



PRESS RELEASE  
23 March 2018

## MONACO OCEAN WEEK 2018: MAIN HIGHLIGHTS

The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation and partners will be hosting the **second edition of the Monaco Ocean Week, from 8 to 14 April 2018**. The event aims to provide solutions to protect marine environments faced with climate changes and will open in Edinburgh (Scotland), with the Monaco Blue Initiative, and continue in the Principality of Monaco.

### • MONACO BLUE INITIATIVE

More than 80 ocean management and protection stakeholders - government policy makers, institutions, scientific organisations, and public and private sector members - will attend the 9<sup>th</sup> edition of the Monaco Blue Initiative which is organised in partnership with the University of Edinburgh.

Monaco Blue Initiative members intend to lay the foundations of a new development model for the ocean and the Earth to offer new activities and services, whilst respecting nature, preserving marine ecosystems and raising awareness of the priceless services they already provide. Marine Protected Area projects play a key role in this action. Three information-sharing and debate sessions are available:

- ✓ **Blue economy development overview in northern seas and a comparison to other European and world regions,**
  - ✓ **Marine Protected Areas and climate change,**
  - ✓ **Synergies between aquaculture and Marine Protected Areas.**
- Monday 9 April, 9am to 5pm, Edinburgh*

### • MONACO EXPLORATIONS FEEDBACK & RESULTS

- ✓ Focus on the "Sargasses" (invasive algae which is spreading across the Caribbean coastline) and "Cabo Verde" missions (species studies and research of the giant skink in particular - an endemic lizard around 40cms long which is currently thought to be extinct).
- Wednesday 11 April, 5pm to 6.30pm*

### • CONFERENCES AND DEBATES TO RAISE AWARENESS AND STEER NEW ACTIONS

- ✓ **SIDS** (Small Island Developing States) **marine activity** in response to **climate change**: lessons learned from COP23 and prospects for future action
- Tuesday 10 April, 1pm to 3pm*
- ✓ **Mediterranean "small-scale" fishing is the solution, not the problem!**
- Wednesday 11 April, 1pm to 4pm*
- ✓ **Monk seal conservation workshop**: project presentations to foundations.
- Thursday 12 April, 10am to 4pm*

- ✓ **Toxic Microalgae:** environmental, food and health risks, and monitoring strategy

*Four workshops will be held during the week, the conclusions will be discussed on Thursday 12 April from 9am to 12.30pm*

- **BLUE FINANCE WORKSHOPS**

- ✓ **Environmental Funds (EF) for Marine Protected Areas (MPA) conservation workshop:** analysis of global Environmental Funds feedback (Latin America, Africa and the Mediterranean) to improve understanding of sponsors' needs and expectations. Linking institutional sponsors and private foundations.

*Friday 13 April, 9am to 12pm*

- ✓ **Responsible ocean development investment opportunities:** themes such as transport, offshore renewable energies, sustainable fishing, energy transition plan funding and maritime activities will be discussed during the event.

*Friday 13 April, 2.45pm to 4.15pm*

- **FILM SCREENINGS FOLLOWED BY PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

- ✓ **Fragile Legacy film screening:** Leopold and Rudolf Blaschka' amazing sea creatures, followed by a debate on "Art and Science".

*Tuesday 10 April, 7pm to 8.30pm*

- ✓ **Into The Arctic 3 film/conference:** 10 years of Arctic explorations by Cory Trépanier.

*Wednesday 11 April, 7pm to 9pm*

- ✓ **BLUE:** Disneynature's latest film is a dive into the heart of the oceans to meet the amazing creatures who live in a fragile aquatic world. **Blue film director and Tara Expeditions will attend the screening!**

*Thursday 12 April, 6.30pm to 8pm*

- **CONCRETE PROJECTS TO TACKLE PLASTIC POLLUTION**

- ✓ **BeMed 2018 winners:** plastic pollution in oceans is one of the most worrying ecological catastrophes for our future. Once a piece of plastic has been thrown away, it can take up to 500 years to disintegrate. During the event, this year's winners, who represent all the Mediterranean countries, will have three minutes to individually present their projects and will meet the 2017 project winners.

*Friday 13 April, 5.30pm to 6.30pm*

- **EVENTS FOR THE PUBLIC**

- ✓ **"From the sea to our plates"** - a focus on sustainable consumption of seafood products: sampling and meet the chefs.

*Wednesday 11 April, 12pm to 1pm*

- ✓ **Photographic exhibition opening:** cetacean conservation in response to negative impacts from anthropogenic activities.

*Tuesday 10 April, 6.55pm to 7.00pm*

- ✓ **Let's take on the ocean – the future is blue !** – Conference by Yvan Griboval, Marine Explorer, Director of OceanoScientific Expeditions..

*Thursday 12 April, 5.30pm to 6.00pm*

- ✓ **"Monaco's commitment to coral reefs":** workshop conclusions on regional solutions to save coral reefs from ocean acidification and other environmental stress factors, followed by a *Chasing Coral* film screening. *Chasing Coral* film director, Richard Verves, will attend the event.

*Friday 13 April, 7pm to 10pm*

- **AWARENESS-RAISING EVENTS FOR CHILDREN**

- ✓ **Fun workshops to enhance understanding of plastic pollution:** schoolchildren aged 9 to 12 will discover the extent of plastic pollution in the oceans and how it affects humans and the environment through a range of interactive quizzes: "Tide surprises", "Sea quiz", "Ocean heros", "Message in a bottle" and "Waste deterioration time".

*Friday 13 April, 2pm to 4pm*

- ✓ **Marine nursery (Biohuts) presentation and installation in Monaco port,** to support fish stock conservation.

*Thursday 12 April, 10am to 12pm / Saturday 14 April, 10am to 12pm (open to the public)*

## **ONE HUNDRED WELL-KNOWN FIGURES WILL ATTEND THE EVENT**

In addition to many actors from the scientific community and international organisations, the Monaco Ocean Week will also be attended by recognised sea-loving autodidacts such as:

- **Jorge Carlos FONSECA**, President of Cabo-Verde
- **Sylvia EARLE**, Marine biologist, explorer and member of Ocean Elders
- **Keith SCHOLEY**, *Filmmaker « BLUE », Disneynature*
- **Romain TROUBLE**, Director of the Tara Expeditions Foundation
- **Aldine AMIEL**, Kahi Kai Association
- **Juan ARBELAEZ**, Columbian chef based in France
- **Dr Drew HARVELL**, Marine Biologist, Department of Ecology and Biology, Cornell University.
- **Cory TREPANIER**, Canadian Landscape painter and filmmaker
- **Yvan GRIBOVAL**, Marine Explorer, Director of OceanoScientific Expeditions
- **Pascal PETIT**, Director of research in Economics, CNRS
- **Nicolas IMBERT**, Green Cross France & Territoires manager
- **Peter THOMPSON**, Special correspondent for the oceans, United Nations
- **Paolo GUIDETTI**, CNRS-University Cote d'Azur
- **Angélique BRATHWAITE**, Marine biologist
- **Jean-Pierre PHILIPPE**, Professor of Economics, Expert in development strategy of the island economies
- etc.

[www.monacooceanweek.org](http://www.monacooceanweek.org)

### Press contacts

**Stéphanie Kanoui** +33 (0)6 11 66 00 50 – [stephanie.thedesk@gmail.com](mailto:stephanie.thedesk@gmail.com)

**Sandra Bensoussan** +377 98 98 19 88 - [sbensoussan@fpa2.org](mailto:sbensoussan@fpa2.org)

Communications manager, Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation