



The Commonwealth  
Blue Charter

**PML**

Plymouth Marine  
Laboratory



## Opportunities, tools & challenges towards an inclusive & equitable approach for local & regional adaptation to a rapidly changing ocean

**COP28, December 1, 11:15-12:30 GST, Commonwealth Pavilion,  
Zone B2, Building 21, Blue Zone**

### ABOUT

There is an urgent need for tools in support of adapting to climate change impacts of a rapidly changing ocean. At the same time, some technical solutions and innovations being proposed are not appropriate for Developing and Least Developed Countries (many of whom are Commonwealth Partners) as they require large financial resources and/or significant infrastructure investment.

It is therefore imperative to prioritise the development and mobilisation of appropriate tools that can be rolled out quickly and efficiently at a global scale in a way that promotes equitability and inclusivity and without causing unintended environmental consequences.

An expert panel including high-level government representatives, the Commonwealth Secretariat, research and conservation as well as finance and investment sectors, will identify the requirements, opportunities and possible barriers for implementing equitable and accessible ocean adaptation solutions, specifically for countries with minimal financial resource and high levels of marine biodiversity.

**Moderator: Matt Frost**, Chair of the UK Marine Climate Change Impacts Partnership & Overseas Working Group; Head of the International Office, Plymouth Marine Laboratory

#### High Level Special Address:

**Minister Christine Scipio**, Environment, Natural Resources & Planning, St Helena

#### Panellists:

- **Nick Hardman-Mountford**, Head of Oceans and Natural Resources, the Commonwealth Secretariat
- **Steve Widdicombe**, Director of Science & Deputy Chief Executive, Plymouth Marine Laboratory
- **Minna Epps**, Head Marine and Polar, IUCN
- **Kevin Horsburgh**, Climate Science Lead, Green Climate Fund

**Followed by a Q&A with the audience**