



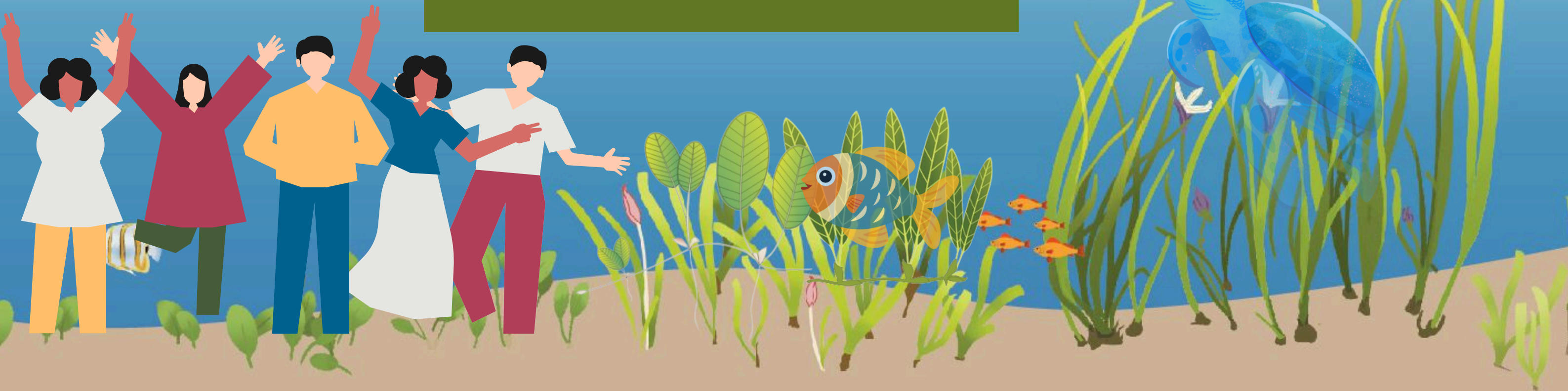
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
SRI LANKA

WORLD SEAGRASS DAY 2025

1 March 2025, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Grooming Youth

Blooming Seagrass



World Seagrass Day 2025 will be held under the theme, "**Grooming Youth – Blooming Seagrass,**" highlighting the importance of youth in marine conservation. This year's theme emphasizes empowering younger generations to lead seagrass conservation efforts, addressing critical challenges like pollution, habitat degradation, and climate change. By sparking creativity and innovation among youth, the event aims to drive sustainable solutions that will ensure the future vitality of seagrass ecosystems.

Background

Sri Lanka, situated in the Indo-Pacific (seagrass bioregion, harbors 15 seagrass species, making it a global hotspot for seagrass biodiversity. Despite successfully restoring 65% of its seagrass habitats, the global decline of seagrass meadows remains a critical concern, with nearly 30% lost.

In recognition of the ecological significance of seagrasses and their role in addressing climate change, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution on May 23, 2022, declaring March 1st as World Seagrass Day, submitted by Sri Lanka and co-sponsored by 24 countries. This initiative highlights the importance of seagrasses in supporting marine biodiversity, fisheries, and climate resilience while advancing international commitments, including the SDGs and the Paris Agreement.

About 90% of the nearly two billion young people in the world today are in the Global South. The 2025 theme, "Grooming Youth - Blooming with Seagrass," emphasizes youth engagement in seagrass conservation, aiming to inspire future generations to protect these vital ecosystems. Engaging and empowering youth in decision-making processes is crucial in shaping sustainable and adaptable communities. As nations join hands to commemorate World Seagrass Day, it reinforces the shared responsibility of safeguarding marine ecosystems to ensure a sustainable, net-zero future.

World Seagrass Day 2025 will contribute significantly to international commitments by raising global awareness on the ecological importance of seagrass ecosystems in achieving the SDGs (especially SDG 13, 14, and 8), supporting the Paris Agreement through blue carbon initiatives, and promoting biodiversity conservation in line with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. This Day advances the goals of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration and the Ocean Decade by fostering research, youth engagement, and community-driven restoration, while aligning with the Ramsar Convention on wetland protection.

OBJECTIVES

Empowering Youth – Encourage youth leadership in marine conservation and foster stewardship for sustainable coastal livelihoods.

Enhancing Awareness & Collaboration – Strengthen national and global partnerships to promote the socio-economic and ecological importance of seagrass ecosystems.

Promoting Research & Innovation – Support educational initiatives and innovative research aligned with global sustainability and climate goals

Event Details



Date: March 1, 2025 (Saturday) from 8:00 AM – 10:30 AM



Venue: The Port City of Colombo, Sri Lanka (hybrid)



Language: English

Event Plan in Sri Lanka

- A special address by H.E. the President of Sri Lanka
- A video message by the Secretary-General of the United Nations
- Keynote Address by the President of the World Seagrass Association
- Seagrass aquarium display at the venue
- Art competition award ceremony
- Online broadcast of live diving experience
- Bicycle rally for seagrass awareness
- One-minute video challenge by kids
- Initiation of Seagrass Areas as new Marine Protected Areas

Target Audience

- Youth & School children
- Local Communities & NGOs
- Member States/UN Agencies/ International Stakeholders
- Government Officials & Diplomats based in Sri Lanka



Get More Information

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