

# BLUE GROWTH

71% of the Earth surface

# BLUE ECONOMY

# blue ed

## BLUE ECONOMY

The Blue Economy is sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods and jobs, and ocean ecosystem health. The Blue Economy encompasses many activities...

### RENEWABLE ENERGY

Sustainable marine energy can play a vital role in social and economic development.

### FISHERIES

Marine fisheries contribute more than **US\$270 billion** annually to global GDP. More sustainable fisheries can generate more revenue, more fish and help restore fish stocks.

### MARITIME TRANSPORT

Over **80% of international goods** traded are transported by sea and the volume of seaborne trade is expected to double by 2030 and quadruple by 2050.

### TOURISM

Ocean and coastal tourism can bring jobs and economic growth. Coastal Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States receive more than **41 million** visitors per year.

### CLIMATE CHANGE

The impacts of climate change on oceans—rising sea-levels, coastal erosion, changing ocean current patterns, and acidification—are staggering. At the same time, **oceans are an important carbon sink** and help mitigate climate change.

### WASTE MANAGEMENT

**80% of litter** in the ocean is from land sources. Better waste management on land help oceans recover.

## FAO Blue Growth Initiative

To contribute to the promotion of sustainable use and preservation of aquatic living resources

# OUT WITH THE OLD IN WITH THE NEW

## Our Oceans, everybody's business Ocean Governance Meeting tour

@KarmenuVella  
#EUOceanGov



## THE CIRCLE

## THE BLUE ECONOMY

# Blue economy

To learn about other aspects of the blue economy, visit [www.worldbank.org/oceans](http://www.worldbank.org/oceans)

WORLD BANK GROUP



GREENPEACE

THE BLUE ECONOMY

## Nordic Road Map for Blue Bioeconomy



# Blue economy / Blue growth ?

*# Green economy, same principles:*

**“improved human well-being and social equity,  
while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities”**

*[UN DESA 2014]*

## Promoting

- the usage of local raw materials
- sustainability
- low carbon / low energy options
- resource efficiency and optimisation
- benefits and social inclusion

# Blue economy / Blue growth ?

**To qualify as components of a blue economy, activities need to:**

- provide social and economic benefits for current and future generations
- restore, protect, and maintain the diversity, productivity, resilience, core functions, and intrinsic value of marine ecosystems
- be based on clean technologies, renewable energy, and circular material flows that will reduce waste and promote recycling of materials.

*[World Bank Group 2017]*



# Arctic Sealing, a blue activity?

*Geneviève Desportes, General Secretary  
North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission*

### Arctic sealing - Setting the scene

- Primarily production of food for **local human consumption**
- Little or **no alternative local meat** or greens
- Alternatives = long distance flown-in products
- A **natural, local resource**, a short cycle food production
  - ✓ no “long production” through (intensive) farming
  - ✓ naturally fed, no need of man-made food resource
  - ✓ no confinement and transport of live animals
  - ✓ human intrusiveness only associated with killing

#### A reminder:

*White coats & lactated females and pups are protected*



## Blue growth:

**Human benefits:** *“Improving well being and social equity”*



High societal footprint

**Environment benefits:** *“Reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities”*



Low environmental footprint

## Blue growth / Environment side:

***Ecological footprint = global impact on the environment***

- From “cradle to grave”:
  - Extraction + Production + Distribution + Disposal
- Locally & globally: The environment in focus, but also globally
  - Footprint of the product in focus
  - Footprint of alternatives

## Ecological footprint (from Extraction to Disposal)

- ? *Sustainability of resources*
- ? Carbon footprint
- ? Collateral environmental cost(s)
- ? Resource efficiency and optimisation (waste?)



## Carbon footprint

Locally extracted and consumed

- ✓ Little energy consumption for extraction: dog sledges, snow scooters and sealing boats
- ✓ No production chain
- ✓ Local transport

 **Low carbon footprint**

Alternative: imported/flown in resources (food & fabrics), using non-renewable fossil fuel thus adding to the product's carbon footprint



## Arctic sealing, a blue activity?

**Collateral environmental costs:** *pollution, habitat destruction, non-selective extraction (by-catch, discard)*

Pollution limited to boats, snow scooters & dogs

Emission GHG limited to sledge dogs

No habitat destruction

Selective extraction (and management) of species, size - & sex



**Low collateral environmental costs**

Alternative: intensive farming, agriculture & fishing // associated pollution, livestock GHG emission, environmental destruction, by-catch, discards, loss in biodiversity.

## Resource efficiency and optimisation

Most of the resource is used, little waste is generated

- Meat, blubber, flippers, some internal organs: humans
- Leftovers: sledge dogs
- Bones, ligaments, oil: household, handicraft, jewellery
- Skins: clothing, household, insulating material



**Efficient way of using the resource, no waste**

Compared to: e.g., livestock and poultry production



## Arctic sealing, a blue activity?

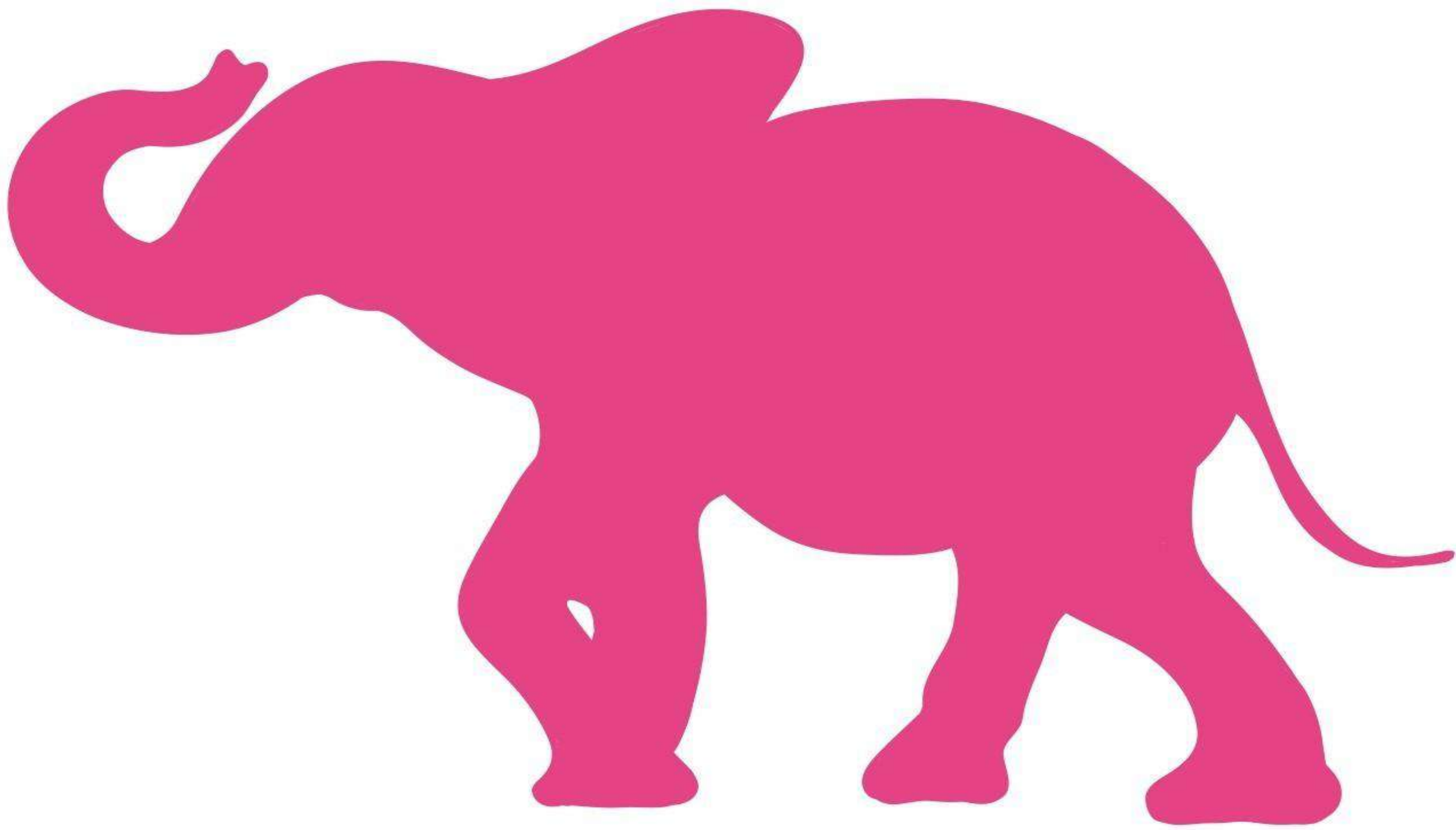
### Ecological footprint: **LOW**, much lower than any alternatives

- ✓ Local raw resource
- ✓ Sustainably managed
- ✓ Low carbon and energy option
- ✓ Absent or limited collateral environmental costs
- ✓ Efficient and optimised resource: little waste – if skins used



A resource in balance with the environment  
Ecologically responsible

***BLUE? - quite***





Arctic sealing, a blue activity?

**The skins are not / cannot be fully used  
any longer – – seal bans**

The seals are killed anyway for human consumption  
**But a by-product is wasted: the skins**



Arctic sealing, a blue activity?

## The seal bans through the blue economy lens

- ? Improving human well-being and social equity
- ? Significantly reducing ecological scarcity
- ? Significantly reducing environmental risks



## Arctic sealing, a blue activity?

### Ban on seal by-products: protecting the Arctic Ecosystem?

Hunt becomes non viable economically, not affordable

- ➔ Decreases usage of local raw materials with low carbon & ecological foot print (all hunting products)
- ➔ Increases import of high carbon flown-in products
- ➔ Increases each household carbon footprint
- ➔ Generates waste & decreases resource efficiency

**Loss of jobs, knowledge, skills, culture: a globally poorer ES**





## Arctic sealing, a blue activity?

### Ban on seal by-products: protecting the Global Ecosystem?

- ✓ Decrease human well-being and social equity
- ✓ No effect on ecological scarcity
- ✓ Increases ecological risks with the import of alternative high ecological footprint products
- ✓ Increases the global clothing ecological footprint

***BLUE? - not so quite***

# ARCTIC SEALING: BLUE?

Thank you!



**CONTRIBUTING TO A SUSTAINABLE NORTH**  
25 years of Regional Marine Mammal Management