

World Ocean Assessment (WOA)

Scientific evidence for policy, decision making and society

“
This (WOA) is the only global integrated
assessment of the world's ocean along
all three pillars of sustainable
development.”



“
António Guterres,
Secretary-General of the United Nations



WOA III is a collective effort of
interdisciplinary writing teams made up of:

more than **590** experts

chapters

from **86** countries

contributing to **60** chapters

overseen by representatives of **25**

States through the Group of Experts

Elements of WOA III

Sustainable and Inclusive Ocean Economy

- Focusing on the **challenges of human-induced pressures** on the ocean.
- Emphasizing the **importance** of ocean **data, information, and management** approaches.
- Presenting **sustainable pathways** for ocean **economic resources** and for **human activities** in the ocean.

One Health

Providing an overview of the **integrated and unified** approach to balancing the health of the **physical and chemical state** of the marine environment, the **organisms** that live in it, and **people** for achieving a **healthy ocean environment**.

Global Ocean Governance

Presenting a summary of the **recent development** of **resolutions, international agreements** and **regional treaties** in place **regulating** various aspects of the ocean which responds to **policy needs**.

Connect with us



@undoalos



@undoalos



@undoalos



@undoalos



www.un.org/regularprocess

WOA contributes to achieving a healthy ocean by:

Informing decision-makers

The WOA, as the flagship deliverable of the United Nations Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects (the Regular Process), informs decision-makers of the challenges and opportunities for achieving a healthy ocean environment, with equity, gender, Indigenous Knowledge and Local Community Knowledge as cross-cutting themes.

Providing the best available, scientifically informed review of the state of the global marine environment, including socioeconomic aspects

The WOA relies on ocean observation, monitoring, and research to enhance the scientific basis for policymaking. It provides crucial information on the physical, chemical, and biological characteristics of marine environments, and on economic and social aspects of communities to inform effective local, regional and global policies for ocean conservation and management.

Coordinating with other relevant assessments (e.g IPCC and IPBES) and engaging with the UN Ocean Decade and relevant UN bodies

Cooperation between the Regular Process and other ocean-related intergovernmental processes contributes to the development of the WOA. This collaboration pursues synergy among various assessments, including those from the IPBES and IPCC, among others, strengthening the ocean science policy interface under the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development.

Thematic summaries will inform policy-makers and stakeholders

Thematic summaries will provide a synthesis of relevant information from the third World Ocean Assessment via cross-cutting themes intended to provide a scientific basis for action by governments, intergovernmental processes, policy-makers and others involved in ocean affairs.

