



WWF

2018

THE OCEANS BELONG TO EVERYONE

A Historic Opportunity to Create a Better Future

A NEW OCEAN TREATY - A HISTORIC OPPORTUNITY TO CREATE A BETTER FUTURE

A new legally binding global treaty can safeguard 45% of the Earth's surface – the Oceans. In 2018, governments at the United Nations General Assembly start negotiations of a new treaty to take a more holistic approach to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond the national jurisdiction of coastal states.

The serious decline in the status of ocean health, marine ecosystems and marine life has negative consequences for ocean-based economies, especially for coastal communities dependent upon marine resources for livelihoods and food security. But also for industry and business in both developing and developed states.

- **Most ocean fisheries are either overexploited**
– about a third of global fisheries – or approaching overexploitation
- **The oxygen** in our every second breath comes from the oceans
- **Many sectors depend heavily** on the oceans including fishing, shipping and tourism
- **The oceans generate economic benefits** worth at least USD 2.5 trillion per year.

To ensure a sustainable and prosperous blue economy, we must shift from the Tragedy of the Commons of today to a paradigm in which **the Oceans Belong to Everyone.**



WWF is firmly dedicated to ensure the new treaty that is as robust and as inclusive as possible to safeguard the oceans for the future of people and the planet as a whole. It is a window of opportunity we cannot miss.

96% DROP

IN PACIFIC BLUE FIN TUNA
NUMBERS FROM UNFISHED
LEVELS



Blue Fin Tuna © Alex Mustard / NPL / Alamy

THE GENETIC RESOURCES

IN THE OCEANS MAY HOLD
UNTAPPED OPPORTUNITIES
FOR KEY MEDICINAL AND
INDUSTRY APPLICATIONS



© Iren Moroz / Shutterstock

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

IN INCREASINGLY CROWDED
SEAS THREATEN MARINE
SPECIES AND HABITATS



© Bruce Raynor / Shutterstock

DEEP SEA KNOWLEDGE

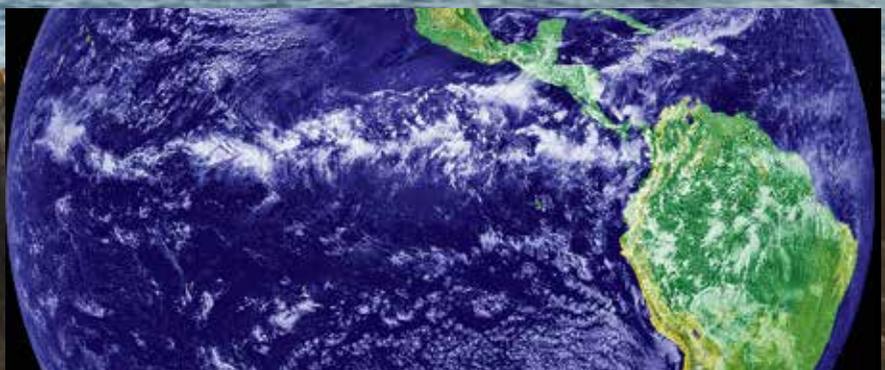
IS VERY SCARCE BUT
WILDLIFE AND MINERALS ARE
STILL BEING INCREASINGLY
TARGETED



Amphipod © Erling Svensen / WWF

NO INTEGRATED GLOBAL APPROACH

TO ENSURE PROTECTION
OF THE OCEAN ECOSYSTEMS
IN THE FACE OF THIS
INCREASING PRESSURE



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A New Ocean Treaty for a Sustainable Blue Economy

We need a strong agreement

for the ocean areas beyond national jurisdiction to secure a sustainable and prosperous blue economy.

The new ocean treaty

can help to halt and reverse decline in the health and productivity of our oceans and their ecosystems and to protect and restore their resilience and ecological integrity.

WWF sees the emerging treaty

as an important and long-awaited opportunity to establish an integrated framework to manage all ocean activities as a whole.

An effective treaty must include all uses of the oceans, e.g. fishing, shipping, seabed mining, cable

laying, and bioprospecting, as well as the protection of marine life in these vast areas that belong to everyone.

It needs to be open to include also any emerging uses going forward!

People in all countries, including land-locked states, are dependent on the oceans.

The new treaty also needs

to include capacity building and transfer of marine technology between developed and developing states, so that all states can participate equally in the protection and sustainable use of oceans.

This will also be important in addressing how to ensure the equitable sharing of benefits from marine genetic resources.

Half the Planet

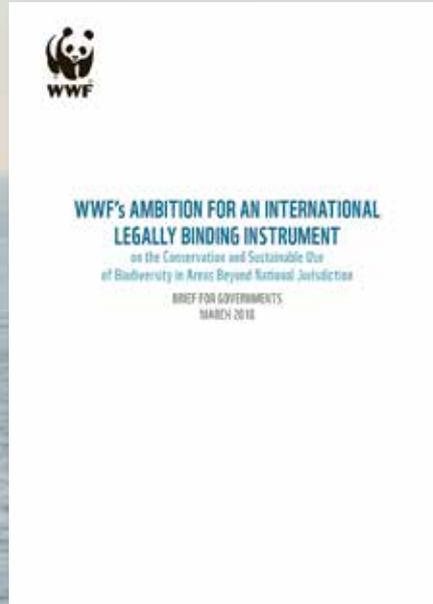
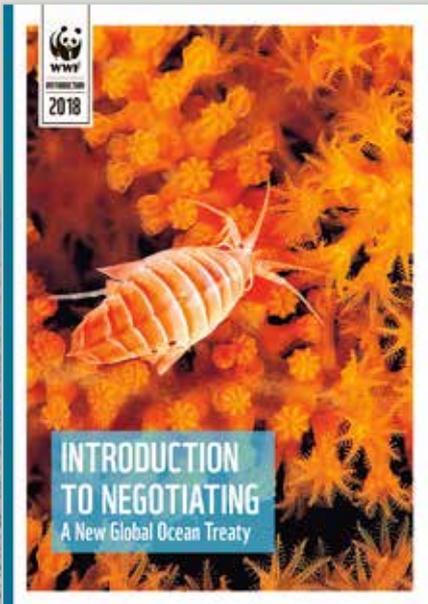
The oceans beyond national jurisdiction cover over half the planet and make up over 80% of its three-dimensional living space.

These vast open ocean and deep-sea environments are some of the least explored areas on the planet – and many species that live here are vulnerable to human activities.

Despite this, many industrial activities have a negative impact on these habitats and species. Now, governments at the United Nations are poised to negotiate a new global legally binding treaty to ensure marine biodiversity is conserved and these vast ocean areas are used sustainably.

wwf.se/oceantreaty-introduction

wwf.se/oceantreaty-governmentbrief



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The Oceans Belong to Everyone

A Historic Opportunity to Create a Better Future

193

The United Nations has 193 member states and all need healthy oceans.

45%

The oceans outside national jurisdiction cover 45% of the planet.

7TH

Based on the gross marine product, the Ocean is the 7th largest economy in the world.

2/3

Two-thirds of the base economic value of the oceans is produced by assets that rely on healthy ocean condition. These assets must be maintained to ensure a sustainable blue economy.

SDG 14

The new ocean treaty is essential to achieving the sustainable development goals, including the Oceans SDG 14.



Why we are here

To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

www.panda.org



THE GLOBAL GOALS
For Sustainable Development