

In celebration of World Oceans Day 2017

## ***"Our Oceans, Our Future"***

Villa Caletas Hotel, Puntarenas, Costa Rica, 8 to 9 June 2017

### **The speakers**

**Luis Guillermo Solís**, President of the Republic of Costa Rica



Luis Guillermo Solís Rivera is the 47th President of the Republic of Costa Rica. He has held management positions in philanthropic and multilateral organizations in Costa Rica and internationally. He has been a member of the

Board of Directors of the Academic Council for the United Nations System and of the Editorial Board of several magazines. He has written 10 books as an author, co-author and editor. He has edited more than 60 academic articles in specialized magazines published in Central America, South America, Europe and the United States.

**Edgar Gutiérrez**, Minister of Energy & Environment, Government of Costa Rica



Edgar Gutierrez Espeleta is the Minister of Environment and Energy of Costa Rica. He is a professor at the University of Costa Rica, co-founder of the project "State of the Nation" of the National Rectors Council of Costa Rica and founder of

the Observatory for Development at the University of Costa Rica. He has over 30 publications in national and international journals and a book about statistical methods. Minister Espeleta lead the first two reports of the United Nations Environment Programme about the status of the environment in Latin America and the Caribbean, the first environmental report in Central America, and the deck of environmental data for Latin America and the Caribbean, among others.

**Manuel González Sanz**, Minister of Foreign Relations, Government of Costa Rica



Manuel González Sanz is the Minister of Foreign Relations who was formerly a professor of corporate law and securities at the Universidad de Costa Rica. He has served as Ambassador of Costa Rica to the UN and its specialized

organizations in Geneva in 2003, Coordinator of the Caribbean and Latin America Group in 2004, Vice-President of the Human Rights Commission between 2004 and 2006 and Minister of Foreign Trade. He serves as adviser to corporations and financial institutions on project finance, corporate finance, reorganizations, acquisitions, foreign investment and trade. He was formerly Board Member of the International Bank of Costa Rica.

**Elizabeth Taylor Jay**, Permanent Representative to UNEA, Colombia



Elizabeth is the Ambassador of Colombia to Kenya and the Permanent Representative to UN Environment and UN Habitat. She is leading the Friends of Oceans in Nairobi. She was born in Providencia, Colombia. Previous to the

current assignment, she led the development of the first land use plan of the island at the Cooperation for Sustainable Development of the Archipelago Department of San Andres, Providencia and Santa Catalina (CORALINA). From 2012 to 2015, she served as the Director of the Marine, Coastal and Aquatic Affairs of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development and has extensive experience in marine and coastal environmental management, small island and coastal zone environmental management and protected area planning.

**Ramon J.P. Paje**, Senior Advisor to the Climate Change Commission, Philippines



Ramon J. P. Paje, Vice President of the United Nation Environmental Assembly, was the Minister (Secretary) of Environment and Natural Resources of the Republic of the Philippines from 2010 to 2016. He

implemented, among others, an extensive national greening program and a total logging ban in all natural forests in the country. He is currently the Senior Advisor of the Philippine Climate Change Commission.

**Vladislav Smrž**, Ministry of the Environment, Czech Republic



Vladislav Smrž is the Deputy Minister in the Environmental Policy and International Relations Section of the Ministry of Environment. He graduated from the Socio-Economic Faculty of the University of JE Purkyně in

Ústí nad Labem. He previously worked in the chemical and automotive industries, where he was responsible for human resources, security and asset management. Before joining the Ministry of Environment he worked as personnel director at Lovochemie.

# The speakers

**Ibrahim Thiaw**, UN Environment



Ibrahim is the Deputy Executive Director of UN Environment and Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations. He plays a critical role in providing leadership and shaping the strategic vision and direction of the

organization. Ibrahim provides direct oversight to the development of the programme of work and plays a critical role in the implementation of UN Environment's mandate and management of the organization, as well as advancing the on-going internal performance and reform agenda.

**Pelayo Salinas**, Instituto Darwin Galápagos



Pelayo is based in the Galapagos islands where he conducts applied research to inform sustainable artisanal fisheries management; document the biodiversity of unexplored seamounts ecosystems; and to

understand the ecology of highly migratory shark species in the Tropical Eastern Pacific. His research and conservation efforts around Darwin and Wolf Islands in the north of the Galapagos were pivotal to inspire the Ecuadorian government to create in 2016 a 40,000km<sup>2</sup> no-take marine sanctuary to protect the largest global shark biomass recorded to date and unique deep-water seamount ecosystems.

**Richard Mason**, Volvo Ocean Race, S.L.U



Richard is the chief Operating Officer of Volvo Ocean Race. Richard has a long history with the race, taking part in the last five editions - four times as a sailor and in the last edition, as the Shore Manager of the all-female

Team SCA. He heads up the team that works with all the host ports to provide the stopovers and operational logistics for the race. Richard trained as an environmental scientist so it is not surprising that his hobbies all centre around the sea: windsurfing and surfing.

**Miguel Bosé**, Singer and environmentalist



For the past 30 years Miguel Bose has been a major force in Latin Music, crossing all genres but always maintaining an electronic beat. He grew up with Picasso and Ernest Hemingway, who were family friends. In 2007 to

celebrate his 30 year career he made the album "Papito" in collaboration with major musical stars all over the world: Shakira, Laura Pausini, Michael Stip (REM), Gloria Gaynor, Ricky Martin, Paulina Rubio, to name a few.

**Monica Araya**, Costa Rica Limpia



Monica is Founder and Director of Costa Rica Limpia, a citizen initiative to promote fossil-free country with a focus on renewables and clean mobility. She has worked on sustainability issues for over 20 years, has a PhD from Yale University

and was a lead climate negotiator. She talks to the local and international media and is associated to several global initiatives. Her TED talk about fossil free Costa Rica has been viewed over 1 million times. In 2016, she was part of the world's largest all-female expedition to Antarctica.

**Fredric Nepveu**, Villa Caletas Hotel



Fredric is the General Manager of the Villa Caletas Zephyr Palace in Puntarenas, Costa Rica.

**Alan Steenstrup**, UnderSea Hunter Group



Alan has worked as the International Sales Manager for the Undersea Hunter Group for 16 years. He organizes and supports special customers and projects such as conservation groups, scientific research

expeditions, film making projects, private charters, and news organizations. Alan holds a Bachelor's degree in Biological Basis of Behavior. In 1993, he worked as a naturalist guide at Selva Verde Lodge in Costa Rica. He joined the Undersea Hunter Group in 1995 where he remains, contentedly, to this day.

**Bryan Richter**, The Nature Conservancy



Bryan is the Director of Global Freshwater Strategies for The Nature Conservancy where he promotes sustainable water use and management with governments, corporations, and local

communities. He has been a global leader in river science and conservation for more than 25 years. His new book, Chasing Water: A Guide for Moving from Scarcity to Sustainability was published by Island Press in 2014.

**Lorna Inniss**, UN Environment



Lorna is the Coordinator of the Caribbean Environment Programme. A Barbadian national, She has a background in Environmental Planning and Management and Marine Sciences. She has over 20 years of

experience in the management of coastal ecosystems in the Caribbean and was Director of the Coastal Zone Management Unit of the Government of Barbados. Lorna has also been the joint coordinator of the World Ocean Assessment during the past four years.

## The speakers

**Ureña Vargas**, Panama Canal Authority



Since 2013 Angel is the Environmental Assessment Manager at ACP. Responsible of the development and implementation of environmental policies in the Panama Canal Authority (ACP), including the planning of environmental programs for the control of the

operations, ensuring that all technical and legal environmental requirements are met. He has developed and coordinated activities of the Green Route of the Panama Canal, including technical cooperation with the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF), the International German Cooperation Agency (GIZ), in addition to representing the Panama Canal Authority in the National Delegation to the Marine Environmental Protection Committee (MEPC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), participating in the discussion of issues related mainly to Marpol, Annex VI.

**Haydée Rodríguez**, MarViva Foundation



Haydée has Masters Degrees on Environmental Law (University of Costa Rica) and Environmental Science and Public Policy (Columbia University, New York). Since 2002, she was specialized on environmental law,

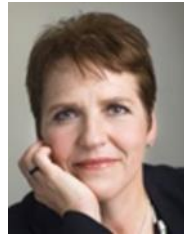
international law, and human rights. In Costa Rica she has led policy advocacy processes in favor of strengthened integral management of water resources and sustainable management of marine ecosystems. Experience in Latin America includes climate change, mining, marine stewardship, and fresh water management, in association to human rights.

**Zdenka Piskulich**, Costa Rica por Siempre



Zdenka is the Executive director of Asociación Costa Rica por Siempre. She has a law degree from the University of Costa Rica and a master's in international development from American University in Washington, DC.

**Kerstin Stranimaier**, AkzoNobel



Kerstin has been working with AkzoNobel for the last five years. In her role as Director, Planet Possible Program she is responsible for the global implementation of the AkzoNobel's sustainability strategy. Planet Possible

actively drives CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction in its own operations as well as along the value chain. AkzoNobel has been the first company which has introduced an accredited carbon credit scheme for the shipping industry.

**Marco Vinicio Araya**, Coco's Island National Park



Marco is a member of the executive committee of the Foundation of the Friends of Coco Island. He has Master in Business Administration with an emphasis on Business Management and the Bachelor in Forestry with specialization in Forest

Production. Previously, he has served as the Manager of the National System of Conservation Areas for the Protected Wildlife Areas (SINAC) of the Ministry of Environment and Energy (MINEA). He has served as an advisor to the Natural Resource Division, the Coordinator of the Costa Rican Financial Strategy, and the Coordinator of the Business Management Action strategy of SINAE.

**Peter Murray**, Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism



Peter works with the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism, where he is responsible for the planning and implementation of the fisheries conservation, management and development programme. Prior to this, he was a senior

programme officer at the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States Commission with responsibility for "all things marine", as well as being the de facto lead for climate change and sustainable energy.

**Edouard Michel**, Institute of Ecology and Environment of France



Edouard works for the CNRS 'Institute of Ecology and Environment' (INEE) division, managing its international connections with a particular focus on northern countries. As something of a scientific diplomat, Edouard leads

development of institutional and scientific partnerships between the CNRS and foreign institutions, while keeping abreast of international policies and conferences. He also contributed to a French national working group on tropical forest policy to prepare for the 2012 Rio+20 Conference.

**Maria Eugenia Arreola**, Mexican Fund for the Conservation of Nature



Maria has more than 15 years of experience designing and coordinating environmental programs. As part of the Mexican Fund for the Conservation of Nature (FMCN) team she has spent seven years

building the Mesoamerican Reef Leadership Program. Maria also collaborates with the Kanan Kay Alliance a multi-sector initiative working towards establishing an effective network of fish refuges to protect 20% of the territorial waters of the State of Quintana Roo in Mexico, to allow the recovery of artisanal fisheries and the conservation of the Mesoamerican Reef.

**Ivannia Alayes**, CoopeSoliDar



Ivannaia is a social psychologist, with 20 years of experience in the field of development, specializing in gender issues and participation. She is a professor at the University of Costa Rica and University of Peace

and currently belongs to the interdisciplinary group of consultants who formed the Cooperativa de Servicios Profesionales para la Solidaridad Social CoopeSoliDar R.L.



# The speakers

**Jorge Jiménez**, MarViva Foundation



Jorge is the Executive Director of MarViva. Before joining MarViva, he worked as the specialist in the marsh lands and desert management at the Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Centre (CATIE).

At the Institute of Tropical Forestry in Puerto Rico, he served as the instructor for the tropical forest management, and for the postgraduate courses of the Organization of Tropical Studies (OET), to which he serves as a member of the assembly and the board of directions.

**George Jaksch**, Mesoamerican Biodiversity Partnership



George is President of the Mesoamerican Biodiversity Partnership. He is Senior Director of Corporate Responsibility and Public Affairs at Chiquita International. A member of Chiquita's corporate responsibility steering

committee, George has actively and with conviction supported the evolution of the concept. As a lead auditor, he has conducted the SA8000 audits in Chiquita's Honduran, Guatemalan and Costa Rican divisions, together with independent observers from human rights NGO's and trade unions.

**Justin Roosevelt Sealy**, Lucia Solid Waste Management Authority



Justin is the General Manager of Solid Waste Management Authority. Formerly he was the Strategic Planning Manager attached to the Water and Sewage Company (WASCO) Inc. Justin is the holder of a

Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, and an MBA with Distinction in Engineering Management from Coventry University in the United Kingdom. He is also a registered professional engineer and the immediate past President of the Association of Professional Engineers of Saint Lucia.

**James Ketchum**, Migramar



James is a marine biologist and PhD candidate in Ecology at the University of California, Davis. He has studied sharks and rays for the past ten years, particularly the ecology of whale sharks in the Gulf of California and more

recently the movement patterns and habitat use of different species of sharks in the Galapagos Islands. His research interest is in movements and migratory patterns of sharks in association to biological and physical conditions and habitat use and environmental preferences of pelagic sharks.

**Gilles Marit**, Univeg, Costa Rica



Gilles is the managing director of UNIVEG in Costa Rica. The UNIVEG Group is a worldwide supplier of fresh produce, active in the fields of Fruit and Vegetables, Flowers and Plants, Convenience products, Transport and

Logistics.

**Lester Doodnath**, Institute of Marine Affairs in Trinidad & Tobago



Lester is a Project Implementation Officer at the Institute of Marine Affairs whose work includes formulation of environmental impact assessments, advising on regulation and legislation, contributing to supervision

and execution of environmental projects and resource mobilization. He has extensive local working relationships with governmental and non-governmental environmental bodies and has had wide experience in various fields underpinned by his strong advocacy for environmental education and the transfer of sustainable values to youth.

**Isis Alvarez**, Global Forest Coalition



Isis and a senior gender advisor and campaigner of the Global Forest Coalition (GFC). She is a Colombian biologist with work experience in the field of biodiversity conservation having been involved in field research

as well as policy and advocacy work with a strong focus on the gender aspects of conservation. She is a former organizing partner for the Women's Major Group in Sustainable Development, and is currently co-facilitator of the Women's Major Group to UN Environment.

**Patrick Debels**, Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Project



Patrick Debels, United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), is the Regional Coordinator of the 5-year UNDP/GEF CLME+ Project. The CLME+ Project is a regional initiative that helps countries and

stakeholders from the Wider Caribbean region implementing a 10-year Strategic Action Programme for the Sustainable Management of shared Living Marine Resources. Mr. Debels has previously worked as researcher and project coordinator at Universities in Belgium and several countries in Latin America, and as consultant for UNDP, UN ECLAC, the World Bank and the International Water Management Institute IWMI.

**Marco Quesada**, Conservation International



Marco is the Senior Manager of Conservation International. He specializes in marine conservation, marine policy, and fisheries policy and management. Marco has been involved in the creation of Costa Rica's

largest marine protected area through the Costa Rica program, as well as designing and implementing policies for Costa Rica's National Maritime Enforcement Strategy.

## The facilitators

**Fernando Mora**, Vice-Minister of Environment, Government of Costa Rica



Fernando is the Vice Minister of the Ministry of Environment and Energy. He represents the Minister at the Boards of Directors of the Rural Development Institute, the National Commission for Risk Prevention and Emergency

Care, the Presidential Social Council, and the Governing Board of the Pacific Marine Park, to which he serves as the president. He is also a representative of the Governing Council to the Board of Directors of the Costa Rican Fisheries and Aquaculture Institute.

**Leo Heileman**, UN Environment



Leo is UN Environment's Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean based in Panama. Prior to this appointment he was the UN Resident Coordinator, UNDP and UNFPA Resident Representative in the

Union of the Comoros from March 2015. He was UNDP Resident Representative Interim in Angola and from 2009-2014, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Equatorial Guinea. Earlier in his career Leo worked for many years with UN Environment in many programme management positions across the globe following his employment with the Institute of Marine Affairs in Trinidad and Tobago.

**Lisa Emelia Svensson**, UN Environment



Lisa is the Coordinator of the Marine and Coastal Ecosystem Branch of UN Environment. Prior to this appointment, she served as the Swedish Ambassador for Oceans, Seas and Fresh Water, providing advice and expert guidance to the

Minister for the Environment on actions needed to move forward on Sweden's international ocean and water agenda. She was also Ambassador for Corporate Social Responsibility, where she was involved with the private sector on how to incorporate environmental and social values in business models for enhancing competitiveness and economic growth.

**Ilena Zanella**, Mision Tiburon



Ilena is a marine biologist and Magister Scientiae in Wildlife Conservation and Management. She has worked in research, education and conservation of sharks with national organizations and with the National

University of Costa Rica. She is very interested on sharks nursery areas, in fact in her thesis of master degree, she characterized the fisheries ecology of the scalloped hammerhead shark (*Sphyrna lewini*) in the Central Pacific of Costa Rica, describing its distribution and alimentation in nursery area.