

Borgarráð

Reykjavík, 20. maí 2025 MSS24120039

### Fyrirhuguð ferð borgarstjóra til Nice í Frakklandi vegna stofnfundar bandalags strandborga og -svæða

Fyrirhuguð er ferð borgarstjóra til Nice í Frakklandi, dagana 5.-8. júní 2025, vegna stofnfundar bandalags strandborga og -svæða. Meginmarkmið bandalagsins er að bjóða upp á vettvang sem sameinar fulltrúa strandborga og -svæða, að beita sér fyrir hagsmunum þeirra og efla forystu á alþjóðlegum pólitískum vettvangi. Aðild að bandalaginu er valfrjáls, án endurgjalds, og skapar ekki neinar lagalegar skyldur eða áþyrgðir fyrir þátttakendur. Með borgarstjóra í för er aðstoðarmaður.

Í ferð sinni mun borgarstjóri skrifa undir neðangreinda yfirlýsingu fyrir hönd Reykjavíkurborgar vegna aðildar borgarinnar að bandalaginu.

"I acknowledge the urgent need to adapt our coastal communities to the growing threats of climate change. I pledge to join the Ocean Rise & Coastal Resilience Coalition and volountarily commit to work alongside fellow national and local governments, and key stakeholders to drive meaningful change and build a sustainable and thriving future for our coastal cities and regions."

Hjálagt er boð til borgarstjóra á ráðstefnuna ásamt dagskrá hennar og stofngögn vegna bandalags strandborga og -svæða.

Heiða Björg Hilmisdóttir borgarstjóri

#### Hjálagt:

Boð til borgarstjóra um þátttöku á ráðstefnunni, dags. 11. apríl 2025, ásamt dagskrá ráðstefnunnar. Stofngögn vegna bandalags strandborga og -svæða; Action Program ORCR 2025-2028 og The Charter ORCR.







#### **Christian ESTROSI**

Mayor of Nice, President of the Nice Côte d'Azur Metropolitan area, Deputy President of the SUD, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region

### Heiða Björg HILMISDÓTTIR

Mayor of Reykjavík

Nice, April 15, 2025

Dear Mayor Hilmisdóttir,

The 3rd United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC3), co-organized by France and Costa Rica, will take place in Nice from June 9 to June 13, 2025. It will be the largest conference ever dedicated to the Ocean, gathering numerous Heads of State and Government and leading international ocean stakeholders.

On this occasion, the President of the French Republic, Emmanuel Macron, has entrusted me with the responsibility of building the *Ocean Rise and Coastal Resilience* Coalition, a coalition of coastal cities and regions worldwide bringing together elected officials, mayors, governors, and administrators of coastal territories, as well as leaders from developing island States affected by rising sea levels and the impacts of climate change.

This coalition will meet in Nice on June 7, 2025, for a special Summit focused on these challenges. Together, with the support of specialized scientists, we will compare our models, find adaptation and funding solutions, and work towards increasing our resilience capacity.

In the exercise of our mandates, each of us is already doing everything possible to address the challenges of our century: protecting our people, preserving biodiversity, and adapting our cities. It is at our local and regional level that the measures decided by our Heads of State and Government at UNOC3 will need to be concretely and operationally implemented.

I would be honored to welcome you in Nice to the *Ocean Rise and Coastal Resilience* Summit on June 7, 2025 for the official launch of the Coalition, and would be delighted for you to speak at the Summit to share your invaluable insights and expertise. Please confirm your presence by replying to <u>coalition-ocean@ville-nice.fr.</u>

The Summit will be preceded by a gala dinner at which I shall be honored to receive you, and will be followed by World Ocean Day, a United Nations celebration on June 8, 2025, during which the city of Nice will be enlivened by a number of festivities in the presence of the United Nations Secretary-General, the President of France, the President of Costa Rica and numerous Heads of State and Government.

Please accept, Madam Mayor, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Bien contialement

**Christian ESTROSI** 









"Protecting the ocean means giving hope to all those whose lives depend on it, and providing an answer to our citizens who, now and increasingly in the future, face rising sea levels, sparing neither people nor regions worldwide.

On the occasion of the *Ocean Rise and Coastal Resilience* Summit, coastal communities from all around the world will come together to work together and make proposals to address this concerning phenomenon.

We therefore look forward to seeing you in Nice on June 7 for the launch of the *Ocean Rise* and *Coastal Resilience* Coalition, and on June 8, 2025 for the World Ocean Day which will precede the Third United Nations Ocean Conference, a rendezvous dedicated to action."

#### Rodrigo CHAVES ROBLES, President of the Republic of Costa Rica Emmanuel MACRON, President of the French Republic

With the support of the Steering Committee member organizations for the prefiguration phase of the Ocean Rise & Coastal Resilience - Coalition for Cities and Regions:





























## OCEAN RISE

& COASTAL RESILIENCE
OALITION FOR CITIES & REGIONS

## **PROGRAMME**

## OCEAN RISE & COASTAL **RESILIENCE SUMMIT**

A special event of UNOC3



7 June, 2025



Quai Amiral Infernet, Nice, France













9:00 AM

**OPENING CEREMONY** 

Plenary Hall

9:30 AM

LAUNCH OF THE OCEAN RISE & COASTAL RESILIENCE COALITION

Plenary Hall

10:30 AM

**BREAK** 

11:00 AM

**THEMATIC SESSIONS 1** 

**Putting Science at the Heart of Coastal Cities Adaptation** 

Plenary Hall

**Assessing Coastal Risks and Vulnerabilities** 

Side Room 1

**Multi-level Governance of Coastal Cities and Regions** 

Side Room 2

### 12:00 PM

**THEMATIC SESSIONS 2** 

**Financial Engineering for Coastal Cities** 

Plenary Hall

**Ports and Cities: United for Coastal Resilience** 

Side Room 1

**Mobilising the Insurance Sector** 

Side Room 2





### 1:00 PM LUNCH BREAK

### 2:00 PM

**THEMATIC SESSIONS 3** 

**Designing a Desirable Future for the Coast** 

Plenary Hall

**Centering Social Justice and Equity** 

Side Room 1

Cities at the Edge: Harnessing Nature for a Resilient Future

Side Room 2

3:00 PM

**BREAK** 

3:30 PM

**ANOUNCEMENTS SESSION** 

Plenary Hall

4:30 PM

**CLOSING CEREMONY** 

Plenary Hall



## ACTION PROGRAM

2025-2028





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- 1. Mobilisation
- 2. Knowledge
- 3. Capacity Building
- 4. Finance
- 5. Advocacy



# **Challenges** and **Genesis** of the Ocean Rise & Coastal Resilience Coalition

The Ocean Rise & Coastal **Resilience Coalition** is an initiative led by the City of Nice, the Ocean & Climate Platform, and the Global Centre for Climate Mobility (GCCM), with the support of the French Government and the Government of Rica. The Coalition Costa spearheaded by the Global Centre for Climate Mobility (GCCM) and its secretariat, which is hosted by UNOPS.

The Coalition mission is to "accelerate adaptation and resilience to ocean changes by fostering exchanges of best practices collaboration and cities between coastal regions, scientific institutions, financial players, and committed stakeholders".

To do so, the Coalition's bring together local representatives of coastal cities and regions who want to take action on ocean changes, bringing them to their attention and facilitating access to the full range of activities that can benefit them.

The Coalition is structured around Members, a Steering Committee, a secretariat, and organizations with whom specific agreements are signed for targeted actions. Coastal local governments become Members by endorsing the Coalition's Charter. Working Groups, composed of diverse stakeholders, strategic thinking support provide recommendations to the Steering Committee, which oversees the Coalition's governance decisions.





# **Challenges and Genesis** of the Ocean Rise & Coastal Resilience Coalition

### **Challenges addressed**

Coastal cities and regions face a multitude of interrelated challenges, exacerbated by both climate hazards and human activities. Among these:

- **Erosion and submersion** pose a severe threat, gradually wearing away beaches, deltas, and cliffs, while tidal flooding and land submergence compromise infrastructures and disrupt communities.
- **Extreme climate events** further heighten these risks, with tropical and extratropical cyclones, storms, and extreme sea-level variations inflicting widespread damage on coastal settlements.
- The degradation of ecosystems compounds these vulnerabilities, as the loss of natural habitats and biodiversity undermines the ecological balance and weakens the natural defenses that protect shorelines.
- **Water and soil salinisation** driven by saltwater intrusion, contaminates freshwater supplies, jeopardises agricultural productivity, and accelerates infrastructural decay.
- These environmental stressors translate into significant economic and social repercussions, as key industries such as tourism, maritime trade, and fisheries suffer disruptions, while public health, cultural heritage, and overall community well-being are placed at risk.

Further compounding these challenges, subsidence and tsunamis introduce additional threats, increasing the urgency for coordinated adaptation action and resilience-building initiatives.





# **Challenges** and **Genesis** of the Ocean Rise & Coastal Resilience Coalition

#### **Genesis of the Coalition**

The Ocean Rise Coastal Resilience Coalition for cities and regions ("the Coalition") was born out of a growing international recognition of the urgent need to address the challenges posed by rising sea levels and ocean changes due to climate change, and their socio-economic and environmental impacts on coastal cities and regions. This initiative aligns with the Sea'ties Declaration, launched in February 2022 at the One Ocean Summit, Brest, France by Ocean & Climate Platform. The Declaration brings together over 70 mayors and governors worldwide committed to the adaptation of their coastlines and calling for international support their in endeavors.

Building on this momentum, the Coalition was formally announced at the One Planet - Polar Summit in November 2023. when President of the French Republic, Emmanuel Macron, entrusted the Mayor of Nice, Christian Estrosi, to lead the initiative and the Ocean & Climate Platform to coordinate its preparation, aiming to unite 1,000 representatives of the one billion people globally affected by rising sea levels by 2050. The Coalition will officially launch during the Ocean Rise & Coastal Resilience Summit, June 7, 2025, at the 3rd United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC3), Nice, France.





To achieve its mission, the Coalition supports and accelerates coastal cities and regions' adaptation and resilience by fostering collaboration, promoting knowledge-sharing, and providing strategic guidance through **five key Pillars:** 



#### **Mobilisation**

Organising regular gathering of local elected representatives and stakeholders to foster the exchange of knowledge and best practices.



#### Knowledge

Strengthening cooperation between scientific entities and coastal local governments to improve the production, access and uses of data and disseminating knowledge.



#### **Capacity building**

Enhancing the skills of coastal local governments through targeted training, expert exchanges, and connections with partner-led programs to support adaptation efforts.



#### **Finance**

Engaging public and private financial stakeholders to design, implement and provide tailored coastal adaptation financial mechanisms.



#### **Advocate**

Collecting and conveying the demands of coastal local governments for better integration of their interest and the being-well of their citizens in international negotiating bodies and policies





Between the launch of the Coalition on June 7, 2025, at the Ocean Rise & Coastal Resilience Summit, Special Event of the UNOC3, and the next Ocean Rise & Coastal Resilience Summit in 2028 at UNOC4, the following activities will be implemented as part of a three-year Roadmap to drive action, support, and accelerate coastal local governments' adaptation and resilience efforts.

Each activity is designed to deliver tangible impact, strengthening capacities, fostering collaboration, and unlocking solutions to adapt and preserve our coastal communities. Specific targets will be set for each activity, ensuring measurable progress and accountability as we move forward together.



### **PILLAR 1 - MOBILISATION**

- 1. **Establish a high-level summit** to elevate the advocacy of coastal local governments, ensuring their priorities on urban transformation, ocean conservation, climate action, and biodiversity preservation are integrated into the international agenda, every three years, alongside the UN Ocean Conference (UNOC).
- 2. Develop the website of the Coalition as a digital platform providing useful resources for leading coastal adaptation efforts. The website act as a repository for:
  - Disseminated knowledge, best practices and case studies;
  - Vulnerability assessment, data-sharing and policy-decision tools.
- 3. **Inform and communicate** about the Coalition Members, on a regular basis to share publications and up-coming activity agenda, as well as highlight innovative projects and solutions.







### **PILLAR 2 - KNOWLEDGE**

- 1. Conduct the synthesis and knowledge dissemination of complex scientific findings to ensure the uptake of knowledge and science on coastal adaptation by decision-makers.
- 2. Host workshops for coastal local governments to gather and enhance data-sharing and policy-decision tools answering their specific needs and promote the best uses of scientific data services.
- 3. Support the development of an Al-powered, user-friendly platform capable of delivering query-based, relevant information to empower data-driven decision-making for coastal resilience
- 4. Support and emphasise the importance of Ocean Literacy to raise awareness among all stakeholders involved and the general public to ensure acceptance and informed engagement of societies.
- **5. Contribute to the advocacy efforts,** ensuring they are grounded in robust and credible scientific knowledge.







### PILLAR 3 - CAPACITY BUILDING

- 1. Enable coastal local governments to present their challenges, showcase innovative responses, and engage with experts for direct feedback. These workshops will provide access to:
  - Specialized expertise for port cities and regions, ensuring tailored solutions to their unique challenges.
  - Scientifically validated initiatives proposed by the private sector, offering innovative and practical approaches to enhance coastal resilience
- 2. Facilitate peer-to-peer exchange of practices and returns of experiences between local governments through both virtual exchanges and in-person visits:
  - Virtual exchange enabling local governments to share experiences and solutions;
  - In-person exchange visits where city officials and stakeholders can learn directly from peers who have successfully implemented innovative solutions to similar challenges.







### PILLAR 4 - FINANCE

- 1. Support the creation of national project funding calls dedicated to coastal local governments.
- Support and assist in the creation of a dedicated fund allowing national governments to finance local community adaptation through Official Development Assistance (ODA).
- 3. Lead an effort to institutionalise a dialogue bringing together States, local governments, and financial experts, including multilateral, bilateral, national, and subnational development banks, to establish common priorities and develop shared roadmaps for funding adaptation and resilience measures.
- 4. Conduct the review of funding mechanisms dedicated to financing adaptation and resilience efforts for coastal cities and regions; promote and showcase financial initiatives at forums and events, encouraging the replication of the most effective models.







### **PILLAR 5 - ADVOCACY**

#### **ADVOCACY OBJECTIVES**

The Coalition's advocacy objective is to elevate the unique challenges faced by coastal cities and regions in international discussions and ensure that the interests and needs of these coastal areas are fully considered in global decision-making processes. The primary advocacy priorities are as follows:

- Promoting a sustainable vision for the adaptation and resilience of coastal areas;
- Advocating for a better use of knowledge by local authorities; public engagement, citizen science, and ocean literacy;
- Enhancing public and private investment in adaptation and resilience initiatives.
- Improving local governance to address risks, vulnerabilities, and the implementation of appropriate responses.

To do so, the Coalition ensures that national governments integrate coastal resilience measures into their climate and biodiversity strategies, including Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), and National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), while ensuring effective alignment across these frameworks.





#### 1 UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Advocate for a better integration of coastal resilience across mechanisms and bodies, with key entry points as:

- National climate strategies namely NDCs and NAPs;
- The Global Goal on Adaptation and Loss & Damage;
- the Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue and the Just Transition Work Program, and the Nairobi Work Program Expert Group on Ocean;
- Non-state actors' campaign and initiatives, including Race to Resilience and Race to Zero, and their respective agenda the Sharm-el Sheikh Adaptation Agenda and 2030 Breakthroughs.

#### 2. Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

Ensure effective implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework targets relevant for coastal resilience (T1 on Spatial Planning, T8 on Climate Action, T11 on Nature-based Solutions and T12 Urban Planning), mobilising key levers:

- NBSAPs and national targets;
- Programme of work on marine and coastal biodiversity, currently under revision;
- Indicators under the Global Biodiversity Framework's monitoring framework.

#### 3. SDG Agenda

Generate significant political momentum and highlighting the importance of coastal cities et regions adaptation and resilience during the Ocean Rise & Coastal Resilience Summit, in parallel of the UNOC and in a dedicated segment for local and regional governments at the UN Water Conference.

## **4.** Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and Intergovernmental Panel on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)

Advocate for a comprehensive analysis of ocean changes impacts and local governments adaptation measures to be included in the IPCC's Special Report on Cities and Climate Change and IPBES reports



## CEAN RISE

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# THE ~ CHARTER

# OCEAN RISE

& COASTAL RESILIENCE
COALITION FOR CITIES & REGIONS



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# The Ocean Rise & Coastal Resilience Coalition: A Turning Point for Cities and Regions Facing Ocean Changes

There is an urgent need for a collective mobilisation and political leadership to support coastal cities and regions in accelerating adaptation and resilience to sea level rise and ocean changes. To that end, the third United Nations Ocean Conference will mark the launch of the Ocean Rise & Coastal Resilience Coalition for Cities and Regions fostering collaboration between coastal cities and regions, scientific institutions, financial players, and committed stakeholders.

Coastal cities and regions are at the climate-induced forefront of ocean changes, acting as both first responders and long-term planners. The impacts of rising sea levels, extreme climate events such as heavy rainfall, storms and cyclones, extreme sea levels, and of human activities pose significant threats, including land loss, chronic flooding, coastal erosion, subsidence, and the salinisation of freshwater reserves. These challenges endanger local identities and cultures, vital infrastructure, economic activities, natural ecosystems, and the well-being of communities, with the most vulnerable populations at risk irreversible loss and damage to their livelihoods. While adaptation efforts are underway, they would benefit from being more coordinated, transformative, just

and sustainable to rise to the challenge of climate change. By looking beyond past and present conditions, cities and regions can design strategies that truly prepare communities for future challenges.

Cities and regions are uniquely positioned to lead on adaptation strategies and initiatives. With their deep understanding of local needs and challenges, local governments are already driving ambitious adaptation strategies that communities and enhance protect resilience. By strengthening financial, human, and technical capacities, cities and regions could better move from planning to implementation, ensuring that adaptation efforts are transformative and proactive rather than reactive and fragmented.

Ultimately, the sustainability of adaptation strategy depends on the early, sustained, and inclusive involvement of local communities and stakeholders. By co-defining clear objectives with local populations, cities and regions maximise the social benefits of adaptation measures and planning, creating more inclusive and resilient futures, ensuring that communities most affected by climate change are actively involved in shaping solutions and a desirable future for the coast.



# The Call from the Ocean Rise & Coastal Resilience Coalition

The Ocean Rise & Coastal Resilience Coalition responds to an urgent call from Mayors, Governors, Presidents, Ministers, and all heads of local governments for practical action and lasting partnerships. Designed as a collective platform, the Coalition aims to secure resources, connect expertise, and amplify local leadership on the global stage.

Heads of local governments, therefore, urge the international community, along with national, regional, and local governments, financial institutions, and scientific organisations, to support the Coalition's core priorities:



#### **MOBILISATION**

Connecting coastal leaders and practitioners to share real-world and locally viable solutions and lessons learnt, promoting dynamic, hybrid and nature-based approaches to safeguard people, infrastructure, and ecosystems;



#### **KNOWLEDGE**

Mobilising scientific expertise, local and Indigenous knowledge to guide riskinformed adaptation and resilience planning;



#### **CAPACITY BUILDING**

Facilitating access to strategic partnerships and capacity-building opportunities to empower local players in driving community-led adaptation efforts.



#### **FINANCE**

Accelerating access to public funding and private finance to support locallyled, scalable and sustainable adaptation solutions and strategies;



#### **ADVOCACY**

Elevating the voice and needs of coastal cities and regions in global and national decision-making spaces.



# Joining the Ocean Rise & Coastal Resilience Coalition

The Coalition aims to enable coastal cities and regions to lead the way in building resilient and desirable coastal futures, with the backing and resources they need. By joining the Coalition, cities and regions will gain access to direct capacity-building, partnerships, and financing opportunities to accelerate site-specific adaptation.

#### **Joining the Ocean Rise & Coastal Resilience Coalition is:**

- A pledge to contribute to a global vision of sustainable and equitable coastal development, as the Coalition provides a platform to advocate for the needs of coastal cities and regions, ensuring their voices are heard in shaping international and local policies and initiatives.
- An act of voluntary commitment to adaptation, as the Coalition offers access to advanced resources, including cutting-edge scientific knowledge, indigenous and local knowledge, innovative data tools, and proven methodologies, empowering Members to develop and implement robust, locally relevant adaptation strategies and related sustainable transition plans.
- Becoming part of a forward-thinking and proactive community of leaders dedicated to safeguarding coastal territories, as the Coalition fosters meaningful collaborations among its Members, creating opportunities to connect with like-minded leaders, experts, and organizations worldwide.
- A strategic opportunity to unlock funding and technical support for local adaptation efforts, as the Coalition serves as a catalyst for securing investments and connecting Members with climate finance mechanisms, grants, and tailored funding opportunities to accelerate and scale impactful adaptation projects.

To support the implementation of adaptation strategies, the Coalition will bring together a diverse network of partners, including networks of local governments, scientific organisations, civil society organisations, financial institutions, and other key stakeholders providing essential resources and expertise to coastal cities and regions. Their contributions may take various forms, including funding, technical expertise, and advocacy for coastal resilience, ensuring that local adaptation efforts are effectively supported, implemented, and scaled.





As Title:	_of City/Region:,
I acknowledge the urgent need threats of climate change.	I to adapt our coastal communities to the growing
commit to work alongside fellow	se & Coastal Resilience Coalition and volountarily national and local governments, and key stakeholders build a sustainable and thriving future for our coastal
SIGNATURE	
Name:	
Title:	
Date:	



## **Endorsing** the Ocean Rise & Coastal Resilience Coalition

The Coalition's membership is open to coastal local governments and is formally established through the official endorsement of the Charter by the competent local governing body. Each Member shall designate two focal points: (1) one representative from the Heads of Local Governments' Office or the relevant department in charge of foreign relations, and (2) one technical representative with appropriate expertise (e.g., urban planning, land use management, coastal and environmental management, nature-based solutions, sustainable development).

Membership is **voluntary**, free of charge, and does not create any legal obligations or liabilities for the participating entities.

However, by endorsing the Coalition, Members are making the voluntary commitment to implement actions aligned with the Coalition's objectives to adapt and strengthen their resilience, falling under multiple categories:

#### Learning

Actively engage in training activities, workshops, and learning sessions to build capacity for addressing coastal climate challenges.

#### Sharing

Foster collaboration and accelerate the implementation of best practices by sharing critical data, strategies, and outcomes from local adaptation initiatives.

#### Regulating

Develop and enforce policies, guidelines, and regulations that promote sustainable coastal management and resilience-building measures.

#### Implementing

Participate in developing a resilience roadmap, initiating public awareness campaigns, leading advocacy efforts, or implementing tangible adaptation projects to protect communities.

#### Raising awareness

Promote ocean literacy and community engagement through public campaigns, educational programs, and stakeholder dialogues to enhance understanding of coastal resilience challenges and solutions.





FOCAL POINT 1
Name:
Function:
Email:
Phone number:
FOCAL POINT 2
FOCAL POINT 2 Name:
Name:



## **Sharing** your Challenges and Initiatives

In accordance with the commitments outlined in the Charter, Heads of local governments are invited to **share their experiences and insights** regarding the challenges identified in the Roadmap of the Coalition.

We encourage signatories of the Charter to indicate which of these challenges they are currently facing, provide relevant details on their impact, and highlight any ongoing projects or initiatives implemented to address them.

This exchange of challenges and best practices will help the Coalition Secretariat develop effective and sustainable activities for its Members.





#### An initiative of























