



Ministerial Conference on Fisheries Cooperation among African States Bordering the Atlantic Ocean



Preparatory meeting for the CITES CoP18
Casablanca, 25-26 April 2019

The Sustainable use of Marine Resources

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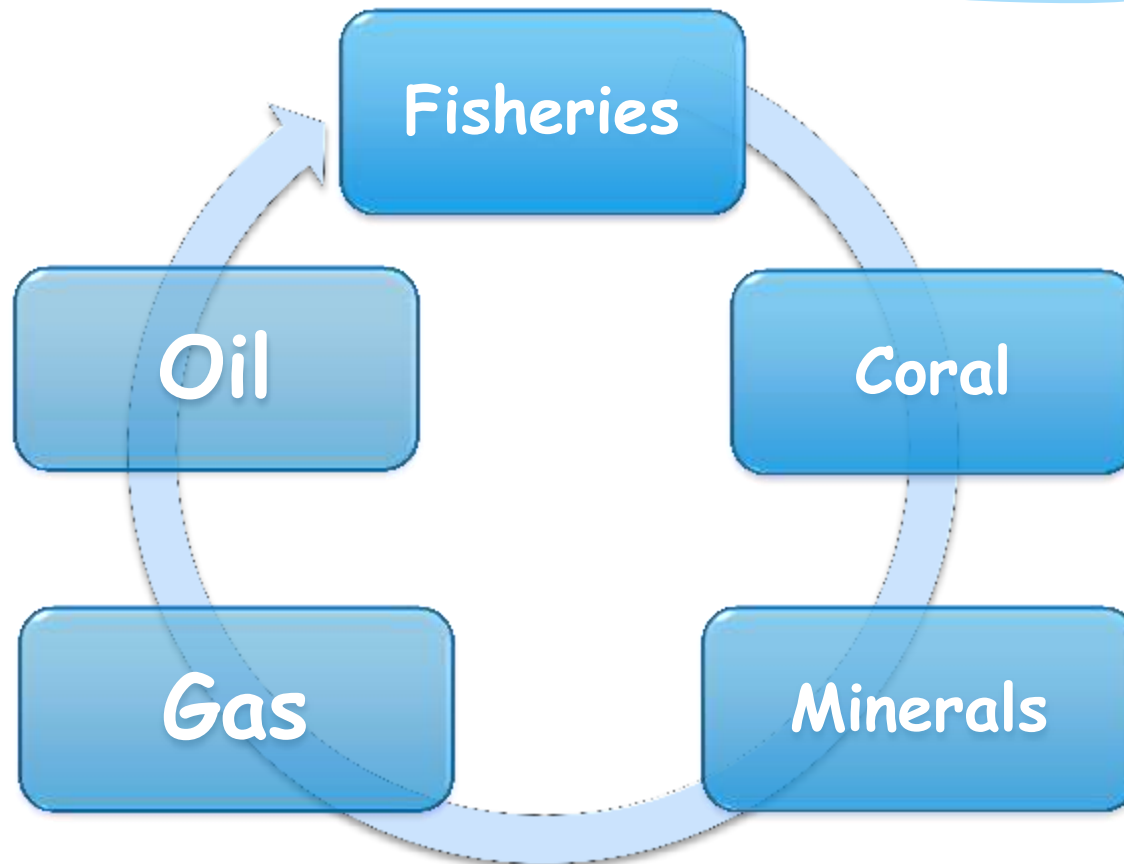
Harvesting today without compromising tomorrow ...



What is marine resource ?



Marine resources are the things that plants, animals and humans need for life that originate in the ocean





Major threats of Marine resources



- Unsustainable fishing
- Inadequate protection
- Tourism and development
- Shipping
- Oil and gas
- Pollution
- Aquaculture
- Climate change



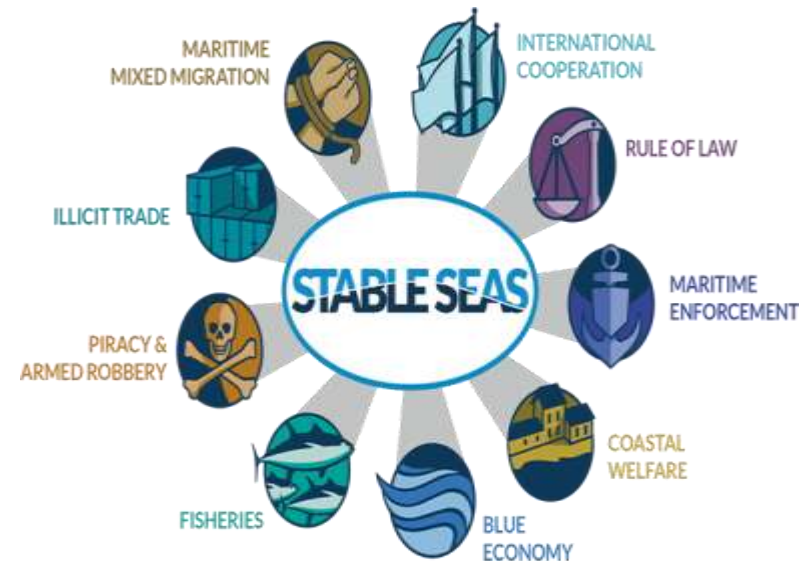


Challenges of the fisheries sector in ATLAFCO area



➤ Major challenges of the fisheries sector in the region

- Limited governance for fisheries management
- Many institutions governing the sector
- Weak MCS
- Resources over-exploitation
- High levels of illegal fishing
- Climate change impact
- Ecosystem degradation
- Low returns from the exploitation of marine resources
- Undeveloped aquaculture sector
- limited Capacity building
- Lack of scientific knowledge, information and data





What is sustainability?



Sustainability is a development that satisfies the needs of the present without risking the inability of future generations to satisfy their own needs



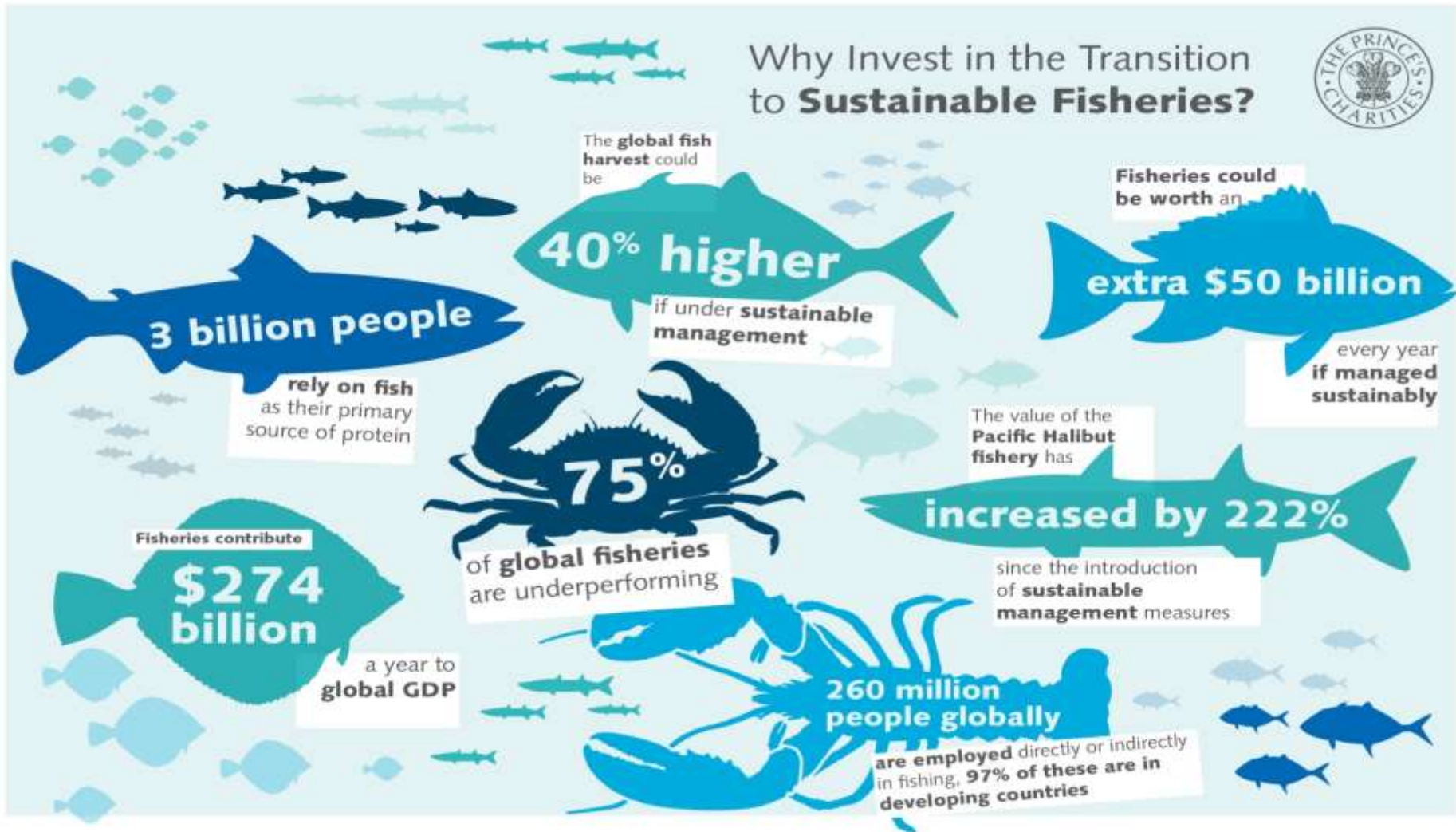
[Brundtland Report](#) - Our Common Future, World Commission on the Environment and Development, 1987



WE SUPPORT
GOAL 14
LIFE BELOW
WATER



Towards Investment in Sustainable Fisheries

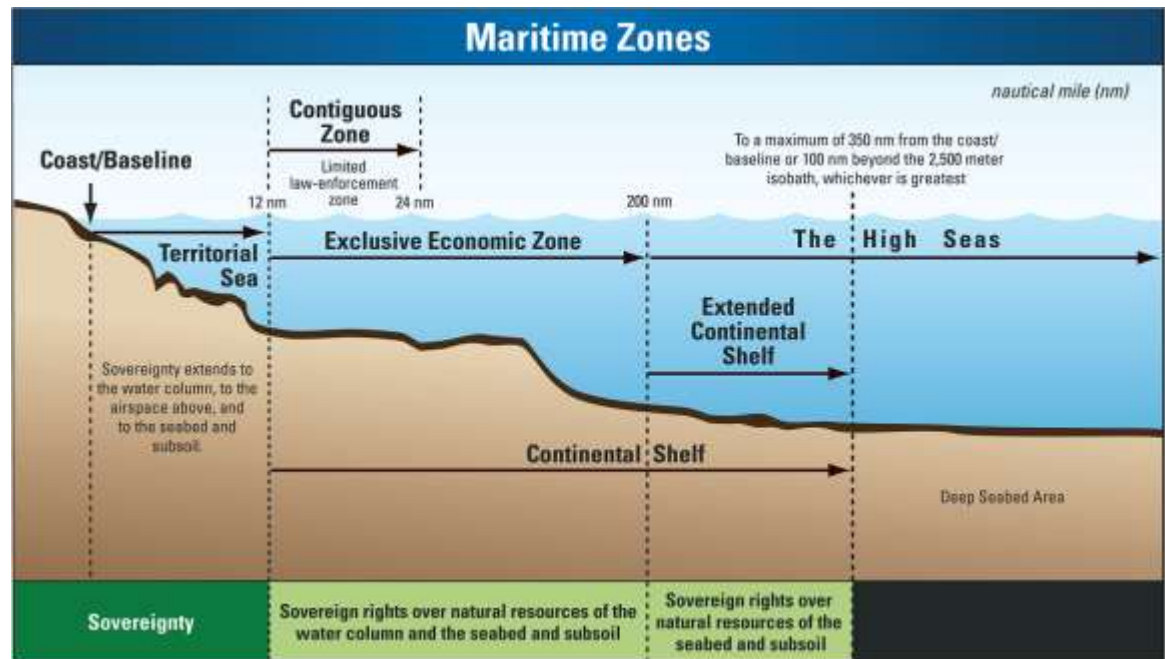




The foundation of the principle of the sustainable use of living Marine Resources



- UNCLOS
- Agenda 21
- SDG 14
- FAO





The formulation of sustainable development goals

- ❑ One of the key commitments agreed upon at the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) was the formulation of sustainable development goals
- ❑ Sustainable development encompasses the interlinkages of the three dimensions of
 - ❑ Economic growth,
 - ❑ Social development
 - ❑ Environmental sustainability
- ❑ In the formulation of the sustainable development goals, considerable effort was made to ensure that **the proposed goals, targets and indicators** were in alignment with the vision, principles, guiding framework and criteria set out at the global and regional level
- ❑ While the SDGs are not legally binding, governments are expected to take ownership and establish **national frameworks for the achievement of the SDGs** through recurrent national and sectoral development planning.

Sustainability Model





The principle of the sustainable use of living Marine Resources

- ❑ Sustainable development entails taking full account of environmental, economic and social objectives when making decisions
- ❑ The conclusions of the Rio Conference, together with the international agreements and action plans, which have been developed in its wake, **lay the foundation for achieving this objective**
- ❑ The principle of the sustainable use of living Marine Resources is **well established**
- ❑ Recognizes and respects **the sovereign rights of countries** - particularly coastal states - to harvest those marine resources within their exclusive economic zones (EEZs) in a manner which **does not threaten** the existence of any particular species.
- ❑ It must be done in a **sustainable manner** designed to ensure the conservation of individual species for current and future generations.
- ❑ ***Sustainable utilization of resources, based on the principles of sustainable development, is the key to rational and responsible conservation and management of living marine resources***

GOAL 14

CONSERVE AND SUSTAINABLY USE THE OCEANS, SEAS AND MARINE RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

More at sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgsproposal



Protecting Marine resources in sustainable Way



1. Prevent and reduce all kinds of marine pollution.
2. Address and minimize ocean acidification through increased scientific cooperation from all levels.
3. Effective regulation of harvesting and stopping overfishing, unregulated, unreported and illegal fishing and also detrimental fishing practices.
4. Conserve roughly 10% of marine and coastal areas, in agreement with international and national law.
5. Improve research capacity; scientific knowledge and share marine technology to not only enhance ocean health but also to improve the role of marine resources in developing countries.
6. Ensure easy access for the small-scale fishers to markets and marine resources.
7. Increase the financial benefits to least developed nations and Small Island countries from using marine resources sustainably, including through better management of aquaculture, tourism, and fisheries.



Successful Fisheries Management



Has a least three dimensions:

- ❑ **Biological**: meeting sustainable use and protection objectives
- ❑ **Economic**: wealth and efficiency objectives
- ❑ **Social** :meeting equity objectives , both in terms of distribution and access

Require institutional capacity both:

- ❑ to define an appropriate balance between these parameters within management objectives;
- ❑ to implement and adapt these responsively over time





CONFLICTING AGENDAS on ocean governance and sustainability



- A) **Conservation for use:** seafood from sustainable harvest of living marine resources



- B) **Conservation for protection** – eventually with little or no room – even for sustainable fisheries – with some stakeholders constantly misinterpreting facts and spreading false information





COMMON HEADLINES FALSE MESSAGES TO THE PUBLIC



SOME EXAMPLES:

- "Most fish stocks are depleted or overfished"
- "Fisheries management has failed"
- "Marine protected areas is the only solution"
- "All commercial fish stocks will be gone in 2048"
- "Most large pelagic stocks depleted in the 1980-ies"





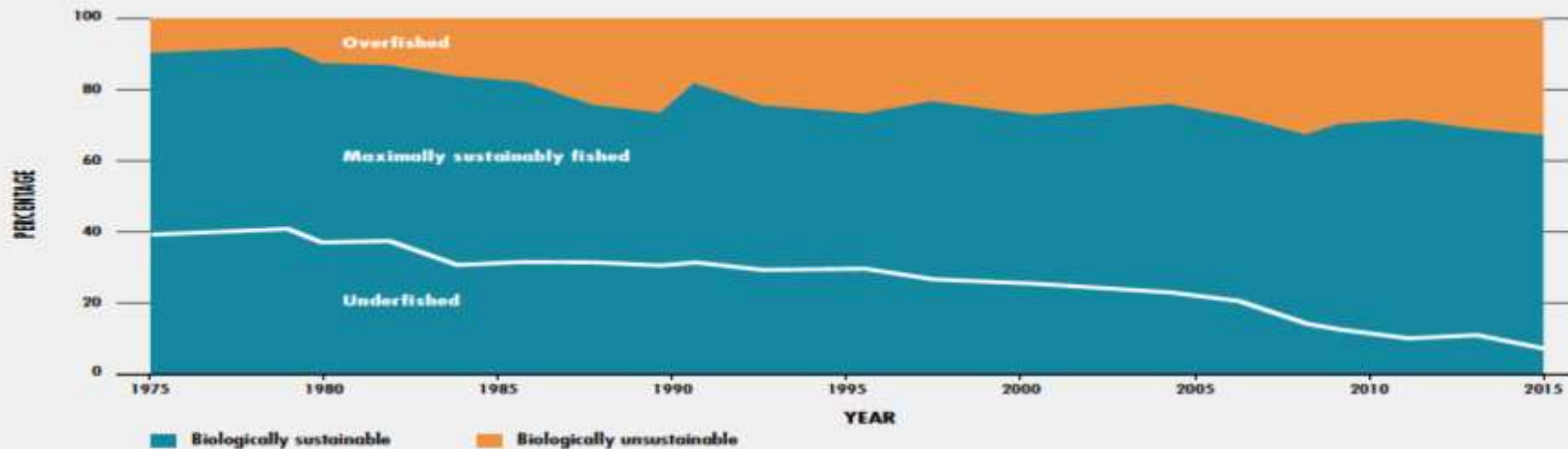
Different interpretations of the FAO/SOFIA-report



- ❑ GLOBAL STATUS OF FISH STOCKS:
 - ❑ 15% underexploited or moderately exploited
 - ❑ 53% fully exploited
 - ❑ 32% overexploited, depleted or recovering
- ❑ From a fisheries management perspective:
 - ❑ 68% of world fisheries are sustainable
- ❑ From a NGO perspective :
 - ❑ 85% of world fisheries in crisis/ not sustainable



FIGURE 14
GLOBAL TRENDS IN THE STATE OF THE WORLD'S MARINE FISH STOCKS, 1974–2015





ATLAFCO and Governance of fisheries in the area



- ❑ ATLAFCO actions are directed by the following **guiding principles**:
 - ❑ **Consistency with the spirit of the Constitutive Convention** and its provisions
 - ❑ Adoption of an integrated regional approach to solve common problems
 - ❑ **Coherent multi-level approach** between international, regional, and state levels
 - ❑ **Include sustainable fisheries** as a Sustainable Development Goal priority area



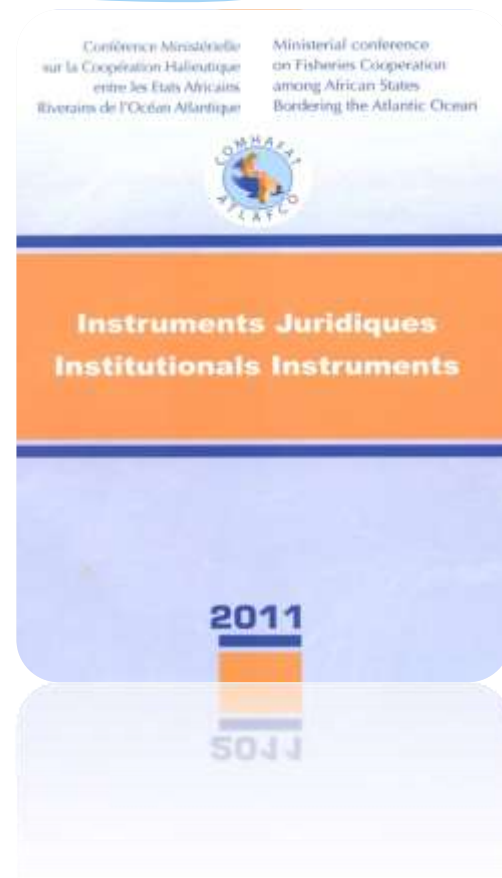


ATLAFCO Convention and sustainable use of marine resources



- ATLAFCO Convention provides a comprehensive legal framework for activities related to the Sustainable use of marine resources in line with SDG 14 , that include:
 - ✓ The conservation and management of fishery resources (**article.3**)
 - ✓ Assessment and conservation of highly migratory species (**article.4**)
 - ✓ Monitoring, surveillance and control of fishing vessels(**article.5**)
 - ✓ Marketing of fishery products(**article.7**)
 - ✓ Social conditions of fishermen(**article.9**)
 - ✓ Development of marine scientific research(**article,11**)
 - ✓ Harmonization of policies(**article.13**)

Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development





Encouraging implementation of international law instruments as reflected in UNCLOS



Enhancing the implementation of the relevant international law instruments

- Ensuring the Participation of MS in the international fisheries instances (CITES, ICCAT, IWC, COFI.....)
- Contributing effectively and sustainably to the incorporation of ATLAFCO' MS in the global framework for the governance of seas and oceans (Preparatory meetings)
- Promoting the adhesion of MS to the international fisheries instruments (initiation of the PSMA ratification process)



14.c Enhance the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law as reflected in UNCLOS



The achievement of sustainable use of marine resources



The achievement of sustainable use of marine resources requires strong cooperation and coordination at both regional and international levels:

Integrated Governance

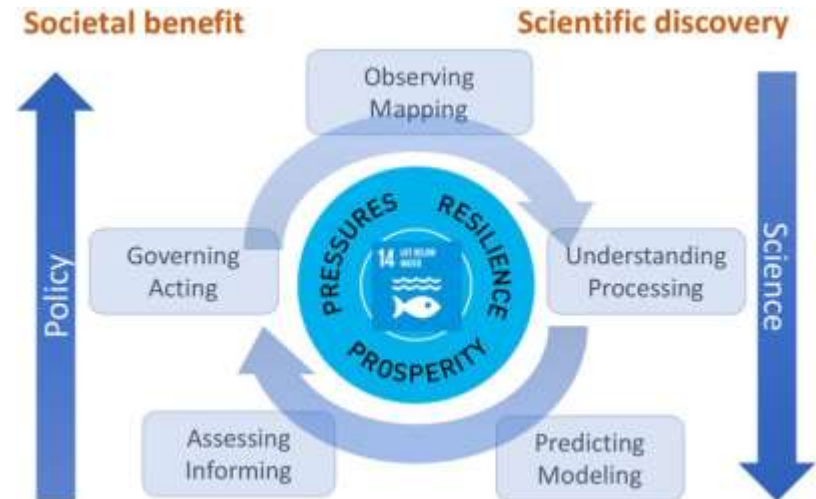
- ✓ Regional coordination mechanisms, MoU between the sub regional institutions operating in the area (ATLAFCO, SRFC, FCWC, COREP, REPAO, WADAF and Infopêche)
- ✓ Alignment to Pan African fisheries policy
- ✓ Partnership promotion (OFCE, LDAC, GFCM, ISSF, AU/IBAR)





Conclusions

- ❑ Fisheries: picture is not black nor white
- ❑ Sustainable fisheries management works
- ❑ Several major fish stocks are rebuilt and harvested sustainably
- ❑ Still many stocks to be rebuilt
- ❑ Stronger effort needed to correct false messages about fisheries - and in the development of the sustainability concept (by marine research institutions).





Recommendations

- ❑ Promoting collaboration for sustainable partnerships for **economic growth, poverty alleviation and conservation of the resources for the present and future generations through a multi sectoral approach**
- ❑ Strengthening **science and research to generate and disseminate evidence-based knowledge** and information on advancing the sustainable use of marine resources;
- ❑ Apply **relevant data and science to inform policy and decision-making**
- ❑ Strengthening **governance mechanisms** for a sustainable use of marine resources including by raising awareness and ensuring stakeholder participation in policy and decision making
- ❑ Ensure **responsible and sustainable fishing** to conserve the endangered species and high value fish stocks
- ❑ Adopt **sustainable practices** in fish production, wild-capture and aquaculture which are not only environmentally sound but also good for sustainable economic growth



Thank you for your valuable attention

GOAL 14: LIFE BELOW WATER

14 LIFE BELOW WATER



BY: MARGREET DE HEER

MOST OF THE PLANET'S SURFACE IS WATER! HERE'S WHAT WE MUST DO TO PROTECT THE OCEANS:



1. REDUCE AND PREVENT POLLUTION



2. PROTECT ECOSYSTEMS



3. END OVERFISHING AND ILLEGAL FISHING



4. HELP FISHING COMMUNITIES TO DEVELOP SUSTAINABLE FISHING PRACTICES



5. SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION

- TO INCREASE KNOWLEDGE
- TO IMPROVE TECHNOLOGIES
- TO MINIMIZE OCEAN ACIDIFICATION



6. MAKE AND MAINTAIN INTERNATIONAL LAWS AGREEMENTS

