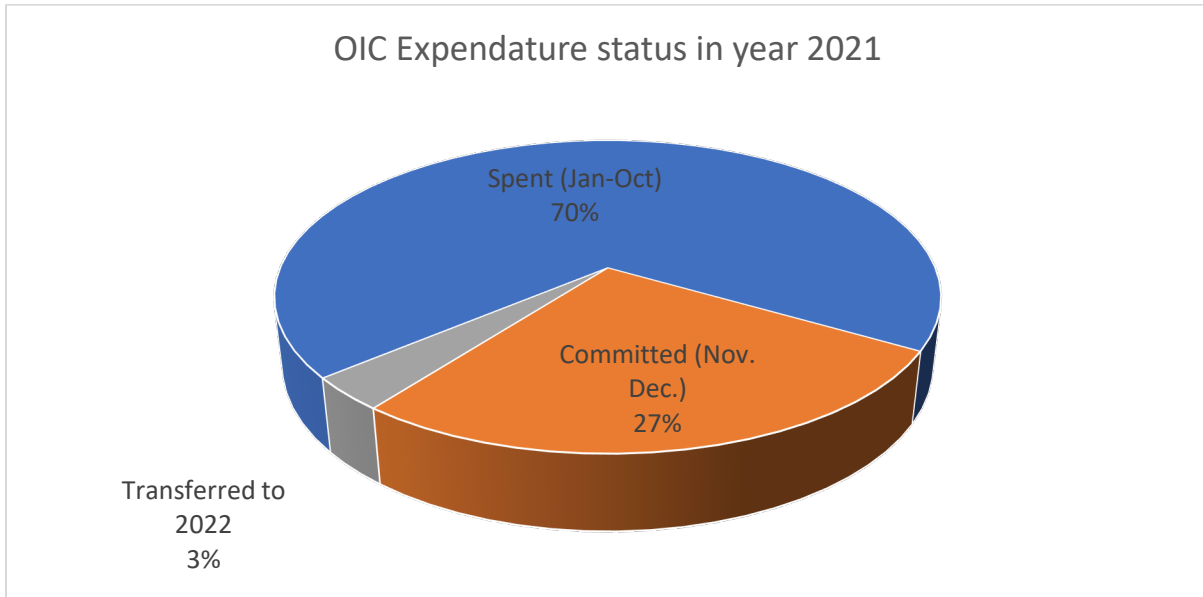
Progress Update - Ocean Innovation Challenge (November 2021)

	Year	2019	2020	2021			2022	2023	2024	All Years
Budget/Item		Spent & reported	Spent & reported	Jan-Nov. Spent	Nov.-Dec. Committed	Total Year 2021	(Jan. - Dec.) Estimated	(Jan. - Dec.) Estimated	(Jan. - June) Estimated	2019-2024
Budget Account	Cost Item									
Total Direct Costs - OIF/OIC advance		68,291.95	240,309.04	536,732.98	172,531.99	709,264.97	841,988.66	182,756.98	-	2,042,611.60
Total Direct Costs - Programme Area B2		-	36,744.60	111,794.18	80,100.84	188,945.02	1,461,064.92	1,499,740.99	2,351.70	3,188,847.22
Total Direct Costs - Norad		-	-	167,665.67	212,508.62	380,174.29	1,467,469.59	1,252,773.24	494,311.45	3,594,728.57
Total Direct Costs - OIC		68,291.95	277,053.64	816,192.83	465,141.45	1,278,384.28	3,770,523.16	2,935,271.20	496,663.15	8,826,187.39
75105 Facilities & Administration	Gral Mgmt Support (GMS)	5,463.36	19,248.76	42,920.00	13,802.56	56,741.20	67,359.09	14,620.56	-	163,432.96
75105 Facilities & Administration	Gral Mgmt Support (GMS)	-	2,939.57	8,297.37	6,408.07	15,115.60	116,885.19	119,979.28	188.14	255,107.78
75105 Facilities & Administration	Gral Mgmt Support (GMS)	-	-	13,413.25	17,000.69	30,413.94	117,397.57	100,221.86	39,544.92	287,578.29
Total Indirect Costs - GMS		5,463.36	22,188.33	64,630.63	37,211.32	102,270.74	301,641.85	234,821.70	39,733.05	706,119.03

Total OIC Budget from all Sources of Funding till 2024

	Year	2019	2020	2021			2022	2023	2024	All Years
Budget/Item		Spent & reported	Spent & reported	Jan-Nov. Spent	Nov.-Dec. Committed	Total Year 2021	(Jan. - Dec.) Estimated	(Jan. - Dec.) Estimated	(Jan. - June) Estimated	2019-2024
Budget Account	Cost Item									
Sida Advance		73,755.31	259,557.80	579,652.98	186,334.55	766,006.17	909,347.75	197,377.53	0.00	2,206,044.56
Sida Program -B2		0.00	39,684.17	120,091.55	86,508.91	204,060.62	1,577,950.11	1,619,720.26	2,539.84	3,443,955.00
Norad		0.00	0.00	181,078.92	229,509.31	410,588.23	1,584,867.16	1,352,995.10	533,856.37	3,882,306.85
Total Budget for OIC from all sources		73,755.31	299,241.97	880,823.46	502,352.77	1,380,655.02	4,072,165.02	3,170,092.89	536,396.21	9,532,306.41

The OIC program expenditures from January to 25 November 2021 from both Sida funding sources were 699,744.53 USD (69%) and the committed budget till end of 2021 was 272,843.46 USD (27%), while the remaining budget that will be transferred to year 2022 was 34,729.93USD (3%). That means it is expected that the overall performance of the OIC will reach 97% in year 2021. The delayed activities are mainly due to COVID-19 restrictions in the implementing countries for call #1. The OIC management team is hosting monthly progress meetings with all innovators to discuss the progress for each project and discuss any obstacles that may affect the implementation of the project, and guiding them to apply adaptive management approaches to select the best available alternative to keep project implementation on track.



Call #2 on sustainable fisheries is estimated to contract/disburse the winning innovations in early 2022. Depending on whether all remaining full proposals successfully pass the technical reviews in this call, the remaining Sida funds will be rolled over into call #3 as indicated before.

General management support / indirect costs relating to all contributions amounts to eight per cent of the actual expenditures from the grant allocated budget. The GMS is specified on separate rows.



OCEAN INNOVATION CHALLENGE

**First Cohort Innovators Progress,
Co-financing and Catalytic Funding**

Worldwide Call for Proposals



First Cohort Call for Proposals:

- 8 January – 6 March, 2020

Criteria:

- Brief description of project; **Components; Outcomes; Outputs; Activities**
- Describe specifically how the project would address **Marine Pollution (SDG 14.1)**
- Describe how the project is **innovative** and, as appropriate, potentially **transformational**
- Briefly describe how the project would be **sustained** after the initial OIC award
- Explain how the project, once demonstrated, could be **replicated and scaled up**
- Briefly describe how the project could impact **poverty reduction, livelihoods creation, and/or gender equity**, as relevant



Expert Peer Review

Rated proposals against OIC criteria and **made comments, suggestions and recommendations for improvement** based on the selection criteria

Proposals recommended (1st review) with **minor or major revisions** were invited to address reviewers' comments and **resubmit for a second stage review.**



Criteria

- Technical feasibility
- Innovation
- Replicability & Scalability
- Transformational
- Poverty reduction, gender equity and livelihood creation
- Sustainability
- Stakeholder engagement
- Project management



The First
Cohort of
Successful
Proposals



**OCEAN
INNOVATION
CHALLENGE**

Developing an EPR scheme for plastic and packaging waste in the Maldives

Start Date March 2021

End Date August 2022

Innovator adelphi consult GmbH

OIC Grant USD 233,725

Beneficiary The Republic of Maldives , Germany

Category Private Sector

Focal Point Morton Hemkhaus



Coral atolls, as well as other marine life of the Maldives' seas, are under pressure from both an increasing amount of littered plastic wastes as well as from unsafe waste management practices.

The well-established German **adelphi consult GmbH** with local NGO Zero Waste Maldives and the Ministry of Environment will guide the government to phase out single-use plastics and to develop an extended producer responsibility (EPR) scheme that will improve waste disposal regulation and public awareness to improve the health of the ocean ecosystem.



Funded by Norad	EPR Maldives (adelphi GmbH)
Main outputs to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Report on EPR Strategies✓ Assessment of Material Receiving facility✓ Stakeholder Survey✓ Close coordination with government
Catalyzed funding & source	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In discussion - GEF 8 Plastics Initiative, with adelphi, Duke University, UNDP Comoros, and OneSea• Exploring support and engagement through Corporate Social Responsibility network• Exploring potential partnership, with PlasticBank

“While many case studies and existing projects focus on developing EPR policies, this project is innovative as it focuses on the implementation of broad-ranging policy goals. This makes the innovative-ness of the project applicable beyond the experience of the Maldives”

anonymous expert peer reviewer



Phos-Value: Sustainable solutions for nutrient recycling

Start Date March 2021

End Date February 2023

Innovator AqualnSilico Lda.

OIC Grant USD 250,000

Beneficiary Cape Verde

Category Private Sector

Focal Point Jorge Santos



Like many Small Island Developing States, Cape Verde faces challenges with coastal eutrophication due to nutrient releases from poorly treated wastewater. Portugal-based start up **AqualnSilico Lda.** will use digital technologies to help Cape Verde's wastewater treatment sector to optimize the biological removal and recovery of nutrients, promote the safe use of treated wastewater as biofertilizer, and help reduce wastewater treatment operating costs.



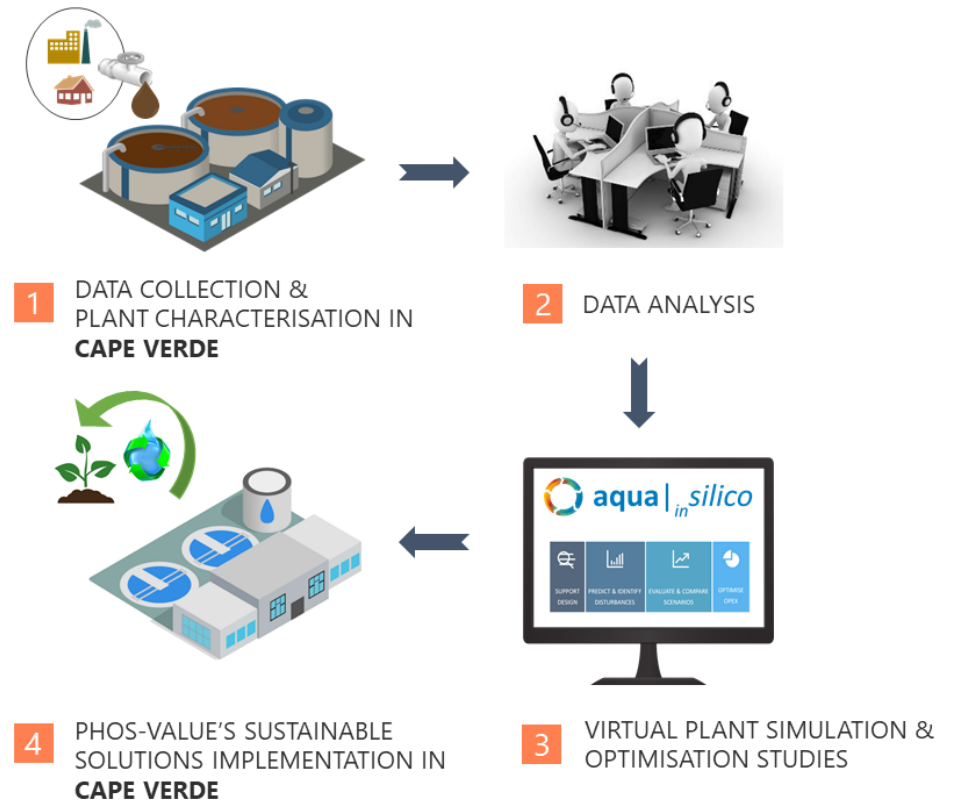
CAPE VERDE'S WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS

Operating under uncontrolled conditions

MARINE EUTROPHICATION

“Improving WW treatment and enabling the recycling of resources (P as fertilizer and water for irrigation) would be transformational in reducing pollution and providing local benefits for livelihoods.”

anonymous expert peer reviewer



Funded by Sida	PhosValue: Cape Verde (AquaInSilico)
Main outputs to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Identified the wastewater treatment plant in Cape Verde ✓ Purchased materials for assessment in CV ✓ Scheduled travel to assess and begin training ✓ Held stakeholder engagement event
Catalyzed funding & source	\$69K - 2020 Grant funding from EIT Raw Materials

Establishment of a PET recovery and buy-back center

Start Date March 2021

End Date August 2022

Innovator UNDP Country Office,
Comoros

OIC Grant USD 250,000

Beneficiary Union of Comoros

Category United Nations (UN)

Focal Point

Fouad Abdou Rabi Karim Ali Ahmed



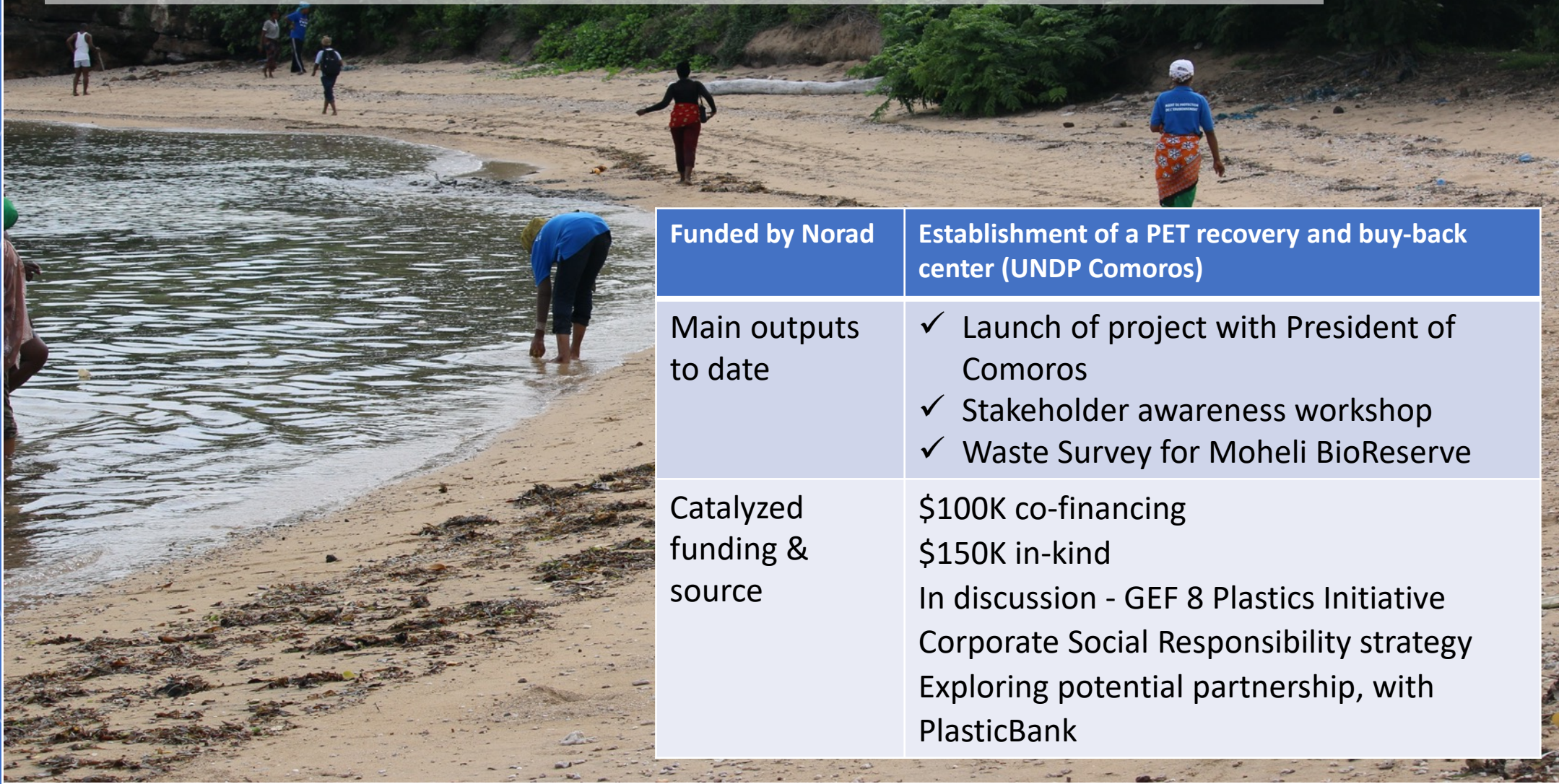
Marine plastic has no boundaries and protected areas are especially vulnerable to its damaging impacts.

To help reduce ocean plastic pollution, the **UNDP Comoros Country Office** is helping the government of Comoros to introduce innovative financial mechanisms for plastics waste recovery, reuse, and recycling. The project will not only reduce plastics waste, but it will also create new economic opportunities for communities of the Mohéli Biosphere Reserve through the creation of plastic waste recovery and buy-back centers.



“This program, when fully implemented in Comoros, would bring a great deal of recycling to the nation, as well as significant litter reduction, thereby reducing marine and terrestrial debris.”

anonymous expert peer reviewer



Funded by Norad	Establishment of a PET recovery and buy-back center (UNDP Comoros)
Main outputs to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Launch of project with President of Comoros✓ Stakeholder awareness workshop✓ Waste Survey for Moheli BioReserve
Catalyzed funding & source	\$100K co-financing \$150K in-kind In discussion - GEF 8 Plastics Initiative Corporate Social Responsibility strategy Exploring potential partnership, with PlasticBank

Tracking government responses: the Global Plastics Policy Inventory

Start Date	March 2021
End Date	February 2022
Innovator	Duke University, Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions
OIC Grant	USD 50,000
Beneficiary	Global
Category	Academe
Focal Point	John Virdin, Rachel Karasik



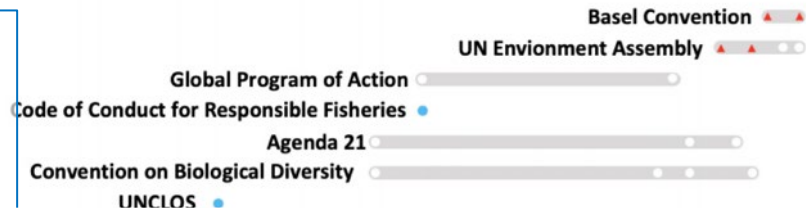
Some 5-12 million metric tons of plastics waste enter our ocean every year. A wide range of policy responses has been applied by different countries as they try to address plastics pollution.

This innovation will create the world's first global plastics policy tracking tool which will help stakeholders at all levels to identify and replicate best practices in plastics policy development and implementation. The project will also identify trends in plastics policy tools as a means to predict trends in plastics material flows.



“Given the severity of the plastic pollution problem, and the rate at which it is increasing, rapid changes are required. In particular, provision of a catalogue of potential policies to countries with limited resources would be highly beneficial.”

anonymous expert peer reviewer



Funded by Sida	Duke Plastics Policy Database, Global
Main outputs to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Country Case studies drafted to explore indepth experience of applying policies ✓ Database completed ✓ Uploaded website have 500+ policies and 30 languages
Catalyzed funding & source	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pew Charitable Trusts - \$150K, May 2019 – July 2020. Pew funding allowed the Duke Project team to publish the 20 Years of Government Responses to the Global Plastic Pollution Problem report and the initial version of the inventory. • In discussion - GEF 8 Plastics Initiative • Exploring support and engagement through Duke University Development office • Exploring additional support from Pew Charitable Trusts • Exploring potential partnership, with PlasticBank

NUTRIALGAE - novel sustainable algae-based fertilizers

Start Date March 2021

End Date August 2022

Innovator Ficosterra

OIC Grant USD 250,000

Beneficiary Mexico, Morocco in

Category Private Sector

Focal Point Luis Lombana



The widespread use of industrial fertilizers in agriculture has created a global pollution challenge with much of the nitrogen and phosphorus escaping into waterways and the ocean, creating coastal 'dead zones', including in places like Morocco and Mexico.

Ficosterra will demonstrate how sustainably harvested seaweed can be used to produce fertilizer that reduces nutrient pollution, improves crop yields, and saves farmers money.



“The partnership established between the proposing company (based in Spain), with academic partners and local communities, both in Mexico and in Morocco, is very innovative, since in both Morocco and Mexico, traditional intensive agriculture (using resources (fertilizers based on NKP), promotes high degradation of ocean waters (in the Atlantic and Pacific), severely damaging their ecosystems.”

anonymous expert peer reviewer

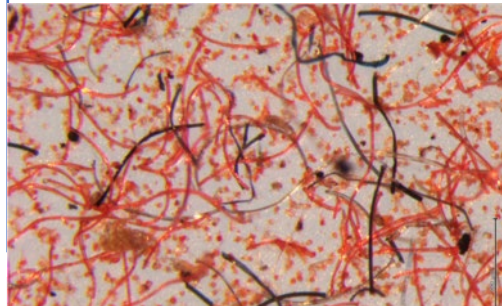
Funded by Sida	Nutrialgae in Mexico and Morocco (Ficosterra)
Main outputs to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Trainings begun for local farmers in both countries✓ Started field trials✓ Formalized linkages with national universities
Catalyzed funding & source	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$48K in-kind at proposal• \$7K University of Valladolid R&D program with Ficosagro, 2021• TBD CDTI Proposal submitted, 2021, for funding of scale up of new product (cystium-a)

Tackling microfibres at source: Investigating opportunities to reduce microfibre pollution from the fashion industry through textile design and manufacturing innovation

Start Date	March 2021
End Date	October 2022
Innovator	Forum for the Future, APAC
OIC Grant	USD 250,000
Beneficiary	Malaysia, Indonesia, Viet Nam,
Category	Non-Governmental Organization (NGO)
Focal Point	Karen Sim



A sizeable fraction of marine microplastics pollution derives from the ‘shedding’ of textiles microfibres during clothes washing. **Forum for the Future** will work with major textile manufacturing firms in Southeast Asia to improve industry understanding and awareness of microfiber shedding, promote the implementation of manufacturing processes that reduce shedding, and catalyse industry action for the branding of products with low microfibre shedding properties.



“...’would the environment be safer’ as a result of this research? The answer is it could if it all were developed and implemented as planned.”

anonymous expert peer reviewer

Funded by Sida	Reducing microfiber pollution from the fashion industry (Forum for the Future - APAC)
Main outputs to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Prepared detailed research plan with methodology to test the shedding in milling process✓ Identified and contracted local laboratories in both Malaysia and Singapore✓ Continuing to collaborate closely with major textile manufacturer
Catalyzed funding & source	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$62K co-financing• \$55K in-kind• \$31K Ramatex Group, 2021• Ramatex Group, 2020 – Letter of Intent committing to contribute manpower resources and offer their facility in Johor, Malaysia, for the collection of test samples for the project.• \$125K Nike planned for 2021/2022• \$50K Circulate Initiative planned for 2021/2022• \$30K H&M planned for 2022• TBD NORAD - KIV - 2022/2023• TBD - The Microfibre Consortium (TMC) – member strategy

FORTUNA

COOLERS MADE FROM COCONUTS

Start Date March 2021

End Date February 2023

Innovator Fortuna Cools, Inc.

OIC Grant USD 250,000

Beneficiary Philippines

Category Private Sector

Focal Point Tamara Mekler

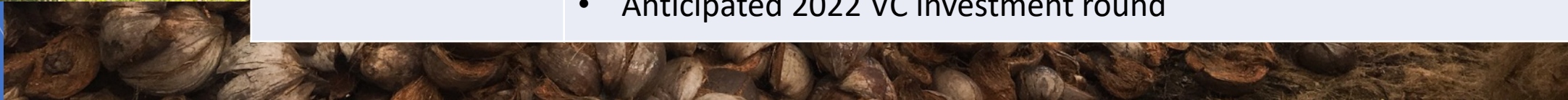
Expanded polystyrene (EPS) is widely used as an insulator for food transport; in SE Asia, with its huge fish trade, several hundred million boxes are produced, sold and discarded every year. In the Philippines, studies show that about a third of this waste plastic reaches the ocean. **Fortuna Cools** Coconut Cooler is the first cold storage product of its kind made from discarded coconut husks that can compete with EPS coolers on both low price and high performance. Small scale seafood and produce traders will benefit from the biodegradable long lasting coconut-based coolers. The project will also create new green jobs and reduce CO2 emissions from burning billions of coconut husks yearly.



“The project provides an opportunity to bring about a significant reduction in the quantity of expanded polystyrene used to enhance fresh fish preservation in several countries in Southeast Asia and potentially in other regions, such as West and East Africa.”
 anonymous expert peer reviewer



Funded by Norad	Fortuna Cools in the Philippines
Main outputs to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ More than 3 tons of coconut fibers sourced from more than 50 farmers, produced 1,000 cocounut coolers ✓ Expanded number of farmers supplying coconut husks ✓ Conducted kick-starter campaign ✓ Featured in Forbes.com and upcoming CNN International
Catalyzed funding & source	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$210K via Asia Development Bank Ventures • \$600K Katapult Ocean, Manila Angels, she1k, mid-2020 based on OIC engagement • \$150K Kickstarter campaign raised 2021 (3 times original ask) • Anticipated 2022 VC investment round



Promoting laws to protect our oceans, with the support of civil society and coastal communities

Start Date March 2021

End Date February 2023

Innovator Fundación OneSea

OIC Grant USD 241,565

Beneficiary Costa Rica

Category NGO

Focal Point Eduardo Leiton Loria



Costa Rica discards 550 tons of plastic every day and as much as 80 percent enters our coastal areas, impacting marine ecosystems and local livelihoods. Building on existing laws, **OneSea** will assist Costa Rica in putting in place a container deposit scheme for plastics, glass and metal; introduce tax incentives to reduce loss of fishing nets, and strengthen the regulation of cigarette disposal.



“The innovative character of the project is secured through:

1. The strategy based on the litter prevention rather than ad hoc, temporary activities, such as beach clean ups
2. Applying the powerful policy instruments leading to sustainable resource management, among other modern deposit system for beverage containers (a solution not yet applied in Costa Rica/ South America)”

anonymous expert peer reviewer

Funded by Norad	Promoting laws to protect our oceans in Costa Rica (OneSea)
Main outputs to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Established alliances with government commissions on different forms of plastic wastes (cigarette butts, ghost fishing gear, single-use plastic, microplastics)✓ Engaged civil society organizations domestically and across Latin America✓ Established focus group with stakeholders of various forms of plastic waste✓ Drafting technical and cooperative law studies
Catalyzed funding & source	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In discussion - GEF 8 Plastics Initiative for upscaling, possibly with Latin American NGOs• Corporate Social Responsibility strategy• Exploring potential partnership, with PlasticBank



Catalyzing Capital to date

Innovators Call 1	Co-financing per proposal	OIC Innovator realized co-financing and in-kind support	Additional anticipated co-financing and in-kind support
ADEL	\$0	\$0	In discussion - GEF 8 Plastics Initiative, with Adel, Duke, Como and OneSea Exploring support and engagement through Corporate Social Responsibility network Exploring potential partnership, with PlasticBank
AQUA	\$0	\$69K 2020- Grant funding from EIT Raw Materials	
COMO	\$100K co-financing \$150K in-kind	Information not yet provided	In discussion - GEF 8 Plastics Initiative Exploring support and engagement through Corporate Social Responsibility offices Exploring potential partnership, with PlasticBank
DUKE	\$150K Pew Charitable Trusts - May 2019 – July 2020. Pew funding allowed the Duke Project team to publish the 20 Years of Government Responses to the Global Plastic Pollution Problem report and the initial version of the inventory.		In discussion - GEF 8 Plastics Initiative Exploring support and engagement through Duke University Development office Exploring additional support from Pew Charitable Trusts Exploring potential partnership, with PlasticBank
FICO	\$48K in-kind	\$7K University of Valladolid R&D program with Ficosagro, 2021	TBD CDTI Proposal submitted, 2021, for funding of scale up of new product (cystium-a)
FOFF	\$62K co-financing \$55K in-kind	\$31K Ramatex Group, 2021 Ramatex Group, 2020 – Letter of Intent committing to contribute manpower resources and offer their facility in Johor, Malaysia, for the collection of test samples for the project.	\$125K Nike planned for 2021/2022 \$50 Circulate Initiative planned for 2021/2022 \$30 H&M planned for 2022 TBD NORAD - KIV - 2022/2023 TBD The Microfibre Consortium (TMC) – member strategy
FORT	\$210K via Asia Development Bank Ventures	\$600K Katapult Ocean, Manila Angels, she1k, mid-2020 \$150K Kickstarter campaign raised	Anticipated 2022 VC investment round
ONES	\$0	\$0	In discussion - GEF 8 Plastics Initiative Corporate Social Responsibility strategy Exploring potential partnership, with PlasticBank
	\$625K	\$875K	\$205K

On behalf of the
UNDP Ocean Innovation Challenge team...

*Thank
you*

