



# Expression of Interest - Catalyze designation of new marine protected areas

The Blue Nature Alliance is a global initiative designed to accelerate the pace and scale of ocean conservation through partnership. We partner with non-government organizations, governments, Indigenous and community led organizations, the private sector, and other partners who are working towards the creation and management of large-scale ocean conservation areas around the world. Our goal is to catalyze the effective conservation of five percent of the global ocean by 2027 in order to help build resilience, promote human well-being, enhance ecosystem connectivity and function, and safeguard biodiversity.

Through a holistic approach that addresses biodiversity protection, human well-being, governance and long-term financing, the Alliance seeks expressions of interest to partner with us in securing the creation of new marine protected areas of at least 100,000 square kilometers in size or protect at least 30% of a country's EEZ anywhere in the world by 2027.

Expressions of interest will be considered for potential financial and/or technical support on a rolling basis through December 2024 and then on a 6-month cycle from January 2025-June 2026. The Blue Nature Alliance team will conduct independent due diligence on selected submissions and may invite a full proposal for grant funding. **Please email your completed form to [contact@bluenaturealliance.org](mailto:contact@bluenaturealliance.org).**

\* Required

## Section 1: Contact Information

1

Organization name \*

2

Organization type \*

- Indigenous or local community led organization
- NGO/not for profit organization
- Government entity
- Parastatal agency
- State-owned university
- Private university
- For profit/commercial enterprise
- Other

3

Contact name \*

4

Contact email address \*

## Section 2: Proposed MPA Overview

5

Country (or region) \*

6

Name of proposed MPA or MPA network (may be an unofficial name) \*

7

Potential size of MPA (in square kilometers, may be approximate) \*

8

Anticipated or targeted date for legal designation of the MPA \*



9

Key partners: Please describe any government agencies or additional conservation organizations or partners that are currently working to designate this MPA? (500 character limit)

## Section 3: Description of Opportunity

The Blue Nature Alliance will only achieve our goals at the pace and scale needed, if we collaborate, embrace, and align with others to ensure efforts are locally led and are designed to weather future political and economic uncertainties. We are seeking partnerships with governments, communities, researchers, NGOs, and the private sector to support your vision and catalyze ambition to protect our oceans.

We have six primary principles upon which we will make investment decisions:

### SELECTION CRITERIA

<b>SIGNIFICANT</b>	To people and nature; locally, regionally, and globally.
<b>CATALYTIC</b>	Project will generate new model, scale, or momentum for durable conservation.
<b>POLITICAL WILL</b>	National or community leaders have requested Alliance assistance to achieve their ocean conservation vision.
<b>LOCAL ENGAGEMENT</b>	Presence of local champions to drive community support.
<b>ACHIEVABLE</b>	Clear outcomes with a high likelihood of success.
<b>LEVERAGE</b>	Co-investment, match, and public funding opportunities.



10

Summarize the proposed project and goal, and describe how it aligns with these criteria (2,000 character limit) \*

## Section 4: Partnership Request

Describe the proposed key lines of work (up to 3), estimated funding needed for each line of work (may be approximate), and additional technical support requested to achieve gazettelement by target designation date.

11

Please indicate whether you would like Alliance support to develop a strategy for securing designation. If you have developed a strategy, please summarize the key lines of work and funding need in the following questions. \*

Yes, we would like Alliance support to design strategy

No, we have developed a strategy already

12

Key line of work 1 (1000 character limit)

13

Key line of work 1 funding need (in USD unless otherwise specified)

14

Key line of work 2 (1000 character limit)

15

Key line of work 2 funding need (in USD unless otherwise specified)

16

Key line of work 3 (1000 character limit)

17

Key line of work 3 funding need (in USD unless otherwise specified)

18

Additional support requested: Please indicate if your organization or project will require resources in any of the below areas to achieve successful MPA designation.

- Economic analyses
- Advocacy & coalition building strategy
- Science
- MPA management capacity development
- Sustainable finance design
- Surveillance technology
- Management planning
- Financial or operational management
- Other

19

Risks: Describe any major risks you have identified for this work and how your organization plans to mitigate them. Examples include political unrest, upcoming contentious elections, need for community buy-in to conduct project, potential to restrict access to a natural resource on which an Indigenous or local community is highly dependent. (Please note that risks do not disqualify a site and an honest assessment of risk is helpful to understand how best to develop a mitigation strategy) (1,500 character limit) \*