

Dear panelists, welcome to our webinar!

Getting ready?

- Check your **audio and video** (bottom left of your screen). Note that both should be « muted » when you are not making your presentation/speaking
- Get **ready for your presentation**:
 - You will **manage your presentation from your own computer using the shared Master file** (apart for Veronika – we will manage your ppt, trying to anticipate as much as possible « changes in slides »)
 - For **sharing your screen**: use the green function at the bottom of zoom. And **keep your presentation open** on your computer **on the first content-related slide** (we will present ourselves the slide with the title and your name as we introduce you orally).
 - A sign when **time** is nearly « off » (**my video will be turned on again** => 60 seconds ahead for nicely concluding)
- During the webinar, do contribute to the **Questions & Answers**:
 - We (facilitation) will **bring orally some key questions to you** so you can provide directly oral answers for clarifying/complementing
 - For some **straightforward questions** in your area of expertise: do not hesitate to respond to participants to clarify (we will do the same on our side – in particular on the IOG Forum process)
- The webinar will be **publicly open at 13h55... sharp!**



Welcome to the launching webinar of TWG2!

Facilitation: Pierre Strosser, Camille Parrod & Nicolas Weiller
(ACTeon)



**Reducing pressure on oceans and seas
and creating the conditions for a
sustainable blue economy**

 #IOG
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EU-Ocean-Governance-Forum@ec.europa.eu

Before we start

Housekeeping rules

- If you need **support on zoom functionalities**: use the chat
- If you want to **ask clarification questions** – or **complement the focus of TWG2**: use the Q&A
 - ⇒ Speakers & facilitators will directly answer key questions (orally or in written)
 - ⇒ Unanswered questions are not lost, but will be used to guide us in designing follow-up steps (see last session for more information on proposed steps)
- For speakers/panelists – **time** is a very scarce resource...
- For all: we are a diverse group => limit the use of acronyms (or explain them...)
- Remember: the **video of the webinar** will be **disseminated**
- Finally, in these very challenging times: **thanks for been with us**, and hope you will **enjoy** the webinar!

The main focus of the webinar

Launching the International Ocean Governance (IOG) Forum process

- Presenting the IOG Forum
- Presenting and clarifying the focus of its Thematic Working Group 2 – *Reducing pressures on oceans and seas and creating the conditions for a sustainable blue economy*
- Presenting the way forward after this launching webinar

Challenges
Solutions
Questions

The main focus of the webinar

*The agenda/Session I: **Setting the scene of the IOG and TWG2***

Time (CEST)	Item	Speaker
14:00	Welcome and housekeeping/facilitation rules	Pierre Strosser & Camille Parrod (ACTeon)
	Opening remarks	Commissioner Virginijus Sinkevičius , Environment, Oceans and Fisheries (Video message)
	International Ocean Governance as key to achieving Sustainable Development Goals	Peter Thomson , UN Special Envoy for the Oceans (Video message)
	The EU International Ocean Governance Forum in a nutshell	Veronika Veits (European Commission, DG MARE)
	Issues and solutions addressed in TWG2	Pierre Strosser (ACTeon)

The main focus of the webinar

The agenda/Session II: Presenting the main TWG2 topics

Time (CEST)	Topics	Speaker
14h35	Topic 1 - Managing marine ecosystems and space sustainably and equitably	Jan Van Tatenhove (Aalborg University)
	Topic 2 - Achieving a clean, healthy and productive ocean	Christopher Corbin (UNEP)
	Topic 3 - Unfolding the climate and ocean nexus	Loreley Picourt (Ocean & Climate Platform)
	Topic 4 - Managing ocean food resources sustainably	Mercedes Rosello (House of Ocean)
	Topic 5 - Creating the right conditions for supporting a sustainable blue economy	Jan Maarten de Vet (Ecorys)

The main focus of the webinar

The agenda/Session III: Final words and way forward

Time (CEST)	items	Speaker
15h50	Summary of discussions and follow-up steps	Pierre Strosser (ACTeon)
	Conclusions and words of thanks	Marijana Mance (European Commission, DG ENV) & John Brincat (European Commission, DG MARE)
16h00	End of the webinar	

Co-chairs of
TWG2



Setting the scene of the IOG and TWG2



**Reducing pressure on oceans and seas
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Opening remarks

Commissioner **Virginijus Sinkevičius**
Environment, Oceans and Fisheries

Link to the video: https://twitter.com/EU_MARE/status/1252960180964376577?s=20



International Ocean Governance as key to achieving Sustainable Development Goals

Peter Thomson

UN Special Envoy for the Oceans

Link to the video: https://twitter.com/EU_MARE/status/1252968962318614530

The EU International Ocean Governance Forum in a nutshell

Veronika Veits

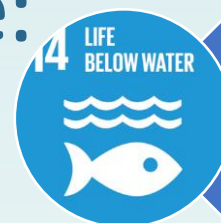
European Commission, DG MARE



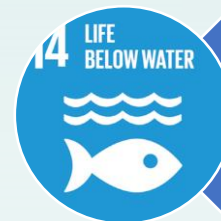
International ocean governance: an agenda for the future of our oceans

50 actions to ensure our oceans are:

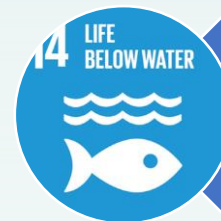
- safe
- secure
- clean
- healthy
- sustainably used



Improve the international ocean governance framework



Reduce pressures and facilitate sustainable blue economy

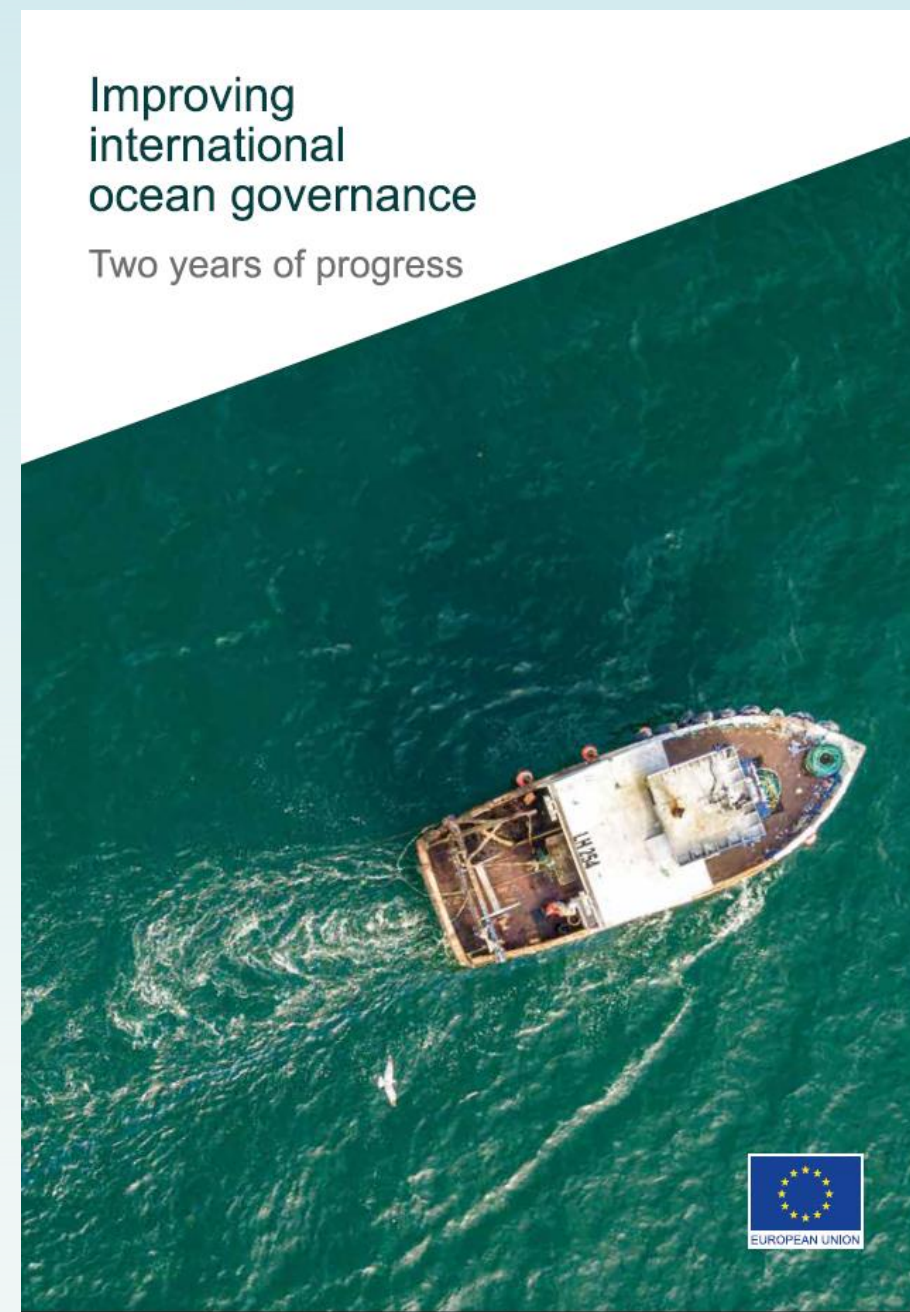


Strengthen international ocean research and data



Progress report: Improving International Ocean Governance – Two years of progress

All actions are successfully being implemented. Many already delivered, while work will continue on some actions.



Council Conclusions on Oceans and Seas (14249/19)

- INVITES the Commission to analyse the SCROCC* report and propose policy response options; CALLS for increased policy action at all governance levels
- SUPPORTS the follow-up and further development of the IOG Agenda
- CALLS ON the EU and its Member States to promote and build capacity for better ocean governance

**: Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate*

International Ocean Governance Forum dedicated to oceans and seas worldwide

- Provide a platform to share understanding, experiences and good practice
- Mobilise stakeholders within and beyond Europe
- Support follow-up and further development of the IOG agenda



Reducing pressures on oceans and seas and creating the conditions for a sustainable blue economy

What is the main focus of the TWG2 of the IOG Forum?

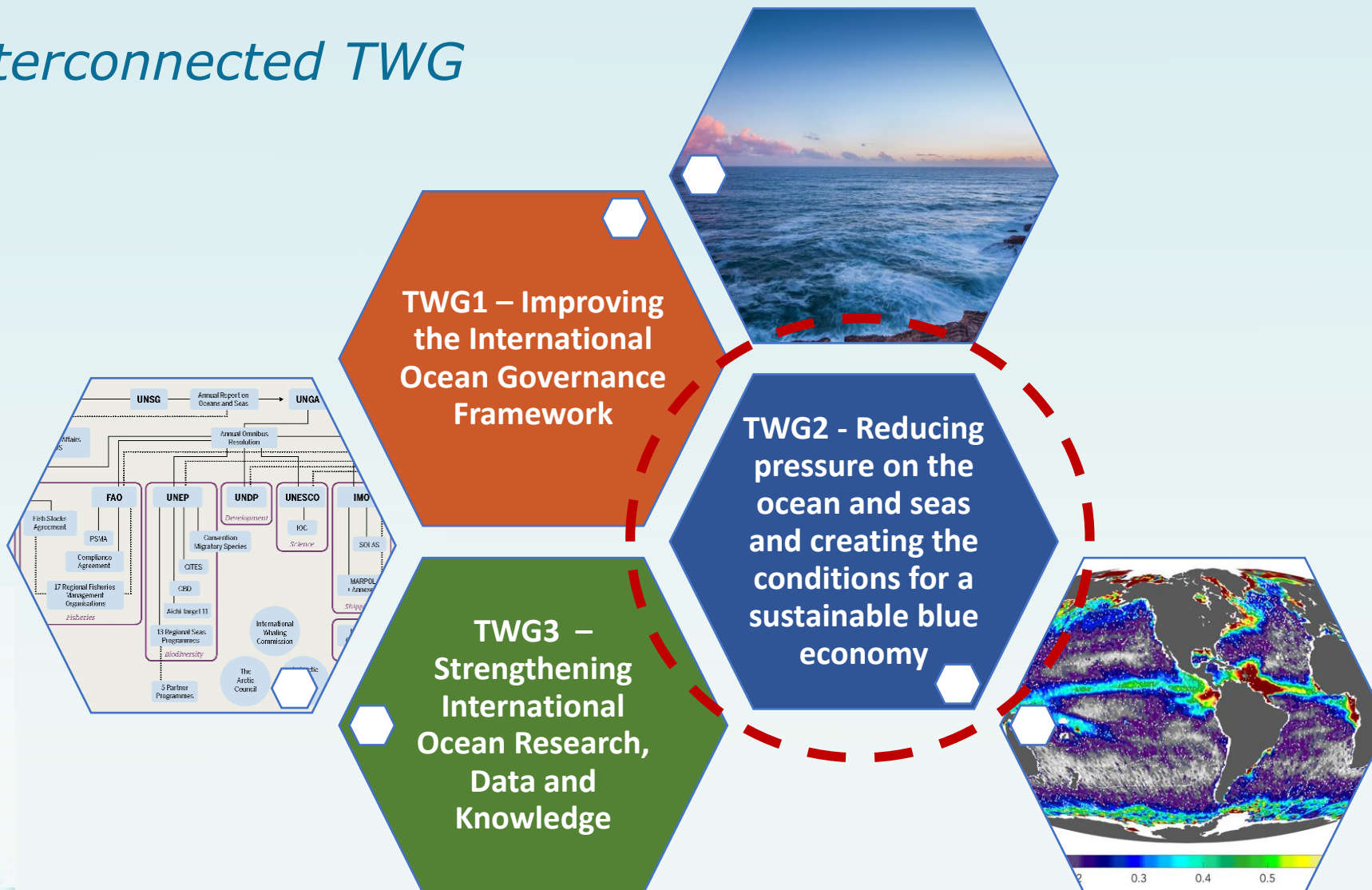
Pierre Strosser

ACTeon



The IOG Forum Thematic Working Groups

Three interconnected TWG



The TWG2 discussion paper

The focus of the discussion paper

Operational

- Presenting **challenges & (some) solutions** relevant to the theme ***Reducing pressures on oceans and seas and creating the conditions for a sustainable blue economy***
- Identifying **key critical questions** TWG2 of the IOG Forum will need to answer for specific topics



The TWG2 discussion paper

The discussion paper development process

- A first draft **produced by the authors** supporting the EU IOG Forum initiative
- **Reviewed** by the European Commission and external experts
- **Not exhaustive** & representing the **views of the authors...** but a **useful starting point** for our debates



The TWG2 discussion paper

Simplifying complexity into selected topics

- Managing **marine ecosystems and space** sustainably
- Achieving a **clean, healthy and productive** ocean
- Supporting a global agreement on **plastics** (circular economy)
- Unfolding the **climate and ocean** nexus
- Managing **ocean food** resources sustainably
- Creating the right conditions for supporting a **sustainable blue economy**



Questions for clarification on the IOG Forum and its TWG2?





Presenting the main TWG2 topics



**Reducing pressure on oceans and seas
and creating the conditions for a
sustainable blue economy**

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Each TWG2 topic presented individually following a common structure:

1. **Introductory speech** (key expert)
2. **Priority questions** for the topic (facilitation)
3. **Short discussion** for consolidating/complementing challenges, solutions and questions (Q: all participants, A: speakers/panelists)

With a small break “in between” for each of us to relax and get fresh air:☺

As a reminder:

The presentations given in the context of these webinars represent the views of the presenters (and not of the European Commission and the European External Action Service)

This is collective work in progress 😊



Managing marine ecosystems and space sustainably and equitably

Jan Van Tatenhove
Aalborg University



Challenges to implement EBM

- Implementation of holistic Ecosystem-based management (EBM) approaches at different scales is needed for a sustainable and equitable development of oceans.
- Implementing EBM approaches is complicated by two factors:
 1. No single authority is responsible for problems at sea
 - UN, RSC, EU, states have developed own regulations and policies
 - A fragmented institutional setting and institutional ambiguity
 2. The different governance dynamics of various sectoral maritime activities.
 - Each maritime sector is characterised by specific sectoral governance arrangements (co-existing side-by-side)
 - For example: sectoral ABMTs: MPAs, shipping (ECA and PSSA), fisheries (closure areas), deepseabed mining (APEI)
- The result is a patchwork of conflicting maritime activities regulated by (fragmented) sectoral public policies operating at multiple levels with specific governance structures and regulations, hampering integrated solutions.

Regionalization as strategy to implement EBM at the regional sea level

- ▶ Developing “strong stories” by connecting and combining visions, knowledge and democratic legitimacy at the regional sea level
 - › Network of MPAs, energy networks (super grids), transport networks
 - › Developing integrated instruments, such as Transboundary Maritime Spatial Planning (TMSP)
- ▶ Institutional design of regional and transboundary cooperation/coordination
 - › Designing new institutions or redesigning existing institutions (RSC + and Advisory Alliances)
 - › Reflexivity as governance principle (possibility to challenge institutional rules of the game and discursive spaces)
 - › Development of combined ‘macro-regional’ and ‘sea-basin’ strategies

EU International Ocean Governance Forum



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Managing marine ecosystems and space sustainably and equitably

Key questions to be addressed

- Q1. How to support **holistic ecosystem-based management** approaches at different scales?
- Q2. How to support the development of **MSP and MPA in high seas**?
- Q3. On which priority topics/management functions (of ABMTs, MSP, MPAs..) should **guidance** be developed to enhance their performance?
- Q4. How can the development of **capacity** to support ecosystem-based management be supported?
- Q5. Which **innovative financial instruments** to support the viability of ABMTs organisations and the effective long-term management of ABMTs?

Questions for clarifying and consolidating
the focus of the topic
(challenges, solutions and questions)



Achieving a clean, healthy and productive ocean

Christopher Corbin

UNEP



Challenges

- **Many pressures** imposed on marine ecosystems (pollution – including plastics, morphological changes, direct resource extraction, noise...)
- From a **wide diversity of sources**: sea-based, land-based and airborne
- Despite efforts, **cumulative pressures** remain and result in the degradation of the health of marine ecosystems
- **Constraints** for implementing effective solutions:
 - Insufficient recognition of ocean health requirements when developing and implementing national policies (land-based objectives)
 - Fragmented (sector-based) approach to the control, reduction and prevention of marine pollution

Looking for solutions

- Developing and implementing **multidisciplinary/multisectoral marine strategies** that aim at improving the health of the ocean ecosystem – accounting for climate change and building resilience
- **Monitoring, reporting and assessments** at appropriate levels of the ocean's health making explicit the root causes of degradation – as a basis to proposing policy adaptations (actions) required to achieve a healthy and productive ocean
- **Integrated solutions** accounting for the **land-sea interface** building on:
 - Closer links and integration between the land and sea communities
 - Stronger regulations, standards, enforcement and a change in consumption and production patterns, combined with higher resource efficiency

Addressing plastic pollution

- Despite existing efforts, the **regulatory gap at the global level** continues to exist in relation to plastics and other land-based sources of pollution
- Need for a **dedicated global agreement** designed to prevent plastic pollution (both from land and sea-based sources, including microplastics) and covering the entire life-cycle of plastics (product design, sustainable consumption and production, waste management)

Putting solutions in practice:

How can we effectively address plastic pollution?

- **Partnerships:** Trash Free International: Sandals Foundation, US EPA, Government of Jamaica, UNEP, OSPAR Commission
- **Livelihood Opportunities:** Recycling/Upcycling;
- **Taking a leap of faith:** Bans/Restrictions of Single-Use Plastics Bags in Latin America and the Caribbean and in Africa



[VideoLinkonYouTube](#)

EU International Ocean Governance Forum



Christopher Corbin

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Achieving a clean, healthy and productive ocean

Key questions to be addressed (general)

- Q1. & Q2. Which role(s) can (regional) organisations and their instruments play
 - to strengthen the implementation/enforcement of **sector strategies**?
 - to support the establishment and implementation of **multisectoral multipressure strategies**?
- Q3. How can a more **effective land-sea interface** be achieved/ensured?
- Q4. Which lessons from **life-cycle approaches** and “**production to consumption**” value chain initiatives and technologies – and mechanisms to put in place to support their wider uptake?



Achieving a clean, healthy and productive ocean

Key questions to be addressed (plastic focused)

- Q1. Which process to adopt a **global agreement** designed to prevent plastic pollution?
- Q2. In particular, how can the **private sector** be mobilized?
- Q3. What are the **enabling and constraining conditions** for the current multi-level governance to develop, implement and enforce a global plastic agreement?
- And also
- Q4. What are the **gaps at the global level** to address plastic pollution?
- Q5? What **needs to be addressed** in developing of global agreement?

Questions for clarifying and consolidating
the focus of the topic
(challenges, solutions and questions)



Unfolding the climate and ocean nexus

Loreley Picourt

Ocean & Climate Platform



Why does the Ocean matter?

IT REGULATES THE CLIMATE...

- Covers 71% of the Planet
- Absorbs >25 % of the anthropogenic CO₂ and >90% of the excess heat emitted annually into the atmosphere
- Is the 1st net supplier of oxygen

...HENCE, WE NEED TO URGENTLY REDUCE GHG EMISSIONS.

- Increase ambition and action to comply with the objectives of the Paris Agreement
- Promote ocean-based measures for both mitigation and adaptation
- Identify innovative funding mechanisms



THE OCEAN IS PART OF THE SOLUTION

Nature-Based Solutions

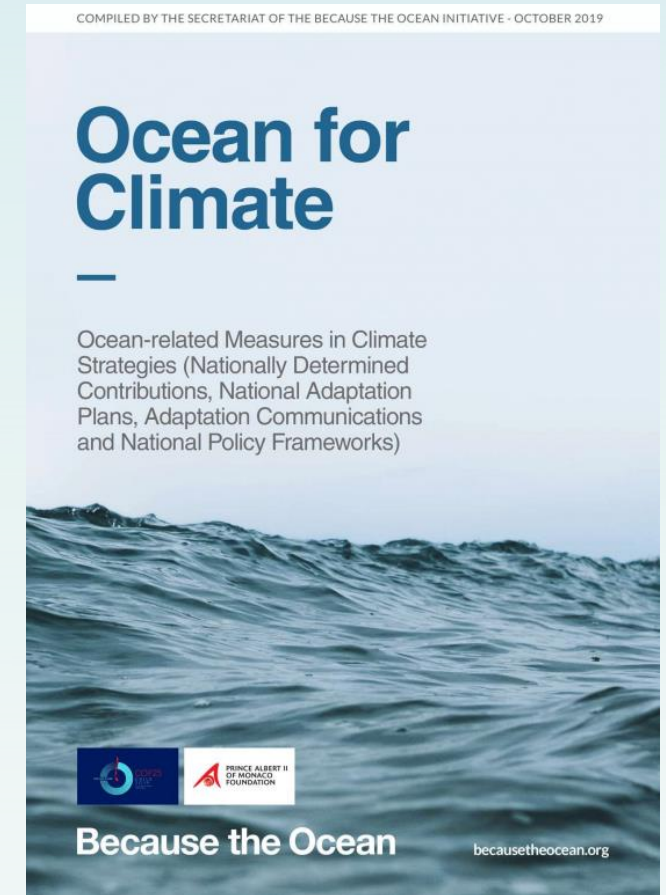
- Implement fully or highly protected MPAs
- Protect and restore blue carbon ecosystems

Marine Renewable Energy

- Deploy offshore wind energy
- Develop other sources of blue energy, such as tidal range or wave energy

Greening the maritime sector

- Improve fuel quality and support the transition to alternative fuels and renewable energy
- Adapt and equip maritime ports and harbours



OCEAN & CLIMATE MAINSTREAMING

What way forward? Some leads:

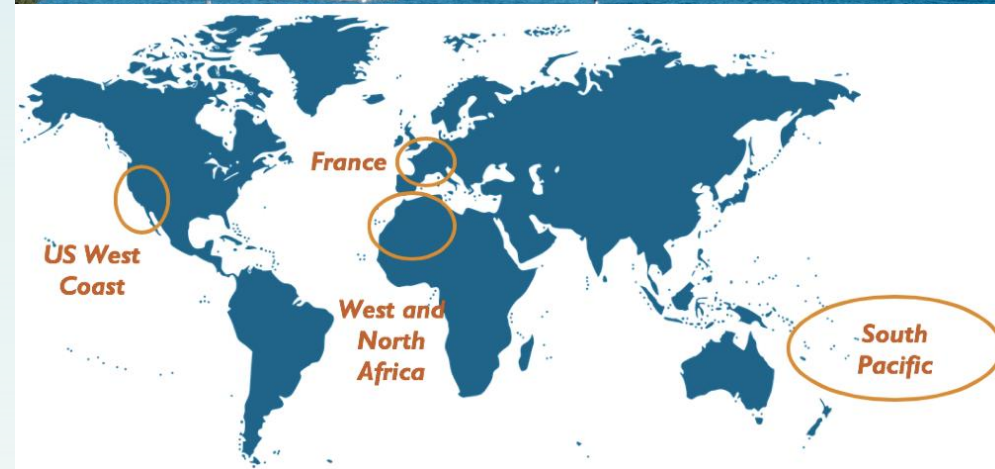
- **Strengthening knowledge** on the ocean-climate relationship
 - ⇒ better understand the role of the ocean in climate regulation through CO₂ sequestration
- More coherent and systematic efforts to **monitor and report GHG emissions** by the main marine/maritime sectors
 - ⇒ Include shipping-related measures into NDCs; Synergies with IMO
- The **establishment of tools** to internalise climate change into ocean-related decisions and investments
 - ⇒ « Tony de Brum » declaration; One Planet Lab; 1% For the Planet etc.
- **Raising capacity and literacy** on the complex connections between ocean and climate
 - ⇒ Peer-to-peer training; Ocean literacy; sharing best practices

AN EXAMPLE: COASTAL ADAPTATION

*The **Sea'ties** Project*

- Identify and implement **adaptation solutions to climate change**, based on scientific synthesis, peer-to-peer learning and network sharing

- Focus on **medium-sized cities in 4 regions**: South Pacific, North & West Africa, US West Coast, and France



EU International Ocean Governance Forum



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Unfolding the climate and ocean nexus

Key questions to be addressed

- Q1. How to best **monitor emissions from maritime sectors**?
- Q2. What type of **guidance** should be developed to fully account for the **ocean-climate relationships in investment decisions**?
- Q3. What instruments and governance models should be implemented to develop **integrated and innovative solutions for climate change** (including nature-based solutions, adaptations in ABMTs...) that fully **account for the ocean and the value of ecosystems and biodiversity**?
- Q4. How to adapt sector's **financing** to support actions that are climate-coherent?
- Q5. What guidance and incentives should be operationalised to support **coastal area adaptation** to the consequences of sea-level rise?

Questions for clarifying and consolidating
the focus of the topic
(challenges, solutions and questions)



Managing ocean food resources sustainably

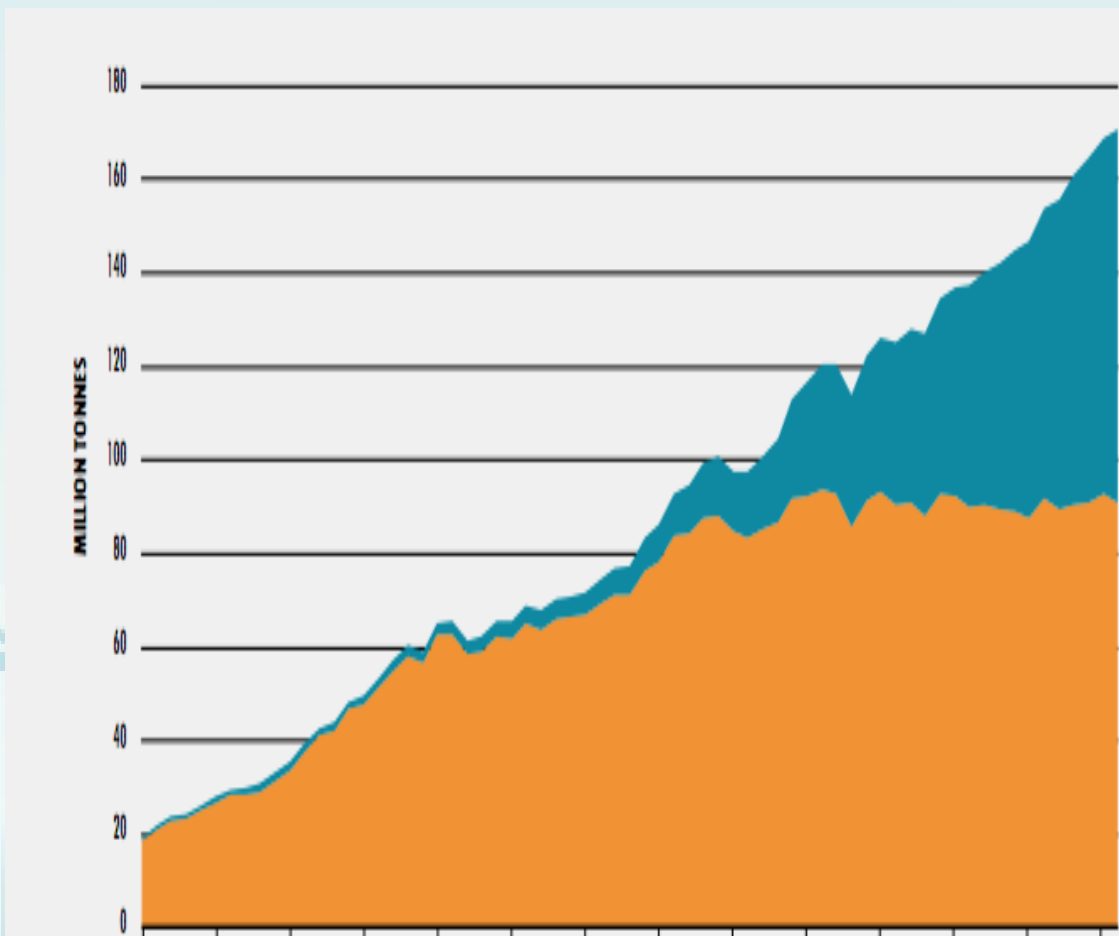
Mercedes Rosello

House of Ocean



POSSIBILITIES

FAO, The State of World Fisheries & Aquaculture (2018)



WORLD FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION (MILLION TONNES)^a

Category	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Production						
Capture						
Inland	10.7	11.2	11.2	11.3	11.4	11.6
Marine	81.5	78.4	79.4	79.9	81.2	79.3
Total capture	92.2	89.5	90.6	91.2	92.7	90.9
Aquaculture						
Inland	38.6	42.0	44.8	46.9	48.6	51.4
Marine	23.2	24.4	25.4	26.8	27.5	28.7
Total aquaculture	61.8	66.4	70.2	73.7	76.1	80.0
Total world fisheries and aquaculture	154.0	156.0	160.7	164.9	168.7	170.9
Utilization^b						
Human consumption	130.0	136.4	140.1	144.8	148.4	151.2
Non-food uses	24.0	19.6	20.6	20.0	20.3	19.7
Population (billions) ^c	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.4
Per capita apparent consumption (kg)	18.5	19.2	19.5	19.9	20.2	20.3

PROBLEMS

Cross-cutting factors:

- 1. CLIMATE CHANGE (species distribution, ocean acidification from anthropogenic carbon emissions).** See FAO, Proceedings of FishAdapt: the global conference on climate change adaptation for fisheries and aquaculture (2016); TJB Wilson, Potential socioeconomic impacts from ocean acidification and climate change effects on Atlantic Canadian fisheries (2020) PLoS ONE 15(1) e0226544.
- 2. MARINE POLLUTION (transboundary toxins & macro / micro plastics of miscellaneous origin, interacting with marine species and moving across marine region).** See M Thiel et al, Impacts of Marine Plastic Pollution from Continental Coastal to Subtropical Gyres – Fish, Seabirds, and Other Vertebrates in the SE Pacific (2018) Frontiers in Marine Science.
- 3. INADEQUATE COASTAL MANAGEMENT (competition & conflicts with other sectors - agriculture, energy production, coastal development & tourism, etc).** See LC Sieghart et al, Capturing Opportunities for Integrated Coastal Zone Management and the Blue Economy in Mena (2019) World Bank Quick Notes Series.
- 4. COVID-19 (loss of livelihoods, existential threat to some parts of the industry, disrupted ports & supply chains, loss of capacity for data collection, compliance & crime control).** See W Saumweber et al, Covid-19 at Sea: Impacts on the Blue Economy, Ocean Health, and Ocean Security (2020) Commentary – Centre for Strategic and International Studies.

PROBLEMS

Sectoral (but frequently interconnected) factors

Overfishing/overcapacity

Subsidies, no/insufficient coordination, uninformed/inappropriate authorisations

IUU fishing

Economic drivers of illicit trade, operational opacity, corruption

Under-reporting & knowledge voids

Unreported fishing, insufficient data collection, poor monitoring/verification

Aquaculture management issues

Unsustainable food sources, site pollution, parasites/poor welfare

See: J Lindley & EJ Techera, Overcoming complexity in illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing to achieve effective regulatory pluralism (2017) 81 Marine Policy 71; D Soto-Onate & AC Lemos-Nobre, Unreported landings across the EU Exclusive Economic Zones: the role of regional governance and social capital (2020) 111 Marine Policy 103723; UR Sumaila et al, Illicit trade in marine fish catch and its effects on people worldwide (2020) 6(9) Social Sciences 3801.

PROSPECTS

Ongoing and future solutions: inter-connectivity & visibility

CASE STUDY

GHOST GEAR (lost / abandoned / discarded fishing gear)

- Endogenous plastic pollution problem impacting on fishing & other sectors (tourism, shipping)
- Multiple & inter-connected causal factors: IUU fishing, inadequate management (competition over fishing grounds & gear conflicts), end of life disposal, lack of facilities
- Fisheries as key marine actors: underexplored industry capacity to reuse/recycle these and other plastics
- See: K Richardson et al, Understanding causes of gear loss provides a sound basis for fisheries management (2018) 96 Marine Policy 278; M Rosello, Links between ghost gear and IUU fishing: a brief note on control opportunities in the ASEAN region (2020) House of Ocean.

PROSPECTS

TOWARDS EFFECTIVE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF OCEAN FOOD

Responses will be varied, but some cross-cutting factors to bear in mind:

1. Keep sight of the interconnections and synergies that shape the problems of ocean food production,
2. Prioritise scientific, management and operational data collection and verification
3. Support and contribute towards a culture of transparency, responsibility, and cooperation.

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Managing ocean food resources sustainably

Key questions to be addressed

- Q1. How could the **role of Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs)** be strengthened for managing fisheries resources and activities sustainably?
- Q2. How could the **performance reviews** of RFMOs be strengthened to enhance their effectiveness?
- Q3. Which roles could the **Conference of Parties of different international conventions (e.g. on climate change or biodiversity)** play to contribute to a more sustainable management of ocean food – including in supporting healthy and productive ecosystems?
- Q4. Which mechanisms (e.g. law and policy, trade, data-sharing, etc.) could help address **Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing** globally?
- Q5. How to support the (knowledge, enabling factors) **sustainable blue economy opportunities** for the fisheries and aquaculture sectors?

Questions for clarifying and consolidating
the focus of the topic
(challenges, solutions and questions)



Creating the right conditions for supporting a sustainable blue economy

Jan Maarten de Vet

Ecorys



In a snapshot:

- 1. What is sustainability: it has a lot of dimensions*
- 2. Enabling sustainability: a holistic and evidence-based approach*
- 3. An important enabler not to forget: financial actors*

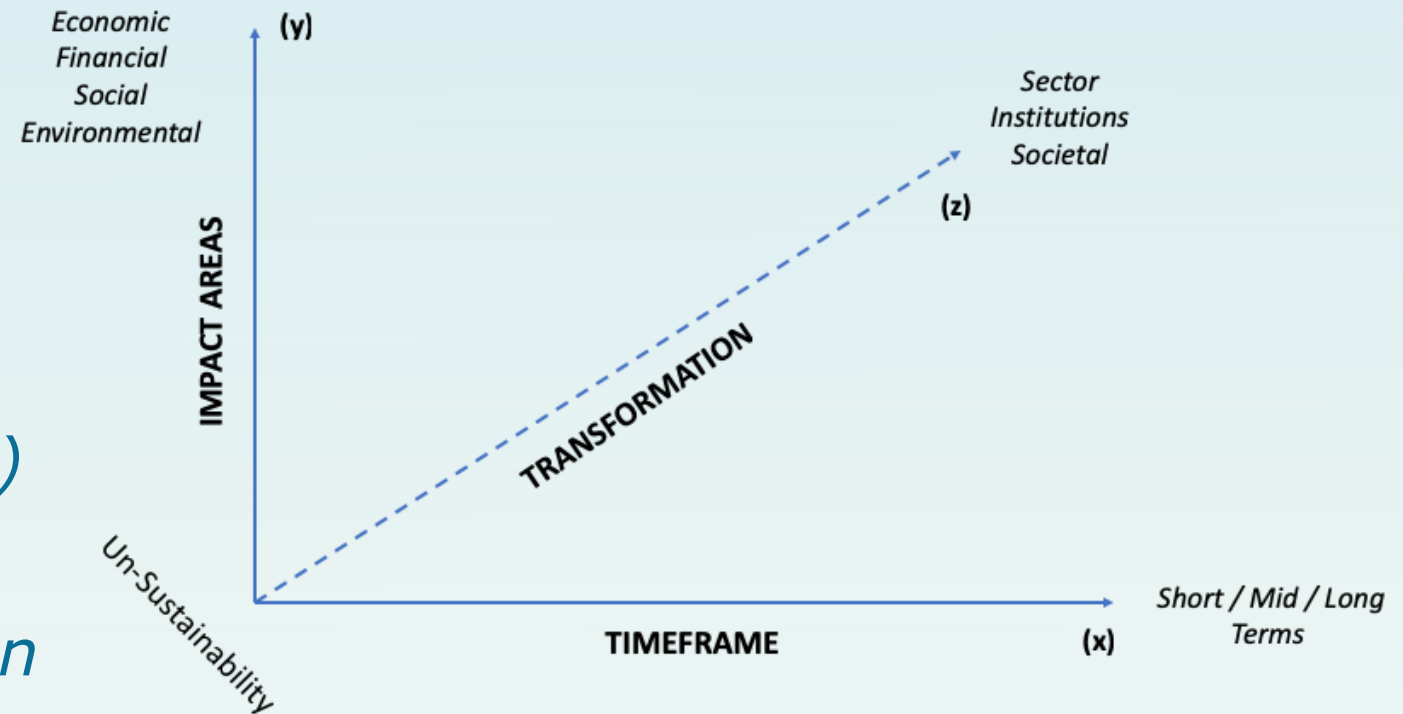


1. What is sustainability? A lot of dimensions

a. *Economic, social and environmental*

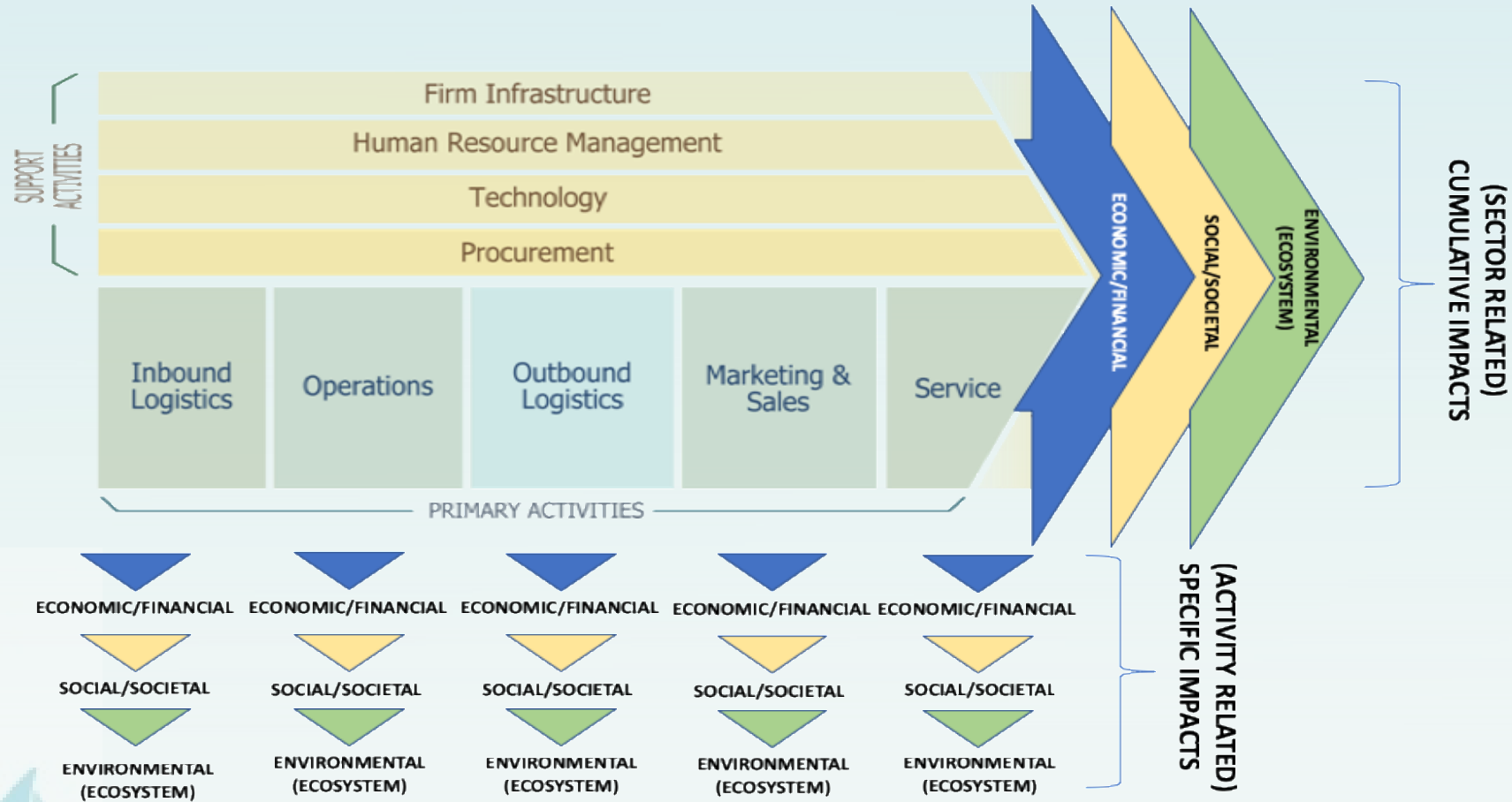
b. *A timeframe (l.t. versus s.t.)*

c. *A transformational dimension (e.g. local business models and governance)*



Towards a coherent set of sustainability criteria and indicators

2. Enabling sustainability requires a holistic and evidence-based approach



2. Enabling sustainability requires a holistic and evidence-based approach

- *Rather (un-)sustainable practices than (un-)sustainable sectors*
- *Blue economy activities are part of more complex value chains – including land-based activities – some aspects can be sustainable others not*
- *True insight in sustainability requires Life Cycle thinking (long-term perspective)*
- *Impact assessments are useful – but require place-based knowledge – there is no 'one size fits all'*

3. An important enabler not to forget: financial actors

- *Knowledge of the blue economy tends to be poor amongst financial actors*
- *The financial sector is increasingly integrating environmental, social and governance (ESG) actors standards*
- *Nevertheless there are several public and private mechanisms that hold back sustainability in the blue economy*
- *Development banks and public banks have a key role to play to promote sustainability in the blue economy*

EU International Ocean Governance Forum



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Creating the right conditions for supporting a sustainable blue economy

Key questions to be addressed

- Q1. How to strengthen the sound application of **ex-ante and ex-post assessments** (e.g. environmental impact assessment) of blue economy projects and strategies?
- Q2. How to strengthen **literacy and capacity** on sustainable blue economy opportunities and developments?
- Q3. & Q4. How to support the creation of **knowledge & innovation** to support sustainable blue economy? Which **enabling factors** need to be put in place (at which scale) to seize sustainable blue economy opportunities?
 - Including on innovative multifunctional multiuse areas and platforms?

Questions for clarifying and consolidating
the focus of the topic
(challenges, solutions and questions)





Final words and way forward



**Reducing pressure on oceans and seas
and creating the conditions for a
sustainable blue economy**

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The way forward

Sharing your *evaluation of the webinar*



- Online – as you leave the webinar room



The way forward

The video of the webinar disseminated

- Do help us in disseminating it very widely within your own communities (including via social media)



The way forward

*A series of **topic-dedicated online workshops***

- Building on the outcome of today's webinar and your evaluations
- Mobilising experts in proposed topics
- Discussing solutions to strengthen International Ocean Governance, and preconditions for successful implementation
- Taking place **between May and July 2020** (dates to be confirmed)



The way forward

An online stakeholder consultation

- Building on the outcome of the topic-dedicated online workshops
- To gain further insight into solutions and preconditions for successful implementation
- Organised over the **summer 2020**



The way forward

*An IOG Forum **conference** as intermediary milestone*

- Sharing and consolidating the results of these first consultation steps
- From **9 to 11 December, 2020** – in Brussels



The way forward

*The final IOG Forum **conference***

- Presenting the results of the IOG Forum on how best could the EU supports International Ocean Governance
- **Spring 2021** – in Brussels



Conclusions and words of thanks

Marijana Mance (EC, DG Environment)

&

John Brincat (EC, DG MARE)





Many thanks for your participation and contributions!



#StayHome

#StaySafe

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and creating the conditions for a
sustainable blue economy**

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