

Shaping the future of the blue economy: you, me and all of us.

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The blue economy is thriving. Based on recent EU data, the blue economy provides more than 4 million jobs and generates a gross added value of €180 billion. However, this economic development poses significant sustainability challenges to safeguard our oceans and seas for future generations. Young marine scientists are needed now more than ever to drive this transition. Together with all of you, I hope to initiate this transition, but it will require more of us than what we learned during our master and PhD studies. It will require us to leave the safe environment of our own research fields and expertise. Crossing the boundaries of disciplines and sectors will be essential to our success. Through my own personal story, I will share my view on how we can address the Blue Economy challenges together.