



# **DEVCO** **Environment and Climate Week 2020**

**17-21 February 2020**  
**Brussels, Belgium**

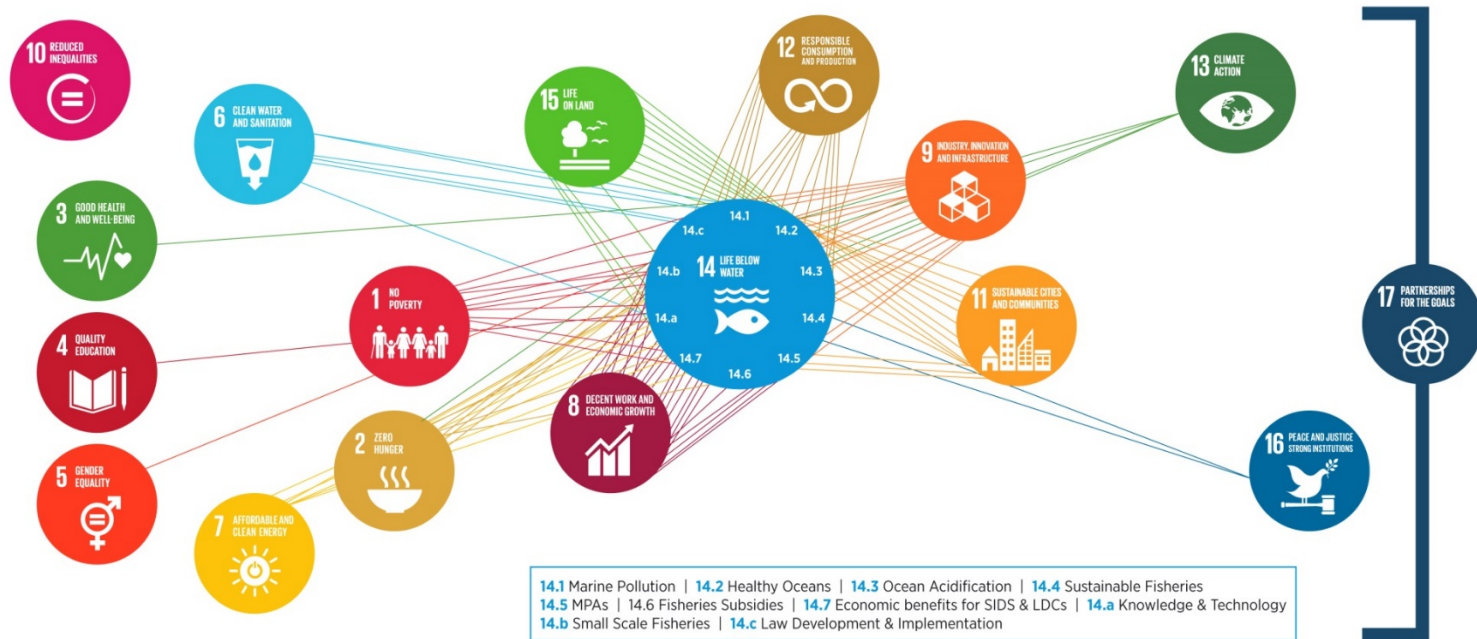


## **Session: Ocean – towards integrated approaches**

### **International Ocean Governance: -an Agenda for the future of our oceans**

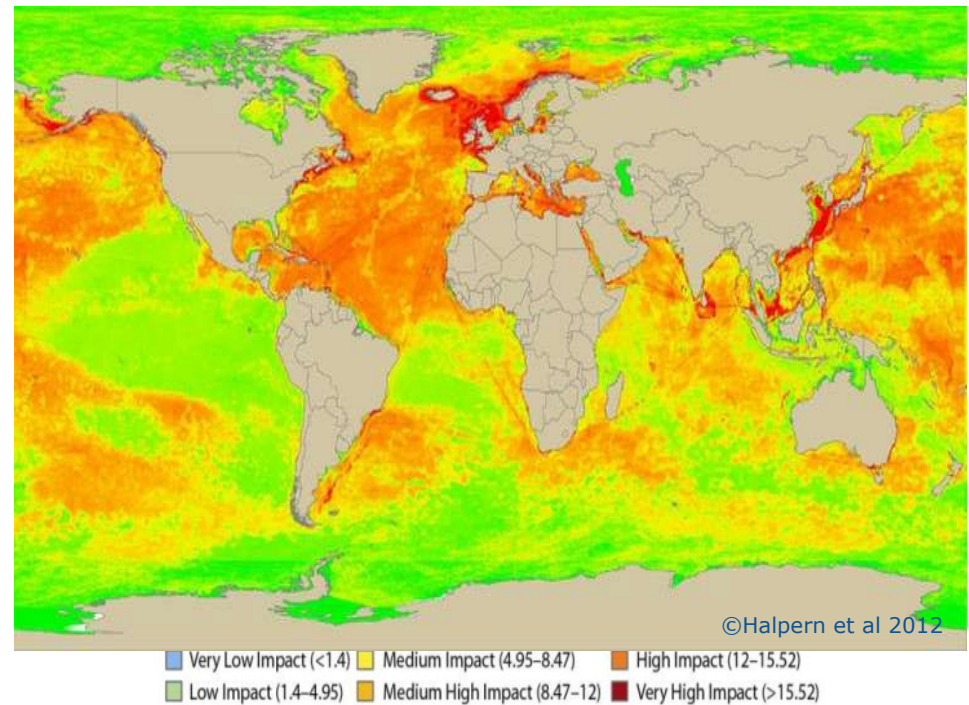
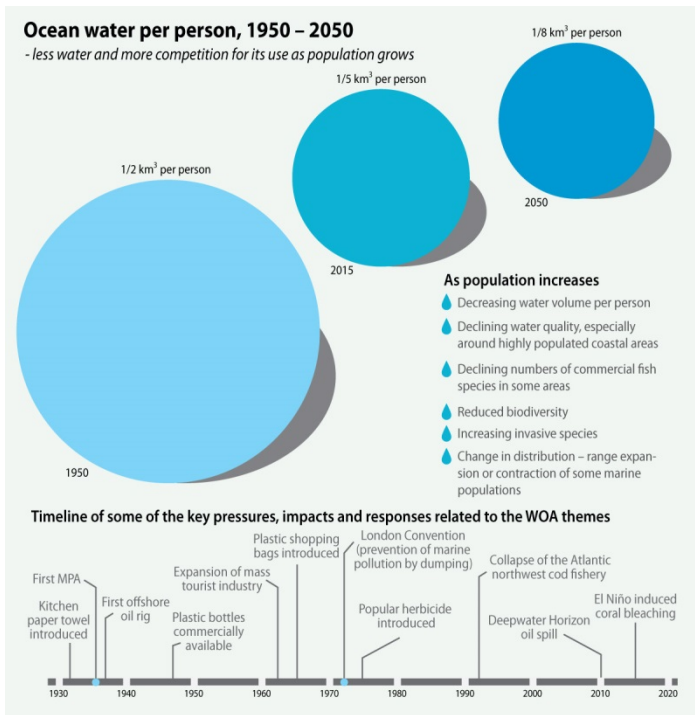
- **Stefanie Schmidt, MARE B1 – Ocean Governance, Law of the sea and Arctic Policy**

# Oceans: essential for people & planet





# Healthy Oceans: essential for people & planet





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

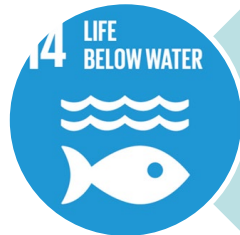
***We need to keep our oceans:***

- safe
- secure
- clean
- sustainably used

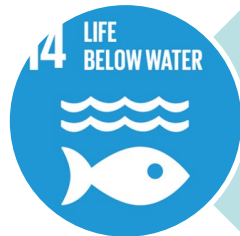
***"Ocean Governance is a  
global challenge that no-one  
can tackle alone"***

***Within a global strategy***

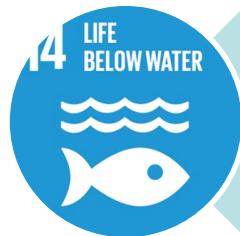
# International Ocean Governance: an Agenda for the future of our oceans



***Improve the international ocean governance framework***



***Reduce pressures and facilitate sustainable blue economy***



***Strengthen international ocean research and data***

# The IOG Agenda has strengthened the EU's role as:

- a reliable partner in building an international governance framework with UNCLOS at its core
- a top donor to build capacity and spur local, regional and global action
- a strong supporter and service provider for ocean research, monitoring and surveillance
- a coherent 'blue' economy business partner with an inclusive and sustainable outlook

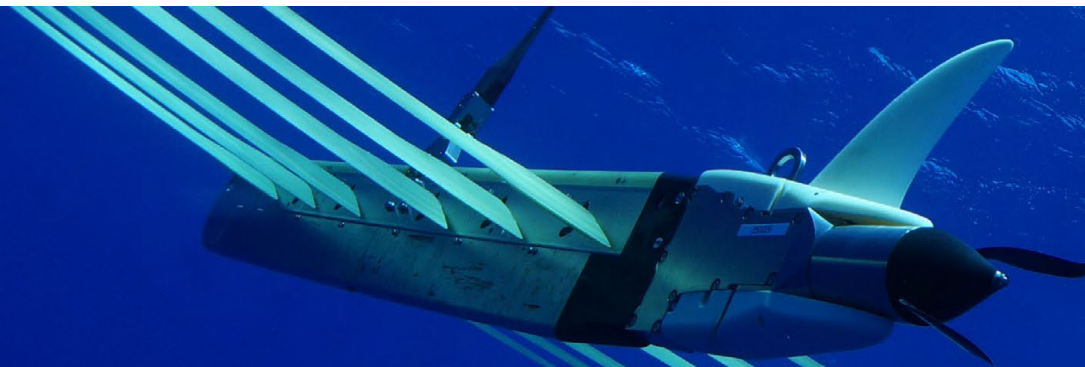


*"All 50 actions are successfully being implemented. Some already delivered, while work will continue on a number of actions beyond 2019."*

EUR 590 million have been engaged under EU development policy to promote better ocean governance with third partners in 2017-2018

➤ Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership (PEUMP) programme

- Joint Statement with South Korea on efforts to combat IUU fishing
- Ecosystem restoration support in MED, SEA and ACP
- Plastic Strategy in a Circular Economy
- Transatlantic MPA Network
- All Atlantic Research Alliance





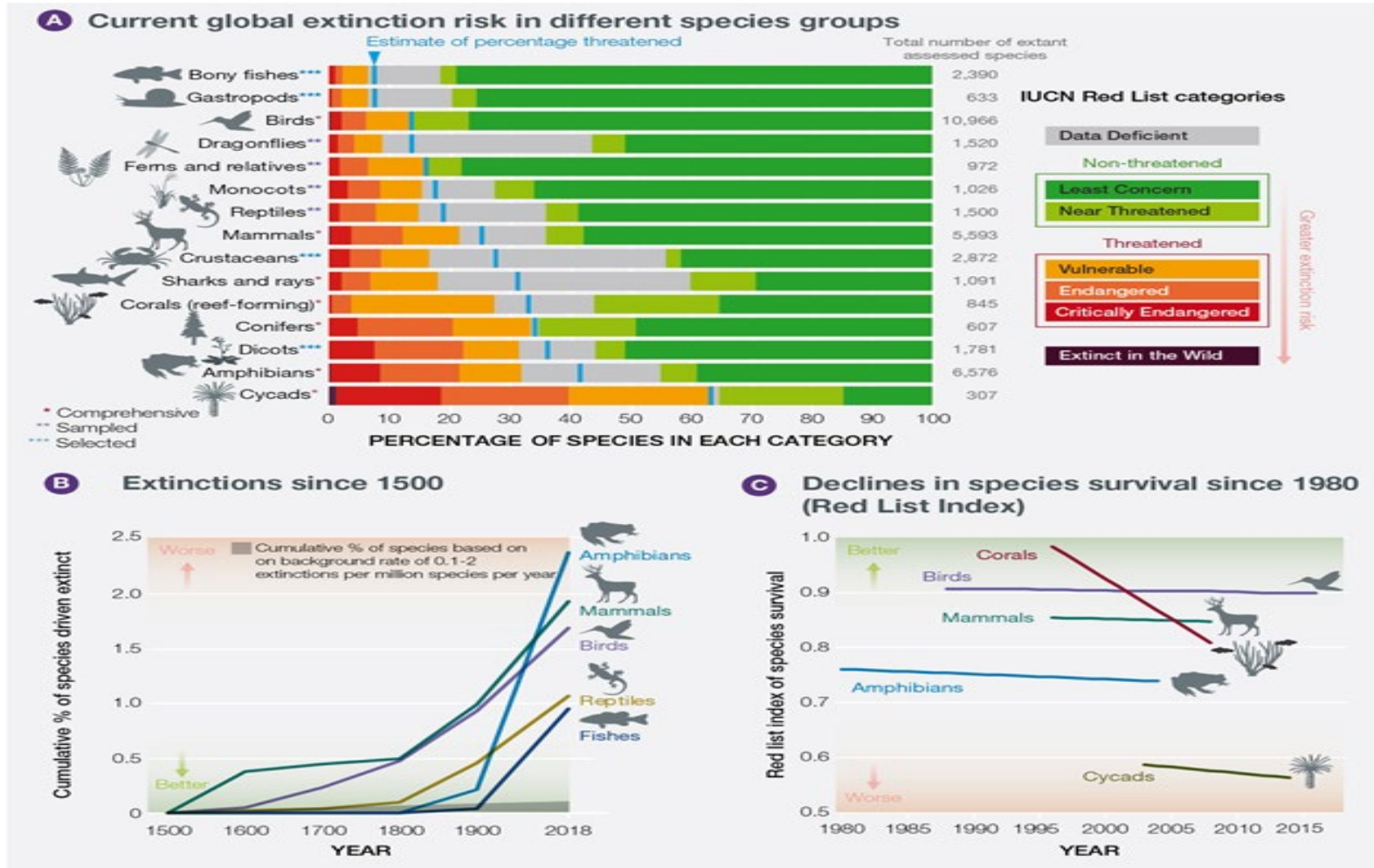
## Improving international ocean governance

Two years of progress

- Joint report: Improving International Ocean Governance – Two years of progress ([JOIN\(2019\) 4](#))
- Joint staff working document accompanying the joint report; Improving International Ocean Governance - Two years of progress ([SWD\(2019\) 104](#))

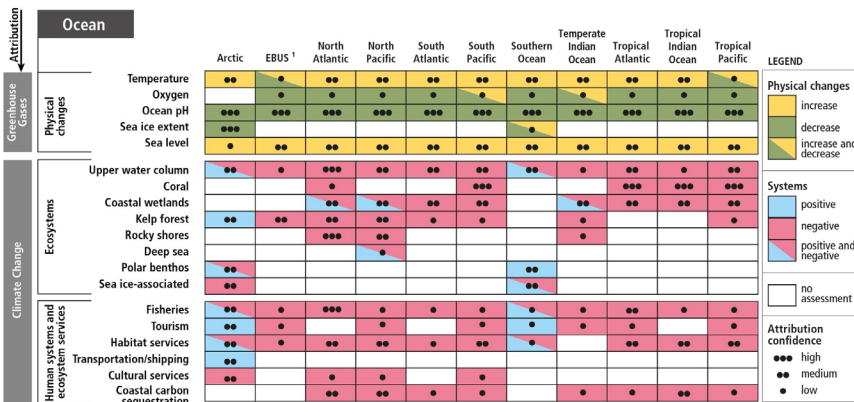


# Marine Biodiversity is rapidly declining



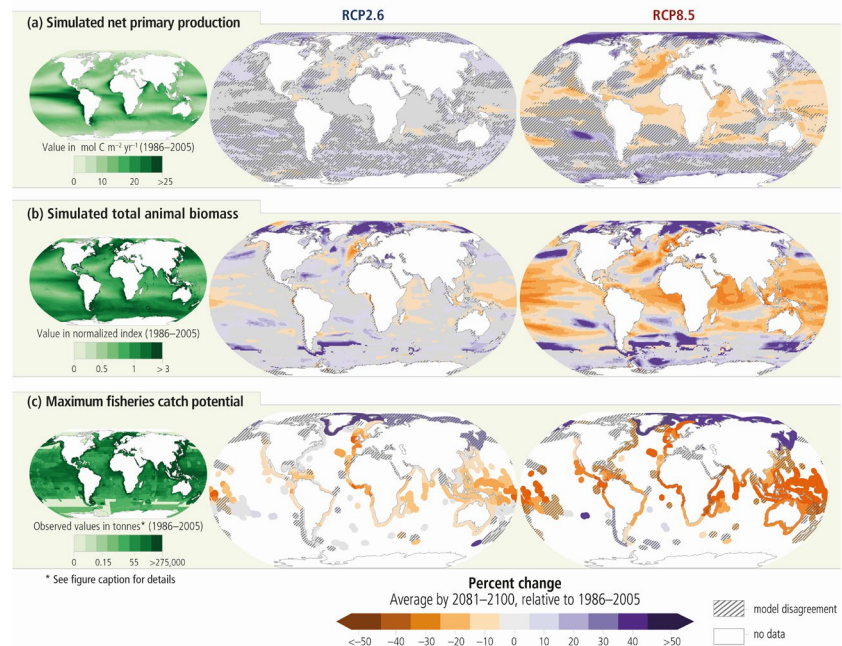
# The Climate and Ocean Nexus –a catch 22 ?!

## Observed regional impacts from changes in the ocean and the cryosphere



<sup>1</sup> Eastern Boundary Upwelling Systems (Benguela Current, Canary Current, California Current, and Humboldt Current); (Box 5.3)

## Projected changes, impacts and risks for ocean ecosystems as a result of climate change



# 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** (biodiversity, cumulative pressures, sustainable blue economies)*

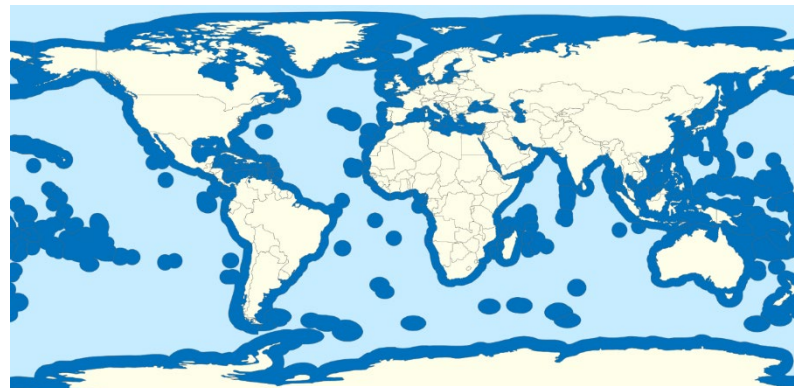
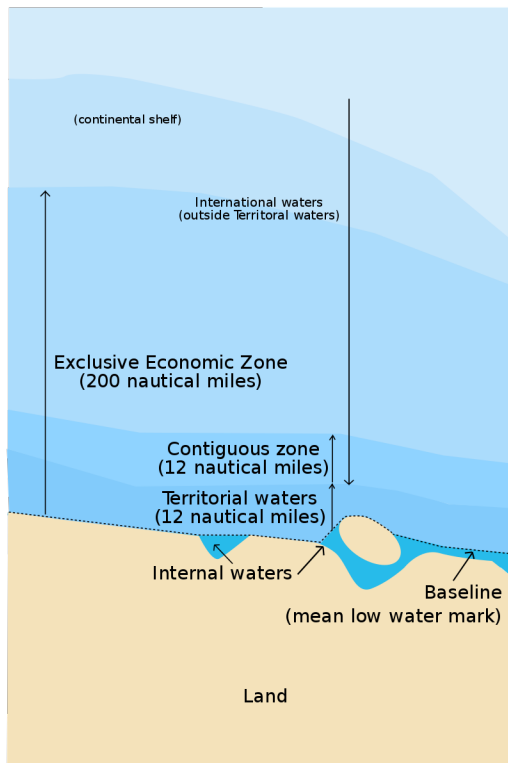


*"The EU will stay committed to strengthening  
International Ocean Governance"*

- Continue Implementation
- European Green Deal (e.g. BBNJ/ SROCC)
- UN Ocean Conference/ SDG14
- IOG Forum

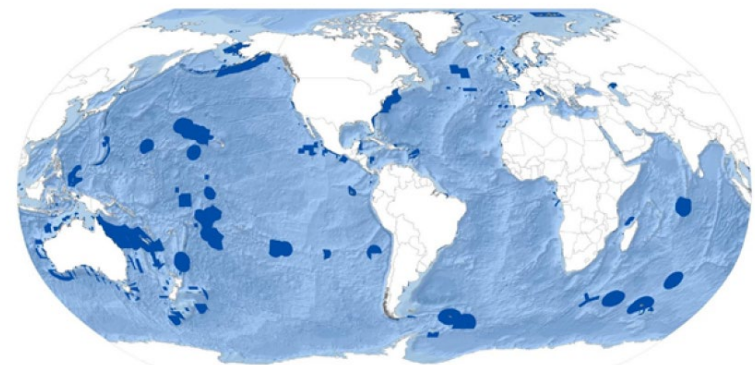


# The High Seas of the world



Official MPA Map

protectedplanet



Source: UNEP-WCMC AND IUCN (2017), Protected Planet: The World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) [On-line], September, 2017, Cambridge, UK: UNEP-WCMC. Available at [www.protectedplanet.net](http://www.protectedplanet.net)

6.35% of the Global Ocean covered by protected areas  
1.89% exclusively no-take.

# A process called BBNJ

-a package deal to articulate UNCLOS obligations further:

- Area-based management tools, including MPAs
- Environmental Impact Assessments
- Capacity Building and Transfer of Marine Technology
- Marine Genetic Resources



# Follow-up to SROCC report

- Active support to ocean and climate change dialogue in June this year objective on strengthening mitigation and adaptation action (*COP25 decision in preparation for COP26*)
- Support to blue carbon protection and restoration
- Promote recognition of climate and ocean nexus







## 2020 UN Ocean Conference Lisbon, 2-6 June 2020

- *2 EU Statements at the 1<sup>st</sup> preparatory meeting*
- *Implementation of 2017 UN Ocean conference commitments reported*
- *Study on 'EU policy tools in the field of SDG 14 and other ocean-related Agenda 2030 targets*
- *Internal preparations for commitments in Lisbon*

# International Ocean Governance Forum: *dedicated to oceans and seas worldwide*

- **Provide a platform to share** understanding, experiences and best practice
- **Mobilise** stakeholders within and beyond Europe
- **Support** follow-up and further development of the **IOG agenda**
- **Registration for the first event is open !**





**Thank you!**