

Side Event at COP17 of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

Country: Armenia
City: Yerevan
Date: October 20th 2026
Hora: 18:00

Title: RAMPAS: Regional Cooperation for Ocean Health: Bridging Science, Policy, and Finance for Effective Conservation.

Summary: The Southeast Pacific encompasses a mosaic of interconnected habitats, national jurisdictions, international waters, unique biodiversity, and one of the most productive marine ecosystems on the planet. Achieving the 30x30 target of the Global Biodiversity Framework requires more than expanding the coverage of protected areas: it requires effective management, ecological connectivity, cooperation, knowledge, and sustainable financing.

Regional networks of marine protected areas, such as RAMPAS, can play a strategic role in translating the CBD Strategic Plan into effective action, linking area-based conservation with species protection, ecological integrity, and regional cooperation. This integrated approach offers an opportunity to strengthen ecosystem connectivity, safeguard biodiversity, and sustain ecosystem services that sustain livelihoods, including fisheries, tourism, and a myriad of other productive activities.

At the same time, a key challenge remains: how to ensure sustainable and innovative financing that supports long-term implementation and effective management. No conservation framework can deliver lasting results without adequate resources, just as advances in ocean science only contribute to the objectives of the CBD when translated into strategic decisions and coordinated actions by political leaders. In this regard, the event seeks to explore how regional networks such as RAMPAS can help articulate science, policy and financing, as well as accelerate the implementation of the CBD Strategic Plan for the conservation and sustainable use of the Southeast Pacific Ocean.

The panel will discuss how regional cooperation can transform global biodiversity commitments into coordinated actions on the ground and identify opportunities for replication and international collaboration.

General objective: Address and analyze how RAMPAS will contribute to the work for the fulfillment of the goals of the Global Biodiversity Framework of the CBD for the conservation and sustainable use of the Southeast Pacific.

Organized by: Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (CPPS)

The event will consist of a keynote presentation followed by a panel discussion, moderated by guiding questions to encourage dialogue, exchange of experiences and identification of opportunities for collective action.

Tuesday, October 20th, 2026			
Time	Topic	Speaker	Filiation
18:00 – 18:10	Welcome, objectives and presentation of the speakers	Jose Luis Villacis	CPPS
18:10 – 18:15	Opening remarks by the German Ministry of Environment (BMUKN)	Elke Steinmentz (PC)	BMUKN
18:15 – 18:25	RAMPAS: Regional Cooperation for Ocean Health.	Leonardo Marriaga	CPPS
18:25 – 18:45	Discussion panel according to guiding questions: How does the RAMPAS strategy integrate the fulfillment of the CBD objectives for the Southeast Pacific? What are the main challenges and strategic actions in ensuring the future financial sustainability of conservation actions? What is the potential that RAMPAS could have to contribute to the effective implementation of the BBNJ treaty?	Jan Kleine (Moderador)	GIZ
		Leonardo Marriaga	CPPS
		Erick Castro	CAF
		Ana Gloria Guzmán	MINAE Costa Rica
18:45 – 18:50	Conclusions and closing.	Patsy Contardo	Chile

Con el apoyo de:

