

Briefing at UNCTAD TDC

UNCTAD influence - UN Ocean Conference & Beyond

DITC, UNCTAD

29 April 2025





Outcomes of 5th UN Ocean Forum: 1 - 15 recommendations by co-chairs Costa Rica and France

- Presented by H.E. Mr. Christian Guillermet Fernández, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations
- Recommendations span the 3 pillars of UNCTAD
 - Research and analysis
 - Technical cooperation
 - Consensus building
- Previous briefing in NY to member states by H.E. Jérôme Bonnafont, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations in New York (12 April 2025)



Outcomes of 5th UN Ocean Forum:

2a – Ocean trade databases and indicators



- Update of trade in **ocean goods and services databases**
- Launch of **new ocean trade data indicators:**
 - Revealed comparative advantage
 - Product concentration
 - Market concentration
 - Ocean exports/imports per capita
 - Growth rates

✓ Trade in ocean goods and services

Ocean goods trade: value and growth, individual economies, annual

  17 Feb. 2025

Ocean goods trade: trade and growth, estimated global and regional aggregates, annual

  17 Feb. 2025

Ocean goods trade: trade per capita, individual economies, annual

  17 Feb. 2025

Ocean goods trade: trade per capita, estimated global and regional aggregates, annual

  17 Feb. 2025

Ocean goods trade: Revealed comparative advantage index, individual economies, annual

  17 Feb. 2025

Ocean goods trade: Revealed comparative advantage index, estimated global and regional aggregates, annual

  17 Feb. 2025

Ocean goods trade: Theil index indices of exports and imports of products, individual economies, annual

  17 Feb. 2025

Ocean services trade: value, growth and per capita, annual

  17 Feb. 2025

Outcomes of 5th UN Ocean Forum:

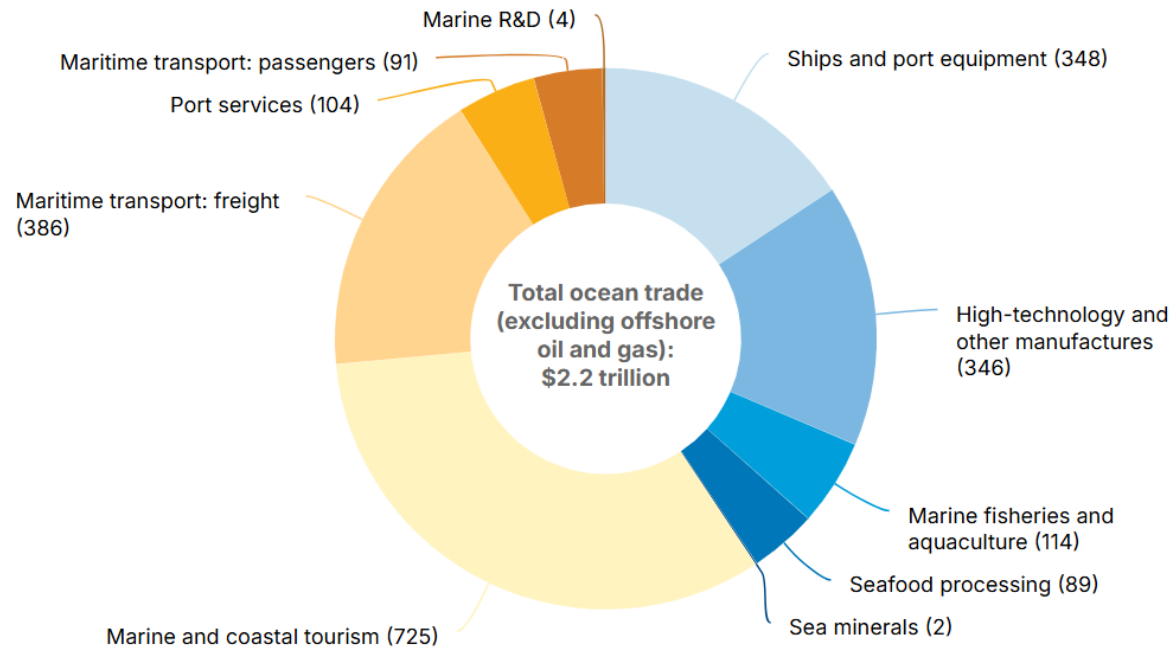
2b – Publication of Data Insights on Ocean Trade



Graphs and analysis on trade in ocean goods and services

Trade in ocean goods and services reached \$2.2 trillion in 2023

World ocean goods and services exports, billions of dollars, 2023

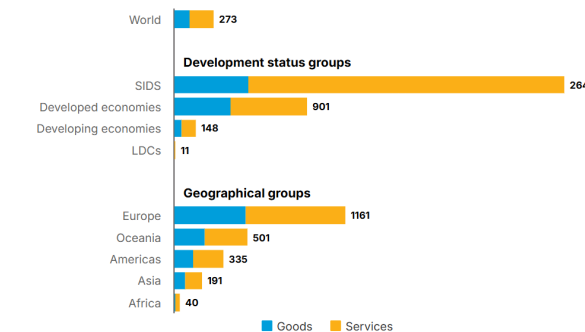


Source: UN Trade and Development, UNCTADstat.

Note: Marine R&D refers to marine research and development. See metadata for full description.

Small Island Developing States' ocean exports per capita are nearly 10 times higher than the global average

Ocean exports value, dollars per capita, 2023



SIDS' ocean exports per capita were \$2641 in 2023, nearly ten times the world average, pointing to the economic importance of this export sector.

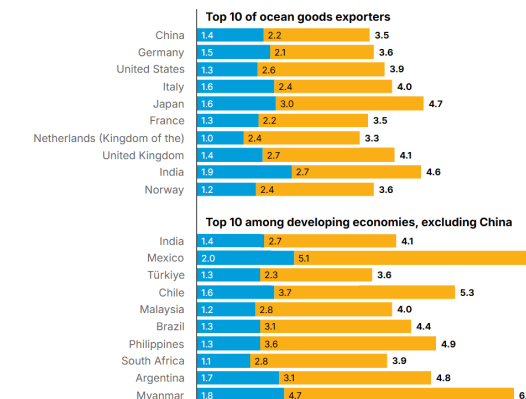
Read more about UNCTAD's work to help SIDS through the [Blue Biotrade in the Caribbean and Ocean Economy and Trade Strategies in Barbados, Belize and Costa Rica](#).

Source: UN Trade and Development, UNCTADstat.

See metadata.

Developing countries' ocean exports are often concentrated by product and market

Their product and market concentration indices, top 10 ocean goods exporters, 2023



Diversifying export sectors (reducing product concentration) helps economies grow while building resilience.

Exporting to more trading partners (reducing market concentration) can also enable economies to reduce shocks due to sudden changes in tariff and non-tariff barriers. For instance, [Mexico's exports of ocean goods are mostly sent to the United States, and Myanmar's exports to Thailand](#). By contrast, [Türkiye and South Africa have more diversified ocean goods exports and trading](#).

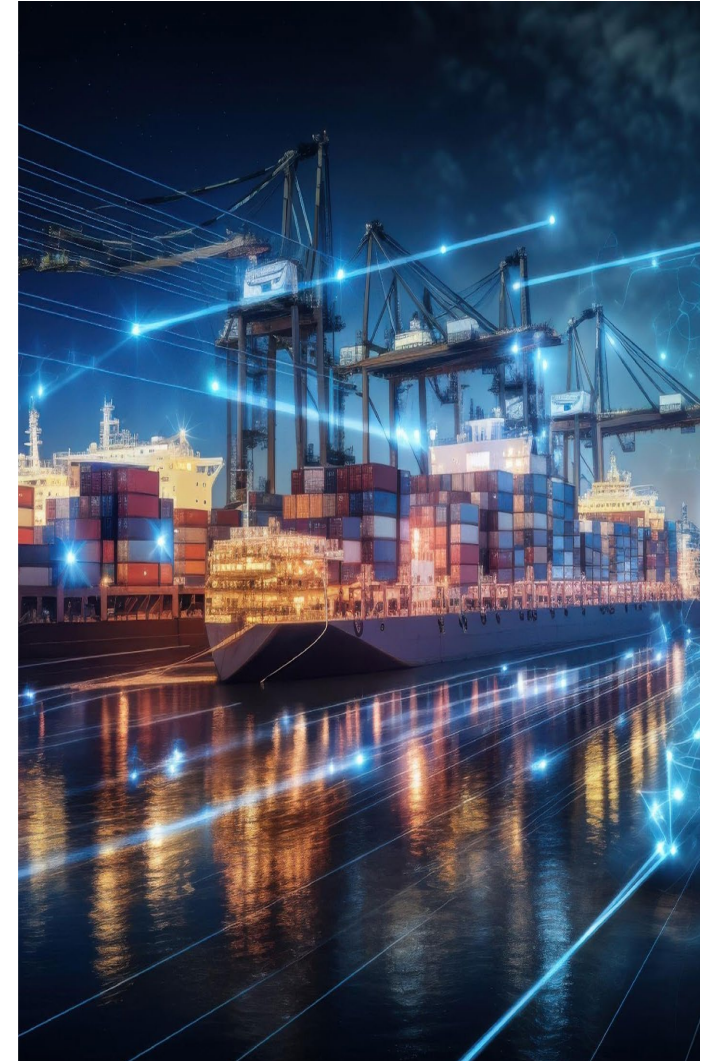


Outcomes of 5th UN Ocean Forum:

3 - UNCTAD - UNDESA voluntary commitment at UNOC-3



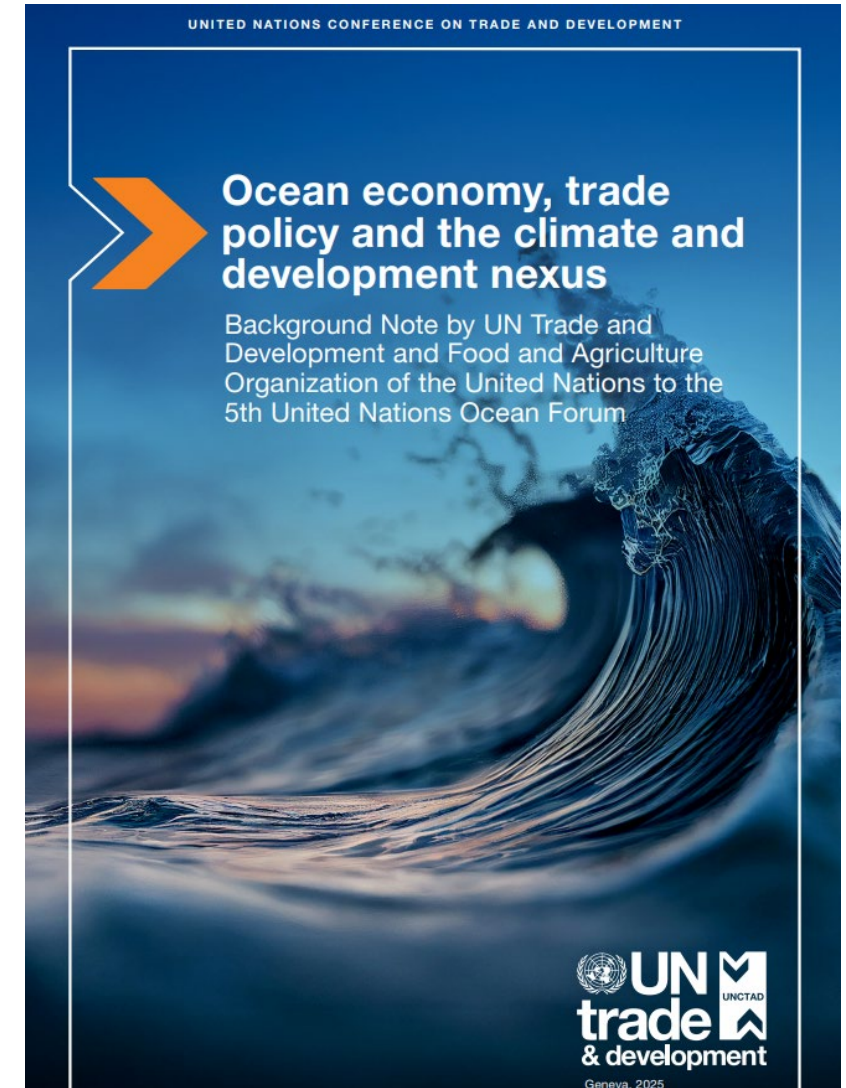
- **Title:** Evidence-based Climate Action through Artificial Intelligence and Data Innovation for Caribbean SIDS
- **Time frame:** 3 years
- **Objective:** enhance capacities of SIDS by delivering training in fundamental data science skills, along with providing technical assistance in:
 - Making effective use of Automatic Identification System (AIS) data (for tracking vessels) and related national data to measure emissions from maritime transport and fisheries;
 - Application of Artificial Intelligence for Environment & Sustainability (ARIES), which can be used for the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) for ecosystem valuation and beyond GDP accounting.
- **Beneficiaries:** Barbados, Belize, Trinidad and Tobago, and the Dominican Republic
- **Budget:** \$800,000



➤ Outcomes of 5th UN Ocean Forum: 4 - UNCTAD engagement in UNOC3: Blue zone



- **SG is invited speaker in Ocean Action Panel 6** on *“Advancing sustainable **ocean-based economies**, **sustainable maritime transport** and coastal community resilience leaving no one behind”*
- **Research from background note for 5th Ocean Forum** was included in UNOC-3 outputs, including [data and analysis](#) for preparation of the **UNOC3 background note**, as well as concept notes on **OAPs 3 (finance), 4 (marine pollution), 5 (Sustainable Fisheries), 6 (sustainable ocean economies), 9 (aquatic foods), 10 (international law under UNCLOS)**.
- **Co-leading a side event with UNDP** on *“Integrated solutions for Sustainable Ocean Economies”*. Partners include Norway, Costa Rica, Chile, AUC, FAO, UNEP, UNDOALOS.
- **Co-operating on 4 side events** with UN-Oceans (Ocean Governance), WTO (fisheries subsidies), Indonesia Global Compact Network (A UN Task Force on Seaweed) and ODI (Financial Gaps)



➤ Outcomes of 5th UN Ocean Forum: 5 - UNCTAD engagement in UNOC3: Green zone



- **UNCTAD, with the support of FAO and the Aquatic Blue Food Coalition, will be hosting a Pavilion** with the support of **France and Angola**, on the theme:

“Trade and Sustainable Aquatic Foods”

Activities at the Pavillion:

- Welcome booth
- Opening and Closing ceremonies
- Knowledge Sharing Segments/Expert discussions
- Speed Dating/Meet the Experts Segment
- Video and interactive exhibitions
- Informative/infographics banners
- Space for volunteer exhibitors (tbc)
- UNCTAD at UNOC3 dedicated web page





UNCTAD Pavilion – Tentative Programme

Tentative Programme: "Trade and sustainable aquatic foods" House at the Whale (07-12 June)							
	Saturday 7 June	Sunday 8 June (WDD)	Monday 9 June	Tuesday 10 June	Wednesday 11 June	Thursday 12 June	
10:00-10:30	Sustainable Ocean Economy Trends + UN 5th Ocean Recommendations (UNCTAD - 1hr, English)	VENUE CLOSED	Industry experts discussing benefits/use cases and challenges of widespread	Launch of UN Taskforce on Seaweed (UNCTAD, UN Global Compact, UNIDO - 1hr, English)	Plancton Manifesto (UN Global Compact, Tara, Vincent Doumezel - 1.5 hrs, English)	FAO FISH4ACP - Improving access to finance for small scale fisheries, investments in renewable energies for small scale fisheries, a global effort to develop sustainable fisheries and aquaculture value chains (FRAGE)	
10:30-11:00			Data and data science for low-carbon food from the ocean (UNCTAD - 1.5 hrs, English)	Trade, Innovation and Capacity Building: Engaging Early Career Ocean Professionals in a Sustainable Blue Economy (ICI, UN ECCP Programme (UNDOALOS and UNCTAD))			
11:00-11:30	Reducing ocean and environmental pollution through the use of a naturally occurring, renewable and marine biodegradable substitute called		Movie time	Movie time	ABFC (tbc)		
11:30-12:00							
12:00-12:30	Movie time		Movie time	Movie time	Movie time		
12:30-13:00							
13:00-13:30	Eating fish sustainably: an IQ Challenge (UNCTAD - 1hr, English)		FAO GLOBEFISH	Capacity Imperative for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (UNDOALOS - 1hr, English)		Movie time	
13:30-14:00				The role of UNFSA in supporting trade in sustainable seafood, including through RFMOs (UNDOALOS - 1hr, English and French)			The Seaweed Revolution (Vincent Doumezel - 1hr, French)
14:00-14:30	FAO Value Chain Team			Currents of Change: The Power of South-South Trade in Fisheries and Aquaculture (UNCTAD - 1hr, English)	Advancing Blue Industry for Sustianable Development: Strengthening Trade and Seafood Value Chains in the Blue Economy (UNIDO - 1.5hrs, English)	Sustainable and Resilient Ports for Food Security (UNCTAD - 1hr, English)	
14:30-15:00							FAO Common Oceans Programme (tbc)
15:00-15:30	Navigating Ocean Economic Data (UNCTAD - 1hr, French)	Opening ceremony by partners + special events to be discussed. Welcoming reception by Head of Organisations (tbc) ?		Other Confirmed			
15:30-16:00	Vision for tomorrow's aquaculture:				FAO Tbc		
16:00-16:30				Other Confirmed			
16:30-17:00					ABFC Proposed		
17:00-17:30	Charting a Resilient Course: The Paris Agreement, NDCs and the Ocean Economy (UNCTAD ABFC - 1.5 hrs, English)			Opening/Closing Celebration			
17:30-18:00					Move time		
18:00-18:30							
18:30-19:00							

Thank you

Oceans Economy and Fisheries |
UN Trade and Development
(UNCTAD)



UNCTADstat Data Centre

