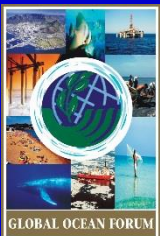


Three Points About SDG 14 on Oceans and Seas

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Point 1. Oceans and Seas SDG

General Characteristics

- It was quite difficult to get, required significant **political mobilization**
- SDG 14 is rooted in most cases in existing global commitments on oceans and brings them together in concerted ways with a renewed sense of urgency. Some important new commitments, e.g. **14.7 on increasing the economic benefits for SIDS and LDCs from the sustainable use of marine resources.... BLUE ECONOMY EFFORTS** (e.g. in SIDS, Africa, etc.)
- There are **good synergies** between SDG 14 and most of the other SDGs
- In addition to being reported on at the HLPF in 2017, the SDG 14 will also be the subject of the **UN Conference to Support the Implementation of SDG 14**, 5-9 June 2017, New York
- There is growing **complementarity between the implementation of SDG 14 and the implementation of the NDCs** under the Paris Agreement

Ocean Content of NDCs

Oceans Action Day at COP 22 Marrakech, part of the Global Climate Action Agenda

- **2/3 of NDCs submitted include the ocean**
- **38 out of 39 NDCs submitted by SIDS include the ocean (both adaptation and mitigation)**
- **Annex I countries underrepresent the oceans**

(Gallo, 2016)

SDG 14 on Oceans, Seas and Marine Resources

Goal: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Targets:

14.1: By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, particularly from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution

Reinforces 1992 provisions (17.22, 17.24-17.28), 2002 provision (33), and 2012 provisions (34a & b, 58e, 158, and 163). Emphasizes marine pollution of all kinds, including marine debris (first highlighted by Rio+20) and the ongoing reduction of nutrient pollution. Provides a 2025 time target in contrast to the 2020 time target of the Convention on Biological Diversity's Aichi Biodiversity Target 8.

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, to achieve healthy and productive oceans

Reinforces 1992 provisions (17.5, 17.6, and 17.85), 2002 provisions (21, 30 c & d), and 2012 provisions (158, 165, 166, and 176). It is noteworthy that the target emphasizes both marine and coastal ecosystems, resilience, and restoration actions.

Targets:

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

Ocean acidification had not been addressed directly in the 1992 and 2002 summits since the phenomenon was not yet well understood. Echoes the 2012 provision (166), with a new emphasis on minimizing and taking action on ocean acidification.

14.4: By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting, and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, 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

Building on 1992 provisions (17.79, 17.84, 17.86, and 17.87) and 2002 provisions (30 and 31,), it reinforces the 2012 commitments (168, 169, 170, and 171). Provides a 2020 time target replacing the 2015 time target of the 2002 Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. New time target is aligned with the Convention on Biological Diversity's Aichi Biodiversity Target 6. Echoes the 2012 provision (168) to restore stock levels at maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics and emphasizes the effective regulation of harvesting.

Targets:

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

Building on 1992 provisions (15.5g, 17.7, 17.8, 17.85, and 17.87) and 2002 provisions (32 and 44), it reinforces the 2012 commitments (177 and 198). Provides a 2020 time target in line with the Convention on Biological Diversity's Aichi Biodiversity Target 11.

14.6: By 2020, prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, and eliminate subsidies that contribute to IUU 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 WTO fisheries subsidies negotiation

Reinforces 2002 provision (32f) and 2012 provision (173). Time target is aligned with the Convention on Biological Diversity's Aichi Biodiversity Target 3.

14.7: By 2030 increase the economic benefits to SIDS and LDCs from the sustainable use of marine resources, including through sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism

While building on past 2002 (31 and 58) and 2012 (174 and 175) provisions, this target represents an important new emphasis by clearly calling for an increase of economic benefits from marine resources to developing countries and SIDS by 2030, with specific reference to three sectors—fisheries, aquaculture, and tourism.

Means of Implementation

14.a: increase scientific knowledge, develop research capacities 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 SIDS and LDCs

While building on the capacity development provisions of the 1992 (17.40, 17.43, 17.68, 17.69, 17.92, 17.94, 17.95, 17.120a, and 17.136) and 2002 summits (10f, 30g, 32b, 33a & b, 36, and 58c), and building on the 2012 capacity development provisions emphasizing the IOC Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology (120 and 160), this Means of Implementation, for the first time, emphasizes the importance of the enhanced contribution of marine biodiversity to the development of developing countries, in particular SIDS and LDCs. It is important to note that the ability to study, collect, and sustainably use marine biodiversity resources is one of the major gaps in capacity in SIDS and LDCs.

14.b: Provide access of small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets

Reinforces 1992 provisions (17.81) and reiterates the 2012 provision (175). Does not mention subsistence fisherfolk, women, local communities, and indigenous people.

14.c: Ensure the full implementation of international law, as reflected in UNCLOS for states parties to it, including, where applicable, existing regional and international regimes for the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by their parties

Building on the 1992 provisions (17.117 and 17.120a), 2002 provisions (158-160, 162, and 165) of increasing cooperation on all levels, and including the 2012 provisions (75, 76, 159, 185) on implementing the obligations under UNCLOS, this Means of Implementation, broadly emphasizes the full implementation of UNCLOS and of other existing regional and international regimes for the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources

Point 2. Significant Progress has been made on Integrated Governance on Coasts and Oceans since 1992

- **Agenda 21, Chapter 17, emphasis on integrated coastal and ocean management, followed by complementary emphases on ecosystem-based management and marine spatial planning**
- **Much work on integrated governance first of coastal areas (at least 100 countries), then of oceans and 200-mile EEZs (at least 40 countries and several world regions)**
- **But efforts not well tracked, little systematic empirical information (true of all the 1992, 2002, and 2012 ocean-related goals related to the sustainable development summits)**

**ROUTLEDGE
HANDBOOKS**



Routledge Handbook of National and Regional Ocean Policies

Edited by Biliانا Cicin-Sain, David L. VanderZwaag
and Miriam C. Balgos

Routledge Handbook of National and Regional Ocean Policies (2015)

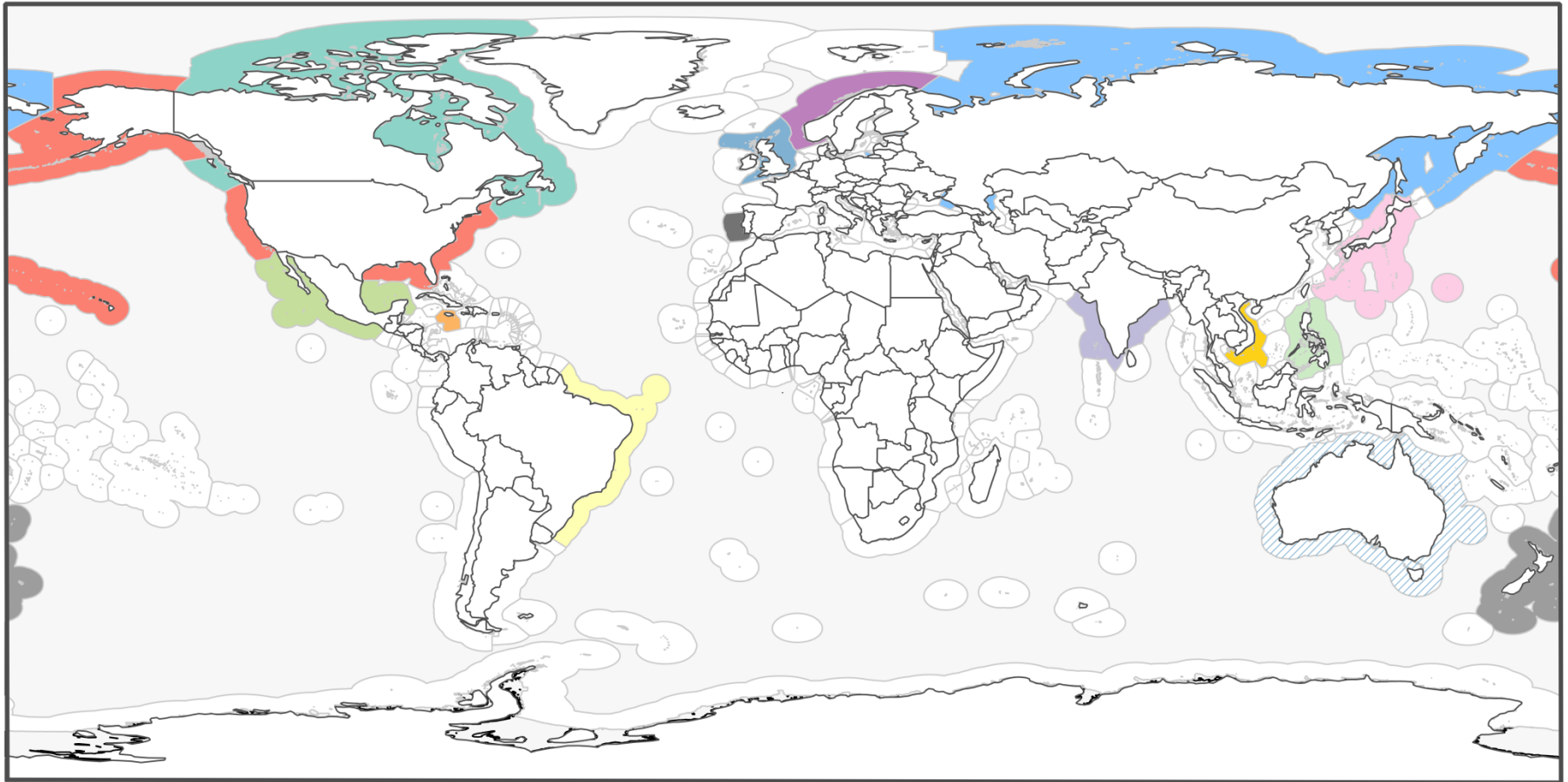
**Editors: Biliانا Cicin-Sain, David
L. VanderZwaag, and Miriam C.
Balgos (2015)**

**59 authors/contributors from
government and academia**

15 nations and 4 regions

	<i>Nations</i>	<i>Regions</i>
<i>Asia</i>	India, Japan, Philippines, Vietnam	East Asian Seas
<i>Oceania</i>	Australia, New Zealand	Pacific Islands
<i>Americas</i>	Brazil, Canada, Mexico, United States	
<i>Europe</i>	Norway, Portugal, Russian Federation, United Kingdom	European Union
<i>Africa</i>		Sub-Saharan Africa
<i>Caribbean</i>	Jamaica	

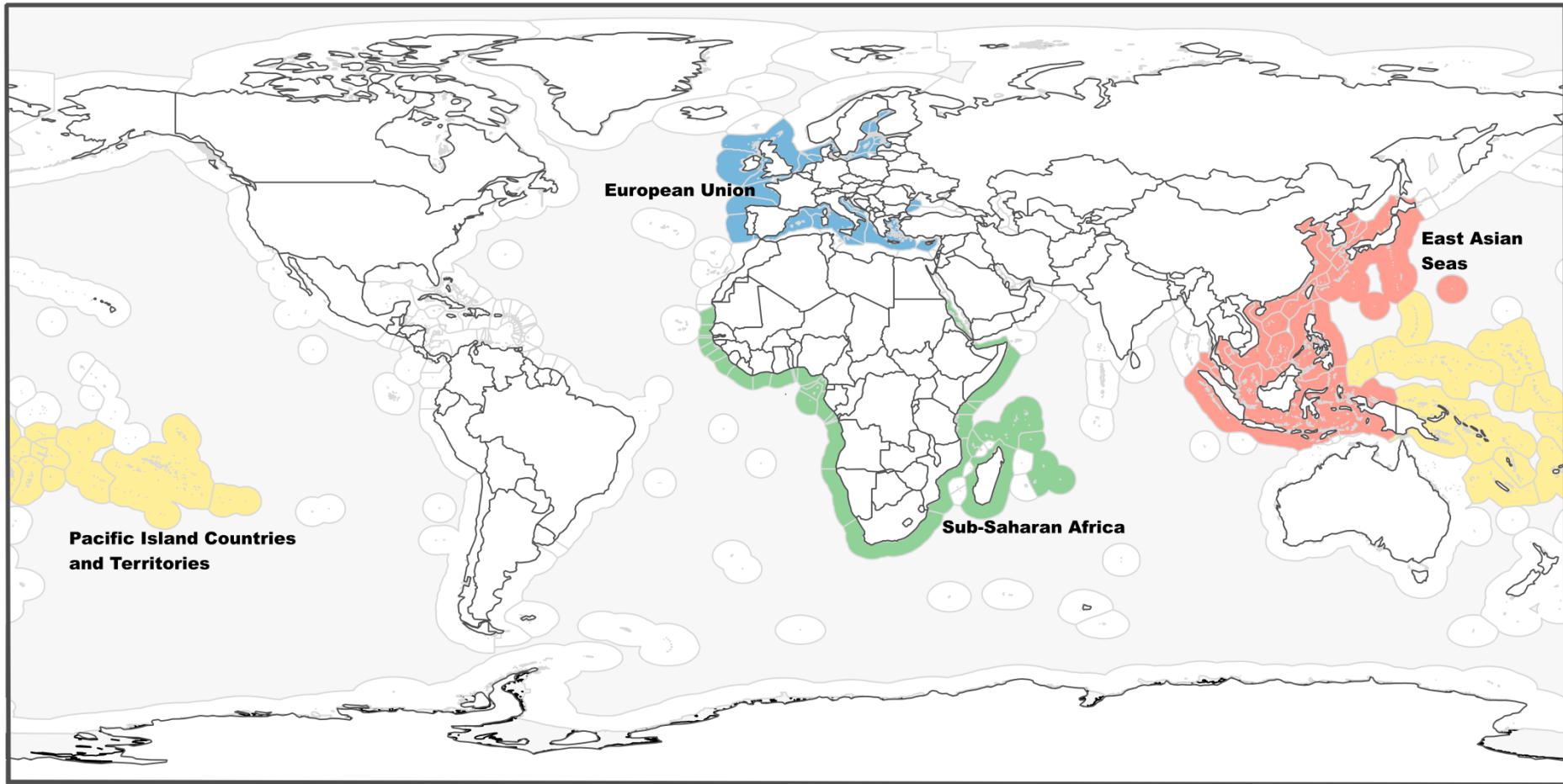
15 Nations – About 50% of EEZ World Total





Claimed Exclusive Economic Zones

Australia	Canada	Jamaica	Mexico	Norway	Portugal	United Kingdom	Vietnam
Brazil	India	Japan	New Zealand	Philippines	Russia	United States	Other EEZs

Regions – 55% of World EEZ Total



Regions

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
|  East Asian Seas |  Pacific Island Countries and Territories |  Other EEZs |
|  European Union |  Sub-Saharan Africa | |

Major Questions Posed: Integrated Policy and Institutional Frameworks

Common framework for analysis for understanding the dynamics of integrated ocean policy formulation and implementation

Policy formulation

- The significance of oceans and coasts in different nations
- Motivation for the policy, how it got started
- Legal/policy basis: Was it based in a new law? Or executive policy? Product of an ocean commission?
- Scope and content
- Principles adopted
- Institutional arrangements
- Stakeholder engagement

Major Questions Posed

Policy Implementation

- **Agency(ies) in charge of implementation**
- **Division of authority between national and subnational levels of government**
- **Evolution over time**
- **Implementation and evaluation over time**
- **Funding and monitoring mechanisms**
- **Outlook for the future**

Common Catalysts and Trajectories

Common Catalysts

- multiple use conflicts, among uses, users, and agencies
- decline/degradation of coastal and marine areas
- recognition of the value of coastal and ocean resources in terms of ecological/ecosystem, social, and economic services
- encouragement from the international level
- inequities in benefits for foreigners vs locals in ocean areas under national jurisdiction

Trajectories

- typical national trajectory, starting with coastal management, then moving to entire EEZ
- at regional level, realization that separate sectoral policies need to be harmonized and linked (e.g., EU)

Getting Started

Typically:

--ocean commissions

--study commissions

--“white papers”

--inter-agency task forces

--wide stakeholder consultation, development of shared vision

--done at the highest levels of government

Importance of stakeholder consultations

- The consultation process demonstrated that the success of maritime policy would depend on the **support of and sense of ownership of stakeholders**, including regional actors already very active in developing integrated maritime actions. Furthermore, the maritime regions of Europe are so diverse and region-based that **action had to be different in focus according to each region.**

(Gambert, EU case)

Common Principles Widely Adopted

Wide Adoption of Common Principles of Integrated Ocean governance and Sustainable Development

- Sustainable development/sustainability
 - Integrated management
 - Ecosystem-based management
 - Good governance
 - Adaptive management/best available science
 - The precautionary approach
 - The preservation of marine biodiversity
 - Stewardship
 - Multiple use management
 - Economic/social development and poverty alleviation
- **Note: Most nations/regions emphasize environmental and economic dimensions of sustainable development. Goals/targets related to social dimensions and poverty alleviation are less frequent (about 1/2 of national cases mentioned these factors).**

Institutional Aspects

Typically involve:

- Inter-agency/inter-sectoral sectoral coordination mechanism**
- A lead implementing agency(ies)**

Important considerations:

- Clear terms of reference**
- Involve coordination at the highest political levels (e.g. Office of the Prime Minister)**
- Receive input from an external council of advisers**
- Be transparent and allow for public involvement**
- Have incentives for joint action, such as joint budgets**

Lead Implementing Bodies

- Important to have a **national ocean office** to operationalize the national ocean policy and oversee implementation
- **Separate budget and staff**
- Typically prepare **national ocean policy plan** , “state of the ocean” reports; coordinate interagency activities, work with subnational authorities
- *Example: Secretariat of Ocean Policy Headquarters in Japan, oversees Basic Act of Ocean Policy, has separate budget and about 30 staff members*

Other Observations

- A number of cases involve **regional** ocean planning processes and bodies (e.g. Australia, US)
- Increased use of **marine spatial planning** (e.g., required in 2014 EU Directive on marine spatial planning)
- **Dedicated and stable oceans funding a challenge** in many cases. Efforts made to develop special funds (e.g. from oil and gas)
- In some cases, very good use of **indicators** which are tracked over time (e.g., Canada, PEMSEA)
- In some cases, evaluations from outside experts that prepare “**report cards**” on the national ocean policy (e.g., US)

Some Success Factors

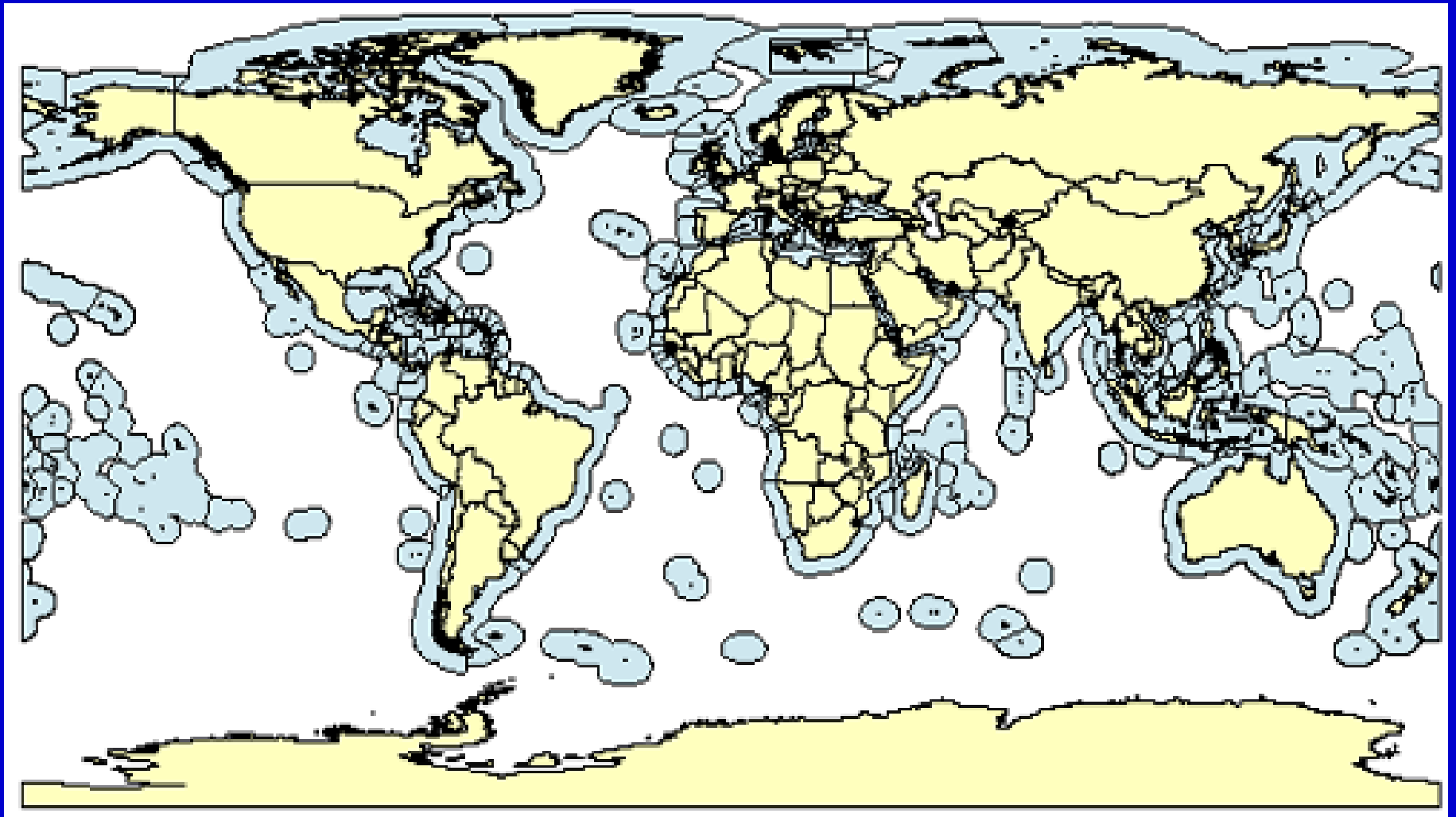
- **Embracing and implementing common ocean principles**— *much of the world has already adopted and put into practice major principles of integrated ecosystem-based national and regional policies*
- **Achieving an integrated outcome through formal coordination institutions**— *having formal coordinating institutions to guide the national and regional policies with independent input from stakeholders is essential*
- **Ensuring and maintaining political support**— *the ups and downs of ocean policies, ocean policy entrepreneurs in and out of government must continuously foster high-level political support*

Success Factors

- **Promoting binding policies**—*policy embedded in law tends to be more successful in the long run, executive action can all too often be reversed with changing administrations (only 4 out of 15 national ocean policies are based on legislation)*
- **Enabling stakeholders**—*essential for molding the policy and for maintaining political support in the long run*
- **Ensuring adequate funding and other supporting elements**—*consistent funding and other support elements (research, science, public education) essential in the steady and continued implementation of the policies over time*

Point 3. Way Forward on SDG Implementation

- Already good experience with integrated governance
Need to support and further enhance these efforts,
including through capacity building**
- National efforts, especially in Blue Economy, should
emphasize poverty reduction more extensively, and
explicitly incorporate targets from other SDGs (e.g.,
on gender)**
- A baseline of the current status of SDG targets needs to be
established and subsequent performance measurement by
independent evaluation authorities must be carried out**



UN PrepCom on BBNJ

- Started in 2016 (28 March–8 April; 26 August–September 9)
- Reports to the UNGA on progress by the end of 2017
- Topics under negotiation are:
 - “namely the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction, in particular, *together and as a whole, marine genetic resources, including questions on the sharing of benefits, measures such as area-based management tools, including marine protected areas, environmental impact assessments and capacity building and the transfer of marine technology.*”