BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN OCEAN ACIDIFICATION IMPACTS AND ECONOMIC VALUATION

Ocean Acidification International
Coordination Centre OA-ICC

Nathalie Hilmi¹, Stéphanie Reynaud¹, Marc Metian², Lina Hansson², Pandora Batra², David Osborn², Denis Allemand¹, Olga Anghelici² (¹Scientific Centre of Monaco, ² International Atomic Energy Agency, Environment Laboratories, Monaco)

> Ocean acidification is a growing environmental concern. The chemistry and biology of world oceans will be affected to different degrees, depending on the region and the type of ecosystem. Ocean acidification has the potential to seriously impact the livelihoods and economies of communities around the world, from subsistence fishing villages to mega-cities. Communities' adaptability depends on their population, maritime activity and reliance on marine natural resources. Identifying the magnitude and types of ocean acidification impacts will become a major concern for governments seeking to preserve existing marine activities and benefits.

In 2008, the Monaco Declaration, drafted under the stewardship of HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco, advocated for a stronger collaboration between economists and natural scientists in order to better evaluate the socio-economic impacts of ocean acidification.

> An international workshop series - « Bridging the Gap between Ocean Acidification Impacts and Economic Valuation » - was launched by the Scientific Centre of Monaco and the Environment Laboratories of the IAEA.

Three workshops have been organized since 2010, gathering multidisciplinary international experts working on a number of recommendations and an appropriate methodology for adapted policy measures or management options. These workshops resulted in a series of science-based conclusions and recommendations for policy makers.

The first workshop (2010) focused on the impacts of ocean acidification on the global economy. For the first time, economists and scientists came together to open the lines of communication and to foster cooperation and coordination.

The third workshop (2015) discussed impacts on major coastal fisheries and tourism activities, and considered ways to model the cascade of potential impacts of acidification on human activities. The workshop also discussed potential adaptation and capacity-building options and policy responses available to these various sectors and governments.

The second workshop (2012) focused on impacts of ocean acidification on fisheries and aquaculture in different regions of the world. Social and economic impacts of ocean acidification on livelihoods, commerce and food security were discussed.

Each of the workshops provided a set of specific recommendations for policy makers on possible mitigation and adaptation measures, and research priorities.















