



Ocean Health Index 2016: Global scores, SDGs and #LME18

Author: Johanna Polsenberg - @polsenberg
Institution: Conservation International

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Based Management
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@OceanHealthIndx



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- **Introduction to the Ocean Health Index**
- **The 2016 global ocean health assessment**
- **How the OHI can help meet SDG targets and support the LME approach**



a **HEALTHY OCEAN**

sustainably delivers a range of
benefits to people both now
and in the future



Food Provision

harvesting and producing seafood sustainably



Artisanal Fishing Opportunity

ensuring food for local communities



Natural Products

harvesting non-food ocean resources sustainably



Carbon Storage

preserving habitats that absorb carbon



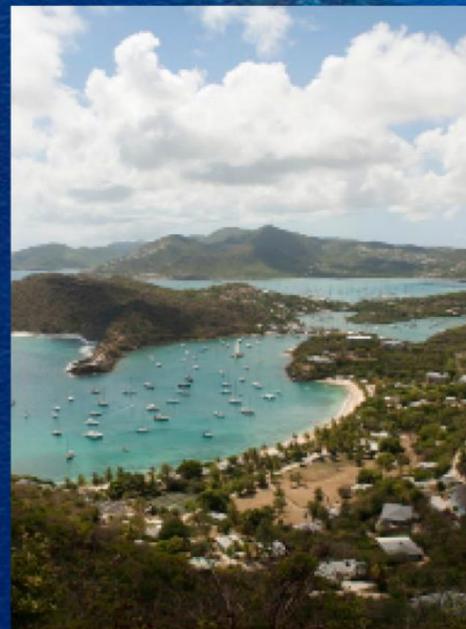
Coastal Protection

preserving habitats that safeguard shores



Livelihoods & Economies

sustaining jobs, wages, and revenues of coastal economies



Tourism & Recreation

maintaining the attraction of coastal destinations



Sense of Place

protecting iconic species and special places



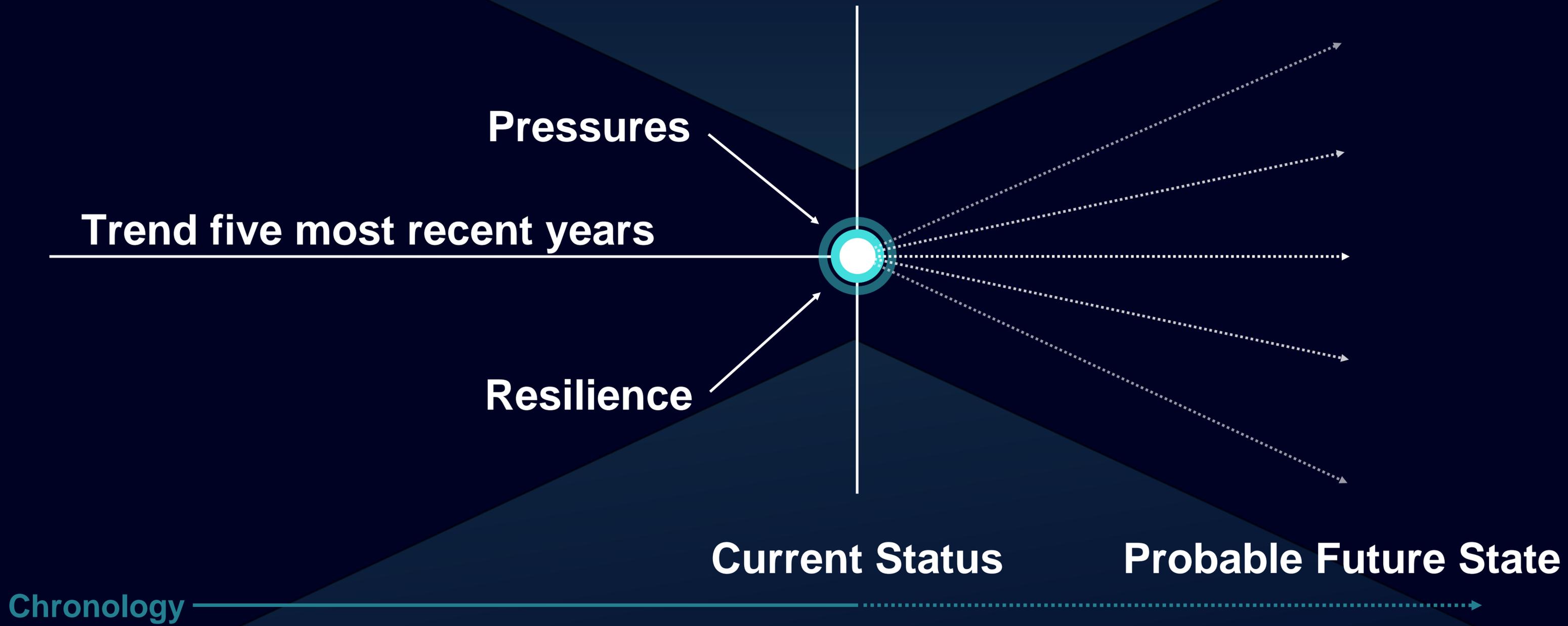
Clean Waters

minimizing pollution



Biodiversity

supporting the health of marine ecosystems and species



TWO SCALES

global
assessment



Study area: Globe



Region: Countries

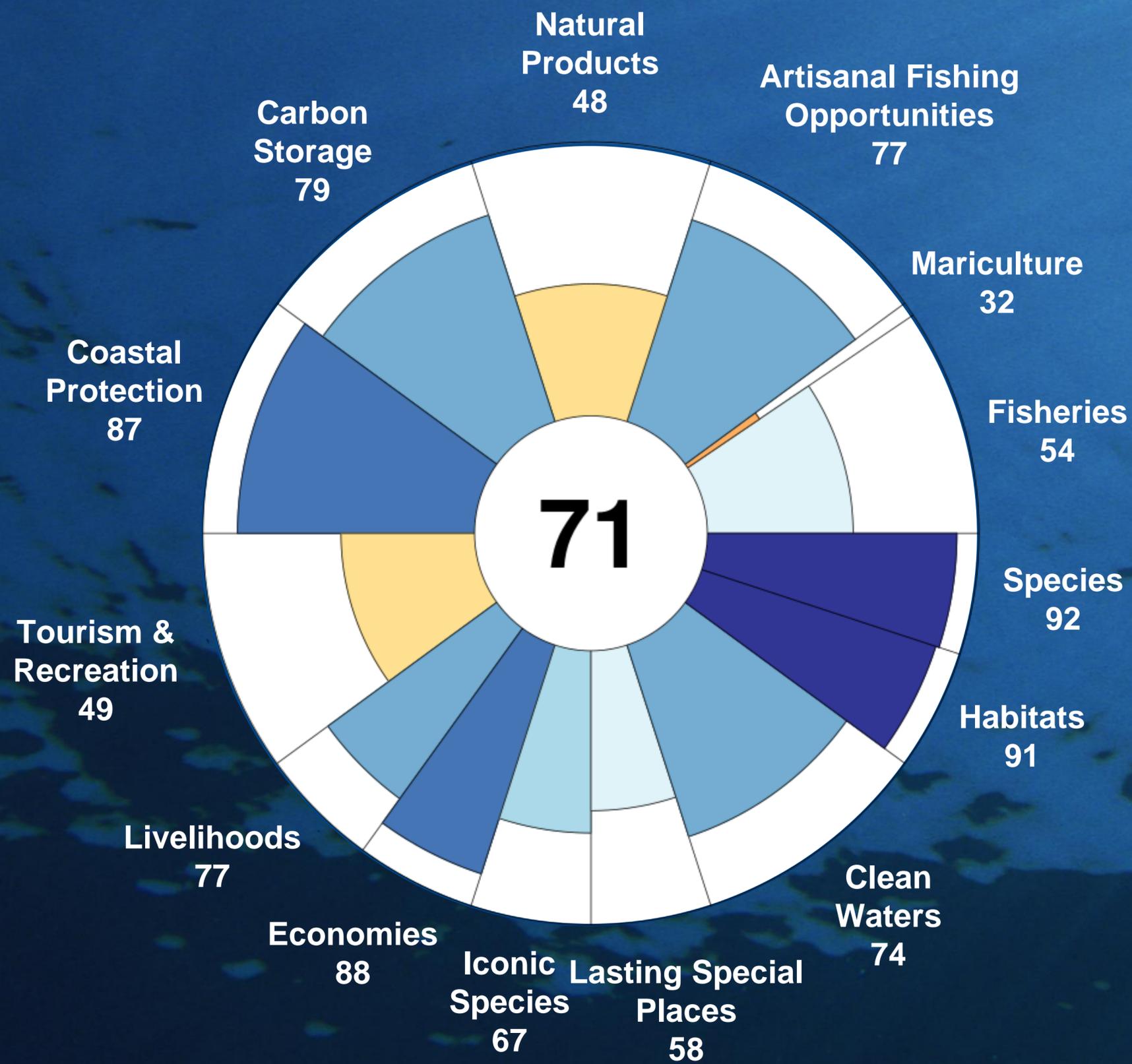
regional, national
and subnational
independent
assessments



Study area: Country



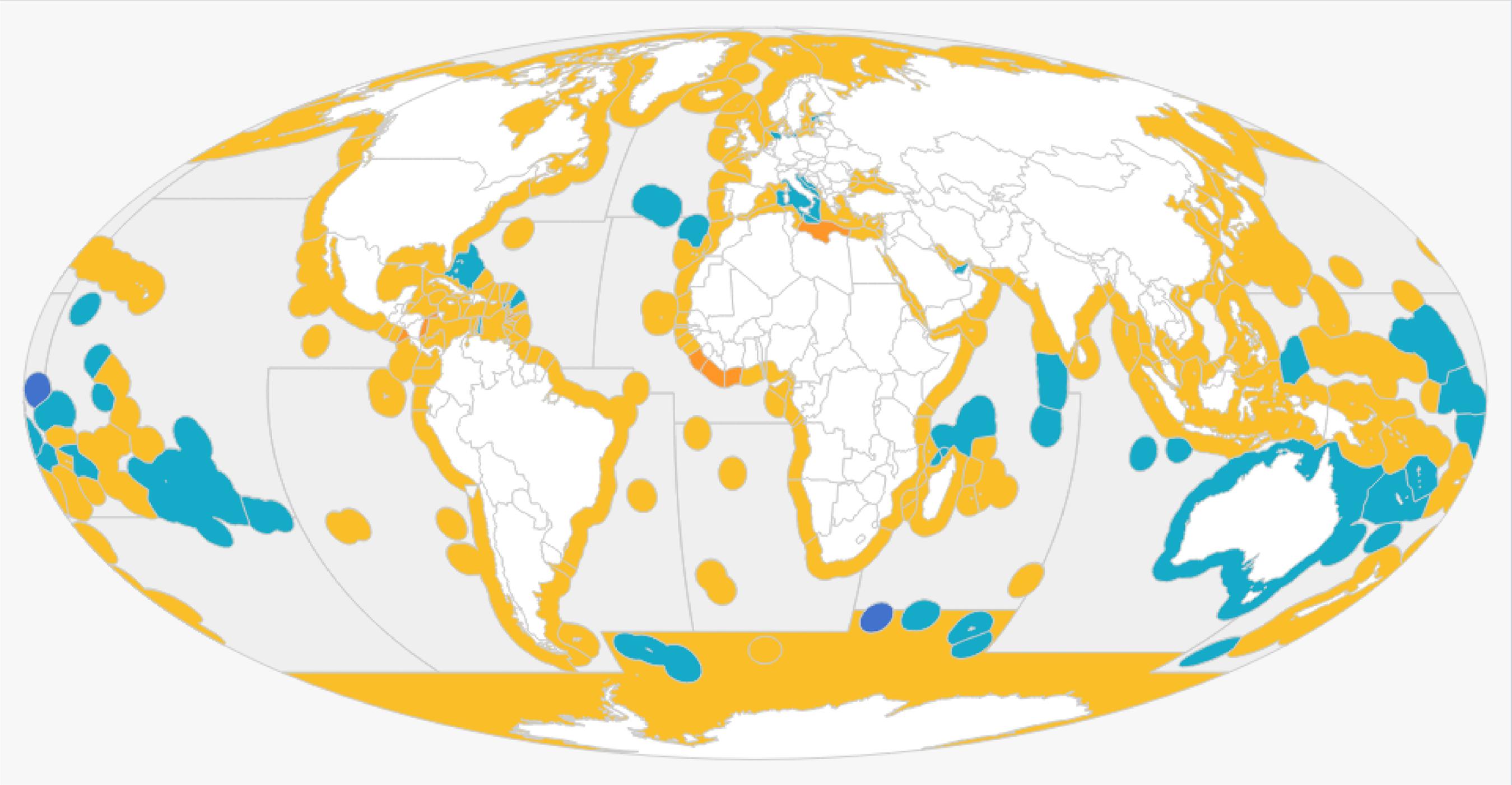
Region: States



2016 Global Ocean Health Index

People

Global ocean health

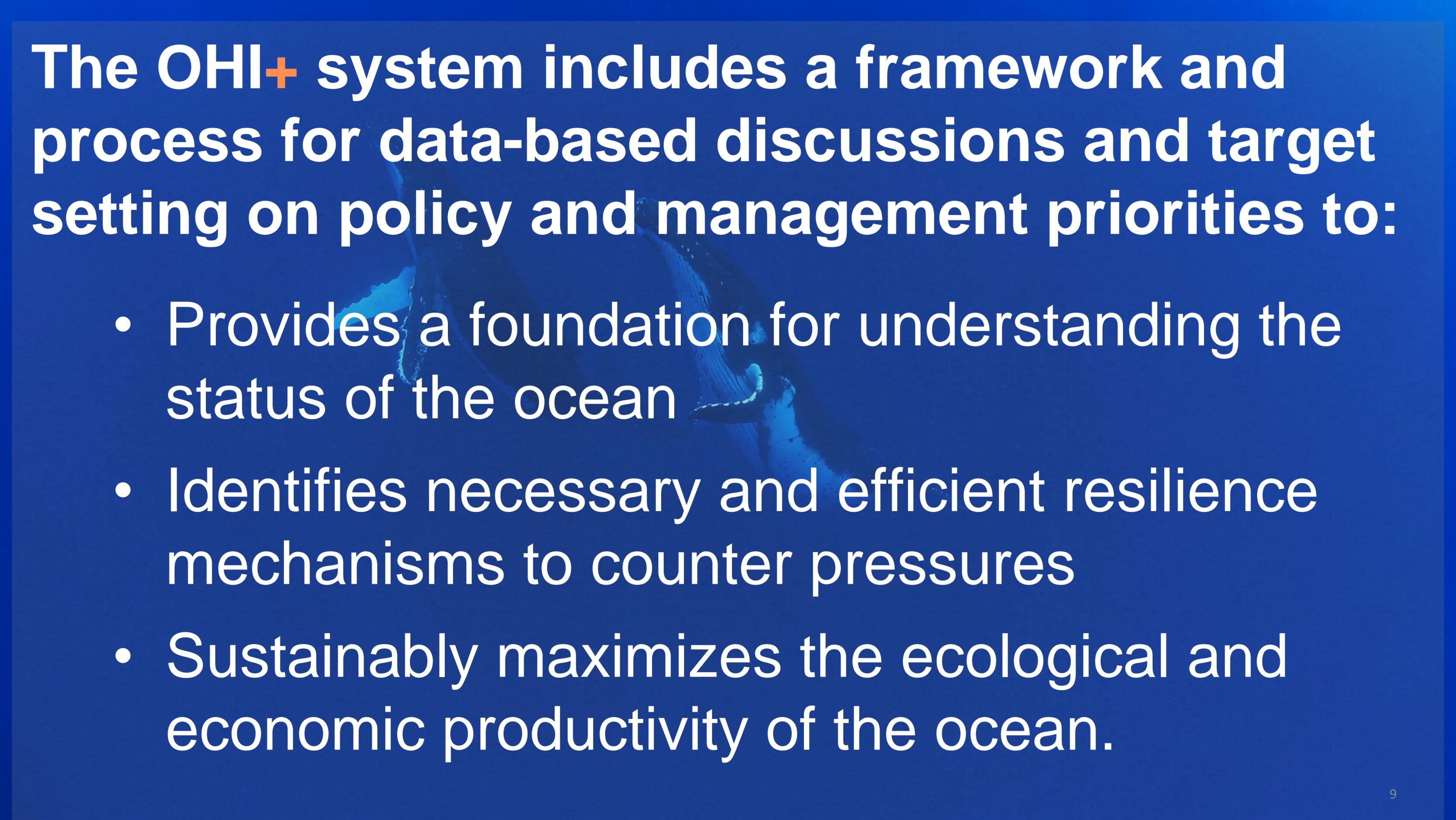


Ocean Health Index+

+ = independent assessment

- At the politically relevant scales at which decisions are made
- Customized by stakeholders to meet local management targets
- Balance the needs of people, economic development and the ecosystem



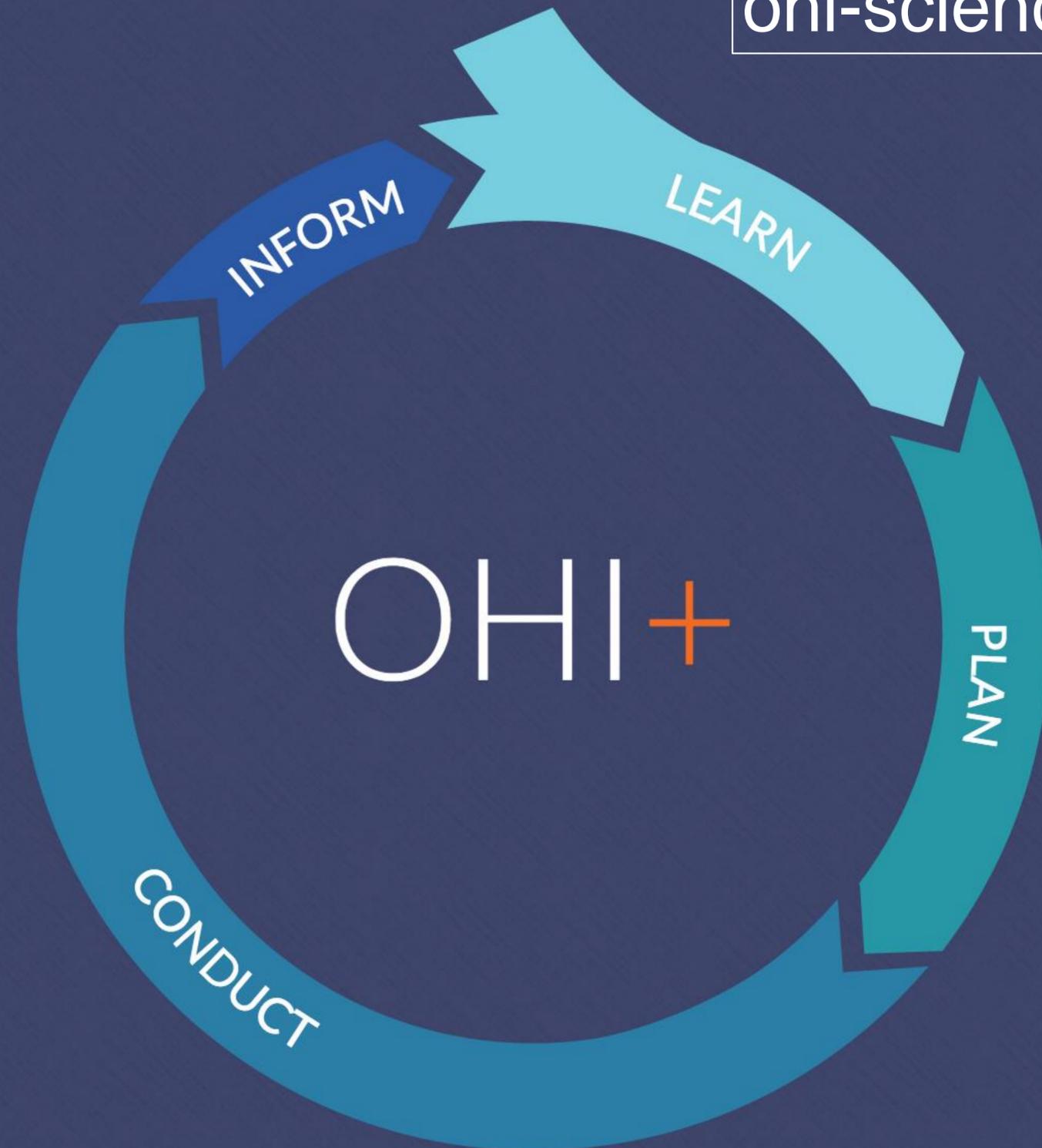


The OHI+ system includes a framework and process for data-based discussions and target setting on policy and management priorities to:

- Provides a foundation for understanding the status of the ocean
- Identifies necessary and efficient resilience mechanisms to counter pressures
- Sustainably maximizes the ecological and economic productivity of the ocean.

OHI+ Assessment Process

ohi-science.org



Phases of an OHI+ Assessment

OHI+ assessments have four iterative and repeated phases:

- 1) Learn about the Ocean Health Index and whether it is the right tool for the context
- 2) Plan the assessment by building a team and developing a timeline
- 3) Conduct the assessment by tailoring the OHI framework and calculating scores using the OHI Toolbox
- 4) Inform policy and future assessments by sharing both scores and what was learned during the process. Assessments are most useful when they are repeated through time to understand changes in ocean health and integrated into continuous decision-making processes for adaptive management.

Hover over each phase to learn more.

Ocean Health Index Applications

- **Developing national ocean management strategies** to balance actions in multiple sectors [China, Mexico, Colombia, Madagascar, Gulf of Guayaquil]
- **Aggregating** national actions within regional strategies [Baltic Sea, Pacific Oceanscape, Canada]
- Conveying the **aggregate benefit of oceans** and providing a **scientifically-rigorous framework** for **Blue Economy** guidelines & requirements [Hawai'i]
- Supporting sustainable fisheries in the **GEF Coastal Fisheries Initiative** [Peru, Ecuador]
- Operationalizing **SDG Target 14.2** and contributing to at least seven other **SDG#14** targets and many of the other 16 goals.
- Assessing planning effectiveness within a Regional Ocean Plan [USA] and developing management plans for new MPAs [New Caledonia]



BRIEFING ROOM

ISSUES

THE ADMINISTRATION

PARTICIPATE

1600 PENN



HOME · BLOG

The Nation's First Ocean Plans

DECEMBER 7, 2016 AT 9:02 AM ET BY [CHRISTY GOLDFUSS](#), [JOHN P. HOLDREN](#)



Summary: Today, the National Ocean Council is releasing the Nation's first ocean plans—a historic collaboration among states, tribes, Federal agencies, and ocean stakeholders.

Today, the National Ocean Council (NOC) finalized the Nation's first ocean plans, taking a historic step toward fulfilling President Obama's commitment to healthy ocean ecosystems and a strong, sustainable marine economy. The two regional plans, the *Northeast Ocean Plan* and the *Mid-Atlantic Ocean Action Plan*, promote the use of integrated ocean data and best practices for informed and efficient management of the Nation's shared marine resources. This approach is designed to work across all levels of government and to advance economic, environmental, and cultural priorities within each region. In addition to years of historic collaboration among states, tribes, Federal agencies, and Fishery Management Councils, the Plans are a result of extensive participation and input from marine stakeholders representing fishing, recreation, energy, transportation, telecommunications, and many other interests.

NORTHEAST REGIONAL PLANNING BODY

SIX STATES

- Connecticut
- Rhode Island
- Massachusetts
- New Hampshire
- Maine
- Vermont

SIX FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBES

- Aroostook Band of Micmacs
- Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians
- Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council
- Mohegan Indian Tribe of Connecticut
- Narragansett Indian Tribe of Rhode Island
- Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)

NINE FEDERAL AGENCIES

- Joint Chiefs of Staff
- US Department of Agriculture
- US Department of Commerce
- US Department of Defense
- US Department of Energy
- US Department of Homeland Security
- US Department of the Interior
- US Department of Transportation
- US Environmental Protection Agency

NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

- New York
- Canada

The RPB identified the Ocean Health Index (OHI) as a tool that can help meet its intention for monitoring and evaluating ecosystem health.¹³ The OHI considers the physical, biological, economic, and social elements of the ocean and the coastal communities who depend on it; uses available data to analyze and score aspects of each element; and provides various ways of summarizing and communicating its results. The OHI relies upon existing data to provide a baseline for future comparisons.





@OceanHealthIndx



@ConservationOrg

Johanna Polsenberg
Ocean Governance and Policy Group
Conservation International

oceanhealthindex.org & ohi-science.org

jpolsenberg@conservation.org

@polsenberg

