Needs case

Global Dialogue on Ocean Accounting
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Australia
1. The policy context

- Sustainable management and use of marine environment and resources
- Ecologically or biologically significant marine areas
- Blue economy contributed $68.1 billion (4.3% of GDP) in 2018
Ecosystems & the Ocean

Integrated observations

Local knowledge

Big data analytics

Informed decision-making

Food security

Productivity growth

Environmental outcomes

Biodiversity outcomes

Private co-investment

Offset and credit markets

Ecosystems & the Ocean

http://www.unescap.org/our-work/statistics
2. Challenges

• **Common issues impacting our marine environments:**
  • Marine waste
  • Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing
  • Climate change
  • Coastal development
  • Threatened ecological communities and marine species

• **Valuable and growing marine economy**
  • Domestic and international tourism
  • Oil and gas
  • Shipping and transport
  • Recreational and commercial fishing
3. Australian ocean account examples

- Patagonian Toothfish – Austral Fisheries and the Wentworth Group (2018)
  - Extent (including bycatch impact) and condition
  - Extent, condition, tourism, fisheries, carbon
  - Seagrass, carbon sequestration and storage.
  - Informed the State of the Bay report
- SEEA AFF accounts discussion paper – Australian Bureau of Statistics (2015-16)
  - Physical flow and asset accounts for fish and aquatic products
  - Monetary flow accounts for agriculture, forestry and fisheries activities
4. Current plans

- Pilot marine ecosystem account in 2020
  - Support marine park managers
- Support ocean account development in the region
  - ESCAP partnership to advance a pilot account and facilitate collaboration
  - Support participation in the High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy
5. Stakeholders

Various potential government, private sector and community based users

Various data sources – dependent on the user needs
6. Institutional mechanisms

- Governance supporting the national strategy
  - Interjurisdictional Steering Committee (IJSC)
    - Department of the Environment and Energy
    - Australian Bureau of Statistics
    - State and territory governments
    - Meet 3 times a year
  - Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP)
    - Economic consultant
    - University of Sydney
    - University of NSW
    - Wentworth Group
    - Meet 3 times a year
Thank you!

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