

**ECONOMIST  
IMPACT**



The 11th annual

# **WORLD OCEAN Summit & Expo**

**“How to” sessions summary report**

March 11th-13th | Lisbon, Portugal

# Summary

The 11th annual World Ocean Summit launched the “How to” working group sessions this year.

The purpose of the sessions was to create a set of action points and practical takeaways for individuals and organisations committed to restoring ocean health. These sessions, for small, focused groups of subject-matter experts and a carefully picked audience were interactive, engaging and solution oriented. This report shares the key takeaways from the speakers and audience from each discussion.



# How to increase the impact of marine protected areas (MPAs)



The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework set out a series of targets to be achieved by 2030 and beyond to reverse nature loss and safeguard biodiversity. The 30x30 target calls for 30% of terrestrial, inland water, and coastal and marine areas to be protected through effective measures by 2030. In this session speakers and participants discussed how to assess and improve the effectiveness of MPAs, to ensure they achieve their potential impact. They considered how MPA managers and scientists can use data to guide regulatory management to reduce the impact of human activity on ocean health. There was a focus on how to use real-time and historical information to support monitoring, analysis and decision-making in small and large MPAs around the world. The working group identified how to increase transparency in MPA management, and assess the economic and environmental impact of MPAs in the context of an effective 30x30.

## Moderator:



**Monica Jain**  
Founder  
Fish 2.0 Ventures



**Brendan Tougher**  
Marine monitor product manager  
ProtectedSeas



**Sergio Gonzalez Carrillo**  
Regional coordinator  
Baja California Sur



**Carlos Chacon**  
Biodiversity lead, Latin America  
Global Fishing Watch



**Meaghan Brosnan**  
Chief operating officer  
WildAid

## The key takeaways from this session are:



- 1.** In MPAs it is important to establish a baseline around biodiversity or other objectives, so that the effectiveness of the MPA can be measured accurately.
- 2.** Biodiversity credits may be one tool used to finance MPAs that many participants had not thought of.
- 3.** Data and technology make management and enforcement more cost-effective.
- 4.** Cost is a huge issue for MPA effectiveness. Everything must be measured against cost.
- 5.** Enforcement is the biggest challenge for MPAs. The table discussing enforcement was the biggest one of all. You could even hold an entire session just on MPA enforcement!
- 6.** It is very hard for managers to get data from at-sea activities.
- 7.** Smaller vessels are especially hard to get data about or from.
- 8.** Behaviour change is important to drive legal compliance or it becomes impossible to enforce.
- 9.** For behaviour change, early collaboration in communities is key.
- 10.** All users must be engaged in collaboration discussions, not just fishers.
- 11.** Peer-to-peer exchanges are useful to discover new tools and get buy-in.
- 12.** Challenges are addressing how governments can better support MPAs and how to get the broader public to support the MPA. Storytelling can help.
- 13.** The arts can also be used to raise awareness of MPAs.

