



CCICED Roundtable

Harmony Between Humanity and the Ocean: Building a Shared Future for All Life on Earth

May 25-26, 2026

Location: Xiamen, Fujian

Background:

The ocean is the blue cradle that nurtures life and sustains civilization. As a connected and integrated system covering 71% of the Earth's surface, the ocean not only provides food, energy, and employment opportunities for billions of people worldwide, but also plays a central role in regulating the climate and maintaining the Earth's ecological balance. However, the Triple Planetary Crisis (climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution) are becoming increasingly severe, posing serious threats to ocean health and directly affecting human survival and development. Mobilizing broader efforts for global ocean governance through multilateral cooperation, balancing marine resource development with ecological protection, advancing marine biodiversity conservation, blue low-carbon transition, and high-quality development of the marine economy in a coordinated manner, are key agenda items in building a shared future for all life on Earth where humanity and nature thrive in harmony.

Fujian Province is a key coastal region in southeastern China, with a marine area of approximately 136,000 square kilometers (about 1.1 times its land area). The length of its mainland coastline ranks second in the country, with the highest coastline curvature nationwide. The ocean is not only a defining geographical feature of Fujian, but also a vital cornerstone of its economy, culture, and ecology. As China's first National Ecological Civilization Pilot Zone, Fujian has adhered to the coordinated development of mountains and seas as well as land-sea synergy, accumulating a body of replicable practical experience in areas such as integrated bay management, marine ecological restoration, marine biodiversity conservation, blue carbon sink exploration, and the green transformation of marine industries. Xiamen, Fujian, has taken the lead in in the construction of Beautiful Bays across its entire jurisdiction, and stands at the forefront of the nation in ecological restoration, green port construction, and international marine cooperation. After over three decades of comprehensive rehabilitation, Yundang Lake has undergone a remarkable transformation from a black, odorous mudflat into Xiamen's "Urban Reception Hall," offering a vivid illustration of the concept that "lucid waters and lush mountains are invaluable assets".

The China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED), an international high-level policy advisory body, conducts joint Chinese and international research on major environment and development issues. Its research

and policy recommendations have played an important role in promoting a “Beautiful China” and global sustainable development progress. The 2026 CCICED Roundtable will share CCICED's research findings and policy guidance across the sustainable blue economy, biodiversity conservation, low-carbon transition, and green international development through discussions on the following topics:

- **Promoting synergies among multilateral conventions to advance global ocean governance**
- **Accelerating the green and low-carbon transition of marine industries to develop a renewable blue economy**
- **Deepening Beautiful Bay construction to foster high-quality economic development in the Bay Area**

May 24 Meeting Registration	
May 25 09:00-17:30 (Beijing Time)	
09:00	Opening Remarks
09:20	Keynote Speech
10:00	Tea Break
10:30	<p>Session 1: Promoting Synergies Among Multilateral Conventions to Advance Global Ocean Governance</p> <p>This session aims to explore ways to enhance the synergy between international frameworks, such as the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). By sharing practical experiences, it seeks to explore pathways to improve the global ocean governance system and advancing the achievement of its multiple objectives, including biodiversity conservation, climate action, and sustainable use.</p>
11:30	Discussion
12:00	Lunch Break
14:00	<p>Session 2: Accelerating the Green and Low-Carbon Transition of Marine Industries to Develop a Renewable Blue Economy</p> <p>This session focuses on the green and low-carbon transition of marine industries, examining development opportunities and practical pathways in areas such as marine renewable energy, green shipping, blue food, and coastal tourism. By sharing international experience and Chinese practices, the session explores policy tools and innovative models to promote the coordinated advancement of high-quality marine economic development and marine ecosystem protection, thereby accelerating the establishment of a resource-efficient and environmentally friendly marine industrial system.</p>
15:00	Tea Break
15:30	<p>Session 3: Deepening Beautiful Bay construction to foster high-quality economic development in the Bay Area</p> <p>This session aims to center on the concept of “harmony between humanity and the ocean” by sharing practical experience in areas such as bay ecosystem governance, integrated coastal zone management, marine ecological restoration, and bay-area planning. It will explore how integrated land-sea planning and regional coordination can be leveraged to promote continuous improvement of the marine ecological environment, and to achieve positive interaction between bay ecosystem conservation and the high-quality development of bay-area economies.</p>
16:30	Discussion
17:10	Introduction of Field Study
17:20	Meeting Summary
17:30	Meeting Closed
<p>Morning of May 26 –Field Visit to Tong’an Bay, Xiamen (Tentative)</p> <p>Tong’an Bay is the largest inner bay in Xiamen, with a marine area of 101.48 square kilometers and a shoreline stretching 74.7 kilometers. Several streams, including the Dongxi Stream, Guanxun Stream, and Daitou Stream, flow into the bay. The area encompasses important ecological sites such as the Wuyuan Bay Wetland Park, Xiatanwei Mangrove Park, the Xiamen Wuyuan Bay Nature Reserve for the Blue-tailed Bee-eater, and the Xiamen National Nature Reserve for Rare Marine Species.</p>	