

Call for Nominations: Asia-Pacific Ocean Youth Champion

The *Fifth Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean* will be hosted on 30 November 2022 in Bangkok (Thailand). In preparation for the event, we are encouraging the youth from the region to submit¹ their nominations for the recognition of **Asia-Pacific Ocean Youth Champion**.

1. Context of the Competition

The *Fifth Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean* is a regional multi-stakeholder platform offered by regional UN partners, to strengthen cooperation and promote the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific. It provides a space for States, and key stakeholders, for systematic and inclusive dialogue on priority areas and challenges in our region.

The voice of young people constitutes a crucial dimension of this conversation. The youth's creativity and leadership as evident in strong youth action is necessary to protect the ocean for future generations, reversing the current trend of ecosystem degradation.

2. Objective of the Competition

With over half the world's youth living in the Asia-Pacific region, the aim of this competition is to bring out the pivotal role of the younger generations in safeguarding ocean health. The **Asia-Pacific Ocean Youth Championship** is thus designed to catalyze youth action on our marine environment, mainstreaming the recognition and acknowledgement of the Ocean youth in intergovernmental processes.

3. Scope

Nominations can cover any contribution to the protection of the oceans or marine ecosystems.

While this year's *Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean* encompasses four interactive dialogues on Ocean Governance, Maritime Connectivity, Ocean Data & Statistics, and Ocean & Climate Synergies, nominations focusing on other dimensions of ocean health are also encouraged.

¹ By submitting entry material, video submitters are deemed to have agreed to grant the UN, its agencies, funds, and programmes full non-exclusive copyright. The UN reserve the right to use the videos in not-for-profit advocacy and promotional materials. When videos are used, credit may be given to the entrant, but no monetary payments will be made. The videos may also be added to UN entities online video galleries, Facebook pages, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube, and made available to any party the UN deems suitable, subject to appropriate crediting.

4. How do I submit my nomination?

Please send a short video showcasing your initiative or activities to protect the ocean and marine ecosystems:

- You may record your video using your mobile phone, it is not necessary to have professional video editing
- The video should be no longer than 90 seconds
- Your video recordings must be submitted by e-mail (either as attachment or link) to: escap-edd-edps@un.org, indicating “Asia-Pacific Ocean Youth Champion” in the email’s subject line

5. Eligibility

Consider the following criteria to see whether you are eligible to participate in the competition:

- You are contributing to ocean health, either individually or as a team
- Age of nominees (18-32): You are 32 years old or younger at the time of submission
- Submissions from all expressions of gender are encouraged
- Government- and company-sponsored projects are not eligible

6. Selection Criteria

The winner will be selected from the pool of submissions according to the following criteria:

- Impact on local and indigenous communities
- Creativity
- Youth Inclusion and youth leadership
- Innovation
- Partnerships and collaboration

7. Timeline

Your nomination must be submitted by midnight Bangkok time on 15 November 2022. The selected champion of the competition will be contacted within a week after the nominations close.

8. Prize

The **2022 Asia-Pacific Ocean Youth Champion** will be invited to attend the *Fifth Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean* at the United Nations Conference Center in Bangkok, where they will have the opportunity to present their engagement for the protection of the ocean during the event’s closing and award ceremony.