The Cartagena Convention: A Caribbean Ocean Governance Framework

Delivery of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Enhancing Ocean Governance in the Caribbean Region Symposium

Authors: Lorna Inniss,

Anatomy of my Presentation

- Relationship between the ocean and Caribbean people
- Benefits of the ocean to humans
- Impact of humans on the ocean
- The Cartagena Convention and its Protocols
- Mechanism, forum, platform, framework
- How they do these things? Projects designed to deliver
- Some guiding principles – capacity to develop and/or protect
- Future: SDG Implementation, Blue Growth, Blue economy

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MAPPING OCEAN WEALTH

Coastal communities receive multiple benefits from ocean habitats, such as coastal protection, fish production and tourism opportunities.

By valuing nature in decisions:

The private sector can invest in sustainable projects with long term benefits.

Engineers can incorporate natural solutions into coastal infrastructure projects.

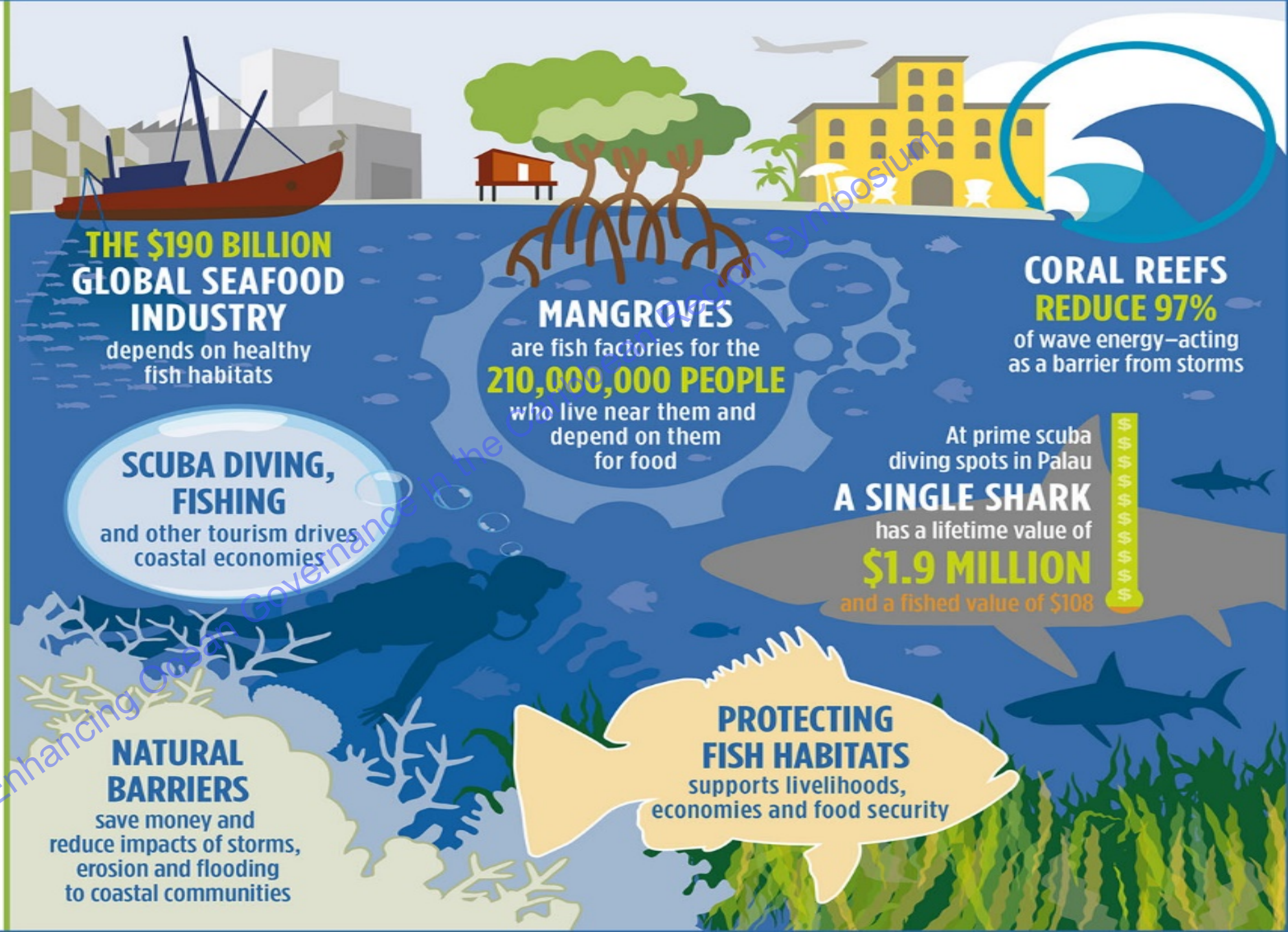
Governments can develop ocean-use plans and better manage fisheries.

Development agencies can invest in nature to actively reduce poverty and increase our resilience to climate change.

Conservation groups can maximize the benefits from coastal restoration projects.

oceanwealth.org @ocean_wealth

The Nature Conservancy
Protecting nature. Preserving life.



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Distribution of Ocean Benefits

1. Changes in fish and seafood: lower consumption in poorer areas: diversion to richer areas
2. Employment and income from fisheries
3. Maritime transport
4. Changes in universal benefits
5. Offshore energy
6. Tourism
7. Offshore mining
8. Marine genetic material

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Main Themes (1)

A. Manifold problems linked to climate change and linked issues
B. Marine biota – higher mortality, lower reproductive success
C. Food security and safety is at risk
D. Biodiversity hotspots are magnets for human activities
E. Increased and conflicting demands for ocean space

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Main Themes (2)

F. Excessive inputs of harmful material
G. Cumulative impacts are key issue
H. Uneven distribution of benefits from the ocean
I. Integrated management is essential – and that needs more and better information
J. Lack of knowledge about integration should not lead to delay in implementing known solutions

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A. Climate Change

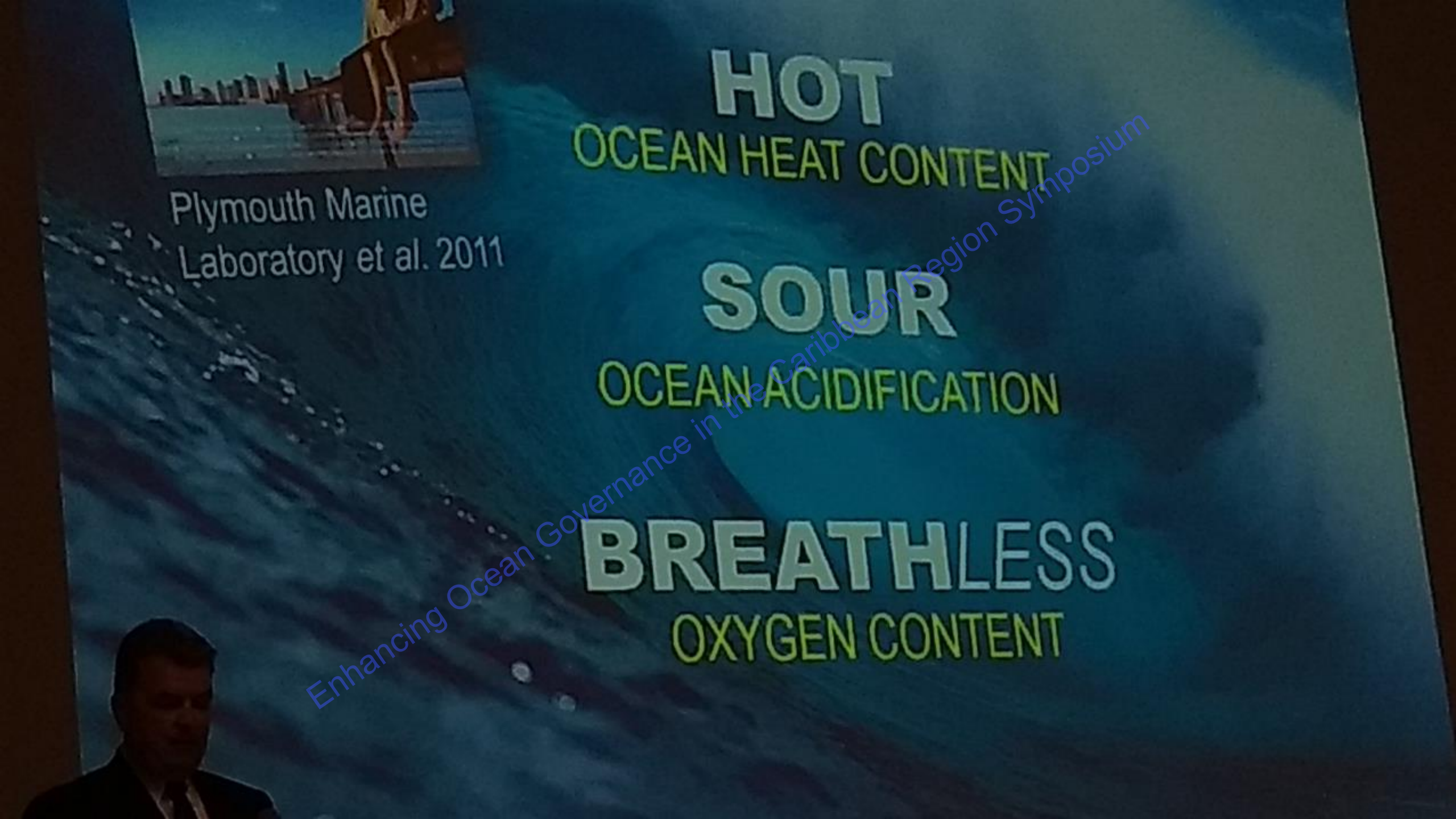
Changes:

Sea-surface temperature; sea-level rise; salinity; stratification; circulation; storms; as well as acidification; UV radiation

Implications:

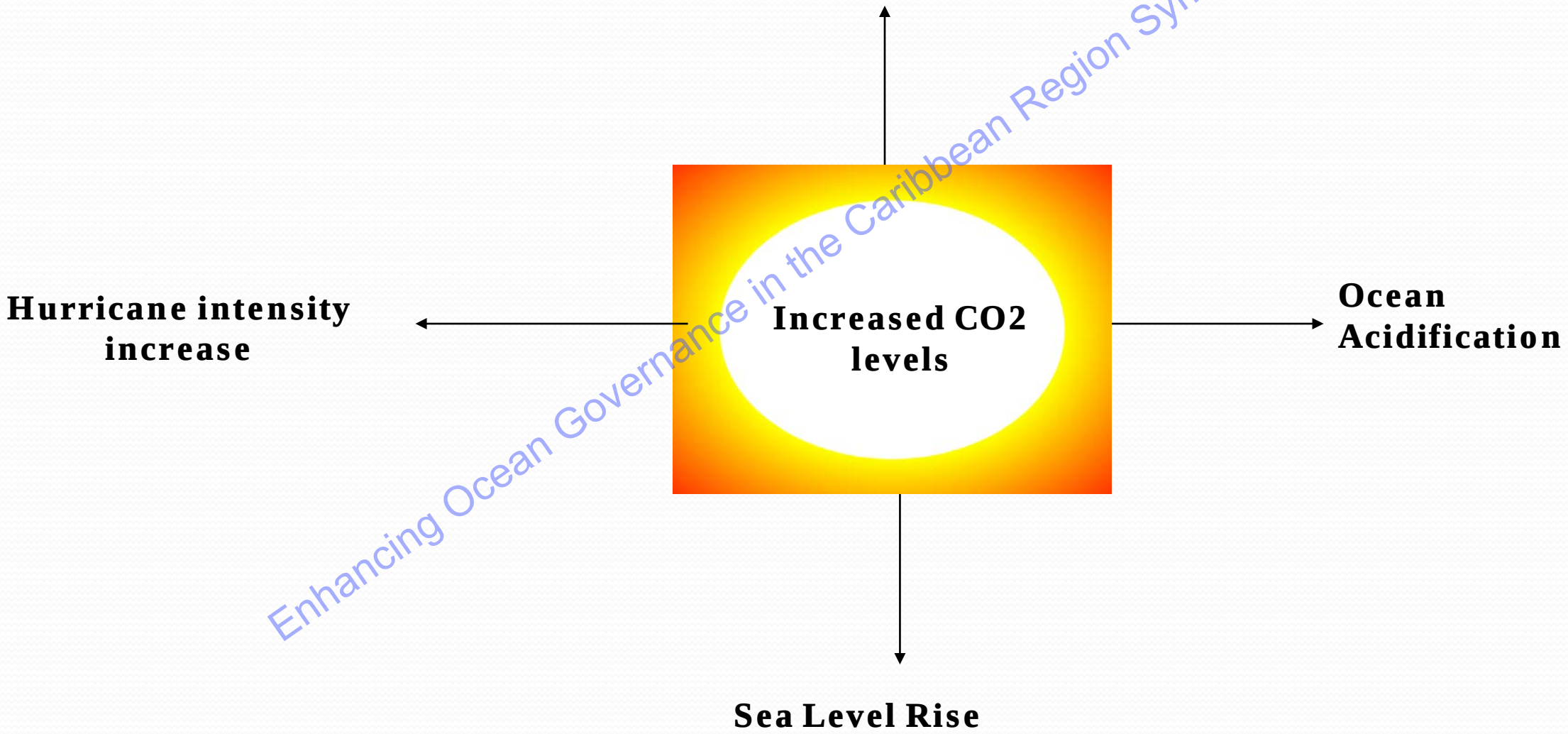
Seasonal life-cycles; loss of sea ice; plankton; fish-stock distribution; seaweeds; shellfish productivity; low-lying coasts; coral reefs; submarine cables; eutrophication problems; Arctic shipping

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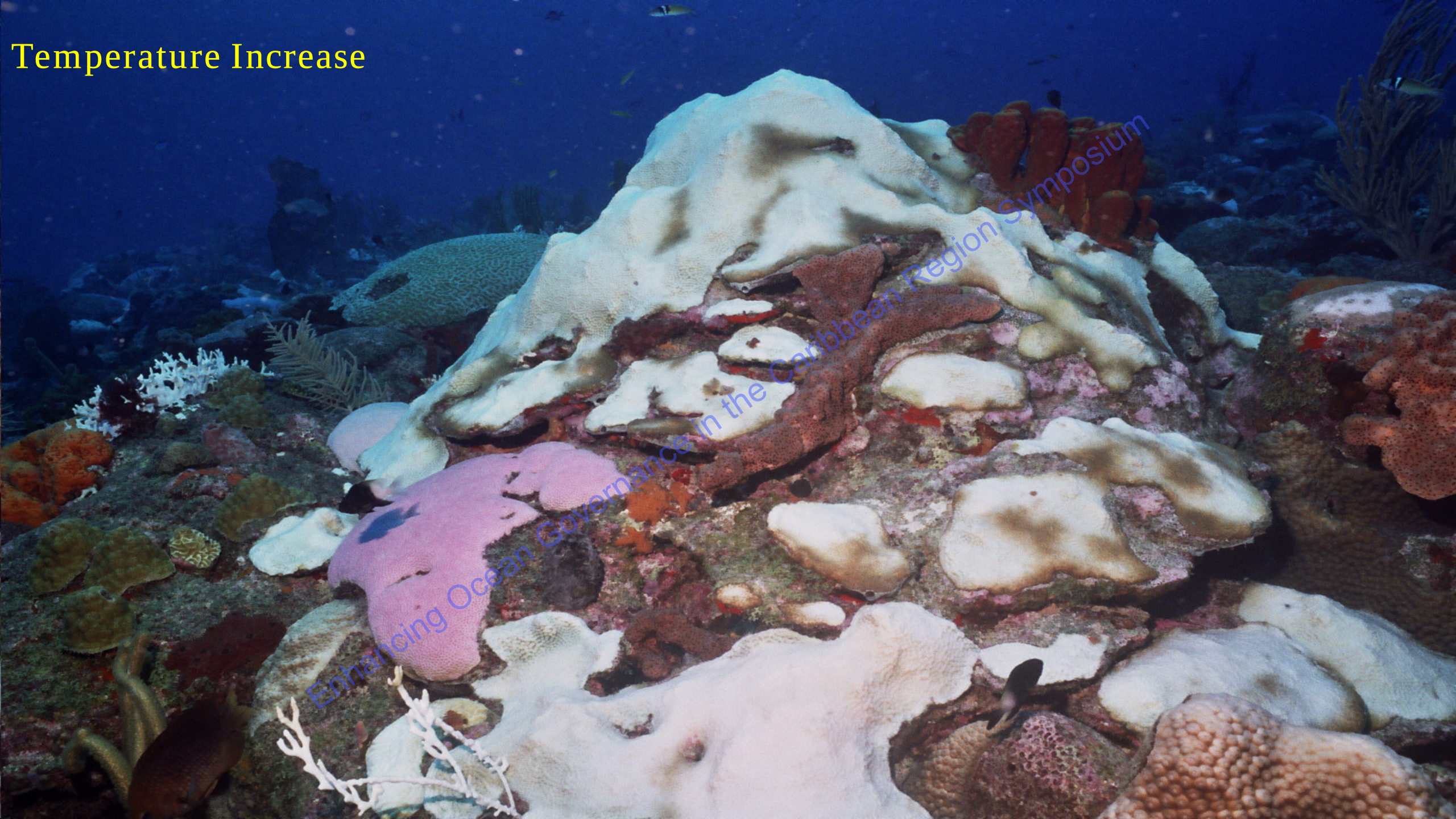
Global Climate Change & Corals



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Temperature Increase



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High South Coast Waves



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Crane Beach Before
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Crane Beach North
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Rockley







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Welches







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An Ocean of Waste



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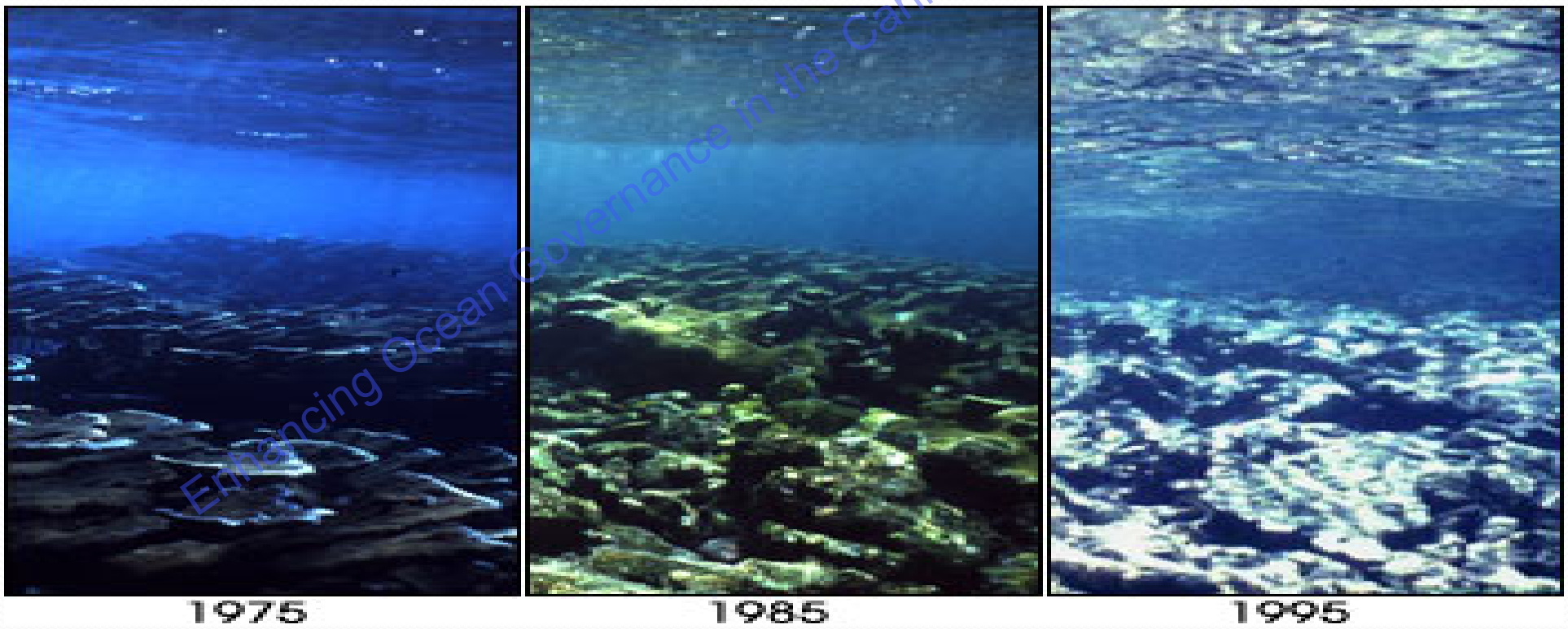
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Coral Reefs

- Worldwide coral reefs dying or stressed



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Discharge Anchor Damage





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Short-Term Gain



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Foreign Species



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B. Marine biota

Challenges

- Higher mortality – less successful reproduction
- Over-fishing
- Changes in breeding and nursery areas
- Bycatch
- Hazardous substances and eutrophication
- Noise
- Recreational fisheries

Implications

- Food security
- Species structure of highly productive areas

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C. Food security and safety

1. Importance of sea-based food
2. Importance of livelihoods
3. Importance of small-scale fisheries
4. Significance of aquaculture and fish-stock propagation
5. Compromised food safety
6. Problems of subsidies
7. Role of women
8. Importance of food safety

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D. Patterns of biodiversity

Patterns of marine biodiversity

Importance of temperature

Significance of capture fisheries

Lack of knowledge

Implications

- Biodiversity hotspots and ecosystem services
- Biodiversity hotspots and economic activities

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E. Use of ocean space

Challenges

Population and urbanization; aquaculture and marine ranching; cables and pipelines; offshore hydrocarbons; offshore mining; offshore renewable energy; fisheries management areas; marine protected areas

Implications

Too many demands to meet them all

Need to develop ways of managing them

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F. Inputs of harmful material

Challenges

Land-based inputs (sewage; fertilisers; hydrocarbons; heavy metals; persistent organic pollutants; endocrine disruptors); solid waste disposal; marine debris; shipping; offshore hydrocarbon industries; offshore mining

Implications

Human health; food safety; food security; marine biodiversity

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G. Cumulative impacts

Fisheries, demand for ocean space, inputs of harmful materials, noise, non-native species have a cumulative effect:

In all main marine regions

In the open ocean

On top predators

On vulnerable habitats – corals reefs, mangroves, kelp forests and seagrass meadows, seamounts, salt marshes, estuaries

On tourism and cultural values

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I. Integrated management

There are constraints in assessing only the oceans

But

We have reached the end of the time when human impacts are small in relation to the vastness of the ocean

Many interactions (eg sewage, ship pollution, plastic debris, excessive nutrient inputs, overfishing, acidification) emphasise the problems caused by the absence of integrated management

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J. Urgency for action

Some problems – such as those flowing from climate change and acidification – can only be dealt with at a global level

Many problems have more local causes and are only global problems because they occur in many places

Known solutions exist for many of these locally caused problems

Not implementing those solutions imposes environmental, social and economic costs

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Information gaps

1. Physical structure of the ocean
2. Waters of the ocean
3. Biota of the ocean
4. Human interactions:

   Shipping, land-based inputs, offshore hydrocarbons, solid waste disposal, marine debris, ICZM, cultural values

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Part 1 Who are we?

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Only Legally Binding, Regional Agreement for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region

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The Cartagena Convention as a regional MEA addresses several different coastal & marine environmental threats affecting the countries of the Wider Caribbean Region.



Cartagena Convention

Adopted in 1983
Entered into force 1986
25 Parties



Adopted in 1983
Entered into force in 1986
25 Parties



Adopted in 1990
Entered into force in 2000
16 Parties



Adopted in 1999
Entered into force in 2010
13 Parties

RAC-REMPEITC Caribe

CAR·SPAW·RAC CARIBE

Cimab

INSTITUTE OF MARINE AFFAIRS

The three Protocols to the Convention identify additional obligations for the protection and development of the Caribbean Sea further reducing negative impacts to the coastal and marine environment

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The Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP)

- One of the 18 world Regional Seas Programmes - administered by UN Environment
- Legal framework provided by the Cartagena Convention and three (3) technical Protocols addressing specific environmental issues
- Secretariat in Kingston, Jamaica, since 1986



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The Cartagena Convention Area



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The Wider Caribbean Region

Island Nations

1. Antigua & Barbuda
2. Bahamas
3. Barbados
4. Cuba
5. Dominica
6. Dominican Republic
7. Grenada
8. Haiti
9. Jamaica
10. St. Kitts & Nevis
11. St. Lucia
12. St. Vincent and the Grenadines
13. Trinidad & Tobago

Continental Nations

1. Belize
2. Colombia
3. Costa Rica
4. Guatemala
5. Guyana
6. Honduras
7. Mexico
8. Nicaragua
9. Panama
10. Suriname
11. USA
12. Venezuela

Source: P.Hoetjes

Associated Countries, Departments Territories

1. Aruba
2. Curacao , St. Maarten
3. Caribbean Netherlands
4. Anguilla
5. Cayman Islands
6. Montserrat
7. Turks & Caicos Islands
8. British Virgin Islands
9. French Guyana
10. Guadeloupe
11. St. Martin – St. Barth
12. Martinique
13. Puerto Rico
14. US Virgin Islands

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Pollution from Ships (5)





Land Based Pollution (7)

Dumping at Sea (6)



CARTAGENA CONVENTION

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Biodiversity (10)



Air Pollution (9)



Sea/River-Bed (8)





Part 2 30+ Years and still going strong…

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Mission

"To promote **regional co-operation** for the protection and development of the Wider Caribbean Region"

Objective

"To achieve **sustainable development** of marine and coastal resources in the Wider Caribbean Region through effective, integrated management that allows for **economic growth and sustainable livelihoods**"

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Part 3 SDGs: Have we been down this road before?

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

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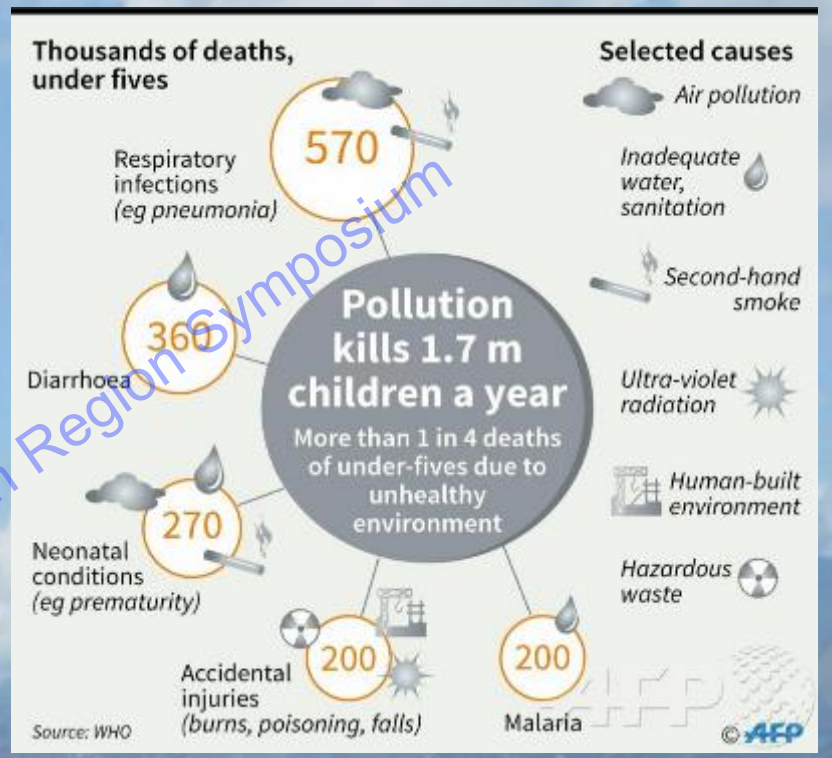






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The most Vulnerable Populations, especially Women and Children, in Developing Countries are exposed to the Negative Impacts of Pollution



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Part 3

SDGs 6 & 14
The Good, Bad & Ugly





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Costs to society in terms of health care, lost productivity, flood damage and damages to business and tourism resulting from poor solid waste management exceed costs of proper management by a factor of 5-10

On the seaside boulevard in central Cap-Haitien, a woman depicts a typical open defecation situation: early dawn and near the water, where one might find some privacy.

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Part 3 Challenges to Enhancing Ocean Governance

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Donor fatigue, Budgets: Increase Revenue and Service Debts

MONEY



Policy, Legislation, Regulations, Enforcement; How can we move from policy to action?

CAPACITY



Consultation Fatigue, Private Sector apathy, moving past political divides

ENGAGEMENT



Data availability, accessibility, quality, analysis, packaging & dissemination, sustainability, fake data?

INFORMATION

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Part 3 Success Factors for Enhancing Ocean Governance

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Innovative Financial Mechanisms, Blue Bonds, GEF CReW Project on Wastewater – K Factor in Jamaica

MONEY



Policies, Regulations, Enforcement, Universities, Development Banks, Online, Trainer of Trainers e.g. CaMPAM

CAPACITY



Win-Win Partnerships, Participatory Planning, Communication for Development

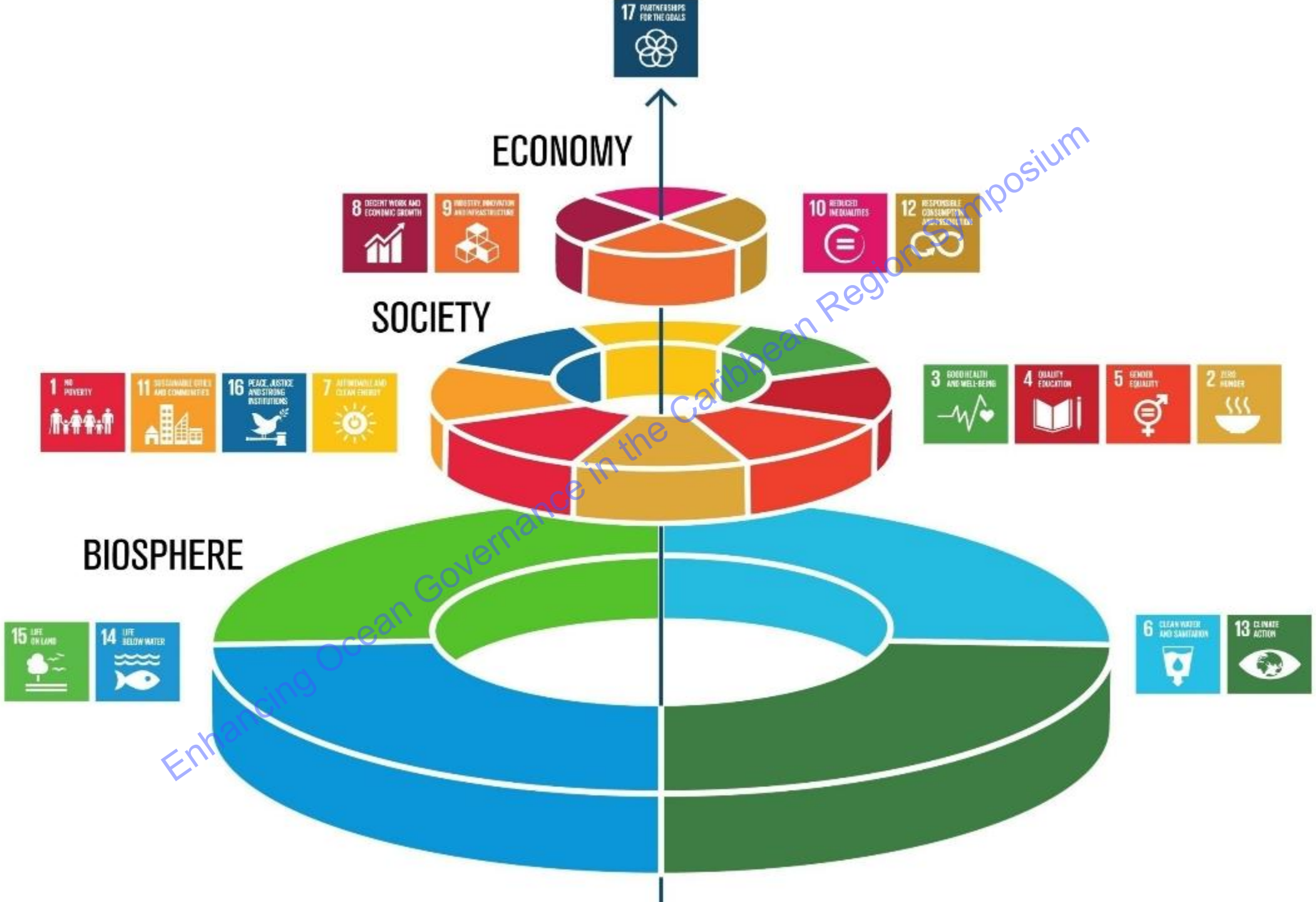
ENGAGEMENT



Lose the pride; Where are we now? Showcase our positive stories, achievements, lessons learned and best practices

INFORMATION

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Part 4 Lessons Learned
Marine-Based/Blue Economies

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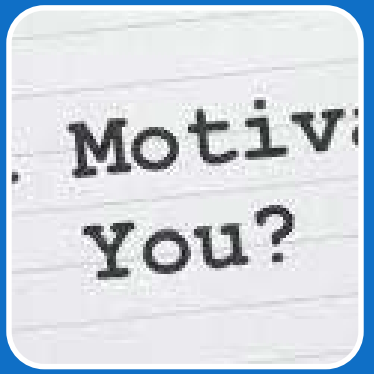
Resource Mobilization Strategies



Let's agree on common integrated targets that we ALL work towards as Governments and UN agencies

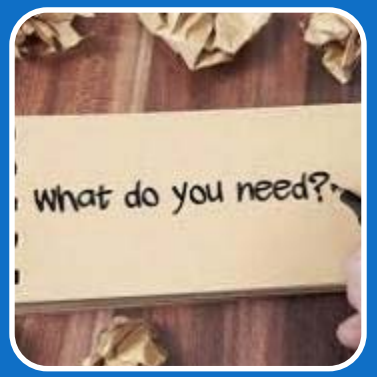


Investments to improve Environmental Management Reduce Poverty, Improve Quality of Life & Improve our Asset Base - (Cost-Benefit Analysis, Resource Valuation, Internalizing Environmental Costs, Business Cases)



Be Strategic, develop Financing & Sustainability Plans; Provide Fiscal and non-Fiscal Incentives and Disincentives; Value for Money with Measurable Positive Benefits for People

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Training to do what and why - Needs Assessments



Internalizing and Innovating the Training: Regional Training Institutions, Online etc.



Monitoring and Evaluating the Effectiveness of the Training

CAPACITY

for Public Policy and Rule of Law Institutions

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It's about Engagement not Informing



It's about Empowerment not Dependency



It's about finding Solutions not Blaming

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Strengthening Civil Society

ENGAGEMENT



Understand Data and Information Landscape



Demonstrate the Economic and Social value of Evidence-based Decision-Making

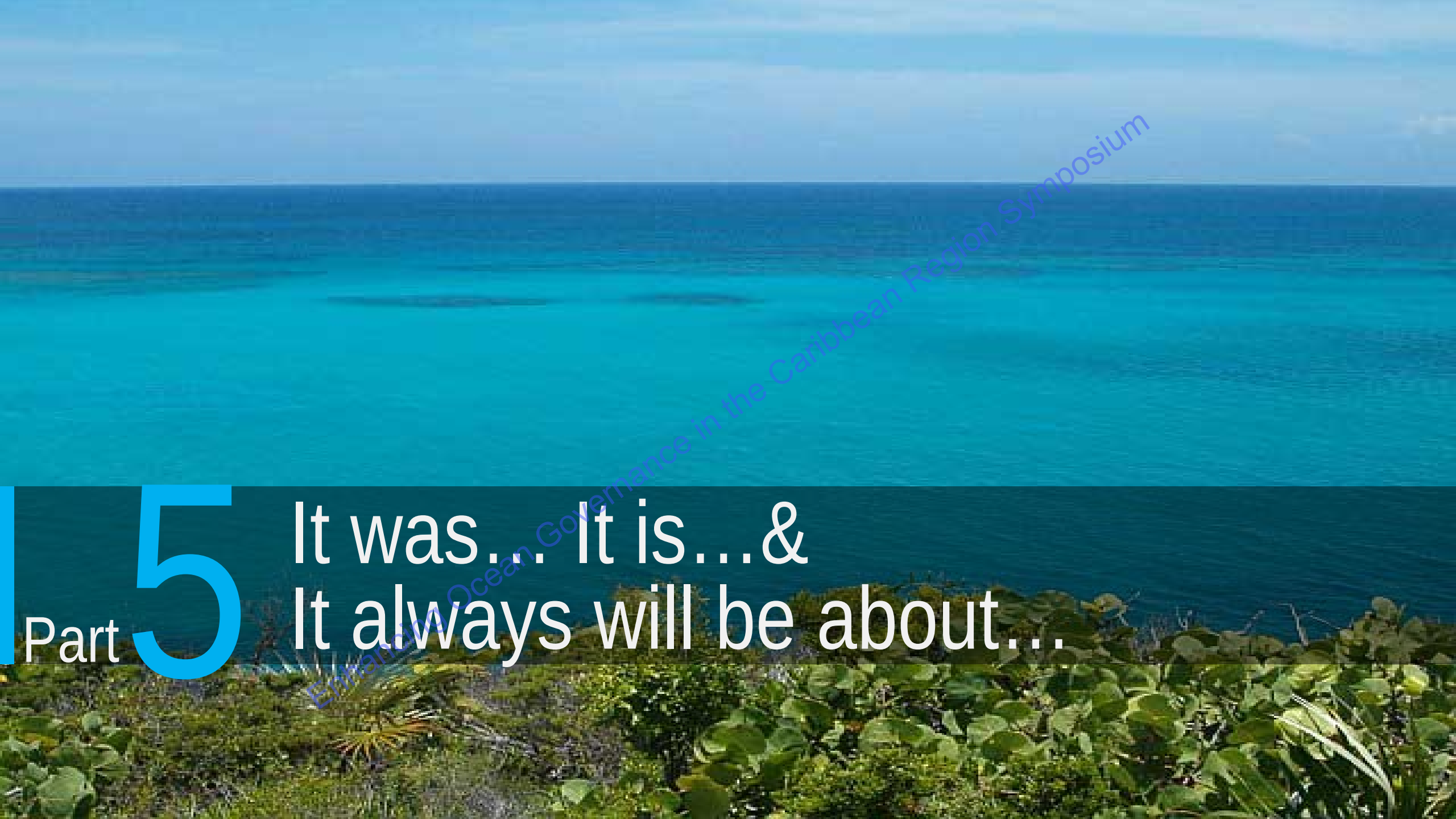


Select appropriate Technologies based on Scale: Global, Regional, National, Local and **Individual**

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SCIENCE!!

Building the Evidence Base for Improving Policy & Decision Making



Part 5

It was… It is…& It always will be about…

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Thank you

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