

#OCEANACTION 17094 - UPDATE

PRESENTATION TO ESCAP OCEANS DAY – 8TH NOVEMBER 2019



#OCEANACTIONI7094

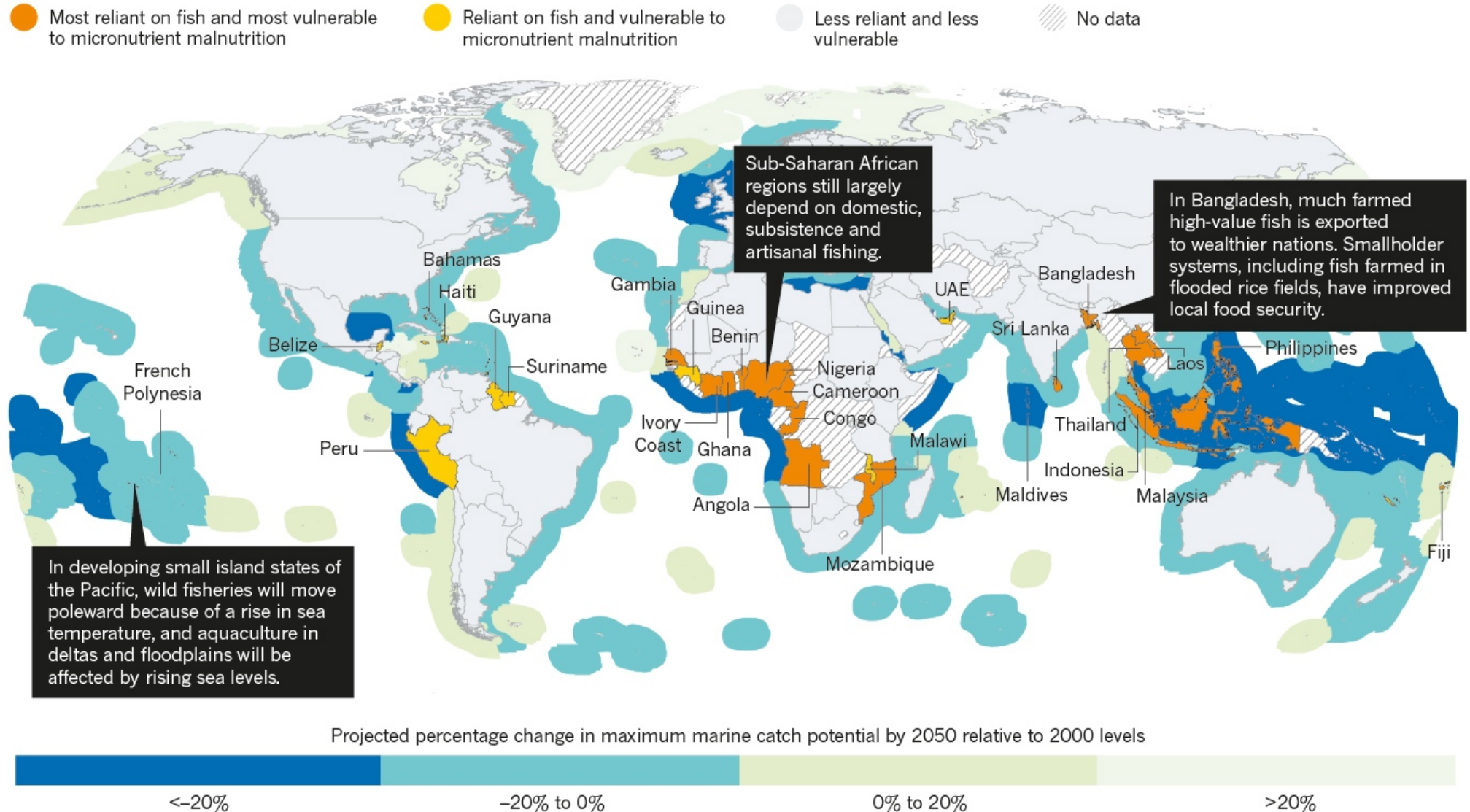
A HOLISTIC SOLUTION FOR THE ERADICATION OF DESTRUCTIVE
FISHING PRACTICES IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA

MAKING THE MOST OF WHAT WE HAVE



TROUBLED WATERS

In the low-latitude developing nations, human nutrition is most dependent on wild fish, and fisheries are most at risk from illegal fishing, weak governance, poor knowledge of stock status, population pressures and climate change. These countries urgently need effective strategies for marine conservation and fisheries management to rebuild stocks for nutritional security.



ABOUT THE REEF DEFENDERS AND OCEANWAY CORPORATION LIMITED

- The Reef Defenders (RD) is an NGO
- Partner: Oceanway Corporation Ltd (OCL)
- Scientific approach
 - Collect data → Analyse the data → Consider solutions
- Over 1,500,000 blast records
- Fish and Coral health data collected at all locations monitored
- RD & OCL collaborates on projects throughout SEA, in Sabah we work with local area partners
 - WWF-Malaysia → Tun Mustapha Marine Park
 - Reef Guardian → Sugud Islands Marine Conservation Area



DESTRUCTIVE FISHING

- Many forms:

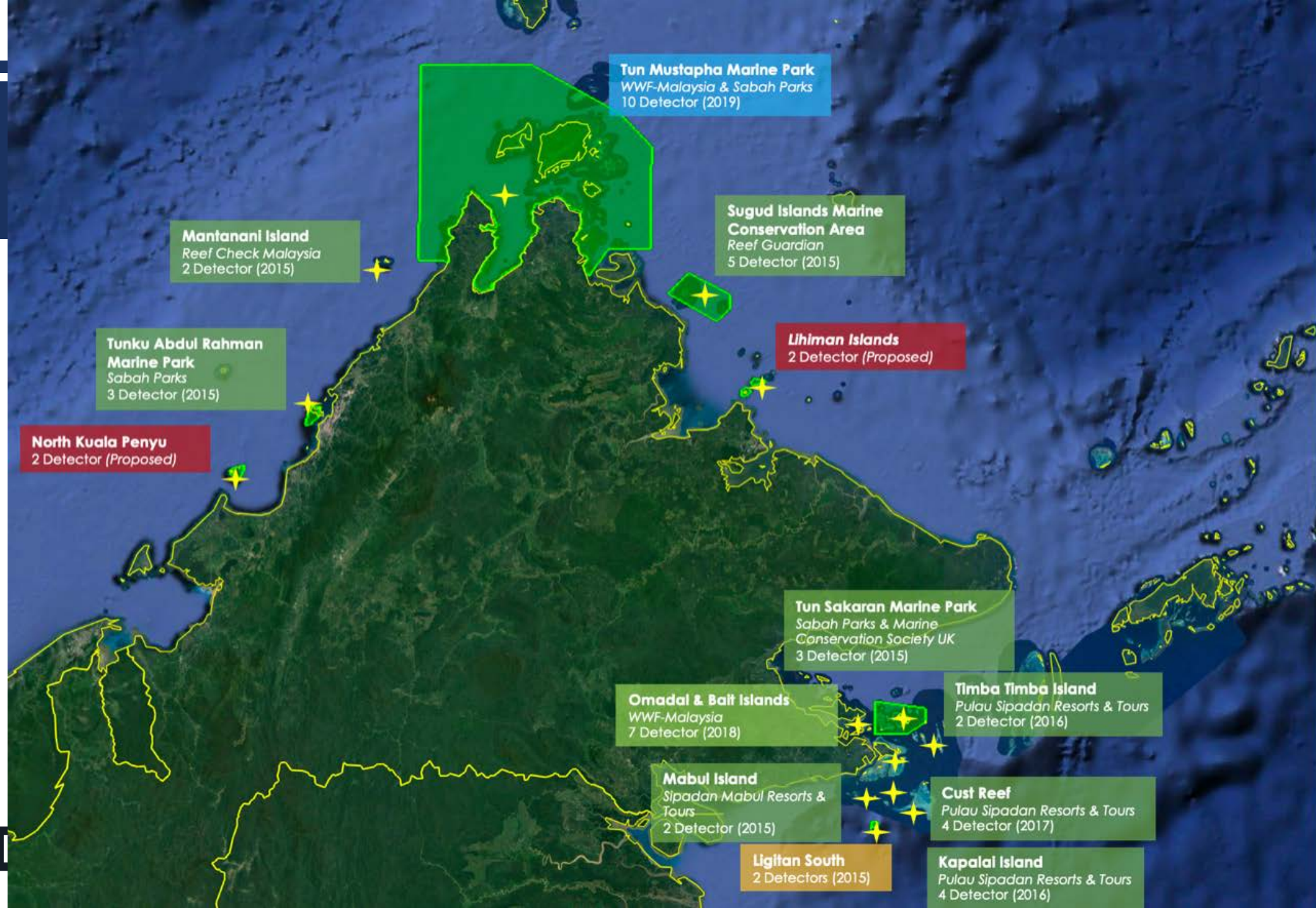
- Blast fishing
- Cyanide fishing
- Muro ami fishing
- Electric fishing
- Illegal fishing



- Blast Fishing:

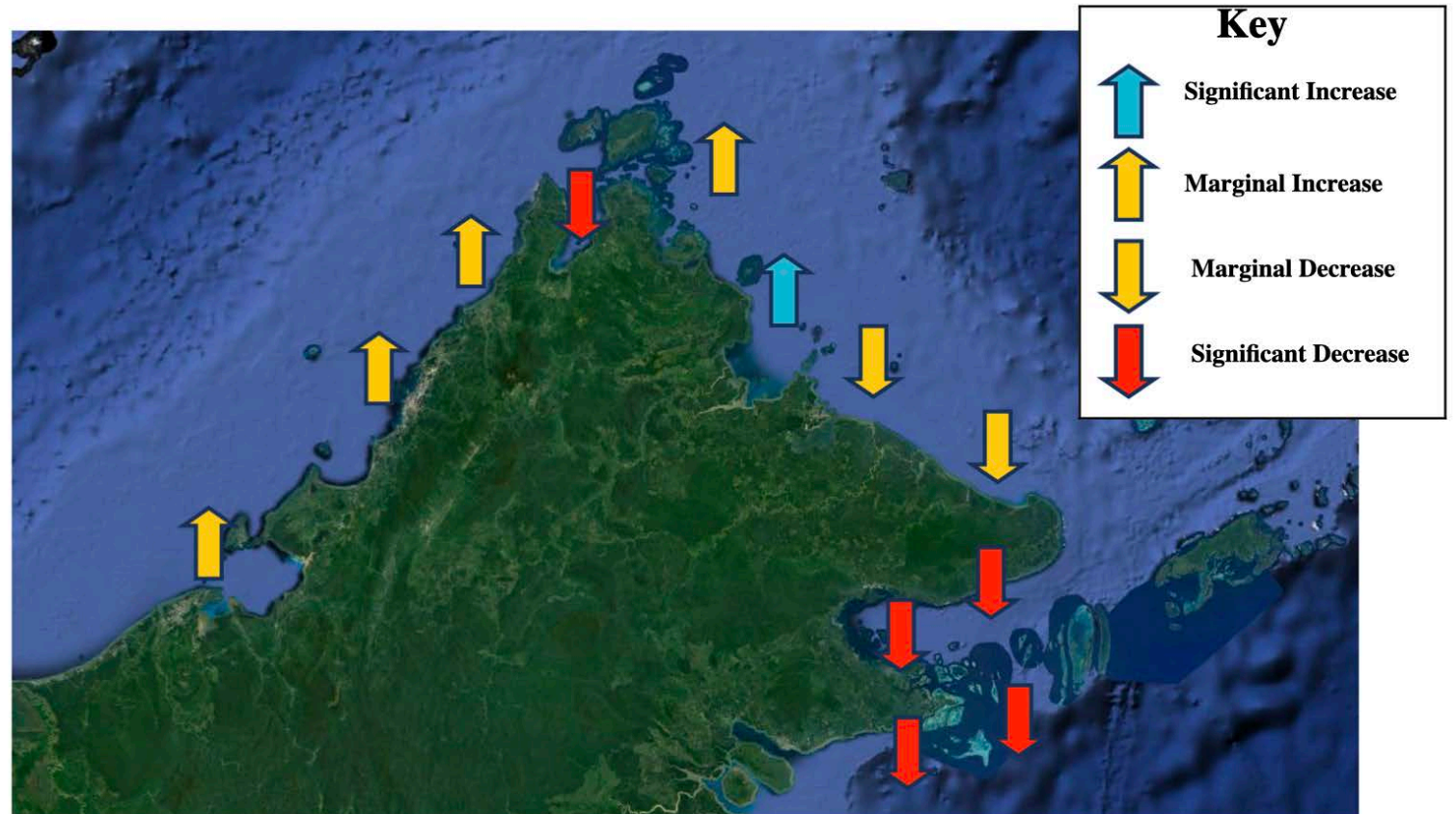
- Is an indicator of the level of illegal and destructive fishing happening in an area
- Is the most visible and audible form of destructive fishing





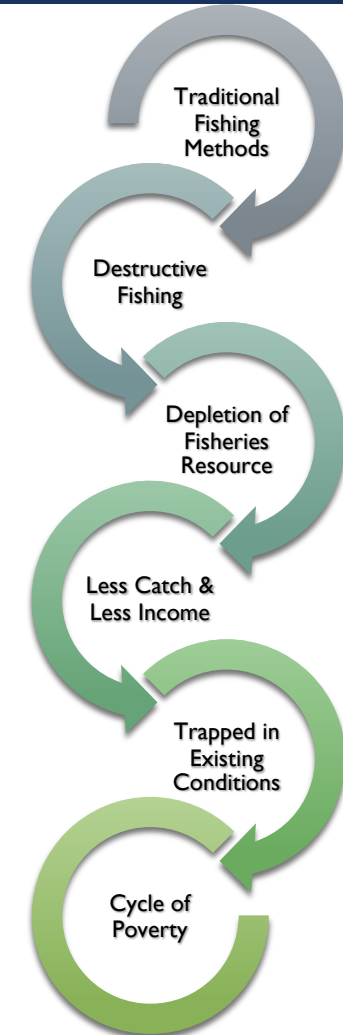
FOR SABAH – THE FISHERIES

- Things are deteriorating in most areas, especially:
 - Semporna
 - Kudat
- Locations like SIMCA have recovered
 - Eliminated rampant illegal fishing
 - Eliminated rampant destructive fishing



THE PROBLEMS WE NEED TO ADDRESS

- Socio-Economic Issues
 - Income
 - Education
 - Infrastructure
 - Access to Opportunities
 - Legal status
- Over & Destructive Fishing
 - Overexploitation of Fisheries
 - Destruction of Marine Habitat



“POVERTY IS THE WORST KIND OF VIOLENCE” -
Mahatma Gandhi

THE UNSEEN THREAT

- Increased population = increased demand for food
- Higher prices for exports means less for locals
- Reduced Tourism Revenue – loss of biodiversity & security threats
- Political Instability - low income & lack of food security



UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG'S)



SO FAR

- Maximum resources to the elimination of destructive fishing
- Long term solution required
- Not shifting the issue to create or amplify other problems



SOLUTIONS

- Need to be aimed at solutions to all destructive fishing
- Need to apply resources effectively
- Need to look at socio-economic for long-term solutions
 - **Alternate livelihood for fishing communities**
 - **Sustainable fishing practices and areas**
 - **Education**



OUR SOLUTION



Phase 1

- Identifying the problems
- Data collection and environmental studies

Phase 2

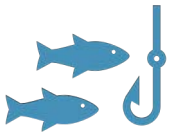
- Alternative livelihood
- Quality of Life (QOL) improvements

Phase 3

- Human Made Reef (HMR)
- Habitat restoration
- Marine Life Replenishment



ONCE IDENTIFIED SOLUTIONS CAN BE GROUPED



Regulation

Over fishing
Pollution
Overcrowding
Environmental damage
Depletion of marine resources



Data Collection

Uninformed regulation and control
Overcrowding



Education, Community Work, Enforcement

Destructive Fishing
Illegal fishing



Government Policy

Environmental policy
Band aid solutions

THE WAY FORWARD: ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOODS & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



THE BUSINESS ADVANTAGE – A TRUE BLUE ECONOMY

Reinventing Oceanus



Steven Benjamin / Barcroft Media

QUESTIONS?