Study on Ocean in the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs)

OCTA/SP002/2018

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Abbreviations

BAT  British Antarctic Territory
BBNJ United Nations initiative on biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction
BIOT British Indian Ocean territory
CBD Convention on Biological Diversity
CCAMLR The Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources
CO2 Carbon Dioxide
COP Conference of Parties
CSC The Caribbean Sea Commission
GEZ Global Ecological Zone
GDP Gross domestic product
GFLK Greenland Fisheries License Control Authority
EBSA Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas
EC European Commission
EEZ Exclusive Economic Zone
EU European Union
EUR European Union Euro
FAO Food and Agriculture organization of United Nations
INTERREG EU territorial cooperation programme
IMO International Maritime Organization
IUCN International Union for Conservation of Nature
IUU Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing
NGO Non-governmental organization
MARPOL International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships
MEAs Multilateral Environmental Agreements
MPA Marine protected areas
MSC Marine Stewardship Council
OCTA Overseas Countries and Territories Association
OCTs European Overseas Countries and Territories
OECS Organization of Eastern Caribbean States
R&D Research and development
R&I Research and innovation
SDG Sustainable Development Goals
SGSSI South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands
SPAW Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife Protocol of Cartagena Convention
SWOT Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats analysis
TAAF French Southern and Antarctic Lands
UKOTs United Kingdom Overseas territories
UN United Nations
UNCLOS United Nations Convention of the Law on the Sea
UNEP United Nations Environmental Programme
Executive summary

This report provides an analysis of the current Ocean agendas, policies and initiatives in the European Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs), with a particular focus on challenges; Ocean governance systems and policies; assessment of contribution to the Sustainable Goal 14 (SDG 14) and Aichi targets; financing opportunities; “Blue Growth”; alignment with other strategies and success stories.

The results of the analysis show that significant developments have been made in some countries and territories in the areas of EEZ management, sustainable fishing and stakeholder involvement. Collectively, the OCTs make a good contribution to the SDG 14 targets notably by reaching 37%¹ of their water areas covered by MPAs. They have developed a large array of tools and collaboration to protect the oceans and to develop sustainable blue economy sectors.

However, efforts are still needed in reduction of marine and coastal pollution and addressing climate change effects. Coastal and marine planning are found not sufficiently advanced. Regular monitoring and reporting of sustainability targets is not common.

The report also finds that there is a need for improvement to further develop Ocean policies, both individually and collectively.

On potential synergies, it is apparent that most of synergies/joint activities would be based on particular geographical /sea basin grouping.

Recommendations include:

- To further work on the formulation of individual or common OCTs Ocean strategies;
- To further improve coastal and marine planning together with marine observation;
- To take a regional approach in the monitoring of pollutants;
- To implement joint actions to control and eradicate introduced species;
- To develop mechanisms for the identification or the adaptation of blue economy sectors
- To increase sustainability of the activities, through involvement in regional foras;
- To maximize the use of international and EU funding, with a particular view on the new EU programming period;
- To follow global and/or EU policy developments closely, with a view to participation in future fora dedicated to oceans and seas worldwide;
- To cooperate in the areas marine/ocean science, research and innovation;
- To plan activities/projects at sub-regional level, or common EBSA (Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas);

¹ OCTA calculation based on IUCN data and Protected Planet data
● To improve awareness in some cases and to address information gaps;
● To engage the business communities to be more active in the areas of sustainable development and marine biodiversity;
● To take a common or regional approach to monitoring and auditing SDG14 and Aichi targets.

The study has been based on solely available data.
1. Introduction

1.1 Background of the study

The Overseas Countries and Territories of the European Union (OCTs) make up a group of currently 25 countries and territories which, despite a number of differences between them, have a lot in common (e.g. insular micro-economies, a rich biodiversity, etc.). Their total cumulated population is approximately 1.2-1.3 million inhabitants. Four OCTs are uninhabited. The OCTs depend constitutionally on four Member States of the European Union (EU): Denmark, France, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom.

The Overseas Countries and Territories Association (OCTA) provides a forum to develop effective working relationships with the EU and support the collective interests of its members in several areas of co-operation of the EU-OCT association. Currently, 22 out of the 25 OCTs are members of OCTA meaning all the permanently inhabited territories (21) as well as the French Southern Antarctic Lands (TAAF). Only the three uninhabited British Overseas Territories are not part of OCTA: British Antarctic Territory, British Indian Ocean Territory and South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands.

The OCTs cover a combined Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of more than 17 million km², more than two thirds of the EU Member States’ EEZ (25 million km²) and constitute one of the world’s largest maritime areas. It is easy to understand that the topic of Ocean is of strategic importance for those countries and territories.

In this context, OCTA commissioned a study on Ocean. More specifically, this was a follow-up to the first specific Ocean-dedicated event organised by OCTA in 2018 where OCTs representatives were positive concerning the potential of further exploring the application of the “Blue Growth” and the “Blue Economy” concepts in countries and territories and the role that OCTA could play in developing a joint approach in this area and more generally in the field of Ocean.

The Global objective of the study is to provide inputs as a basis for a discussion for the development of an OCTs joint approach to an Ocean Policy. It will set the background for a Conference organised by OCTA in 2019.

The specific objectives of this assignment are:

1) To benchmark where the OCTs stand - individually - in terms of developing an Ocean agenda as well as their individual contribution to SDG 14 and Aichi targets. To identify the stakeholders responsible for related public policy and/or actions carried in the OCTs;

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2) To identify EU and international, public and private, funding opportunities on ocean-related issues, and produce a mapping;
3) To identify topics of interest and common priorities for the OCTs and formulate recommendations to develop a common strategy that may encompasses specific recommendations per geographical area linked to regional strategies and programmes implemented by regional organizations;
4) To provide an overview of other ocean related global and EU initiatives and networks in which OCTA or the OCTs could take part;

1.2 Global and European Policy context

The overall objective of this assignment needs to be seen in the context of global and regional maritime/Ocean regulations and policies.

Globally, the Oceans are governed by the United Nations (UN) legislation in the form of the United Nations Law of the Sea Convention (UNCLOS) covering seabed resources, as well as the Regional Seas Programme of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Shipping is regulated by the UN body International Maritime Organisation (IMO). The MARPOL convention governs marine pollution from shipping.

At policy level, Ocean has become a priority topic on global agendas. It could be demonstrated for example by the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which has set a specific goal dedicated to Ocean. SDG 14 is about “to conserve and sustainably use the Oceans, seas and marine resources”. The UN has stated a Decade of Ocean Science for the period 2021-2030. The COP25 (2019) will have a focus on Ocean preservation.

As regards biodiversity in Oceans, it could be cited the 20 Aichi Targets which have been set in 2010 by the COP10 as part of the strategic plan for biodiversity adopted by the parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

A new international legally binding instrument under UNCLOS on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ) is being prepared. An Intergovernmental Conference was set up under the auspices of the United Nations, to consider the recommendations of a Preparatory Committee and to elaborate the text of a new instrument. The Conference will meet for four sessions (the first session was from 4 to 17 September 2018; the second session from 25 March to 5 April 2019; the third session will be convened from 19 to 30 August 2019; the fourth session will take place in the first half of 2020).

At European level, the EU Integrated Maritime Policy seeks to provide a more coherent approach to maritime issues, with increased coordination between different policy areas. It focuses on:
- Issues that do not fall under a single sector-based policy e.g. "blue growth" (economic
growth based on different maritime sectors);

- Issues that require the coordination of different sectors and actors e.g. marine knowledge.

The focus of the European Integrated Maritime Policy remains a dynamic and coordinated approach to the development of a Blue Economy. Further the EU proposes to play a stronger role in Global and Regional Ocean governance, reducing anthropogenic inputs to the Oceans and strengthening international Ocean research and data notably through the application of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008) that aims at achieving a Good Environmental Status of the EU Water by 2020, and to protect the resource base upon which marine-related economic and social activities depend.

A new Report “Improving International Ocean Governance – Two years of progress” (SWD (2019) 104 final), 15/03/2019) has outlined further the developments of an EU global Ocean governance agenda. The summary of most relevant points for OCTs is:

- As a custodian of the “Our Ocean” initiative, the EU called for determined global action and generated ambitious commitments to improve the Ocean governance at the conferences hosted in Malta in 2017 and in Bali in 2018.
- As a proponent of the “blue” economy, the European Commission initiated the partnership on voluntary Sustainable Blue Economy Finance Principles and has proposed to create a taxonomy for classifying economic activities that are considered environmentally sustainable which includes activities for the sustainable use and protection of marine resources.
- In addition to EU investment in marine research, EUR 46 million were dedicated in the last 2 years to the Copernicus Marine Service for global observation, forecasting and analysis of the state of the oceans, including climate change effects.
- The Commission has proposed dedicated funding for international ocean governance under the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund for 2021-2027. This would allow targeted EU action, for example to make headway in the fight against illegal fishing and to develop international maritime security further.
- The Commission has made its proposals for the post-2020 EU research and innovation programme “Horizon Europe” (2021-2027). International ocean governance is also one of the priority areas in the proposed post-2020 External Funding Instruments.
- The EU is contributing to the second UN World Ocean Assessment currently prepared and has also begun to prepare its contribution to the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030).
- Furthermore, the EU remains committed to change, particularly on the 4 of the 10 targets under SDG14 that are due for delivery in 2020. Anticipating the forthcoming report on oceans and the cryosphere by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the EU is also stepping up its action to ensure adaptation to climate change effects on oceans and ocean uses.

As of 2019, the European Commission and the High Representative of the European Union are setting up an EU International Ocean Governance Stakeholder Forum bringing together experts,
civil society representatives, academics and decision-makers dedicated to oceans and seas worldwide. This Forum will follow up on the EU’s established priorities, discuss current and future challenges of international ocean governance and recommend future actions.

1.3 Consultant’s Approach and Methodology

The consultant team structured and planned its work according to the tasks and initial timeline as defined in the Terms of Reference (ToRs). In particular:

1) Benchmarking. The benchmarking task commenced in January 2019, with the desk study, identification of relevant stakeholders in OCTs, elaboration of questionnaire in English and French, and sending out questionnaires to all OCTA members, as well as three British uninhabited OCTs that are not members of OCTA.

The need for further information arose during the information conference call with OCTA in March 2019, therefore, additional follow-up questions were prepared and sent to OCTs on 26 and 27 April 2019.

The data collected by both questionnaires comprised: Ocean governance systems and policies; Pressures and vulnerabilities; Protection and restoration; Activities and projects; Blue Growth opportunities; Knowledge and awareness; Alignment with other strategies; Examples of success stories; Funding; Stakeholders.

Questions sent to OCTs are compiled in Annex.

The information received was analysed by the consultant team, using expert judgement, complemented by the benchmarking of the SDG and Aichi targets and an analysis of topics of common interests. The synthesis of findings is presented in Chapters 2 and 3, and Annexes.

2) Contribution to SDG 14 and Aichi targets. Data from methodology 1) were used to populate a spreadsheet, illustrating textual data relevant to the individual SDG 14 targets and indicators. Where there was no response from an OCT, information was obtained from various appropriate cited sources in the bibliography.

The textual responses from the spreadsheet were summarised into a coloured coded subjective interpretation, creating a summary of the state of compliance with SDG 14. Data pertinent to Aichi targets were aggregated for all OCTs and displayed graphically.

In order to discover any correlations and/or clusters within the data, processing through multivariate analysis PCA and traditional clustering (using software PAST3) was used. When values were not quantitative, the consultants used the value 0, 1, or 2. The analysis, however, did not show significant correlation.
The spreadsheets were interrogated also with keywords. Those parameter pairs that showed positive results were treated with graphic/correlation/cluster techniques. Stacked chart and Matrix Plot were created through PAST3 software to show data in the format of coloured tables (see Chapters 2.5, 2.6 and 2.8).

3) **Review of funding Opportunities**
Funding opportunities were identified in various ways:
- The interrogation of relevant websites for funding opportunities
- Data collection from OCTA members (via 1rst Questionnaire);
- Interviews/communication with public and private funding bodies to determine any future funding opportunities.

The overview of funding opportunities is provided in Chapter 2.7.

4) **Identification of topics of common interest for the OCTs**
The results of the study have allowed the identification of topics of common interest. The results are described in Chapter 3.

5) **Overview of Ocean related initiatives**
An overview of initiatives and networks relevant to the OCTs were identified by a desktop study, questions to relevant organisations, and, questionnaires to OCTA members. The results are described in Chapter 2.7.

A first Draft Report (comprising outputs from tasks 1, 2 and some elements of task 3) was submitted to OCTA on 20 February 2019. The first findings were presented by Mrs. Vineta Goba during OCTA Ministerial Conference in Tahiti, French Polynesia, on 27 February 2019. The second Draft Report was submitted to OCTA on 29 March 2019.

After receiving extensive round of comments during April, and new information provided through the second questionnaire (beginning mid-May), the consultants finalized the report. The general structure of the final report integrates comments and requests from OCTA secretariat.

The project was implemented by an international consultant team: Mrs. Vineta Goba (Project Coordinator/Team Leader); Dr. Giovanna Dante, Senior Consultant; and Dr. Susan Ann Lewey, Senior Consultant, contracted by NEDWORC foundation, for the purpose of study.
2. Ocean governance in OCTs

2.1 Challenges and vulnerabilities

In the last decade, the Oceans have increasingly become part of a wider global political agenda, with international institutions and the public and private sectors searching for the best way to address urgent pressures. Oceans are of major importance to the OCTs being islands. For example, the OCTs are dependent on the sea/Ocean for transportation of external goods and livelihoods. They rely on them for fisheries, tourism and for geomorphologic protection from extreme events, e.g. storm surges.

The OCTs share a number of similarities: most of them are small islands spanning from “the poles to the tropics”, not densely populated, and the majority draws most of their revenues from fishing and tourism. The OCTs (together with the outermost regions) hold 80 % of “EU family” biodiversity. Their geographic positions and reliance on natural resources make them very vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

Common challenges have been identified for the OCTs and comprise:

- Climate change with warmer sea temperature, more intense storms and a rising of sea levels
- Overfishing
- Increased nautical traffic
- Mining activities such as oil exploration, sand pumping, etc.
- Coastal development and artificial beaches; insufficient land management and spatial planning
- Sewage pollution
- Unsustainable tourism
- Invasive alien species

Those challenges lead to some vulnerabilities such as:

- Loss of biodiversity
- Increased pollution (plastics, nutrients, etc.)
- Coastal degradation
- Coral bleaching
- Ocean acidification
- Ocean eutrophication

2.2. Ocean legislations/policies in OCTs

2.2.1. Legislations, policies and institutional arrangements

3 IUCN
All OCTs have a set of legislations, policies and/or initiatives that address maritime issues, although, to varying degrees. The OCTs EEZ spreads over 17 million km² - more than two thirds of the EU Member States’ EEZ which is 25 million km², the latter being the world’s largest. It is therefore easy to understand that Ocean management is a key topic in OCTs.

OCTs have designated authorities to manage Ocean policies, although in most of cases these responsibilities are split between several ministries/departments. Most typically, there is the split between implementation of requirements related to shipping (MARPOL), fisheries and environmental/nature conservation legislation.

OCTs are striving to promote the sustainable use of their marine resources, and particularly their fisheries, either through EEZ management strategies, or legislation directly aimed at fisheries. It has to be noted the good performance of OCTs in fishery management.

The preservation of biodiversity is also a priority in overseas countries and territories, and all of them have measures in favor of its protection. It could be cited: The Biodiversity Strategy (Falkland islands), the National Biodiversity Plan (French Polynesia), the Roadmap for Biodiversity and country-specific strategies that include marine species and ecosystems (New Caledonia), the Biodiversity Action Plan (Bermuda, Cayman Islands, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands), or the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (Wallis and Futuna).

As demonstrated above, various tools and strategies are being developed by the OCTs going from local initiatives to regional strategies or institutionalisation demonstrating the necessity to often act at trans-basin level:

**Caribbean**

- OECS, The Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States which plays a role in the elaboration of regional Oceans policy (Montserrat is full member, Anguilla and British Virgin Islands are associate members). It has a section on Ocean governance and fisheries.

- Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) and Caribbean Community Common Fisheries Policy (CCCFP) (Montserrat is full member, Anguilla and British Virgin Islands are associate members).

- “Management Plan for the natural resources of the EEZ for the Dutch Caribbean (2011)” based on a shared vision with a common set of goals for the sustainable management of the Dutch Caribbean EEZ and Saba Bank in particular through a Memorandum of

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4 OCTA Association, 2017

13
Understanding establishing a committee for the cooperative management of the marine biodiversity and fisheries of the waters of the Dutch Caribbean islands in 2010.

- An agreement on the management of marine biodiversity and fisheries between The Netherlands, Aruba, Curaçao, St Maarten, Bonaire, St Eustatius and Saba in 2018.

**Pacific**

- Pacific Oceanscape (2009) is an initiative by 23 countries in Pacific and Conservation International, for conservation of larger marine and island territory in Pacific (New Caledonia, French Polynesia, Wallis and Futuna)
- Discussions are underway for the joint management of the three EEZ's (New Caledonia and French Polynesia, Cook Islands). The notion of “big oceanic country” is put forward in the international negotiations.
- Wallis and Futuna has taken the initiative to approach neighbouring countries concerned by a common Ecologically or Biologically significant Marine Area (EBSA) in South of Tuvalu/Wallis and Fortuna/North of Fiji Plateau, to enhance possible collaboration for a large shared protected area.

**Antarctic**

- CCALMR, The Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources[^5] which is responsible for the conservation of Antarctic marine ecosystems and practices an ecosystem-based management approach. This does not exclude harvesting as long as such harvesting is carried out in a sustainable manner and takes account of the effects of fishing on other components of the ecosystem.

**Trans-Oceanic - “Blue Belt” initiative**

- The “Blue Belt” is a series of marine conservation zones around the UK and UK territories coastline of over 4 million km2. It involves the British Indian Ocean Territory, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands, British Antarctic Territory, Pitcairn Islands, Saint Helena, Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha.

[^5]: It was established by international convention in 1982 with the objective of conserving Antarctic marine life. This was in response to increasing commercial interest in Antarctic krill resources, a keystone component of the Antarctic ecosystem and a history of over-exploitation of several other marine resources in the Southern Ocean.
Table No. 1: Overview of current Ocean legislations/policies, and existing/potential joint initiatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Name of OCT</th>
<th>Principal legislation/policy concerning Ocean</th>
<th>Advanced Ocean policy</th>
<th>Ongoing or potential Synergies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Anguilla</td>
<td>Strong regulation of protected areas, e.g. Marine Parks Act</td>
<td></td>
<td>OECs Eastern Caribbean Regional Oceans Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Aruba</td>
<td>Management plan for Dutch Caribbean EEZ; Management plans for biodiversity and fisheries; Single plastic bag ban</td>
<td>Blue Economy/Ocean Policy in Preparation</td>
<td>Joint EEZ management (plan exists for Dutch EEZ)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Bermuda</td>
<td>Extensive legislation covering fisheries, biodiversity, environmental planning, shipping</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sub-regional cooperation, on basis of Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Bonaire</td>
<td>Management plan for EEZ natural resources, 2011</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>British Virgin Islands</td>
<td>Legislation on fisheries, shipping and marine protected areas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Cayman Islands</td>
<td>National biodiversity plan, including marine species and ecosystems. Marine resource protection legislation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Montserrat</td>
<td>Legislation on fisheries and nature conservation (beach, turtles); Formulation of a New Fisheries (ongoing), Aqua/ Mariculture and Ocean Resources Management Act/Plan (ongoing) No EEZ defined</td>
<td>Formulation of a National Ocean Governance Policy (ongoing) Establishment of a National Ocean Governance Coordinating Committee (ongoing)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Saba</td>
<td>Management plan for the Dutch Caribbean EEZ, 2011; Acts on maritime management, nature</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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³ CBD encourages Parties, other Governments and competent intergovernmental organizations to cooperate collectively or on a regional or subregional basis, to identify and adopt appropriate measures for conservation and sustainable use in relation to EBSAs, including by establishing representative networks of marine protected areas in accordance with international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

There are a number of EBSA that involve/are relevant for OCTs:
- Caribbean: several EBSA include OCTs such as Saba Bank (Saba but St. Eustatius is close); Eastern Caribbean EBSA with approximately 10 countries incl. Sint Maarten, Montserrat (BVI is close); Sargasso Sea with Bermuda.
- Pacific: South of Tuvalu/Fiji/Wallis & Futuna (discussions already started for joint management).
- Indian Ocean: Prince Edward Islands, Del Cano Rise, Crozet Islands (TAAF&South Africa).

CBD website: [https://www.cbd.int/ebsa/](https://www.cbd.int/ebsa/)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Country/Region</th>
<th>Legislation and Management Plans</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Saint Barthélemy</td>
<td>Coastal fisheries regulations, environmental code</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Sint Eustatius</td>
<td>Management plan for the Dutch Caribbean EEZ, 2011; Marine environment ordinance; Shark sanctuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>Turks and Caicos Islands</td>
<td>Legislation covering marine pollution, coastal protection, fisheries, biodiversity, national parks and physical planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>French Southern and Antarctic Lands (TAAF)</td>
<td>100% Marine Protected Areas Fishery management plan for the TAAF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>British Indian Ocean Territory</td>
<td>Blue belt initiative and extensive conservation management, fisheries ordinance Blue Belt Initiative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>French Polynesia</td>
<td>Environmental Code, fisheries regulation, general management plans for islands, Marine spatial plan for Moorea island Pacific Oceanscape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>New Caledonia</td>
<td>Environmental Code, legislation on protected areas and pollution control Designation of 6 marine sites as UNESCO World Heritage (management plans prepared) New legislation banning use of plastic Strategies for turtles and invasive alien species Discussion with neighbours (Australia) for joint management of Coral Sea Development of a plan for 2025 “NC 2025”, a monitoring framework that will address SDG and Aichi targets Joint management of the three EEZ’s (Cook Islands, New Caledonia and French Polynesia) Sub-regional cooperation, on basis of EBSA (Ecologically and biologically important areas)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.</td>
<td>Pitcairn</td>
<td>The EEZ designated in 2016 as marine reserve (820,000 km²). Fishing forbidden. Blue Belt Initiative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td>Wallis and Futuna</td>
<td>Ongoing development of management plans and fisheries Strategy for biodiversity Environmental Code Sustainable development strategy Pacific Oceanscape Initiative with neighboring countries to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isolated</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Greenland</td>
<td>Extensive legislation pertaining to fisheries (Law for the Sea Territory, Nature Protection Law and EEZ Law, Regulations on Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems in some areas)</td>
<td>Operate a Global Ecological Zone (GEZ), monitors the fishing fleet (domestic and foreign)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Saint Pierre-et-Miquelon</td>
<td>Extensive legislation pertaining to coordinated policies for the sea and coastal zone - resources, environment, heritage, and research and development. Strategic development, resource management.</td>
<td>Sea Basin Strategic Document</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Falkland Islands</td>
<td>Extensive legislation on fisheries, conservation and biodiversity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. British Antarctic Territory</td>
<td>Within the CCAMLR and subject to the Protocol on environmental protection to the Antarctic Treaty. MPA of South Orkneys and Southern Shelf. Others planned</td>
<td>Blue Belt initiative (includes also Pitcairn and BIOT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. Saint Helena, Ascension, and Tristan da Cunha Islands</td>
<td>EEZ defined Management plan (2016) adopted for the MPA, covering sustainable use of resources; Environmental Protection Ordinance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands</td>
<td>Legislation covering wildlife and protected areas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The obtained information shows, that all the OCTs have taken measures for the management of their Oceans. However, there are some disparities in the type and level of measures. Some countries have already formulated an “Ocean policy” (Curaçao), or a “Sea Basin Strategic
Document” (Saint-Pierre-et-Miquelon)⁷; some are working on it (Aruba), and/or have significant initiatives such as Montserrat, in cooperation with the Waitt’s institute⁸.

It is beyond the scope of this study, to analyse in depth, how adequately each OCTs legislation and policies address the full scope of challenges (some of which are beyond national jurisdictions, such as plastic pollution and effects of climate change), but it is strongly advised to OCTs to examine how well national legislative and institutional frameworks are currently addressing main challenges identified by this study, and if appropriate, consider need for extended/strengthened legislative and institutional framework.

It is apparent from ongoing joint initiatives, that most of synergies/joint policies are based on particular geographical/sea basin grouping. This is in line with the approach that is encouraged/promoted by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) - regional and sub-regional cooperation, especially on basis of Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas.

Picture No.1: Map of Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSA) (Source: CBD, 2019).

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⁷ The Sea Basin Strategic Document aims at coordinating all sectorial policies and has for orientations a sustainable development and a blue economy; the protection of areas, resources and heritage, the risk prevention; Research and Innovation

⁸ The Waitt’s Institute is non-profit foundation, with a vision to empower communities to restore their ocean: http://waittinstitute.org/mission-vision/; http://waittinstitute.org/bluehaloinitiative/
2.2.3. Success stories

Advanced pollution legislation and ocean governance measures in New Caledonia

A law was passed in late December 2018 to ban the import, manufacture and use of plastic bags, cups, plates, cutlery, and other disposable plastic items. The use of plastic bags will be banned from July 2019, and gradually also the use of other plastic objects as of 2020.

New Caledonia has a strong legislation on marine pollution (including prevention).

“Lagoons of New Caledonia: Reef Diversity and Associated Ecosystems” (serial site comprising six marine clusters), is inscribed in UNESCO World Heritage List as a site of exceptional natural beauty. Nine Eleven management plans have been adopted for these sites.

The local authorities with an environmental competence have produced roadmaps for biodiversity, and country strategies that include reefs, World Heritage sites, turtles and invasive alien species. These strategies take into account first the local priorities, and then regional priorities. They are most often aligned with the Aichi targets.

A development plan for 2025 called “NC 2025” is implemented and indicators covering Aichi and SDG targets are currently in preparation. These indicators will achieve a common monitoring framework and routinely collected data.

Officially adopted Ocean policy in Curaçao

Supported by the Waitt’s Institute, several scoping studies were carried out, current challenges analysed, and policy recommendations issued for a sustainable ocean management. On basis of these recommendations, an Ocean Policy plan (November 2017) was adopted by the Council of Ministers as the roadmap to a sustainable Ocean management.

The identified challenges comprise: habitat loss, overfishing, water pollution, species decline, cumulative impacts, participation and access, and financing Ocean management.

The policy recommendations include: 1) designate 30% as no take reserves; 2) restore and mitigate ecosystem damage; 3) improve domestic fisheries management; 4) improve coastal water quality and minimize marine debris; 5) protect threatened and endangered species; 6) improve government coordination; 7) Adopt an enforceable marine spatial plan; 8) ensure public access to coast; 9) promote research, participation and education, 10) implement sustainable finance system for Ocean management.

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9 https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1115
2.3. Protection and restoration

2.3.1 Overall observations

The OCTs are characterised by a high presence of valuable ecosystems: lagoons, coral reefs, beaches, sea grass beds, mangrove forests, salt ponds, fjords and animal species (sea turtles, sharks, marine mammals seals, whales, dugong, penguins in South Pacific, etc.). As well, there is high presence of fish stock, crustaceans and molluscs (oysters) of commercial interest. Coastal ecosystems fulfil many ecological roles, such as shoreline protection, provision of buffer zones from land-based activities and pollution, feeding, breeding, and nursery grounds to many marine species.

Most of OCTs have established marine protected areas, to conserve valuable habitats and species, and this activity has accelerated in the last years. On the positive side, 4 out of top 10 MPAs by size worldwide are located in OCTs contributing to almost 18% of the global MPA coverage and representing 4.8 million km2.

Picture No.2: 10 World Largest Marine Protected Areas

Source: Data from Protected Planet 2019, OCTA editing

In red, OCTs

The percentage of water areas covered by marine protected areas has reached more than 37% in the OCTs. (Consultants estimate, based on IUCN data, 2017).

However, there are huge disparities, as outlined by SDG 14 assessment (refer to Chapter 2.4). Most of the OCTs still didn’t reach the 10% level of protection of their coastal and marine environment (as suggested by SDG 14.5 specific target). In particular, the situation in Caribbean OCTs is of concern (only Saba has reached/exceeded 10% of the protection target). Furthermore, some OCTs have not yet designed any Marine Protected Areas (Wallis and Futuna).
Conservation efforts need to be upscaled in order to adequately address challenges and to halt loss of valuable species and ecosystems across the regions/sea basins. Furthermore, in cases where particular need for conservation was comprehensively assessed (Blue Halo Curaçao)\(^ {10}\), even higher level of protection than 10% was suggested (30% as no take reserves)\(^ {11}\).

### 2.3.2. Success stories in habitat and species conservation

**Reserve Naturelle Nationale in the French Southern and Antarctic Territories - part of IUCN Green list**

The IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas initiated the IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas Standard to increase the number of protected and conserved areas that are

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\(^ {10}\) The Blue Halo Initiative is a collaboration between the Waitt Institute and partner governments to envision, create, and implement comprehensive sustainable ocean policies. One of recommendations of the Blue Halo project that was implemented in Curacao is to establish no take reserves covering 30% of coastal areas.

\(^ {11}\) Of the many kinds of marine protected areas, no-take reserves are the ones that provide the strongest protection to marine life. No-take reserves safeguard life within them, seaweeds, dolphins, sea turtles, fishes, corals, from fishing, which has long been the most important human impact on the sea. No-take reserves also protect against other extractive uses, such as oil & gas drilling.
effectively and equitably managed and deliver conservation outcomes. It is the first global standard of best practice for area-based conservation. “La Reserve Naturelle Nationale des Terres australes françaises” is included in the IUCN Green list.

**Shark sanctuary and official conservation status for Caribbean sharks**

In September 2015, at the request of the Governments of Bonaire, Saba and St Eustatius to the State Secretary of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Yarari shark and marine mammal sanctuary was opened in Caribbean. The main threats to shark populations are overfishing and destruction of vital habitats such as coral reefs and mangroves. Previous research indicated that a decrease in number of sharks, as top predators, leads to a disturbed natural balance in the sea. This can affect the overall fish population, and good fish stocks, which are important for fishery, and tourism development.

Furthermore, following a proposal by the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs, in March 2017, it was officially decided to protect eight shark species under the international Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) Protocol of Cartagena Convention. The SPAW protocol is the only cross-border legislative instrument for nature conservation in the Wider Caribbean Region, through which the signatory countries set agreements to protect vulnerable animals and their habitats. Until then, no sharks or rays were included in the protocol, despite being an especially threatened animal group, both on a global scale and in the Caribbean region.

**CARIMAM**

The aim of the project led by the Agoa Sanctuary is to form a network of marine protected areas dedicated to marine mammal conservation in the Wider Caribbean region and beyond. The project also targets capacity-building for managers, development of common management and assessment tools and support for the development of wildlife-friendly and sustainable whale-watching business across the Caribbean. The network of managers called “CARIMAM” will include partners from the Wider Caribbean region. The project, which started in June 2018 and will last until September 2020, counts four beneficiaries (AGOA sanctuary, CARSPAW, Nature Reserve of Grand Connetable and Nature Reserve of St Martin).

Mitigation measures in fishery to avoid seal mortalities in Falkland Islands

Interactions between the calamari fishery and seals were infrequent in Falklands over 30 years of the fishery operation. In 2017 interactions increased markedly and suddenly. The reasons are unclear although an increasing seal population is one factor. Emergency measures were

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imposed with vessels only permitted to fish if they used a “Seal Exclusion Device” metal grids placed in the net to prevent seals from entering the cod end and with a “escape hatch” cut in the net at the top of the grid. The early grids were manufactured on the vessels and the designs have subsequently been improved. The rapid implementation of such measures reduced seal mortalities to negligible levels.

**International recognition for Saba bank**

In 2012, Saba bank became a Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) under the IMO, with corresponding prohibition on anchoring and large ship traffic. In 2013, it was also identified as an Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Area (EBSA) by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and recognised by the Caribbean Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) Protocol.

**2.4. Contribution to SDG 14 and Aichi targets**

**2.4.1. SDG 14 targets**

For the completion of this section, it has to be noted some limitations due to the fact that some of the targets and indicators are open to interpretation and very little guidance/methodology is currently proposed. Thus, the consultants used a qualified judgement. Although some targets as set in SDG 14 are quantitative, their availability doesn’t exist yet. Even if some OCTs have given data, making quantified or qualified judgements was in some cases impossible to achieve as those data were not comparable. These cases are marked by Status unknown, indicating that insufficient data was available to make a judgement but does not reflect on those OCTs who had supplied data in that category.

The data were collected from the individual OCT questionnaire replies and other cited sources (see bibliography). When possible the trend classifications (colours) have been used:

- **Green**: Contribution towards achieving SDG 14 targets
- **Red**: Low contribution to SDG 14 targets
- **Yellow**: Status unknown due to no or insufficient reported data

**Table 3: Contribution of OCTs to SDG 14 targets**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target 14.1</th>
<th>Contribution to SDG 14 targets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution</td>
<td>This section looked at pollution issues. Specifically, Eutrophication, Marine debris (plastics) and invasive species. The indicator is also concerned with control and reduction of pollution. Most OCTs responded with some information on these issues where it presented a problem for them.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This section shows that pollution remains an issue for some OCTs. The sources of pollution are generally well identified; in particular, eutrophication; land-based nutrient pollution such as sewage; oil pollution; invasive species and increasingly plastic and fishing gear pollution. The quantification of the pollution problems as described for SDG 14 remains an issue. Monitoring is also undertaken by only a few OCTs and then not regularly. Recent increases in global plastic pollution and ocean acidification is not apparent in the replies. This does not necessarily indicate responsibility from the OCTs, but rather, a fast altering situation leading to a strong knowledge gap.

**Target 14.2** By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans

This target is officially measured by EEZ management using ecosystem-based approaches. The EEZ are not always well defined and information on the relevant legislation or management plans is not always clear. It appears, generally, that those with a strong connection to their constitutional country e.g. French OCTs have a stronger contribution.

**Target 14.3** Minimize and address the impacts of ocean acidification, including through enhanced scientific cooperation at all levels

Ocean acidification has not been reported as a major issue by most of the OCTs. This may indicate that there is a knowledge gap that needs to be addressed or it is genuinely not a problem in some areas of the world. But with many of the tropical OCTs supporting coral reefs, this should be further investigated. The target is defined by physical measurements of pH. Very few of the OCTs reported measuring pH.

**Target 14.4** By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics

Legislation and Management plans for sustainable fishing are common to nearly all the OCTs.

**Target 14.5** By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information

The target is defined as, at least 10 percent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information. Data were obtained from IUCN. Of the individual OCTs, seven appear to have met the target: the British Indian Ocean Territory; New Caledonia; Pitcairn; Saba; Saint Helena; Ascension and Tristan da Cunha; and South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands. However, the individual OCTs appear to have other variety of designated protected areas with different levels of protection.

**Target 14.6** By 2020, prohibit certain forms of
fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and refrain from introducing new such subsidies, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of the World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiation.

Very little data are available for this target. A reported example is the one of BVI ministries working to stop incentivising overfishing.

**Target 14.7 By 2030, increase the economic benefits to Small Island developing States and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources, including through sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism**

While there are some data regarding the benefits of the use of marine resources, there are still little quantitative data notably on the sustainability aspects. This makes it difficult to determine any increase. However, it is clear that some OCTs gain significant economic benefit from sustainable use of their marine resources. See section below on Blue economy.

**Target 14.A: Increase scientific knowledge, develop research capacity and transfer marine technology, taking into account the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, in order to improve ocean health and to enhance the contribution of marine biodiversity to the development of developing countries, in particular small island developing States and least developed countries**

There is a good amount of information regarding Research and Innovation in the ocean area. Some OCTs have significant resources both financially and in terms of infrastructure. It is obvious that constitutional countries support Research and Innovation. Other OCTs are not as resourced and will fall behind in terms of their progress following supportive research. This is an area of concern.

The OCTs reported many projects which is very interesting. However, many of these projects were in the area of conservation, society and education. There was missing information with regards to resources and finances.

**Target 14.B: Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets**

Information is sparse in this area and depend also largely of the specificity of each OCTs. Many OCTs only have small-scale fisheries, so support is automatic. This is the case of Saint Barthélemy for instance. The level of support also varies greatly from one OCT to another. However, the inhabited OCTs, which have replied to the second questionnaire, report measures in favour of small-scale artisanal fishers. We can cite the following examples:

In Greenland, there are 3000 small-scale fishers with access to cooperative, markets, factories and
transhipment. In Montserrat, the 2016-2020 Agriculture Strategy and Marketing Plan set measures to facilitate the access of small-scale artisanal fishers to the market. Some support is provided through the annual work programme. There are no data concerning budgets.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target 14.C: Enhance the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law as reflected in UNCLOS, which provides the legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources, as recalled in paragraph 158 of The Future We Want</th>
<th>Contribution to SDG 14 targets</th>
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<tr>
<td>But ratification can be assumed through the constitutional country of each OCTs and the table reflects this (for example, The Kingdom of Denmark ratified UNCLOS with the approval of Greenland in 2004). Denmark, France, The Netherlands and the United Kingdom have ratified UNCLOS.</td>
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Summary/Conclusions

Marine pollution remains a problem for OCTs especially as regards new forms. However, this should not be regarded only as a poor reflection or capacity of the OCTs, but also as an indicator of a fast moving world, where environmental issues appear, and once in the public domain their importance often accelerates. It becomes difficult for small structures, to keep current with these issues, thus creating a knowledge gap that may not even be recognised. This emphasises the need for sharing knowledge, “know-how” and resources between the OCTs.

- More data are required to obtain a picture for the individual OCTs particularly in the areas of stopping incentives that contribute to overfishing.
- Progress has been made in respect to EEZ management and sustainable fisheries, both on the individual and collective levels.
- In the area of marine pollution, plastics and ocean acidification are particularly important in this case. The reporting of contaminants shows some progress towards the SDG14 target, as does the control and reduction. However, there are a lot of OCTs with unknown status. More importantly, attention is to be paid to the regular monitoring of local pollutants and in terms of SDG 14 targets, Eutrophication and ocean acidity are **areas for further consideration**.
- The situation with regard to MPAs needs attention. Not all OCTs have reached the target of 10% coastal and marine areas being designated as MPAs. **Area for further consideration**.
- Attention to Marine Research and Innovation and the associated budget is an important area of concern. There is a considerable gap between those OCTs with good Research and Innovation resources, and those who have little or no resources. This inequality could be assisted by local or regional cooperation. **Area for further consideration**.
- An area of further development should be on a collective approach to auditing SDG and Aichi targets. **Area for further consideration**.
2.4.2. Aichi targets

Not all the targets are relevant as they cover forests and other terrestrial environments.

Table 4: Collective OCTs contribution to Aichi targets

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The following represents a qualitative assessment and contribution is evaluated as in section 2.4.1

**Strategic Goal A: Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by main streaming biodiversity across government and society**

**Target 1.** By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.

**Target 2.** By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.

**Moderate contribution to Aichi targets**

**Targets 1 and 2** have been partially addressed by the individual OCTs, although the picture is still very uneven. The OCTs were asked whether they had any programmes related to marine conservation in general, including volunteer programmes and also whether marine biodiversity plans had been integrated into national and local development plans, planning processes etc. The second questionnaire focused directly on the awareness of the community. It can be seen that almost all the OCTs have extensive and comprehensive stakeholder involvement, which is essential in the awareness raising of the civil society. Additionally, many report direct educational programmes. Business involvement in biodiversity targets can also raise awareness and demonstrate good business practice. There is no evidence of marine biodiversity plans being adopted into poverty reduction strategies or being mainstreamed across government and society. While many OCTs do not have required poverty reduction strategies, this remains an Aichi indicator.

**Target 3.** By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable

**Status unknown due to no or insufficient reported data**
use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio economic conditions.

The issue of damaging incentives is also covered by SDG 14.6. Only a small amount of data is available to address this target.

**Target 4. By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits.**

This is a very complex target reliant on the cooperation of different actors. Information to address this target is very sparse. But there is some evidence to suggest that some Governments, businesses and stakeholders in the OCTs family have, or are, taking steps to achieve sustainability. But this also relates to the findings of Targets 1 and 2.

**Strategic Goal B: Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use**

**Target 5 Loss of natural habitats by 2020**

This target has not been evaluated in this study. However, OCTs report a lot of measures as regards biodiversity conservation, loss of natural habitats could be assumed as tackled by those measures.

**Target 6. By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.**

This target is also addressed in SDG 14.2 and 14.4, covering EEZ management and Sustainable fisheries.

**Target 7 addresses sustainable aquaculture.**

There is little reported information regarding sustainable aquaculture in the OCTs. What there is, indicates that current and planned aquaculture ventures are being managed sustainably.

**Target 8. By 2020, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity.**

All the OCTs that have replied are striving to promote the sustainable use of their marine resources, and particularly their fisheries and tourism. They are doing this through EEZ management strategies or legislation directly aimed at fisheries. Action to reduce the direct pressures is not always clear, although some OCTs do monitor their fishing fleets.

The reduction of excess nutrients and other forms of pollution is not easy for the OCTs. It is apparent that eutrophication and plastic contamination, in particular, are growing problems. Sources of pollution are generally well understood and while steps are being made through legislation, monitoring is
generally not being done. This remains an issue if the OCTs are to reduce levels of pollution. A reduction to levels that are not detrimental by 2020 will prove very difficult.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target 9. By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.</th>
<th>Low contribution to Aichi targets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

A number of individual OCTs report invasive species as a problem. The problem appears to be increasing, not only in terms of spread but also in new invasive species. The indicators used did not consider the number of existing or new marine invasive species but rather the knowledge of invasive pathways, control and eradication methods. Generally, this information was missing.

**Target 10** has passed the deadline date. But it addresses the health of coral reefs and ocean Acidification. Some OCTs have named Acidification as an environmental threat, but the topic is not considered in depth and meaningful measurement and monitoring is not discussed by any OCT.

**Strategic Goal C: To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity**

**Target 11. By 2020, at least 17 percent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 percent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.**

This target is similar to SDG 14 target 14.5. The status of the OCTs, in respect to the target percentage of 10% waters being declared a marine protected area. Of the individual OCTs, only eight appear to have met the target.

The individual OCTs appear to have a wide variety of designated marine protected areas. Further data are required on areas, names, types and dates of origin of the various areas.

**Target 12** addresses species extinction and is not directly relevant to the OCTs.

**Target 13** addresses genetic diversity and is not directly relevant to the OCTs.

**Strategic Goal D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services**

**Target 14 By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.**

Status unknown due to no or insufficient reported data

Very little information is available from the OCTs. Some individual OCTs have addressed traditional fishing methods. There is also some data on marine resources, fishing and tourism in particular. But not how they relate to ecosystem services. This could further be expanded.

**Targets 15 and 16** are not under the scope of the current study (Climate change mitigation and access to genetic resources by 2020 and 2015)
**Strategic Goal E**: Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target 17</th>
<th>By 2015 each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan. This target has passed the deadline date - There is a possible extension - under investigation</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target 18</td>
<td>By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Most of the OCTs which have responded to the second questionnaire have addressed the question of using traditional knowledge and practices as applied to traditional fishing methods and artisanal fisheries. It is apparent that this is particularly important in the smaller islands and OCTs with a high proportion of indigenous peoples.

| Target 19 | By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied. | Status unknown due to no or insufficient reported data |

There are some data relating to marine science and technology. Many OCTs have extensive research facilities in terms of both finances and infrastructure. Other OCTs have very few or no resources. No consideration of common baseline studies.

| Target 20 | By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources, and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resource needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties. | Status unknown due to no or insufficient reported data |

This is a complex and moving issue. Some individual OCTs have strategic Biodiversity (including marine) plans, which are useful models. There is little information regarding financial resourcing.

**Summary/Conclusions**

- Stakeholder participation is typically high; with some education programmes in schools, colleges etc., a more extensive volunteer programmes, and business involvement could benefit the wider appreciation of marine biodiversity. **Area – for further consideration.**
- There is still a need to mainstream marine and Ocean policy, including the inclusion of...
such policies into poverty reduction strategies. **Area – for further consideration.**

- There needs to be a focus on pollution issues that are currently increasing in severity, particularly Eutrophication and plastic pollution. **Area – for further consideration.**
- The OCTs as individuals and as a group should address invasive species as a topic. In terms of introductory pathways, control, eradication.
- The OCTs need to address potential Ocean acidification, in terms of awareness, the need for monitoring and monitoring methods. **Area – for further consideration.**
- There is few information on ecosystems that provide essential services to local communities. Natural Capital Accounts are interesting in that way. **Area – for further consideration.**
- Further information is required regarding baseline survey and funding opportunities for marine science and technology. **Area – for further consideration.**
- There is a need to survey different styles of marine biodiversity plans and funding models used among the OCTs. **Area – for further consideration.**

### 2.5. Blue Growth

#### 2.5.1 Overall observations

Most of the OCTs have developed their economic sectors around the Oceans notably fisheries and tourism\(^{13}\). For example, fishing industries represent 87% of all exportation in Greenland; 80% of South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands revenue are derived from the sale of fishing licenses. The contribution of fishery to GDP increased from 39% in 2015 to 59% in 2016 in Falkland\(^{14}\).

Tourism is one of the main economic sectors for the Caribbean Islands and account for an important part of islands’ GDP (at least 80% of the islands GDP for Aruba, St Maarten and the BVI). In Saint-Barthélemy, almost 40% of jobs are linked to the tourism sector.

It is therefore important for the OCTs to develop or adapt their blue economy sectors by taking measures to also sustain resources. In some OCTs, evaluations of current and future blue sectors have already been performed. This is the case, for example and amongst others, in Aruba where the Department of Economic Affairs conducted a study in 2018. However, mechanisms to identify and develop those sectors are perceived as needed by OCTs.

In the majority of the countries/territories that replied to the second questionnaire (see figure below), it appears indeed that the main sectors for developing a “blue economy” are fishery and tourism (some OCTs have also specifically mentioned shipping).

Energy from marine sources are not cited by OCTs as a blue growth sector, except for Greenland where 70% of its energy stems from hydro energy produced from a number of

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\(^{13}\) BEST Ecosystem profiles

\(^{14}\) Falkland government
hydroelectric plants. As regards seabed mining, only Wallis and Futuna identified seabed mining as a potential sector for future development. Considering the current level of non-renewable energy resources (e.g. oil), the need to explore offshore renewable energy is high, and consideration should be given to develop it.

Aquaculture (fish, crustaceans but overall pearls in Pacific area) is a growing sector. It is already developed in a number of countries such as French Polynesia, New Caledonia, Wallis and Futuna, Aruba, Turks and Caicos and Falklands.

Picture No. 2. Current level of importance of blue sectors per OCT (based on responses to questionnaires)

2.5.1 Sustainability of Blue Growth sectors

Measures to guarantee that these activities will be undertaken in a manner that does not deplete the natural resources, will be necessary and they are already in force in some OCTs.

All OCTs that identified fishery as main sector for blue growth already implemented measures to improve its sustainability.
For instance, it could be underlined that the French Southern and Antarctic Territories, Greenland and Falklands have reported to base the fishery management and regulation on TAC (Total Allowable Catch) defined by Scientific bodies, in accordance with the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. This Code is still a reference framework for national and international efforts, including in the formulation of policies/legal and institutional instruments, to ensure sustainable fishing and production of aquatic living resources in harmony with the environment.

In Montserrat, a New Fisheries, Aquaculture and Ocean Resources Management Act is under development (thanks to OCTA innovation contribution). It will include the development of an ecosystem-based approach measure for national jurisdiction waters.

Another area to take into consideration to foster sustainability is the access to small-scale fishermen to resources and markets. OCTs have put in place facilitation for artisanal fishermen (if artisanal fishery is present) such as subsidies to replace or repair existing fishing gear; and facilities to sell fish in local market.

**Picture No. 3. Sustainability of Blue sector**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sustainability of Blue Sector</th>
<th>Measures to identify potential sectors</th>
<th>Measures for sustainable fishery</th>
<th>Measures for sustainable aquaculture</th>
<th>Facilitation for artisanal fishermen</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aruba</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>BAT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonaire</td>
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<tr>
<td>Falkland Islands</td>
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<tr>
<td>French Polynesia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greenland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Montserrat</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Caledonia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saint Barthélemy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saint Helena, Ascension Islands and Tristan da Cunha</td>
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<tr>
<td>SGSSI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sint Maarten</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAAF</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The picture represents in the horizontal axes: potentiality for blue sector explored, sustainable measures applied for fishery and for aquaculture and existence of facilitation/support for artisanal fishermen. To represent data collected through the questionnaire as Matrix plot a value from 0 to 3 has been given to the replies: Yes = 3; In progress= 2; No, No information, Not Applicable= 0.

2.5.3 Success stories

Several countries indicated Fishery management projects as example of success stories

**Sustainable Fishery in Greenland**

Greenland is part of all relevant Regional fisheries management organisations (RFMOs) and is the leader in the development of new RFMOs. It is also part of all relevant Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (NAFO, NEAFC, NASCO) and has fully implemented their conventions including control, monitoring and surveillance.

Greenland has a number of management plans and its fisheries are MSC\(^\text{15}\) certified.

All fisheries in Greenland are quota-based and licensed. The Government sets the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for all species on a yearly basis. The quotas are based on scientific advice.

The country states that one of the main reasons for its success is the close collaboration with the scientists, the GFLK- Greenland Fisheries License Control Authority and the Fisheries Council (industry, fishermen association and workers association) and the Organisation Sustainable Fisheries Greenland.

**Fishery management South Georgia**

South Georgia fisheries are recognised as being among the world’s best managed, achieving very high scores in independent sustainability assessments (MSC). South Georgia fisheries are managed under the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine

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\(^\text{15}\) The Marine Stewardship Council is an organism which certifies sustainable fisheries: https://www.msc.org/
Living Resources (CCAMLR)’s “Ecosystem-based” management approaches where harvesting is carried out in a sustainable manner and takes account of the effects of fishing on other components of the ecosystem. There are no instances of either overfishing or over capacity and all catch limits are set well below MSC to ensure limited impact on the ecosystem and therefore are achieving SDG 14.4 and 14.6. IUU (Illegal Unreported and Unregulated fishing) is thought to have been eliminated from the maritime zone by heavy investment in patrolling and surveillance complemented by market-based measures such as a rigorous catch documentation scheme. A 1.24 million km2 MPA covers the entire maritime zone with the key objective of conserving the regions marine biodiversity.

2.6. Knowledge and awareness

2.6.1 Overall observations

The majority of countries/territories have stated to have an adequate level of knowledge (“knowledge” in the figure) although it should be maintained or improved notably as regards new challenges.

- Traditional Knowledge

The traditional knowledge (“tradition” in the figure) is stated as already integrated or in integration in the majority of the countries. This show how important is the contribution of indigenous and local communities to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity (as underlined by the Convention on Biological Diversity) for the OCTs. This contribution goes far beyond their role as natural resource managers; their skills and techniques provide indeed valuable information to the global community and a useful model for biodiversity policies (as they used biological diversity in a sustainable way for thousands of years).

To take into consideration traditional knowledge into their decision making, OCTs perform local consultations which are mostly common but it has to be noted that some OCTs have indigenous communities integrally part of the decisional bodies, it is the case for instance in Greenland which is per se an indigenous lead country with 90% of the population being indigenous. Both the parliament and government are indigenous based. In New-Caledonia, there is a Customary Senate.

Often, the local fishers are at least part of the committees managing fisheries, this is the case, amongst others, in Turks and Caicos Islands and French Polynesia.

Traditional knowledge is also embedded in some OCTs’ legislations/strategies or is in the process to be. Montserrat will embed the traditional knowledge into the legal framework of the revised Fisheries and Ocean Policies and legislation which is ongoing.
• **Research and Innovation**

Most of the OCTs have reported a need to further develop a knowledge in the conservation and the sustainable use of Ocean, in particular in:

- Conservation and sustainable use of oceans
- Better fishery monitoring and better available data on fish stocks
- Understanding of biodiversity
- Understanding of climate change and monitoring of Ocean acidification
- Monitoring, observation of marine space
- Better marine spatial planning
- Better identification of marine sources for energy generation

Very often the knowledge about the existence of a technology is not even known and better information diffusion would be needed.

However, by their size and abundance of natural resources which make them perfect test-bed for R&I, OCTs benefits from a lot of initiatives in this area.

A lot of research institutes and universities are active in the OCTs, it could be cited only for the French OCTs: the IRD, CRIOBE, IFREMER, CNRS, Institut Louis Malardé, the National Museum of Natural History in Paris, French Agency for Biodiversity (AFB), etc.

Other institutes active in other OCTs would involve the South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute, the Caribbean Netherlands Science Institute, the British Antarctic Survey, etc.

Interesting programmes are also fully dedicated to Overseas Territories. For example, the Blue Belt programme supports the delivery of the U.K. Government’s manifesto commitment to provide long term protection of over four million KM2 of marine environment across the UK Overseas Territories. It provides £20 million over four years (2016 to 2020) to improve scientific understanding of the marine environment; to develop and implement evidence-based, tailored marine management strategies including surveillance and enforcement; and to ensure sustainable management. It focuses primarily on British Indian Ocean Territory, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands, British Antarctic Territory, Pitcairn, St Helena, Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha.

As regards the European programme Horizon 2020, there are currently 20 projects in which the OCTs are participants notably in polar/Arctic research; oil spills in water; biodiversity and ecosystem services; exploration technologies; shipping energy efficiency; ship observation; etc.
### Knowledge and Awareness

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Level on ocean policy adequate</th>
<th>Research and Innovation in oceans bodies</th>
<th>Traditional knowledge relevant/intergrated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aruba</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAT</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonaire</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falkland Islands</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Polynesia</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenland</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montserrat</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Caledonia</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint Barthélemy</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SGSSI</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sint Maarten</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAAF</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turks and Caicos Islands</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wallis and Futuna</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the horizontal axes of the plot it is represented: Perception of knowledge on ocean policy; presence of Research and Innovation Entities, traditional knowledge integrated in the policy.

#### 2.6.2 Success stories

**Greenland - The PISUNA-net**
The Greenland Inuit are the indigenous peoples of Greenland representing a vast majority of population. A Natural Resource Council of Attu, a small settlement on the North West coast of Greenland has experienced great success with the project PISUNA. The project was initiated in 2014 by local authorities to involve local fishermen and hunters from Attu to share their knowledge of local nature via the Natural Resource Council and that fed into research aimed at developing innovative ways of managing living resources. The PISUNA-net Local Observations database (https://eloka-arctic.org/pisuna-net/) was developed to record, archive, and share indigenous and local knowledge and expertise on natural resources and resource use. This information is generously shared with the public by the observers and the communities within which the observers reside. As part of PISUNA, The Natural Resource Council in the small village Attu received the Nordic Council Environment Prize 2018 for its work on documenting the marine environment and proposing new ways of managing it. Moreover, PISUNA was also funded by the EU BEST initiative.

More information can be found on: http://www.pisuna.org/uk_index.html.

**Legal pluralism in Polynesian traditional management of resources and territories**

French Polynesia integrated the traditional techniques making regulation (e.g. fishery) more appropriate and accepted by the local community. Rahui is an ancient institution in Eastern Polynesia. It is a form to restrict access to resources and/or territories. Rahui system includes also innovative schemes and methods to harvest specific resources (e.g. troca and holoturias), based on geographical and cultural configuration of the islands. Locally controlled rahui have been at the core of environmental management and consensus-based social relations for generations across Eastern Polynesia. The current revival and implementation of rahui across the region represent a lesson not just for all OCTs.

**Innovative technology research in New Caledonia**

Microalgaes technology is an example of innovative and recycling technique applied to blue economy. The ultimate goal of the research is the establishment of a new aquaculture sector in New Caledonia. New Caledonia features many competitive advantages for the development of a blue economy industry and especially for microalgaes culture: tropical climate with good solar resource; biodiversity hotspot; well developed aquaculture sector; strong research and development capacity (University, IFREMER, IRD, ADECAL Technopole). The project (AMICAL R&D) studies the possibility to cultivate microalgaes that can be sources of valued nutrients as pigments, proteins or lipids rich in omega 3 etc. for human beings. The current result of the project is the selection of high value local species of microalgaes. The project is studying the possibility of using industrial CO2 from mining industry in microalgaes intensive culture, this work is done in collaboration with Glencore, one of the world’s leading companies in nickel industry.

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2.7. Funding opportunities and relevant initiatives

2.7.1 Funding opportunities for Ocean governance

As part of this study, a review of funding opportunities for Ocean governance was carried out. Based on the answers to the questionnaires, although all OCTs have some funding allocation for day-to-day maritime management (constitutional country support and own budget), it appears in most of cases a chronic lack of funding for broader Ocean governance initiatives to effectively address new challenges (in particular pollution and climate change effects, and loss of species/ecosystems).

This Chapter provides overview of sources that can be complementary to governmental support.

With regard to EU funding, described funding sources show programs within the current funding period (2014-2020). Within the new funding period 2021-2027 there may be changes/new possibilities (some of which are indicated below), but since the budget negotiations are still ongoing, full information about possibilities within new funding period is not available yet.

Table No. 5. EU funds that are targeted/could be used for Ocean governance projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Purpose of funding/information on specific calls</th>
<th>Amount, EUR</th>
<th>Eligibility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BEST 2.0 <a href="https://www.iucn.org/theme/marine-and-polar/our-work/eu-overseas/best-20-grant-programme">https://www.iucn.org/theme/marine-and-polar/our-work/eu-overseas/best-20-grant-programme</a></td>
<td>Conservation of biodiversity and sustainable use of ecosystem services, including ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and mitigation (Last calls planned later in 2019)</td>
<td>Up to 400,000 per project (the next projects will be small scale, up to 100 000 max.)</td>
<td>All OCTs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Upcoming relevant call:** European Pre-Commercial Procurement Programme for Wave Energy Research &Development LC-SC3-JA-3-2019 (deadline 27/08/2019)  
https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/lc-sc3-ja-3-2019  
The Work Programme for the period 2020 has been published on 03/07/2019 | Various /Depending on sub-programme | All OCTs         |

Of particular interest for OCTs:
- **H2020 Blue Growth Call H2020-BG-2018-2020**  
- **H2020 INNOSUP**  
https://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/innosup
**INTERREG/European Regional Development Fund**

[https://interreg.eu/](https://interreg.eu/)

4 sub-programmes comprising 15 OCTs:
- Interreg V Caribbean (Anguilla, Montserrat, Aruba, Saba, Bermuda, Saint Barthélemy, Bonaire, Sint Eustatius, British Virgin Islands, Sint Maarten, Cayman Islands, Turks and Caicos Islands, Curacao)
- Interreg V Indian Ocean (TAAF)
- Interreg V A (Sint Maarten)
- Interreg Northern Periphery/Arctic (Greenland)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Focus</th>
<th>Eligibility</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transnational cooperation</td>
<td>Various calls/Depending on subprogramme</td>
<td>Depending on subprogramme</td>
<td>15 out of 25 OCTs are eligible to take part in three Interreg transnational cooperation programmes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LIFE**


- Environment and climate action in EU and worldwide
- 2019 call open
- No defined limit per project
- OCTs can be project but two restrictions are imposed by article 6 of the regulations

**EMFF Blue Economy Call**

- Implementation of EU maritime policies and development of blue economy
- Proposals must relate to activities concerning one of the following sea basins/areas: North Sea, Baltic Sea, Black sea, the Atlantic and the Mediterranean Sea basins as well as the EU Outermost regions marine areas. Proposals can focus on a part/sub-region of these sea basins/areas
- Next call likely October 2019
- Depending on call
- All OCTs (since it is an action funded under the EMFF direct management)

**ReSEMBiD/ 11th European Development Fund**

Caribbean OCT Regional Programme

- Focus areas: Resilience, Sustainable Energy and Marine Biodiversity Programme
- Total programme funding 40
- Caribbean OCTs

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17 Commission implementing decision 2014/366/UE of 16 June 2014 setting up the list of regions and areas eligible for funding from the European Regional Development Fund under the cross-border and transnational components of the European territorial cooperation goal for the period 2014 to 2020.

18 Article 6.1 states that without prejudice to Article 5, the LIFE Programme may finance activities outside the Union and in overseas countries and territories (OCTs) in accordance with Decision 2001/822/EC (the Overseas Association Decision), provided those activities are necessary to achieve Union environmental and climate objectives and to ensure the effectiveness of interventions carried out in Member State territories to which the Treaties apply. Also it states that a legal person established outside the Union may be able to participate in the projects referred to in Article 18, provided the beneficiary coordinating the project is based in the Union and the activity to be carried out outside the Union meets the requirements set out in paragraph 1 of this Article.
Detailed funding information not available yet

PROTEGE/ 11th European Development Fund
Pacific OCT Regional Programme
Building sustainable and resilient economies to face climatic change. Biodiversity and natural and renewable resources
Total programme funding 35.8 mln. EUR
Pacific OCTs

RECI/ 11th European Development Fund
Indian Ocean OCT Regional Programme
Ecosystems restoration
Total programme £5mln EUR
Focus on TAAF

EU Global Ocean Governance Stakeholder Forum
Promotion of global Ocean governance
(Forum to be launched in 2019)

According to the European Commission, dedicated funding for international Ocean governance will be proposed included as a part of EMFF 2021-2027, but at the time of writing this report, no further information is available.

Government-supported initiatives, private donors, foundations, NGOs, other sources

Table No.6. Other funding sources (non-EU)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Programme title</th>
<th>Purpose of funding</th>
<th>Eligibility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Blue Halo Initiative (Waitt’s institute) [<a href="http://waittinstitute.org/bluehaloinitiative/">http://waittinstitute.org/bluehaloinitiative/</a>]</td>
<td>To envision, create, and implement comprehensive sustainable ocean policies</td>
<td>Island governments and communities (to restore coral reefs and fisheries)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>The Island Resilience Partnership (IRP) [<a href="https://www.islandresilience.com/about">https://www.islandresilience.com/about</a>]</td>
<td>Supports communities on the front-lines of climate change by accelerating their transition toward renewable energy and resilient infrastructure</td>
<td>Communities on the front-lines of climate change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>The Ocean Foundation [<a href="https://www.oceanfdn.org/our-work/ocean-initiatives/world-ocean">https://www.oceanfdn.org/our-work/ocean-initiatives/world-ocean</a>]</td>
<td>Conservation and protection of all aspects of the oceans, as well as the protection of key places, capacity building projects and general support grants for marine conservation organizations</td>
<td>Open to viable project ideas worldwide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Sustainable Ocean Fund [<a href="https://althelia.com/althelia-climate-fund/sustainable-ocean-fund/">https://althelia.com/althelia-climate-fund/sustainable-ocean-fund/</a>]</td>
<td>Marine and coastal enterprises that can deliver marine conservation, improved livelihoods and attractive economic returns (coastal fisheries, sustainable aquaculture projects, the seafood supply chain and other</td>
<td>Emerging markets and small island states</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Project Description</td>
<td>Result or Focus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Prins Bernhards Cultuurfonds <a href="https://www.cultuurfonds.nl/">https://www.cultuurfonds.nl/</a></td>
<td>Culture, nature and science</td>
<td>Dutch OCTs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute (SAERI) <a href="https://www.south-atlantic-research.org/">https://www.south-atlantic-research.org/</a></td>
<td>Advancement of environmental understanding in the South Atlantic through research excellence and innovative science leadership</td>
<td>UK OCTs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Global/European NGO funding (RSPB, Pew Trusts, WWF, etc.)</td>
<td>Protecting of biodiversity and the natural environment</td>
<td>All OCTs; on ad hoc basis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>Environmental Protection in the Caribbean (EPIC) <a href="http://epicislands.org/index.html">http://epicislands.org/index.html</a></td>
<td>Scientific understanding of the issues faced by the Caribbean ecosystem, education of the public about conservation, promotion of public involvement in ecological restoration and protection</td>
<td>Caribbean OCTs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Caribbean Development Bank</td>
<td>Capacity-building and projects that mitigate the impact of climate change and reduce the likelihood of flooding</td>
<td>Caribbean OCTs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.7.2 Relevant Programmes and Initiatives

UNEP Regional Seas Programme

The Regional Seas Conventions and their Actions Plans have emerged over the last 40 years as the world's only legal framework for protecting the oceans and seas at the regional level. It serves as a platform on which to construct regional sustainable development— including the regional implementation of programmes and activities related to global conventions and Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs).

Table No. 7. UNEP Regional Seas programmes relevant for OCTs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of UNEP Programme</th>
<th>Secretariat</th>
<th>Governing instruments/Programme areas</th>
<th>Constitutional country participation/OCT relevance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Caribbean Environmental Programme (CEP)    | Kingston, Jamaica      | **Cartagena Convention**  
- environmental pollution (AMEP)  
- specially protected areas and wildlife (SPAW)  
- Communication, education, training and awareness (CETA) | France, Netherlands, United Kingdom  
Anguilla, Aruba, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Bonaire, Cayman Islands, Curaçao, Montserrat, Saba, St. Eustatius, St. Maarten, St. Barthélemy, Turks&Caicos Islands |
| Pacific Environmental programme            | SPREP Apia, Samoa      | **Noumea Convention**  
- Umbrella agreement in the Pacific Region for the Protection of Natural Resources and the Environment.  
**Waigani Convention**  
- ban of the importation of Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes and Control of the Transboundary Movement of Hazardous wastes within the South Pacific Region  
**Apia Convention** (suspended) | France (Noumea Convention)  
New Caledonia  
French Polynesia  
Wallis and Futuna  
Pitcairn |
| OSPAR                                      | London, UK             | **The Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic** (the “OSPAR Convention”)  
- biological diversity and ecosystems  
- hazardous substances and | Denmark,  
France, Netherlands, United Kingdom  
Greenland, Saint-Pierre-et-Miquelon |
The Regional Seas Conventions play a fundamental role in supporting sustainable management and use of the marine and coastal environment. Two of these regional conventions (OSPAR - regional seas organization for the North East Atlantic, and the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources - CCAMLR) have driven the establishment of MPAs in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

It is suggested to follow closely activities and developments of the UNEP Regional Seas programme (as per respective region/programme/ instrument), and to seek pathways/identify opportunities to be involved in regional programmes, fora’s and projects; to use possibilities offered by programme instruments for networking, exchange of knowledge, and consolidation of efforts to tackle global challenges and to upscale efforts in safeguarding vulnerable species and ecosystems.

### Other relevant international organisations or regional programmes/initiatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>International organisation, initiative or programme</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>OCT/ Constitutional country participation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**  
Fisheries and aquaculture department  
http://www.fao.org/fishery/activities/en | Information/ data from all over the world | Possibility for all OCTs |
<p>| <strong>Indian Ocean Commission</strong> | Strengthening the ties of friendship between the countries and serving as a platform of solidarity for the entire population of the African Indian | TAAF |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ocean region</th>
<th>The Pacific islands Forum</th>
<th>French Polynesia and New Caledonia – members; Wallis and Futuna - observer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Caribbean Sea Commission (CSC)</td>
<td>Promoting and contributing to the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations. Specifically, the CSC aims to promote the cooperation and coordination of actions related to the Sustainability of the Caribbean Sea.</td>
<td>Aruba, Bonaire, British Virgin Islands, Curaçao, Saba, St. Barthelemy, St. Eustatius, St. Maarten- associated members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Caribbean Community (CARICOM)</td>
<td>A Caribbean Community that is integrated, inclusive and resilient; driven by knowledge, excellence, innovation and productivity</td>
<td>Montserrat – full member, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Curaçao, Saba, St. Barthelemy, St. Eustatius, St. Maarten- observers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARIFORUM</td>
<td>Economic dialogue with EU</td>
<td>Caricom countries (see above)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Commission</td>
<td>Established to maintain the benefits and functions of marine ecosystems</td>
<td>Montserrat – full member, Anguilla, British Virgin Islands- associate members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overseas Territories Conservation UK</td>
<td>Co-ordinated conservation of the diverse and increasingly threatened plant and animal species and natural ecosystems across all of UK’s Overseas Territories</td>
<td>All UKOTs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Belt</td>
<td>Establishing a “Blue Belt” - over 4 million km2 of marine protected areas</td>
<td>British Indian Ocean Territory, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands, British Antarctic Territory, Pitcairn Islands, Saint Helena, Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN Initiative Marine Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ)</td>
<td>Preparation of a new Convention on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction</td>
<td>Denmark, France, United Kingdom, The Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Ghost Gear Initiative</td>
<td>Elimination of ghost gear</td>
<td>United Kingdom, Netherlands, Montserrat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.8. Stakeholders

2.8.1 Overall observations

All OCTs that responded to the questionnaires, listed the stakeholders involved in Ocean policy. It is observable that the involvement of various partners is important. Fishery, environmental NGOs, R&I institutes are well represented. This can be considered as a high contribution to the respect and implementation of sustainability measures implemented in respective OCTs.

The majority of OCTs stated that business enterprises are committed in some ways to protect the environment and reduce their impact, improving sustainability. Further commitments from local enterprises could be stimulated to maintain this positive trend. Around half of the OCT that responded to the second questionnaire declared also that the level of awareness of citizen is sufficient. Generally, if citizens are aware on ocean conservation, they are much more committed to sustainable practices such as developing/promoting/sustaining/buying environmentally friendly and compatible trademarks and products.

The picture below shows the following: identification of stakeholders; involvement of environmental NGOs as stakeholders, involvement of fishery NGOs/associations as stakeholders; presence of business enterprises committed with environmental issues; perception of the level of citizen’s awareness.

Picture No. 5 Stakeholders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OCT</th>
<th>Identified</th>
<th>Environmental NGOs</th>
<th>Fishery NGOs</th>
<th>Commitment</th>
<th>Awareness</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aruba</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonaire</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falkland Islands</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Promotion of certification schemes, apart the ones already in use (e.g. MSC) could be proposed in order to improve sustainability and responsibility within activities of tourist operators, cruisers, recreational boaters, food producers, shops, etc. The change of behaviour of enterprises can have a huge impact on the environment. At the same time, the image of the country/territory can grow as an “ocean friendly territory” that promote and sustain responsible tourism. The image of the OCTs can increase further if a joint action will be implemented, e.g. build a certificated label for specific category of sustainable products from the OCTs.

Majority of OCTs reported traditional knowledge integrated in fishery/MPA legislation. This shows that the involvement of the right stakeholders is a key component for the best implementation of a policy.

On the other side, there are OCTs which experienced the resistance of stakeholders to MPAs designation. St. Maarten, St. Eustatius, Cayman Islands, French Polynesia and Wallis and Futuna reported conflicts with fishing, boating, diving enterprises regarding marine area to be protected. Awareness raising and work with stakeholders are pivotal.
The example of participative management in New Caledonia, Pitcairn or St. Helena, where stakeholders (fishermen, tourist operators, diving, etc) were involved in the process of establishment and drawing up a management plan from an early stage, should be disseminated and seen as good examples.

2.8.2 Success stories

Commitment of tourist resort in Aruba

In Aruba, the Bucuti and Tara Beach Resort is a climate neutral resort, its environmentalist owners have been working for more than seven years with a Green Team and scrutinised carbon output, implemented clean energy initiatives and completed carbon neutrality by supporting the local wind energy farm. Since 2016, the resort’s 618 photovoltaic solar panels combined with local wind and solar sources, produces 40 per cent of its energy needs. Other efforts include installing an in-room energy management system, low-flow shower heads and toilets, and using an ozone-based laundry system. The initiative proved that sustainability, guest satisfaction and profitability can go together.

IAATO, The International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators

It was founded in 1991 by seven companies. The primary goal of the association is to "advocate and promote the practice of safe and environmentally responsible private-sector travel to the Antarctic".

Greenland awareness campaign

Outreach programs targeting children and youths through the use of social media and music. In spring 2019 a new campaign called “Superheroes of Nature”, was initiated with the aim to teach the younger generation that everyone has a shared responsibility to take care of nature. The Superheroes are inspired by Greenlandic mythology.
Website: https://Inua.gl (in Danish and Greenlandic)

Marine educational area in French Polynesia

From the imagination of the children of the primary school of Tahuata (Marquesas Iles) was born the concept of marine educational area. Following discussions with scientists, the children expressed the wish to become responsible for their own marine protected area in the bay, in front of their school. This allowed to involve the youngest in the management of marine resources and its implementation seemed to be very well perceived by the whole population.

19 https://iaato.org/what-is-iaato
20 http://www.aires-marines.fr/Documentation/Les-aires-marines-educatives-de-Polynesie-Francaise
Thus French Polynesia with some partners (e.g. France and Ifrecor) built an experimental label “Marine Educational Area” (AME) to involve schools of other islands in MPA management. There are three axes: to know the sea, to favour exchange with professionals and to manage the littoral zone. To test the label a two year pilot program “Pukatai” is in place in the six inhabited islands of Marquesas where the management will be unified. “Pukatai” is part of a broader approach of creating a Big Protected Marine Area and UNESCO World Heritage archipelago for nature and culture.

3. Topics of common interest and recommendations
The study has allowed to identify topics of common priority/interest:

Table No 9. Priority areas and suggested points for action

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority areas</th>
<th>Points for action (Joint priorities)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Institutional and legislative framework</td>
<td>● To review adequacy/ effectiveness of institutional and legislative frameworks to deal with current situation (bearing in mind increasing global pressures and scope of new challenges)\n● To further work on formulation of individual or common OCT Ocean strategies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pollution (eutrophication from land-based nutrient sources such as sewage; oil pollution, increasingly - plastic and fishing gear pollution)</td>
<td>● Ensure improvement of water quality (by minimization of untreated wastewater discharges, and reduction of all kinds of waste)\n● Clean-up of already formed pollution hotspots\n● Develop monitoring system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of valuable species and habitats</td>
<td>● Ensure conservation of at least 10% of coastal and marine areas by 2020 (SDG 14.5) in all OCTs\n● Restore and mitigate ecosystem damage (with special focus on identification of coral reef degraded sites, and adequate protection of vulnerable species, and implementation of priority restoration projects)\n● Sustainably manage species using scientific knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effects of climate change; ocean warming and acidification (and consequent change of ecosystems), sea level rise, increased hazard of natural disasters</td>
<td>● Implement actions to enhance the resilience of natural ecosystems\n● Improve capacity to respond to natural disasters\n● Introduce eutrophication and pH measurements in marine monitoring programmes (SDG 14.1 and 14.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased pressures from coastal development, tourism and recreational activities</td>
<td>● Prepare and adopt marine spatial plans\n● Introduce, plan and implement integrated coastal zone management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invasive alien species</td>
<td>● Implement joint programmes/actions to control/ eliminate invasive alien species, including identification of pathways, and implementation of control and eradication measures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capacity building (knowledge, R&amp;I and involvement of citizen and businesses)</td>
<td>● Improve coordination capacity- capacity building- (overall and specifically for the OCTs with low GDPs, and very small OCTs with limited resources)\n● Support the constitution of a Large Ocean State (to move away from the notion of solely being considered Small Island States)\n● Twinning/exchange of experience and best practices between</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCTs with EU partners (including outermost regions) with similar challenges</td>
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<tr>
<td>---</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Develop cooperation/planning on basis of EBSA, Ecological or Biological Significant Marine Areas, (where possible) or regional ecological similarity (Tropical Pacific islands, Caribbean).</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>● Continue efforts to preserve and take into consideration traditional knowledge</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Implement communication campaigns to improve the awareness of local population and train governmental departments (other than environmental) about importance of environmental protection, fish stock conservation, climate change, plastic pollution and reduction the conflicts between economic use of the resources and the needs/urgency of reef protection, and regulation of sea uses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Incentivise businesses towards green activities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Collaborate for the creation of R&amp;I programmes and facilitate the diffusion of data</td>
<td></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>● In cooperation with constitutional countries and EU, to ensure adequate core funding for Ocean/coastal management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● To work with other EU funds, NGOs and private funds and donors to attract complementary funding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● To take advantage of funding opportunities offered by the EU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Blue Economy (including Fisheries)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>● Develop mechanisms for the identification and adaptation to Blue Economy sectors (with a view to diversification/innovation and to reduce traditional dependence on a few sectors)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Development of ecological and responsible tourism projects and labels to improve the commitment of business enterprises to the environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● To develop plans to limit the threats that unregulated and not responsible cruise, nautical tourism and shipping can create (in particular, in Pacific and Caribbean OCTs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● To explore opportunities of offshore renewable energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Application of FAOs code of conduct for responsible fisheries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Identification/elaboration of common fishery regulations for neighbouring or overlapping EEZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Valorisation of local fisheries products, introduction of certification for sustainable fishery products to be adopted per regional area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Management of fisheries based on scientific advice (TAC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Establishment of Fish Reproductive Zones</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alignment with other strategies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>● To work with UNEP Regional Seas programme and its instruments (Cartagena, Noumea, OSPAR Conventions, CCMLR) to upscale individual efforts and to address jointly common challenges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● To give an attention to the development of new initiatives such as BNNJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Develop a monitoring system for SDGs or Aichi Targets in order to achieve a common monitoring framework and routinely collect data (following the example of New Caledonia)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Recommendations for an Ocean Agenda in OCTs

1) To stop or reduce negative trends in Ocean management in OCTs, and guarantee the future and long-term maintenance of ecosystem, their services and of the resources for future generation, and to reach compliance with SDG 14 and Aichi targets, to further work on common OCT Ocean strategy, with specific focus on:
   a) Conservation and protection of ecosystem and species and their services;
   b) Reduction of pollution effects (both land-based and marine) to the ocean and restoration of degraded areas;
   c) Improvement of coastal and marine planning and management practices.

2) To improve management capacity and awareness, and to address information and knowledge gaps concerning SDG 14 and Aichi targets (as outlined in benchmarking study), as well as new and more complex issues (conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources; management of vulnerable habitats, minimization/ addressing the impacts of climate change, such as ocean acidification, warming, extreme weather events; effective regulation of harvesting and ending overfishing; access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets, tackling invasive alien species);

3) To take a common or regional approach to monitoring and auditing SDG14 and Aichi targets;

4) To take a regional approach to improve the intelligence on, and, the monitoring of pollutants, in terms of common protocols and technology. Particularly for plastics, acidification and Eutrophication;

5) To implement common or regional intelligence and protocols concerning the sources, pathways, control and eradication of introduced species

6) To increase sustainability of the activities, through involvement of regional fora, with particular focus on UNEP Regional Seas Programme, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, and Caribbean Sea Commission;

7) To plan activities/projects at sub-regional level, or common EBSA (Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas), through involvement and following the example of the Pacific (where discussions are underway to enhance possible collaboration for the establishment of a large shared protected area or to manage the EEZ);

8) To maximize the use of available international and EU funding, with a particular view on new opportunities that will be available during new EU programming period from EDF, H2020, INTERREG, as well as dedicated funding for international ocean governance under the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund for 2021-2027;

9) To look for opportunities for local and/or regional cooperation between the OCTs in the areas marine/ocean science research and innovation. Particularly, in areas where OCTs are research resource poor;

10) To follow up closely EU policy developments, with a view of getting involved in future EU International Ocean Governance Stakeholder Forum, which will bring together experts, civil society representatives, academics and decision-makers dedicated to oceans and seas worldwide (planned to launch during 2019);

11) To engage the business communities to be more active in the areas of sustainable development and marine biodiversity
List of Annexes

Annex 1 – Bibliography

Annex 2 - Questionnaires
Annex 1 - Bibliography

1. A Proposal for a council decision on the Association of the Overseas Countries and Territories with the European Union including relations between the European Union on the one hand, and Greenland and the Kingdom of Denmark on the other (Decision on the Overseas Association, including Greenland), 2018.


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6. Convention of Biological Diversity https://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/

7. The Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas https://www.cbd.int/ebsa/


10. EU DG MARE https://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/home_en


16. IUCN https://www.iucn.org/sites/dev/files/assessing_law_as_a_factor_toward_the_aichi_biodiversity_targets_0.pdf


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http://www.ourocean2017.org/our-ocean-commitments
1. SWOT analysis as a basis for regional strategies. Karppi, I., Kokkonen, M., Laheteemaki-Smitts, K.
2. The Pacific Community, SUSTAINABLE PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT THROUGH SCIENCE, KNOWLEDGE AND
INNOVATION https://www.spc.int/
4. The Sustainable development goals knowledge platform
https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs
5. Report on the participation of the Overseas Countries and Territories in the European Union
6. UN Data & SDG
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https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg14
https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/
7. The Rahui legal pluralism in Polynesian traditional management of resources and territories /edited
## Annex 2 - Questionnaires

The two questionnaires have been merged by (by topic*)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1-Governance system and Policies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q.1-1  In your country, is there any institution/department/person that is responsible for Ocean legislation, policy or management? If yes, could you please provide the reference names/contacts?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q.1-4  Is there specific Ocean legislation, strategies, policy or action plans currently in force in your country/territory? If yes, can you provide a brief overview of them, including date of adoption, and link to the document, or directly attach a document copy?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If no particular Ocean policy is formulated, but legislation/policy exists for specific ocean use/pressure: coastal zone and maritime management, marine pollution, marine trade, biodiversity/ protected areas management, etc., please mention these also.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2- Pressures and vulnerabilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q.1-2  Oceans/coasts are globally threatened by several pressures (e.g. river pollution, plastic, oil spills, overfishing, eutrophication, etc.). Could you provide information as to what are, in your opinion, the main ocean/ coastal related environmental pressures your country/territory is facing, at least in the last five years?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q.1-3  The oceans/coasts are an essential resource for humankind: as climate regulators, as a source for global food security, human health and as an engine for economic growth. Could you identify what are, in your opinion, the main important and vulnerable ecosystems/species/activities existing in the Ocean/coast of your country/territory?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3-Protection and restoration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q.1-5  In your country/territory are there any Marine Protected Areas (MPA) or other kind of designated marine/coastal protected area? Or are there any other restrictions or regulations of use, applied on specific sea areas (e.g. no fishing zone, no motor boat, etc.)? Do you think, are or have been there specific challenges/problems related to the establishment and management of MPA, protected areas or restricted/regulated site? If so, please explain in detail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q.2-4  Which measures do you have to prevent or mitigate the impact of pollution (excess of nutrients, oil spills, plastics)? (Aichi target 8; SDG 14.1) Do you monitor and have statistics on excess of nutrients, oil spills, plastics, etc. in your maritime area?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q.2-5  Are eutrophication (SDG 14.1) and marine acidity (pH) monitored in your maritime area? (SDG 14.3)?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q.2-6  Is the EEZ managed using ecosystem-based approaches (sustainably managed/ protected in order to avoid significant adverse impacts, including strengthening their resilience, and taking action for their restoration)? (SDG 14.2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4-Activities and projects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q. 1-9  Are activities, projects or specific programs related to Ocean management, regulation or administration currently ongoing, or planned to be implemented? If yes, please include the title/name, the responsible institution, the source of funding, the web and/or contact reference, if possible.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## 5-Blue Growth

Q.2-1 What are the main sectors of blue growth in your OCT (tourism, aquaculture, seabed mining, marine energy production, fisheries, etc.)? Do you have figures? Statistics? Are there measures to identify potential sectors of blue growth and to increase the economic benefits of those sectors? e.g. % GDP (SDG 14.7)

What are the barriers for developing those sectors?

Q.2-2 Do you have measures to ensure sustainable aquaculture and fishing (monitoring of fish stocks, end of illegal fishing or overfishing, end of harmful subsidies, etc.)? (SDG 14.4; SDG 14.6; Aichi targets 4 and 7)

Q.2-3 Do you have measures to facilitate the access of small-scale artisanal fishers to the market? (SDG 14.B)

## 6-Knowledge and awareness

Q. 1-7 In your opinion, is the current level of knowledge (and expertise) on Ocean policy (including conservation and management of marine resources; and sustainable economic activities in the Ocean/ coastal zone; such as tourism, energy generation using resources of the ocean, fisheries, etc.) sufficient to develop and administer the current Ocean policies? If not, what are the (acknowledged) gaps?

Q.2-7 Are there entities in charge of Research & Innovation in oceans related areas? Please specify the name of the entities.

Q.2-8 What are the main technologies that are in use or would be needed to protect the ecosystems or develop sustainable blue sectors? Do you know the budget allocated to R&I in marine technology?

Q.2-9 In your OCT, is the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation/sustainable use of biodiversity, integrated and reflected in relevant Ocean/coastal policies and practice? (Aichi target 18)

## 7-Alignment with other strategies

Q.2-10 Are the SDGs (especially SDG14) and relevant Aichi targets integrated in the national/territorial strategies? Are there monitoring/audit systems in place? Please provide reports, links to relevant websites (if any)

Q.2-11 What are the areas of existing or future cooperation you would see at regional level? Do you have regional plans, agreements about the management of oceans?

Q.2-12 What are the areas of existing or future cooperation you would see at European or International level?

## 8-Examples of success stories

Q.2-13 Are there interesting projects, policies or relevant initiatives that you would like to mention and show as an interesting demonstration in your OCT or has produced excellent results and could be shared with other OCTs as Best Practice example?

## 9-Funding

Q.1-8 Is there regular or occasional funding allocated for Ocean policies/initiatives? If so, please specify from which sources, if they are occasional or regular (and if possible specify also if regular
funding is allocated to personnel/staff, and whether next to that there is complementary funding aimed at concrete activities, as well as if there is any volunteer work involved), adding your opinion if is there sufficient knowledge of any funding opportunities for Ocean initiatives.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>10-Stakeholders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Q.1-6</strong> Can you identify the key stakeholders (e.g. NGOs, knowledge organizations, fishermen associations, traders etc.), which could be involved in Ocean/coastal management and in the development or implementation of Ocean policies in your country/territory? Can you include a brief description of their role and involvement, and eventually the reference contact?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Q.2-(14 –Optional)</strong> Are businesses committed in some way, to protect and sustainably use the oceans (corporate commitments, labels, companies, etc.)?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Q.2-(15 – Optional)</strong> Are citizens sufficiently aware about the value of oceans? Do they take initiatives to protect the oceans (knowledge sharing, day of oceans, etc.)? What initiative did you take to raise their awareness?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*: Numbering: Q1-1 = 1st Questionnaire, Question 1; Q2-1=2nd Questionnaire, Question 1, etc.

Response rate to the questionnaires:

- 1st questionnaire: 25 questionnaires sent out; 22 responses received
- 2nd questionnaire: 25 questionnaires sent out; 16 responses received