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Issue No. 9 | February 2019

Oceans and Coasts Newsletter



Exchange of information, knowledge and expertise on oceans and coasts

A service by the Task Team Oceans and Coasts

Dear Reader,

This is our 9th issue starting year 3 of the Oceans & Coasts Newsletter. As before, we have achieved an interesting mix of a variety of relevant issues from projects and activities around the globe, and including upcoming events and new releases.

In this newsletter, we look globally at topics including the SDGs, UN Oceans Economy and Trade Strategies complemented by a mix of themes such as aquaculture, flooding, food security, ocean micro plastic, various initiatives and marine biodiversity.

Thanks to all contributors and keep it up for 2019!

Enjoy reading!

Mecki for the Task Team Oceans & Coasts



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Events & News

Upcoming events

Sustainable Ocean Summit 20-22 November 2019, Paris

The **World Ocean Council (WOC)** is a global, cross-sectoral ocean industry leadership alliance committed to "Corporate Ocean Responsibility", developed by and for the private sector, with a unique

and multi-sectoral approach to address cross-cutting issues affecting ocean sustainable development, science and stewardship of the seas.

The global WOC network includes > 35,000 ocean industry and media stakeholders including leaders from the various ocean industries, including shipping, oil and gas, fisheries, aquaculture, tourism, renewable energy, ports, dredging, cables, as well as the maritime legal, financial and insurance communities, and others to collaborate on responsible use of the seas. WOC is also accredited as observer or associated member in a number of UN and other organizations, including COPS of CBD.

The World Ocean Council organizes the **Sustainable Ocean Summit (SOS)**: This year in **Paris 20-22 November 2019**.



Europe

Europe's Fisheries Ministers set catch quotas for 2019



(c) European Council

From 17 to 19 December 2018, EU and Norwegian fisheries ministers met in Brussels to negotiate fishing quotas for 2019 for 150 fish stocks in the North Sea and the Atlantic. Ministers agreed on catch limits for 59 fish species in the new year - six more than in 2018. To read more about these changes and their consequences see [here](#).

Contact: [Mecki Kronen](#)

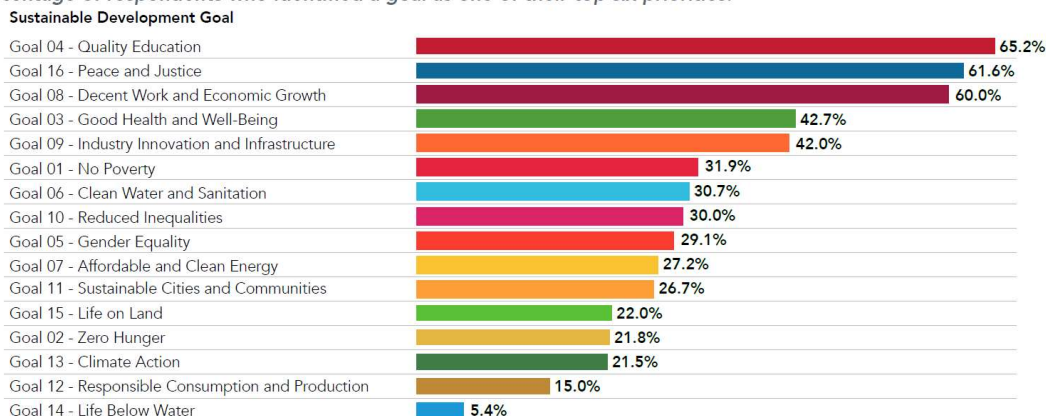


Global

The Underestimated Role of the Life Below Water

Figure 1: How frequently does a global goal appear in leaders' top priorities?

Percentage of respondents who identified a goal as one of their top six priorities.



Source: Figure 1 from [AIDDATA report](#)

The sustainable development goal (SDG) 14 “Life Below water” considers marine species in the sustainable development of humanity for the first time. This is an important step: The oceans cover over 2/3 of the planet’s surface and produce more than half of the atmospheric oxygen. However, besides the critical role the SDG **still does not get much attention**. One of the major challenges to address the importance of life below water is its complexity, which is still poorly understood. This is why ocean enthusiasts have to understand this complexity and find words to translate it to political leaders and society.

You can find the full report by AIDDATA [here](#).

Contact: [Julian Engel](#)

UN Oceans Economy and Trade Strategies

UNCTAD is supporting developing countries to identify the opportunities and challenges that the oceans economy can bring. It also supports national trade and other competent authorities to design and create an enabling policy and regulatory environment that promotes the development and emergence of sustainable oceans economic sectors through the definition and implementation of national and regional oceans economy and trade strategies.

Please find a couple of interesting issues under the topic of ‘[Oceans Economy and Fisheries](#)’ including:

[The Oceans Economy and Trade Strategy \(OETS\)](#)

UNCTAD'S Publication 2018 on 'Blue BioTrade: Harnessing Marine Trade to Support Ecological Sustainability and Economic Equity

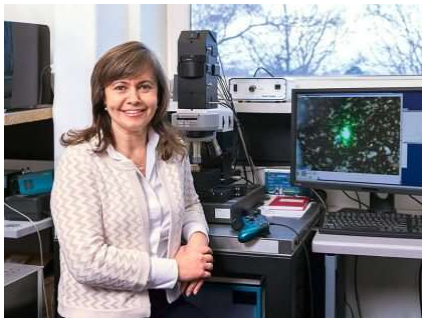
UNCTAD's Trade and Environment review 2016: Fish Trade

UNCTAD's report on Sustainable Fisheries: International Trade, Trade Policy and Regulatory Issues

Contact: [Mecki Kronen](#)

How dangerous is micro plastic?

Interview with Dr. Natalia Ivleva



©U.Benz/TUM
Dr. Natalia Ivleva with her Raman-Microscope.

Plastic particles with a size smaller than 5 mm, known as micro plastic, have gained interest within the scientific community in recent years. Dr. Ivleva from the technical University of Munich develops techniques to identify and quantify micro plastic. In an interview she discusses current research, methods and argues that “plastic should not be forbidden, but used wisely”.

The article about the interview and further publications by Dr. Ivleva can be found [here](#).

Contact: [Mecki Kronen](#)

The last straw - How do we avoid marine waste?

On the 3rd of December 2018 the GIZ organised a public discussion with the Tagesspiegel on the topic of avoiding marine waste. A short teaser can be found on the [Tagesspiegel website](#). There is also a 5-minute video on the [GIZ Facebook page](#).

Contact: [Mecki Kronen](#)

Plastic waste in the sea

On the 6th of December 2018 GIZ published an interview with Arno Tomowski (AGE of GIZ) about plastic waste in the sea on its website. The interview and links to other websites concerned with the topic and the interview can be found [here](#).

Contact: [Mecki Kronen](#)



Asia and Pacific

How to improve the value of the Vietnamese Aquaculture Products

Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam on 22.11.2018



© GIZ

The Aquaculture Roundtable Dialogue (ARD)... ***“How to Improve the Value of the Vietnamese Aquaculture Products”*** is co-organized by the Directorate of Fishery (D-FISH), Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) in collaboration with Vietnam Association for Seafood Exporters and Producers (VASEP) and GIZ - Integrated Coastal Management Programme (ICMP). The ARD is an initiative by the MARD Public-Private Partnership for the Fisheries Sector. The annual event is a good opportunity for all stakeholders to discuss and share experience on how to improve the value and competitiveness of aquaculture products, especially shrimp and pangasius. Leaders of D-FISH, VASEP, and Director Generals of Minh Phu Group and Vinh Hoan Corporation, as the two biggest producers & exporters and many other companies participated in the event. They stressed that now is the time to promote the advantages of the Viet Nam’s aquaculture industry through transparency of production inputs and improvement of seed and feed quality. This is an important step and a pre-requisite for the sustainable development of the industry. Aquaculture products reached a record \$ 5.6 billion for export value in 2017, of which 71% comes from the Mekong Delta, generating millions of jobs, contributing to the stabilization and socio-economic development. With high potential but also strong competition is the region climate-smart technology innovation must be properly promoted to improve both environmental and social productivity.

You can find a link to reach GIZ ICMP [here](#).

Contact: **Mr. Ngo Tien Chuong**, Integrated Coastal Management Programme

Understanding floods in the Mekong Delta

Flooding is a way of life along the lower Mekong River in Vietnam. Every year between August and November, monsoon rains fill the rivers. The annual floods carry nutrient-rich silt to farmland around the river and provide the moisture needed to grow vast fields of rice. This is the reason why the Mekong Delta plays an important role in terms of food security— not only for Vietnam but also the world.

But the Mekong Delta is facing existential threats due to climate change. The amount of people exposed to flooding, storm surges and seasonal river floods is estimated to increase as the sea level rises, land-use changes and urbanization in flood-prone areas is growing. Therefore, it is necessary to focus on assessing and mapping flood hazard, risk and vulnerability of the Mekong Delta.

Would you like to understand causes and effects of floods? Please have a look at our new animated video.

- Understanding floods in the Mekong Delta in English (Please Click [Here](#))

GIZ has been implementing the project, “Flood Proofing and Drainage for Medium-sized Cities Coastal Cities in Vietnam for Adaptation to Climate Change” (FPP) in cooperation with the Ministry of Construction of Vietnam (MOC) financed by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO).

Contact: **Olaf Neussner**, Technical Advisor - Flood Proofing Programme

SNRD Working Group – “Hills to Ocean (H2O)”

H2O working group in SNRD-Asia deals with the topics and issues related to water resources management. Mr. Satya Narayan Ghosh is leading this group as speaker along with co-speaker Mr. Terence Paul to facilitate vibrant platform of knowledge exchange and replication of successful practices. This group represents projects in freshwater, coastal and marine sphere covering diverse issues including river protection and rejuvenation, marine protected area management, coastal zone management, aquaculture, coastal protection planning etc. This group brings together an overwhelming knowledge and problem-solving experiences for the sector to address the crisis at scale and multiply impact.

Rapid urbanization and industrialization have led to increase in uncontrolled anthropogenic activities in many folds, and thus, abysmal water quality of rivers, ocean and ground water etc. Over-used of aquatic lives, over exploitation of rivers and fresh water bodies, discharge of waste, habitat degradation and sea level raising have significantly increased the vulnerability of coastal area. GIZ has developed tools and approaches to address these issues and enhance the cross sectoral and marine resources. Below mentioned projects are part of this Working Group.

- Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) with inclusion of different stakeholders
- Support to Ganga (river) Rejuvenation (New Project)

- Aquaculture, (small-scale) sustainable fishing
- Coastal and marine conservation (MPA – Marine Protected Area network)
- Mangrove conservation and restoration
- Participative coastal & marine biodiversity management
- Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning (CSP, including Zoning)
- Integrated Coastal Protection Planning (includes erosion control, breakwater, mangrove belt, sea-dyke and livelihood)

Contact: [Satya Narayan Ghosh](#)

China's Maritime Silk Road Initiative

The Great Silk Road is a system of caravan routes crossing in ancient and middle age time Eurasian continent from Mediterranean Sea to China and influencing the emergence and development of trade and cultural ties between people and statehoods located along the way.

The "One Belt, One Road" is a grandiose initiative announced in November 2014, consisting of "Silk Road Economic Belt" which goes from China to Europe via Central Asia, and "21st Century Maritime Silk Road" (MSR) which goes to the Mediterranean Sea via the South China Sea, the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea.

This Chinese initiative has impacts globally, and including the fisheries and other themes that we are working in. For more information: [Sumie Yoshikawa, 2017: China's Maritime Silk Road Initiative and Local Government; Journal of Contemporary East Asia Studies, Vol. 5, 2016: Issue 2: 79-89](#)

[Strategic and economic implications for the Indo-Pacific Region - CSIS](#)

[Rícharð Ghiasy, Fei Su and Lora Saalman, 2018: The 21st Century Maritime Silk Road. Security implications and ways forward for the European Union. Friedrich Ebert Stiftung](#)

Contact: [Mecki Kronen](#)

Aquaculture Trainings for HAPA's



© Lennart Klein. Fish farmer at Inle Lake.

To improve the operation of a local hatcheries at the Inle Lake in Myanmar, a training will be offered to teach operators how to use HAPA's. These are simple net cages, in which small fish can be raised. Survival rates in these HAPA's are much higher, as predators cannot access these and feeding can be performed much more efficiently. Furthermore, it also allows for better health check of fish.

After sewing the HAPA's, the operators will learn how to operate them most efficiently. The trainer will come several times in the next months to help with upcoming difficulties and to check the progress.

Contact: **Lennart Klein**, Development Adviser

Aquaculture Forum in Myanmar

The Eastern part of Myanmar does not have sufficient aquaculture production to meet its demands. Many households are not eating enough fish and malnutrition is a widespread problem. To address these issues, GIZ has organized the First Shan State Forum for Sustainable Fish Production together with the local university, the department of fisheries and private sector representatives. The goal was to provide a platform for all stakeholders to communicate and develop ideas to sustainably intensify the aquaculture sector. One idea was to provide better education & training opportunities for farmers. The content of these trainings will now be developed together with the university.

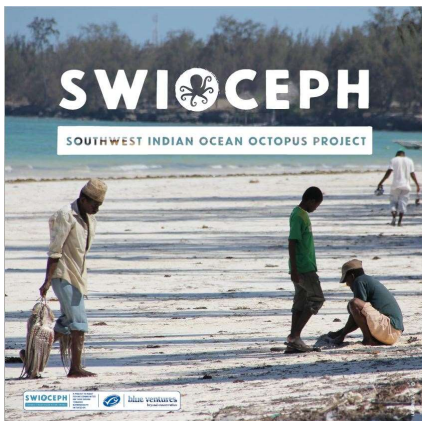


© Thet Ko Ko

Welcoming speech by U Sai Lone Kyaw,
Shan State Minister of the Ministry of
Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock.

Contact: **Lennart Klein**, Development Adviser

SWIO Cephalopods accomplishes MSC-preassessment



© Matt Watson / Blue Ventures

SWIO Cephalopods is now using these findings to team up with more partners for a further roll-out along the Mozambique channel.

By bringing together supply and demand, the Southwest Indian Ocean Octopus project aims to incentivise sustainable fishing practices. The collaboration between governments, regional management organisations, supply chain partners, fisheries, and NGOs is the main success factor. The GIZ-fisheries team helped to initiate SWIO Cephalopods together with MSC, Blue Ventures and the African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR). It also supported the **MSC pre-assessment of the octopus fishery** along the south west coastline of Madagascar, focusing the assessment at a Locally Managed Marine Area (LMMA) level of governance and jurisdiction. Subsequently

Contact: **Kai Wiegler**

Project on Coastal and Marine Rehabilitation in the Philippines Kicked Off with an Inception Workshop Attended by Key Implementing Partners



© GIZ

ProCoast Team visited Katunggan Ecopark at Leganes, Iloilo, Philippines as part of the Inception Workshop

ProCoast project is implemented between the Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Biodiversity Management Bureau (DENR-BMB), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and the Zoological Society of London (ZSL) Philippines (11/2018 to 10/2021). The project aims to improve the protection of coastal areas and the people who live there from the effects of climate change. It is part of the International Climate Initiative (IKI) funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU).

Contact: **Franca Sprong**, Project Manager

Can learning about legal regulations be fun? SMP and 3,600 villagers of the Sundarbans experienced how.



© GIZ BD/Bonani Chumky. Fishing Net Identification – Legal and Banned

The Sundarbans Management Project (SMP), Bangladesh, with the support of Wildlife Conservation Society organized a series of interactive 'Fish for Future – Playing by the Rules' fairs using different modelled games. These events aim to disseminate information and increase knowledge among local communities on fisheries laws and rules. Eight two days-long events have been organized at different marketplaces located along the Sundarbans Mangrove Forest. So far, 3,564 community members visited these fairs. Since villagers were enthusiastic and appreciated such an innovative idea of playing games to improve knowledge, more fairs are planned by SMP.

Contact: **Carina van Weelden**, Technical Adviser - Sundarbans Management Project (SMP)

Further information [here](#).



Africa

Aquaculture Value Chain for Higher Income and Food Security in Malawi Programme (AVCP) presents Baseline Survey Report at the Pan-African Fish and Fisheries Association (PAFFA) Conference 2018



© GIZ AVCP

Hon. Joseph Mwanamvekha, Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development, launches the AVCP Baseline Survey Report.

From the 24 th-28th September 2018 the AVCP successfully took part in the Sixth PAFFA conference in Mangochi, Malawi. The conference, whose theme is African Fish and Fisheries: Diversity, Conservation and Sustainable Management, has brought together 400 delegates involved within the sector from Africa.

The conference was opened by Hon. Joseph Mwanamvekha, Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and

Water Development of Malawi. During the opening session, he launched the AVCP Baseline Survey Report together with Dagmar Krenz, deputy head of development cooperation from the German Embassy. The Report was also presented to the participants.

Link:

[6th PAFFA conference Malawi](#)

Contact: [Ladislao Di Domenica](#)

Active civil society in dialogues on marine biodiversity

Mauritania



© Cheikh Inejih

In Mauritania, environmental problems in the marine and coastal environments are increasing almost on the daily. This raises the question of how civil society can engage if there is a lack of information and resources for evidence-based lobbying. For this reason a two-day workshop was organized in Nouakchott, in which we worked with 12 civil society partners to increase their understanding of marine and coastal information and data visualization through GIS. These capabilities should enable them to better position themselves in discussions on marine biodiversity and environmental impact, including in dealing with the government and the private sector. To further promote these dialogues, a multi-stakeholder platform for the protection of marine and coastal biodiversity is currently being prepared, with a first meeting scheduled for early December 2018.

Contact: [Martin Obermaier](#)

Competition to Promote Fish Consumption

in Kismayo, Somalia



© GIZ

The first-ever fish cooking competition held in the southern Somali coastal city of Kismayo attracted more than a dozen participants as part of an awareness campaign to significantly increase local fish consumption.

Participants from the city's five neighbourhoods – Guul-wade, Farjano, Calanley, Fanoole, and Shaqaalaha -tried their hand at cooking fish in the competition held on *24 December 2018*.

The contest, organised by Star Media Development Centre (SMDC), was won by **Luul Mohamed Guure** from Kismayo's Alanley neighbourhood. She was awarded a prize consisting of a certificate and a trophy.

The contest was part of an effort by German development agency GIZ to raise awareness about the nutritional values of eating fish. Alanley administrator Osman Farah Bando said participants were a role model for other women in Kismayo.

Watch a video about the competition [here](#).

Before the competition, several short radio dramas in Somali, TV and radio talk-shows, public service announcements and roadshows conducted by SMDC highlighted the nutritional values of fish, focusing on the benefits for returning refugees, internally displaced persons & vulnerable residents of Kismayo. Although Somalia has the longest coastline in Africa, after Madagascar, fish consumption remains low and fish is not part of most people's diet. The awareness campaign, dubbed '**Dish on Fish**', was aimed at encouraging families living in and around Kismayo to start including fish in their diets. The campaign was also aimed at raising awareness about the nutritional benefits of eating fish and appropriate methods for preparing and preserving fish among returning refugees, internally displaced persons & vulnerable residents of Kismayo. The campaign caught the attention of the population and even encouraged beneficiaries and participants to change their eating habits.

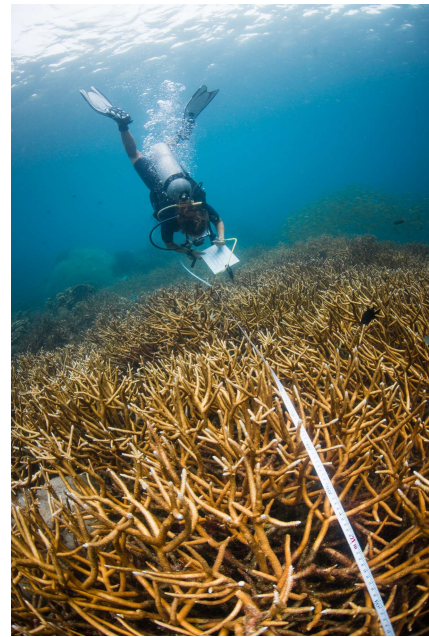
Contact: [Brigitte Reichelt](#) and [Maryan Duelle](#)

“MeerWissen” promotes knowledge-based marine conservation

For African coastal states marine and coastal resources are essential for food security and economic development, but also exposed to increasing threats such as pollution and over-exploitation. But many African partner countries lack up-to-date scientific data for efficient management decisions.

Against this background the BMZ-initiative “MeerWissen – African German Partners for Ocean Knowledge” has been developed and launched in November 2018. The initiative seeks to build bridges between African and German research institutions as well as to promote the dialogue among scientists and political decision-makers to implement effective actions for the conservation of oceans and coasts.

Contacts: [Rebecca Lahl](#) and [Janina Korting](#)



© Getty Images Sirachai Arunrugstichai
Data collection at a coral reef.



Central and South America

New BMU IKI Project: Identification, demarcation of protected areas and integrated management of marine and coastal zones especially affected by climate change

Duration: 01/2019 - 06/2023

The project will support the Natural National Park Authority in Colombia, as well as the regional environmental authorities and local communities to establish a participative process focused to expand the existing protected areas. The project also aims to provide the protected status to non-protected areas and elaborate integrated management plans to promote sustainable use of the resources by the local resident population. At the same time, it seeks to integrate the protected areas in the integral planning of the marine space and derive concepts of greater reach uses. In this manner, the ecosystem services provided by the protected areas could be considered in the neighboring regions management plans. Moreover, some concepts regarding Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) will be elaborated in order to reinforce the resilience of the local communities. The project will generate experiences in the scope of integrated management of protected marine and coastal areas, the use of protected areas for the adaptation to climate change and the marine territorial planning/demarcation/zoning tied with protection at the Colombian Caribbean Coast. Those learned lessons will be systematized and disseminated at national and international levels.

Contact: [Julian Castro](#)

The New Year 2019 started busy in the Mesoamerican Reef

(MAR) region: The MAR-network held their 4th regional meeting in Cozumel from January 29th to 31st.

The network is driven by the urgent need to increase economic revenues for local populations, to protect ecosystems as “lifelines” of tourism, and to assure investments in infrastructure, for sustainable destination development. Members stress the fact that cruise tourism offers enormous economic potential, however, only a few benefit from that industry. The destinations are ambitious to seek talks with the cruise industry as a union so that uncontrolled resource abuse is stopped and sustainable destination development can be achieved. During the meeting, participants developed an organizational structure and strategies for a vital the network. Next steps include the appointment of the network’s steering committee, representing equally the private, and public sector as well as civil society from each destination. ([read more](#))



©GIZ/ Katrin Muench

Contact: [Katrin Münch](#), Advisor - Sector Project Environment Policy



Publications

Benchmarking the seafood industry

Seafood is the single largest globally traded food commodity. With a small number (30) of companies holding the largest share of production and trade, it would be beneficial to benchmark their sustainability development and performance. This is the goal of the [Seafood Stewardship Index \(SSI\)](#), by using the sustainable development goals as criteria in a multi-stakeholder dialogue and research. The methodology is still in a development phase in which stakeholders were invited for consolidation. The final methodology is expected to be published in April 2019.



Source: [Pixabay](#)

Contact: [Julian Engel](#)



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