BEDF is a set of analytical tools and technical assistance to help countries define a roadmap to a diversified and sustainable maritime economy, while building resilience to climate change.

As of 2021, the World Bank is piloting the BEDF in ten countries around the world. These pilots will help refine and improve the BEDF as it is applied in more places.

BEDF | The Blue Economy Development Framework
A toolkit for a sustainable ocean economy

Oceans are essential for the global economy and a healthy planet. Healthy, productive oceans provide jobs, food and drive economic growth while keeping the planet cool.

Oceans are a primary source of income 3-5% of global GDP

Ocean-based jobs are expected to increase 120% between 2010 and 2030

Fisheries & Aquaculture assure livelihoods of 10-12% of world population

90% of excess heat has been stored in the ocean
Policy, Institutional and Fiscal Reforms

Challenge: Poor policies, inefficient use of public resources and lack of stakeholder engagement leads to unsustainable growth, damage to natural systems and costly cross-sector conflicts.

Fostering Investment

Challenge: Lack of knowledge and poor governance create uncertainty and deter private investment in ocean sectors.

Data, Analysis, and Dissemination

Challenge: Data and research capacity hampers smart decision-making for optimal growth.

Design cost-effective data-gathering & analysis to inform policy to support integrated planning of maritime sectors.
Design and support development of Blue Natural Capital Accounting.
Identify capacity for integrated planning using the latest technology.
Analyze key government institutions and offer recommendations for policy, administrative and fiscal reforms.
Help countries apply integrated and inclusive planning decision-support tools for blue growth.
Help identify public investments in blue and grey infrastructure.
Identify opportunities for innovative financing of blue growth (blue bonds, insurance, etc.).
Offer financial sector technical assistance and standards to adopt blue investment principles.
Design incentives to make maritime sector investments climate-resilient.

Core Components of the BEDF and how each contributes to a Blue Economy

- Improved fish stocks and improved fisheries
- Coastal communities more resilient to climate change
- Cleaner and more attractive coasts and oceans
- Better jobs for people living along the coast
- New ocean sectors (e.g. Offshore wind energy)