



# **Chasing Coral**

This screening will be followed by a panel discussion featuring:



#### **Dr. Laure Ledoux**

Dr. Laure Ledoux joined the European Commission in 2005 after a 10 year research career in the UK. She is currently Deputy Head of the Biodiversity Unit in the Directorate General for Environment, having also previously worked in Eurostat and the Directorate General for Climate Action. She has been involved in the development of EU biodiversity policy since 2010.



#### **Emma Priestland**

Emma Priestland is a policy officer with a focus on marine litter for Seas At Risk since 2013. She has first-hand experience of the issues facing coral reefs from working as a diving instructor in the Philippines. Seas At Risk is an umbrella organisation of environmental NGOs from across Europe that works to help drive European and international marine and maritime policies in a sustainable direction.



### **Kait Bolongaro**

Kait Bolongaro is an award-winning reporter covering oceans and fisheries for POLITICO Europe in Brussels. She has been a journalist with a focus on science and environmental issues for the past six years, including an investigation into water pollution in China. She is originally from Vancouver, Canada.



# **Thierry Lucas**

Thierry Lucas is currently coordinating the Biodiversity and Ecosystems Management subprogramme at the United Nations Environment Programme in Europe. Mr Lucas has over 19 years of technical and management experience with the UN, including expertise in Africa and Asia. Before working for UN Environment, Mr. Lucas was the project manager of an adolescent health programme in Asia for the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) from 2003 to 2007.



# **Deborah Seward**

Deborah Seward is Director of the United Nations Regional Information Centre (UNRIC) in Brussels. Prior to arriving in Brussels, she served as Director of the Department of Public Information's Strategic Communications Division at UN Headquarters New York. Before joining the United Nations in 2011, Ms. Seward was an international journalist for nearly 25 years, with postings in Berlin, Bonn, Moscow, New York, Paris, Prague and Warsaw.

#### Follow the discussion on Twitter and Facebook:



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**More info:** www.chasingcoral.com, ourocean2017.org, cleanseas.org, www.unep.org/environmentassembly, www.unep.org



## "What lies below, reveals what lies ahead"

Coral reefs around the world are vanishing at an unprecedented rate. A team of divers, photographers and scientists set out on a thrilling ocean adventure to discover why and to reveal the underwater mystery to the world.

'Chasing Corals' is an emotional journey capturing visual evidence of coral bleaching, a result of global warming. This change will have significant consequences on the ecosystems and the planet as a whole.

- •Did you know? Corals are animals!
- •If we don't act, more than 90% of world's coral reefs will be extinct by 2050
- •Direct anthropogenic stress the main cause of reef degradation

TIP! Conserve water - The less water you use, the less runoff and wastewater will pollute our oceans, and kill our corals.

#### Our Ocean Conference 'An Ocean for Life'

Over 3 billion people depend directly on our seas for their livelihoods. But in reality, all of us depend on the ocean: for our water, our food, our climate and our air. Seas and oceans enrich our identity, ensure our wellbeing and sustain a large part of the economy. The 2017 edition of the Our Ocean Conference hosted by the EU and held in Malta from 5 to 6 Octobers, will make further contributions to marine protection and the sustainable development of the Blue Economy across the world. #OurOceans www.ourocean2017.org





# **United Nations Campaign for Clean Seas**

Each year, at least 8 million tons of plastics leak into the ocean. The Clean Seas Campaign was launched by UN Environment with the aim of engaging governments, the general public, civil society and the private sector. The main purpose of this campaign is to address the root-cause of marine litter by targeting the production and consumption on non-recoverable and single-use plastic. Not only celebrities like Adrian Grenier are involved, but anybody can participate. Visit the website to see what #CleanSeas actions are taking place around the world or start your own: www.cleanseas.org/take-action

# Towards a Pollution-Free Planet - United Nations Environment Assembly

The Third UN Environment Assembly will take place in Nairobi on 4-6 December 2017, under the theme 'Towards a Pollution-Free Planet'. It is the highest level decision-making body on the environment and provides a groundbreaking platform for leadership on global environmental policy in a multi-stakeholder context. The expected outcomes of the Assembly, are a political declaration on pollution, resolutions and decisions that will be adopted by Member States and voluntary commitments to clean up the plant. Join the movement, sign the #BeatPollution Pledge: www.beatpollution.org





UNRIC is the communication hub for the United Nations in Europe. Based in Brussels, the Centre covers 22 Western European countries and maintains a website in 13 languages. Visit <a href="https://www.unric.org">www.unric.org</a> for more information.