USING THE **OCEAN HEALTH INDEX** AS AN INTEGRATED FRAMEWORK FOR IMPLEMENTING ECOSYSTEM-BASED MARINE AND COASTAL MANAGEMENT

Johanna Polsenberg, PhD, MBA
Senior Director, Governance and Policy
Center for Oceans, Conservation International
jpolsenberg@conservation.org
AGENDA

- Conservation International - **NGO as a Boundary Organization**
- Center for Oceans - **Subject-matter expertise**
- Data, Information, Knowledge, Action - **Philosophy**
- Ocean Health Index - **Tool to capture “Data <-> Action continuum”**
- Sustainable Development Goals - **Policy driver**
PEOPLE & NATURE
PEOPLE NEED NATURE.
WHAT WE DO

Around the world, Conservation International protects nature for the benefit of people. We work with partners at every level—from remote villages to executive suites—to safeguard the forests, rivers, lakes, coasts, oceans and wetlands that provide food and water, sustain economies and help promote a stable climate.
We engage with governments.

By providing the best available data, tools and counsel to our government partners, CI enables policymakers at all levels to enact locally appropriate policies that protect vital natural resources.
We partner with companies. CI works with businesses—particularly in the agriculture, energy, mining and retail sectors—on the adoption of policies and practices that promote nature conservation and economic development. We also work with companies to ensure the long-term supply of sustainably produced products, including palm oil and coffee.
We drive innovative science.

CI’s experts and partners produce groundbreaking research and data that inform our programs, contribute to global knowledge networks and influence national policy around the world.
We invest in nature.

CI works to find long-term, sustainable funding to help countries conserve critical ecosystems—and we provide funding to partner organizations around the world to support conservation efforts in their communities.
We invest locally—in organizations and people.

More than 25% of CI’s budget goes directly to in-country organizations, empowering them with the funding, training and technology they need to address local environmental challenges. More than 90% of our international staff are citizens of the countries in which they work.
We collaborate.

No organization can do it alone. We work with more than 2,000 partners — including international institutions such as the World Bank, the United Nations and the Global Environment Facility — to amplify our impact.
WHERE WE WORK

CI works in strategic regions throughout the Americas, Africa, Asia and the Pacific. In addition, we invest and engage in the European Union, China, Japan and the United States because of their profound influence on public policy, production and consumption.
Centers and Regional Programs matrix to addresses distinct conservation challenges:

Moore Center for Science
Center for Environmental Leadership in Business
Policy Center for Environment and Peace
Conservation Finance
Regional programs for Americas, Africa, Asia-Pacific and Oceans
“It is not about nature. It is about people. Nature would figure out a way to survive, but would people? Human development and progress can’t be successful unless conservation is a core issue, not a parallel track.”

Peter Seligmann
CI Founder, Chairman & CEO
As one of the first organizations to develop a policy for partnering with indigenous peoples, Conservation International ensures respect for indigenous peoples’ rights in all of our work.

CI has helped ensure recognition of communal lands and built indigenous peoples’ capacity to adapt to a changing climate. In addition, CI supports fellowships for indigenous leaders to explore solutions to the impacts of climate change and biodiversity loss.
CI has helped protect 608 million hectares (2.35 million square miles) of land and sea in 77 countries—an area equal to 75 percent of the continental United States—including the world’s largest marine protected area.
Our Vision

We imagine a healthy, prosperous world in which societies are forever committed to caring for and valuing nature, for the long-term benefit of people and all life on Earth.
CENTER FOR OCEANS

HEALTHY OCEANS EQUITABLY BENEFITING ALL LIFE
CHALLENGES

- Habitat destruction + species loss
- Overfishing
- Pollution
- Climate change
OUR APPROACH
STRATEGIES

Alliances

Learning

Tools

Sound

Strong

Effective

Proven
BLUE NATURE
Deliver effective conservation in the world’s most important places for nature and people.

BLUE CLIMATE
Accelerate large scale adaptation and mitigation for the most vulnerable people and places.

BLUE PRODUCTION
Transform wild-caught fisheries and fish farming for livelihoods and food security.

BLUE HORIZONS
Scope, incubate, and invest in the next generation of ocean solutions and entrepreneurship.
BLUE NATURE

connected oceans   //   governance + policy   //
blue economies
Science-based policy

DATA

useful: representation, analysis, need-to-know

INFORMATION

relevant: context, experience, story-telling

KNOWLEDGE

tangible: strategy, influence, transformation

ACTION
Policy-relevant science

**ACTION**

interdisciplinary: relationships, motivations, economics

**KNOWLEDGE**

cो-defined: co-production, cooperative

**INFORMATION**

specific: stakeholder engagement, solution-oriented

**DATA**
a healthy ocean sustainably delivers a range of benefits to people both now and in the future
THE OCEAN HEALTH INDEX APPROACH:
a tailorable and repeatable framework and process to measure the health of coupled human-ocean ecosystems in different contexts by adapting to local environmental needs and characteristics, cultural priorities, capacities, and information availability and quality.
BENEFITS FROM A HEALTHY OCEAN

- food provision
- artisanal fishing opportunity
- natural products
- carbon storage
- coastal protection
- livelihoods & economies
- tourism & recreation
- sense of place
- clean waters
- biodiversity
An index to assess the health and benefits of the ocean

Initiated in 2012

An index to assess the health and benefits of the global ocean

Benjamin S. Halpern¹,², Catherine Longo¹, Darren Hardy¹, Karen L. McLeod³, Jameal F. Samhouri⁴, Steven K. Katona⁵, Kristin Kleisner⁶, Sarah E. Lester⁷,⁸, Jennifer O’Leary¹, Marla Ranelletti¹, Andrew A. Rosenberg⁵, Courtney Scarborough¹, Elizabeth R. Selig⁵, Benjamin D. Best⁹, Daniel R. Brumbaugh¹⁰, F. Stuart Chapin¹¹, Larry B. Crowder¹², Kendra L. Daly¹³, Scott C. Doney¹⁴, Cristiane Elfes¹⁵,¹⁶, Michael J. Fogarty¹⁷, Steven D. Gaines⁸, Kelsey I. Jacobsen⁶, Leah Bunce Karrer⁷, Heather M. Leslie¹⁸, Elizabeth Neeley¹⁹, Daniel Pauly⁶, Stephen Polasky²⁰, Bud Ris²¹, Kevin St Martin²², Gregory S. Stone⁵, U. Rashid Sumaila⁶ & Dirk Zeller⁶
BASELINE OF GLOBAL OCEAN HEALTH

120+ data layers

220 EEZs
SCIENCE & METHODOLOGY

Present Status (90% of goal score)
goal's present value (represented by the most recent data available) compared to a goal specific reference point.

Likely Future Status (50% of goal score)
- **Trend (67%)**: average percentage change in Status shown by the most recent five years of data.
- **Pressure (16.5%)**: sum of the ecological and social pressures likely to depress near-Future scores for a goal.
- **Resilience (16.5%)**: sum of ecological factors (if any) and social initiatives (policies, laws etc.) enacted that can reduce pressures and therefore increase near-future scores for a goal.
Targets Aligned with National and International Mandates
INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENTS (OHI+)

- same framework as global assessments
- tailorable, flexible
- allows for exploration of variables influencing ocean health at the smaller scales where policy and management decisions are made
Four iterative and repeated phases:

1) **Learn** about the Ocean Health Index and its application in the context

2) **Plan** the assessment by building a team and developing a timeline

3) **Conduct** the assessment by tailoring the OHI framework and calculating scores using the OHI Toolbox

4) **Inform** policy and future assessments by sharing both scores and what was learned during the process. Assessments are most useful when they are repeated through time to understand changes in ocean health and integrated into continuous decision-making processes for adaptive management.
Stakeholder Engagement

identify stakeholder needs
determine areas of agreement and conflict
gather information and identify mandates
involve stakeholders in all stages
OCEAN STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

- Identify facilitator
- Stakeholder needs analysis
- Collaborative target setting & indicator framework
- Workshop
1.3 Best practices for OHI assessments

Conducting an assessment requires both an understanding of how past assessments have been completed and the innovation to capture important characteristics of your study area using the information available. You can start by understanding the structure of completed assessments at global and smaller scales and the models that were created. Understanding the approaches in different contexts will help you think about what should be done similarly and differently in your local context. Information, publications, and websites for completed OHI+ assessments are listed at ohi-science.org/projects, and example approaches for each goal are listed at ohi-science.org/goals.

The following Best Practices are from our publication Best practices for assessing ocean health in multiple contexts using tailorable frameworks which is important to read before beginning your assessment.

**Build the conceptual framework**

Which benefits does the ocean provide in your local area? What are key ecological, social, and economic characteristics and priorities? Identify these and build a conceptual framework before gathering existing information.

- Tourism
  - It is not relevant to us
  - It is important to us

**Define spatial boundaries**

The boundaries of your assessment should be driven by the boundaries where information is reported and policy decisions are made.

**Document and share the process**

Methods developed and lessons learned through the assessment process should be shared with future assessments. Methods should be reproducible in one location through time and repeatable in different locations. This requires transparency and communication throughout the assessment.
OHI IN ACTION

- **OHI+ China**
- State Oceanic administration led and completed OHI+ national-scale assessment
- Incorporated into 13th 5-year plan as part of an Improvement of Human Welfare initiative
OHI IN ACTION

- **OHI+ Colombia**
  - Developed ‘Blue Agenda’ cross-sectoral working body based on initial results of first global assessment
  - Hosted multi-national workshop for the Caribbean region presenting on OHI framework with President Santos and HRH Prince of Wales in attendance
  - Set ambitious target of increasing OHI score by 5 points by 2018.

“Since 2012, we have had the **Ocean Health Index** that helps us to evaluate our countries’ ocean and coast work. In the case of Colombia, the Index has caused alert because it shows that we need to advance on this front and do so more rapidly. That is why we are strengthening the national ocean and coastal policy and the **Colombian Ocean Commission** that defines the institutional arrangements for integrated marine and coastal management.”

President Santos, Colombia
November 2014 Cartagena, Colombia
• PACIFIC OCEANSCAPE
• OHI+ Samoa

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment recognized need for a more coordinated approach on ocean health

Have begun using OHI to develop a cross-ministry ocean health working group

The OHI was also embraced as a key tool to track implementation nationally on SDG14.
oceans are essential for sustainable development
ALIGNING SDGs, SDG 14 AND TARGETS

CONSERVE AND SUSTAINABLY USE THE OCEANS, SEAS AND MARINE RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
IMPLEMENTING TARGET 14.2

By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans.

Indicator 14.2.1 Proportion of national exclusive economic zones managed using ecosystem-based approaches
1. **No Poverty**
   - Coastal economies & livelihoods

2. **No Hunger**
   - Food security (artisanal and commercial fisheries, mariculture)

3. **Good Health and Well-Being**
   - Clean coastal waters, food provision, habitats, sense of place, pollution

4. **Clean Water and Sanitation**
   - Clean coastal waters, habitats, sanitation, pollution

5. **Affordable and Clean Energy**
   - Wave energy, coastal employment

6. **Decent Work and Economic Growth**
   - Coastal economies & livelihoods, tourism, invasive species

7. **Sustainable Cities and Communities**
   - Coastal protection, sense of place, habitats

8. **Responsible Consumption and Production**
   - Food provision, artisanal fishing, natural products, tourism, pollution

9. **Climate Action**
   - Carbon storage, climate adaptation

10. **Life Below Water**
    - Blue economies, carbon storage, cultural, climate

11. **Life on Land**
    - Coastal habitats
Integrates local social, economic, ecological data/indicators

Structured stakeholder engagement process

Participatory approach to decision-making and governance

Open-source tools and science for ocean management

Ocean goals relevant aligned with SDGs and other MEAs

Improve decision-making at scales of decision-making

Improve allocation of resources: cost-effective interventions

Local impact, global relevance, adaptive management
Visit our overview site: www.oceanhealthindex.org

Start an OHI+ assessment for your country or region: www.ohi-science.org

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Senior Director, Governance and Policy
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