

Dr Ayana Elizabeth Johnson

The best way to tackle the issues facing our planet is to listen to a diversity of voices and work together to find solutions.



Courtesy of Ayana Elizabeth Johnson

Like many people and organisations, we have been thinking about inequality in science, and society as a whole.

An unjust society holds back our progress in many ways, including towards a more sustainable future.

An important researcher in this area is Dr Ayana Elizabeth Johnson, a marine biologist from Brooklyn, New York.

As well as being a fantastic advocate for the planet, scientist, policy expert and writer, Dr Johnson founded [the All We Can Save Project](#) and [Urban Ocean Lab](#).

The All We Can Save Project recognises that one of the major barriers to combating climate change isn't the technology or lack of public interest to act, but rather the idea that those in power (generally White men) continue to focus on the short term. The project focuses on supporting and developing the voices of Black, Indigenous, and other women of colour. The aim is to get these women into leadership roles to make a more impactful and fair approach to tackling climate change.

Urban Ocean Lab is dedicated to finding solutions to using the ocean and protecting coastal cities in a sustainable way.

Dr Johnson has recently been described as “**the most influential marine biologist of our time**”!

Her article for the US newspaper “The Washington Post” from June 2020 highlights how important it is that we address racism in society if we are to tackle the climate crisis. Read the article [here](#).

You can find out more about Dr Johnson on her [website](#), including lots more articles she's written!

You can also watch her giving a Ted Talk [here](#)