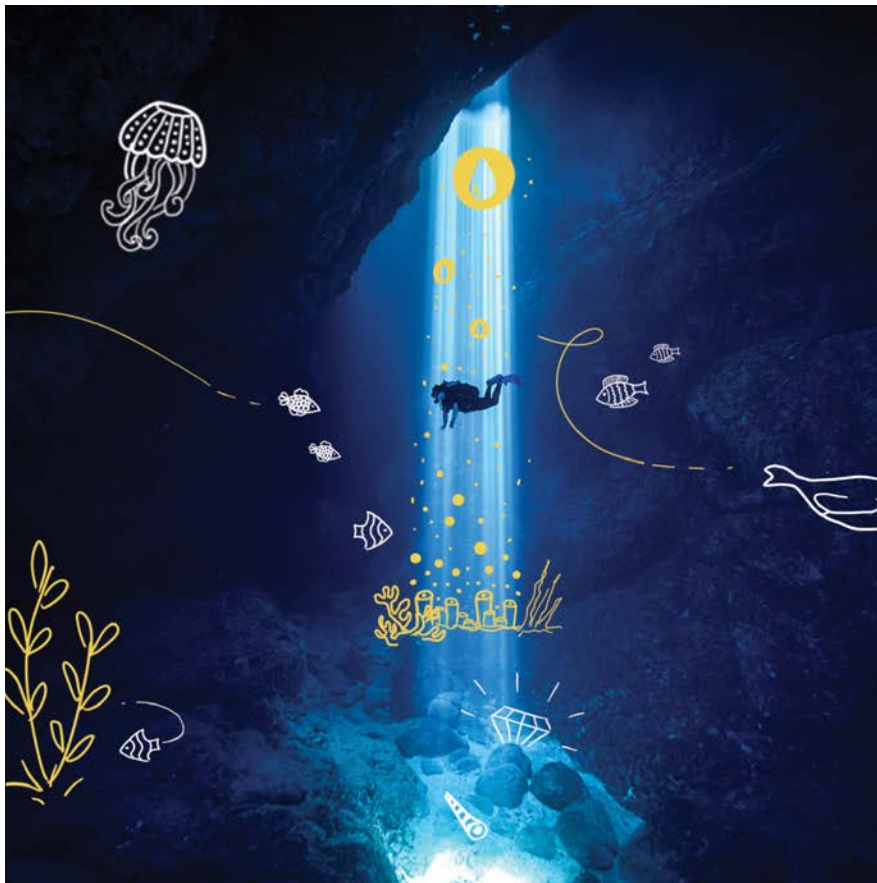


Expo 2020 Dubai Programme for People and Planet

WORLD MAJLIS AGENDA

WATER WEEK

20 – 26 March 2022



DATE

Sunday, 20th March 2022

TIME

4.00 to 6.00 PM

VENUE

Terra – the Sustainability Pavilion

THE TOPIC

DEEP BLUE: THE (OTHER) FINAL FRONTIER

Undiscovered wonders of the oceans

in collaboration with Portugal

With more than 80 percent of our oceans unmapped and unexplored, our deep-sea floors are the last “terra incognita” on our planet. This is about to change.

Technological advancements are now making it possible to explore the depths of the oceans in a way we would have never imagined before.

Equipped with manned and unmanned submersibles, autonomous underwater robots, sensors, and sophisticated cameras, researchers can access untapped resources that could influence our future: unknown life forms, minerals and other resources that could be vital to our ecological transition, and other new opportunities for science and industry.

As more projects gear up to sweep the ocean floors for rare metals, and other resources, managing and understanding human impact on this last untouched piece of nature will be essential to avoid further damage — giving us a chance to unlock our deep floors’ precious secrets.

A new chapter in ocean exploration is beginning. We need to make sure this new “Last Frontier” remains an opportunity for us all.

- What resources and knowledge can the oceans and their inhabitants provide?
- How can we derive benefits from the oceans without further damaging their delicate ecosystems?
- How should access to the oceans be regulated?
- How can we use technology to strike a balance between progress and preservation?

MODERATOR

John Defterios

Former CNN Emerging Markets Editor;
Professor of Business, NYU-Abu Dhabi



John Defterios is veteran, award winning journalist and economic analyst with more than 35 years of experience at CNN, Reuters, and PBS Television in the United States.

John recently retired as CNN Business' Emerging Markets Editor and Anchor. Based in the network's Abu Dhabi bureau since 2011, his reporting focused on the top business stories from emerging economies, with a specialty in trade, geo-politics and energy.

He is a Strategic Senior Advisor for the global public affairs firm APCO Worldwide, board member in media and the youth development arenas, Professor of Business at NYU-Abu Dhabi and World Economic Forum Energy Fellow.

Defterios arrived to the UAE during the regional uprisings of the Arab Spring and covered the economic rebuilding and challenges across the region. Major story coverage included: the impact of Covid-19 on the global economy, oil prices collapsing into negative territory for the first time, the Ritz Carlton crackdown on corruption and the passing of King Abdullah in Saudi Arabia. He was key member of the CNN team that won the coveted Alfred I. Dupont award for in-country coverage between 2017-18.

Defterios was a World Economic Forum media leader from 1995-2021, a member of the Global Agenda Council on the Arab World and is a WEF Energy Fellow. He also serves on the board of the Stern Stewart Institute in Germany, a non-for-profit group promoting leadership and entrepreneurship.

PARTICIPANTS

Melania Guerra, PhD

Engineer, Oceanographer & Science Diplomat
Director of Science Strategy, Planet (Berlin, Germany), Costa Rica



Melania grew up dreaming of exploring extreme environments. She studied Mechanical Engineering at the University of Costa Rica, worked for Costa Rican astronaut Dr. Franklin Chang Diaz at NASA's Johnson Space Center and later earned a master's and Ph.D. in Oceanography from the University of California. She worked as a researcher at Cornell University and the University of Washington, performing fieldwork in the Arctic Ocean, which is dramatically affected by climate change.

Her multiple research expeditions sparked a passion for science diplomacy, the discipline that applies scientific knowledge to international decisionmaking. During 2018 she served as a Nippon Fellow at the United Nations' Division of Ocean Affairs and Law of the

Sea, specializing in ocean governance. She also supports the Costa Rican diplomatic delegations in multilateral climate and ocean negotiations and is an adjunct professor of climate governance at the UN University for Peace. In 2021 she completed a Master's in Public Policy at Princeton University, specializing in international relations and science policy. She is currently the Director of Science Strategy at Planet, which operates a constellation of 200+ high-resolution satellites that photograph the Earth once a day, to document global changes, make impacts visible and provide transparency to the solutions.

At the beginning of 2019, Melania represented Costa Rica in the Homeward Bound expedition to Antarctica, a global leadership initiative for women in science, thus becoming only the second Costa Rican scientist to work in both polar regions. Taking advantage of the great visibility of her extreme experiences, she shares scientific content and blogs about climate change, through her social networks "La Tica Polar", which currently reach more than 10,000 people in 50 countries.

Jamie Isbister

Ambassador for the Environment, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Government of Australia



Mr Jamie Isbister was appointed Australia's Ambassador for the Environment in November 2019. He is responsible for representing Australia and strengthening international frameworks on environment issues, including international cooperation on sustainable oceans management, climate change and UNESCO World Heritage, including the Great Barrier Reef. He leads Australia's negotiations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and is head of the Climate Change and Sustainability Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Prior to this he headed DFAT's Humanitarian, NGOs, and Partnerships Division for five years and was the Australian Government's Humanitarian Coordinator. He has previously served overseas as Minister Counsellor Development for Africa based in Pretoria, and was Assistant Director General for the Africa and Middle East Branch of AusAID.

Jamie has over 25 years' experience working in the humanitarian and development field. Before entering Government, he worked for a range of international development and human rights organisations including Amnesty International and the Caritas International network. Jamie co-led the pivot of Australia's development program in response to the current COVID-19 crisis and the development of the 'Partnerships for Recovery' policy. Jamie is also DFAT's mental health champion.

Prof Burton Jones

Professor of Oceanography, Red Sea Research Center, KAUST, KSA



Burton Jones is a Professor of Oceanography in the Red Sea Research Center at KAUST where he leads the Integrated Ocean Processes Laboratory. His research interests include bio-optical oceanography, physical-biological interactions, coastal processes, and coastal ocean observing systems. His research focuses on the interaction between organisms and the physical environment in regions throughout the world including coastal California, the equatorial Pacific Ocean, the Arabian Sea, Japan/East Sea, the Adriatic Sea, the western Pacific Philippine archipelago, and most recently the Red Sea. A central concern of these efforts is processes that drive primary production and carbon fluxes in the open ocean.

In addition to his basic research interests, Professor Jones has provided leadership in the development and implementation of ocean observing systems, first in the US as part of the Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System (SCCOOS) and research in harmful algal bloom monitoring. He has worked with regional, state, and national agencies to address concerns with coastal water quality. In the Red Sea, Professor Jones implemented a coastal observing system that includes fixed coastal sites and autonomous, robotic underwater platforms.

Jason Pratt

Senior Vice President – Group Health, Safety & Environment, DP World



Jason Pratt, is the Senior Vice President of Group HSE, has been a practicing safety professional for over 20 years, including roles in operations and human resources through his professional career.

His leadership experience includes over 14 years with DP World at the business unit, regional and most recently at the corporate level since the beginning of 2019. He is also board executive director member for DP World Dakar. In addition, he is also board director for ICHCA International which represents the global supply chain on operational, safety, security, and environmental standards and best practices.

HE Ricardo da Piedade Abreu Serrão Santos

Minister of the Sea, Government of Portugal



Ricardo Serrão Santos was born in 1954. He lives in the Portuguese Autonomous Region of Azores. Doctor in Biology and Animal Ecology, he is a Principal Researcher at the University of the Azores. Ricardo Serrão Santos has dedicated his career to the study of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and has more than 400 hundred published scientific appears and books. He is co-editor and author of "Seamounts: Ecology, Fisheries and Conservation", published in 2007, by Wiley InterScience, co-editor of "Anthropogenic Disturbances in the Deep Sea", published in 2020, by Frontiers, and co-author of a Virtual Centre of Marine Interpretation (CIMV). During his academic career, he coordinated and chaired several scientific organizations of the EU, Portugal and the Azores. He holds positions in several scientific advisory bodies and committees among which the Oceanographic Institute of Paris. Ricardo Serrão Santos is an elected member of the

Portuguese Academy of Sciences and Emeritus Member of the Portuguese Navy Academy. He has received several honorable mentions and awards, among which are «Gift to the Earth» by WWF, in 2002, the "Insignia Autonomica de Reconhecimento", awarded by the Legislative Parliament of the Azores and the Azores Government, in 2012, commended "Chevalier de l'Ordre de Saint Charles", by HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco, in 2013, and was awarded the Prize "Excellence Mare", by PwC Portugal, in 2017. He was Member of the European Parliament between 2014 and 2019.

Kathleen Swalling

Maritime Law and Strategy Advisor; Managing Director, Nature Based Solutions LLC, UAE



Kathleen began her career as a fisheries and environmental prosecutor for the Attorney-General's Department in South Australia in 1990. She undertook several key roles to shape the management of Australia's ocean resources including advising the Federal Government on their Oceans Policy and Regional Marine Planning at the Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security and as Senior Legal Advisor to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.

Kathleen currently lives in the UAE and considers herself a global citizen. She advises governments, private sector, universities, and NGOs. Her clients include: The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, National Centre for Environmental Compliance, KAUST university, the Environment Agency of Abu Dhabi, Hatfields Group (Indonesia) and Minderoo Foundation.

Recently, Kathleen completed an extensive review of the international and national legal framework governing Saudi Arabia and its ability to balance development with preservation of the Arabian Gulf and Red Sea marine and coastal environment. Prior to this she conducted a review of the governance and regulatory framework for fisheries in the UAE, KSA and Oman.

Kathleen specialises in developing world first or new programs relating to oceans, marine protected areas, islands, climate change and energy in complex multiple jurisdiction environments.

Kathleen is a sailor and scientific diver and has created award winning documentaries about the Great Barrier Reef and Lord Howe Island, working with French and German television. She also held the position as the Chair and Co-President for Filmmakers for Conservation.