Colliding Trends and Overwhelming Odds

Professor Larry Hildebrand

World Maritime University Malmö, Sweden

UNEP-EC Workshop on Area-based Management & Regional Cooperation Brussels, February 9 & 10, 2017

Developments in ICOM

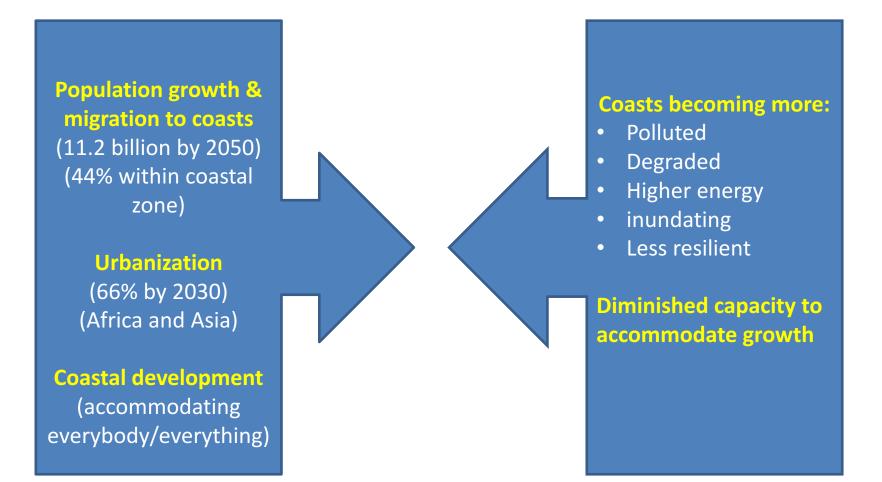
- We're learning a lot from practice
- What works, what doesn't and increasingly, WHY
- We are applying the lessons learned as we can
- But, still many <u>barriers/shortcomings</u> to <u>implementation</u>

WHY?

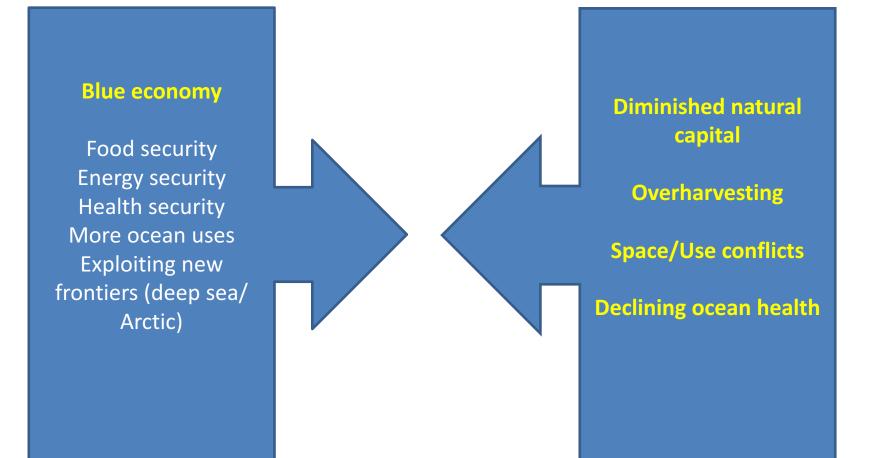
 Are there prevailing attitudes, trends and dynamics that are <u>overwhelming us</u> and <u>defeating our best efforts</u>?

Are these factors <u>beyond our capacity</u> (and <u>will</u>) to respond?

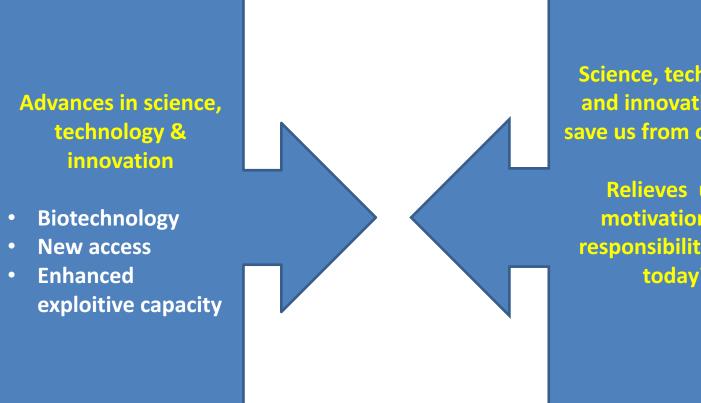
Population & Development vs. Coastal degradation



Blue economy vs. Sick Ocean



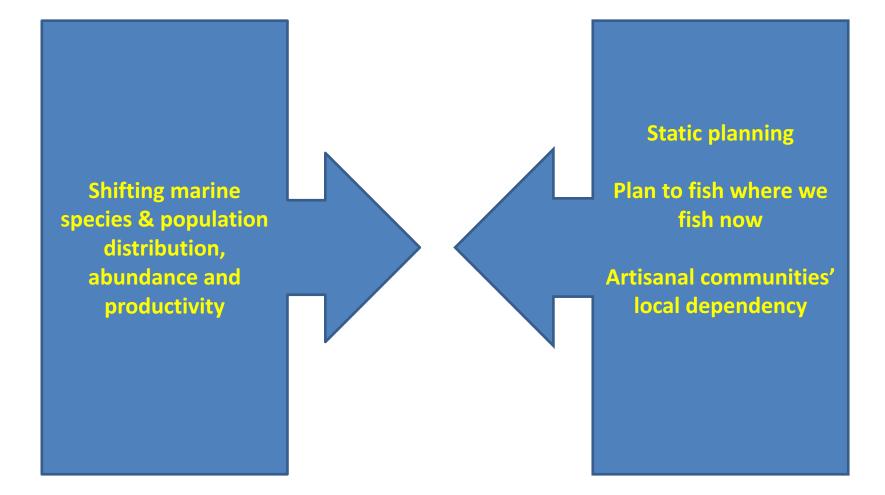
Science, technology & innovation



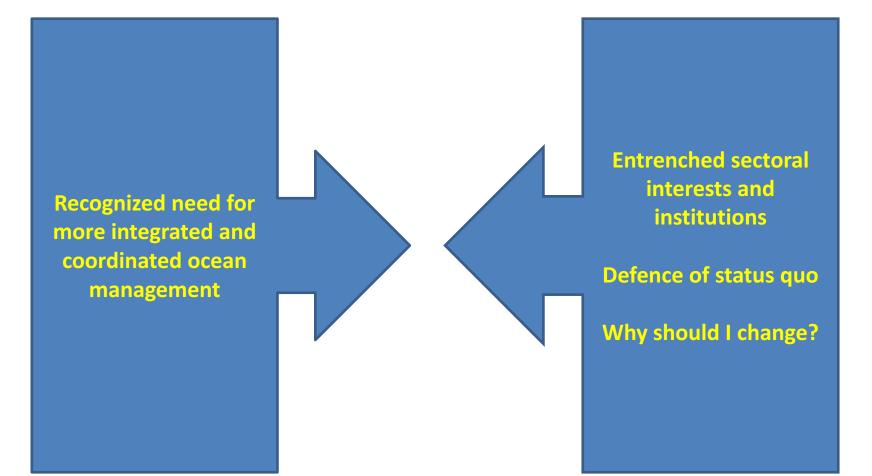
Science, technology and innovation will save us from ourselves

Relieves us of motivation and responsibility to act today?

Shifting ecosystems & Static management



Sectoral vs. Integrated Approaches



Barriers to effective implementation

 If ICOM is presented only as <u>short-term costs</u> and <u>restrictions</u>, and <u>vague promises of long-</u> <u>term benefit</u>, what is the motivation for ocean stakeholders to participate?

 Particularly <u>those that are doing well under</u> present sectoral conditions

What's in it for me?

• Most perceptions/reactions to invitations to participate in ICOM met with:

- <u>Nations</u>: how will this advance our economic and social priorities?
- <u>Government Ministries</u>: how will this advance my mandated objectives
- <u>Ocean industries</u>: will ICOM bring more predictable governance and ensure access rights?