Finding and sharing effective ways to manage the ocean and the growing demand for marine resources is one of the most pressing challenges facing the world today. UNEP-WCMC supports the delivery of ocean-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by improving the accessibility and usability of biodiversity and ecosystems data, developing decision support tools and providing evidence-based advice. We also develop workable approaches to integrate social and economic considerations to deliver a healthy ocean for healthy people.

**SUPPORTING DELIVERY OF OCEAN TARGETS**

UNEP-WCMC and partners assist governments to plan strategically how to achieve their SDG commitments. This includes through supporting area-based planning, ocean governance advice and the identification and monitoring of critical habitats.

**CATALYSING OCEAN LITERACY**

We are convening and initiating research on the potential contribution of ocean literacy and citizen behaviour change to the conservation and sustainable use of the ocean. We will pioneer new approaches by drawing knowledge and understanding from different disciplines including environmental psychology, micro-economics and social marketing.

**OUR OCEAN COMMITMENTS**

At the UN Ocean Conference in New York in 2017, UNEP-WCMC made three voluntary commitments: 1) to catalyse ocean literacy 2) to support effective ocean governance and 3) to promote enhanced access and use of global marine biodiversity information.
BUILDING RESILIENCE THROUGH COASTAL ADAPTATION

UNEP-WCMC helps countries consider ecosystem-based adaptation approaches to reduce the vulnerability of coastal communities to climate change impacts. Examples include developing innovative online resources to develop local capacity and advising on the management and restoration of coastal habitats such as saltmarshes, mangroves and coral reefs.

As part of the ground-breaking Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) Deep Seas project, we are working with partners in the Western Indian Ocean and the South East Pacific to explore how existing area-based planning tools can be applied to ABNJ.

IMPROVING ACCESS TO GLOBAL MARINE BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION

We provide leading edge global, regional and national ocean biodiversity data, information and insights. For example, we publish the world’s only authoritative marine data manual which describes nearly 130 sources of data. We also collate globally unique data enabling us to produce, for example, the first ever global map of the location and extent of saltmarsh habitat.

For more information and to discuss how we can collaborate on the transition to a healthy ocean, contact Steve Fletcher, Head of Marine Programme
e-mail: steve.fletcher@unep-wcmc.org
Twitter: @unepwcmc
Website: www.unep.wcmc.org