



# II SUSTAINABLE BLUE ECONOMY

INVESTMENT FORUM

04.10.2023

ESTORIL CONGRESS CENTER . CASCAIS . PORTUGAL

## PANEL 5

### **Ocean and Marine Protected Areas (Conserve and Manage the Ocean: funding to protect the heart of our planet)**

The ocean provides crucial ecosystem services and is an essential resource for human societies. However, the ocean is currently facing unprecedented threats from climate change, marine pollution, illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, and destruction of marine ecosystems. Marine protected areas (MPAs) are a critical tool for protecting ocean biodiversity and ensuring the sustainability of ocean resources.

There is a pressing need to generate new ideas and collaborations that can lead to more effective management of MPA and increased funding for ocean conservation efforts. Sharing successful MPA management models is an opportunity for collaboration to disseminate best practices for managing MPAs and securing funding for these efforts as well as address marine conservation needs.

This panel will explore the latest scientific research on ocean conservation, discuss the challenges facing MPA, and identify strategies to overcome these challenges.