

# The external dimension of the CFP today and tomorrow: present challenges and future opportunities

**REFLECTIONS OF THE FUTURE OF THE  
CFP EXTERNAL DIMENSION**

**Isabella Lövin, Stockholm May 2023**



# The EU role and responsibility globally

- By far the world's biggest importer of fish, seafood and aquaculture products
- EU distant waters fleets (0,5 % of EU fishing fleet) represents 15 % of EU catches
- Leading presence in most RFMO:s
- But also – leader on the Climate transition







Conférence des Parties  
COP21/CMP11  
Paris, France





**1** INGEN  
FATTIGDOM



**2** INGEN  
HUNGER



**3** GOD HÄLSA OCH  
VÄLBEFINNANDE



**4** GOD UTBILDNING  
FÖR ALLA



**5** JÄMSTÄLLDHET



**6** RENT VATTEN OCH  
SANITET FÖR ALLA



**7** HÅLLBAR ENERGI  
FÖR ALLA



**8** ANSTÄNDIGA  
ARBETSVILLKOR  
OCH EKONOMISK  
TILLVÄXT



**9** HÅLLBAR INDUSTRI,  
INNOVATIONER OCH  
INFRASTRUKTUR



**10** MINSKAD  
OJÄMLIKHET



**11** HÅLLBARA STÄDER  
OCH SAMHÄLLEN



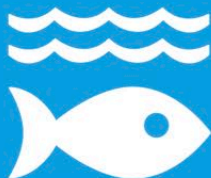
**12** HÅLLBAR  
KONSUMTION OCH  
PRODUKTION



**13** BEKÄMPA KLIMAT-  
FÖRÄNDRINGARNA



**14** HAV OCH MARINA  
RESURSER



**15** EKOSYSTEM OCH  
BIOLOGISK  
MÅNGFALD



**16** FREDLIGA OCH  
INKLUDERANDE  
SAMHÄLLEN



**17** GENOMFÖRANDE  
OCH GLOBALT  
PARTNERSKAP



**GLOBALA MÅLEN**  
för hållbar utveckling

# The UN Ocean Conference 2017

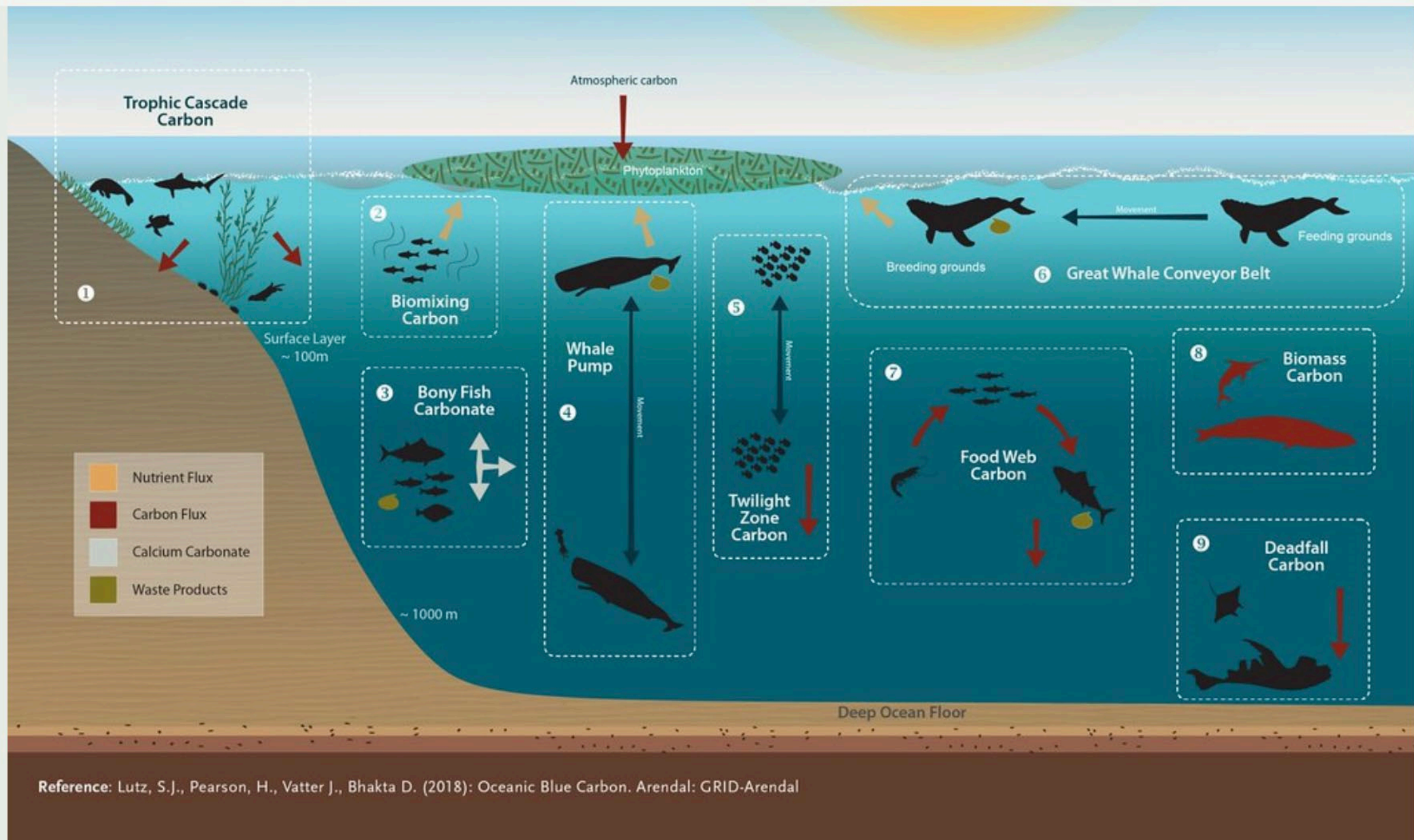
- Connecting the dots on Ocean sustainability











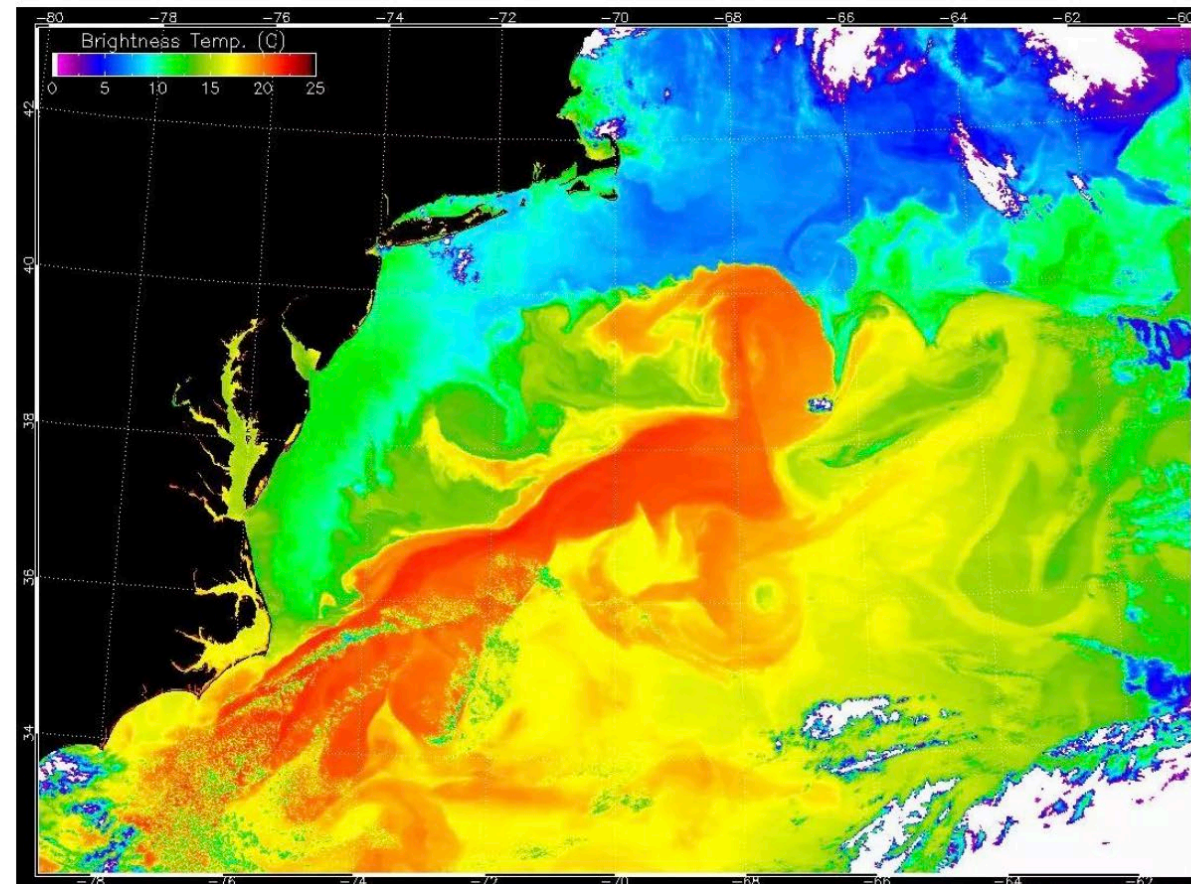
Reference: Lutz, S.J., Pearson, H., Vatter J., Bhakta D. (2018): Oceanic Blue Carbon. Arendal: GRID-Arendal

# The Gulf Stream is slowing to a 'tipping point' and could disappear

News

By [Brandon Specktor](#) published March 03, 2021

The current could slow down to a point of no return, altering the climate on both sides of the Atlantic.





# Montreal agreement on 30 by 30:

Multiple benefits of highly protected MPAs:  
Biodiversity, food and climate

## Article

# Protecting the global ocean for biodiversity, food and climate

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-021-03371-z>

Received: 19 December 2019

Accepted: 18 February 2021

Published online: 17 March 2021

 Check for updates

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The ocean contains unique biodiversity, provides valuable food resources and is a major sink for anthropogenic carbon. Marine protected areas (MPAs) are an effective tool for restoring ocean biodiversity and ecosystem services<sup>1,2</sup>, but at present only 2.7% of the ocean is highly protected<sup>3</sup>. This low level of ocean protection is due largely to conflicts with fisheries and other extractive uses. To address this issue, here we developed a conservation planning framework to prioritize highly protected MPAs in places that would result in multiple benefits today and in the future. We find that a substantial increase in ocean protection could have triple benefits, by protecting biodiversity, boosting the yield of fisheries and securing marine carbon stocks that are at risk from human activities. Our results show that most coastal nations contain priority areas that can contribute substantially to achieving these three objectives of

Nature:  
Vol 592  
15 April  
2021  
page 397

# Ocean acidification and warming

- 30 %more acidic since preindustrial times
- Expected increased acidification of 100-150 % to 2100
- Oceans have not been that acidic in 55 million years
- 90% av coral reefs die at +1,5 degrees C, 99 % at + 2 C.







‘A suicidal war on nature’

# The external dimension – and achieving the global goals





# Remembering the reform of 2013

- Inclusion in the Basic regulation of the external dimension:
  - surplus principle
  - de-coupling of sectoral support and operators costs
  - exclusivity clause
  - HR-clause
- More engagement in global fisheries management and ocean governance (INI report)
- What did not get into the reform?
- Similar conditions for operators in joint ventures

# Improvements since 2013?

- More cooperation with DEVCO and development objectives. More regional cooperation, joint patrols of MCS.
- All evaluation are now public, looking also at policy coherence
- Consultation with local populations are made, including women
- EU leading role in global ocean governance negotiations

## However:

- 34.2% of the world's marine fisheries are still overfished, decrease in "sustainably fished stocks" (-1.9 % since 2017)
- Capacity of research, management and control still low in many coastal states



But the big question  
remains...





Why should EU  
tax payers  
subsidise EU  
external fishing  
at all?

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# We should not. But we should...

Provide a solid framework for cooperation with coastal states on all dimensions of sustainability, allowing EU operators to set a high standard for other DFW:s to follow.



# Looking forward (1):

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- Details of sectoral support must be made public to allow for scrutiny
- A more regional approach to strengthen fisheries management
- Coastal states must ensure transparency by publishing all access agreements (private and public, including joint ventures).
- Before entering mixed SFPAs the EU must ensure that scientific data demonstrates a real “surplus”.
- EU and MS must monitor activities of EU vessels operating outside of SFPAs (CFP art 31:7,8)





# Looking forward (2)

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- The EU should condition its access to SFPAs only to fleets that comply with data collection rules, as well as other criteria (CFP article 17) such as use of selective fishing gear, contribution to local employment and reduced emissions
- EU beneficial owners of joint ventures or chartering arrangements should comply by the same rules and standards as operators fishing under SFPAs
- European vessel owners should pay 100 percent of access costs



# To conclude

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- The EU has taken on an important role globally – extremely important to perform responsibly on the ground to be credible.
- Ocean, climate and biodiversity are one. Social and economic sustainability depends on environmental sustainability.
- Many objectives are hampered by lack of political will by third countries. Transparency is the only way to create political pressure and accountability.





Thanks for listening!