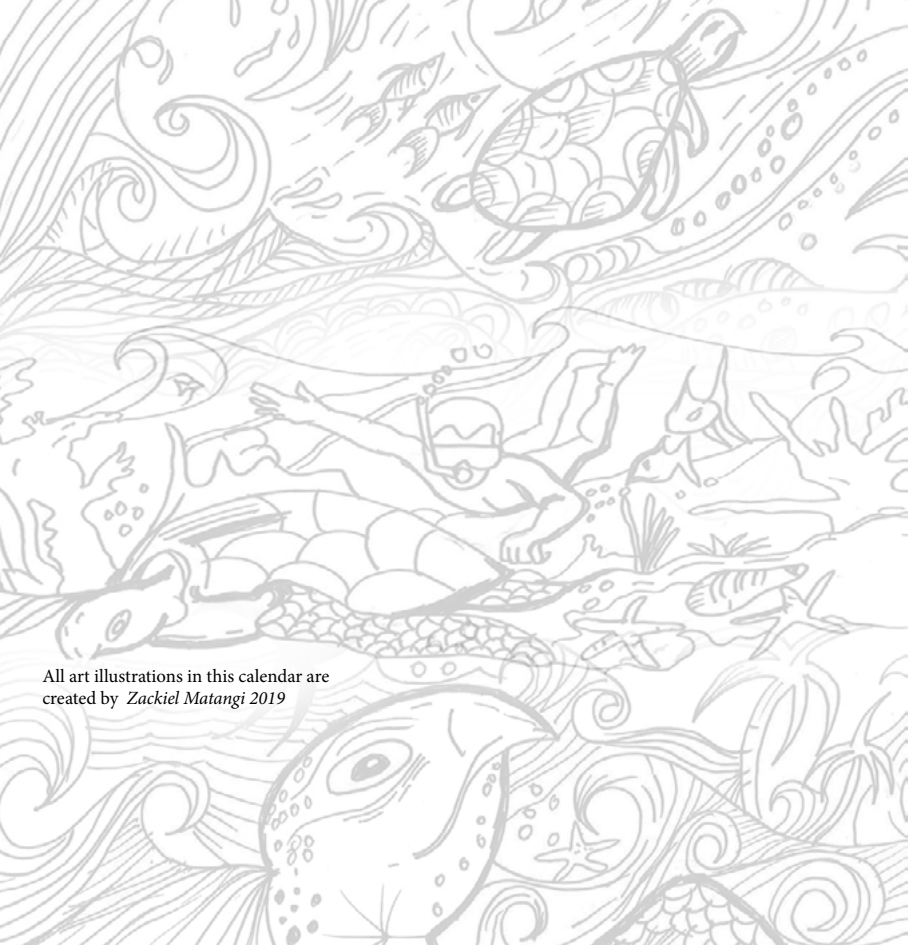




The Blue Pacific Continent

Calendar of Ocean
Events 2020





All art illustrations in this calendar are
created by *Zackiel Matangi* 2019

OPOC Mandate

At the Forty-First (41st) Session¹ of the Pacific Islands Forum in Vanuatu, Leaders endorsed the Framework for Pacific Oceanscape² (para 68) containing two specific action areas (2A and 2B), relevant to Office of the Pacific Ocean Commissioner (OPOC). They pertain to: (i) the inception of the OPOC as a dedicated professional support unit to the Pacific Ocean Commissioner (appointed by Forum Leaders); and, (ii) the establishment of the Pacific Ocean Alliance as a multi-stakeholder mechanism that would provide effective ocean policy coordination and implementation, and facilitated by the Pacific Ocean Commissioner.

Since July 2018, OPOC has received financial support from partners, including Forum members Australia, French Polynesia and New Zealand, to fund staff and some activities of the OPOC. OPOC currently comprises of four full-time staff positions, being: 1) OPOC Manager and Ocean Analyst; 2) Ocean Management Officer; 3) Ocean Communications Officer; and, 4) OPOC Adviser on UN Ocean Issues.

OPOC's main work themes for the period 2017 – 2020 are to:

- Provide support to the Pacific Ocean Commissioner for advocacy at all levels - on important ocean issues for the region;
- Promote improved coordination on ocean issues across the region, particularly on new and emerging issues or those issues that require an inclusive and multi-stakeholder approach;
- Support effective engagement of Pacific Island Countries in UN negotiations on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ); and,
- Support development of ocean finance work in the region, including catalysing efforts and resources for the implementation of regional and global ocean policies and priority commitments.

1 Forty-First Pacific Island Forum Communiqué - http://www.forumsec.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/2010-Forum-Communiqué_-_Port-Vila_-_Vanuatu-4-5-Aug.pdf

2 Framework for a Pacific Oceanscape – a catalyst for implementation of ocean policy - <https://www.forumsec.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Framework-for-a-Pacific-Oceanscape-2010.pdf>

Our ocean is a precious resource and we need to safeguard its health, so that future generations can continue to benefit from its abundance.” - **President of Palau- His Excellency Tommy E Remengesau, Jr**, UNGA 74th session.



“The Pacific accounts for 20% of the world’s ocean in terms of our combined EEZs and therefore, the completion of maritime boundaries is very critical, to provide certainty to the ownership of our ocean space, in the face of climate change.”- **President of Kiribati, His Excellency Taneti Maamau**, UNGA 74th session.



“We are at a critical crossroad, the challenges we are facing collectively as a global community are unprecedented...Micronesia is addressing the existential threats of climate change..noting it is important to solve climate change without protecting the ocean – the largest carbon sink in the world...”- **Federated States of Micronesia, His Excellency President David W Panuelo**, UNGA 74th session.



Security of our Ocean is a problem which must also be tackled by all. Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing is a great threat and economic loss to our small economy. These issues are enshrined in SDG 14 and we look forward to the convening of the second UN Ocean Conference in Portugal in 2020- **President of Nauru, Excellency Lionel Rouwen Aingimea**- UNGA 74th session.



The Runit Dome the Nuclear Waste Storage facility and its impacts to our people and our ocean resources is a big concern and priority” - **Republic Marshall Islands, His Excellency President David Kabua**

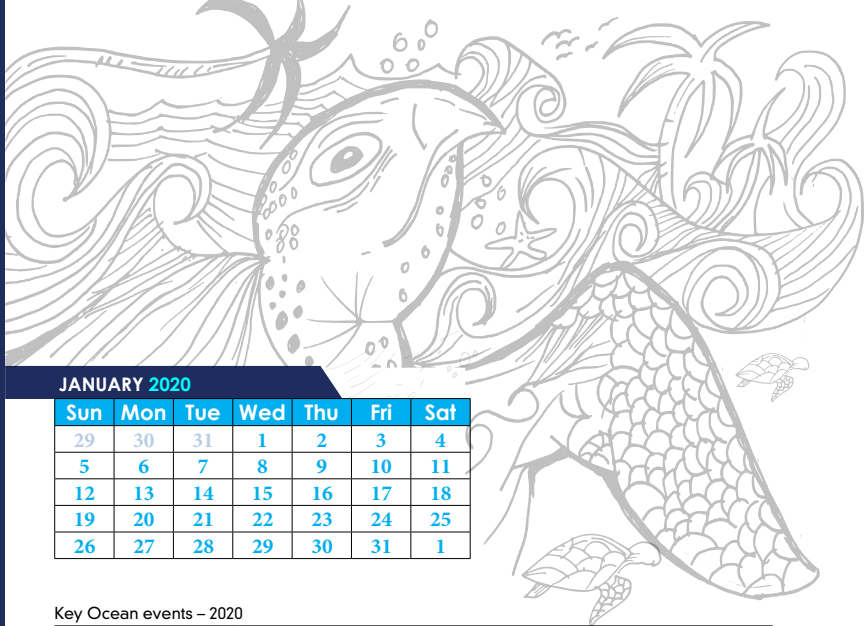


As guardians of the largest portion of the Pacific Ocean, our leadership as the Blue Pacific matters greatly.”- **Prime Minister of Samoa Hon. Tuilaepa Lufesoliai Sailele Malielegaoi**, Office of Pacific Ocean Commissioner Event- UNFCCC COP 24.



“We think about the Ocean and what we can do for it – because the ocean is us – everyday.”- **Pacific Ocean Commissioner and Pacific Islands Forum, Secretary General, Dame Meg Taylor.**





JANUARY 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

Key Ocean events – 2020

Regional ocean related events		
Dates	Event (Organisation)	Venue
1 – 3 (first week of Jan)	CBD post 2020 workshop Apia (SPREP)	Apia, Samoa
Global ocean related events		
TBD	BBNJ meeting (TBC)	Norway
28-29	BBNJ EIA meeting (TBC)	Brussels, Belgium
TBD	BBNJ meeting (TBC)	TBC



FEBRUARY 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Key Ocean events – 2020

Regional ocean related events		
Dates	Event (Organisation)	Venue
4-6	SDG 14 & CBD Post Dialogue Workshop (SPREP)	Apia, Samoa
10	CROP Heads Meeting (CROP)	Suva
26 – 29	OPOC BBNJ IGC4 Preparatory Meeting / Dialogue on the Impact of Sea Level Rise on Maritime Boundaries (OPOC)	Suva, Fiji
Global ocean related events		
4 - 5	Preparatory meeting of the 2020 UN Ocean Conference to consider elements for the political declaration and themes of interactive dialogues (UN)	New York, USA
16 – 21	Ocean Sciences Meeting align to UN Decade of Ocean Science (The Oceanographic Society)	San Diego, USA
17 Feb – 6	26th Session of the ISA Assembly and Council - Part I (ISA)	Kingston, Jamaica
24 – 28	2nd meeting/negotiation of the Open-Ended Working Group on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework (UN CBD)	Kunming, China



MARCH 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

Key Ocean events – 2020

Regional ocean related events		
Dates	Event (Organisation)	Venue
9-12	Regional Tourism Conference	TBC
10 – 11	Australia-France Coral Reef Resilience Meeting	Apia, Samoa
16-18	Post COP 25 Analysis Workshop (SPREP)	Apia, Samoa
16 – 20	Heads of Fisheries Meeting (FFA/SPC)	Noumea, New Caledonia
Global ocean related events		
9 – 10	7th World Ocean Summit (World Ocean Initiative)	Tokyo, Japan
18 - 19	Intergovernmental consultations on the political declaration for 2020 UN Ocean Conference (UN)	New York, USA
23 March – 3 April	4th session of the BBNJ IGC (UN)	New York, USA



APRIL 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2

Key Ocean events – 2020

Regional ocean related events

Dates	Event (Organisation)	Venue
14 - 17	One Planet Summit	Tahiti, French Polynesia
19 - 24	10th Nature Conference (SPREP)	Noumea, New Caledonia
20 - 24	FOC Sub-Committee Week (PIFS)	Suva, Fiji
27 -1 May	Pre FFC 114 Workshops & Meetings (FFA)	Suva, Fiji

Global ocean related events

21 - 23	International Symposium on Plastics in the Arctic and Sub-Arctic Region (University of the Arctic)	Reykjavik, Iceland
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“We may be considered as Small Island Territories but in the eyes of the larger Nations, we are and have become Big Oceanic States and our marine resources are the object of covetousness. For this reason, as Custodians of this Ocean, we must and I urge each and every one of us to take the necessary measures to protect and manage in a sustainable manner our marine resources before it is too late.” - **French Polynesia President, Hon Edouard Fritch**



APRIL NOTES

MAY 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

Key Ocean events – 2020

Regional ocean related events		
Dates	Event (Organisation)	Venue
1	Special Forum Economic Ministers Meeting	Suva, Fiji
4 - 7	Annual Officials Forum Fisheries Committee (FFA)	Suva, Fiji
25	CROP Heads Meeting (CROP)	Suva, Fiji
27-29	2020 Pacific Ocean Pacific Climate Change Conference	Apia, Samoa
Global ocean related events		
5 - 9	52nd session of the IPCC (IPCC Secretariat)	TBD
11 - 13	Human health and Ocean Symposium (UN Decade of Ocean Science, IOC UNESCO)	Monaco
19-21	Informal Consultation of State Parties to the UN Fish Stocks Agreement	New York, USA
20 - 21	Financing for Development Forum (UN)	New York, USA
TBD	Belt and Road Initiative 2020 (BRI)	TBC
TBD	Informal Consultative Process – impacts of sea level rise (UN)	New York, USA

JUNE 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4

Key Ocean events – 2020

Regional ocean related events		
Dates	Event (Organisation)	Venue
10 – 21	13th Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture (SPC)	Honolulu, Hawaii
29	SIS Officials Meeting (PIFS)	Suva, Fiji
30 June – 1 July	Pre-Forum FOC Meeting (PIFS)	Suva, Fiji
Global ocean related events		
2 – 6	2020 UN Ocean Conference (UN)	Lisbon, Portugal
8 - 11	12th WTO Ministerial Conference	Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan
11 – 19	IUCN World Conservation Congress (IUCN)	Marseille, France
15 - 19	30th Meeting of States Parties to the 1982 UNCLOS	New York, USA
22 – 26	Sustainability Research and Innovation 2020 (Belmont Forum, Future Earth, Futurorth Australia & Australian Academy of Science)	Brisbane, Australia
22 - 26	21st Meeting Informal Consultative Process (UN)	New York, USA



JULY 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

Key Ocean events – 2020

Regional ocean related events		
Dates	Event (Organisation)	Venue
3	Forum Foreign Ministers Meeting (PIFS)	Suva, Fiji
6 - 7	Forum Economic Officials Meeting	Suva, Fiji
8	Forum Economic Ministers Meeting	Suva, Fiji
6 - 10	Fisheries Ministerial Meeting (FFA)	Nadi, Fiji
Global ocean related events		
5 - 10	14th International Coral Reef Forum (ICRS)	Bremen, Germany
7 - 16	High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development	New York, USA
6 - 31	ISA Meetings Legal & Technical, Finance, Council & Assembly (ISA)	Kingston, Jamaica
27 - 31	3rd Meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework (UN CBD)	Cali, Colombia

“The World has changed, over time we have become increasingly inter-dependent... we see more and more often domestic decisions that have global ramification... oil spills shows no respect to maritime boundaries, nuclear accidents and testing the impacts have never confined to the exact location in which they occur” - **Prime Minister of New Zealand Hon Jacinda Ardern**, UNGA 74th session.



JULY NOTES



AUGUST 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

Key Ocean events – 2020

Regional ocean related events		
Dates	Event (Organisation)	Venue
3 – 7	51st PIF Leaders Meeting and Related Meetings (PIF)	Efate, Vanuatu
Global ocean related events		
11 – 20	15th WCPFC Scientific Committee meeting (WCPFC)	Apia, Samoa
17 – 18	7th Our Ocean Conference (Republic of Palau)	Ngerulmud, Palau

“New Caledonia ambitions to play a leadership role as a member of regional organisations, not only on issues as critical as climate change, biodiversity and sustainable development but also in terms of security, as environmental issues may lead to new tensions” - **New Caledonia’s President Hon Thierry Santa**, Public Policy Declaration, July 2019.



AUGUST NOTES


 SEPTEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3

Key Ocean events – 2020

Regional ocean related events		
Dates	Event (Organisation)	Venue
3 – 4	SPREP Executive Board Meeting (SPREP)	Apia, Samoa
9 – 11	Pacific Security Dialogue (PIFS)	Suva, Fiji
Global ocean related events		
9 - 10	Ad Hoc Group of the whole on the regular Process for Global Reporting of the marine environment	New York, USA
15 – 30	75th Session of the UN General Assembly (UN)	New York, USA
23 – 29	16th Technical and Compliance Committee Meeting (WCPCF)	Pohnpei, FSM

“To protect our ocean, Australia is committed to leading urgent action to combat plastic pollution choking our ocean, tackle over-exploitation of our fisheries, prevent ocean habitat destruction and take action on climate change” - **Prime Minister of Australia, Hon Scott Morrison**, UNGA 74th session.



SEPTEMBER NOTES

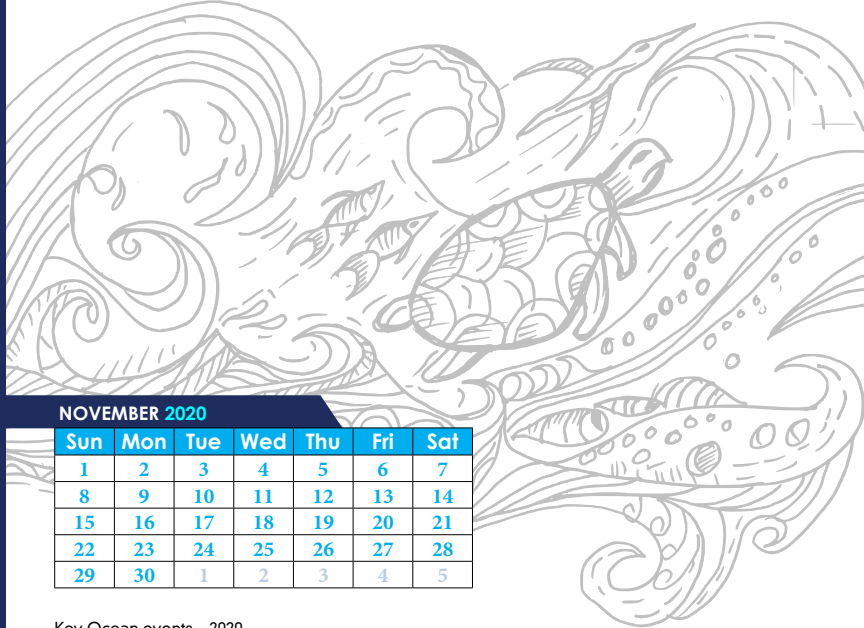


OCTOBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Key Ocean events – 2020

Regional ocean related events		
Dates	Event (Organisation)	Venue
12 - 16	FOC Sub Committee Meeting on 2050 Strategy (PIFS)	Suva, Fiji
20 - 22	50th Meeting of the Committee of the Representatives of Governments and Administrations [SPC]	Noumea, New Caledonia
TBC	2020 Clean Pacific Round Table (SPREP)	Apia, Samoa
Global ocean related events		
5 - 10	2020 UN Biodiversity Conference (UN CBD)	Kunming, China
20 - 22	Our Coastal Futures (UN Decade of Ocean Science & Southern Cross University, Future Earth Coasts & Future earth Australia)	Gold Coast, Australia

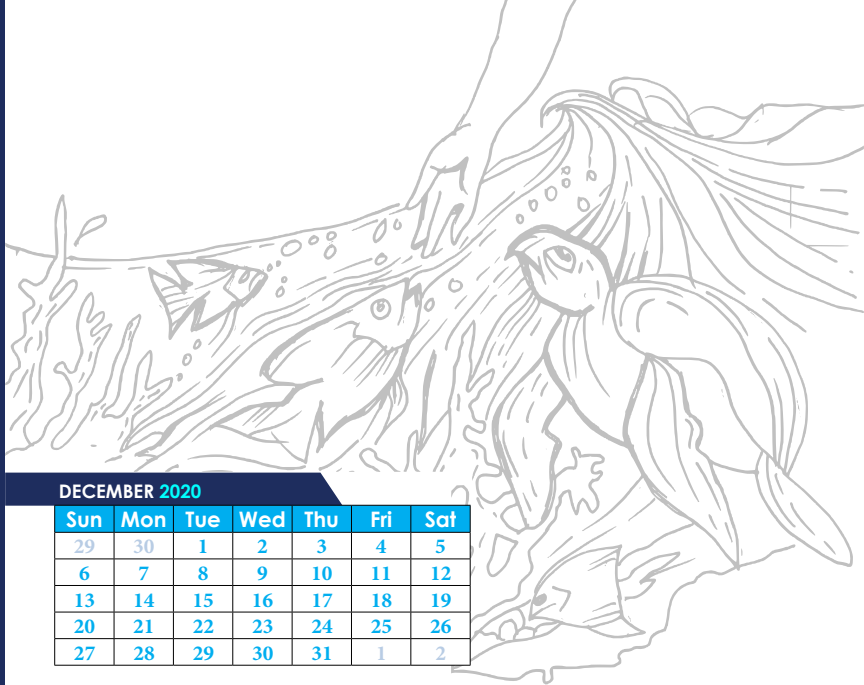


NOVEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

Key Ocean events – 2020

Regional ocean related events		
Dates	Event (Organisation)	Venue
2 - 6	4th Regional Technical Meeting for Coastal Fisheries (SPC)	Noumea, New Caledonia
Global ocean related events		
9 - 19	UN Climate Change Conference COP26 (UNFCCC)	Glasgow, UK



DECEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2

NOTES



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