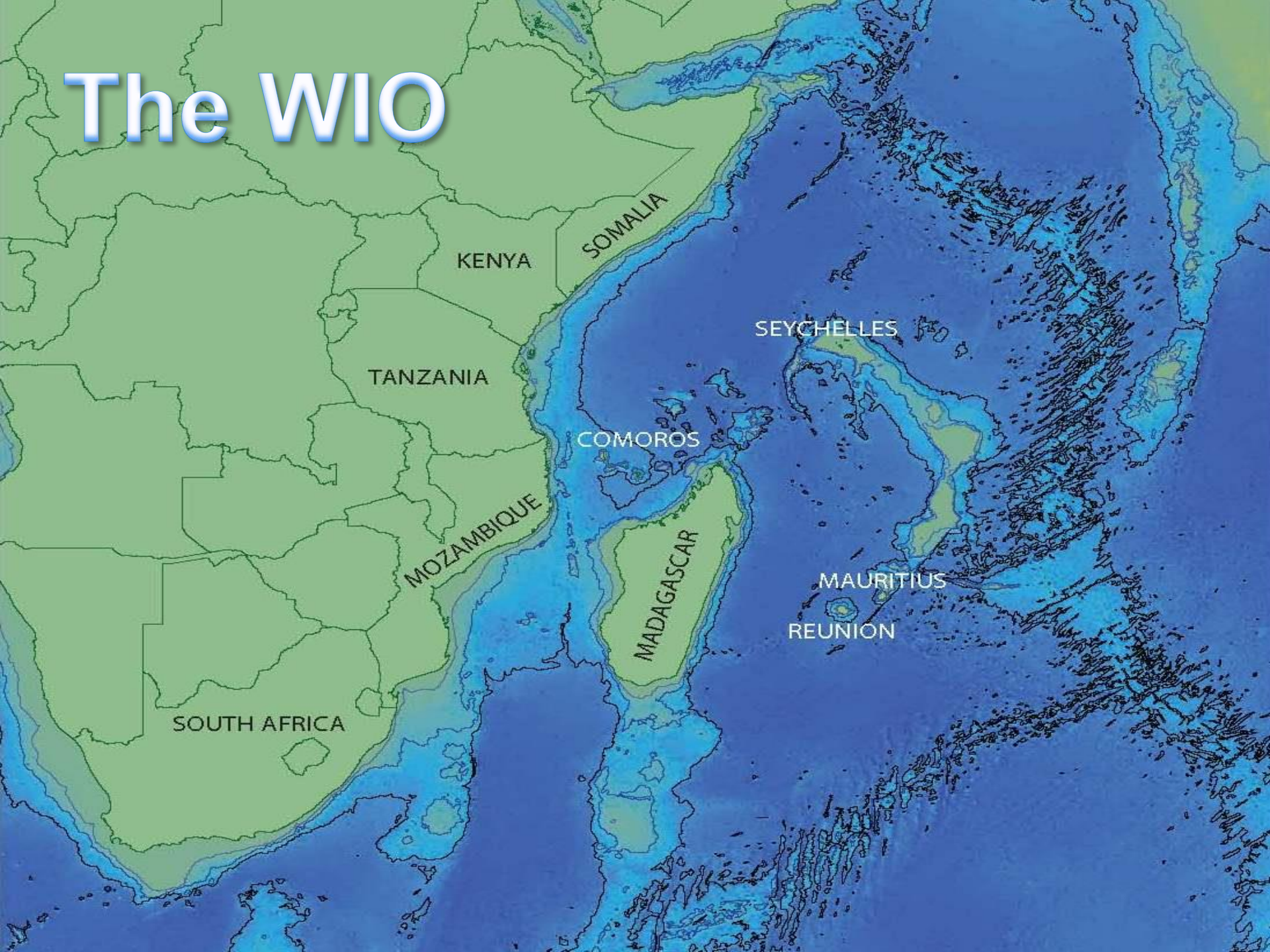


WIOMSA in brief...

Julius Francis
Executive Secretary

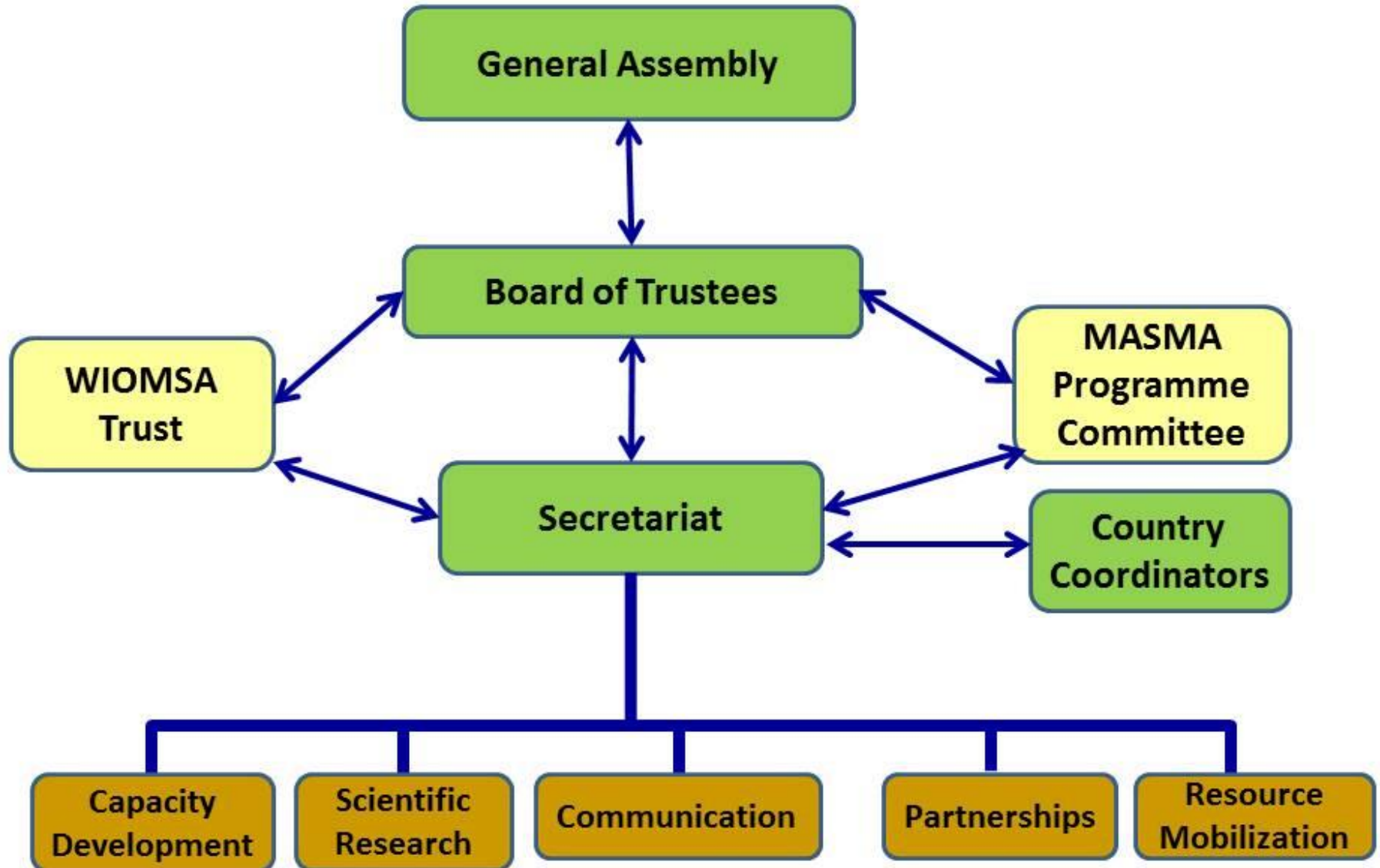
The WIO



1. WIOMSA established to...

- Forum for addressing the regional issues efficiently;
- Means for generating knowledge whilst building capacity;
- The basis for developing collaborations & partnerships;
- Mechanisms to promote the relationship between science and management and improving decision-making processes
- Opportunities for upscaling and enhancing outcomes and impacts
- Mobilizing more resources for the region

2. Organizational Structure



3. MAIN ACTIVITIES

- Linking science to governance processes
- Capacity and professional development to conduct quality research and for improved management
- Enhancing access to relevant knowledge and information
- Strengthening networks and partnerships
- Outreach and Resource Mobilization

4. Specific activities

- Linking science to governance
 - Competitive Research Grant Programme (Open and Commissioned Programmes)
 - Policy to Science dialogues
- Capacity and professional development
 - Marine Research Grant Programme
 - Grants to organize training courses
 - Writing workshop
 - Professionalizing MPA Management

5. Specific activities: Communication & Dissemination

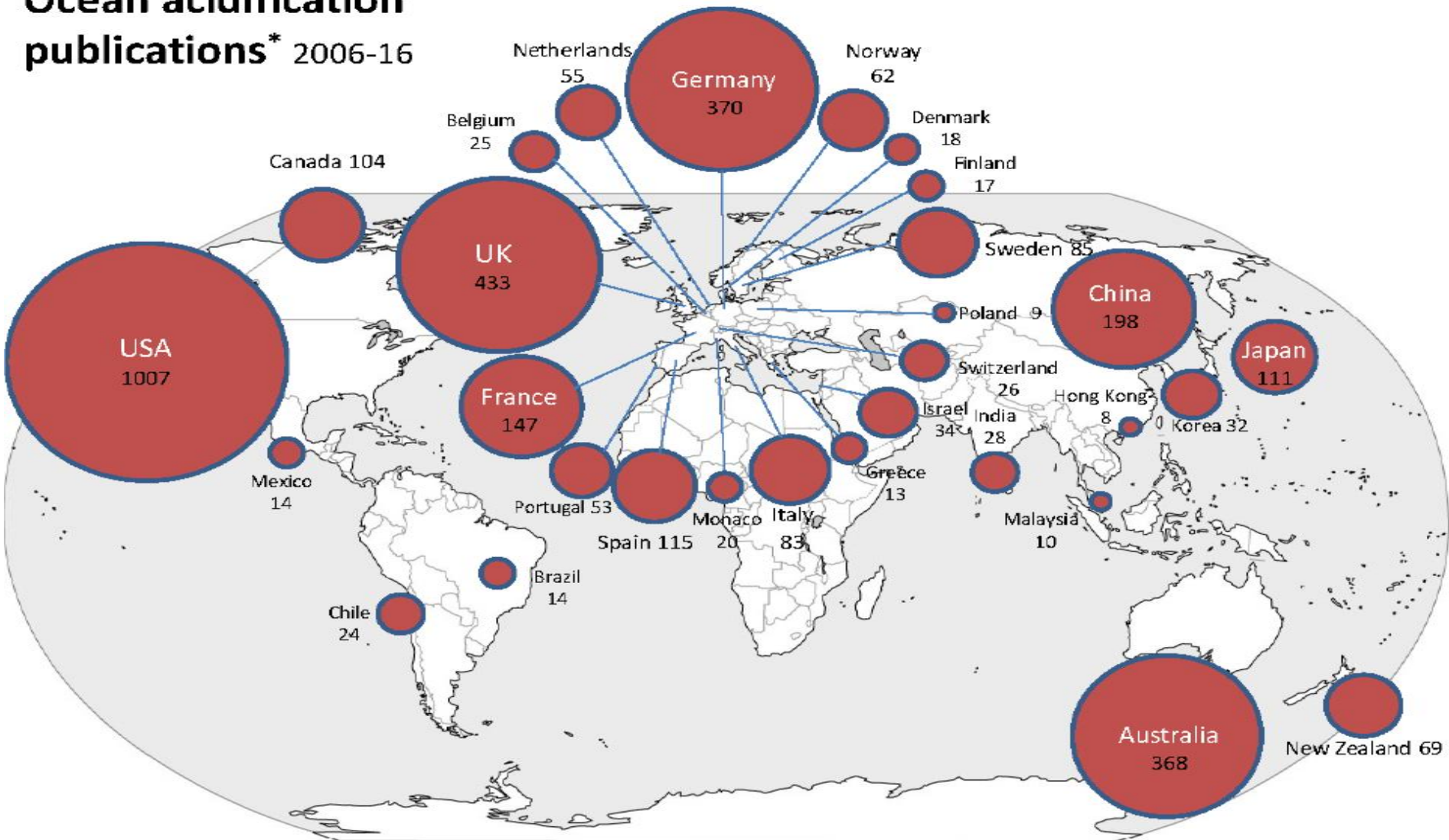
- **WIOJMS** - Western Indian Ocean Journal of Marine Science
- **Special Issues** of non-WIO International Journals – 10 (Ambio – 3; Ocean and Coastal Management-3; Aquatic Conservation; Coastal Management; Estuarine Coastal Shelf Sciences; Deep-Sea Research)
- **Book Series** – 16 books, 3 in preparation
- **Site-based publications** – Chwaka and Maputo Bay
- **Quality publishing** - Oxford University Press & UCT Press
- **Significant book sales** in Amazon
- **Biennial WIOMSA Scientific Symposiums**
- **Policy Briefs - 8**
- **Annual Reports**

6. Specific activities

- **Strengthening networks and partnerships**
 - Hosting of technical and practitioners networks
 - MOUs with key regional institutions such as the Nairobi Convention and Indian Ocean Commission (COI)
 - Members in partners' decision-making organs
- **Resource Mobilization**
 - WIOMSA Trust (WIT)
 - Broadening the sources of revenues
 - Looking for new donors

7a. Priorities: Addressing research gaps – OA & Marine litter

Ocean acidification publications* 2006-16



7a. Priorities: Addressing research gaps – Coastal cities

- Research focusing on coastal cities
 - mobilizing scientists to collaborate with other key stakeholders in coastal cities such as local authorities, city planners, policy makers from central government, the private sector, civil society and citizens, in research co-design and the co-production of the knowledge, capacity building, and the production of decision-support tools needed to support the transformation of coastal cities towards sustainability
 - Implementing two research projects in the coastal cities of Mombasa and Durban, and Port Elizabeth

7b. Priorities: Meeting Global obligations

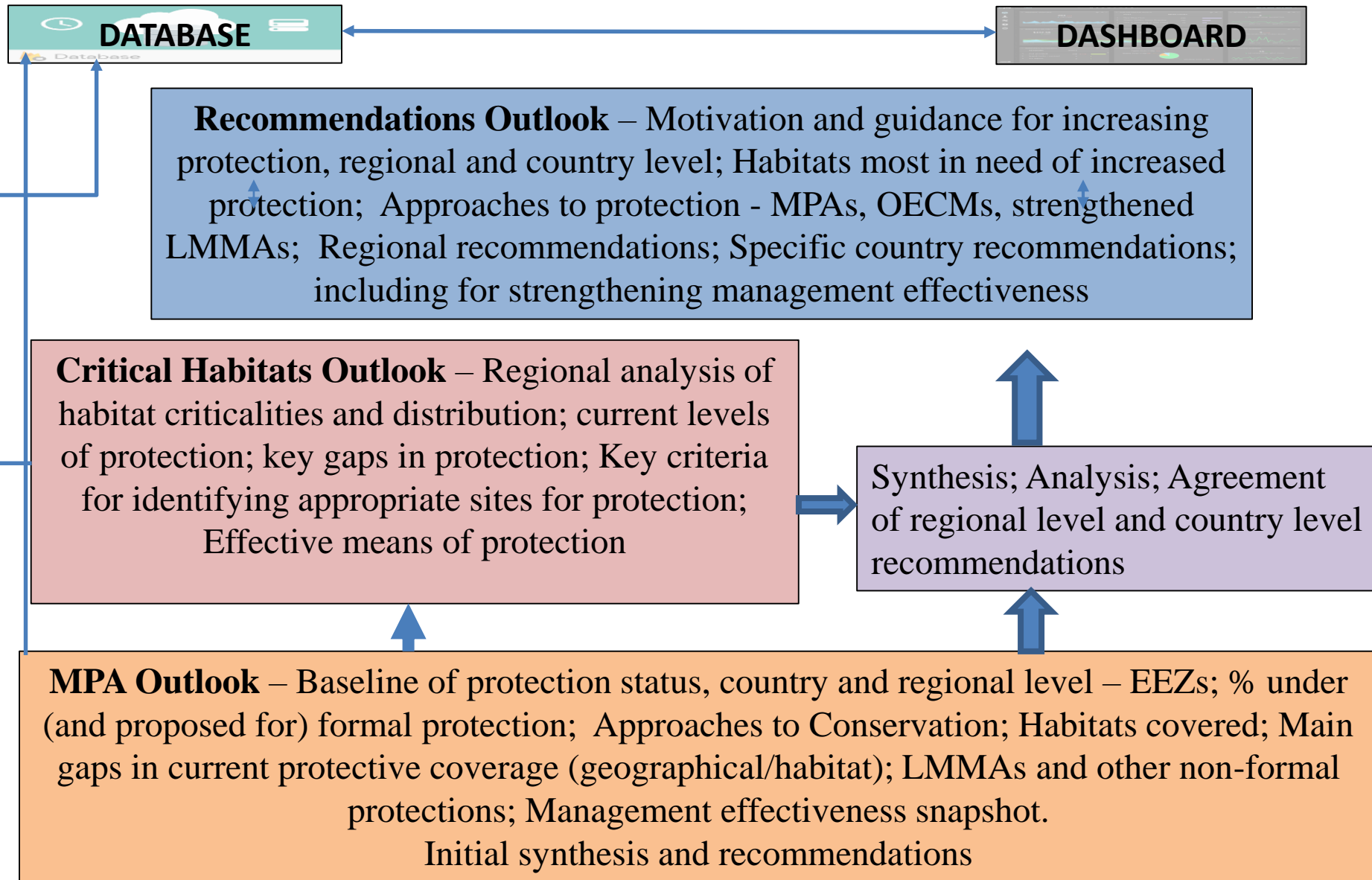


- SDG 14.1: Prevent and reduce marine pollution
- SDG 14.2: Manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems
- SDG 14.3: Minimize and address impacts of ocean acidification
- SDG 14.5: conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas

Focus on

- Setting baselines
- Recommend options to meet the targets

7b SDG Implementation: Productions of Outlooks



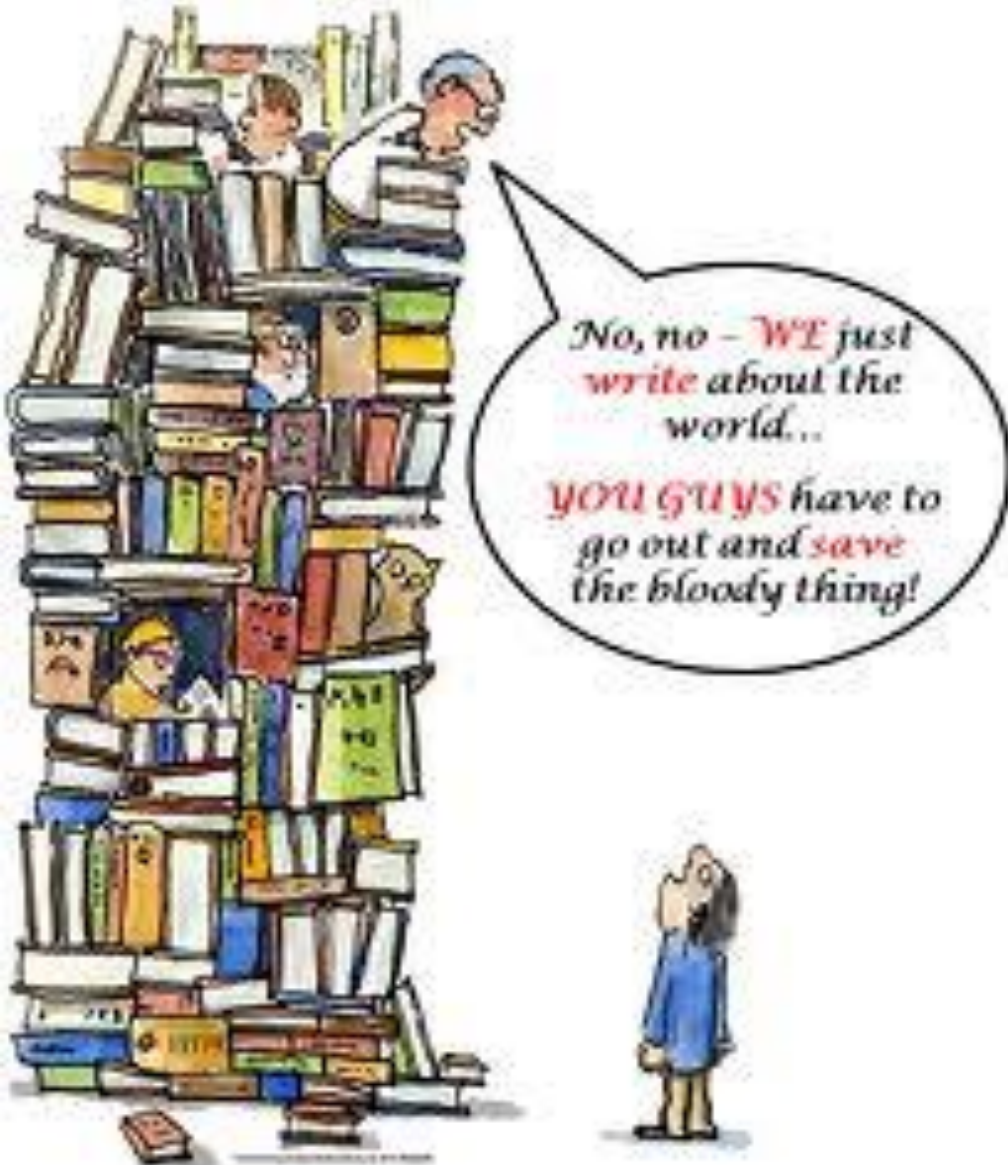
7b. Ocean Acidification Projects

- Strengthening of The National Capacity for Monitoring Ocean Carbon Chemistry and Its Impacts on Coastal Ecosystems and Human Livelihoods - KMFRI
- Oceanic Carbonate Chemistry Observatory in Mauritius Waters – MOI & UoM
- Ocean Acidification (OA) initiative in Mozambique -University Eduardo Mondlane
- Establishment of ocean acidification observation in Seychelles – University of Seychelles
- Ocean Acidification Observation and Experiments in South Africa - Oceanographic Research Institute
- Ocean Acidification Observation in Tanzanian Coastal Waters - TAFIRI

7b. Marine litter Projects

- Marine Litter Monitoring in Mauritius, Rodrigues and outer islands - University of Mauritius
- Managing the threat of Marine Plastic Pollution in Seychelles - The Ocean Project Seychelles
- Awareness and monitoring of marine litter in Mozambique - Universidade Lúrio
- Characterizing and assessing marine litter sources from Madagascar coastline in the south-west Indian ocean - CETAMADA
- Marine litter dynamics and monitoring in the coastal waters of Mombasa city, Kenya: An input to source reduction and place based management initiatives – KMFRI
- Marine Litter Monitoring Programme in Dar es Salaam – Nipe Fagio

7c. Priorities: Beyond the publications



7c. Priorities: In search for science that matters

- Inclusion of socioeconomic and governance research dimensions crucial for impact of science & utility for management;
- Important for regional scientists to clearly highlight the policy relevance & use of their science;
- Regular and sustained interactions are important for building trust and fostering effective dialogues

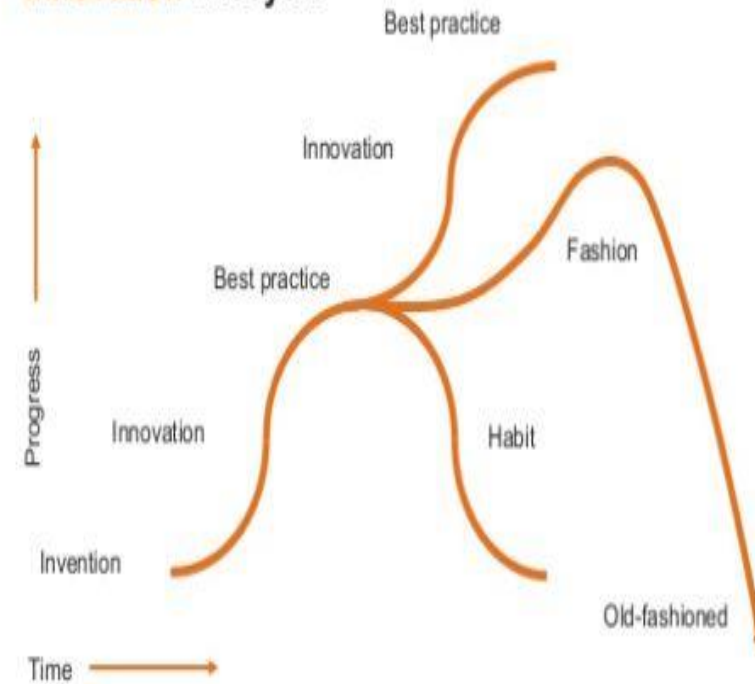
7d. Priorities: Setting up a Science to Policy Platform

- Is a multi-stakeholder platform comprising of representatives of formal and informal knowledge generating institutions, practitioners, policy makers, communities and the private sector within WIO region which serves as an intermediary body to bridge the gaps between science, policy and practice.
- In the Ninth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Nairobi Convention, about 60% of the decisions adopted came from the Science to Policy platform

7e. Priorities: support innovative actions and best management practices

- supporting innovative actions (demonstration and pilot projects) and improvement of best management practices related to conservation of coastal and marine resources in the WIO region
- should offer alternative solutions compared to the available best practice, with the potential to be applied on a larger scale under similar situations in the WIO region

Innovation Lifecycle



7f. Priorities: Where is the data?

- Where is the data generated?
- Can the data be assessed?
- Has the data generated optimally used?

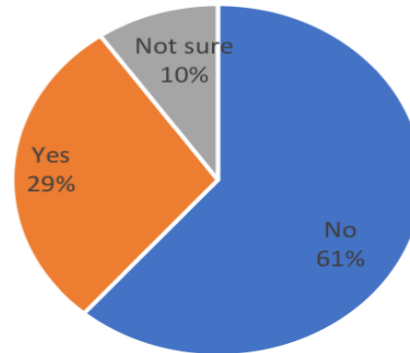


Fig A. Was metadata compiled for the data

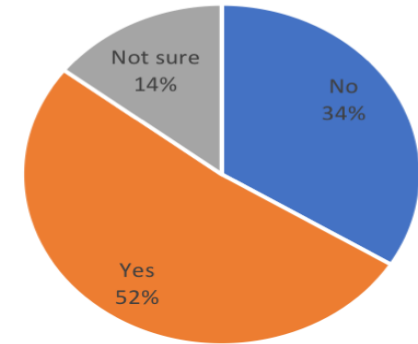


Fig B. Are there any restrictions on the use of the dataset?

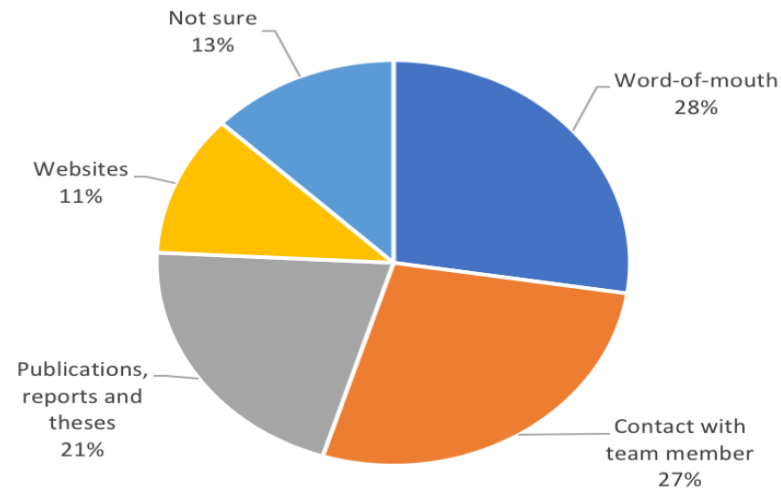


Fig C. How can someone know about the dataset? How can the dataset be found?

8. Concluding remarks

- The blue economy is a recent and developing paradigm and the transition from an ocean economy to a blue economy will be a complex, long-term undertaking. Even so, the ocean will become an economic force this century (Economist Intelligence Unit 2015).
- ...in the 21st century, many ocean countries have reassessed the value of their oceans and coasts and have actively established strategies to develop and protect them



**Welcome you all to the 11th WIOMSA Scientific Symposium,
Mauritius, 1- 6 July 2019**

For more information: www.wiomsa.org