# [***Indonesia: Ministry unveils new-fangled strategies in blue economy at G20 event***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:66BG-WJJ1-JB5P-J4XN-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Body**

Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (KKP) Ministry introduced three blue economy strategies and action plans at the G20 event based on ecological and economic considerations in marine space activities for healthy, safe, resilient, and productive seas.

Director General of Marine Spatial Management at the KKP Victor Gustaaf Manoppo explained that the strategy aimed at expanding conservation areas, with a target of 30 percent of the total area of Indonesian waters, and manage marine debris and spatial planning of marine, coastal, and small islands that could protect coastal resources and small islands from damage caused by economic activities.

"The first strategy is the expansion of marine conservation areas that are closely related to climate change mitigation and adaptation actions. Indonesia has 28.4 million hectares of a conservation area that protects coastal ecosystems that are important for climate resilience," Manoppo noted in an official release on Tuesday.

He reminded that currently, the existing conservation areas protected about three percent, or about 88 thousand hectares of Indonesian ***mangrove*** ecosystems and 34 percent, or around 50 thousand hectares of Indonesian seagrass beds.

Speaking in connection with strategies related to marine waste management, he affirmed that marine plastic waste posed a considerable risk to oceans. Based on data from the Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI) in 2018, it was estimated that 0.27-0.59 million tons per year of marine debris polluted the sea in 2018.

In line with the blue economy strategy, Indonesia recently launched the 'Month of Love of the Sea' program. The idea is to encourage and empower fishermen to be involved in protecting the sea from marine pollution by providing incentives from the garbage collected from the sea. This is expected to reduce marine debris by up to 70 percent," Manoppo explained.

Meanwhile, the third strategy is the sustainable management of marine, coastal, and small islands that is conducted through strengthening regulations for the protection of ***blue carbon*** reserve areas, allocating space to maintain and increase ***blue carbon*** stocks, and improving management synergy and the quality of ***blue carbon*** stock areas, he stated.

Manoppo also noted that in order to protect the ecosystem, several spatial regulations and permits were set to ensure that the ecosystem was protected and not converted for other land uses.

He stated that 15 locations were designed as special areas for environmental control in the form of ***blue carbon*** reserves and placing all ***mangrove*** restoration areas under the coastal ecosystem management zone.

Currently, more than 20 provinces are in the process of including coastal management areas in the integration of local spatial planning. Moreover, several regulations have been issued to ensure that ***blue carbon*** ecosystems outside marine protected areas are also sustainably protected.

"Indonesia invites the G20 global partnership to actively participate and become involved in building capacity and promoting cooperation on the maritime and climate agenda," he noted.

Earlier, Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs, Airlangga Hartarto, emphasized that Indonesia's Presidency in G20 ensured an accelerated transition to renewable energy and maintained the sustainability of the oceans.

Hartarto also believes that the estimated annual value of the blue economy of US$2.5 trillion will be able to attract investors, insurance, banks, and policy makers as the new sources of wealth.

"The challenge we are facing right now is to expand sustainability, and this will require the private sector to participate," he stated.

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