



# Youth4Climate- Call for Solutions 2026



## Deep Dive-Webinar 2

# Oceans and Blue Economy

By

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# Why Healthy Oceans and Blue Economy matter?

## • Oceans:

- absorb 30% of CO<sub>2</sub>
- source of 50% of world's oxygen
- capture 90% of excess heat

## • Blue economy:

- economic growth
- food security
- job creation
- climate regulation
- human health



# What is Blue Economy and what is not?

- **Ocean economy** refers to economic activities that directly or indirectly take place in the sea, use outputs from the sea, and put goods and services into the marine activities regardless of whether they are sustainable or not.
- **Blue economy** is defined as sustainable marine and freshwater economic growth that maintains integrity of coastal, marine and freshwater ecosystems and ensures equitable and fair distribution of economic benefits.



# Value of Blue Economy

Contribution to the Global GDP



**3.5 - 7 %**

Growth by 2030

**US\$ 3 trillion**



Job creation



**> 31 million jobs**

Every \$ spent produces

**> 5X**



# UNDP Approach to Oceans and Blue Economy

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- Large Marine Ecosystems
- Continental/regional
- National/community
- Area-based management
- Waste Management
- Reduce carbon footprint
- Regional and global conventions
- Integration



# Blue economy is more than SADG 14



# Why youth?



- Approximately 50% of the global population is under 30 with 90% of them living in developing countries.
- Youth are drivers of innovation and technology that can help:

Ensure intergenerational equity in ocean management

Ensure intergenerational equity in ocean management

Reduce marine biodiversity loss

Ensure intergenerational equity in ocean management

Build resilient coastal communities

Accelerate renewable energy production

Reduce illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing

Develop aquaculture

Increase access to market

Increase value addition

Raise awareness

Support inclusivity and equity

Develop marine technology

# Guiding questions to support action on oceans and blue economy

How can blue entrepreneurship be promoted?

What are the tools that can accelerate action to enhance resilience of coastal and marginalized communities to climate-induced disasters such as sea-level rise, coastal erosion, cyclones, and ecosystem degradation?

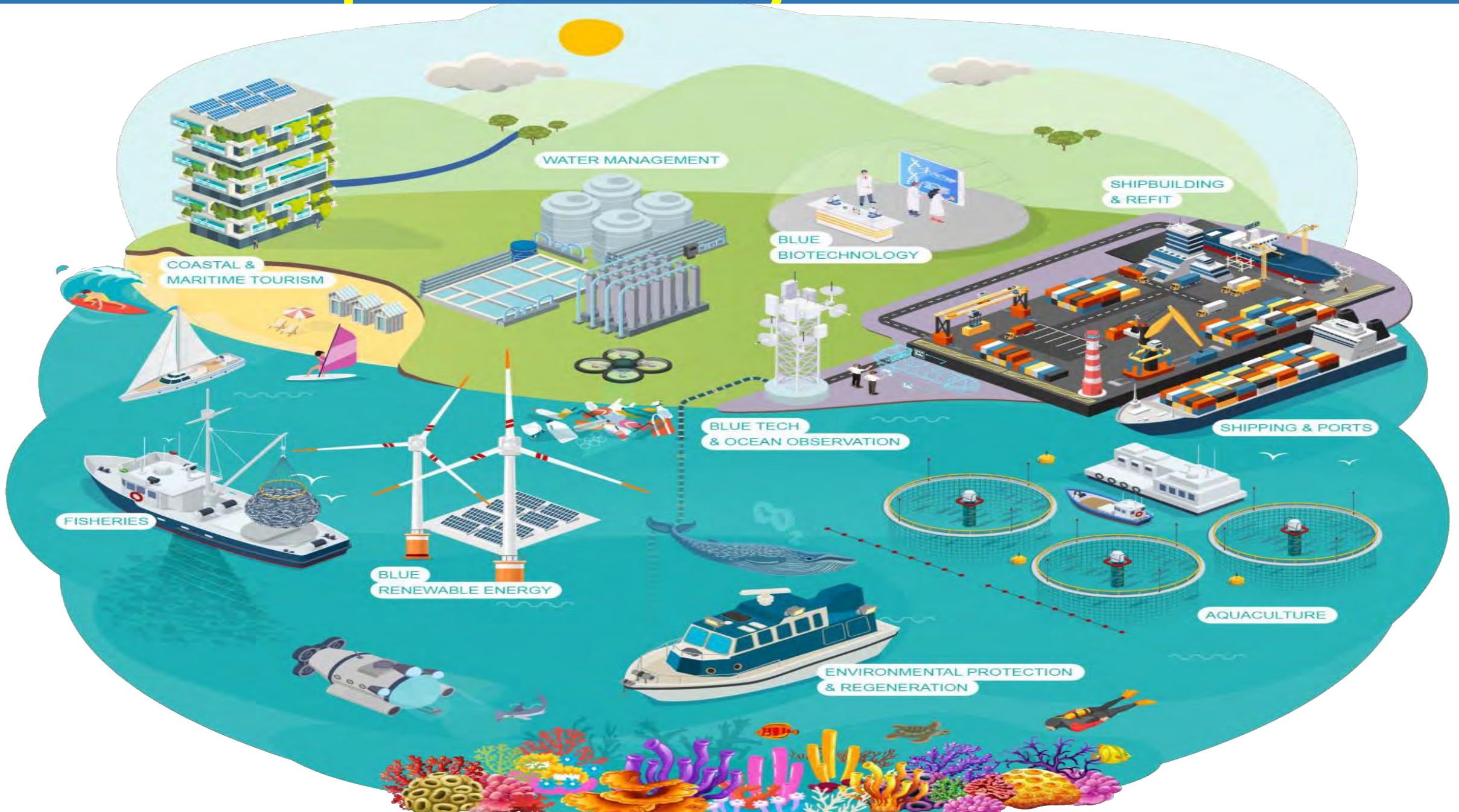
What can be done to reduce marine pollution, biodiversity loss and illegal fishing?

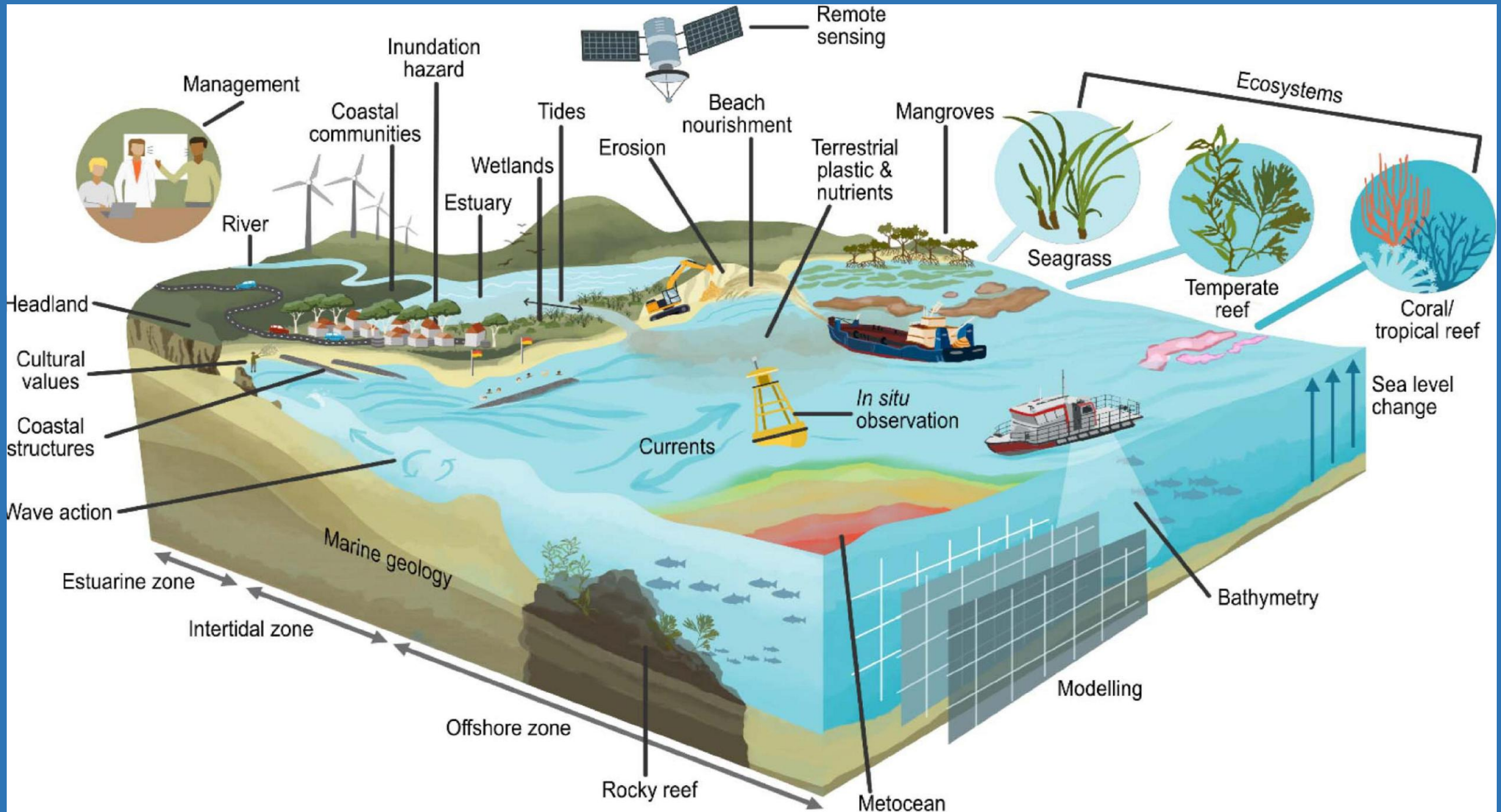
What are innovative tools to achieve marine and coastal climate-smart infrastructure?

What are the digital tools that can enhance early warning systems in coastal countries and SIDs?

Do resilience strategies, such as urban resilience, sustainable blue economy, integrated marine and coastal planning, climate governance, Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and other national and regional sustainable development frameworks provide youth engagement? If yes, how?

# Example blue economy sectors to look at





# Knowledge management and good practices

- UNDP has documents and tools that can be useful:
  - Ocean Promise:  
<https://www.undp.org/ocean>
  - SIDS Offer:  
<https://www.undp.org/publications/rising-sids-undps-strategy-support-sids-next-decade>
  - Global Fund for Coral Reefs:  
<https://globalfundcoralreefs.org/>
  - Ocean Innovation Challenge:  
<https://dev.oceaninnovationchallenge.org/>



Thank you!

