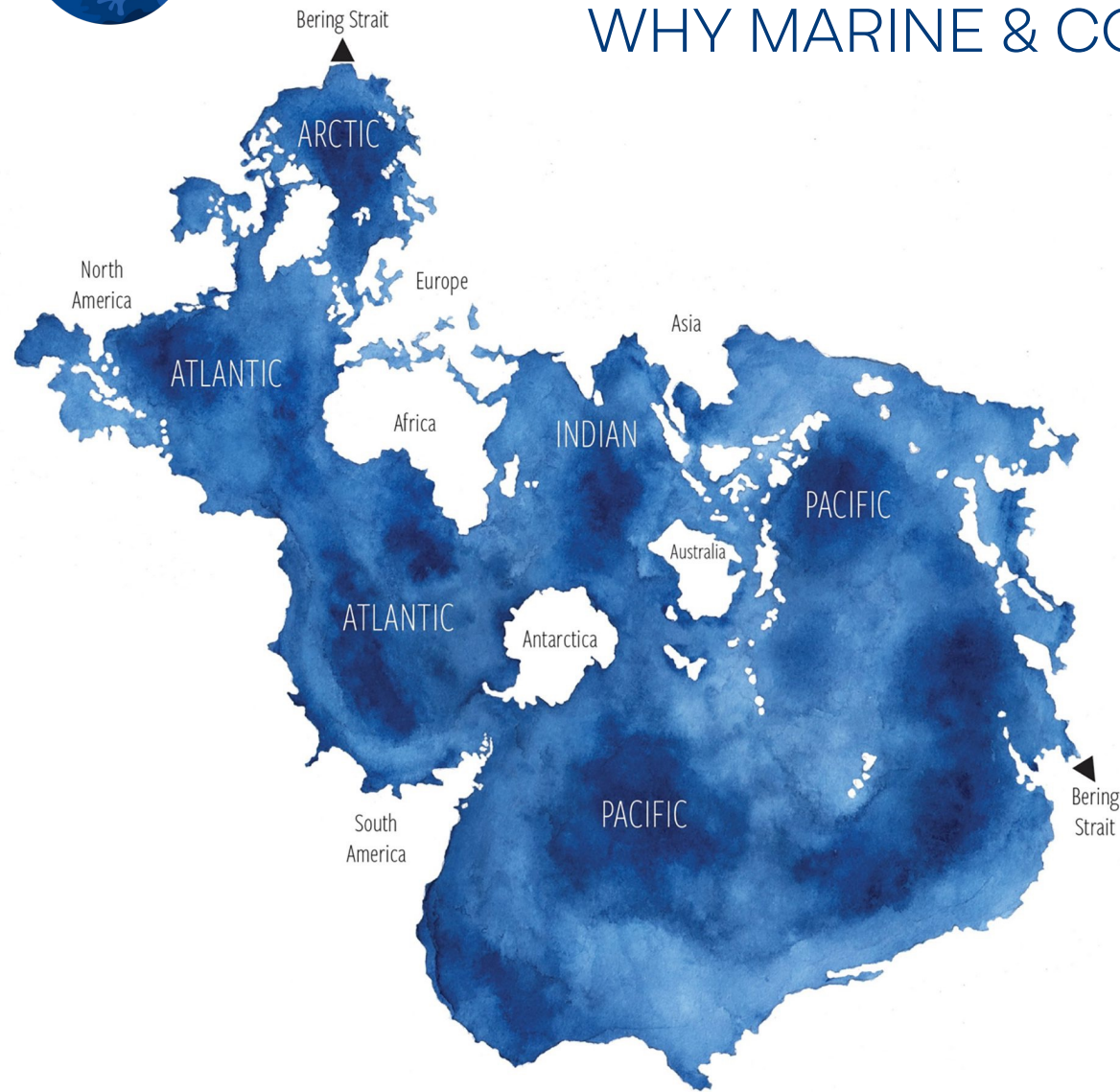


**From Ocean Depths to Island Shores:
Advancing Biodiversity Action under
CBD Decision 16/17”**

Ute Jacob



WHY MARINE & COASTAL BIODIVERSITY MATTERS

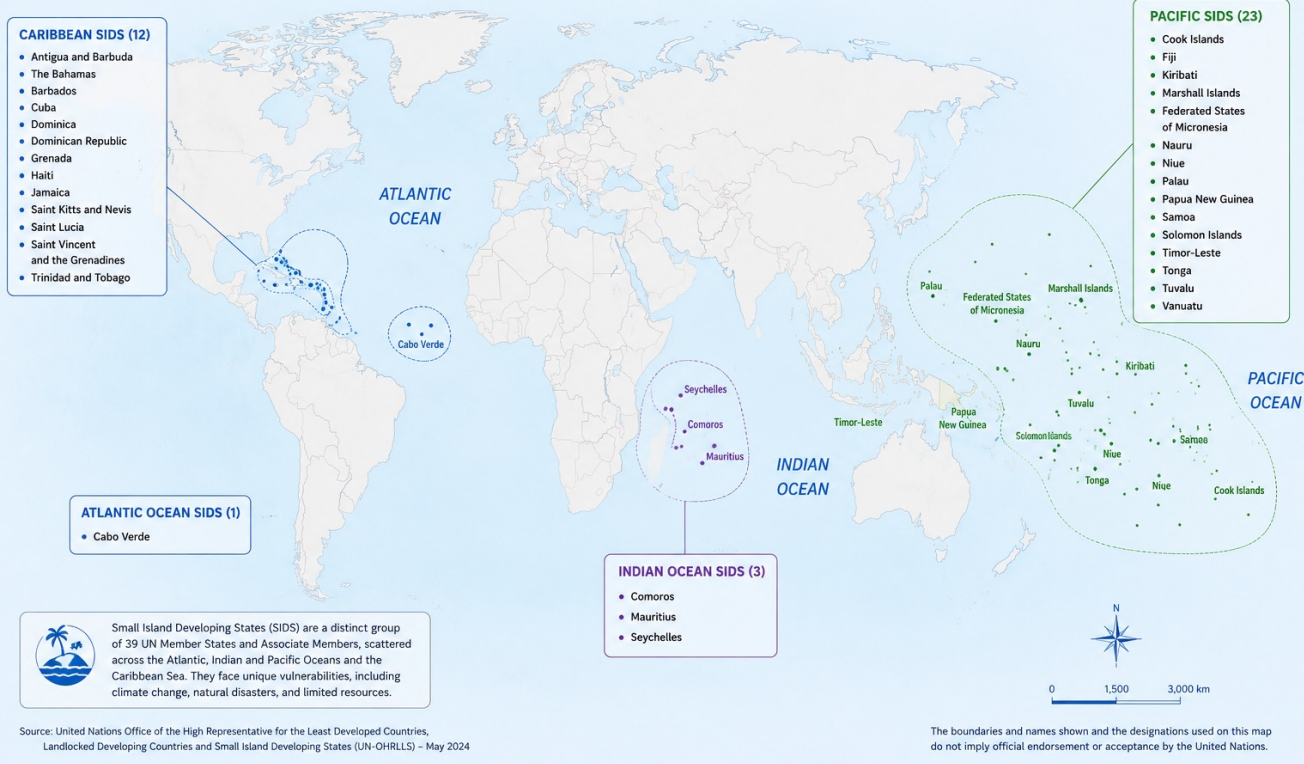


- Oceans cover over 70% of the Earth's surface
- Coastal and marine ecosystems support food security, livelihoods, and climate regulation.
- Islands harbor a disproportionate share of global biodiversity and endemic species. These ecosystems are among the most vulnerable to biodiversity loss and climate change.

CBD DECISION 16/17 ON MARINE AND COASTAL BIODIVERSITY, AND ISLAND BIODIVERSITY

SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES (SIDS)

39 UN Member States/Associate Members in All Major Ocean Regions



Addressing implementation gaps: Some biodiversity targets lack sufficient guidance and tools, requiring new guidance, sharing of best practices, and strengthened capacity-building

Scaling up support: Many existing marine, coastal, and island biodiversity commitments are only partially or not implemented and require increased financing, technical cooperation, technology transfer, and capacity development, particularly for developing countries, LDCs, and SIDS.

Strengthening partnerships: Global and regional organizations, networks, and initiatives are encouraged to enhance their efforts and collaborate to support implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework while building on existing work and avoiding duplication.



GAPS AND AREAS IN NEED OF ADDITIONAL FOCUS

GAP
(a) Restoration of degraded marine ecosystems
(b) Effective MPAs and OECMs
(c) Human-wildlife conflict
(d) Geoengineering impacts
(e) Marine genetic diversity
(f) Deep-sea and ecosystem connectivity
(g) Pollution impacts
(h) Nature-based solutions (NbS)
(i) Blue carbon ecosystems
(j) Sea ice biodiversity
(k) Sustainable aquaculture
(l) Urban blue spaces
(m) Biodiversity values & IPLC integration
(n) Marine genetic resources & DSI benefit-sharing

Gaps and areas in need of additional focus under the Convention on Biological Diversity to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework with regard to marine and coastal biodiversity and to island biodiversity



GAPS AND AREAS IN NEED OF ADDITIONAL FOCUS

These gaps are highly interconnected and can be grouped into a few reinforcing themes: ecosystem conservation and restoration, climate resilience, sustainable ocean use, knowledge and monitoring, and governance and equity.

They form connected pathways for implementation

Science & Knowledge

→ Understanding ecosystems, genetics, deep-sea biodiversity, sea ice, and emerging pressures.

Conservation & Restoration

→ MPAs, ecosystem restoration, blue carbon ecosystems, and nature-based solutions.

Threat Reduction & Sustainable Use

→ Tackling pollution, reducing human-wildlife conflict, and improving aquaculture management.

Governance & Equity

→ Integrating Indigenous Peoples and local communities, biodiversity values, and fair benefit-sharing from marine genetic resources.



GAPS AND AREAS IN NEED OF ADDITIONAL FOCUS

GAP	PRIMARY FOCUS
(a) Restoration of degraded marine ecosystems	Ecosystem recovery
(b) Effective MPAs and OECMs	Area-based conservation
(c) Human-wildlife conflict	Species conservation
(d) Geoengineering impacts	Emerging risks & precaution
(e) Marine genetic diversity	Species resilience
(f) Deep-sea and ecosystem connectivity	Knowledge generation
(g) Pollution impacts	Threat reduction
(h) Nature-based solutions (NbS)	Ecosystem-based management
(i) Blue carbon ecosystems	Climate mitigation & adaptation
(j) Sea ice biodiversity	Climate-sensitive ecosystems
(k) Sustainable aquaculture	Sustainable use
(l) Urban blue spaces	Human well-being
(m) Biodiversity values & IPLC integration	Inclusive governance
(n) Marine genetic resources & DSI benefit-sharing	Equity and governance

ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION

CLIMATE RESILIENCE

SUSTAINABLE OCEAN USE

KNOWLEDGE AND MONITORING

GOVERNANCE AND EQUITY.



GAPS AND AREAS IN NEED OF ADDITIONAL FOCUS

GAP	PRIMARY FOCUS	STRONG LINKAGES
(a) Restoration of degraded marine ecosystems	Ecosystem recovery	(b), (h), (i), (g), (k)
(b) Effective MPAs and OECMs	Area-based conservation	(a), (c), (e), (f), (j)
(c) Human-wildlife conflict	Species conservation	(b), (e), (g), (k), (m)
(d) Geoengineering impacts	Emerging risks & precaution	(f), (g), (i), (j)
(e) Marine genetic diversity	Species resilience	(b), (c), (f), (n)
(f) Deep-sea and ecosystem connectivity	Knowledge generation	(b), (d), (e), (g), (j)
(g) Pollution impacts	Threat reduction	(a), (c), (f), (i), (k)
(h) Nature-based solutions (NbS)	Ecosystem-based management	(a), (i), (m), (l)
(i) Blue carbon ecosystems	Climate mitigation & adaptation	(a), (g), (h), (j)
(j) Sea ice biodiversity	Climate-sensitive ecosystems	(b), (d), (f), (i)
(k) Sustainable aquaculture	Sustainable use	(a), (c), (g), (m)
(l) Urban blue spaces	Human well-being	(h), (i), (m)
(m) Biodiversity values & IPLC integration	Inclusive governance	(c), (h), (k), (l), (n)
(n) Marine genetic resources & DSI benefit-sharing	Equity and governance	(e), (m), (f)

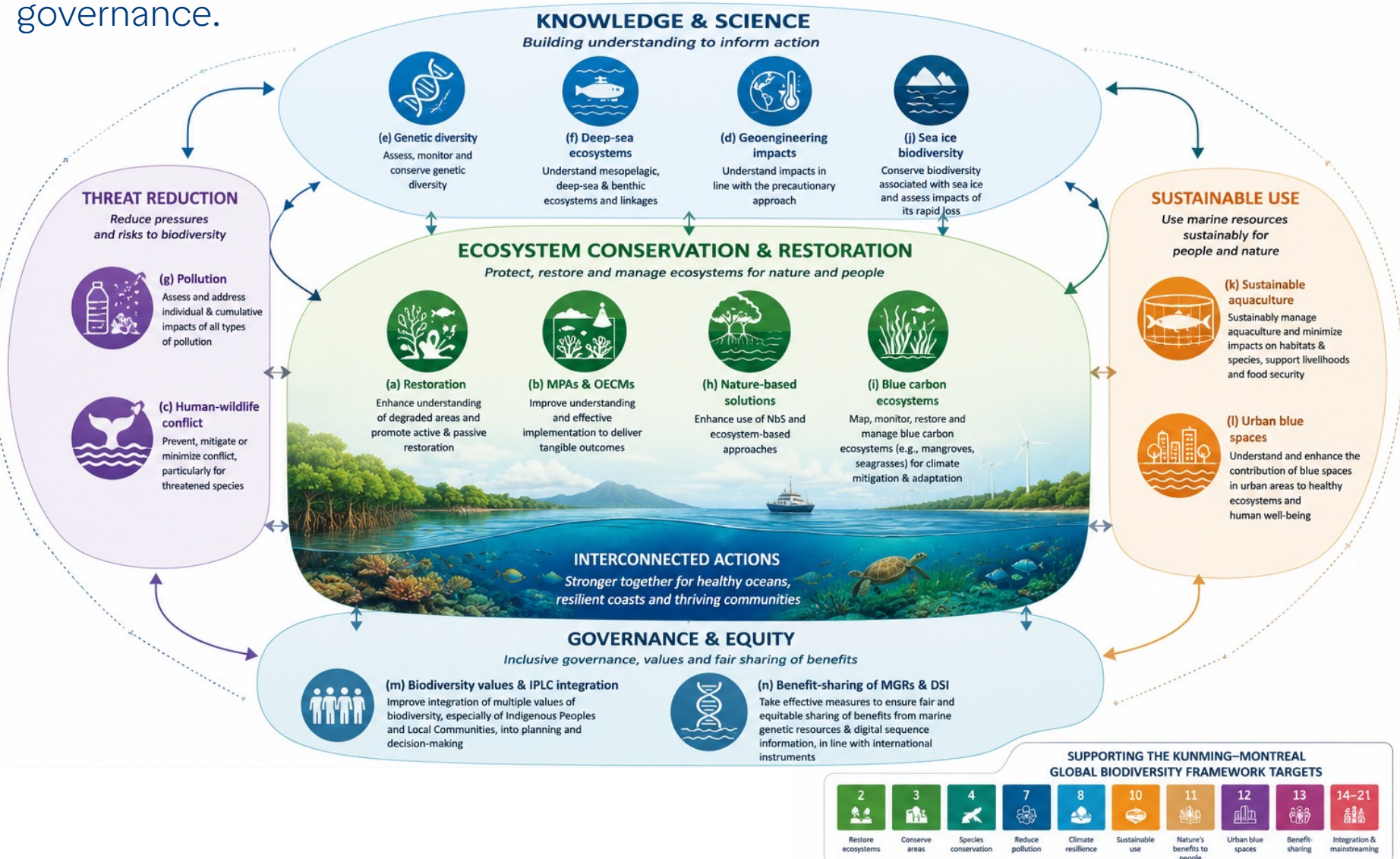


(K) SUNSTAINABLE AQUACULTURE

GAP	PRIMARY FOCUS	STRONG LINKAGES
(a) Restoration of degraded marine ecosystems	Ecosystem recovery	(b), (h), (i), (g), (k)
(b) Effective MPAs and OECMs	Area-based conservation	(a), (c), (e), (f), (j)
(c) Human-wildlife conflict	Species conservation	(b), (e), (g), (k), (m)
(d) Geoengineering impacts	Emerging risks & precaution	(f), (g), (i), (j)
(e) Marine genetic diversity	Species resilience	(b), (c), (f), (n)
(f) Deep-sea and ecosystem connectivity	Knowledge generation	(b), (d), (e), (g), (j)
(g) Pollution impacts	Threat reduction	(a), (c), (f), (i), (k)
(h) Nature-based solutions (NbS)	Ecosystem-based management	(a), (i), (m), (l)
(i) Blue carbon ecosystems	Climate mitigation & adaptation	(a), (g), (h), (j)
(j) Sea ice biodiversity	Climate-sensitive ecosystems	(b), (d), (f), (i)
(k) Sustainable aquaculture	Sustainable use	(a), (c), (g), (m)
(l) Urban blue spaces	Human well-being	(h), (i), (m)
(m) Biodiversity values & IPLC integration	Inclusive governance	(c), (h), (k), (l), (n)
(n) Marine genetic resources & DSI benefit-sharing	Equity and governance	(e), (m), (f)

GAPS AND AREAS IN NEED OF ADDITIONAL FOCUS

Progress on any single gap depends on progress across the others. Effective marine biodiversity conservation requires an integrated approach that links science, restoration, sustainable use, climate action, and equitable governance.





Achieving the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in marine, coastal, and island ecosystems requires an integrated approach that combines science, restoration, sustainable use, climate action, inclusive governance, and adequate resources.

1. Strengthen the Science–Policy Interface

Many gaps stem from insufficient knowledge of marine ecosystems, genetic diversity, deep-sea environments, and emerging pressures.

Actions

- Expand marine biodiversity monitoring and observation systems.
- Improve access to biodiversity, genetic, and ecosystem data.
- Promote knowledge-sharing across sectors and regions.
- Support research on cumulative impacts and ecosystem connectivity.

Outcome: Better-informed and evidence-based decision-making.

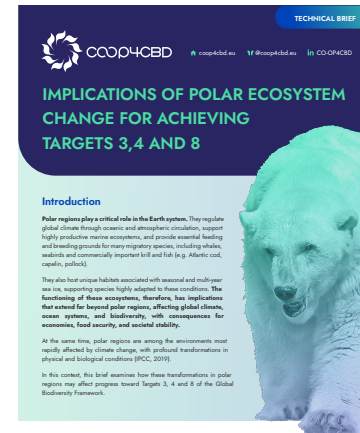


Where to go...

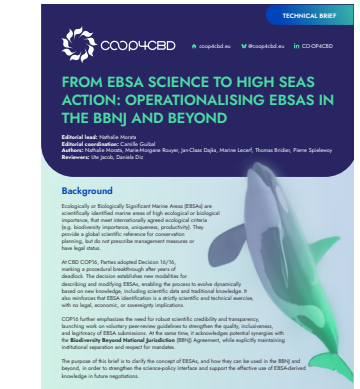
Achieving the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in marine, coastal, and island ecosystems requires an integrated approach that combines science, restoration, sustainable use, climate action, inclusive governance, and adequate resources.

Pathways to Accelerate Implementation of CBD Decision 16/17

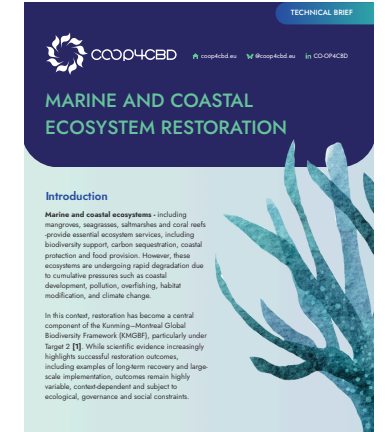
- Strengthen Science & Monitoring
 - Scale Up Restoration & Protected Areas
 - Implement Integrated Ocean Management
 - Invest in Climate-Nature Solutions
 - Empower Indigenous Peoples & Local Communities
 - Mobilize Finance, Capacity & Technology
- Technical brief on marine and coastal ecosystem restoration
 - Technical brief on polar ecosystems
 - Technical brief on EBSAs and BBNJ



This document has been produced by the authority in their individual expert capacity, in the context of the CO-OP4CBD project and under the sponsorship of the French Foundation for Research on Biodiversity (FRB), in collaboration with the Prince Albert 1st Science Foundation and the Polar Regions, as well as the EU Marie-Sklodowska Curie Climate Mitigation Platform project grant ID: 1010307. Views and opinions expressed are solely those of the authority and do not necessarily reflect those of the CO-OP4CBD project, its partner organisations, the European Union, or the European Commission. Neither CO-OP4CBD, the EU nor the EC can be held responsible for them.



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