

[The UN World Ocean Conference](#) was held in Lisbon, Portugal in late June/early July, 2022. Members of the Ocean Exchange ecosystem were on the ground at the conference, and return with the following take-aways.



Ted Janulis
Founder, Investable Oceans

The UN Ocean Conference in Lisbon was a vast gathering with so many people, so many events, so many topics - necessarily so, given the broad and intense challenges our oceans face. Was there progress? Of course – in the form of new commitments, partnerships and initiatives. Was it enough? Hard to say, given the enormity and complexity of the issues.

But are there reasons for hope and renewed resolve? Absolutely.

One element worth noting: the increased visibility of blue finance. Ranging from public/private structures to blue bonds, from multilateral and governmental programs to entrepreneurship and investing - developing innovative ways to finance our ocean stewardship objectives was integral to so many discussions. That is a hopeful sign, since activity breeds activity, and momentum breeds momentum. And although blue finance is only one piece of a much larger puzzle, it seems likely to continue to increase in importance as we work together to create a sustainable and just ocean economy.

**Justin Manley
Technologist**

During the UN Ocean Conference in Lisbon the UN Ocean Decade Working Group on Technology and Innovation (TIWG) was announced. Speaking on behalf of the working group co-chair Justin Manley said:

"Good afternoon, I am pleased to join you on behalf of the Informal Working Group on Innovation and Technology. And, I am pleased to announce that we exist

Of course it might help to understand a bit more about this effort. We are a diverse global team of technologists, engineers and entrepreneurs. We are eager to inform and advise the ocean decade and wider global ocean community.

We recognize, and emphasize, that advances in technology and new innovations arise much faster than scientific research and policy development. Ensuring an effective interface across these domains is critical to successful ocean solutions.

Over the course of the decade, technology and new innovations will inform scientific understanding, that understanding will shape public and private sector solutions for the ocean we want and need. Technology will then also help deliver those solutions and create that ocean.

We aim to imagine the future of our ocean planet, envision the path to that future, and then enable it through equitable, sustainable, and impact driven solutions. Our efforts will be collegial and continuously evolving. We look forward to working with all of you."

The TIWG welcomes input from the entire ocean community as it launches its efforts.



Ann Carpenter
Co-Founder & CEO, Braid Theory

Through hundreds of events and activities packed in one week, it was incredible to see the true cross-industry, cross-disciplinary community that came together under the UN Ocean Conference umbrella.

The entrepreneur-investor-accelerator-philanthropist ecosystem convened by 1000 Ocean Startups was dynamic and highly focused on accelerating innovation through the power of the group. The launch of the Ocean Impact Navigator tool now gives us a tool to better measure and share impact of efforts to bring solutions to implementation.

Due to Braid Theory's work related to the decarbonization of goods movement, I spent considerable time learning of similarly minded efforts around port-related activities in Europe.

How we all continue forward to action post-conference will ultimately determine the success of this convening.

