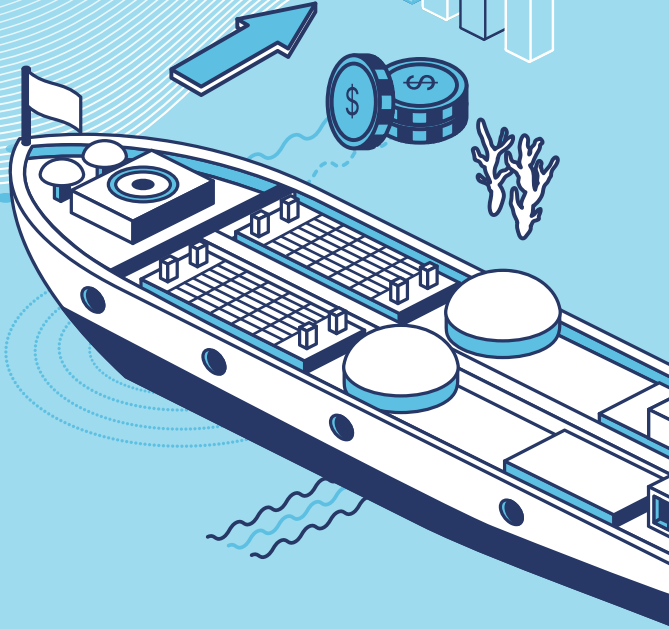
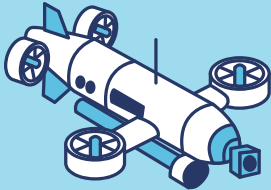


Towards UNOC4(2028)

Conference on SDG14 Delivery

Closing the Finance and Implementation Gaps



May 6 - 7, 2026
Paradise Hotel Busan



Background

As the host of **UNOC4 in 2028**, the Republic of Korea sees UNOC4 as a defining moment to:

- consolidate lessons from the SDG14 review process and accelerate **real progress through 2030**, and

- help shape a forward-looking framework for ocean action **beyond 2030**.

To widen international consensus and energize practical collaboration toward these goals, Korea proposes convening a focused conference **two years ahead of UNOC4** as an “anchor” milestone.

Building on international assessments and discussions up to **UNOC3**, we propose to explore **Pathways to UNOC4** with particular attention to two urgent, cross-cutting challenges:

- **Underfunding** (the persistent finance gap), and
- **Fragmentation** (policy, governance, and delivery fragmentation that weakens implementation).

We strongly urge the international community to recognize the necessity of comprehensive, cross-sectoral ocean policy governance as a crucial step towards achieving our shared objectives.

Leveraging the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries’ three decades of experience in integrated maritime administration, we are committed to actively contributing to the development of a concrete and actionable roadmap.

Objectives

To provide a **focused, solutions-oriented forum** to close SDG14 delivery gaps by:

- Advancing a more coherent **ocean finance frame** that can mobilize and align capital, and
- Strengthening **implementation capability**, including integrated approaches that translate finance into measurable outcomes.

Korea will share relevant lessons from **30 years of integrated ocean governance** under the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries, alongside peer country experiences and international organizations practice(including insights from the World Bank Group and UN's operational and financial experience, notably through PROBLUE and the One Ocean Finance Facility).

Whole-of-Conference Framing

Poor governance and lack of knowledge create uncertainty and deter private investment in ocean sectors.

- When policies are poor, public resources are used inefficiently, and a lack of stakeholder engagement leads to unsustainable growth and costly cross-sector conflicts.
- “Underfunding” is often a symptom of “Fragmentation.”

· We therefore propose to advance a set of actions that link a de-risking finance architecture with real-economy operating and delivery systems, so that capital can flow into ocean sectors at scale and translate into measurable outcomes.

<Overall Program>

DAY 1 (May 6)

Time	Session
09:30~09:50	Opening Remarks - Minister of Oceans and Fisheries(ROK) - UN Special Envoy for the Ocean
09:50~10:10	Keynote “From Foundations to Finance: Towards a Thriving Ocean Economy” - Vice President of the World Bank
10:10~10:30	Break(photo session)
10:30~12:00	Panel Discussion I Interactive Dialogue : Closing the Finance Gap - UN (One Ocean Finance Facility) lead
12:00~13:00	Lunch
13:00~16:50	Panel Discussion II Industry & Finance Session : Why Governance Enables Sustainable Finance in the Real Economy - 3 Mini-Modules · Module 1: Shipping, Shipbuilding and Ports · Module 2: Fisheries, Seafood Value Chains and Sustainable Aquaculture · Module 3: Marine Technology, Seabed Infrastructure and Seabed Activities
16:50~17:00	Break
17:00~18:30	Panel Discussion III Integrated Ocean Governance to Overcome Underfunding & Fragmentation
18:30~	Official Dinner & Networking

DAY2 (May 7)

Time	Session
09:00~09:10	Recap of Day1 “What We Heard” Finance and Governance are Not Two Separate Topics—They are One System.
09:10~10:40	Synthesis Plenary Consolidates Common Constraints & Enabling Conditions Summarize from the Panel's Findings Into a Concrete Takeaway - World Bank Group lead
10:40~11:00	Break(preparation the next session)
11:00~12:00	Drafting “Busan Roadmap” Plenary Working Session - KMI lead
12:00~12:20	Closing Remarks - UN Special Envoy for the Ocean - Deputy Minister of Oceans and Fisheries(ROK)
12:20~13:20	Lunch

Time	Session
09:30~09:50	Opening Remarks - Jongwoo Hwang, Minister of Oceans and Fisheries(ROK) - Peter Thomson, UN Special Envoy for the Ocean
09:50~10:10	Keynote "From Foundations to Finance: Towards a Thriving Ocean Economy" - Guangzhe Chen, Vice President for Planet, The World Bank Group
10:10~10:30	Break(photo session)
10:30~12:00	<p>Panel Discussion I Interactive Dialogue: Closing the Finance Gap</p> <p>Bringing together leaders from government, finance, and industry, the session will focus on unlocking investment at scale by addressing the core constraints to bankability and system coherence.</p> <p>(1) Framing and Objectives (15 mins) - Pierre Bardoux, Director of the Global Fund for Coral Reefs(UNCDF) · Highlight the need to move from fragmented initiatives to integrated delivery systems · Introduce the concept of One Ocean Finance, a global ocean finance delivery and capacity-building platform as a core enabler</p> <p>(2) Structured Breakout Discussions (45 mins) - The discussion will be conducted table-by-table, enabling a focused and dynamic exchange across the room. · Participants will have received the three sets of guiding questions in advance (Strengthening, Structuring, Demonstrating) · Following the presentation, the moderator will move sequentially across tables, inviting concise interventions · Each table will be encouraged to provide practical, solution-oriented inputs, drawing on real experience</p> <p>(3) Readout & Synthesis (15 mins)</p>
12:00~13:00	Lunch
13:00~16:00	<p>Panel Discussion II</p> <p>Module 1: Shipping, Shipbuilding and Ports Moderation and Keynote by: Erik Giercksky, Head of the Action Platform for Ocean, UN Global Compact</p> <p>13:00 ~ 14:10 (1) Panel : Maritime Transport – challenges, investment needs, and opportunities (30 mins) - HD Hyundai , Busan Port Authority - Maersk , Korea Ocean Business Corporation</p> <p>(2) Open Floor : Marine Transport – participant input (20 mins) (3) Transition synthesis (5 mins)</p>
14:10~14:20	Break

* Provision of Simultaneous Korean-English Interpretation



Panel Discussion I

The discussion will be anchored around three strategic questions:

- **Demonstrating:** What must be delivered by UNOC-4 to credibly demonstrate that ocean finance is moving from concept to scale?
- **Structuring:** How do we build a pipeline of bankable, blended-finance opportunities, particularly in developing country contexts, that can be deployed in the near term?
- **Strengthening:** What practical mechanisms are needed to support coherence, implementation, including capacity, partnerships, and platforms that connect governments with finance and industry?

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Panel Discussion II - Module 1

Purpose

Identify the most binding constraints and priority investments needed to sustain trade continuity, strengthen port resilience, and accelerate credible decarbonisation and sustainability pathways.

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Time	Session
	<p>Module 2: Fisheries, Seafood Value Chains and Sustainable Aquaculture Moderation and Keynote by: Jonathan Werner, Head of the Fish Fund, World Trade Organization</p>
14:10 ~ 15:10	<p>(4) Panel : Fisheries, Seafood Value Chains and Sustainable Aquaculture – challenges, investment needs, opportunities (30 mins) - Korea Fisheries Resources Agency, Kia Motors - Korea Overseas Fisheries Association - GijanMulsan, Agavita</p> <p>(5) Open Floor 3: Fisheries, Seafood Value Chains and Sustainable Aquaculture – participant input (20 mins)</p> <p>(6) Transition synthesis (10 mins)</p>
15:10~15:20	Break
	<p>Module 3: Marine Technology, Seabed Infrastructure and Seabed Activities Moderated by: Charles Cooper, Senior Advisor, UNDP</p>
15:20 ~ 16:20	<p>(7) Panel 2: Marine Technology, Subsea Cables and Digital Ocean Infrastructure – challenges, investment needs, opportunities (30 mins) - Korea Ocean Science Engineering Corporation(KOCECO) - SK Broadband, Marinachain, Orsted</p> <p>(8) Open Floor : Marine Technology, Subsea Cables and Digital Ocean Infrastructure – participant input (20 mins)</p> <p>(9) Closing synthesis and next steps (10 mins) - Moderator wrap-up:</p>
16:20~16:30	Break
	<p>Panel Discussion III Integrated Ocean Governance to Overcome Underfunding & Fragmentation Moderated by: Jeong-Ho Seo Deputy Minister, MOF</p>
16:30 ~ 18:00	<p>(1) Panel: Showcase of the integrated ocean governance (60 mins) - Korea, Indonesia, Somalia, Denmark, Norway</p> <p>(2) Open Floor: participant input (20 mins)</p> <p>(3) Closing synthesis and next steps (10 mins)</p>
18:00~	Networking Dinner

* Provision of Simultaneous Korean-English Interpretation



Panel Discussion II - Module 2

Purpose

Examine the investment needs and enabling conditions required to sustain ocean-dependent food systems, strengthen seafood value chains, and accelerate sustainable production pathways that support ocean health and long-term economic viability.

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Panel Discussion II - Module 3

Purpose

Examine how enabling digital and seabed-linked infrastructure underpins ocean-dependent industry performance, resilience, and sustainability, and what is required to accelerate investment while strengthening safeguards.

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Panel Discussion III

The Ultimate De-risking Tool

Demonstrate how integrated policies(like marine spatial planning, blue economy budget tagging) provide the stability and predictability that - Open Floor and Synthesis private companies and investors want for sustainable ocean finance

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DAY 2 (May 7)

Time	Session
09:00~09:10	Recap of Day1 "What We Heard" Finance and Governance are Not Two Separate Topics—They are One System Capital Flows Where Rules, Spatial Planning, and Institutional Coordination are Predictable
09:10~10:40	Synthesis Plenary Moderated by : Christophe Crepin, East Asia and Pacific Manager, Environment, The World Bank Group This session bridges the insights generated across thematic sessions on Day 1 to solutions and enabling conditions for transformative ocean action. (1) Panel : Discussion on key cross-cutting issues from Day 1(40mins) - Country (Korea, Indonesia, Denmark) - CVF-V20 - UN Global Compact - The World Bank Group - Envirostrat (2) Open Floor (25mins): Audience discussion (3) Closing (10mins): Key takeaways for the Busan Roadmap
10:40~11:00	Break(preparation the next session)
11:00~12:00	Drafting "Busan Roadmap" Moderated by: Sung-In Kim, KMI advisor, Former Korean Ambassador to Fiji Plenary Working Session - KMI lead · Follow-Up Working Arrangements Through the Milestones- OOC Kenya 2026, UNGA 2026, and Pre-UNOC4 2027 to UNOC4 2028
12:00~12:20	Closing Remarks - UN Special Envoy for the Ocean - Deputy Minister of Oceans and Fisheries(ROK)
12:20~13:20	Lunch

