

Distinguished Professor Carlos M. Duarte is the Tarek Ahmed Juffali Research Chair in Red Sea Ecology at the King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST), in Saudi Arabia, and Executive Director (interim) of the *Global Coral R&D Accelerator Platform*. Before this he was Research Professor with the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) and Director of the Oceans Institute at The University of Western Australia. He also holds an adjunct position at the Arctic Research Center in Aarhus University, Denmark. Duarte's research focuses on understanding the effects of global change in marine ecosystems and developing nature-based solutions to global challenges, including climate change, and develop evidence-based strategies to rebuild the abundance of marine life by 2050. Building on his research showing mangroves, seagrasses and salt-marshes to be globally-relevant carbon sinks, he developed, working with different UN agencies, the concept of Blue Carbon, as a nature-based solution to climate change, which has catalyzed their global conservation and restoration. He has conducted research across all continents and oceans, spanning most of the marine ecosystem types, from inland to near-shore and the deep sea and from microbes to whales, and has a particular focus on the role of seaweed aquaculture as a sustainable solution for multiple challenges. Professor Duarte led the Malaspina 2010 Expedition, including over 700 scientist from 38 institutions from across 18 nations, that sailed the world's oceans to examine the impacts of global change on ocean ecosystems and explore deep-sea biodiversity. Professor Duarte served as President of the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography between 2007 and 2010. He has published more than 900 scientific papers and has been ranked within the top 1% Highly-Cited Scientist by Thompson Reuters in all assessments of this rank, as was ranked as the top marine biologist in the world, and recently, the 12<sup>th</sup> most influential climate scientist in the world (Reuters). He has received many honors, including the G. Evelyn Hutchinson Award from the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography in 2001, the National Science Award of Spain (2007), and the *I. Vernadsky* Medal of the European Geophysical Union. the Prix d'Excellence by the International Council for the Exploration of the Seas (ICES, 2011), the Carlo Heip award for excellent in Marine Biodiversity (2018), and the Ramon Margalef Ecology Award (2019), and the BBVA Foundation Frontiers of Knowledge Award in Ecology and Conservation Biology (2020). Duarte received honorary doctorates from the Université de Québec à Montréal (Canada) in 2010 and Utrecht University (The Netherlands) in 2012. He served in the Expert Group supporting the High Level Group, including 12 heads of states, proposing a pathway towards a Sustainable Ocean Economy.

More information: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carlos\\_M.\\_Duarte](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carlos_M._Duarte)