

OSPAR regional work on climate and ocean acidification

10-11 April, Madrid Workshop - Because the Ocean - Before the Blue COP

Susana Salvador, OSPAR Executive Secretary



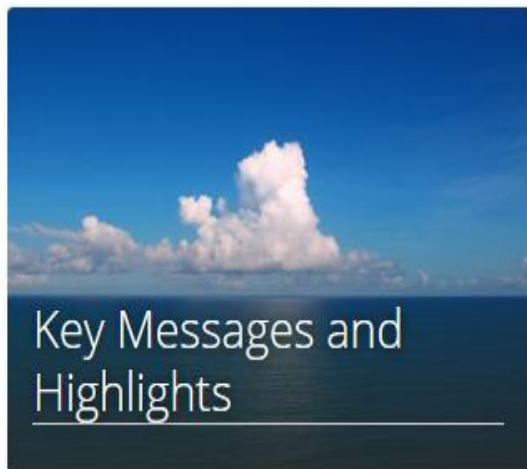
maritime area

16 Contracting Parties

main objectives

- Prevent and eliminate pollution
- Protect the maritime area from adverse effects of human activities
- Safeguard human health
- Conserve marine ecosystems
- Restore marine areas, when practicable

Intermediate Assessment 2017



climate and ocean acidification

current NEAES 2010-2020 states:

“first effects of climate change and ocean acidification are apparent throughout the OSPAR Maritime Area and pressures on the marine environment from climate change and ocean acidification are set to grow”.

so, OSPAR is to:

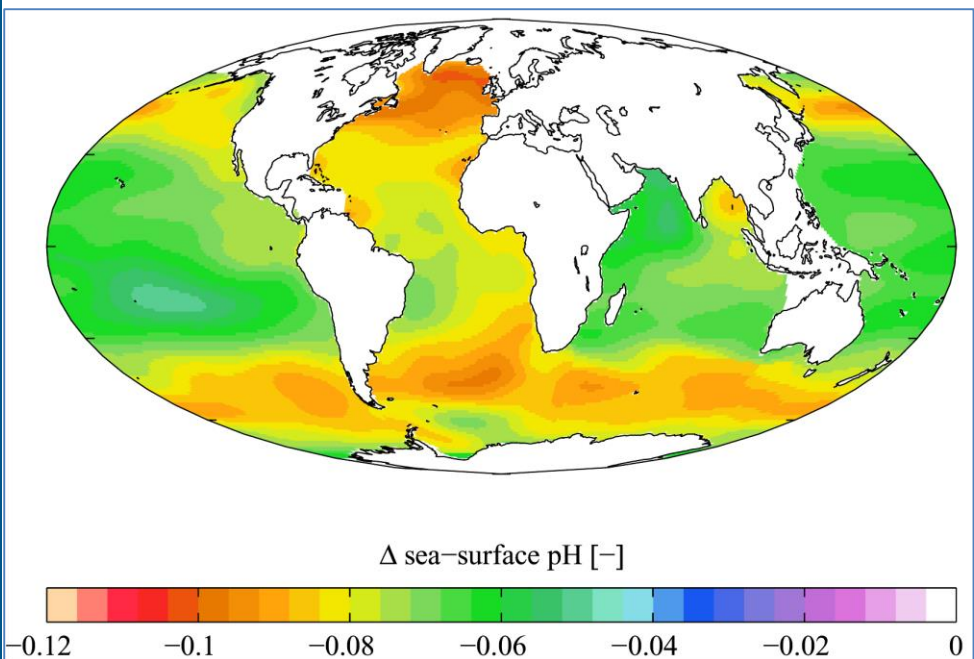
- monitor and assess the nature, rate and extent of the effects of climate change and ocean acidification on the marine environment;
- consider appropriate ways of responding to those developments.

CO2 recognised as principal driver of climate change

in 2008, OSPAR:

- ✓ a decision to ban placement of CO2 water column and seabed
- ✓ a decision to ensure safe storage of carbon dioxide streams in geological formations under the seabed
- ✓ guidelines for risk-assessment and management CCS

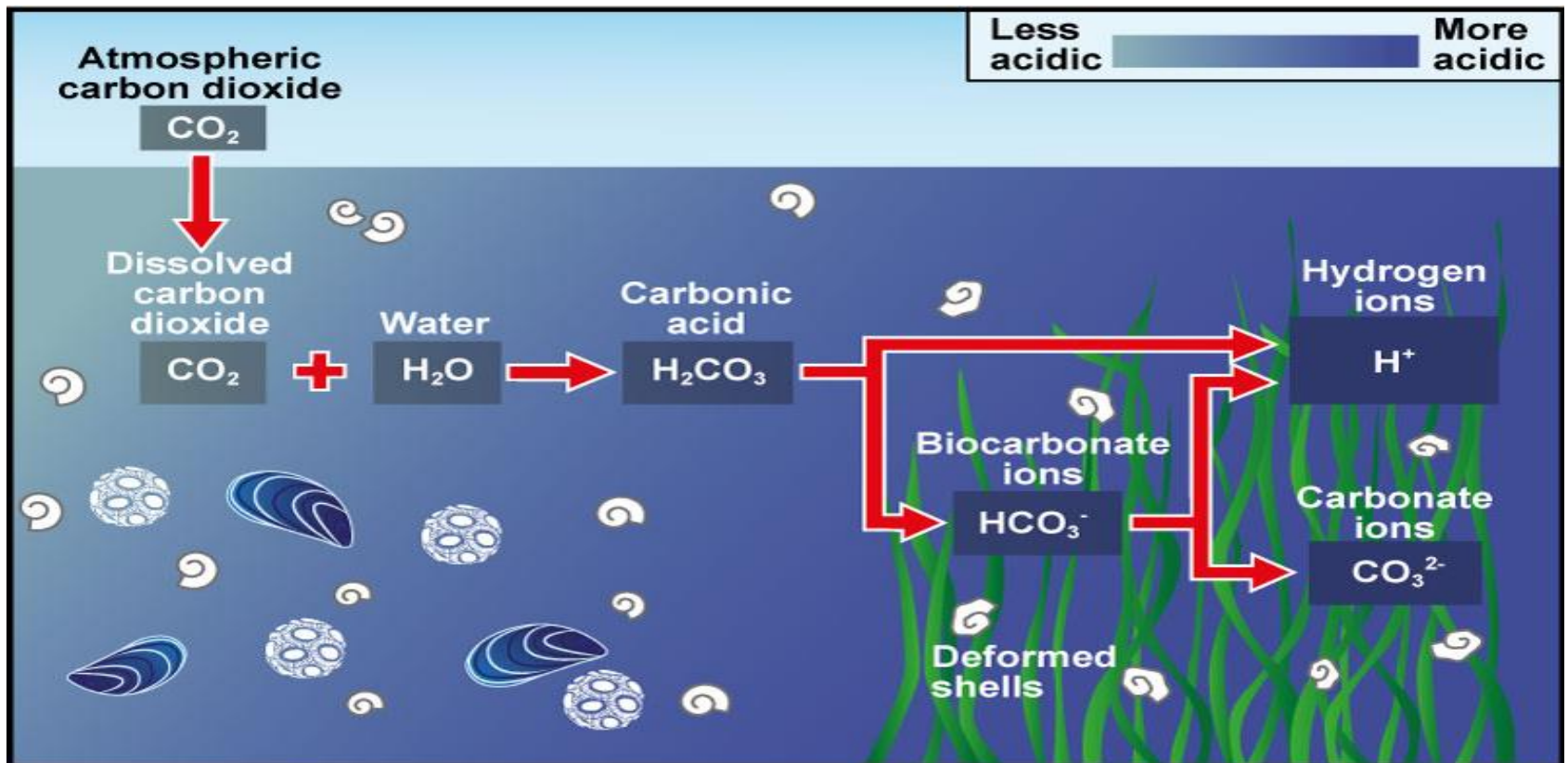
ocean acidification



“...refers to a reduction in the pH of the ocean over an extended period, typically decades or longer, which is caused primarily by uptake of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, but can also be caused by other chemical additions or subtractions from the ocean. Anthropogenic ocean acidification refers to the component of pH reduction that is caused by human activity” (IPCC, 2011)

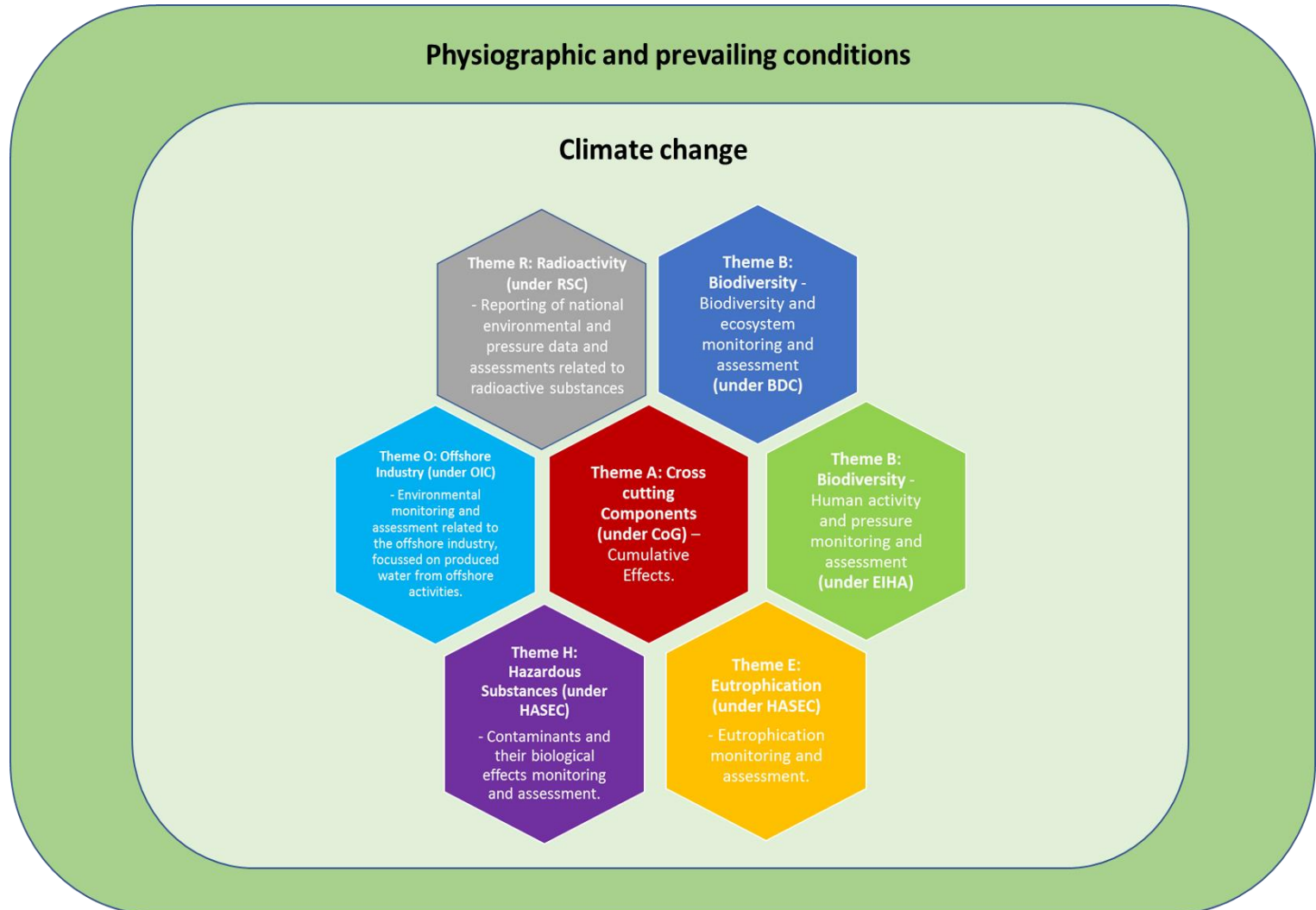
Conclusions of IA 2017

- cumulative effects and climate
- ocean acidification, a key pressure



cumulative effects assessment

- a systematic procedure for identifying and evaluating the significance of effects from multiple human activities, may estimate the overall expected impact
 - ✓ by addressing the causes, pathways of exposure and consequences of these effects on ecosystem components
 - ✓ ICG- EcoC work on assessment methodology



ocean acidification

under UN SDG target 14.3.
minimise and address the
impacts of **ocean
acidification**, including
through enhanced scientific
cooperation at all levels

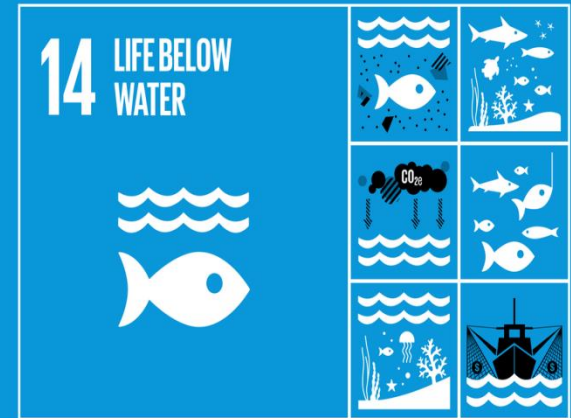
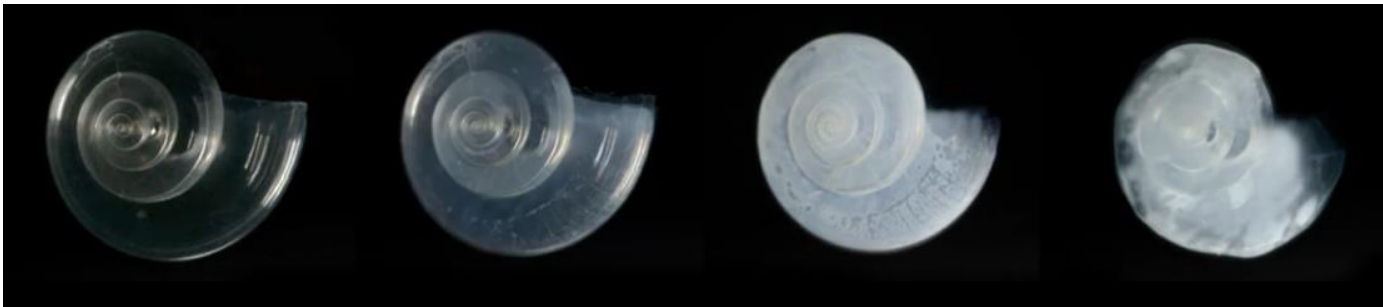


image:www.globalgoals.org

ocean acidification

OA expert group
new indicators for QSR 2023
new strategic objective NEAES 2020-
2030



OA expert group

- use recommended SGOA methodology
- develop a new OA indicator for QSR2023
- present impacts from observed declines in pH (MPAs, sensitive species)
- collect results from research programmes



assessment for QSR 2023

- ecosystem assessment, including analysis cumulative effects
- new assessment indicator on ocean acidification

what new ambitions?



learning from the past
assessing progress of objectives
effectiveness of measures

new strategic objective 2020-2030

contribute to ensure resilience
in a changing marine environment



to minimise and address, via mitigation, adaptation and documentation, the **impacts of climate change and ocean acidification** acknowledging the benefits of such actions in ensuring ecosystem resilience in the OSPAR maritime area

Thank you

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