



Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser  
to the Government of India



**BCKIC**  
Bhubaneswar City  
Knowledge Innovation  
Cluster Foundation



# **GLOBAL SUMMIT** **BLUE ECONOMY**

*Harnessing Science, Innovation & Sustainability for  
India's Marine Future*

**13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

## **Venue**

Odisha State Convention Centre, Lok Seva Bhawan  
Bhubaneswar, Odisha

**Comprehensive Minutes of the  
Global Summit on Blue Economy**

# Official Detailed Minutes

## **1. Background and Context**

The Global Summit on Blue Economy was convened on 13–14 March 2026 in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, bringing together policymakers, scientists, industry leaders, investors, and international delegates. The summit aimed to create a convergence platform integrating science, policy, and innovation to unlock the potential of India's marine resources in a sustainable and inclusive manner.

The summit aligns with national priorities under Viksit Bharat @2047 and complements India's strategic focus on ocean-based economic development, climate resilience, and coastal livelihood generation.

## **2. Inaugural Session Highlights**

The inaugural session emphasized the strategic importance of oceans as engines of economic growth, climate regulation, and biodiversity conservation. Speakers highlighted Odisha's 575 km coastline as a key enabler for fisheries, maritime trade, coastal tourism, and marine biotechnology.

The event underscored the need for collaborative approaches involving government, industry, academia, and communities to accelerate blue economy initiatives.

The inaugural session also witnessed the formal release of two significant knowledge resources aimed at strengthening the innovation ecosystem in the **Blue Economy: a Startup Technology Compendium under the Mission 50 Blue Economy**, showcasing cutting-edge technologies and solutions developed by emerging startups across marine and maritime domains, and a **Research Abstract Book** compiling innovative ideas, research insights, and conceptual advancements contributed by faculty members, researchers, and scholars from several reputed institutions across India. These publications collectively reflect the growing depth of India's research and startup landscape in the blue economy and are expected to serve as valuable references for policy, industry adoption, and future collaborations.



## 2.1 National Perspective – Government of India

The Ministry of Earth Sciences highlighted that oceans regulate global climate systems, support biodiversity, and offer immense opportunities in deep-sea resources, offshore energy, and marine biotechnology.

The Deep Ocean Mission was presented as a flagship initiative focusing on deep-sea exploration, marine biodiversity mapping, ocean energy, and development of indigenous technologies for sustainable resource utilization.

## 2.2 State Vision – Govt of Odisha

The Government of Odisha presented its vision under the EDGE framework (Economy, Demography, Geography, Ecosystem). The state outlined key initiatives including deep-sea fishing expansion, shrimp aquaculture, port capacity enhancement, coastal tourism development, and marine biotechnology initiatives.

Odisha's focus is on integrating economic growth with ecological sustainability and community development.

### 2.3 Mission 50 Blue Economy Startup Showcasing

The *Mission 50 Blue Economy Startup Showcasing* was a key highlight of the summit, aimed at promoting innovation-led growth in India's marine and coastal sectors. As part of this initiative, a dedicated Startup Showcasing Pavilion was inaugurated, featuring 26 startups from across coastal states of India working in domains such as marine technology, ocean analytics, maritime security, blue biotechnology, and sustainable coastal development.

Aligned with the broader Mission-50 Startup Program, the initiative also underscored Odisha's growing startup ecosystem, with over 20 startups from the state actively engaged in marine and maritime innovation, contributing deployable technologies for fisheries, ocean monitoring, and coastal livelihoods.



### 3. Leadership Session – Operationalising India's National Blue Missions

The leadership session emphasized the need for coordinated governance structures for the blue economy. Participants recommended the establishment of a national-level apex body to align policies across ministries and states.

The session highlighted the importance of global benchmarking, institutional coordination, and data-driven decision-making to ensure effective implementation.

### **Key Recommendations:**

- Establish a national apex body to ensure coordinated governance and unified strategic direction across Blue Economy sectors.
- Strengthen Centre–State–industry coordination through structured platforms for seamless policy alignment and effective on-ground implementation.
- Enable data-driven decision-making by developing robust ocean data systems and translating insights into actionable policies.
- Undertake global benchmarking and gap analysis to align India’s Blue Economy strategy with international best practices.



## **4. Leadership Driving the Blue Economy Transformation**

The session on *Leadership Driving the Blue Economy Transformation* emphasized the need for strong institutional coordination, global benchmarking, and policy coherence to advance India’s blue economy. Speakers highlighted aligning national ambitions with community-level stewardship, leveraging partnerships across regions, and translating data and innovation into actionable strategies for sustainable and inclusive ocean-based development.

### **Key Recommendations:**

- Establish a national-level institutional framework to ensure coordinated governance and strategic direction across all Blue Economy sectors.
- Strengthen alignment between national policies and community-level stewardship to ensure inclusive and sustainable ocean-based development.
- Promote global benchmarking and cross-regional partnerships to adopt best practices and innovative models for Blue Economy growth.
- Translate ocean data and research into actionable strategies through strong collaboration between policymakers, industry, and research institutions.



## 5. Blue Economy & Socio-Economic Impact

The summit highlighted the potential of the blue economy to generate large-scale employment, particularly in fisheries, aquaculture, processing, and coastal enterprises.

Discussions emphasized the role of carbon markets, CSR initiatives, and community participation in enhancing coastal livelihoods while ensuring ecosystem conservation.

### **Key Recommendations:**

- Promote community-led livelihood models through skill development, entrepreneurship, and market linkages for sustainable coastal economic growth.
- Integrate ecosystem conservation with livelihood programs to ensure long-term sustainability and resilience of coastal communities.
- Leverage CSR, carbon markets, and blended finance to support scalable and inclusive Blue Economy livelihood initiatives.
- Strengthen capacity building, awareness, and institutional support for fisheries, aquaculture, and coastal enterprises to enhance income generation.



## 6. Ocean Intelligence and Climate Risk

The session on ocean intelligence highlighted the need for advanced data systems, satellite monitoring, and predictive modeling to understand climate risks.

Localized forecasting systems were identified as critical for improving resilience of coastal communities against sea-level rise, cyclones, and environmental changes.

### **Key Recommendations:**

- Develop integrated ocean data systems combining satellite, in-situ, and modeling tools for improved climate risk assessment and forecasting.
- Strengthen localized coastal forecasting systems to enhance resilience of vulnerable communities against sea-level rise and extreme weather events.
- Invest in advanced technologies like AI, remote sensing, and eDNA for comprehensive ocean monitoring and data-driven decision-making.
- Promote cross-sector collaboration among research institutions, industry, and policymakers for coordinated climate risk mitigation and adaptation strategies.



## 7. Blue Biotechnology and Marine Bioresources

Marine biotechnology emerged as a key growth sector with applications in pharmaceuticals, nutraceuticals, bioenergy, and industrial enzymes.

The importance of genomics, microbial research, and seaweed cultivation was emphasized for developing a circular bioeconomy and sustainable aquaculture systems.

### **Key Recommendations:**

- Strengthen research and innovation in marine genomics and biotechnology to unlock high-value bioresources for pharmaceuticals, nutraceuticals, and industrial applications.

- Promote large-scale seaweed cultivation and marine bioresource utilization through pilot projects, industry partnerships, and supportive policy frameworks.
- Invest in advanced technologies and infrastructure to explore marine microbial diversity and accelerate discovery of novel bioactive compounds.
- Develop regulatory clarity, data systems, and industry–academia collaboration to enable commercialization and scale-up of marine biotechnology solutions.



## 8. Ecosystem Approach towards Sustainable Blue Economy

Experts stressed that healthy ecosystems are the foundation of the blue economy. Mangroves and coastal ecosystems provide critical services such as carbon sequestration, storm protection, and livelihood support.

The need to integrate ecosystem valuation into economic planning and policy frameworks was strongly emphasized.

### **Key Recommendations:**

- Integrate ecosystem valuation into policy and planning to recognize economic benefits of mangroves, coastal habitats, and marine biodiversity.
- Strengthen ecosystem-based management through marine spatial planning, conservation strategies, and restoration of critical coastal ecosystems.
- Develop robust monitoring systems and baseline data to support evidence-based ecosystem governance and climate resilience planning.
- Promote community participation and awareness to align livelihood activities with conservation goals and sustainable use of marine resources.



## 9. Maritime Security: Safeguarding India's Blue Frontiers

Maritime security discussions focused on coastal surveillance, multi-agency coordination, and use of advanced technologies such as AI, IoT, and satellite systems.

Strengthening maritime domain awareness and community engagement was identified as essential for safeguarding coastal regions and national interests.

### **Key Recommendations:**

- Strengthen multi-agency coordination among Coast Guard, Navy, police, and intelligence agencies for integrated maritime security and response systems.
- Enhance technology-driven surveillance using AI, drones, satellite systems, and real-time maritime domain awareness for coastal monitoring.
- Promote community engagement in coastal areas to improve intelligence gathering and strengthen grassroots-level maritime security mechanisms.
- Develop climate-resilient and secure maritime infrastructure to safeguard ports, trade routes, and coastal assets against emerging threats.



## 10. Partnerships for a Net-Zero Ocean Economy

The session highlighted the importance of global partnerships, renewable energy, and ocean technologies in achieving a net-zero ocean economy.

Satellite data, offshore renewable energy, and carbon-neutral maritime operations were identified as key enablers.

### **Key Recommendations:**

- Establish dedicated institutional mechanisms to coordinate policies, financing, and technology development for advancing a net-zero ocean economy.
- Promote innovation and startup ecosystems focused on ocean technologies, renewable energy, and low-carbon maritime solutions.
- Strengthen international collaborations for knowledge exchange, technology transfer, and joint initiatives in sustainable ocean economy development.
- Integrate satellite monitoring, renewable energy, and ocean-based solutions to reduce emissions and enhance climate resilience.



## 11. University and R&D Leadership - Blue Labs to Global Markets

The role of academic institutions in translating research into market-ready innovations was emphasized. Strengthening international collaborations, skill development, and research infrastructure was identified as critical for advancing the blue economy.

### **Key Recommendations:**

- Strengthen university–industry collaboration to translate research into market-ready innovations and scalable solutions in Blue Economy sectors.
- Promote international partnerships, student exchanges, and joint research programs to enhance global knowledge sharing and capacity building.
- Invest in advanced marine research infrastructure and specialized academic programs to develop skilled human resources for ocean sectors.

- Encourage innovation, patenting, and startup creation within academic institutions to drive entrepreneurship and commercialization of research outcomes.



## 12. Ports, Trade and Maritime Trade Corridors

Port-led development was identified as a major driver of economic growth. Integration of ports with logistics corridors, industrial clusters, and trade networks is essential for enhancing competitiveness.

Climate-resilient infrastructure and sustainable port development were highlighted as priorities.

### **Key Recommendations:**

- Promote port-led development by integrating ports with industrial clusters, logistics networks, and multimodal transport corridors.
- Invest in climate-resilient and modern port infrastructure to enhance efficiency, sustainability, and global trade competitiveness.
- Strengthen connectivity through dedicated freight corridors, road, and rail networks linking ports with hinterland economic zones.
- Encourage sustainable maritime practices by integrating ecosystem conservation, coastal community development, and green port initiatives.



### 13. Investor-Startup Connect

The investor session highlighted opportunities in aquaculture, marine biotechnology, ocean data systems, and climate technologies.

Challenges such as infrastructure gaps, regulatory complexity, and access to capital were discussed, with recommendations for blended finance models and policy reforms.

#### **Key Recommendations:**

- Promote blended finance models combining public, private, and CSR funding to support scalable Blue Economy ventures and infrastructure development.
- Simplify regulatory frameworks and approval processes to improve ease of doing business and attract private investments in marine sectors.
- Strengthen startup–investor connect platforms to facilitate funding, mentorship, and market access for emerging Blue Economy enterprises.
- Develop risk mitigation mechanisms and financial instruments to enhance investor confidence in aquaculture, marine biotechnology, and ocean technologies.



### 14. CCIMA Stakeholder Engagement

The *Round Table – CCIMA Stakeholder Engagement* session served as a collaborative platform bringing together key stakeholders from government, industry, academia, and innovation ecosystems to deliberate on strengthening coastal and marine-based economic development. The discussion focused on fostering convergence between policy frameworks, technological innovation, and community-level implementation, with emphasis on enabling institutional partnerships, facilitating technology deployment, and enhancing stakeholder coordination. Participants highlighted the importance of creating inclusive engagement models, strengthening capacity building, and ensuring that coastal communities are active partners in the blue economy, while also identifying opportunities for scaling pilot initiatives through coordinated support mechanisms and strategic collaborations.

**Key Recommendations:**

- Strengthen multi-stakeholder coordination among government, industry, academia, and communities to enable effective implementation of Blue Economy initiatives.
- Promote institutional partnerships for technology deployment, pilot projects, and scaling of innovative solutions in coastal and marine sectors.
- Enhance capacity building and skill development programs to empower coastal communities as active participants in the Blue Economy.
- Develop inclusive engagement frameworks ensuring community participation, local ownership, and sustainable outcomes in coastal development initiatives.



**15. Convergence Platform – Academia, Industry & Incubator Network Model**

The Convergence Platform session emphasized bringing together government, industry, academia, startups, and communities to create a unified ecosystem for the Blue Economy. It focused on fostering collaboration, enabling technology deployment, aligning policies with innovation, and accelerating scalable solutions through partnerships, shared resources, and coordinated implementation to drive sustainable ocean-based economic development.



## 16. Faculty & Student Innovation Presentations

The Faculty & Student Innovation Presentations powered by Taylor & Francis showcased research-driven ideas and technological solutions from academic institutions, highlighting innovation in marine science, sustainability, and ocean technologies, while encouraging young researchers and scholars to contribute towards advancing India's Blue Economy ecosystem.



## 17. Valedictory Session

The Valedictory Session concluded the summit by summarizing key insights, reinforcing commitments towards sustainable Blue Economy development, and emphasizing collaborative action across stakeholders. It highlighted the importance of innovation, policy alignment, and community participation, while expressing confidence that the outcomes would guide future strategies, partnerships, and implementation pathways for ocean-based economic growth.



## **18. Conclusion & Key Action Points from the Summit**

The Global Summit on Blue Economy concluded with a strong commitment to advancing sustainable ocean-based economic development.

The deliberations and recommendations are expected to inform future policy frameworks and position India as a global leader in the blue economy.

### **Key Action Points:**

- Establish a national-level apex body to ensure coordinated governance, policy alignment, and strategic direction across Blue Economy sectors.
- Strengthen multi-stakeholder collaboration among government, industry, academia, and communities for effective implementation of Blue Economy initiatives.
- Promote innovation-driven startup ecosystems and technology deployment to accelerate scalable and sustainable ocean-based solutions.
- Enable data-driven decision-making through integrated ocean data systems, advanced analytics, and predictive modeling for informed policy planning.
- Enhance coastal livelihoods through skill development, entrepreneurship, and community-led models linked with sustainable marine resource utilization.
- Integrate ecosystem conservation with economic planning through marine spatial planning, biodiversity protection, and nature-based solutions.
- Invest in marine research, biotechnology, and advanced technologies to unlock high-value bioresources and strengthen blue bioeconomy growth.
- Promote climate resilience through localized forecasting systems, ocean intelligence, and adaptation strategies for vulnerable coastal regions.
- Develop climate-resilient and modern maritime infrastructure, including ports, logistics networks, and coastal assets for sustainable trade growth.
- Facilitate blended finance models, regulatory reforms, and investor-friendly frameworks to mobilize capital for Blue Economy sectors.
- Strengthen international partnerships for knowledge exchange, technology transfer, and collaborative development of ocean-based solutions.
- Build capacity through education, research infrastructure, and skill development to create a future-ready workforce for the Blue Economy

An underwater scene with a light blue background. In the foreground, there are various colorful coral reefs in shades of orange, yellow, and green. Several fish of different species are swimming around, including a large silver fish on the left and a striped fish in the center. The overall atmosphere is serene and aquatic.

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