

Sea Scotland Conference  
The Studio, Glasgow, 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> June 2020



## CALL FOR SESSIONS

### What is 'Sea Scotland'?

Sea Scotland is a conference series started in 2016, which aims to bring together key actors and facilitate debate on critical issues facing the marine environment in Scotland to bring about progressive marine policy and management. It is co-ordinated by a Steering Group comprising Scottish Environment LINK and their Marine Group Members, Fauna and Flora International, Ocean Dialogues Ltd, SNH, and the Universities of Aberdeen and Edinburgh. Previous Sea Scotland conferences attracted a wide range of marine stakeholders, including marine planners, local authorities, national consultees, policy makers, academics and international experts, as well as coastal communities, sectoral interests and conservation bodies, providing a multi-interest forum for dialogue and knowledge-exchange. More information on previous Sea Scotland conferences can be found on our [website](#).

### Sea Scotland 2020: Ocean-Based Solutions for the Sustainable Development Goals

The Sea Scotland 2020 conference will be a two-day event on 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> June, in part celebrating World Ocean's Day on the 8<sup>th</sup>, and contributing to 2020, a dynamic year and start of a decade of ocean-focused themes and actions:

- Scotland's [Year of Coasts and Waters](#)
- UN [World Oceans Day](#), 8<sup>th</sup> June 2020
- UN's 2020 [Ocean Conference](#) in Lisbon, 5-9 June 2020
- 2020 UN [Climate Change Conference](#) - UNFCCC COP 26 (Glasgow, 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020)
- UN [Decade](#) of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021 – 2030)
- UN [Decade](#) of Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030)



The oceans play critical roles in addressing the SDGs, most acutely in the context of the Global Climate Emergency. Oceans underpin most of the 17 SDGs, which together are driving critical progress on: fisheries management, marine protected areas (MPAs), control of plastic pollution, and the need to consider ocean issues across broad policy areas including environmental, human rights, climate change and trade and investment. However, our oceans remain under threat. In 2019 the IPCC [1.5°C report](#), the UK Marine Strategy, the IPBES [Report](#) and the IPCC [SROCC report](#) all underline the need for immediate concerted action to address human impact on our seas. New global biodiversity targets will be developed under the Convention on Biological Diversity in 2020 which are also crucial to drive progress in this area.

Transformative change is needed in how we use and manage our ocean to ensure that ecosystems both thrive and support society, while achieving the SDGs and a sustainable future in the face of climate change. Focusing on the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) agenda, Sea Scotland 2020 will consider the role of the oceans in the delivery of the SDGs in Scotland. As one of the first countries to sign up to the SDGs in 2015, Scottish Government is working towards implementing the SDG targets across their activities, not least by integrating them with its [National Performance Framework](#), and synergistic collaborations with multi-sector stakeholders partners across the UK and globally.

The primary goals for Sea Scotland 2020 are:

- To explore and promote opportunities for ocean-based solutions to meet the SDGs including focus on synergies which contribute to multiple targets;

Sea Scotland Conference  
The Studio, Glasgow, 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> June 2020



## CALL FOR SESSIONS

- For Scotland's Year of Coasts and Waters 2020, promote the ecological, social and economic importance of Scotland's seas and its natural ecosystems.

Join us for this milestone Sea Scotland year and be part of making 2020 a decade of ocean recovery and resilience for Scotland's seas and beyond.

### Call for sessions

The Sea Scotland steering group would like to invite proposals for oral presentations and workshops at Sea Scotland 2020. Proposals are invited from any marine interests, including academic researchers, policy-makers, industry and third sector organisations, and particularly grassroots organisations and community groups working at a local level. The session content should be framed under or tied into the delivery of Scotland's contribution to the SDGs through a marine lens and should seek to address the question: how do we achieve transformative change together?

Sessions should showcase ocean-based solutions that contribute to delivering the SDGs, in theory or in practice, in a Scottish context (or context where learning from elsewhere can be applicable in Scotland). Processes or projects where partnership working has, or will, achieve successful outcomes, where local communities' and young people's participation has been enabled or promoted, are particularly welcomed. Potential presenters should demonstrate where their work:

- focuses on where synergies between SDGs are recognised and contribute to multiple targets;
- supports partnerships and encourages behavioural change that results in transformative change for Scotland's marine environment and coastal communities;
- gives everyone, especially young people, a voice in making decisions that affect their future environment.

### Oral presentations

There are several oral presentation slots available at Sea Scotland 2020. These take the form of a 15-minute talk followed by a panel discussion at the end of the talk session, as we have found the discussion is often more fruitful in contrast to individual Q&A. Proposals not accepted for an oral presentation may be offered a poster presentation.

### Workshops

The Sea Scotland steering group are keen to provide a platform for workshops that generate clear constructive thinking and tangible outcomes. Outcomes may include a report or paper, development of strategic thinking, new partnerships or collaborations or the benefits of knowledge sharing. Proposals are particularly welcome where a concept or project will have demonstrable benefits to Scottish marine policy development and Scotland's contribution to SDG targets. The workshop sessions are 1.5 hours and may be run twice to allow delegates to attend more than one workshop, and there will be access to WiFi and AV equipment. Proposers are encouraged to seek or provide project funding as sponsorship for their workshop, as a demonstration of commitment to further outcomes.

### Submitting your application

An [online form](#) is available via the conference website to submit session proposals

### Next steps

For an informal discussion regarding sessions please contact Esther Brooker ([esther@scotlink.org](mailto:esther@scotlink.org)). The deadline for submitting proposals for oral presentations and workshops is Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Marh

Sea Scotland Conference  
The Studio, Glasgow, 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> June 2020



2020. The Sea Scotland steering group will then review the proposals and confirm acceptance of the successful proposals by Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

Please note that Sea Scotland speakers and workshop leaders will be required to pay the conference registration fees, unless alternative arrangements are made with the conference steering group.