

Overview of CBD Secretariat's work on marine and coastal biodiversity relevant to regional seas organizations



Convention on
Biological Diversity

CBD Secretariat
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CBD work on marine and coastal biodiversity

- **EBSAs** : Scientific assessment of inherent ecological and biological value of marine areas
- **Addressing impacts from various pressures/threats**
 - Unsustainable fishing practices
 - Marine debris
 - Anthropogenic underwater noise
 - Impacts of climate change
 - Ocean acidification
 - Ocean fertilization
 - Impacts from other human activities
 - Multiple stressors

CBD work on marine and coastal biodiversity

- Tools and guidelines to address impacts on marine biodiversity
 - EIA and SEA voluntary guidelines
 - MPAs
 - **Marine spatial planning**
 - Integrated marine and coastal management
 - EBSAs as a basis for applying the ecosystem approach
 - Guidance on addressing impacts from various threats
- Capacity building and partnerships : Sustainable Ocean Initiative
- Information-sharing mechanism
 - EBSA repository and information sharing mechanism
 - Marine spatial planning information sharing mechanism
 - SOI website
- Priority actions to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 10 for coral reefs and closely associated ecosystems (annex to decision XII/23, 2014)

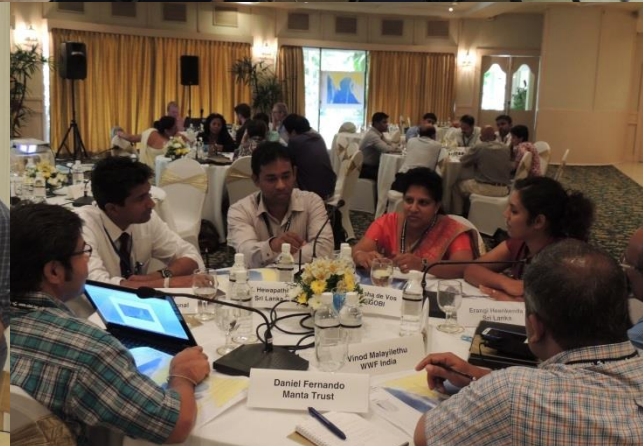
CBD scientific criteria for ecologically or biologically significant areas (EBSAs) (annex I, decision IX/20)

1. Uniqueness or Rarity
2. Special importance for life history stages of species
3. Importance for threatened, endangered or declining species and/or habitats
4. Vulnerability, Fragility, Sensitivity, or Slow recovery
5. Biological Productivity
6. Biological Diversity
7. Naturalness



CBD Process on Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs) through regional workshops

- Synthesis of best available scientific and technical information
- Expert scientific judgment on the application of EBSA criteria
- Description and mapping of areas that meet the EBSA criteria



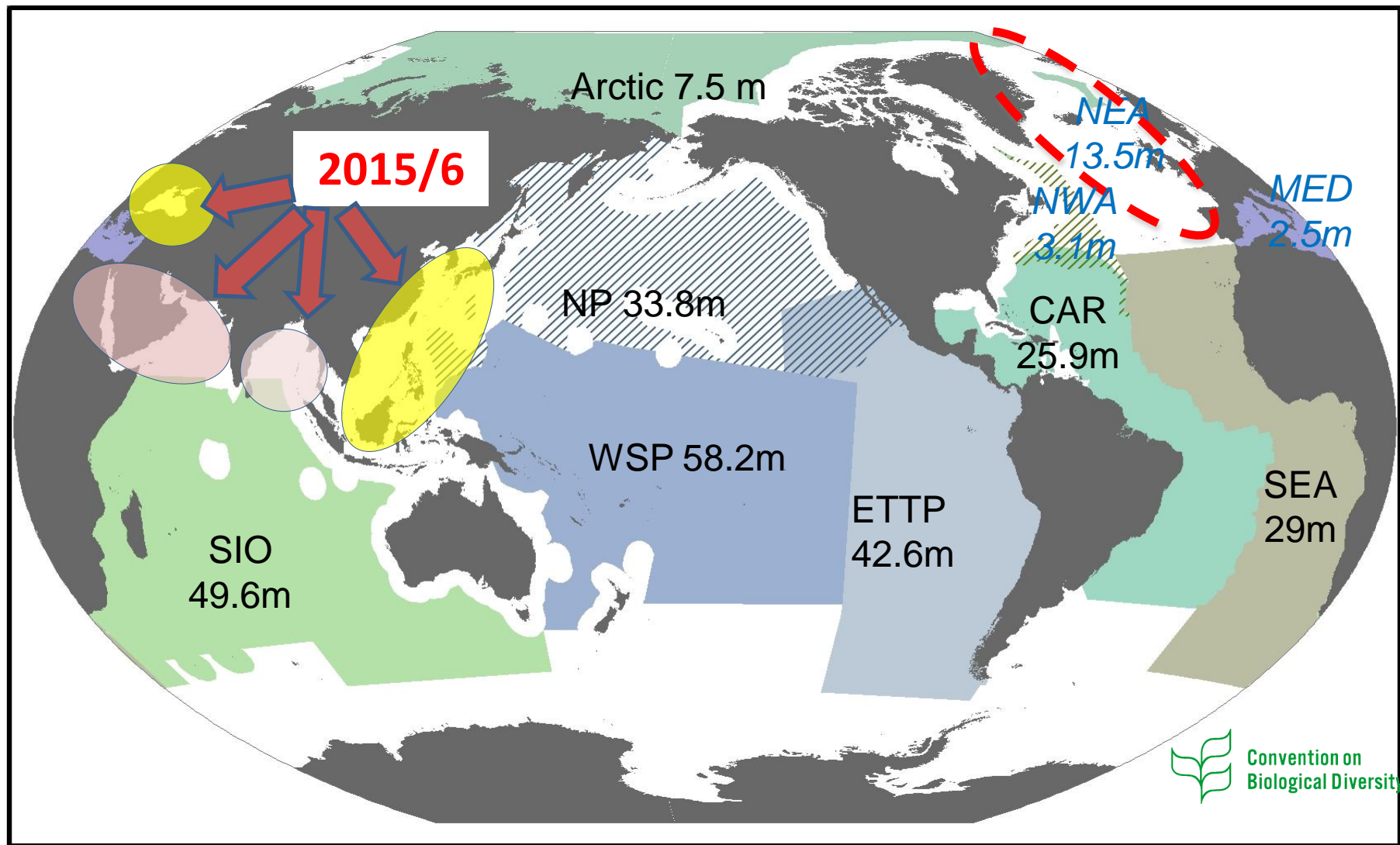
**CBD regional workshops on description of EBSAs
(decision X/29, para 36; decision XI/17, para 12)**

CBD Regional Workshop on EBSAs	Date	Host Country	No. of Countries involved	No. of Reg'l & Int'l Org involved
Western South Pacific (SPREP)				10
Wider Caribbean & Western Mid-Atlantic (CEP)				15
Southern Indian Ocean (Nairobi Convention)	July 2012	Mauritius	16	20
Eastern Tropical & Temperate Pacific (CPPS)	Aug 2012	Ecuador	12	12
North Pacific (NOWPAP)	October 2012	Canada	7	7
South-Eastern Atlantic (Abidjan Convention)	November 2012	Senegal	15	15
Arctic (Arctic Council Working Groups)	December 2012	Canada	13	13
North-west Atlantic	March 2014	Canada	2	4
Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention)	April 2014	Spain	21	16
North-east Indian Ocean (SACEP)	March 2015	Sri Lanka	5	8
North-west Indian Ocean (PERSGA, ROPME, SACEP)	April 2015	United Arab Emirates	14	17
Total			141	187

Summary Report submitted to UNGA as requested by COP 11, available as UNGA Document A/67/838

Summary Report submitted to UNGA as requested by COP 12, available as UNGA doc A/69/794

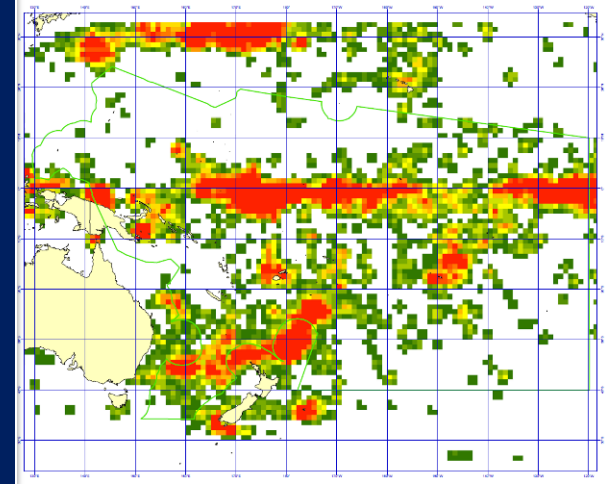
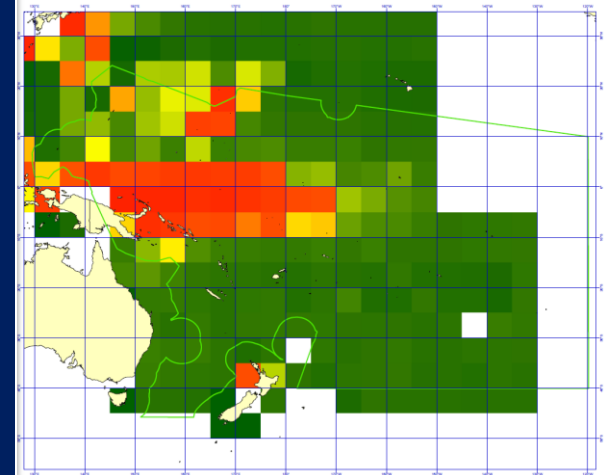
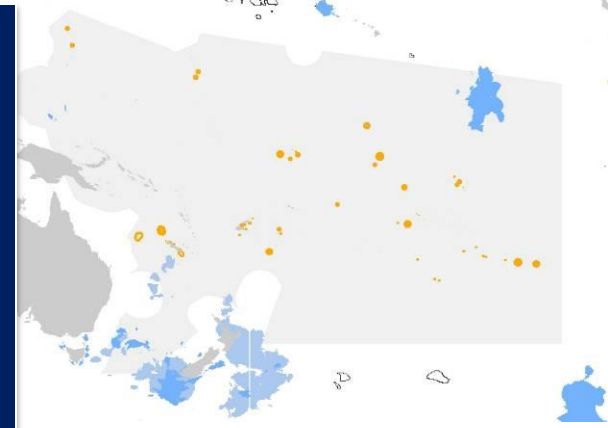
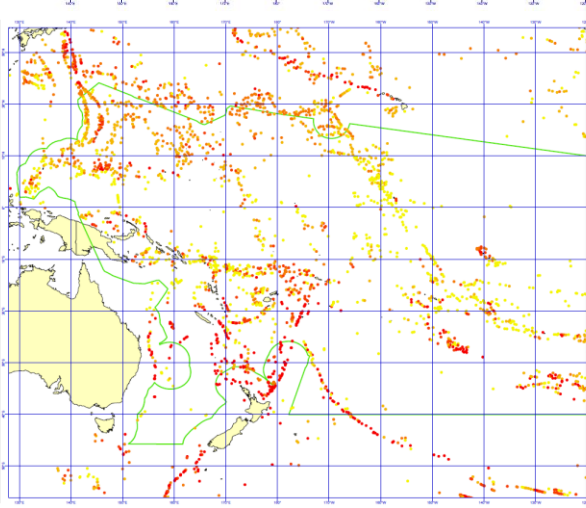
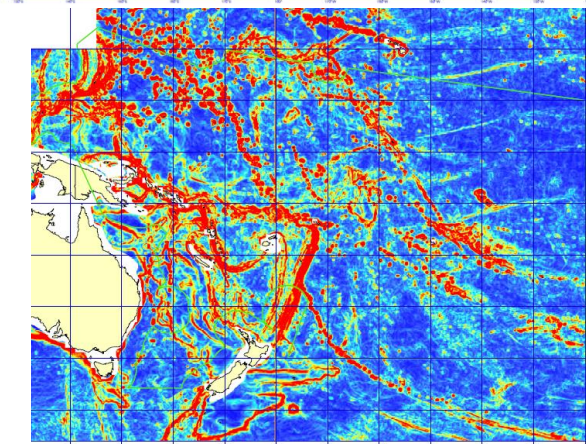
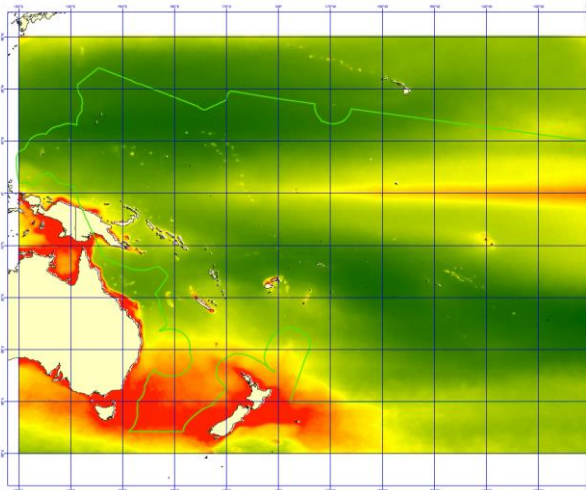
Ocean area covered by CBD EBSA regional workshops as well as relevant regional EBSA processes: 265.7 million sq.km



Data Collection/ Compilation/ Analysis/ Synthesis/ Mapping

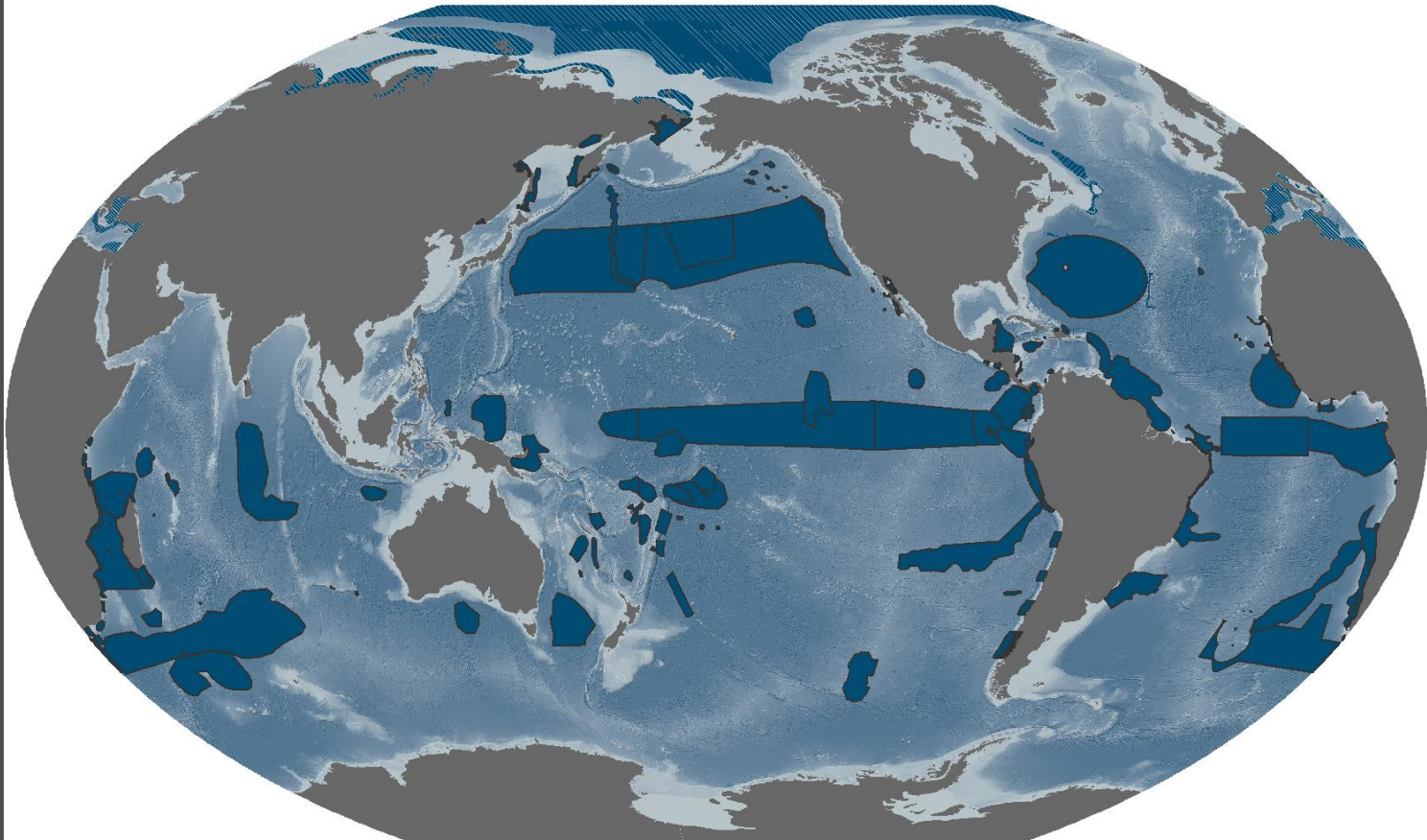
- 90-200 GIS data layers (including modelled interpretation)
- Physical oceanography
- Seafloor geology
- Deep sea coral
- Fisheries data
- Species diversity
- Birds, Turtles, whales

Ex. Western South Pacific
EBSA workshop



Areas meeting CBD Scientific Criteria for Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs, annex 1 to decision IX/20) :

204 areas (out of 207 areas described) considered and decided by COP 11 N(47 areas) and 12 (157 areas) for inclusion in the repository and submission to UNGA



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Additional Workshops in Remaining Regions and EBSA future options

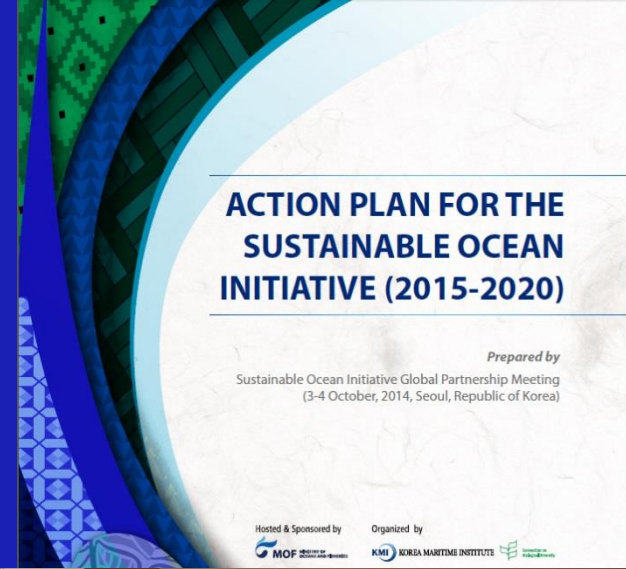
• **Additional workshops**

- Seas of East Asia region (Xiamen, China, 14-18 Dec, 2015)
- Black Sea/Caspian Sea region (TBD)

• **Future approaches for enhancing EBSA process (CBD Notification Ref No 2015-113)**

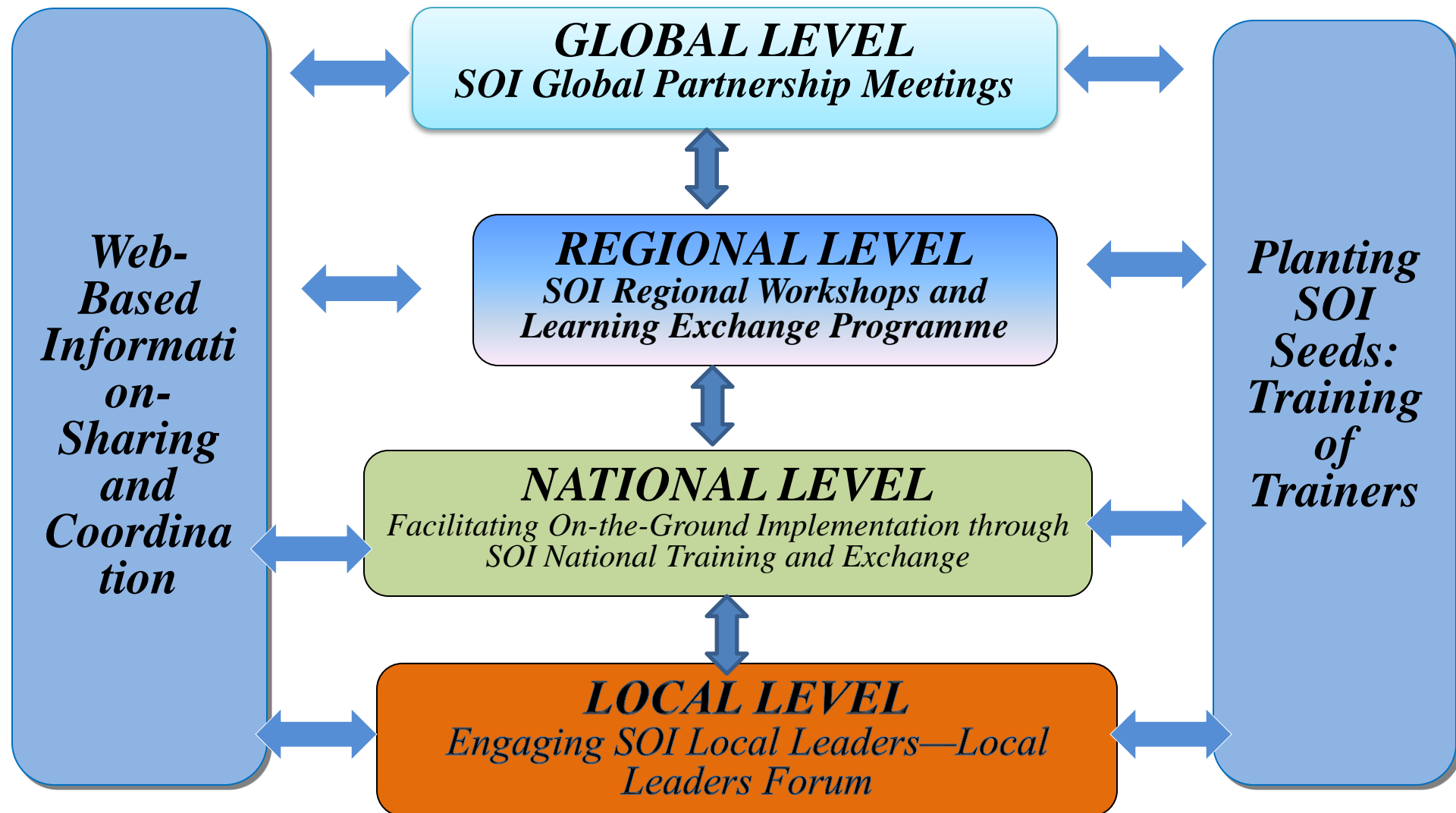
- Inputs, methodological approaches and outputs of previous regional EBSA workshops
- Types of information used to describe areas meeting the EBSA criteria;
- Insights from other experiences in applying the EBSA criteria or other relevant compatible and complementary nationally or intergovernmentally agreed scientific criteria, including through national-level exercises
- Ways in which information compiled, analyzed and synthesized for the regional EBSA workshops has been used for research, planning and/or management purposes, and insights and lessons learned from these experiences
- Categorizing different types of areas described to meet the EBSA criteria, considering how the information used to describe these areas would be useful to different groups of stakeholders and for different research, planning and management purposes;
- Incorporating new scientific data, including traditional knowledge, into previous EBSA descriptions where new information has become available;
- Considerations that may be taken into account when applying the criteria in different types of systems (e.g. frontal zones, upwelling zones, gyres, seamounts)

Action Plan for the Sustainable Ocean Initiative (2015-2020)



SOI Action Plan 2015-2020

*Framework of facilitating implementation
and partnership*





Global Level :

- **UN-Ocean Members** (FAO, UNEP, IOC/UNESCO, etc)
- **Other global organizations/initiatives** (IUCN-CEM-FEG, GOBI, Monaco Blue Initiative, GLISPA, etc)

Regional Level:

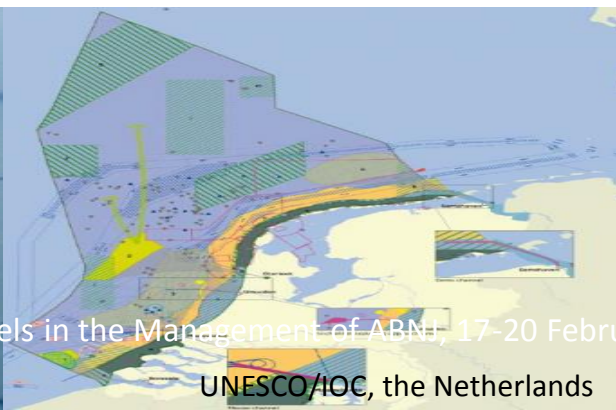
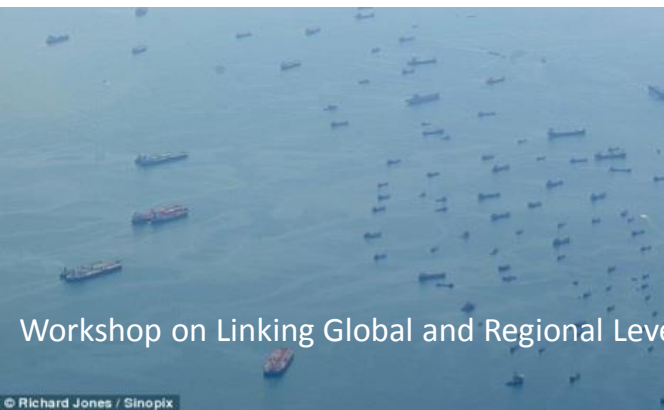
- **Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans** (Abidjan Convention, Nairobi Convention, SPREP, CPPS, CEP, COBSEA, NOWPAP, etc)
- **Regional Fisheries Management Organizations/Bodies**
- **LMEs** (PEMSEA, Benguella Current Commission, Canary Current LME, The Agulhas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystem Programme (ASCLMEs), etc)

National Institutions:

- CSIRO (Australia), French MPA Agency (France), KMI/KOEM/KIOSK (Korea), Sophia University/Tokyo University (Japan), etc

SOI : Regional and Global-level Capacity Building Activities

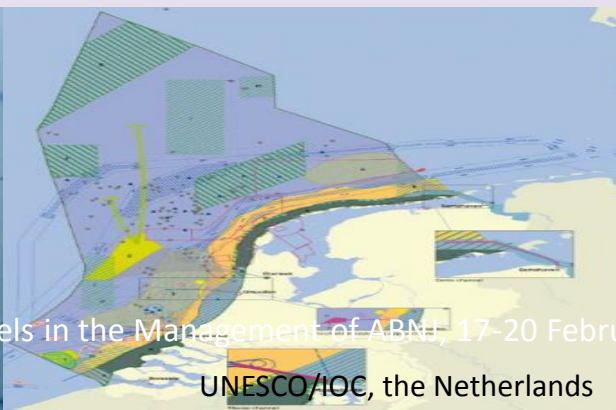
- ❑ Capacity Building Regional Workshop for West Africa (Feb 2013, Senegal), Asia (Dec 2013, China) and South America (Feb 2015, Peru)
- ❑ Training of the Trainers (June 2015, RO Korea)
- ❑ SOI National Trainings for Samoa (Sep 2015) and Namibia (Oct 2015)
- ❑ Capacity Building Regional Workshop for East Africa (Jan 2016)
- ❑ Capacity Building Regional Workshop for South Pacific (June 2016)
- ❑ SOI Global Meeting to facilitate collaboration between RSOs and RFMBs (Sep 2016)
- ❑ Capacity Building Regional Workshop for Caribbean (Oct 2016)



Workshop on Linking Global and Regional Levels in the Management of ABNJ, 17-20 February 2015, FAO Rome

Set of Themes for SOI Capacity Building Activities

- ❑ Integrated implementation of Aichi Biodiversity Targets in marine and coastal areas
- ❑ EBSAs/Value of Marine Biodiversity
- ❑ Integrated marine and coastal area management
- ❑ Marine Spatial Planning
- ❑ Ecosystem approach to Fisheries (provided by FAO)
- ❑ Marine and Coastal Protected Areas
- ❑ Environmental Impact Assessment/Strategic Environmental Assessment



Workshop on Linking Global and Regional Levels in the Management of ABNJ, 17-20 February 2015, FAO Rome

UNESCO/IOC, the Netherlands

Photo courtesy of Mark Conlin/NMFS