# Pre-workshop Survey

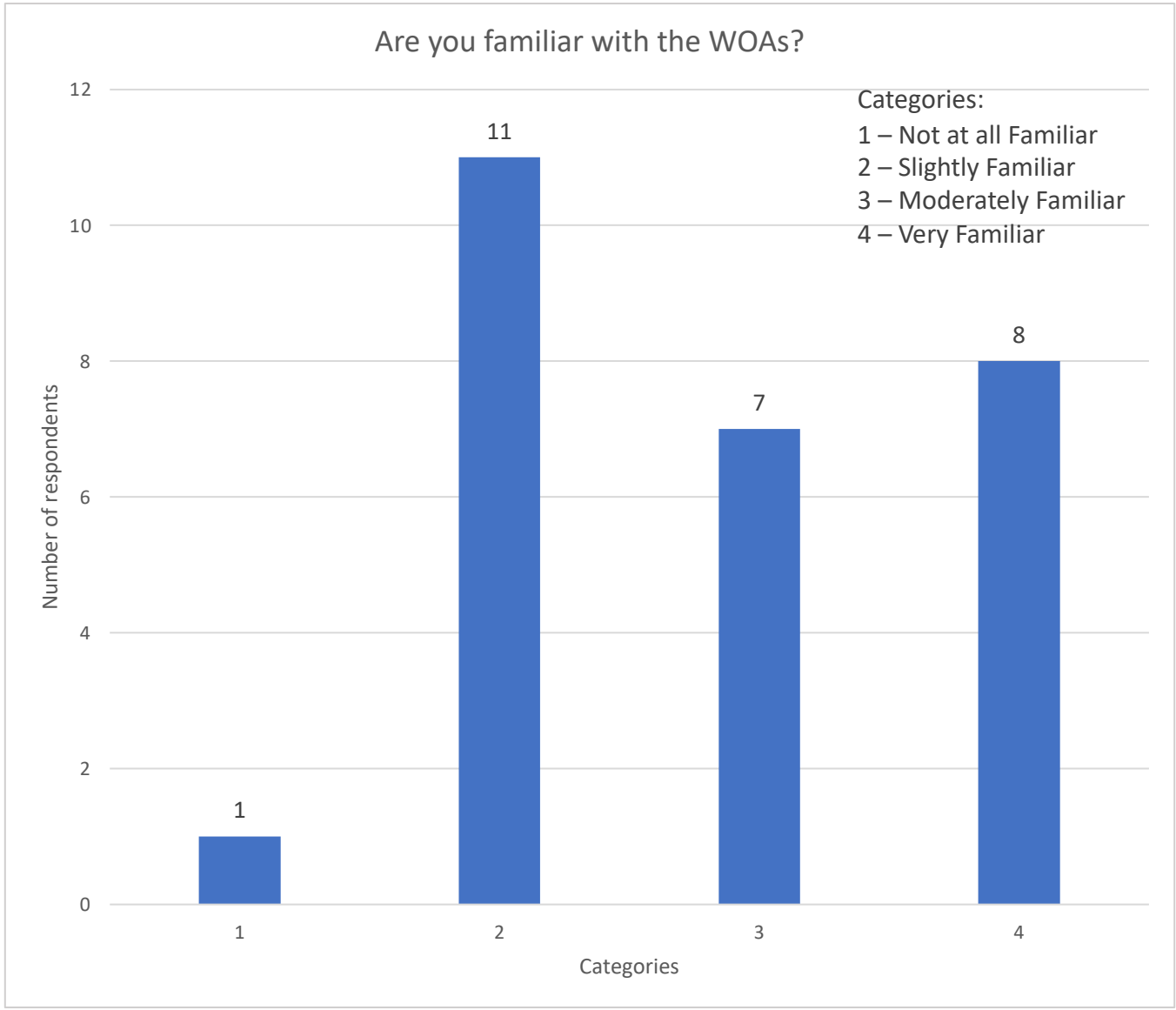
Scoping for the Next World Ocean Assessment(s)

Third cycle of the Regular Process

The Hague, The Netherlands (28 - 30 November 2022)

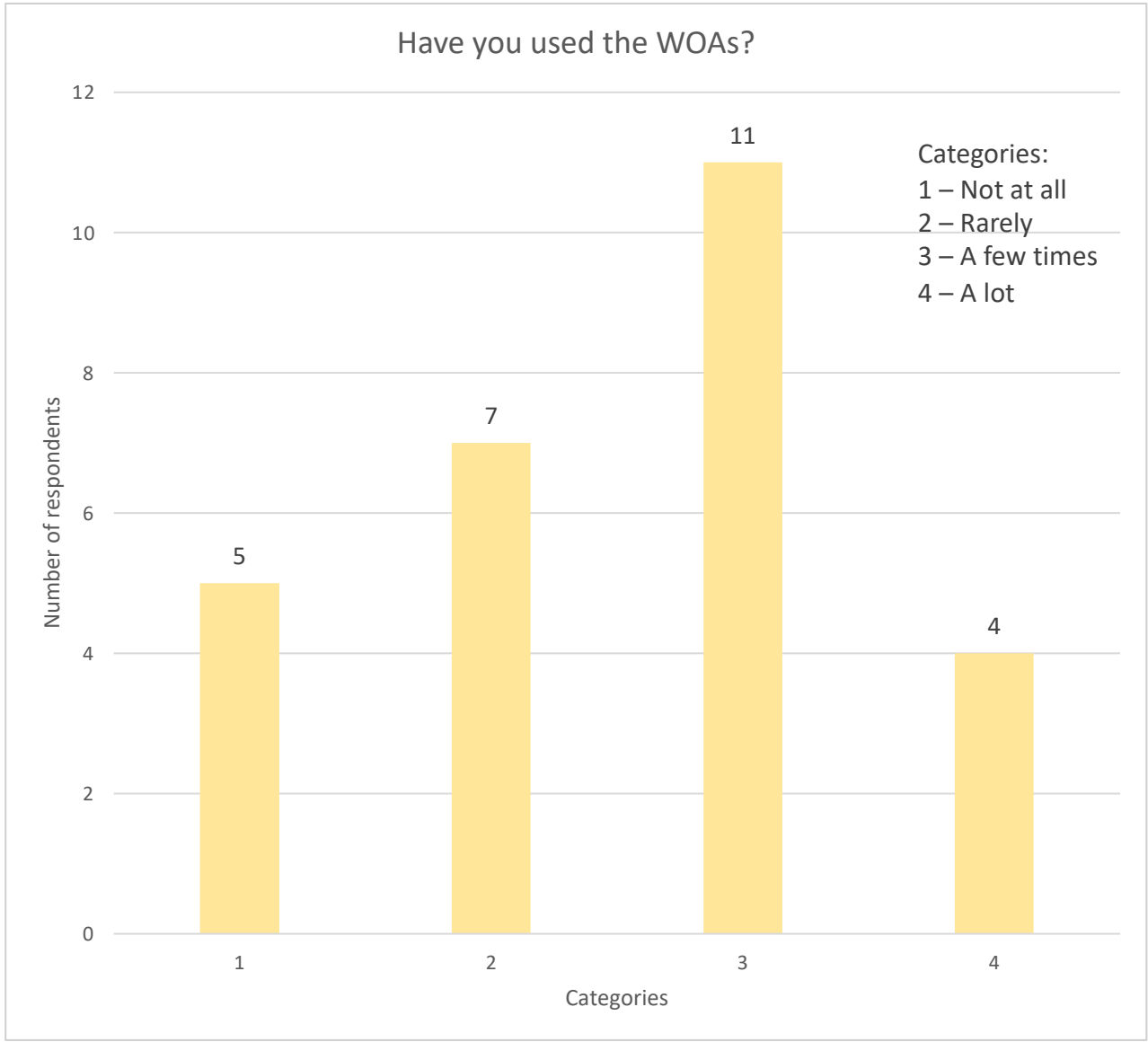
## How familiar are you with the Regular Process and the World Ocean Assessment reports (WOA I and WOA II)?

- Responses: 27
- Median: 3 (Moderately Familiar)
- More than 55% of respondents were moderately or very familiar with WOA I and II

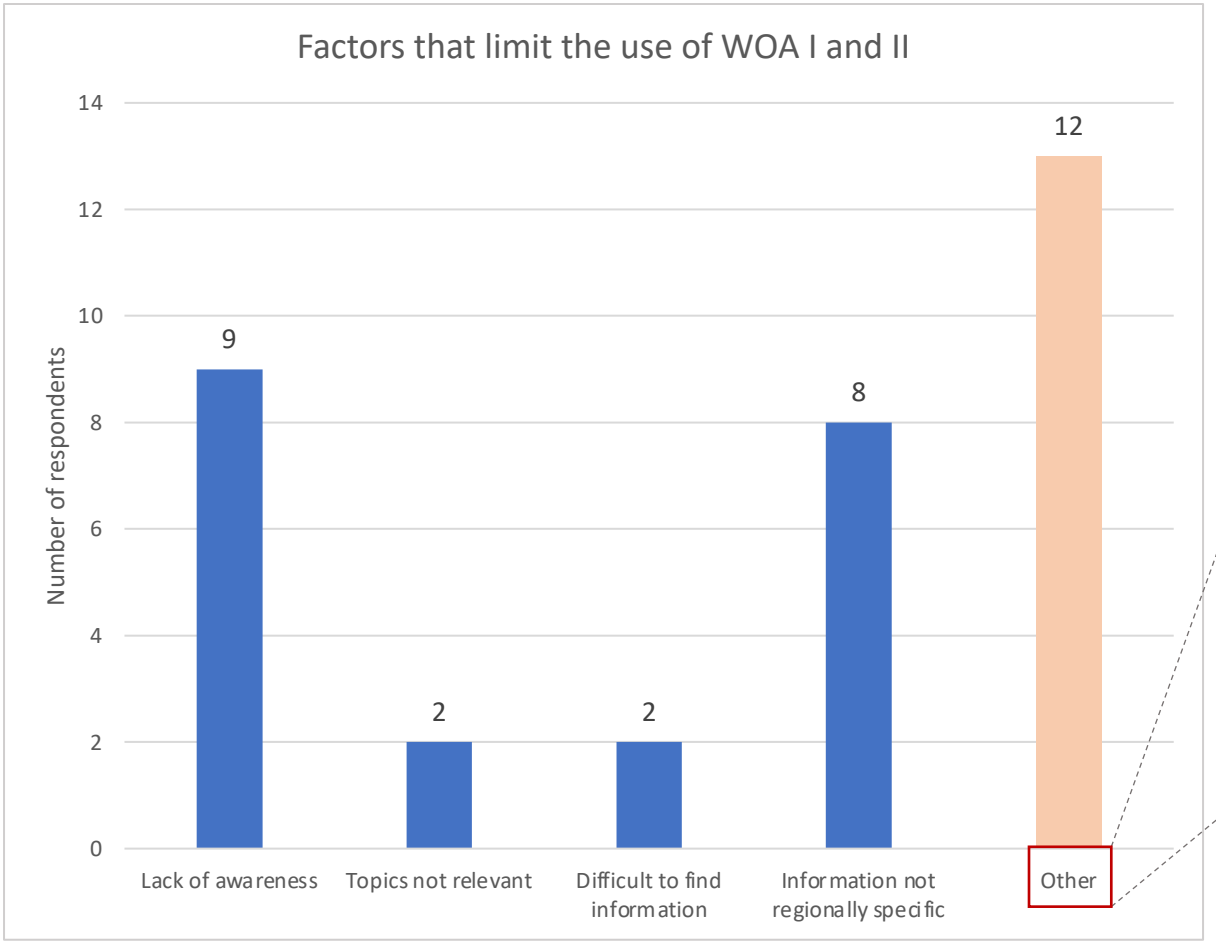


# Have you used the World Ocean Assessment reports (WOA I and WOA II) in your work?

- Responses: 27
- Median: 3 (A few times)
- More than 55% of respondents used WOA I and WOA II a few times or a lot of times



# What are some of the factors that have limited your use of the assessments?




- The overall view is implicitly missing details
- Governmental channels not aware of
- Summary of trends and future scenarios not focused enough
- Value-added beyond scientific literature is not clear
- My scientific investigations were more directed to regional seas
- Disproportionally large amount of attention for small (niche) subjects
- Limited attention to the main themes

# Which topics covered by the World Ocean Assessment reports (WOA I and WOA II) have you found most helpful for your work?

Several responses

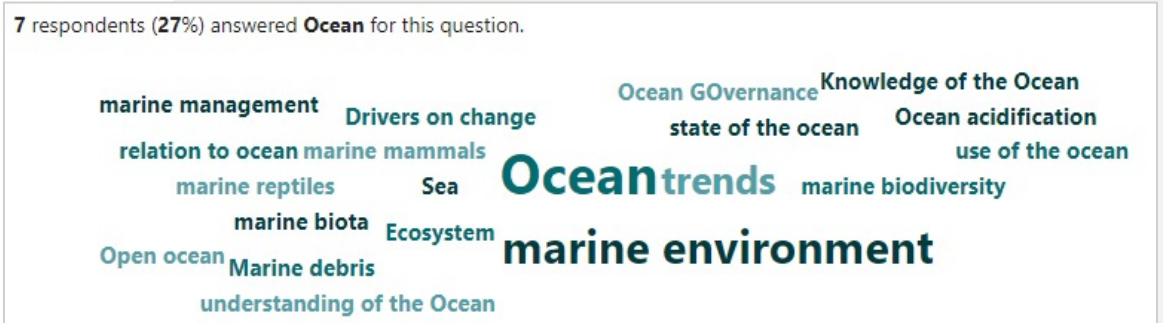
Scientific understanding of the Ocean, Drivers on change in the marine environment, Fishes: key region-specific changes and consequences, Developments in renewable energy sources, and Chapter 28.

Summary - Context of the Assessment- Assessment of Major Ecosystem services- Drivers-Trends in Physical

current status of the marine environment and its trends Trends in the biodiversity of the main taxa of marine biota (marine mammals, sea birds, marine reptiles, fishes)

Marine genetic resources

Scientific Knowledge of the Ocean, Deep-Sea mining, Solid and liqued wastes, MPA, Cumulative effect and Ocean GOvernance



# What are the five primary knowledge gaps in your region in understanding the state of the ocean, including the use of the ocean?

Several responses

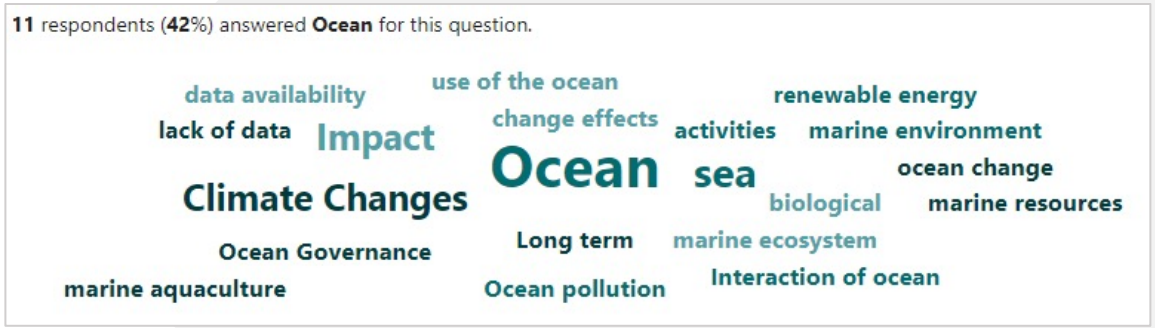
- The need for marine and maritime planning. - The importance of maritime trade in the global economy. - The socio-economic potential of ocean-related industries, namely the emerging ones (blue biotech, renewable energies, seabed mining) and its effects in the environment. - On one hand, the effects of traditional activities (fishing, canned fish, ex.): the high no. of jobs and income. On the other hand, how to manage them in order to minimise its environmental consequences. - The effects of tourism (beach, cruises, etc.) in the environment and how to diversify it, in order to make it more sustainable (creative, cultural tourism, ex).

partial understanding of the ocean functioning features; limited understanding of the marine trophic chains; poor knowledge of some anthropogenic impact factors; partial availability of fishery data; low if any onsideration for the ancient sea culture.

future of fisheries; pollutant trends; projections of future productivity; trends in deadzones; sea-level rise projections

Opportunities for multi-sectoral use off-shore renewable energy stations; Ecosystem approach to marine aquaculture; Sustainability in ocean governance; Contributions of the sea to livelihoods and cultural identities; Trade-offs associated with different development options;

Large Marine Ecosystems - Eastern Boundary Upwelling Areas- Canary Current LME - Mediterranean Sea- Alboran Sea



# What are the five primary capacity gaps in your region in understanding the state of the ocean, including the use of the ocean?

Several responses

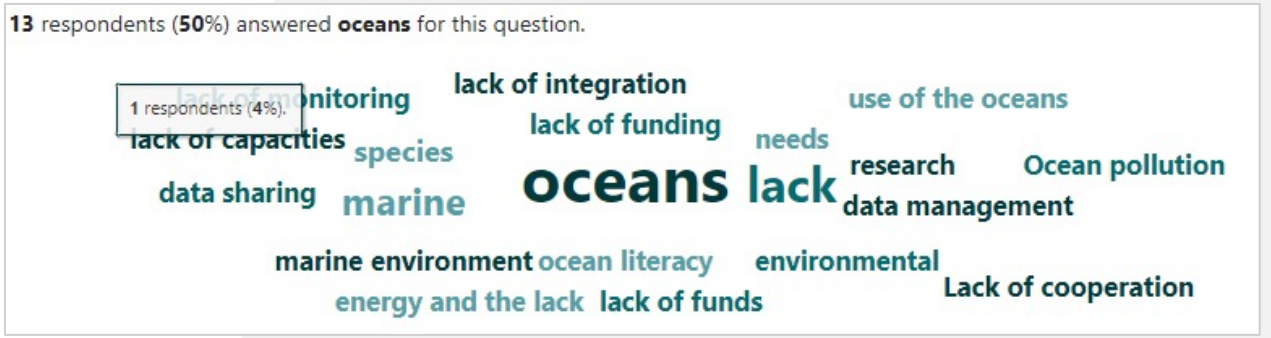
Training in data sharing Ocean acidification measurements Emerging pollutants measurements deep-sea biodiversity and conservation Data and information for management needs

- Lack of ocean literacy in the society as a all - Lack of universities and R&D centres, specialised in the different ocean-sectors and subjects. - Lack of professional training - Lack of cooperation between both sides of the North Atlantic ocean. - Knowledge gap on the consequences of the UN continental shelf enlargement and what measures to adopt.

Capacity to introduce transparency and traceability in aquaculture; Capacity to assess interactions between new ocean technologies and marine environment; Seafood production social carrying capacity; Environmental footprint of seafood production; Application of ecosystem-based management to human maritime activities;

limited availability of funds; low number of field scientists; low density of oceanic buoys for collecting data; difficulty for having campaigns in several countries together; disappearance of systematicians (experts in classifying the species).

Extensive collaboration between scientists Timely open data availability for use in trends analysis Data sharing policies in research projects Fragmented research environment



# Should the next assessment(s) produced under the third cycle focus on particular topics? If so, which topics should it focus on?

Several responses

Yes Sea-level Change; Climate Change Impacts on Fisheries; Climate Refugia; Phenology and Food Webs; Mobilisation of Carbon in Marine Sediments by Bottom Fishing

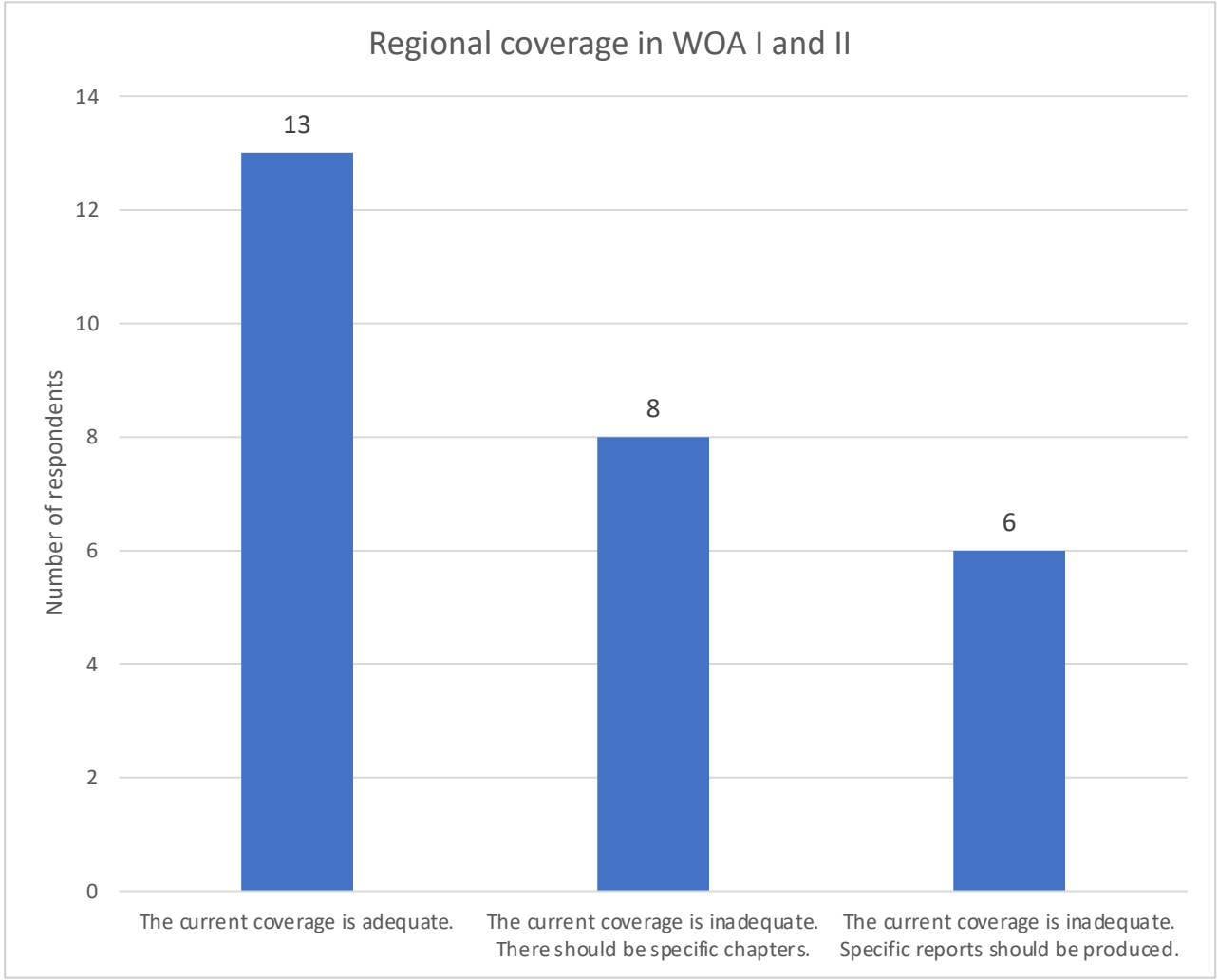
1. Human activities and its pressures in time and space 2. Biological components and its vulnerability toward these pressures 3. Regional mapping of biological components in space and time 4. Risk analyses of the overlap between 1, 2 and 3

More focus on the advance of the economic use of the ocean with the assessment of thier impact on the state of the ocean, so (local) policies can be informed in an unbias manner. Promotion of the outcomes of the Regular process, so that stakeholders are aware of this source. Prehaps regional (more specific, shorter) reports would be more manageble for use by the local stakeholders.

1) Climate change; impacts and solutions. 2) Use of technology and autonomy to increase understanding of the ocean in a sustainable and equitable way. 3) The value of the marine environment to humans (natural and social capital). 4) Marine data management, visibility, accessibility and reliability. 5) Better connectivity between the threat of climate change to biodiversity and the role of conserving biodiversity as a mechanism for increasing ecosystem resilience to climate change.

No the WOA should have a global focus

Should the next assessment(s) produced under the third cycle expand its coverage of regional perspectives to specific chapters or reports or is the current coverage adequate?



# How might indigenous, traditional and local knowledge from your region inform and contribute to the next assessment(s)?

Several responses

Through focal points in each region. links to NGOs Establish focal points when needed

By meeting and talking physically Possible by sending standardized interview forms to collect knowledge - but this does usually not work due to the lack of involvement, lack of money, lack of time given to the knowledge holders.

AMAP has a strong section on indigenous knowledge, which would be good to incorporate.

The Two-Eyed Seeing approach embraces the strengths of both Indigenous and Western knowledge and embodies both Indigenous and Western world views, acknowledging that no single perspective is better. To fit these knowledge systems into the structure of the WOA report, indigenous, TEK, LEK views could be provided in a subsection or text box for each of the main groups of marine biota discussed and for other chapters such as climate change etc.

Use of narrative descriptions of ecosystem change in specific regions where local knowledge can provide a historical perspective.

What might be the appropriate pathways for supporting the consideration of indigenous, traditional, and local knowledge from your region in assessment(s) produced by the Regular Process?

Several responses

Local workshops/gatherings with local knowledge leaders to share insights. Typically. there is a problem of time for unfunded mandates.

Involvement in workshops. Requests for narrative assessment son specific topics. Include them in processes to determine the natural and social capital of marine systems.

National representatives could invite indigenous groups to provide vignettes for relevant chapters elaborated on in the report.

Local scale research projects involving NGO's and Schools for flexibility and fast actions

- Conducting surveys and interviews in traditional maritime communities - Meetings with the population of these communities about their problems, suggestions for solutions, exchange of knowledge.

Are there any ocean-related assessments from your region that are relevant for in supporting development of the next assessment(s) produced by the Regular Process?

Several responses

OSPAR HELCOM CIESM Barcelona Convention ICES IMO

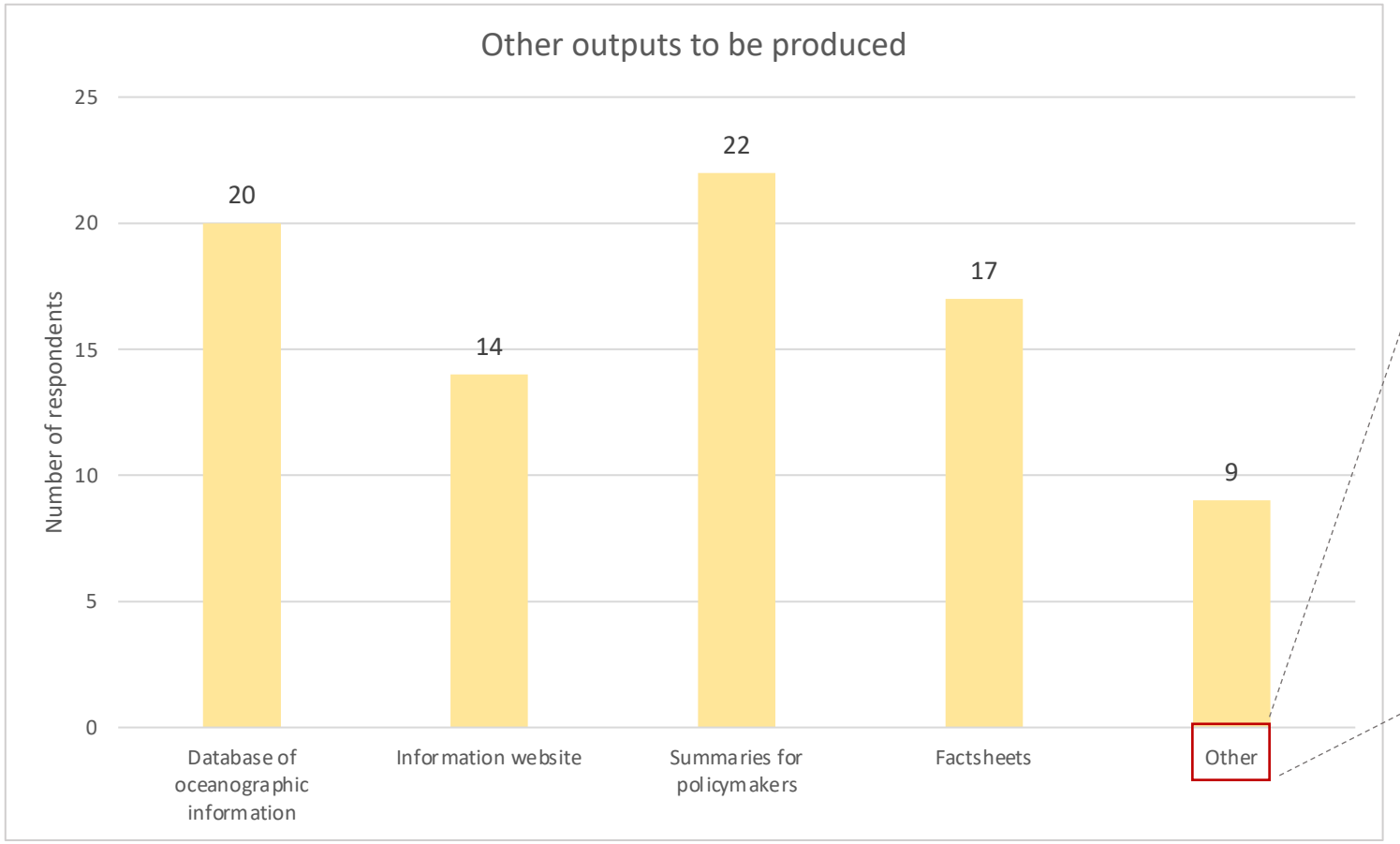
Yes Canada's Oceans Now, 2020 (https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/oceans/publications/soto-rceo/2020/report-rapport-eng.html#figure-10) Canada's Oceans Now: Atlantic Ecosystems, 2018 ( https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=2zWeD09UYE-9zF6kFubccDZSBJwUpvJPnC9eEo4AbUtUNjMzMjVRQ0tON0EzSzg4WDA2MDhENlpMTi4u) State of the Atlantic Ocean synthesis report, 2018 (https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/oceans/publications/soto-rceo/2018/atlantic-synthesis-atlantique-synthese/index-eng.html)

Navigating the Future V from the European Marine Board (https://www.marineboard.eu/publications/navigating-future-v) The data products of the International GEOTRACES program

ICES Integrated Ecosystem Asessements: https://www.ices.dk/advice/ESD/Pages/Ecosystem-overviews.aspx CAFF: https://www.caff.is/marine AMAP: https://www.arctic-council.org/about/working-groups/amap/ OBIS: https://obis.org/ WORMS: https://www.marinespecies.org/ ASTD: https://www.pame.is/index.php/projects/arctic-marine-shipping/astd

Yes - the Regional Seas Quality Status Reports (OSPAR, HELCOM, Barcelona and Bucharest conventions), the ICES status reports and working group outputs, the GESAMP Working Groups, the assessment for the EEA and for the European Directives (Marine Strategy Framework Directive, Habitats and Wild Birds Directives, Water Framework Directive, Maritime Spatial Planning Directive; recently completed and started HorizonEurope projects; UK Marine Strategy assessments

# What other output(s) would be most helpful to support policy and decision making in your region?




- Conferences for Parties and environmental ministers
- Establishing opportunities for Citizen science
- Regional Report
- Study material directed to schools at a different level
- Regionally specific, short films detailing the process and findings
- Articles in influential media

# Are there particular regulatory frameworks or legislations/policies in your region that would benefit from the knowledge provided in the World Ocean Assessments?

Several responses

Yes, missing links between Maritime Administrations and Marine Management Agencies. As the regulation of shipping is mainly done at global level through consensus agreements in the International Maritime Organization, it is unfortunate that the delegations most often lack competence related to marine science (most often the delegates are having a background as master mariners, marine engineers or lawyers).

ICCAT and GFCM for sure, while national policies should also benefit.

Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) 2008/56/EU, Commision decission 2017/848/EU; Water Framework Directive (WFD) 2000/60/EC

European Marine Board

EU National Legislation

Arctic Council ICES FAO OSPAR

# Thank You