

REIMAGINING THE FUTURE OF OUR BLUE PLANET THIS WORLD OCEAN DAY

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For too long, the ocean has been treated as an unlimited sink for human activity.

The 2026 World Ocean Day theme challenges us to reimagine how we manage and safeguard marine resources, shifting from passive use to active stewardship.

Reimagine a cleaner ocean where bilge sludge is history and marine life regains its resilience.

With the entry into force of the BBNJ Treaty, global ocean governance has entered a new phase. However, regulatory progress must be matched by scalable, science-driven innovation.

BilgeUP addresses one of the maritime sector's most persistent operational challenges: bilge water. Instead of viewing this mixture of oil, sludge, and contaminants as unavoidable waste, BilgeUP applies marine biotechnology to convert it into two high-value, solution-oriented outputs:

- Biosurfactants: Natural, biodegradable dispersants that support more effective and environmentally responsible oil-spill response.
- Biodegradable Plastics (PHA): Materials derived from ship sludge that can be used to produce biodegradable fishing gear, reducing ghost fishing and marine litter.

Reimagine crystal-clear waters alive with healthy fish, not clouded by pollution.

True ocean stewardship requires integrated approaches that close the loop on waste and align industry practices with global conservation goals. Building a circular maritime economy is essential to protecting Marine Protected Areas and ensuring long-term ocean resilience.

Find more about this international day here: <https://unworldoceansday.org/>



Official Website
bilgeup.com



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Further Reading:

Biosurfactants: A sustainable alternative for cleaning and personal care products (2026). Fraunhofer Available at: <https://www.igb.fraunhofer.de/en/press-media/press-releases/2026/biosurfactants-a-sustainable-alternative-for-cleaning-and-personal-care-products.html>

BBNJ High Ambition Coalition (n.d.) European Commission. Available at: https://oceans-and-fisheries.ec.europa.eu/ocean/international-ocean-governance/bbnj-high-ambition-coalition_en

