



GLOBAL OCEANS FORUM ASSESSMENTS: HOW WELL ARE WE DOING?

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INTRODUCTION--THE IMPORTANCE OF RIO+20

The UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD), also known as the Rio+20 Summit, will take place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 4-6 June 2012, marking the 20th anniversary of the 1992 Earth Summit (UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED)) and the 10th anniversary of the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD). The UNCSD aims to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assess progress made and remaining gaps in the implementation of major agreements on sustainable development, and address new and emerging challenges, especially those relating to the transition to a low-carbon economy.¹

¹ UNGA resolution 64/236, para. 20(a).

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Both UNCED and the WSSD were instrumental in developing the global environmental governance framework and outlining steps to address the most pressing issues related to environment and development. Chapter 17 of Agenda 21, which was formulated and adopted at UNCED, provided for the protection and sustainable development of the marine and coastal environment and its resources with the application of integrated approaches to marine and coastal area management at global, regional, national, and local levels. At the WSSD, the world's political leaders committed to specific targets and timetables on implementing ecosystem-based approaches and integrated management in marine and coastal areas, protection of the marine environment from land-based activities, reduction of biodiversity loss and establishment of marine protected areas, sustainable development of small island developing States (SIDS), and fisheries management, among other targets.

However, oceans and coasts are still facing growing threats from overfishing, pollution, and climate change, among other pressures. While great strides have been made since UNCED, unsustainable utilization of ocean and coastal resources and gaps in the international environmental governance framework still threaten the long-term health and well-being of marine ecosystems and coastal communities. Rio+20 thus represents an important opportunity to take stock in progress made in the achievement of major goals and targets for oceans and coasts and to outline a new, operational vision towards strengthening the three pillars of sustainable development for the world's oceans and coasts.

ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED AT RIO+20

Objectives:

- Securing Political Commitment for Sustainable Development
- Assessing Progress Towards Global Commitments
- Addressing New and Emerging Challenges

Themes:

A. Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication

- Reconfiguring business and infrastructure to deliver better returns on natural, human and economic capital investments, while mitigating adverse environmental impacts, reducing social inequity, and alleviating poverty.
- Main tenets:
 - Investing in natural capital
 - De-carbonizing the economy
 - Creating green jobs

B. Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

- Failure to halt environmental degradation is indicative of institutional weaknesses in developing and implementing policies on sustainable development.
- International environmental governance (IEG)² must be strengthened through:
 - Creating a strong and accessible science base and policy interface;
 - Developing a global authoritative voice for environmental sustainability;
 - Achieving effectiveness, efficiency and coherence within the UN system;
 - Securing sufficient and predictable funding;
 - Ensuring a responsive and cohesive approach to meeting the needs of countries.

RIO+20 CRITICAL ASSESSMENTS

The Rio+20 Summit provides a significant opportunity to critically assess progress made, or lack thereof, in the achievement of major goals and targets for oceans, coasts, and SIDS and to analyze

² UNEP. Eleventh special session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum, Bali, Indonesia, 24–26 February 2010. UNEP/GCSS.XI/4, Annex.

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next steps in advancing the global oceans agenda in the context of the Rio+20 Summit. The Global Oceans Forum, with support from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the UN Development Programme (UNDP) will mobilize its volunteer network of experts from all regions of the world, together with collaborating organizations, to focus on the major themes contained in Chapter 17 of UNCED and the associated WSSD Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, as well as examine the cross-cutting issues of achieving a green economy and improving international environmental governance. The assessments will be concise and aimed at high-level policy leaders. The assessments will follow the pattern established in the Global Oceans Forum Report "Meeting the Commitments on Oceans, Coasts, and Small Island Developing States Made at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development: How Well Are We Doing?" prepared by Biliانا Cicin-Sain, Veerle Vandeweerd, Patricio A. Bernal, Lindsey C. Williams, and Miriam C. Balgos for the Third Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands: Moving the Global Oceans Agenda Forward, at UNESCO, Paris, January 23-28, 2006. Available at: http://www.globaloceans.org/globaloceans/sites/udel.edu.globaloceans/files/WSSDReport_100406d.pdf

The assessments will address:

- The current status of the issue
- Evolution over time
- Extent of progress achieved
- Challenges that must be addressed in the next phase
- Toward a new vision

Timeline for completion:

August 2011

Drafts of assessments completed for peer review

September 2011

Consultation meeting to review assessments

November 2011 (prior to November 1)

Outcomes of critical assessments submitted as input to Rio+20 Preparatory Process

Critical analytical assessments will be organized around the following themes (subject to change):

I. REVIEW OF PROGRESS (OR LACK THEREOF) IN THE ACHIEVEMENT OF SPECIFIC UNCED/WSSD TARGETS

Assessment (1) The Status of Ocean Ecosystems and Coastal Communities, in the Context of Climate Change and Continuing Biodiversity Loss

I. Introduction

II. Assessing the State of the Marine Environment

- Oceans, the Largest Carbon Sink on Earth
- Status and Trends in Marine and Coastal Biodiversity
- Loss of Ecosystem Services

III. Major Threats to the Long-term Health and Well-being of Ocean Ecosystems and Coastal Communities

- Ocean Acidification
- Land-based Pollution

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- Overfishing and Unsustainable Aquaculture/Mariculture
- Invasive Species
- Ocean Warming and Associated Impacts
- Sea Level Rise
- Extreme Weather Events
- Impacts of Melting Ice in Both Arctic and Antarctic Polar Regions

IV. Central Drivers of Change

- Climate Change
- Non-sustainable Development and Population Rise
- Weak Ocean and Coastal Governance
- Subsidies to Sectors that Threaten Oceans (fishing, agriculture, fossil fuel exploitation, etc.)
- Land-based and Maritime Pollution
- Others

POSSIBLE AUTHORS:

Carl Lundin, Head, IUCN Global Marine Programme

Ove Hoegh-Guldberg, Director, Global Change Institute, University of Queensland

Clive Wilkinson, Global Coordinator, Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network

Kristian Teleki, Vice President, Science Initiatives, SeaWeb

Ben Halpern, EBM Project Coordinator, National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (NCEAS)

Toni Ruchimat, Director of Small Islands Management, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Indonesia

Carol Turley, Knowledge Exchange Coordinator of the UK Ocean Acidification Research Programme, Plymouth Marine Laboratory,

Jackie Savitz, Pollution Campaign Director, Senior Scientist, Oceana

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Eichbaum, W.M. (2009). "Climate Change and the Arctic Marine Environment." In Biliana Cicin-Sain, Ed., *Oceans and Climate Change: Issues and Recommendations for Policymakers and for the Climate Negotiations*, Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, 2009. Available at: <http://www.globaloceans.org/globaloceans/sites/udel.edu.globaloceans/files/Policy-Briefs-WOC2009.pdf>

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Mendler de Suarez, J., Cicin-Sain, B., Wowk, K., Payet, R., and O. Hoegh-Guldberg (2010). *Draft Policy Brief on Ensuring Survival: Oceans, Climate and Security*. Prepared for the 5th Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, May 3-7, 2010, UNESCO, Paris. Available at: <http://www.globaloceans.org/sites/udel.edu.globaloceans/files/PolicyBrief-Climate-Oceans.pdf>

Assessment (2) *Addressing Critical Uncertainties for the Management of the Marine Environment and Climate Change*

I. Introduction

II. Coordinated Scientific Research and Systematic Observation of the Marine Environment

- Global Marine Assessment
- Regionally-Based Efforts (e.g. Regional Seas Programme, other regional conventions and agreements and GEF-funded LMEs programs)
- Sectorally-Based Assessments by UN Agencies (e.g. Fisheries assessments by FAO)
- Scientific Global Assessments (e.g. Census of Marine Life, Marine Living Planet Index, Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network)
- Information Sources, Best Practices, and Experiences at the National and Sub-national level

III. Promoting Data-Exchange and the Provisioning of Information to Decisionmakers

- Involvement of Governments, International Agencies, NGOs, Industry, Scientists and the Public
- Maintaining Integrity and Consistency from Data to the decision chain across sectors
- Defining the Purpose of Indicators in Terms of Policy Formulation and Implementation, Taking into Account Multi-Sector Societal Benefits, Concerns and Jurisdictional Issues
- Implementation Considerations in Terms of Options and Tradeoffs, Relative Versus Absolute Comparisons, Uncertainty and Cost-Effectiveness.

IV. Cooperation for the development of standard procedures and techniques for scientific research on and systematic observation of the marine environment.

- Assessment of Assessments and Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment
- Development of a Manageable Set of Consistent Indicators to Assess Ecosystem Health in Support of Ecosystem-Based Management (EBM) of Coastal Marine Systems
- Ocean Health Index Initiative (OHI)
- Transboundary Water Assessment Project (TWAP)

V. Recommendations for Action/Next Steps

POSSIBLE AUTHORS

Wendy Watson-Wright, Executive Secretary, IOC and Assistant Director-General, UNESCO

Julian Barbieri, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO-IOC)

Luis Valdes, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO-IOC)

Jacqueline McGlade, Executive Director, European Environment Agency

RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS (Draft List)

UNEP and IOC-UNESCO 2009, An Assessment of Assessments, Findings of the Group of Experts. Start-up Phase of a Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment including Socio-economic Aspects. ISBN 978-92-807-2976-4.

Available at: http://www.unga-regular-process.org/images/Documents/aoa%20report_chapter%200.pdf

Assessment (3) *The Extent of Achievement of Ecosystem-Based, Integrated Ocean and Coastal Management in Areas of National Jurisdiction (coastal zones, exclusive economic zones), in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction, and through regional approaches, such as PEMSEA, and the Large Marine Ecosystem (LME) and Regional Seas Programmes*

I. Introduction

II. Progress on UNCED Targets

- Application of Rio Declaration on Environment and Development Principles
- Status of Issues Addressed in Chapter 17 of Agenda 21
 - Integrated Management and Sustainable Development of Coastal and Marine Areas, Including Exclusive Economic zones
 - Marine Environmental Protection
 - Sustainable Use and Conservation of Living Marine Resources of the High Seas (biodiversity, marine mammals)
 - Sustainable Use and Conservation of Living Marine Resources under National Jurisdiction (biodiversity, marine mammals)

III. Progress on WSSD Targets

A. Operationalizing Ecosystem Management and Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management

- Operationalizing the Ecosystem-Based Management Approach: An Emerging Scientific Consensus
- Operationalizing Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management: A Well-Established Approach
- Marrying Ecosystem-Based Management, Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management, and Nascent Approaches, including Marine Spatial Planning

B. Achieving Ecosystem Management and Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management within 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zones under National Jurisdiction

- Coastal Area Management
- EEZ Management
- National Reports to the Convention on Biological Diversity
- The Evidence from SIDS Countries
- Linking Freshwater to Oceans in National Management: National Programmes of Action Under the GPA, IWRM, Coastal Management, and Their Interrelationships

C. Achieving Ecosystem Management and Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management in Regional Ocean Areas

- Regional Seas Programme
- Large Marine Ecosystems Programme
- Linking Freshwater to Oceans in Regional Seas Programmes, ICM Programmes and in LMEs
- The Experience of International Conventions which Call for the Ecosystem Approach
- NGO Efforts at Large-Scale Ecosystem-Based Management

D. Achieving Ecosystem Management and Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management in Ocean Areas Beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction (ABNJ)

- Ecosystems and Resources in ABNJ
- Current Human Uses, Threats, and Priority Issues for Management
- Existing Legal Framework and Gaps in Governance/Management Policy
- Options for Improving Management and Governance of ABNJ

IV. New and Emerging Challenges

- Adapting to Climate Change Impacts through EBM and ICM
- Incorporating Marine Spatial Planning
- Mitigating Climate Change and Sustaining Coastal Resources through Protection and Restoration of Coastal Carbon Sinks (“Blue Carbon”)

V. Summary of Progress Achieved and Remaining Gaps: How Far We Have Come, What Needs to Be Done, What Emerging Issues Must Be Addressed? What Obstacles Must Be Overcome? What Funding is Needed? What Capacity Must Be Developed and How?

VI. Recommendations for Action/Next Steps

POSSIBLE AUTHORS

Jacqueline Alder, Head, Marine and Coastal Environment Branch, Division of Environmental Policy Implementation, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Chua Thia-Eng, Council Chair, Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA)

David Johnson, Executive Secretary, OSPAR Commission

Ken Sherman, Director, Large Marine Ecosystems (LME) Program, NOAA

Magnus Ngoile, Policy and Governance Coordinator, UNDP GEF Agulhas and Somali Currents Large Marine Ecosystem Project, South Africa

Biliana Cicin-Sain, Global Oceans Forum

Raphael Billé, Biodiversity Programme Director, Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations, IDDRI, France

Paul Sandifer, Senior Science Advisor, NOAA

Rhoda Ballinger, Department of Earth Sciences, Cardiff University

Robin Warner, Senior Research Fellow, Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources, University of Wollongong

Hiroshi Terashima, Executive Director, Institute for Ocean Policy, Ocean Policy Research Foundation, Japan

Marcus Pollette, Professor, Universidade do Vale do Itajaí, Centro de Ciências Tecnológicas da Terra e do Mar (CTTMAR-UNIVALI)

Antonio Diaz de Leon, Director-General, Environmental, Regional Integration and Sectoral Policy, Environment and Natural Resources Ministry (SEMARNAT), Mexico

Evelia Rivera Arriaga, Secretary, Environment and Sustainable Development, State of Campeche, Mexico

Robert Calcagno, Chief Executive Officer of the Oceanographic Institute, Prince Albert I of Monaco Foundation, Monaco

Kateryna Wowk, NOAA and Global Oceans Forum

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Miriam C. Balgos, Caitlin Snyder, Biliانا Cicin-Sain, David Freestone, and Chris Tompkins. 2008. Executive Summary: Workshop on Governance of Marine Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction: Management Issues and Policy Options, November 3-5, 2008, Singapore. Available at: <http://www.globaloceans.org/sites/udel.edu.globaloceans/files/Singapore-Workshop-ExecutiveSummary.pdf>

Assessment (4) *Protection of the Marine Environment*

I. Introduction

II. Protection from Land-Based Activities

- Controlling Point and Non-Point Source Pollution
- Reducing Impacts of Physical Destruction/Modification of Coastal Areas
- Implementing the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA)

III. Protection from Maritime Activities

- Reducing Impacts from Shipping and Ports
 - Air Pollution

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- Ballast Water Discharge
- Operational Discharge and Runoff
- Reducing Impacts from Offshore Oil and Gas Operations
 - Discharges and Emissions
- Mitigating Risk and Adverse Impacts of Accidents at Sea
 - Spill Response Centers
 - Industry Standards

IV. Systematic and Coordinated Observation of Marine Environmental Quality

V. Recommendations for Action/Next Steps

POSSIBLE AUTHORS

David Osborn, Coordinator, Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA)

Anjan Datta, Programme Officer, Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA)

Jose Matheickal, GloBallast Program, International Maritime Organization (IMO)

Jo Espinoza-Ferrey, Director, Marine Environment Division, International Maritime Organization (IMO)

RELEVANT GLOBAL FORUM PUBLICATIONS

Cicin-Sain, B., Vandeweerd, V., Bernal, P., Williams, L., and M. Balgos (2006). Meeting the Commitments on Oceans, Coasts, and Small Island Developing States Made at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development: How Well Are We Doing? Co-chairs' Report – Volume 1 (2006). Available at:

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Assessment (5) *The Status and Prospects for Fisheries and Aquaculture Within and Outside of National Jurisdiction*

I. Introduction

II. Overfishing and IUU Fishing

- Building Capacity to Prevent and Deter IUU Fishing
- Eliminating Perverse Subsidies and Reducing Fishing Overcapacity
- Developing More Robust MCS (Monitoring, Control, Surveillance) Networks
- Improving Management of Tuna and Other Large Pelagic Fisheries

III. RFMO Effectiveness

- Coordination and Cooperation Between RFMOs and other Regional Bodies
- Transparency and Accountability
- Expanding RFMO Scope and Mandate (where appropriate)

IV. Sustainable Aquaculture

- Mitigating Environmental and Ecological Impacts

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- Developing Appropriate Policies and Regulatory Frameworks
- Best Management Practices and Guidelines (such as Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture)

V. Climate Change and Fisheries

- Impacts and Implications on Fisheries and Fish Habitat
- Incorporating Climate Change Issues into Fisheries Management

VI. Small-Scale and Artisanal Fisheries Management

- Facilitating Effective Community-Based Management
- Integrating Traditional Knowledge into Management Frameworks
- Role in Integrated Coastal Management Frameworks

VII. Recommendations for Action/Next Steps

POSSIBLE AUTHORS:

Rebecca Lent, Director, International Affairs, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA

Renée Sauvé, Director, Global Fisheries and Marine Governance Bureau, International Affairs Directorate, Department of Fisheries and Ocean (DFO), Canada

Matt Gianni, Deep Sea Conservation Coalition

Jean-François Pulvenis de Séligny, Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture Economics and Policy Division, FAO

Kevern Cochrane, Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture Resources Use and Conservation Division, FAO

Rebecca Metzner, Fishery Officer, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Sebastian Matthews, International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF)

Julius Francis, Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA)

James Anderson, World Bank

John Virdin, World Bank

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Lent, R., English, E., Wuff, R., Pulvenis de Séligny, J., Mahon, R., Cox, A., Balton, D., Tompkins, C., Tinkham, S., Metzner, R., Terry, J., McGoodwin, J.R., Mellano, G., Bexten, A., and K. Moore (2008). *Policy Brief: Fisheries and Aquaculture – Sustainability and Governance*. Prepared for the 4th Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, April 7-11, 2008, Hanoi, Vietnam. Available at:

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Assessment (6) *The Special Issues Associated with Small-Island Developing States (SIDS) and Oceans, Especially in the Context of Climate Change*

I. Introduction

II. Adoption and Improved Implementation of EBM/ICM in SIDS

- Development and implementation of integrated national ocean policies within the context of the SIDS regional ocean policies
- Addressing the impacts of coastal development and coastal tourism, intensive and destructive fishing practices, pollution, and unreported and illegal trade in corals

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- Establishment of Marine Protected Areas
- Monitoring, conservation and sustainable management of coral reefs and associated ecosystems

III. Adaptation to Climate Change

- Development and implementation of national adaptation strategies
- Facilitating regional and interregional cooperation
- Securing appropriate funding for adaptation to climate change

IV. Capacity-building for Ocean and Coastal Management

- Investing in appropriate training focusing on issues related to ocean and coastal management
- Capacity development through the SIDS Universities Consortium, SIDS regional organizations and NGO networks
- Capacity development in monitoring the state of the marine environment
- Development of human resources and institutional capacity within SIDS for implementing multilateral environmental agreements

V. EEZ and High Seas Resources Management

- Delimitation of maritime boundaries
- Submission of claims to the Continental Shelf Commission in accordance with the Convention on the Law of the Sea
- Assessment of seabed living and non-living resources within national jurisdiction
- Building technical and financial capacities to deal with issues related to fisheries and fishing vessels

VI. Recommendations for Action/Next Steps

POSSIBLE AUTHORS:

Rolph Payet, President and Vice-Chancellor, University of Seychelles, and Special Advisor to the President of Seychelles

David Sheppard, Director, South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

Kate Brown, Coordinator, Global Islands Partnership (GLISPA)

Anama Solofa, IUCN-Oceana

Laverne Walker, Coastal Management, St. Lucia

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Payet, R. (2008). *Policy Brief on SIDS and Implementation of the Mauritius Strategy*. Prepared for the 4th Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, April 7-11, 2008, Hanoi, Vietnam. Available at:

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Assessment (7) *Biodiversity Loss, Climate Change, and Networks of Marine Protected Areas*

I. Introduction

II. Global Goals for Marine Biodiversity and MPAs

- CBD and WSSD 2010 Biodiversity Target
- WSSD 2012 MPA Target
- CBD COP-10 Aichi Biodiversity Targets

III. Implications of Climate Change for Marine Biodiversity

- Ocean Acidification
- Impacts on Coral Reef Ecosystems
- Implications for Ecosystem Structure and Function
- Climate Change Response Strategies and Marine Biodiversity

IV. MPAs and Marine Spatial Planning

- Identifying Areas of Biological and Ecological Significance
- Improving Cross-Sectoral Coordination for Area-Based Management
- Developing Representative Networks of MPAs
- Up-scaling MPAs and Marine Spatial Planning in Ecosystem-Based Management

V. Strengthening the Science-Policy Interface

- Providing Decision-makers Accurate, Timely, and Policy-Relevant Scientific Information
- The Role of the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

VI. Developing and Supporting Effective Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Valuation

VII. Recommendations for Action/Next Steps

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POSSIBLE AUTHORS:

Christophe Lefebvre, International Affairs Officer, French Marine Protected Areas Agency, IUCN Councilor

Marjo Vierros, Adjunct Senior Fellow, United Nations, University Institute of Advanced Studies

Salvatore Arico, Programme Specialist for Biodiversity, Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences, UNESCO

Jihyun Lee, Environmental Affairs Officer for marine and coastal biodiversity and the ecosystem approach, Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

Dan Laffoley, Marine Vice-Chair, IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)

Sue Wells, Independent Consultant

Peter S.J. Jones, Lecturer, Environment and Society Research Unit, Department of Geography, University College London

Marea Hatziolos, World Bank

Lynne Hale, Director, Global Marine Programme, The Nature Conservancy

Imen Meliane, Senior International Marine Policy Advisor, The Nature Conservancy

Nik Sekhran, Regional Coordinator, Southern Africa, UN Development Programme

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Smith, S, Meliane, I., White, A., Cicin-Sain, B., Snyder, C., and R. Danovaro (2009). Climate Change on Marine Biodiversity and the Role of Networks of Marine Protected Areas. In Biliana Cicin-Sain, Ed., *Oceans and Climate Change: Issues and Recommendations for Policymakers and for the Climate Negotiations*, Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, 2009. Available at:

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<http://www.globaloceans.org/globaloceans/sites/udel.edu.globaloceans/files/Biodiveristy-and-MPAs-PB-May15.pdf>

Assessment (8) *Integrated Water Resources Management*

- I. Introduction**
- II. Freshwater to Oceans “Hotspots”**
 - Identifying Highly Sensitive Coastal Areas
 - Area-Based Protection Measures
- III. Climate Change Impacts on Coastal Areas Affecting Water Resources**
 - Sea-Level Rise and Coastal Inundation
 - Salt-water Intrusion
- IV. Utilizing Non-Conventional Water Resources from Marine Areas**
 - Seawater Desalination
 - Coastal Fog Harvesting
- V. Linking Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and ICM**
 - Integrating Land-use Planning and ICM
 - Mitigating Impacts of Terrestrial Activities on Marine Water Resources
 - Linking Upstream-Downstream
- VI. Recommendations for Action/Next Steps**

POSSIBLE AUTHORS

Letitia Obeng, Chair, Global Water Partnership

Felix Dodds, Executive Director, Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future

Hannah Stoddart, Policy Coordinator, Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future

Torkil Jønch-Clausen, DHI Water & Global Water Partnership

Karin Lexen, Project Director, Stockholm International Water Institute

RELEVANT GLOBAL FORUM PUBLICATIONS

Cid, G., Lewsey, C., and T. Jønch-Clausen (2008). *Policy Brief: Linking the Management of Freshwater, Oceans, and Coasts*. Prepared for the 4th Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, April 7-11, 2008, Hanoi, Vietnam. Available at:

<http://www.globaloceans.org/globaloceans/sites/udel.edu.globaloceans/files/Freshwater-to-Oceans-PB-April3.pdf>

Assessment (9) *Financing*

- I. Introduction**
- II. Coastal Climate Change Adaptation**
 - Inadequacy of Current Cost Estimates
- III. Special Issues related to Small Island Developing States**
- III. Ecosystem-Based, Integrated Ocean and Coastal Management**
- IV. Marine Environment Protection and Marine Biodiversity Preservation**

V. Public Private Partnerships

VII. Recommendations for Action/Next Steps

POSSIBLE AUTHORS

Indumathie Hewawasam, Independent Consultant, formerly The World Bank

Janot-Reine Mendler de Suarez, (formerly) GEF/IW-LEARN

Al Duda, Senior Advisor, Global Environment Facility

Nicole Glineur, Global Environment Facility

RELEVANT GLOBAL FORUM PUBLICATIONS

Mendler de Suarez, J. “Strategic Climate Financing for Adaptation on the Frontlines— Differential Impacts, Vulnerabilities, and Opportunities for Coastal and Island Countries.” Ocean & Coastal Management (forthcoming).

Assessment (10) Capacity Development, and Public Outreach: The Needs and the Challenges

Introduction

I. Mobilizing Public Support and Political Will

- Increasing Government Involvement and Commitment
- Education and Outreach to Encourage Ocean and Coastal Stewardship
- Innovative Strategies in Knowledge Management for Sustainable Development (including social media)

II. Encouraging Partnerships and Multi-Agency Cooperation

- Developing partnerships and coordination platforms at international, regional, national and sub-national levels

III. Strengthening Linkages with and among Different Sectors

- Linking and Strengthening Management Structures, Processes, and Procedures
- Joint Human Resource Development and Training
- Joint Identification and Promotion of Best Practices

IV. Developing and Implementing a Global Strategy for Building Capacity in Ocean and Coastal Management

V. Recommendations for Action/Next Steps

POSSIBLE AUTHORS

Philippe Vallette, General Manager, NAUSICAA and Co-President, World Ocean Network

Indumathie Hewawasam, Independent Consultant

Awni Behnam, International Ocean Institute

Biliana Cicin-Sain, Global Oceans Forum

Magnus Ngoile, Tanzania, ASCLME Project, South Africa

Miriam Balgos, Global Oceans Forum

RELEVANT GLOBAL FORUM PUBLICATIONS

Hewawasam, I. (lead author) (2008). *Policy Brief: Strategic Interventions for Developing Capacity to Improve Governance of Oceans, Coasts, and Small Island Developing States Over the Period 2008 to 2018*. Prepared for the 4th Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, April 7-11, 2008, Hanoi, Vietnam. Available at: <http://www.globaloceans.org/globaloceans/sites/udel.edu.globaloceans/files/Capacity-Building-PB-April2.pdf>

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II. RIO+20 THEMES

Assessment (11) *The Role of the Oceans in the New Low-Carbon (Blue) Green Economy*

I. Introduction

II. The Role of Ocean and Coastal Ecosystems in the Global Carbon Cycle

- Quantifying Coastal and Marine Carbon Stores
- Integrating the Value of Blue Carbon into Development Frameworks
- Protection and Restoration of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems as Carbon Stores
- Promoting the Inclusion of Blue Carbon into Carbon Finance Markets

III. Oceans as a Viable Source of Renewable Energy

- Sources and Prospects for Development (e.g. Offshore wind, wave, and tidal energy)
- Policy Options and Regulatory Frameworks
- Identifying and Mitigating Negative Environmental and Ecological Implications

IV. Sustainable Ocean and Coastal Livelihoods

- (Blue) Green Job Creation

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- Public-Private Partnerships
 - Local-Level and Community-Based Management
- V. Valuation of Marine Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services**
- Building Understanding of Market and Non-Market Values of Marine Biodiversity and Ecosystems
 - Integrating Valuations into Management and Development Frameworks
- VI. Challenges and Obstacles in Moving Towards a Blue Economy**
- Defining the (Blue) Green Economy Concept and Its Role in Sustainable Development
 - Developing Country Perspectives on the (Blue) Green Economy
- VII. Recommendations for Action/Next Steps**

POSSIBLE AUTHORS:

Seoung-Yong Hong, Chairman, Korea Green Growth Ocean Forum

Dosoo Jang, Korea Ocean Research and Development Institute

Brian Murray, Director for Economic Analysis, Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions, Duke University

Sean O'Neill, President, Ocean Renewable Energy Coalition

Magdalena Muir, President International Energy, Environmental and Legal Services, Ltd, The Netherlands

Dorothee Herr, Marine Programme Officer, Global Marine and Polar Programme, IUCN

Kate Brown, Coordinator, Global Islands Partnership (GLISPA)

Paul Holthus, Executive Director, World Ocean Council

Steve Sawyer, Secretary General, Global Wind Energy Council

Robin McMahon, Director, Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES), University of the West Indies

RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS (Draft List)

Nellemann, C., Corcoran, E., Duarte, C. M., Valdés, L., De Young, C., Fonseca, L., Grimsditch, G. (Eds). 2009. Blue Carbon. A Rapid Response Assessment. United Nations Environment Programme, GRID-Arendal. Available at:
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Appiott, J. Wowk, K., Dhanju, A. and B. Cicin-Sain. “Encouraging Renewable Forms of Energy Using the Oceans.” Forthcoming in *Ocean & Coastal Management Journal*. Previous draft version available at:
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DRAFT

Mauritius 2005 Series. Available at:

http://www.globaloceans.org/sites/udel.edu.globaloceans/files/IslandBellwether_0.pdf

Assessment (12) *Improved International Environmental Governance*

[THIS SECTION UNDER DEVELOPMENT]

I. Improving the International Regime for Ocean Governance

- Addressing major gaps in the international ocean regime: Moving toward ecosystem-based management of areas beyond national jurisdiction
- Linking the Separate Ocean-Related Fora (Law of the Sea, CBD, UNFCCC, FAO, IMO, etc.)
- Addressing Specific Problems in Multilateral Ocean Agreements
- Increasing Transparency and Civil Society Participation in the Law of the Sea Process
- Enhancing Regional Approaches to Ocean Governance
- Establishing Frameworks for New and Emerging Ocean Uses

II. Elevating Oceans to the Highest Levels of the UN system to Enable a Cross-Cutting Approach and Appropriate and Timely Response to Major Threats

- UN Secretary General or other high-level coordination mechanisms

III. Recommendations For Improving Flag State Implementation

POSSIBLE AUTHORS:

Biliana Cicin-Sain, President, Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands

Miriam Balgos, Program Coordinator, Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands

David Freestone, David Freestone, Lobingier Visiting Professor of Comparative Law and Jurisprudence, The George Washington University Law School

David Vanderzwaag, Research Chair in Ocean Law and Governance and Director, Marine and Environmental Law Institute, Dalhousie University, Canada

Nilufer Oral, Nilufer Oral, Co-Chair of IUCN CEL Oceans Specialist Group and University Lecturer, IUCN Commission on Environmental Law and Istanbul Bilgi University, Turkey

Michael Lodge, Legal Counsel, International Seabed Authority

Awni Behnam, International Ocean Institute

Veerle Vandeweerd, Director, Environment and Energy, UNDP

Satya Nandan, Chairman, Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, (formerly) Secretary-General, International Seabed Authority, and (formerly) Chairman, UN Conference on Straddling and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks

Ambassador Neroni Slade, Secretary-General, Pacific Islands Forum, and (formerly) Chair, AOSIS

Ambassador David Balton, Department of State, US

Andy Hudson, Principal Technical Advisor, International Waters, UNDP

Chua Thia-Eng, Council Chair, Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA)

Carlos Berrozpe, Marine Unit, DG-Environment, European Commission

Paul Nemitz, Head of Maritime Policy Development and Coordination at the European Commission, Directorate General (DG) Maritime Affairs and Fisheries

Duncan Currie, Legal Advisor, Pew Environment Group

Magnus Ngoile, Policy and Governance Coordinator, UNDP GEF Agulhas and Somali Currents Large Marine Ecosystem Project, South Africa

DRAFT

Raphael Lotilla, Executive Director, Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia, Philippines

Wendy Watson-Wright, Executive Secretary, IOC and Assistant Director-General, UNESCO

Julian Barbieri, ICAM Lead, IOC

Robin Warner, Senior Research Fellow, University of Wollongong, Australia

Raphael Billé, Biodiversity Programme Director, Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations, IDDRI, France

Harlan Cohen, Advisor on Ocean Governance and International Institutions, IUCN

RELEVANT GLOBAL FORUM PUBLICATIONS

Freestone, D., Cicin-Sain, B., Hewawasam, I., and G. Hamon (2010). *Draft Policy Brief on Improving Governance: Achieving Integrated Ecosystem-Based Ocean and Coastal Management*. Prepared for the 5th Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands, May 3-7, 2010, UNESCO, Paris. Available at:

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GLOBAL FORUM WORKING GROUPS/PEER REVIEW TEAMS

GLOBAL FORUM WORKING GROUP MEMBERS WILL BE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ASSESSMENTS AND TO PEER REVIEW THE PRODUCTS OF THE ASSESSMENTS.

WORKING GROUP ON CLIMATE, OCEANS, AND SECURITY

WORKING GROUP LEADERS:

Gunnar Kullenberg, Professor and former Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO
Janot-Reine Mendler de Suarez, former Global Environment Facility/IW-LEARN
Ambassador Tuiloma Neroni Slade, Secretary-General of the Pacific Islands Forum, Samoa
Ik Kyo Chung, Professor, Pusan National University, Republic of Korea
Bill Eichbaum, Vice President, Marine & Arctic Policy, World Wildlife Fund, USA
Gellwynn Jusuf and Tonny Wagey, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Indonesia
Chris Tompkins, Independent Consultant, UK, formerly DEFRA
Robert Corell, Arctic Climate Impact Assessment
Paul Epstein, Associate Director, Center for Health and the Global Environment, Harvard University Medical School
Margaret Davidson, NOAA
Magdalena A.K. Muir, Arctic Institute of North America
Kateryna M. Wowk, University of Delaware and NOAA
David VanderZwaag, Dalhousie University, IUCN Specialist Group on Ocean Law and Governance
Edward Miles, School of Marine Affairs, University of Washington

WORKING GROUP MEMBERS:

Ellina Levina, OECD
Leonard Nurse, University of West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados and former Permanent Secretary (Environment), Ministry of Physical Development and Environment, Barbados
Ambassador Gunnar Palsson, Iceland
Eduard Sarukhanian, Director, World-Weather-Watch-Applications, World Meteorological Organization
Kenneth Sherman, Director, U.S. LME Program, NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service
Vu Thanh Ca, Institute of Hydrography and Meteorology, Vietnam
Clive Wilkinson, Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network

WORKING GROUP ON ECOSYSTEM-BASED MANAGEMENT AND INTEGRATED COASTAL AND OCEAN MANAGEMENT AND INDICATORS FOR PROGRESS

WORKING GROUP LEADERS:

Steven Murawski and Jack Dunnigan, NOAA
Nguyen Chu Hoi, Deputy Administrator, Vietnam Association for Seas and Islands, Vietnam
Al Duda, Global Environment Facility
Gi-Jun Han, Ministry of Land, Transportation and Maritime Affairs, Republic of Korea
Camille Mageau/Jake Rice, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada
Antonio Diaz de Leon and Porfirio Alvarez, Environmental, Regional Integration and Sectoral Policy, Environment and Natural Resources Ministry (SEMARNAT), Mexico
Ellik Adler, Coordinator of UNEP COBSEA (Coordinating Body for the Seas of South Asia), Israel

DRAFT

David Johnson, Executive Secretary, OSPAR Commission, UK
David Freestone, Executive Director, Sargasso Sea Alliance, USA
Magnus Ngoile, Policy and Governance Coordinator, UNDP/GEF, Agulhas and Somali Current LME Project, Tanzania and South Africa
Ali Mohammad, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of State for Special Programmes, Kenya
Tonny Wagey, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Indonesia
Indumathie Hewawasam, Independent Consultant, formerly The World Bank
Mick O'Toole, Sea Change Policy Programme Manager, Marine Institute, Ireland
Qinhua Fang, Environmental Science Research Centre of Xiamen University, China
Julian Barbieri and Stefano Belfiore, IOC, UNESCO
Philippe Vallette, World Ocean Network, NAUSICAA, France
Christopher Corbin, Caribbean Environment Programme, UNEP
Margaret Davidson, Zac Hart, and Ginger Hinchcliff, NOAA Coastal Services Center

WORKING GROUP MEMBERS:

Fernando Almuna, Chile
Milton Asmus, International Representative, Brazilian Agency for Coastal Management
Dan Basta, NOAA National Marine Sanctuaries Program
Dominique Benzaken, Coordinator, IUCN European Union (EU) Outermost Regions and Overseas Countries and Territories Programme, Australia
Fatima Dia Toure, Senegal
Rudolf Dorah, Government of the Solomon Islands
Kristina Gjerde, High Seas Policy Advisor, IUCN Global Marine Program
Vladimir Golitsyn, Judge, International Tribunal on Law of the Sea, and Professor of International Law, Moscow State University of International Relations
Lynne Hale, The Nature Conservancy
Marea Hatzios, World Bank
Andrew Hudson, Principal Technical Advisor, International Waters, UNDP/GEF
Pablo Huidobro, GEF Gulf of Mexico LME
Timothy Kasten, UNEP, DEPI, Nairobi
Carl Lundin, IUCN
Vladimir Mamaev, UNDP, Europe and the CIS
Yuriy Mikhaylichenko, Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of the Russian Federation
Tony Ribbink, CEO, Sustainable Seas Trust, South Africa
Alan Simcock, Independent Consultant, UK, former Co-Chair, UNICPOLOS
Kristian Teleki, Vice President for Science Initiatives for SeaWeb, and former Director, International Coral Reef Action Network, Switzerland
Hiroshi Terashima, Institute for Ocean Policy, Ocean Policy Research Foundation, Japan
Isabelle Van der Beck, GEF International Waters Projects in Latin America, UNEP
David VanderZwaag, Dalhousie University, IUCN Specialist Group on Ocean Law and Governance
Dixon Waruinge, UNEP Regional Seas Programme
Clive Wilkinson, Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network
Yihang Jiang, GEF Yellow Sea LME
Ignatius KV Kauvee, University of Namibia

WORKING GROUP ON LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEMS

WORKING GROUP LEADER:

DRAFT

Kenneth Sherman, Director, U.S. LME Program, NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service

WORKING GROUP MEMBERS:

Alex Lascaratos, GEF/PDF-B Project Manager

Andrew Cooke, UNEP-GEF Canary Current LME

Anthony Ribbink, Sustainable Seas Trust

Antonio Diaz de Leon Corral, Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales

Carl Lundin, IUCN

Chidi Ibe, GCLME

David Vousden, Agulhas and Somali Currents Large Marine Ecosystems Project

Gennady Matishov, Murmansk Marine Biological Institute

Georgy Volovik, UNDP-GEF Black Sea Ecosystem Recovery Project

Gotthilf Hempel, Independent Consultant

Hector Soldi, Instituto del Mar del Peru

Hein Rune Skjoldal, Institute of Marine Research, Norway

Hyung Tack Huh, Yellow Sea LME and KORDI

Igor Belkin, University of Rhode Island

James Oliver, Marine Programme, IUCN

Jan Thulin, ICES and HELCOM

Janot Mendler de Suarez, GEF IW:LEARN

Julian Barbieri, UNESCO

Marie-Christine Aquarone, NOAA

Mick O'Toole, Sea Change Policy Programme Manager, Marine Institute, Ireland

Ned Cyr, NOAA Fisheries

Qisheng Tang, Yellow Sea Fisheries Research Institute

Robin Mahon, Director, Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES)

University of the West Indies

Rodolfo Serra, Instituto de Fomento Pesquero, Chile

Shannon Dionne, Office of International Affairs, NOAA

Thomas Laughlin, Deputy Head, Global Marine Programme, IUCN

Yihang Jiang, Project Manager, Yellow Sea Project (YSLME)

WORKING GROUP ON SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES (SIDS) AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MAURITIUS STRATEGY

WORKING GROUP LEADERS:

Rolph Payet, Advisor to the President, Seychelles

Ambassador Tuiloma Neroni Slade, Secretary-General of the Pacific Islands Forum, Samoa

Hon. Ronny Jumeau, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Seychelles to the United Nations

Cristelle Pratt, Pacific Islands Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC)

Tim Adams, Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)

Ambassador Angus Friday, Senior International Climate Policy Specialist, World Bank, former Chair, Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), former Permanent Representative of Grenada to the United Nations

LaVerne Walker, Coastal Zone Unit, Ministry of Physical Development, Environment and Housing, St. Lucia

Garfield Barnwell, Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM)

Diane Quarless, Head, Partnership Team Global Policy Branch Division for Sustainable Development, UNDESA, Jamaica

DRAFT

Vincent Sweeney, UNEP/Integrating Watershed and Coastal Areas Management Project, Caribbean Ambassador Jagdish Koonjul, Mauritius, former Chair, Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)

WORKING GROUP MEMBERS:

Alfred Duda, Global Environment Facility
Christopher Corbin, Caribbean Regional Coordinating Unit, Kingston, Jamaica
Laleta Davis-Mattis, Jamaica National Heritage Trust
Annick de Marffy, Independent Consultant, former Director, UN-DOALOS
Arthur Webb, Manager Ocean and Islands Programme and Coastal Processes Advisor, Secretariat of the Pacific Islands Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC)
Rudolf Dorah, Government of the Solomon Islands
Arthur Gray, Representative of the Organisation of American States (OAS) to Haiti
John Low, Adviser to the Minister of Marine Resources for the Cook Islands
Franklin McDonald, UNEP Caribbean Environment Programme
Marina N'Deye Pereira Silva, Independent Consultant, Portugal (Cape Verde)
Nguyen Hong Thao, FrontierCommittee, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Vietnam
James Hardcastle, TNC Australia
Alf Simpson, Independent Consultant, Pacific Islands
Cesar Toro, IOC Secretary for IOCARIBEDirk Troost, formerly Coasts and Small Islands, UNESCO
David VanderZwaag, Dalhousie University, IUCN Specialist Group on Ocean Law and Governance
Jon Van Dyke, University of Hawaii Law School
Fathimath Ghina, National Coordinator, GEF Small Grants Programme, UNDP, Maldives
Raj Mohabeer, Indian Ocean Commission
Gerald Miles, The Nature Conservancy
Nelson Andrade, Caribbean Environment Programme, UNEP
Dominique Benzaken, Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)
Mary Seet-Cheng, Ambassador of Singapore to the Republic of Panama
Nigel Goh, Assistan Director, Coastal & Marine Environment Programme Office, National Biodiversity Centre, National Parks Board, Singapore
Natasha Turnquest, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bahamas

WORKING GROUP ON FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE – SUSTAINABILITY AND GOVERNANCE

WORKING GROUP LEADERS:

Rebecca Lent, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA
Chris Tompkins, Independent Consultant, formerly DEFRA, UK
Ali Mohamed, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of State for Special Programmes, Kenya
Le Thanh Luu, Research Institute for Aquaculture No. 1, Vietnam
David Balton, U.S. Department of State
Jean-Francois Pulvenis de Seligny, Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture Economics and Policy Division (FIE), Fisheries and Aquaculture Department, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Kieran Kelleher, World Bank
Mick O'Toole, Sea Change Policy Programme Manager, Marine Institute, Ireland
John Connelly and Stetson Tinkham, National Fisheries Institute, International Coalition of Fishing Organizations
Barbara Hanchard, GEF UNDP Oceanic Fisheries Management Project

WORKING GROUP MEMBERS:

DRAFT

Arthur Bogason, World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish Workers, Iceland
Nguyen Chu Hoi, Deputy Administrator, Vietnam Administration for Seas and Islands, Vietnam
Anthony Cox, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)
Simon Cripps, Chief Executive, Dorset Wildlife Trust, UK
Anamarija Frankic, University of Massachusetts Boston
Julius Francis, Executive Secretary, Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA)
Matthew Gianni, Deep Sea Conservation Coalition, The Netherlands
Stephen Hall, WorldFish Center (ICLARM)
Dawn Martin, SeaWeb
Rebecca Metzner, FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department
Magnus Ngoile, Policy and Governance Coordinator, UNDP/GEF, Agulhas and Somali Current LME Project, Tanzania and South Africa
Pietro Parravano, President, Institute for Fisheries Resources, World Fisheries Forum
Daniel Pauly, Professor and Director, Fisheries Centre, University of British Columbia
James R. McGoodwin, Professor of Anthropology, University of Colorado
Gorazd Ruseski, Kelly Moore, Steven Purvis and Anne Frenette, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada
Jorge Chocair Santibañez, Undersecretary of State for Fisheries, Chile
Kenneth Sherman, Director, U.S. LME Program, NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service
Robin Mahon, Director, Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES) University of the West Indies
Sebastian Matthews, International Collective in Support of Fishworkers
Rudolf Dorah, Government of the Solomon Islands
Joe Terry, NOAA
Yihang Jiang, GEF Yellow Sea LME Project
Juan Luis Suárez de Vivero, Department of Human Geography, University of Seville
Paul Holthus, Independent Consultant
Peter Redmond, Wal-Mart

WORKING GROUP ON MARINE BIODIVERSITY AND NETWORKS OF MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

WORKING GROUP LEADERS:

Christophe Lefebvre, International Affairs Officer, French Marine Protected Areas Agency, IUCN Councilor
Jihyun Lee, Convention on Biological Diversity
Sue Wells, Independent Consultant
Dan Laffoley, World Commission on Protected Areas-Marine, IUCN
Dan Basta, Marine Sanctuaries Program, NOAA
Do Van Khuong, Research Institute of Marine Fisheries
James Hardcastle, The Nature Conservancy
Marea Hatzios, World Bank
Nicole Glineur, Global Environment Facility

WORKING GROUP MEMBERS:

Julian Barbieri, IOC, UNESCO
Stefano Belfiore, IOC, UNESCO
Chu Tien Vinh, Vice Director, National Directorate of Aquatic Resource Protection and

DRAFT

Conservation, MARD, Vietnam

Chris Tompkins, Independent Consultant and formerly DEFRA, UK

Russell Reichelt, Chairman and Chief Executive of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and Director of the Great Barrier Reef Foundation Ltd., Australia

Nik Sekhran, MR Regional Coordinator for UNDP/GEF, Southern Africa, United Nations Development Programme

Nick Davidson, Deputy Secretary General, Ramsar Convention

Julius Francis, Executive Secretary, Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA), Tanzania

Gregor Hodgson, Coral Reef Ecologist and Founder of the Reef Check Foundation

Noah Idechong, Founder of the Palau Conservation Society

Carl Lundin, Head, Global Marine Programme, IUCN

Arthur Paterson, Deputy Director, International Program Office, National Ocean Service, NOAA

Evelia Rivera-Arriaga, Secretary, Environment and Sustainable Development, State of Campeche, Mexico

Marjo Vierros, United Nations University – Institute for Advanced Studies

Renee Sauve/Jennifer Mooney, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada

WORKING GROUP ON LINKING THE MANAGEMENT OF FRESHWATER, OCEANS, AND COASTS

WORKING GROUP LEADERS:

Torkil Jøneh-Clausen, DHI Water, Denmark, and Senior Adviser, Global Water Partnership

Clement Lewsey, NOAA/National Ocean Service/International Program Office

Antonio Diaz de Leon/Porfirio Alvarez, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, SEMARNAT, Mexico

Alfred Duda, Global Environment Facility

Andrew Hudson, Principal Technical Advisor, International Waters, UNDP/GEF

Felix Dodds, Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future

Tom Laughlin, Deputy Head, Global Marine Programme, IUCN

WORKING GROUP MEMBERS:

Margarita Astralaga, Director, IUCN Mediterranean Cooperation Centre, Spain

Isaac Azuz-Adeath, Cety's University, Mexico

Julian Barbieri, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO

Stefano Belfiore, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO

Richard Delaney, Executive Director, Center for Coastal Studies, Provincetown, Massachusetts, USA

Niels Ipsen, Partner, Ipsen & Co I/S, Denmark

Magnus Johannesson, Secretary-General, Ministry for the Environment, Iceland

Elizabeth McLanahan, Office of International Affairs, NOAA

Gonzalo Cid and Jonathan Justi, NOAA/National Ocean Service/International Program Office

Vincent Sweeney, Executive Director, Caribbean Environmental Health Institute

Ivan Zavadsky, Project Manager, UNDP-GEF Danube Regional Project, Global Environment Facility Danube-Black Sea Regional Programme

Kathryn Mengerink, Director of the Ocean Program, Environmental Law Institute /Jessica Troell, Staff Attorney and Director of the International Water Program, Environmental Law Institute

Patricia Muñoz, Director of the Interdisciplinary Research Center on Sustainable Development, National Polytechnic Institute, Mexico

Nguyen Ngoc Huan, National Program on Comprehensive Marine Environment and Resource Survey, Vietnam

DRAFT

Steven Olsen, Director, Coastal Resources Center, University of Rhode Island
Evelia Rivera-Arriaga, Secretary, Environment and Sustainable Development, State of Campeche, Mexico
Kenneth Sherman, Director, U.S. LME Program, NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service

WORKING GROUP ON GOVERNANCE OF MARINE AREAS BEYOND NATIONAL JURISDICTION

WORKING GROUP LEADERS:

Salvatore Arico, Programme Specialist for Biodiversity, Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences, UNESCO
Sivu Maqungo, Minister-Counsellor, Permanent Mission of South Africa to the United Nations

WORKING GROUP MEMBERS:

Frida Armas-Pfirter, Professor, Faculty of Law, Austral University, Argentina
Miriam Balgos, Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands
Awni Behnam, International Ocean Institute
Thia-Eng Chua, Partnerships in Environmental Management in the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA)
Biliana Cicin-Sain, Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands
Bruno Corr  ard, Independent Consultant and Responsible Fishing Alliance
John Dolan, Ocean Policy Research Foundation, Japan
David Freestone, Executive Director, Sargasso Sea Alliance
Anne Frenette, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada
Serge Garcia, formerly with Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
Valentina Germani, UN Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (UNDOALOS)
Matthew Gianni, Deep Sea Conservation Coalition
Kristina Gjerde, High Seas Policy Advisor, IUCN Global Marine Program
Lyle Glowka, Legal Advisor, Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
Vladimir Golitsyn, Vladimir Golitsyn, Judge, International Tribunal on Law of the Sea, and Professor of International Law, Moscow State University of International Relations
Barbara Hanchard, Project Coordinator, Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency
Arlo Hemphill, Communications Specialist, Center for Ocean Solutions
Paul Holthus, founding Executive Director of the World Ocean Council
Elie Jarmache, Head of Mission, **France's** Secr  tariat G  n  ral de la Mer
Sam Johnston, Institute of Advanced Studies, United Nations University (UNU-IAS)
Kim Juniper, University of Victoria Lee Kimball, formerly with The World Conservation Union (IUCN)
Gunnar Kullenberg, Professor and former Executive Director, International Ocean Institute
Jihyun Lee, CBD Secretariat
Rebecca Lent, NOAA Fisheries International Office
Eric Mathur, Vice President Metagenomics Synthetic Genomics, Inc.
Jennifer Mooney, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada
Akari Nakajima, Ocean Policy Research Foundation, Japan
Daniel Owen, Fenners Chambers, United Kingdom
Rosemary Rayfuse, University of New South Wales
John Richardson, European Commission
Lori Ridgeway, Executive Director, Arctic Strategies, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada
Julien Rochette, High Seas Governance, IDDRI
Karen Sack, Deputy Director, International Ocean Conservation, Pew Environment Group

DRAFT

Charlotte Salpin, UN Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (UNDOALOS)
Renée Sauv , Director, Global Fisheries and Marine Governance Bureau, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada
Tullio Scovazzi, University of Milano-Bicocca
Norma Taylor Roberts, Jamaica's new High Commissioner to the Republic of South Africa.
Hiroshi Terashima, Ocean Policy Research Foundation, Japan
Chris Tompkins, Independent Consultant and formerly DEFRA, UK
Philippe Vallette, General Manager, NAUSICAA, France
Monica Verbeek, Executive Director, Seas at Risk
Marjo Vierros, United Nations University – Institute for Advanced Studies
Robin Warner, Senior Research Fellow, Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources, University of Wollongong

WORKING GROUP ON CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

WORKING GROUP LEADER:

Indumathie Hewawasam, Independent Consultant, formerly The World Bank

WORKING GROUP MEMBERS:

Margarita Astralaga, Director, IUCN Mediterranean Cooperation Centre, Spain
Robert Bechtloff, Programme Officer, UNEP/GPA
Awni Behnam, International Ocean Institute
Charles A. Buchanan, Administrator Luso-American Development Foundation, Portugal
Chua Thia-Eng, Partnerships in Environmental Management in the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA)
Margaret Davidson, U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Coastal Services Center
Ehrlich Desa, formerly Capacity Building Section, UNESCO
Ambassador Lu s Fonseca, Comunidade dos Pa ses de L ngua Portuguesa (CPLP)
Anamarija Frankic, University of Massachusetts Boston
Julius Francis, Executive Secretary, Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA), Tanzania
Guillermo Garcia Montero, Acuario Nacional, Comit  Oceanografico Nacional, Cuba
Ampai Harakunarak, Thailand Environment Institute
Alice Hicuburundi, UN DOALOS
Gunnar Kullenberg, Independent Consultant and former Director, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)
Mai Trong Nhuan, President, Vietnam National University, Vietnam
Robin Mahon, Director, Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES) University of the West Indies
Jan Mees, Director, Flanders Marine Institute, Belgium
Ali Mohamed, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of State for Special Programmes, Kenya
Magnus Ngoile, Policy and Governance Coordinator, UNDP/GEF, Agulhas and Somali Current LME Project, Tanzania and South Africa
Michael O'Toole, Sea Change Policy Programme Manager, Marine Institute, Ireland
Marina N'Deye, Independent Professional, Marine Biologist, Portugal
Isabel Noronha, Programme Specialist, Capacity-Development, IOC/UNESCO, Portugal
Victoria Radchenko, International Ocean Institute, Ukraine
Evelia Rivera-Arriaga, Secretary, Environment and Sustainable Development, State of Campeche, Mexico
Mario Ruivo, Director, Portuguese Committee for Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission

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(IOC)

Dann Sklarew, GEF IW:LEARN

Cesar Toro, IOC Secretary for IOCARIBE

Grant Trebble, African Marine and Coastal Resource Over-exploitation Prevention Strategy (AMCROPS), South Africa

LaVerne Walker, Coastal Zone Unit, St. Lucia

Dixon Waruinge, UNEP Regional Seas

Khulood Tubaishat, Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA)

Nedal M. Al Ouran, Al-Balqa Applied University, Jordan, and Advisor to PERSGA

Ademilson Zamboni, Integrated Coastal Zone Management Program, Brazil

Ignatius KV Kauvee, University of Namibia

WORKING GROUP ON PUBLIC EDUCATION/OUTREACH/MEDIA

WORKING GROUP LEADERS:

Philippe Vallette and Manuel Cira, World Ocean Network, NAUSICAA, France

Ram Boojh, UNESCO, India

Peter Neill, World Ocean Observatory

David Helvarg, President, Blue Frontier Campaign (author, 50 Ways to Save the Ocean)

Felix Dodds, Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future, UK

Janot-Reine Mendler de Suarez, formerly Global Environment Facility/IW-LEARN

WORKING GROUP MEMBERS:

John Nightingale, President, Vancouver Aquarium

Leonard Neyman, Sweden

Sylvia Earle, Founder, Deep Ocean Exploration and Research (DOER) Marine

Matt Gianni, Deep Sea Conservation Coalition

Ernesto Julio Godelman, Center for Development and Sustainable Fisheries, Argentina

Vu Van Trieu, Representative and Bui Thi Thu Hien, Marine & Coastal Coordinator, IUCN Vietnam

Camille Mageau, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada

Franklin McDonald, UNEP Caribbean Environment Programme

Magnus Ngoile, Policy and Governance Coordinator, UNDP/GEF, Agulhas and Somali Current LME Project, Tanzania and South Africa

Pham Van Ninh, Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology, Vietnam

Chris Tompkins, Independent Consultant, UK, formerly DEFRA

Katherine Warner, IUCN Country Group Head, Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Viet Nam, IUCN

Sue Williams, Chief, Media Section; Sector for External Relations and Public Information, UNESO