Global Dialogue on Ocean Accounting
12–15 November 2019
Hosted by UN ESCAP + UNSW Sydney
Welcome from the Global Ocean Accounts Partnership

Ben Milligan
GOAP Co-Chair

Michael Bordt
GOAP Co-Chair
Welcome from UNSW, ESCAP, UN Statistics Division

Emma Johnston
Dean of Science, UNSW Sydney

Gemma Van Halderen
Director, Statistics Division, ESCAP

Stefan Schweinfest (by video)
Director, UN Statistics Division
Plenary panel
What are ocean accounts?
Why are they important?
Introduction to the event
High-level policy context
GOAP Technical Guidance
Ocean Accounts pilots
Policy context
Oceans in transition
OECD: Ocean industry value-added projected to double by 2030 from ~USD 1.5 (2010) to 3.0 trillion (c.f. PEMSEA absolute numbers)

However, meeting anticipated demand for ocean space and resources will “prove challenging because the ocean is already under stress”.
The changing structure of the global ocean economy

Capture fisheries
Seafood processing
Shipping & ports
Shipbuilding & repair
Offshore oil & gas
Tourism
Business services
Education & training
Manufacturing & construction
Research and development
Various informal sectors

Aquaculture
Offshore renewable energy
Maritime safety & surveillance
Marine biotechnology
High-tech products & services
Deep & ultra-deep infrastructure
Marine & seabed mining
Desalination
Healthy - Dec 2014

Dying - Feb 2015

Dead - Aug 2015
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Protected areas
Local marine management
Planning: built infrastructure
Planning: ecological infrastructure
Innovative financial instruments

Debt for nature swaps
Payments for ecosystem services
Green / blue / climate bonds
Fiscal reforms and incentives
Biodiversity offsetting
“Natural capital” approaches

Investment in:
- Management measures
- Enabling conditions for good management: laws, policies, institutions, capacity, equitable allocation of resources

Environmental assets, e.g.:
- Forests
- Oceans
- Rivers and lakes
- Land and soil
- Ecosystems
- The subsoil and seabed

Development benefits:
- Employment and livelihoods
- Risk reduction and resilience
- Economic growth
- Health and well-being

Enabling investment in natural assets
Enabling of other social & economic investments
Goods & services
Goods & services from other assets
Illustrative applications of Ocean Accounts:

Track the size and changing structure of the ocean economy, recognizing realities not commonly measured.

Identify how growth and employment are underpinned by specific ecosystem conditions and functions: **Invest $X to restore ocean to condition Y = Z benefits.**

Identify where (and where not) and how marine ecosystems perform better than convention coastal infrastructure: **e.g. when do mangroves or wetlands provide more benefits than concrete?**

A common set of facts for different parts of government: environmental protection, infrastructure development, planning and finance, transport, fisheries, energy, etc.
Key outputs of ocean accounts

Supply and Use Tables and other Economic, Physical, and Biological Data
Institutional and political context:

**Political commitments** – SDG 14, 15.9, 17.19

**UN system** – UN Stats Commission request to ESCAP and UNEP to develop technical guidance on ocean accounts

**High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy** – 13 Heads of Government request recommendations on development of ocean accounts

**National policy demand** – emergence of integrated national strategies for developing the “blue” or “ocean” economy.

**National pilot activities** – diverse focus, at least 10 countries.
The Future
Banar Fil Ardhi