Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment (GRAME)

Outline of the First Integrated Assessment Report

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Outline of the First Report of the Regular Process

- Draft prepared in late 2010
- Discussed/revised at two meetings of the AHWGW in Feb and June 2011
- Draft version of report outline, with states comments, available online at: http://www.un.org/Depts/los/global_reporting/global_reporting.htm
- Intention is to seek further comments at the regional workshops

Outline of the First Integrated Assessment Report

UNGA endorsed in resolution 64/71, and reaffirmed in resolution 65/37, the recommendations of the AHWGW that the output of the first cycle of the Regular Process (by 2014) should be:

- an integrated assessment of the oceans
- agreed cross-cutting thematic issues (food security)
- a baseline for future global assessments

Outline of Report

Part

I. Summary for decision-makers

II. The Context of the Assessment

III. Ecosystem Services

IV. Cross-cutting issue – food security

V. Other human activities

VI. Biodiversity and habitats

VII. Overall evaluations

Part II. Context of the Assessment

- **Planet, oceans and life** - *a broad, introductory survey of the role played by the oceans and seas in the life of the planet, the way in which they function, and humans' relationships to them.*

- **Mandate, information sources, and method of work –** *Mandate from the United Nations, existing assessments (AoA report), DPSIR, procedures for data integration, approach to the science/policy interface, selection of contributors, establishment of baselines, dealing with uncertainties, quality assurance of data*

Part III. Ocean ecosystem services

- **Hydrological cycle** - sea level, salinity, nutrients, heat transport
- **Sea/air interaction-** air quality, meteorological events, acidification
- **Primary production-** distribution, causes and effects, surface layer
- **Ocean-sourced carbonate production –** sediment supply to atolls
- **Aesthetic, religious and spiritual ecosystem services**
- **Scientific understanding and conclusion**

Part IV. Cross-cutting theme - food security

- **Oceans and seas as source of food -** *living marine resources implications for food security*
- **Capture fisheries -** *commercial fish and shellfish stocks, artisanal or subsistence fishing, impacts of fishing, impacts of pollution on fisheries, IUU fishing, regulatory approaches, projections of fish stocks, capacity building needs*
- **Aquaculture -** *Scale and distribution of aquaculture, inputs and effects, pollution, regulatory approaches, fish ranching and stock rebuilding, projections, capacity building needs*
- **Seaweeds and other sea-based food -** *Scale and distribution, inputs and effects, pollution, regulatory approaches, projections, capacity building needs*

Part IV. Cross-cutting theme - food security, continued

- **Social and economic aspects of fisheries –** *Relationship with human health; Employment in fisheries and aquaculture, role of fisheries in social structure; Relationship between catch areas, ownership and operation of fishing vessels; High-seas fisheries and distant-water fisheries; Implementation of international fisheries agreements; Effects of changes in markets; Links to other industries.*

- Regulatory approaches - descriptions of the major tools and approaches for management; extent of the application of the different management approaches; typical consequences for the marine environment and related economic activities of measures taken under the different management approaches

- **Conclusions**

Part IV. Human Activities

Which activities to examine?

1. Is the activity economically important or significant to human society?
2. Does the activity threaten marine ecosystems?

Shipping
Ports
Submarine cables & pipelines
Land-based inputs
Offshore hydrocarbon industries
Other marine-based energy
Offshore mining
Use of Genetic resources

Solid waste disposal
Marine debris
Physical changes
Tourism & recreation

Defence
Desalinization
Scientific research

Each activity to be a separate chapter

For each activity (chapter), consider:

- location and scale of impacts
- economic benefits
- employment and social role
- environmental threats
- links to other activities
- capacity-building needs
- *extent of discussion of regulatory framework (policy aspects) and management still to be settled*

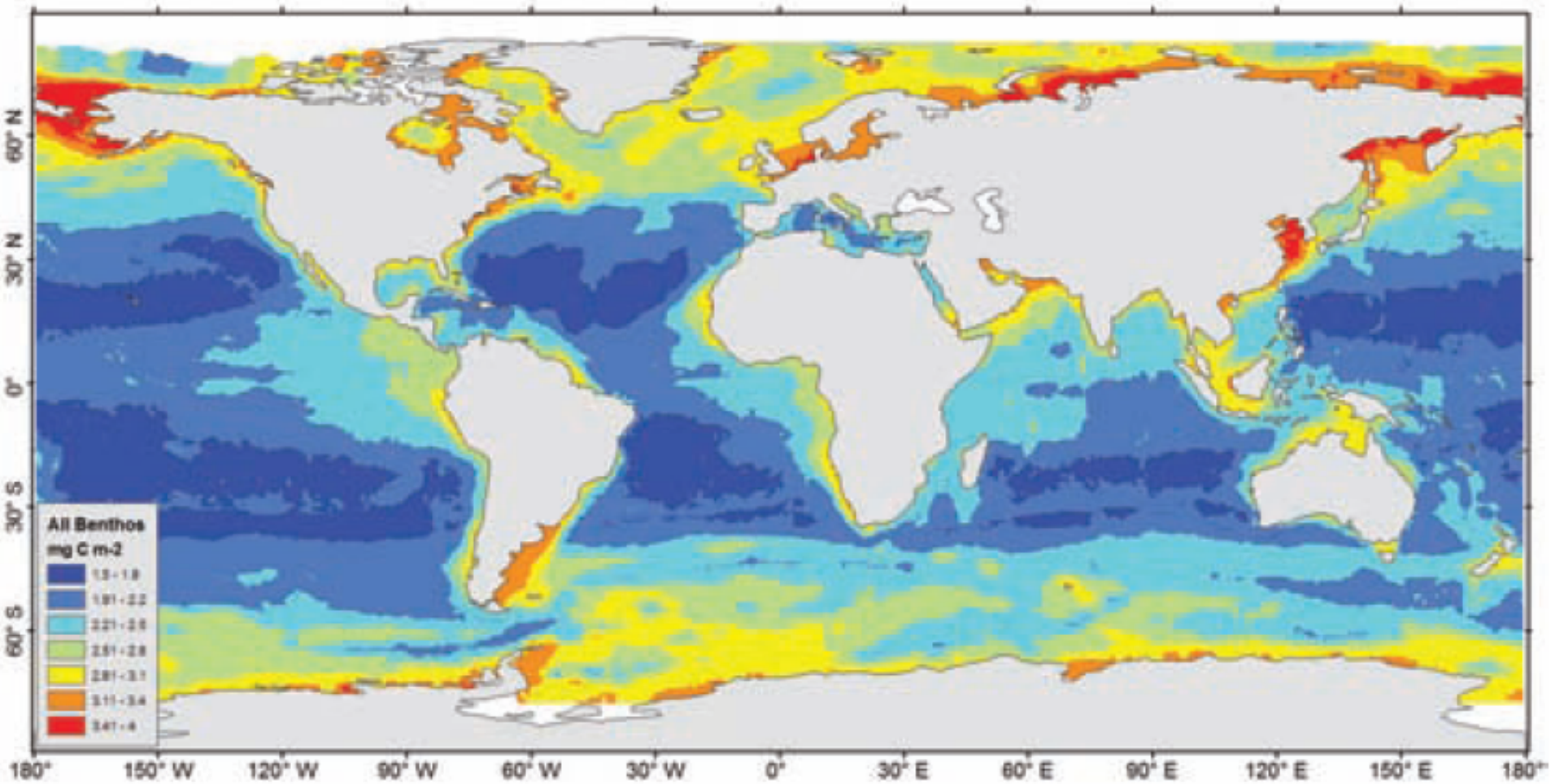
Part VI. Biodiversity and Habitats

- Not feasible to look at everything
- Overall assessment of biodiversity
- Survey of issues judged to need special treatment

Overall assessment of biodiversity

- **Main gradients of diversity -** *for species, communities and habitats (coastal to abyssal, equatorial to polar, substrate type, salinity).*
- **Extent of assessment of marine biological diversity**
- **Overall status of major groups of species and habitats -** *Summary, by major group and marine region, of the status, trends and threats, including the cumulative effects of pressures*

Estimated seafloor biomass

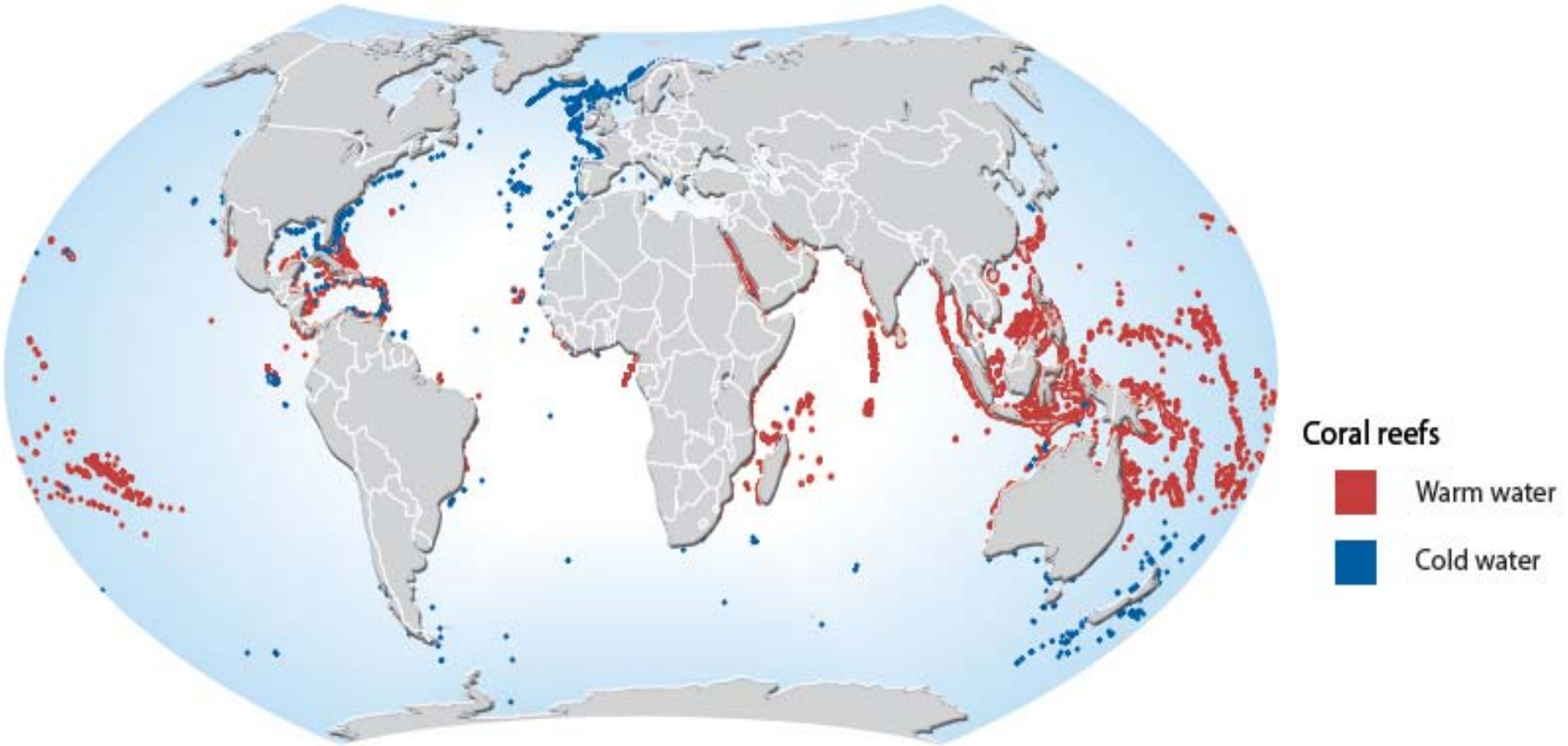


Global marine biodiversity – Census of Marine Life: http://www.coml.org/

Aspects identified for special protection

- Ecologically and Biologically Sensitive Areas (EBSAs) and Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs)
- Other species and habitats identified by a competent authority as needing protection

Specific Habitats



Other species and habitats

- Inter-regional migratory species (*Bonn Convention*)
- Regional conventions (*Marine mammals*)
- Action under regional seas programmes
- National action

Part VII. Overall evaluations

- What can we say about the overall human impact on the seas?
  - baseline for comparison in future Assessments
- How do we value the benefits from the oceans and seas for humans?
  - baseline for comparison in future Assessments


Los océanos continuarán sin los seres humanos
Pero los seres humanos no pueden continuar sin los océanos