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Ocean changes with carbon emissions



- Ocean warming has more than doubled;
- Marine heatwaves have doubled in frequency;
- Ocean acidification is intensifying as more CO₂, is absorbed;
- Oxygen minimum zones expanded by 3-8%;
- Arctic sea ice will disappear once every three years under 2 °C global warming;
- Sea level rise could reach up to > 1m.

IPCC (2019) SROCC SPM

Observed regional hazards and impacts in the ocean

		Arctic	EBUS 1	North Atlantic	North Pacific	South Atlantic	South Pacific	Southern Ocean	Indian Ocean	Tropical Atlantic	Indian Ocean	Tropical Pacific	Physical changes
	Temperature Physical Oxygen												increase decrease
Attributed to		2				•					•		
Greenhouse	Changes Ocean pH												increase and decrease
Gases	Sea ice extent Sea level			1. 3		1		-					Systems positive negative positive and negative Attribution confidence
		•											
Attributed to Climate Change	Upper water column Coral Coastal wetlands Ecosystems Kelp forest Rocky shores Deep sea Polar benthos Sea ice-associated										•		
				•									
			-										
						•	2.02					•	
		3									2		eee high
													•• medium
				2 8		2 B					1		 low
	Human systems Fisheries and ecosystem Tourism services Habitat services				1.	•		-	12.00				no assessment
			•	1		1	•	•	•	•	9	•	
			•										
	Transportation/shipping					1 2							
	Cultural services			•									
	Coastal carbon sequestration									٠			

Eastern Boundary Upwelling Systems (Benguela Current, Canary Current, California Current, and Humboldt Current); (Box 5.3)

INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE Change

CC



Future risks for ocean and coastal ecosystems



Warm water Coral Reefs Vulnerable Ecosystems identified in AR5, SR1.5, SROCC



Projected loss of 1/5 of total marine animal biomass in the global ocean



Ensemble of 10 climate-living marine resources models

Driven largely by ocean warming and decrease in net primary production.

Bindoff, Cheung et al. (2019) SROCC Chapter 5

Projecting impacts in the ocean

Changing ocean

conditions



IPCC (2019) SROCC SPM

IPCC SROCC: widespread climate- impacts and risks for the tropics to poles and people worldwide

	Changes ir	n the ocean &	cryosphere	Oth	er human imp	oacts	Resulting consequences Ecological Economical Human wellbeing			
	Ocean war Extreme storn	ming Ocean ac n events Ocean-	idification deoxygenation	Pollution	Sedimentation Other impacts	Extraction				
Coral reefs					and the		-	Yield	2	
	Coral bleaching	Erosion in coral reef structure	Storm damage	Algal proliferation	(blast) fishing	Smothering & burial of coral polyps	Loss of habitat / biodiversity	Reduced fishing yields	Loss of coastal protection	
Polar seas		5	0				# 50%	● \$ ₹		
	Loss of sea ice / habitat	Range changes due to warming	Changes in primary production	Accumulation of Persistent Organic Pollutants	Seabed mining	Industrial fishing	Loss of charismatic mega species	Increased traffic / reduced cost of transport	Reduced nutritional health for indigenous populations	
Fisheries	3	80	N K		The second	Solu		Costs	*	
	Species migrations / invasions	Erosion in shell-building organisms	Size reductions	Fish mortalities	Overfishing	Coastal development	Ecological disruption	Higher operation costs	Target fisheries changes	

IPCC (2019) FAQ Chapter 5

Impacts on sustainable development goals (SDGs)



Climate change impacts on marine ecosystem services reduce the society's ability to achieve most other sustainable development goals.

Bindoff, Cheung et al. (2019) SROCC Chapter 5

Our ocean and cryosphere – They sustain us. They are under pressure. Their changes affect all our lives.

The time for action is now.





WMO

Wide-range of ocean-based response options are available

- Supported by protection, restoration, precautionary ecosystem-based management of renewable resource use, reduction of pollution and other stressors
- Moderate to high benefits to local climate-risk reduction
- High/very high co-benefits and low trade-offs.



Bindoff et al. (2019) SROCC Chapter 5

Specific policy responses in the context of adaptation and nature-based solutions (including "blue carbon")



Ahram et al. (2019) SROCC Chapter 1

Restoration of vegetated coastal ecosystems

- Could increase carbon uptake and storage of ~0.5% of current global emissions annually;
- Co-benefits: providing storm protection, improving water quality, benefiting biodiversity and fisheries.



Bindoff et al. (2019) SROCC Chapter 5

Ecosystem-based management can help improve climateresilient e.g., the high seas



Marine conservation priorities under climate change

- Climate sensitive ecosystems e.g., coral reefs, kelp forest and region: tropical ocean
- Wide range of ocean-based solution options are available many with high cobenefits;
- Key challenges: time-scale, boundaries (e.g. jurisdictional/sectoral), and barriers/limits to adaptation;
- Most adaptation options are only effective under low greenhouse gas emission scenarios ultimately, global-scale solution requires transformative changes.

Challenges of policy responses

Time-scale mis-match:

- Impacts operate on time horizons longer than those of governance arrangements;
- Earlier emergence of some climate hazards and risks challenges the longer time-frame of designing and implementing policies;
- Scope and benefits of climate responses effectives reduce higher greenhouse gas emission and delayed responses
- Barriers and limits to adaptation;
- Financial, technological, institutional etc.;
- Space, non-climatic drivers, lowering of adaptive capacity, slow inherent response rate.

SROCC: Knowledge for action

- Highlights the urgency of prioritizing timely, ambitious and coordinated action to address widespread and enduring changes in the ocean and cryosphere
- Shows that protecting and restoring ecosystems and careful management of natural resources can reduce risks and provide multiple societal benefits
- Empowers people, communities and governments to tackle the unprecedented transitions in all aspects of society
- Provides evidence of the benefits of combining scientific with local and indigenous knowledge
- Focuses, for the first time, on the importance of education and climate literacy



The more decisively and earlier we act, the more able we will be to address unavoidable changes, manage risks, improve our lives and achieve sustainability for ecosystems and people around the world – today and in the future.



Thank you





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