

**The current state of ocean
knowledge production
and interfaces:
Results of the
Seascape Assessment**

EU context



EU has a leading role in highlighting ocean sustainability priorities.

EU signaled interest in a **new panel** to build up ocean **knowledge.**

Before implementation, need for understanding current **landscape.**



From landscape to seascape

Objectives of the Seascape Assessment



Objective 1:

Comparatively analyse the current **ocean scientific evidence** base provided by GEAs.

Objective 2:

Evaluate how effectively **this knowledge is transmitted** to policymakers to **inform action.**



Scope of work



35 GEAs assessed

12 800 pages analysed



21 interviews



...and
others

3 workshops



Scientific Institution Science-Society's Workshop
Scientific institutions' workshop in Brussels (April 2023)
Bridging shades of Blue workshop in Barcelona (March 2023)

Methodology



77 criteria

for each GEA

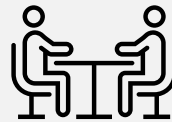


8 categories

- Institutional arrangements
- Information management
- Negotiated boundaries
- Science-policy interface
- Stakeholders
- Outputs
- Communication
- Measure of success

25 questions

for each interview

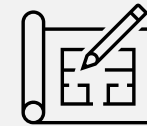


Semi-structured format

- General questions on existing global ocean assessments.
- Specific questions on reports the interviewee is engaged with.
- Perspectives and guidance to inform the development and the positioning of the IPOS.

Co-construction

in each workshop



A combination of presentations, brainstorming sessions and preliminary discussions on the results in the form of 6 ID cards for IPOS.

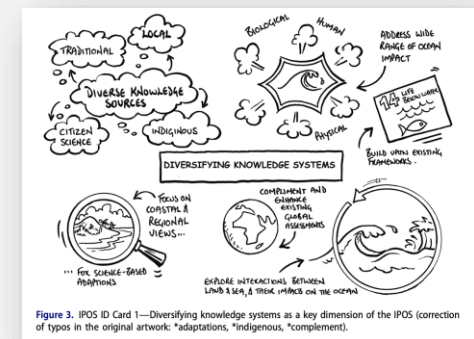


Figure 3. IPOS ID Card 1—Diversifying knowledge systems as a key dimension of the IPOS (correction of typos in the original artwork: *adaptations, *indigenous, *complement).

Results summary



Comprehensiveness of GEAs

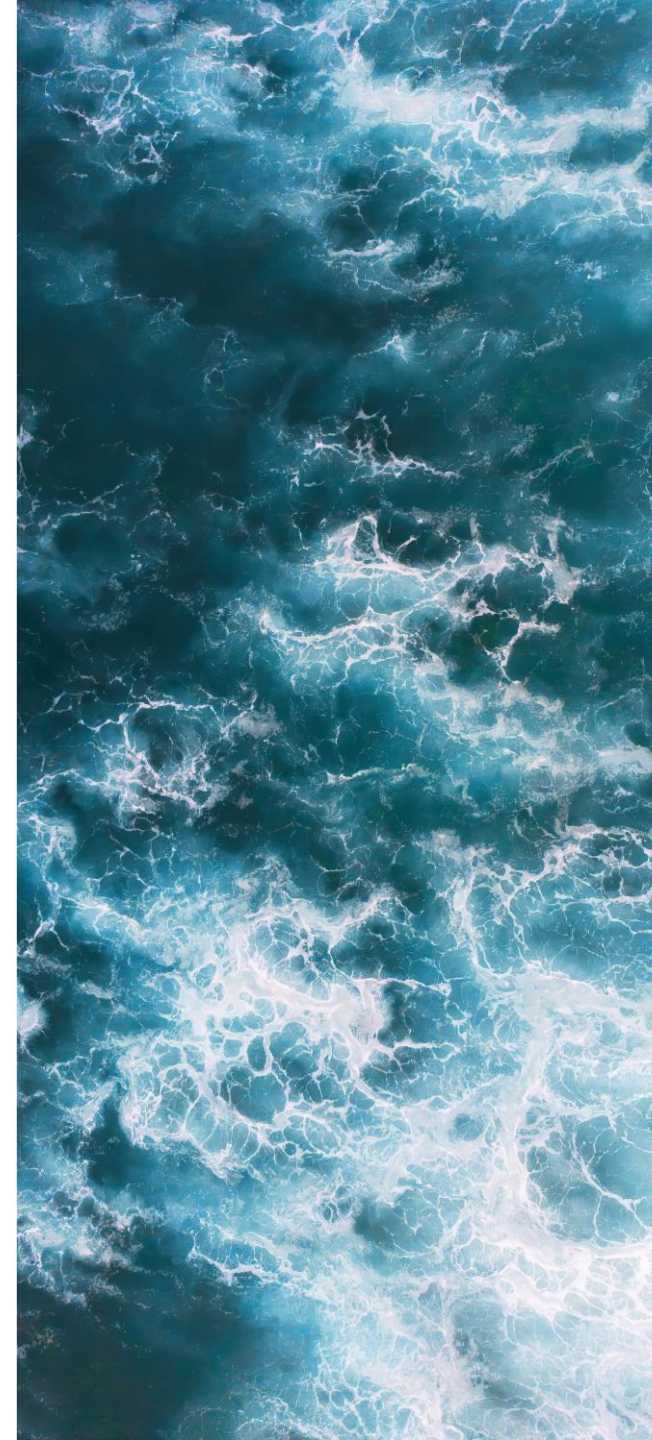
| Assessments | IPBES | GEO 6 | IPCC AR6 | SROCC | SOFIA | GBO 5 | GRO | GCR | IPBES-IPCC | WOA II | StGC | StOR |
|-----------------------------------|--------|--------|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Drivers | High | High | High | Low | Medium | Low | High | High | Medium | High | Low | Low |
| Pressures and impacts | Medium | Medium | Medium | Medium | Medium | Medium | Low | Medium | Low | High | Medium | Medium |
| Physical and chemical (state) | Medium | Low | High | High | Low | Low | Low | Low | Low | High | Medium | High |
| Biological and ecological (state) | Medium | Low | Low | Medium | Low | Low | Low | Low | Low | High | Low | Medium |
| Ecosystem services | Low | Low | Low | Medium | Medium | Medium | Low | Medium | Low | Medium | Low | Low |
| Intervention options (responses) | High | High | Low | Medium | Medium | Medium | Medium | Medium | High | Low | Low | Low |

Legitimacy and effectiveness of GEAs

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Credibility | High | Medium | Medium | Medium | Medium | Medium | Medium | High | Medium | Medium | Medium | Low |
| Legitimacy | High | High | Medium | High | Low | Medium | Medium | Medium | Medium | Low | Low | Medium |
| Salience | Medium | Medium | Medium | Medium | High | Medium | Low | Low | Low | Medium | Low | Low |

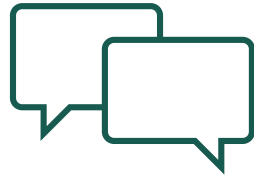
Key findings from quantitative analysis

| | | |
|---|----------------------------------|--|
| 1 | Variable ocean focus | 5 - 48% in general assessments |
| 2 | Lack of sustainability focus | Only 6 reports with detailed assessment |
| 3 | Incomplete futures thinking | Policy cycles |
| 4 | Lack of inclusivity | Limited indigenous and local knowledge |
| 5 | Lack of coherence of knowledge | Dispersed and fragmented |
| 6 | Lack of actionability of options | Social and economic costs and trade-offs |
| 7 | Measures of success | Only 5/35 post-assessment evaluation |





Key quotes from qualitative analysis



“We need 2-way dialogue at the **science-policy interface**”

“One place to go for **reliable** ocean science”

“Too many reports, too much **fragmentation**”

“You have to shift from the language of science, to the language of politicians. It’s a question of **translation**, literally”

“There are things scientists want politicians to know but often they are **inconvenient truths**”

“We know the situation is getting worse, we know we need to implement SDG14. What we need to know is **what to do with the science**”

Towards IPOS



A confirmed need of a “panel” with 3 key characteristics

Systemic

adopting a **holistic approach** to complex issues, involving **not only academic sciences** but also practical knowledge and technologies.

Inclusive

by listening to and valuing the voices of **local and indigenous communities** and involving them in the global ocean discourse.

Action driven

2 ways exchanges between science and policy.

Ready-to-use documents that include actionable **proposals**

More **accessible and intuitive** information by using the latest technologies and AI





Thank you