



# Coastal Futures Conference 2025

*The path to 2030*

Outline Programme  
Call for Presentation & Posters

[Tickets on sale here](#)

29 & 30 January 2025 | The Royal Geographical Society, London & online

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# *Coastal Futures 2025: the path to 2030*

**2030: The date is etched across international goals, government policies, and legal targets. The UK has a new government, and this parliamentary term will take the country to the brink of 2030.**

Politicians, NGOs, industry, and government agencies, all have 2030 fixed firmly in their sights as the year when the world should have achieved many of the most important aims and ambitions of our time.

What are these targets, why do they matter and whose responsibility are they?

- We are now halfway through the 'UN Decade of Ocean Science' and 'UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration'.
- The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations members in 2015, created 17 world Sustainable Development Goals to be achieved by 2030.
- OSPAR's 16 contracting parties have signed up to the North-East Atlantic Environment Strategy 2030. It sets out the objectives to tackle the challenges facing the ocean: biodiversity loss, pollution, and climate change.
- The UK government wants clean power by 2030 and has a target to reach 50GW of offshore wind capacity by this date, a step towards achieving net-zero.
- The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework commits 196 countries to halting and reversing nature loss by 2030. The agreement's 23 targets include a global target to conserve at least 30% of the world's ocean by 2030 ("30x30").
- Under the Paris climate agreement, the UK needs to reduce its emissions by 68% by 2030 compared with 1990 levels.
- The EU has adopted a new 'Nature Restoration Law'. Member States will put in place restoration measures in at least 20% of the EU's sea areas by 2030.

**There are just five years until 2030. Is the UK and the world on track to reach these ambitions?** How can we achieve the transition to a low-carbon, nature-positive and sustainable world in a fair and just way?

*Coastal Futures 2025* sets out to answer these questions and cover the major themes in the estuarine, coastal and marine sectors. Across six sessions over two days, the conference aims to challenge thinking and move debate forward in an informative and collaborative way.

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## Outline sessions

### 1. LAND-SEA INTERACTIONS

*How do we improve the quality of place-based decision-making?*

Speakers will consider how to embed systems thinking and a holistic approach in local governance, to achieve stronger and more integrated outcomes.

### 2. SUSTAINABLE SEAS

*Can we meet the 2030 targets whilst growing a sustainable blue economy?*

Speakers will illustrate complex interactions within the marine space and provide examples of collaborative and innovative solutions to achieve a sustainable blue economy, amid the nature and climate crises.

### 3. ACROSS THE WATER

*What insights can we gain from international best practice to help us reach the 2030 targets?* Speakers will bring their experience from across the world to tackle this year's key questions on land-sea interactions, sustainable seas, ocean stewardship, future fishing and restoring nature.

### 4. OCEAN STEWARDSHIP

*Are we doing enough to understand and promote the value of our seas?*

Speakers will demonstrate innovative approaches to support coastal communities, understand their diverse values and empower transformative change from the local level.

### 5. FUTURE FISHING

*How will future fishing needs be balanced with restoration efforts and space for renewable energy?*

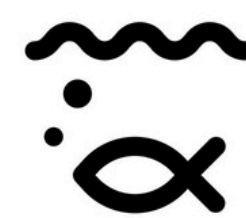
Speakers will illustrate the impacts of energy, climate, and nature recovery targets on fisheries and how the transition to new fisheries management measures will help or hinder a sustainable future.

### 6. RESTORING NATURE

*Can we achieve well-managed and restored marine and coastal seascapes by 2030?* Speakers will highlight nature positive progress and consider if true headway is being made on reversing the loss of nature and restoring the natural world to health.

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Coastal  
Futures  
Conference  
2025

# Call for Presentations & Posters

The Coastal Futures team are inviting presentation and poster proposals.

## **Presentations (deadline for abstract 14th October 2024)**

If you would like to speak in one of six themed sessions described above, please download the template and submit to [conference@coastms.co.uk](mailto:conference@coastms.co.uk). Download the abstract template [here](#).

Presentations will be followed by a panel discussion/Q&A session.

## **Posters (deadline for abstract 14th October 2024)**

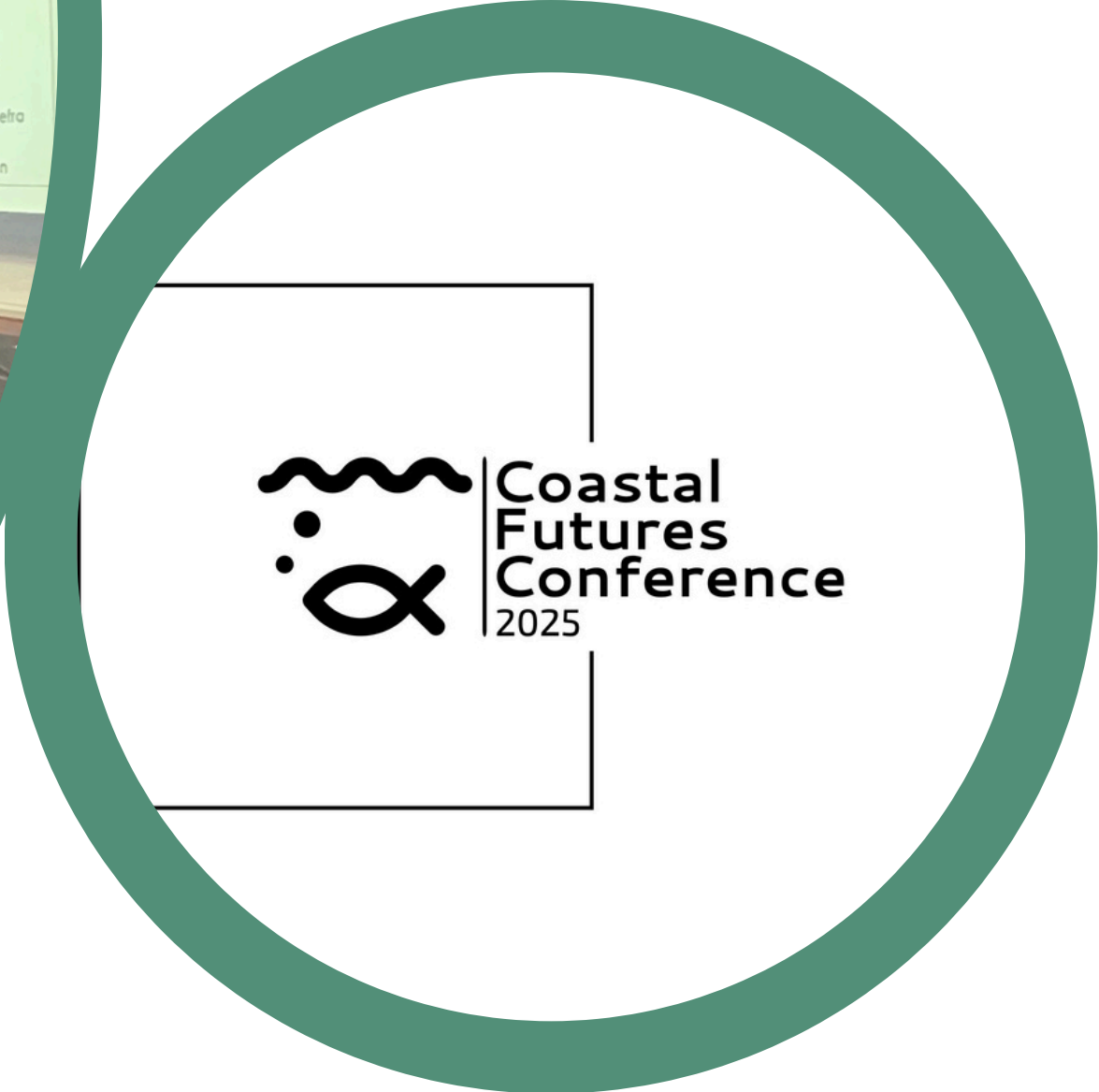
We encourage anyone to submit a poster abstract that fits within one of our session themes, especially those within early career/research roles. Please download the template and submit to [conference@coastms.co.uk](mailto:conference@coastms.co.uk). Download the abstract template [here](#).

Posters will be displayed at the venue throughout the event for people to view and discuss with presenters to help generate further ideas, collaborations and partnerships.

Speakers and presenters will be informed about their abstracts on the 21st October.

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# Delegate Rates

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		In-Person	Livestream (two days)
2-day rate	Full	£295 +VAT	£95 +VAT
	Retired	£215 +VAT	£75 +VAT
	Concession*	£145 +VAT	£60 +VAT
	Student**	£125 +VAT	£50 +VAT
1-day rate	Full	£210 +VAT	
	Retired	£145 +VAT	
	Concession*	£115 +VAT	
	Student**	£100 +VAT	

- Rates include refreshments, food and conference reception
- Concession rates only apply to these categories: the unemployed; benefit recipients; registered disabled; those working in small charitable organisations with gross annual income of less than £1 million
- Student tickets only for those in full-time education; limited numbers available
- 10% group discount rates are available for full rate, in-person tickets of five or more delegates when booked simultaneously - contact [diana.hunt@coastms.co.uk](mailto:diana.hunt@coastms.co.uk) for more information

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