

# Presentation 2

## Investing in the Blue



**Richa Ellis**

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# Investing in the Blue



**Ms Richa Ellis**

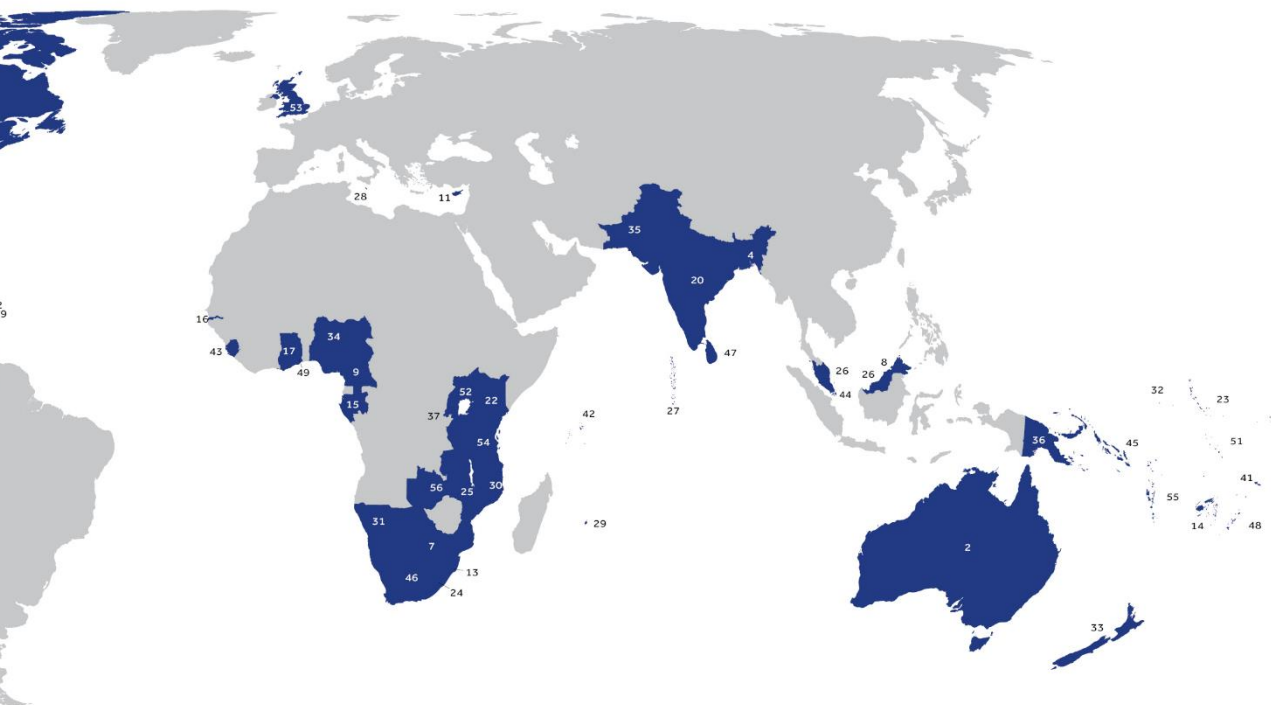
**Outreach & Project Manager - Commonwealth Blue Charter**

## The Commonwealth is made up of 56 countries around the world

The Commonwealth is a voluntary association of independent countries spread over every continent and ocean. Its over 2.5 billion people, who account for almost one third of the world's population, are in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and Americas, Europe and the Pacific. They are of many faiths, races, languages and cultures.

The Commonwealth promotes peace and international co-operation, democracy and good governance, respect for human rights and the rule of law, and the improvement of lives through economic and social development.

These values and aspirations are described in the Charter of the Commonwealth. The Charter expresses the commitment of member countries to the development of free and democratic societies and the promotion of peace and prosperity to improve the lives of all Commonwealth people. It also acknowledges the role of civil society in supporting the goals and values of the Commonwealth.



MEMBER COUNTRY	CAPITAL
1 ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA	St John's
2 AUSTRALIA	Canberra
3 THE BAHAMAS	Nassau
4 BANGLADESH	Dhaka
5 BARBADOS	Bridgetown
6 BELIZE	Belmopan
7 BOTSWANA	Gaborone
8 BRUNEI DARUSSALAM	Bandar Seri Begawan
9 CAMEROON	Yaoundé
10 CANADA	Ottawa
11 CYPRUS	Nicosia
12 DOMINICA	Roseau
13 ESWATINI	Mbabane
14 FIJI	Suva
15 GABON	Libreville
16 THE GAMBIA	Banjul
17 GHANA	Accra
18 GRENADA	St George's
19 GUYANA	Georgetown
20 INDIA	New Delhi

MEMBER COUNTRY	CAPITAL
21 JAMAICA	Kingston
22 KENYA	Nairobi
23 KIRIBATI	Tarawa
24 LESOTHO	Maseru
25 MALAWI	Lilongwe
26 MALAYSIA	Kuala Lumpur
27 MALDIVES	Malé
28 MALTA	Valletta
29 MAURITIUS	Port Louis
30 MOZAMBIQUE	Maputo
31 NAMIBIA	Windhoek
32 NAURU	Nauru
33 NEW ZEALAND	Wellington
34 NIGERIA	Abuja
35 PAKISTAN	Islamabad
36 PAPUA NEW GUINEA	Port Moresby
37 RWANDA	Kigali
38 ST KITTS AND NEVIS	Basseterre
39 SAINT LUCIA	Castries

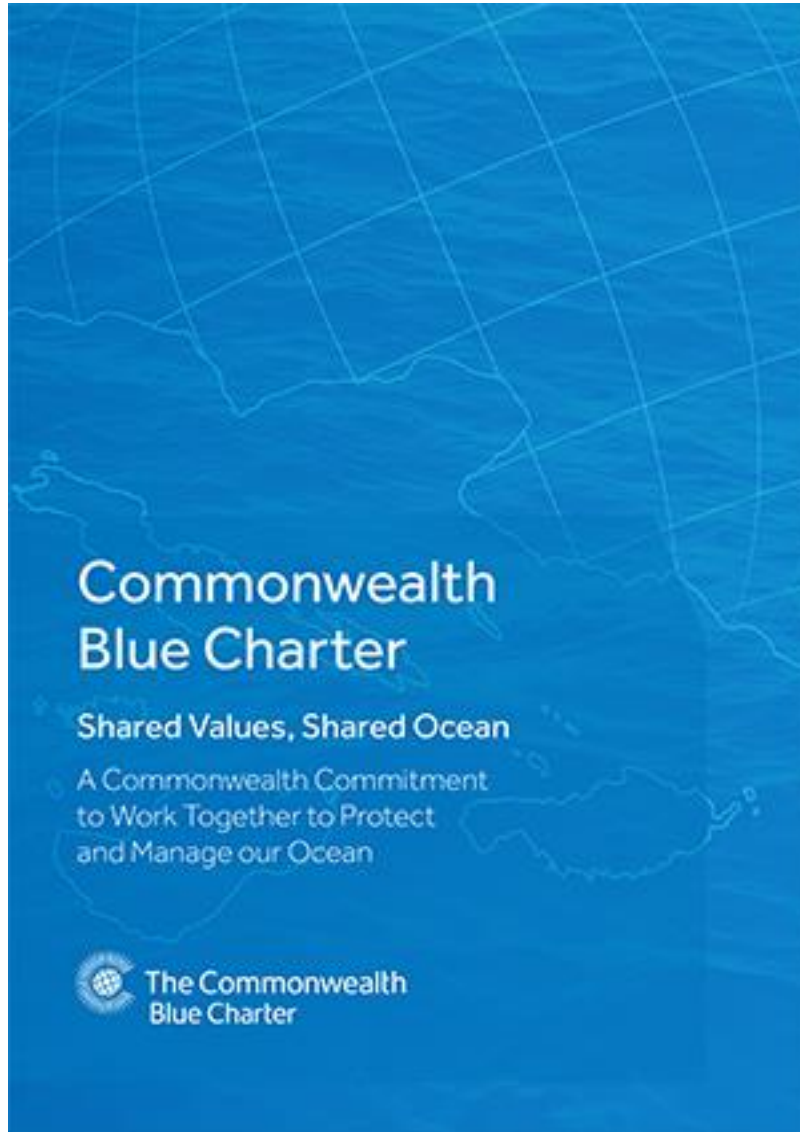
MEMBER COUNTRY	CAPITAL
40 ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES	Kingstown
41 SAMOA	Apia
42 SEYCHELLES	Victoria
43 SIERRA LEONE	Freetown
44 SINGAPORE	Singapore
45 SOLOMON ISLANDS	Honiara
46 SOUTH AFRICA	Pretoria
47 SRI LANKA	Colombo
48 TONGA	Nukunono
49 TOGO	Lomé
50 TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	Port of Spain
51 TUVALU	Funafuti
52 UGANDA	Kampala
53 UNITED KINGDOM	London
54 UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA	Dodoma
55 VANUATU	Port Vila
56 ZAMBIA	Lusaka

Map source: Commonwealth Secretariat/Maps-in-Minutes™  
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Information correct at time of printing, September 2022  
This is a free poster



# Background to Commonwealth Blue Charter



- **2018 CHOGM**, Commonwealth Heads adopted the Commonwealth Blue Charter
- **2022 CHOGM**, Heads reaffirmed their commitment to the ocean and the Commonwealth Blue Charter and agreed to develop a Commonwealth Ocean Declaration
- **2024 COMM**, 18-19 April, Ocean Ministers set the agenda leading in the CHOGM 2024
- **2024 CHOGM** 21-26 October, Heads to consider and adopt the Commonwealth Ocean Declaration.

# Blue Charter Champions and Action Groups



## Coral reef protection and restoration

Australia, Belize and Mauritius



## Mangrove ecosystems and livelihoods

Sri Lanka and Trinidad and Tobago



## Marine plastic pollution (CCOA)

United Kingdom and Vanuatu



## Ocean and climate change

Fiji



## Ocean acidification

New Zealand



## Marine protected areas

Barbados and Seychelles



## Ocean observations

Canada



## Sustainable aquaculture

Cyprus



## Sustainable blue economy

Antigua and Barbuda and Kenya



## Sustainable coastal fisheries

Kiribati and Maldives



The Commonwealth  
Blue Charter

# Pathway for Blue Finance Actions through the Blue Charter and partnership collaboration

- The Gambia is a member of the Clean Ocean Alliance (Marine Plastics) and Marine Protected Areas
- Action Groups have created a Plan of Action, highlighting their short, medium and long terms priorities and needs
- Creation of trainings and webinars for capacity building
- Development of key partnerships
- Development of online platform and tool kits
- Creation of Blue Finance Working Group



# Commonwealth Blue Charter Project Incubator

- GOAL: Assisting governments transition to ocean sustainability, through the development and support of equitable, climate-resilient pilot projects
- 47 applications with 29 passing initial screening
- 8 projects from 8 countries are being supported





# Funders Database

- Launched in 2021
- Aims to help member countries find funders for their ocean related projects.
- 115 online funder profiles compiled, providing visibility of opportunities worth over £126 billion.
- Searchable by thematic area, region and country



# The Funders Database

## Oceankind

Type of funder: **Philanthropic foundation**

Type of funding: **Grant, Impact investment, Other financial mechanisms, Technical assistance**

Geographic Area: **Global**

Eligible Recipient: **Government – local / sub-national, Government – national and agencies, International organisations, Local communities, NGOs/ CSOs, Private/ corporate sector, Universities / scientific intuitions**

## GEF - Adaptation Fund

Type of funder: **Grant programme or initiative of one org**

Type of funding: **Grant, Other financial mechanisms, Techn assistance**

Size of grant / investment: **500k-2m, 2m-4.99m, 5m-10m, 10m+**

Geographic Area: **LDCs**

Eligible Recipient: **Government – national and agencies**

## Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund (CEPF)

Type of funder: **Joint initiative or alliance**

Type of funding: **Grant**

Size of grant / investment: **10k-99k, 100k-499k**

Geographic Area: **Global**

Eligible Recipient: **Government – local / sub-national, Government – national and agencies, Local communities, NGOs/ CSOs, Other - see criteria field, Private/ corporate sector, Universities / scientific intuitions**

## Caribbean Development Bank

Type of funder: **Development bank**

Type of funding: **Grant, Loan, Return on Investment, Technical assistance**

Size of grant / investment: **500k-2m, 2m-4.99m, 5m-10m, 10m+**

Geographic Area: **Caribbean and C America**

Eligible Recipient: **Government – national and agencies, Private/ corporate sector**

## Waitt Foundation

Type of funder: **Philanthropic foundation**

Type of funding: **Grant, Technical assistance**

Size of grant / investment: **10k-99k, 100k-499k, 500k-2m**

Geographic Area: **Global**

Eligible Recipient: **Government – local / sub-national, Government – national and agencies, NGOs/ CSOs, Universities / scientific intuitions**

## The Ocean Foundation (TOF)

Type of funder: **Philanthropic foundation**

Type of funding: **Fiscal sponsorship, Grant, Technical assistance**

Size of grant / investment: **10k-50k**

Geographic Area: **Global**

Eligible Recipient: **Local communities, NGOs/ CSOs, Other - see criteria field, Private/ corporate sector, Universities / scientific intuitions**

## Green Climate Fund (GCF)

Type of funder: **Grant programme or initiative of one org**

Type of funding: **Grant, Loan, Other financial mechanisms, Return on Investment**

Size of grant / investment: **2m-4.99m, 5m-10m, 10m+**

Geographic Area: **E Africa, LDCs, MENA, SIDS, Sub-Saharan Africa, W Africa**

Eligible Recipient: **Government – local / sub-national, Government – national and agencies, International organisations, Other - see criteria field, Private/ corporate sector**

## Africa NDC (Nationally Determined Contributions) Hub

Type of funder: **Development bank**

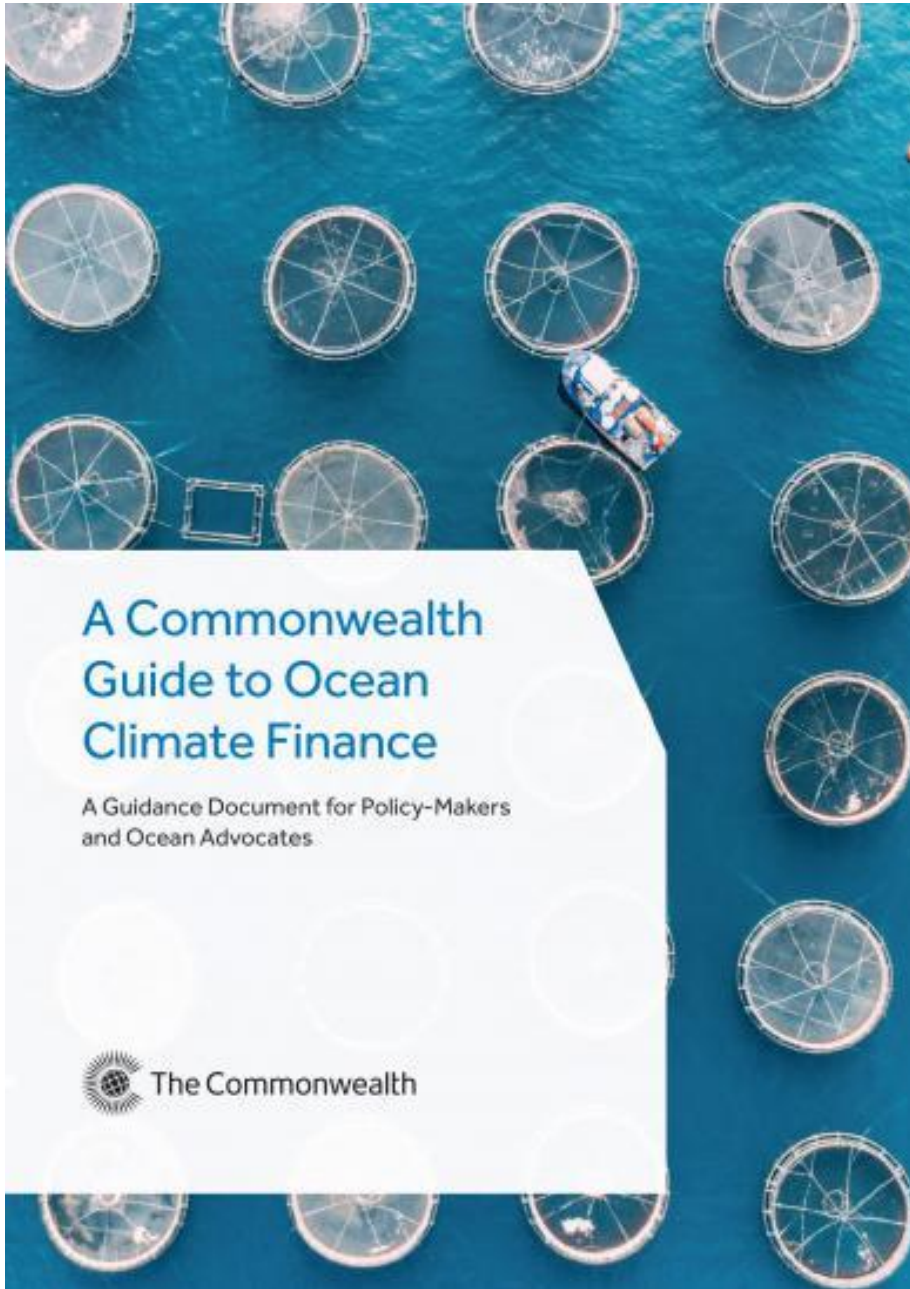
Type of funding: **Technical assistance**

Geographic Area: **E Africa, MENA, Sub-Saharan Africa, W Africa**

Eligible Recipient: **Government – local / sub-national, Government – national and agencies, Private/ corporate sector**

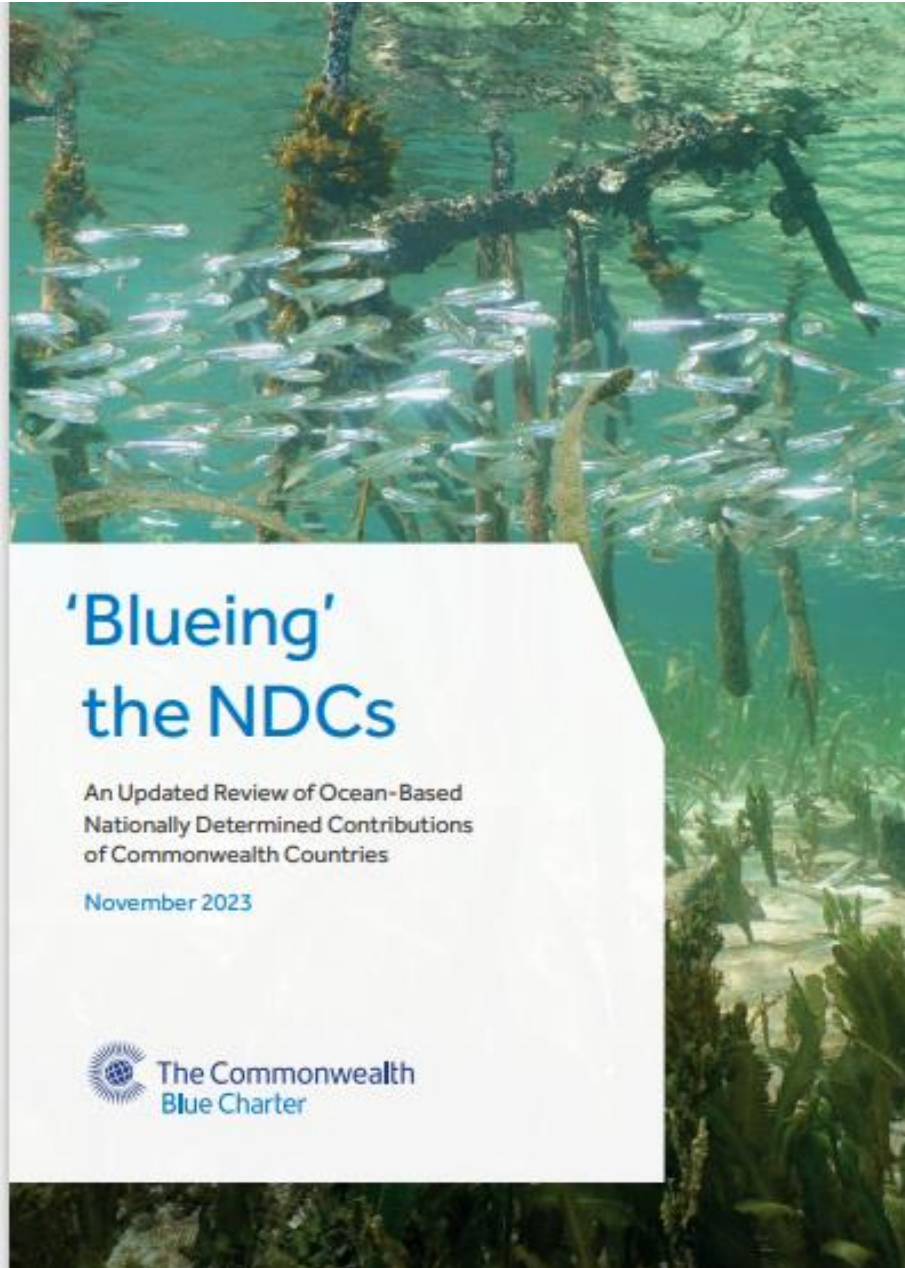
# Guide to Ocean Climate Finance

- Launched in 2022
- Practical guide for project design and development
- Includes case studies for securing finance
- Includes decision trees to identify the best funding match for your project, checklists for finance applications



# Blueing the NDCs

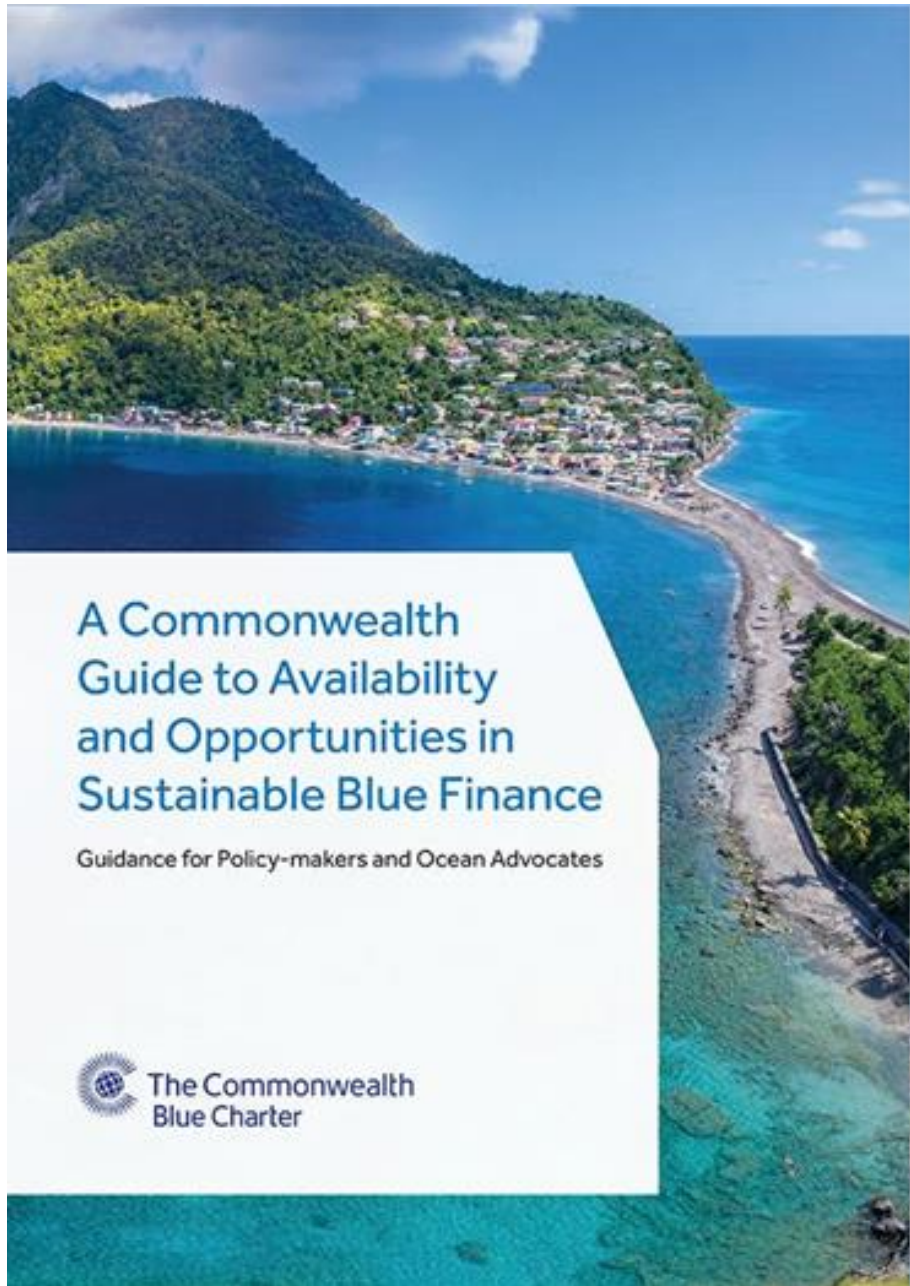
- Originally launched in 2022 and updated in 2023
- NDCs of all 49 coastal and island states in the Commonwealth included at least one target, policy or measure within the key themes critical to the ocean-climate nexus
- The report highlights potential for ocean-based NDC actions toward a sustainable blue economy
- Demonstrates that well-defined and bankable NDC ocean-based actions have a greater potential to access finance and leverage blue economy opportunities





# Guide to Sustainable Blue Finance

- Launched in 2024
- Aims to provide a snapshot of blue finance mechanisms
- Includes paths for future funding opportunities and the for investment
- Considers the practical and legal considerations for countries before venturing forward



# Commonwealth Blue Charter Blue Finance Working Group

- Launched at the inaugural Commonwealth Ocean Ministerial Meeting (COMM) in Cyprus in April 2024
- The following 14 Commonwealth countries have joined the Working Group including - Barbados, Canada, Fiji, Grenada, Kenya, Maldives, Malta, Namibia, Pakistan, Seychelle, Sri Lanka, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago and UK
- Working group is a collaboration with the Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRAA) and key implementation partners and Commonwealth members
- Established to provide a collaborative platform between the Commonwealth member countries, partner organisations and the Commonwealth Secretariat
- Aims to explore and develop key principles, enabling conditions, and financial vehicles to foster a sustainable and regenerative blue economy in Commonwealth countries
- The working group will be a cross-cutting initiative of the Commonwealth Blue Charter



# Shared Values, Shared Ocean = Shared Actions



Raising awareness of and scaling ocean action programmes reversing critical threats to ocean health and galvanising ocean resilience to the effects of climate change could create "triple wins"





# Thank you

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**[www.thecommonwealth.org/bluecharter](http://www.thecommonwealth.org/bluecharter)**

# OUR RESOURCES

- [Commonwealth Blue Charter | Commonwealth \(thecommonwealth.org\)](#)
- [Case Study: Innovative Financing - Debt for Conservation Swap, Seychelles' Conservation and Climate Adaptation Trust and the Blue Bonds Plan, Seychelles \(on-going\) | Commonwealth \(thecommonwealth.org\)](#)
- [New online resources will help bridge ocean finance and knowledge gaps | Commonwealth \(thecommonwealth.org\)](#)
- [Commonwealth guide to boost access to ocean climate finance | Commonwealth \(thecommonwealth.org\)](#)
- [The Commonwealth Blue Charter Project Incubator | Commonwealth](#)
- [Commonwealth Ocean Funders \(thecommonwealth.org\)](#)