

# Aligning Fisheries Aid with International Targets

Robert Blasiak and Colette Wabnitz

EFDAN & PROFISH meeting | June 12, 2018

Stockholm Resilience Centre  
Sustainability Science for Biosphere Stewardship



The Nippon Foundation - University of British Columbia

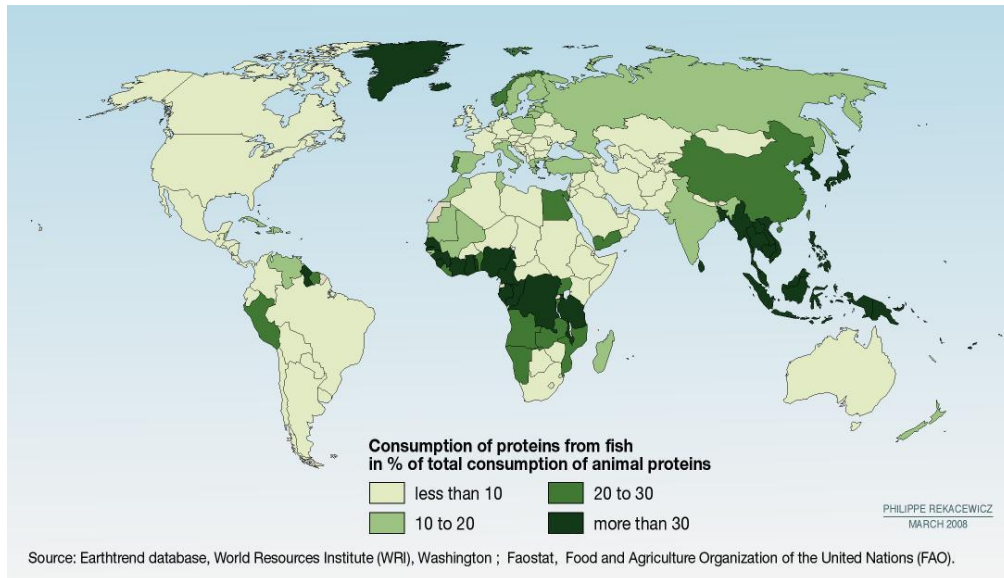
**NEREUS PROGRAM**

Predicting Future Oceans

# Importance of fisheries

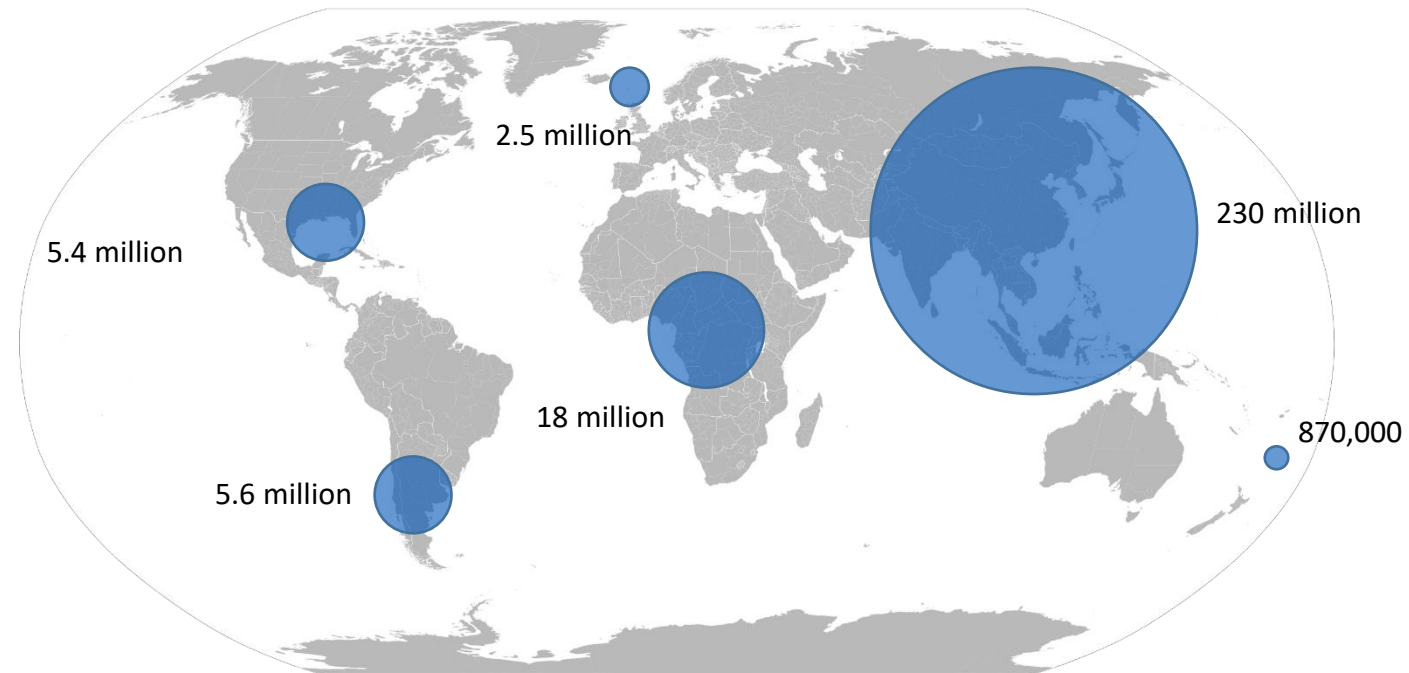
## Food security & nutrition

- High proportion of protein
- Critical provision of important nutrients



## Employment

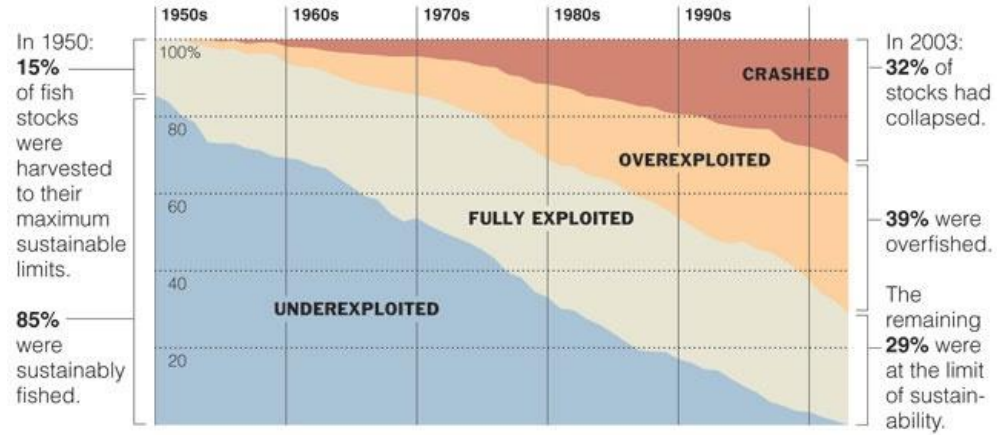
- 50% of direct employment small-scale fishers



# Status of fisheries

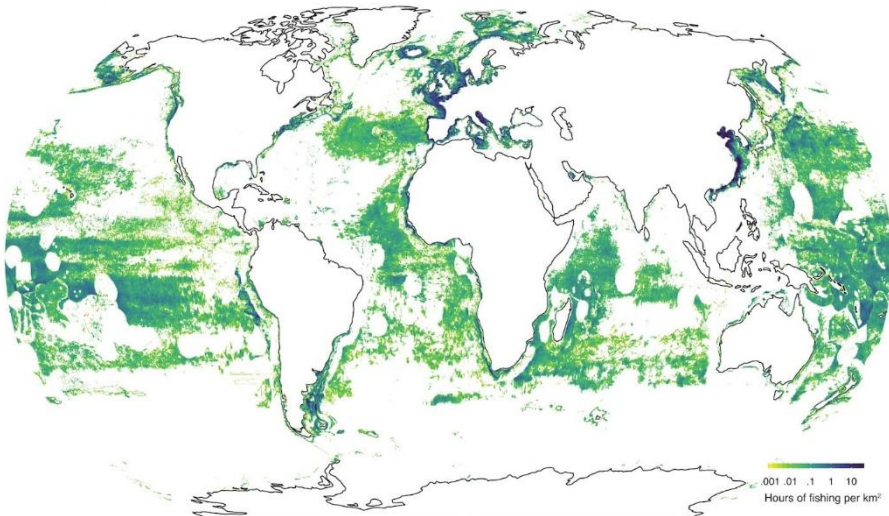
## At the Breaking Point

The condition of the world's fisheries has declined drastically because of overfishing.

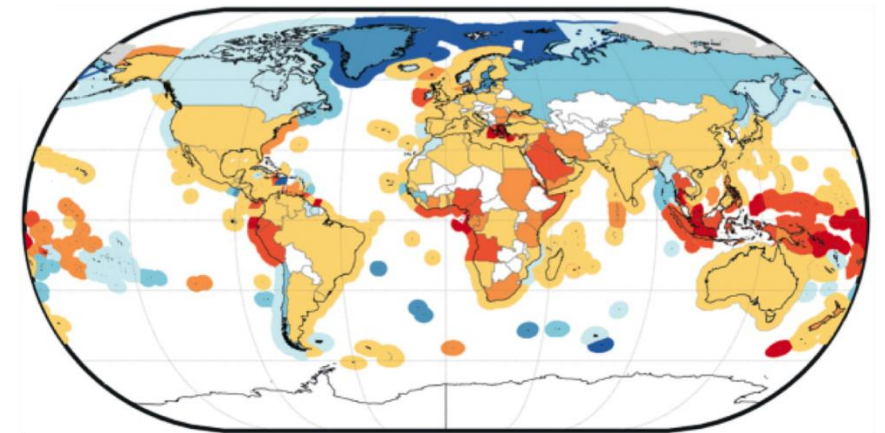
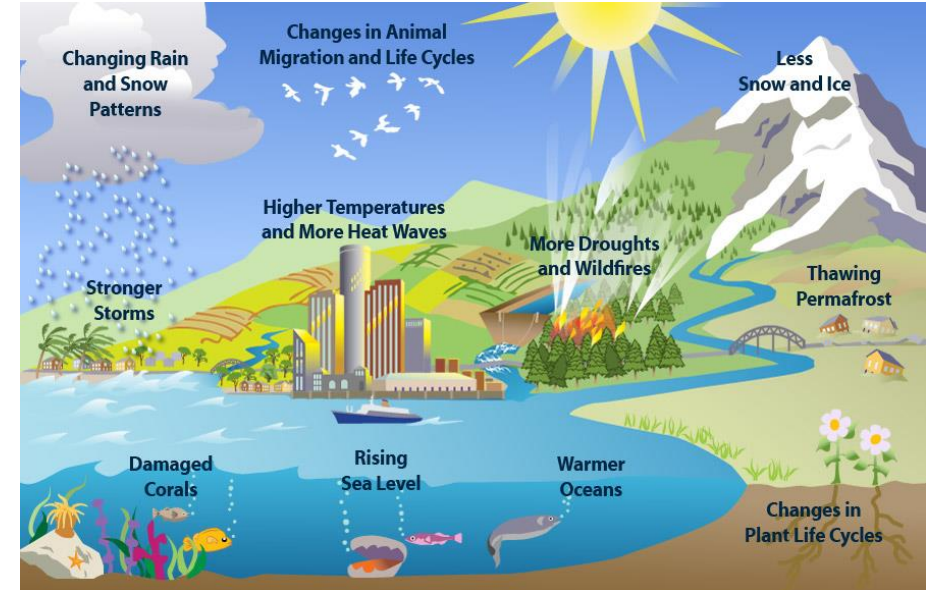


Sea Around Us

Global Fishing Activity, 2016



Kroodsma et al. 2018



Cheung et al. 2017

# International commitments

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- **United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (1994)**

*“States shall promote the development of the marine scientific and technological capacity of States which may need and request technical assistance in this field, particularly developing States, including land-locked and geographically disadvantaged States, with regard to the exploration, exploitation, conservation and management of marine resources, the protection and preservation of the marine environment, marine scientific research and other activities in the marine environment compatible with this Convention, with a view to accelerating the social and economic development of the developing States...”*

- **Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (2010)** includes multiple targets focused on marine ecosystems.
- **“The Future we Want” (2012)** – 20 paragraphs on oceans

*“We urge the identification and mainstreaming of strategies by 2014 that further assist developing countries, in particular the [LDCs] and [SIDS], in developing their national capacity to conserve, sustainably manage and realize the benefits of sustainable fisheries, including through improved market access for fish products from developing countries...”*

# International commitments (2)

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## Sustainable Development Goal 14

### “Life below water”



*“By 2020,[ ...] restore fish stocks [...] at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics.”*

*“increase scientific knowledge, develop research capacity and transfer marine technology.”*

*“By 2030, increase the economic benefits to [SIDS] and [LDCs] from the sustainable use of marine resources, including through sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism”*



# But are oceans and fisheries REALLY a priority?



## Listening to Leaders 2018 Is development cooperation tuned-in or tone-deaf?

May 2018

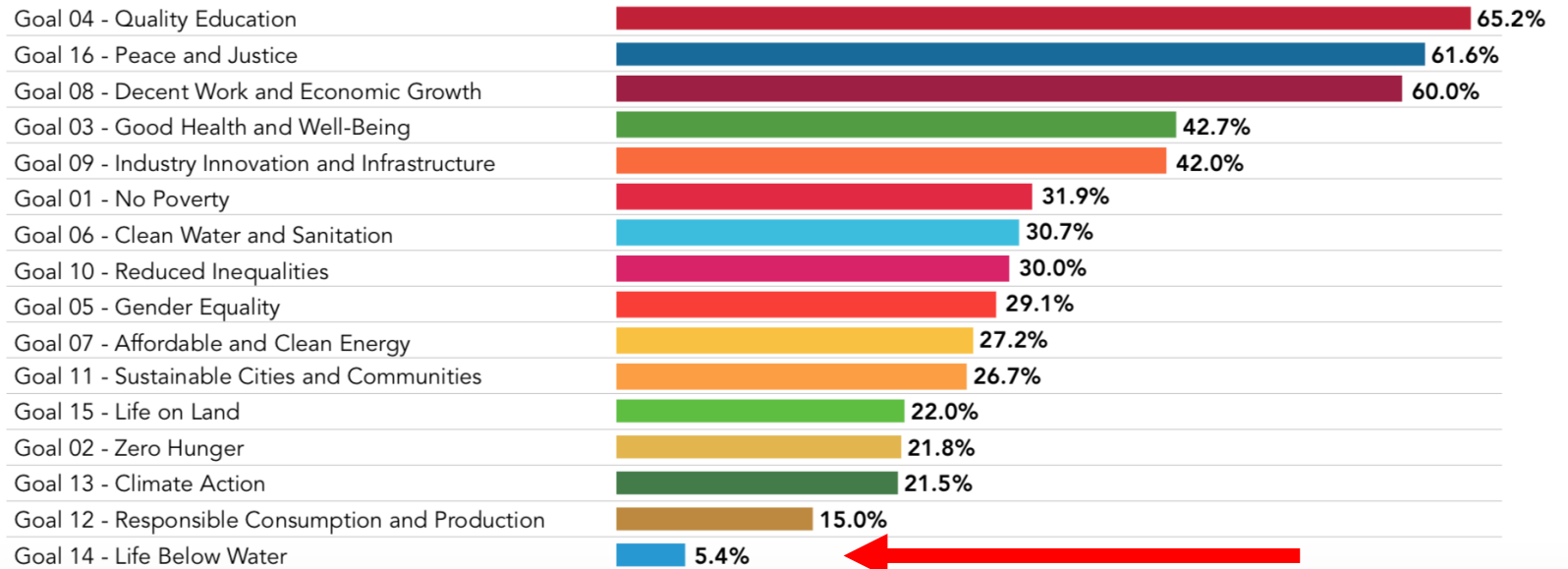
Samantha Custer, Matthew DiLorenzo,  
Takaaki Masaki, Tanya Sethi, Ani Harutyunyan



Custer et al. 2018

**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.*

### Sustainable Development Goal



# But are oceans and fisheries REALLY a priority?



# But are oceans and fisheries REALLY a priority?

## Under the Paris Agreement, nations made pledges, “Nationally Determined Contributions” (NDCs)

- NDCs are in some ways a reflection of national priorities and capacity
- Researchers studied 161 NDCs
- 70% of these included marine issues
- Around half included fisheries in adaptation or mitigation sections



## Ocean commitments under the Paris Agreement

Natalya D. Gallo<sup>1,2\*</sup>, David G. Victor<sup>3,4,5</sup> and Lisa A. Levin<sup>1,2</sup>

Under the Paris Agreement nations made pledges known as nationally determined contributions (NDCs), which indicate how national governments are evaluating climate risks and policy opportunities. We find that NDCs reveal important systematic patterns reflecting national interests and capabilities. Because the ocean plays critical roles in climate mitigation and adaptation, we created a quantitative marine focus factor (MFF) to evaluate how governments address marine issues. In contrast to the past, when oceans received minimal attention in climate negotiations, 70% of 161 NDCs we analysed include marine issues. The percentage of the population living in low-lying areas—vulnerable to rising seas—positively influences the MFF, but negotiating group (Annex 1 or small island developing states) is equally important, suggesting political motivations are crucial to NDC development. The analysis reveals gaps between scientific and government attention, including on ocean deoxygenation, which is barely mentioned. Governments display a keen interest in expanding marine research on climate priorities.



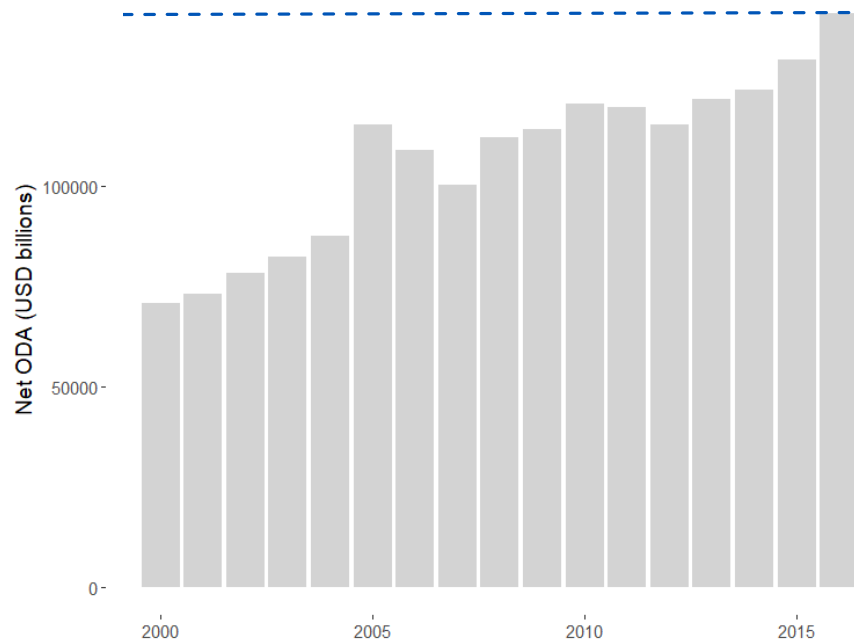
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Are donor countries following through on their promises and allocating money in line with their commitments?

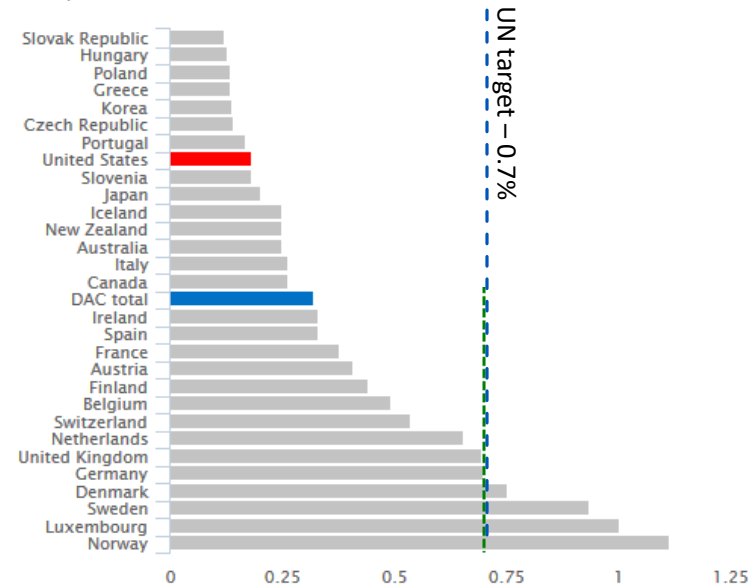
# Official Development Assistance

- Promote economic development and welfare
- 29 Development Assistance Committee (DAC) member countries
- 146 recipient countries
- Bilateral or multilateral

142.6 billion USD

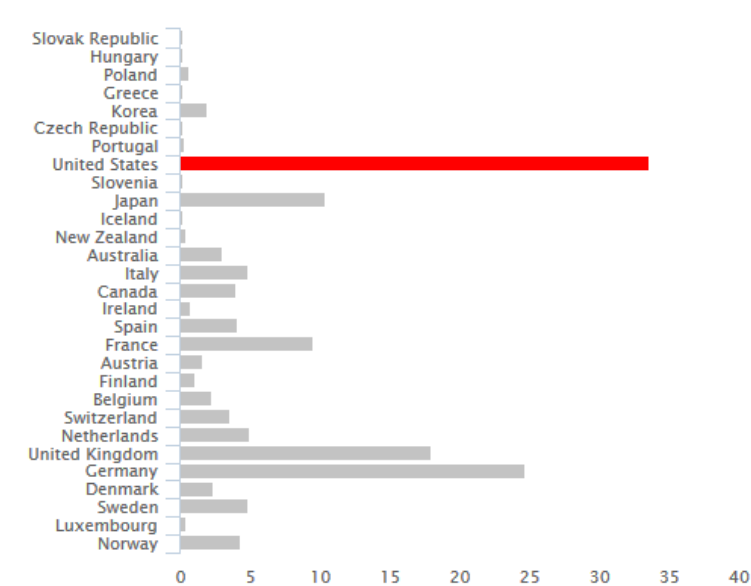


ODA as per cent of GNI (2016)



OECD 2017; DAC Statistics

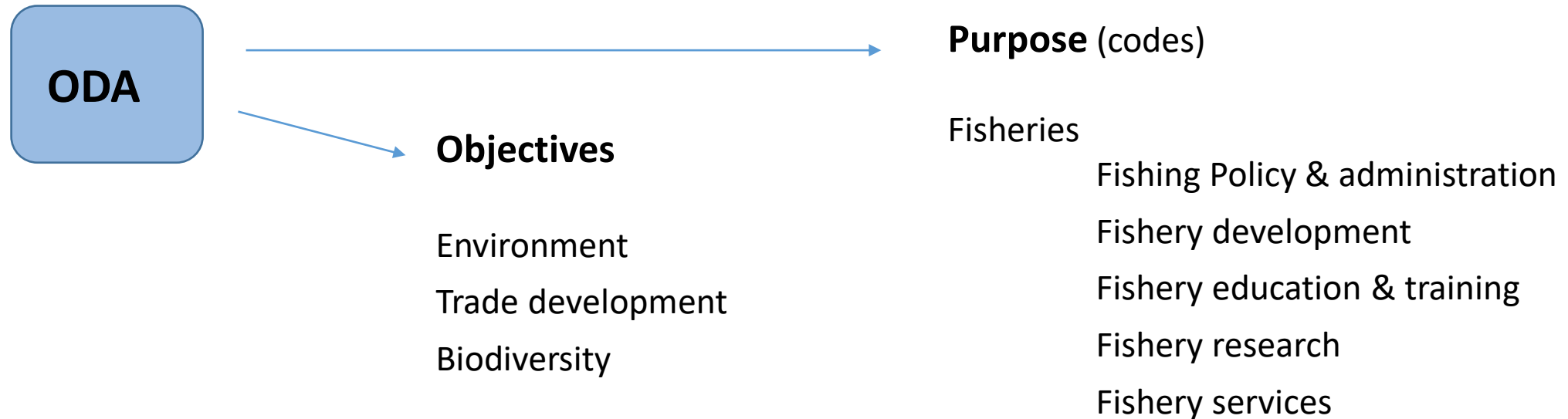
ODA - USD billion (2016)



# Official Development Assistance

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- Analysis for 2010-2015
- Does not include loans
- Fisheries = fisheries and aquaculture
- Non-DAC members: Kuwait, Saudi Arabia & United Arab Emirates



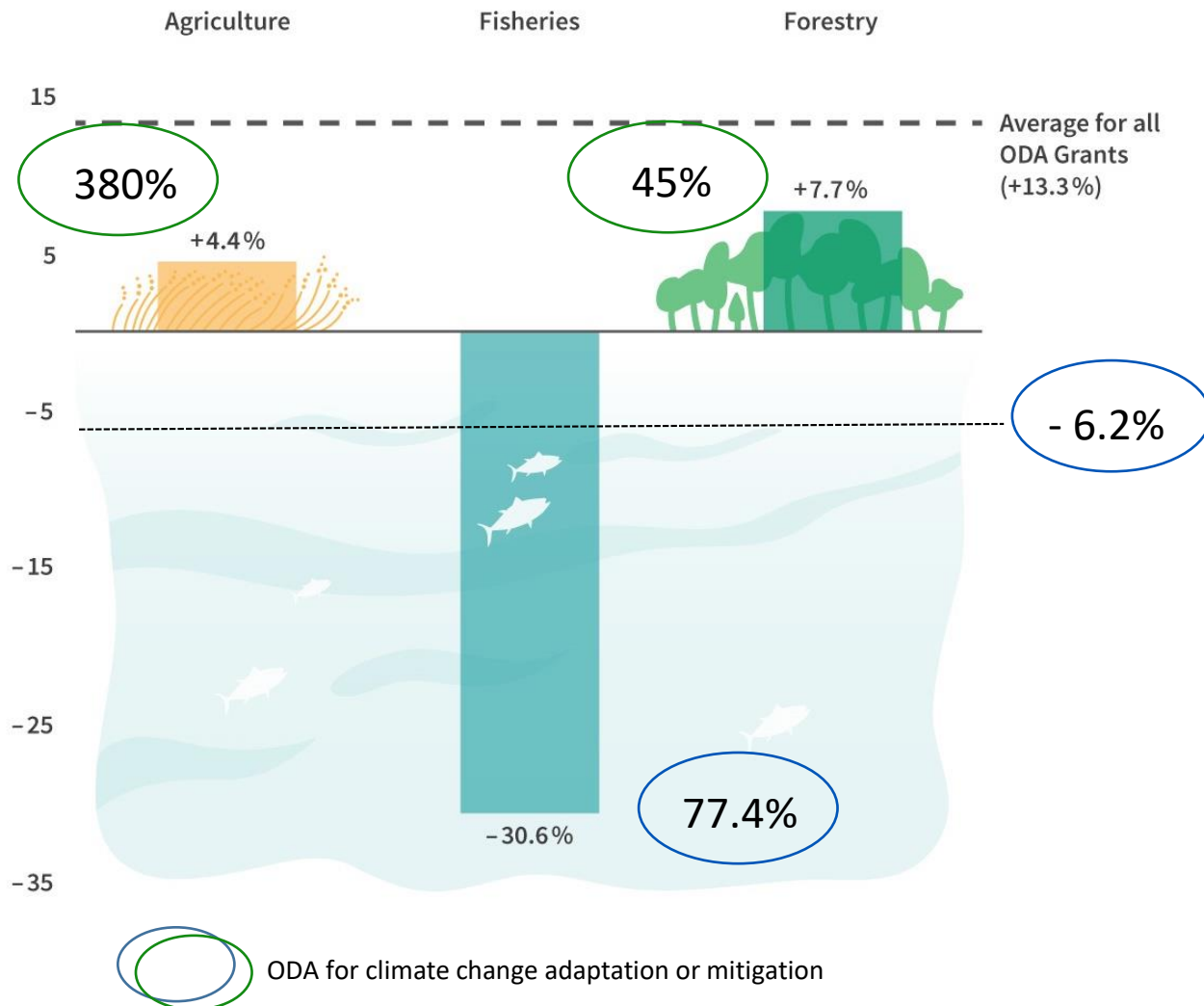
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Answer specific key questions, including:

1. Are ODA allocations for marine fisheries aligned with stated international targets and goals?
2. Are the parts of the world with the most vulnerable fisheries being prioritized?



# ODA trends 2010 - 2015



## Regions

- - 43.8% in Oceania
- - 49.5% in Asia

## Purpose

- Fishing policy + 49%
- Decline in fishery education
- Decline in fishery research
- Decline in fishery services

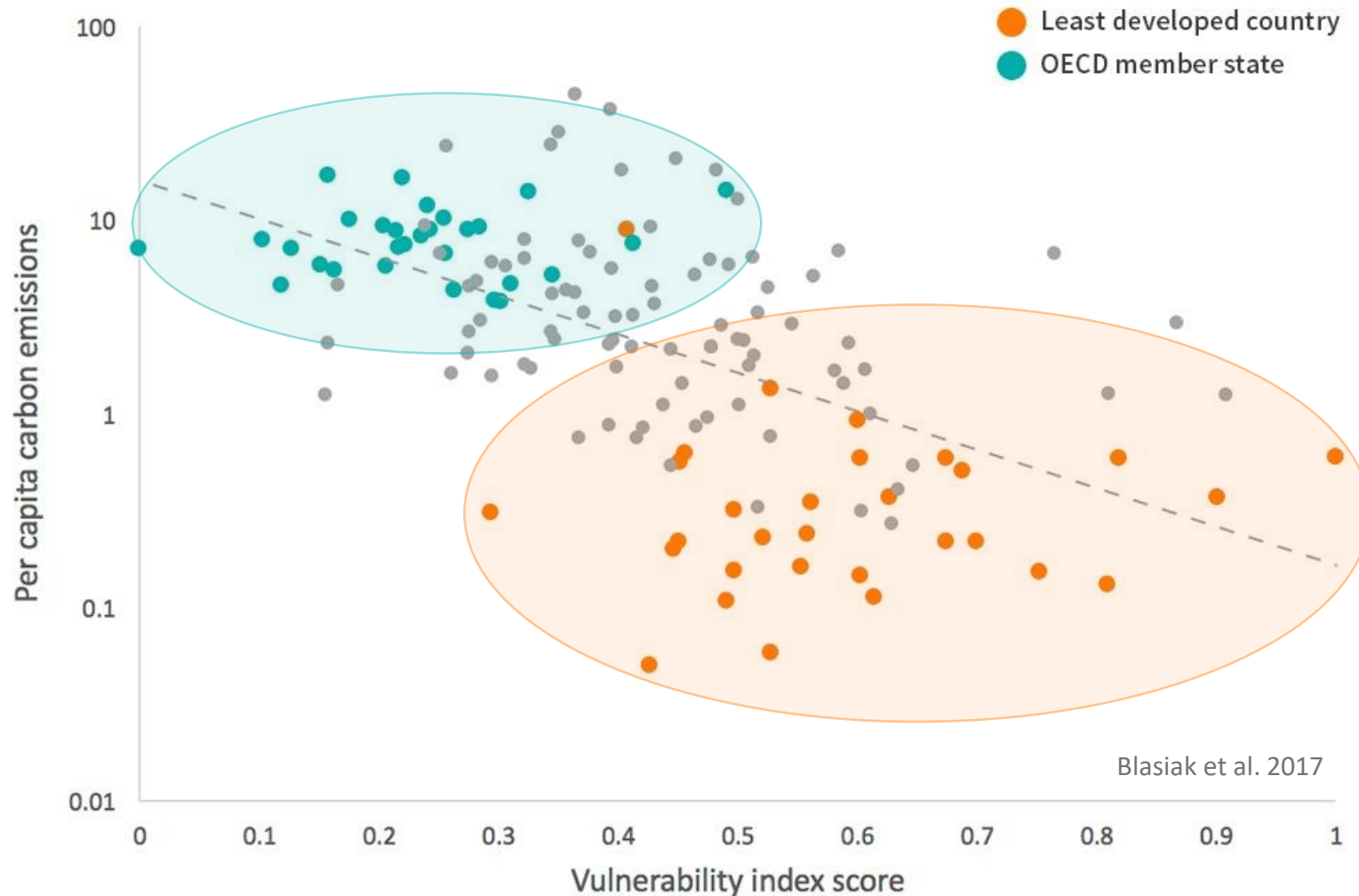
## Objectives

- Increase in environment, trade development & biodiversity
- Decline in climate change

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1. Are ODA allocations for marine fisheries aligned with stated international targets and goals?

**NO**

## 2. Targeting vulnerable nations?



### Most vulnerable nations

1. Kiribati
2. FSM
3. Solomon Islands
4. Maldives
5. Vanuatu
6. Samoa
7. Mozambique
8. China
9. Sierra Leone
10. Tuvalu

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2. Are the parts of the world with the most vulnerable fisheries being prioritized?

**NO**



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Why?

# I. Risk aversion

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## High risk profile

- Collaboration important
- Poor data making management implementation complex

## Perceptions

- Impacts on land / sea
- Gaining support (role of 2007/2008 crisis)

...but many SIDS have minimal arable land



## II. Redirection of climate finance

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### Diversification of livelihoods

### Investment in adaptive capacity

- Education
- Health services
- Infrastructure



### Secondary benefits to fisheries

- New technologies – monitoring control & surveillance
- Environment - MPAs

**Green Climate Fund**

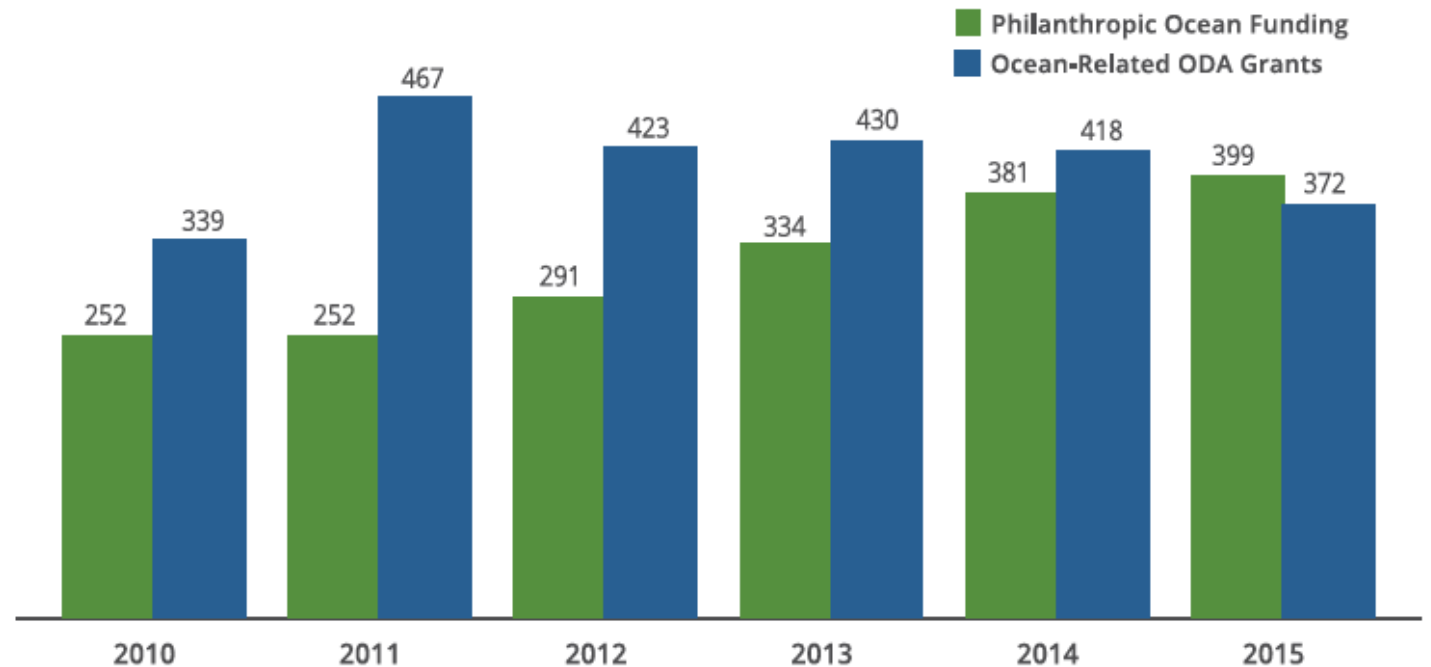


# but... the future may be bright!

Since 2015 number of positive signals:

- Accreditation for climate financing
- In Pacific: New Roadmap for Sustainable Fisheries (2015)

Philanthropic aid





# What is "fisheries development" (cooperation)?

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According to EFDAN:

**What does it entail?**

- Research?
- Policy support?
- Conservation?



**How has it changed** since EFDAN was established in the 1980s?



# *Marine Policy* special issue: ocean finance

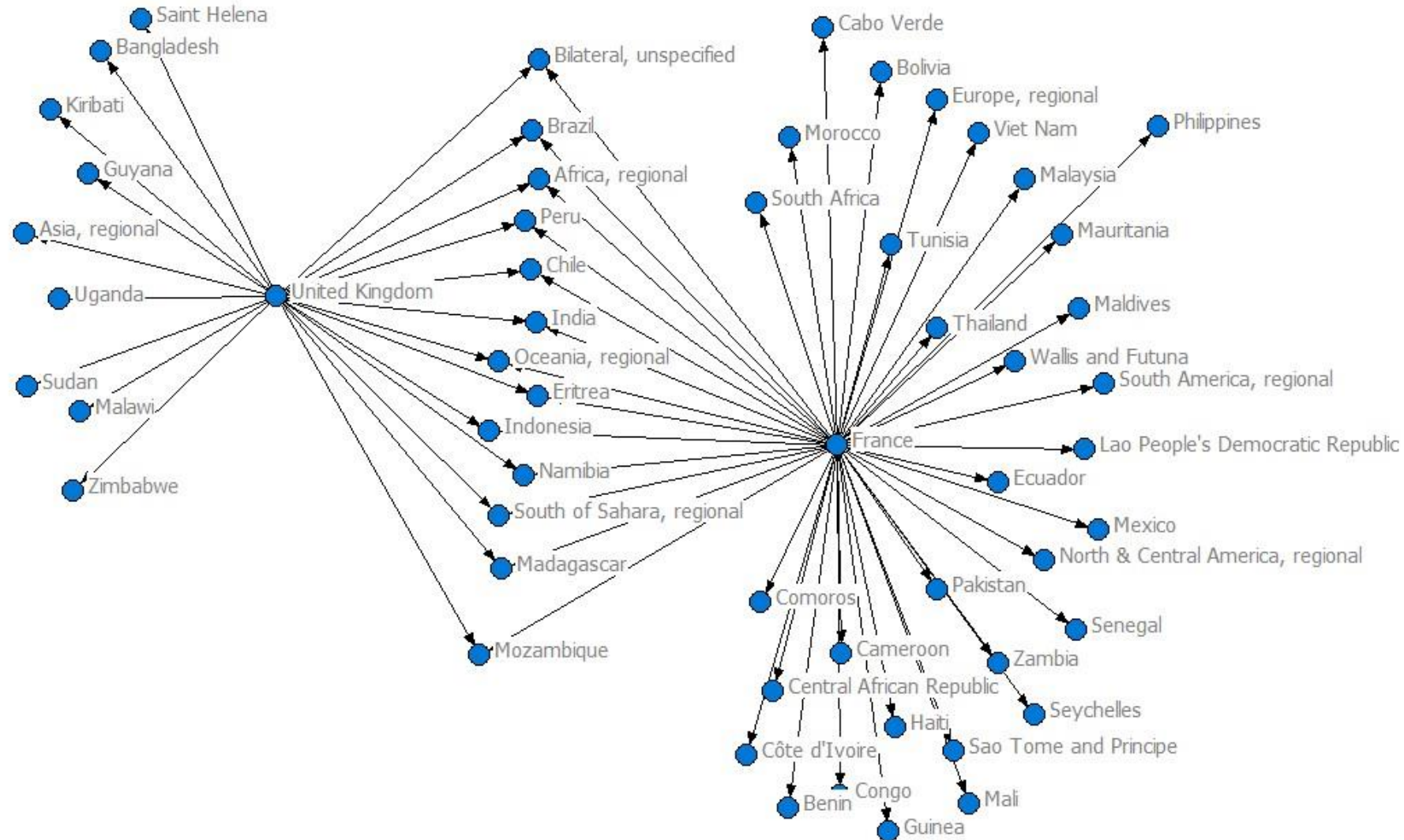
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Series of papers covering four broad categories:

1. Patterns in ODA allocation

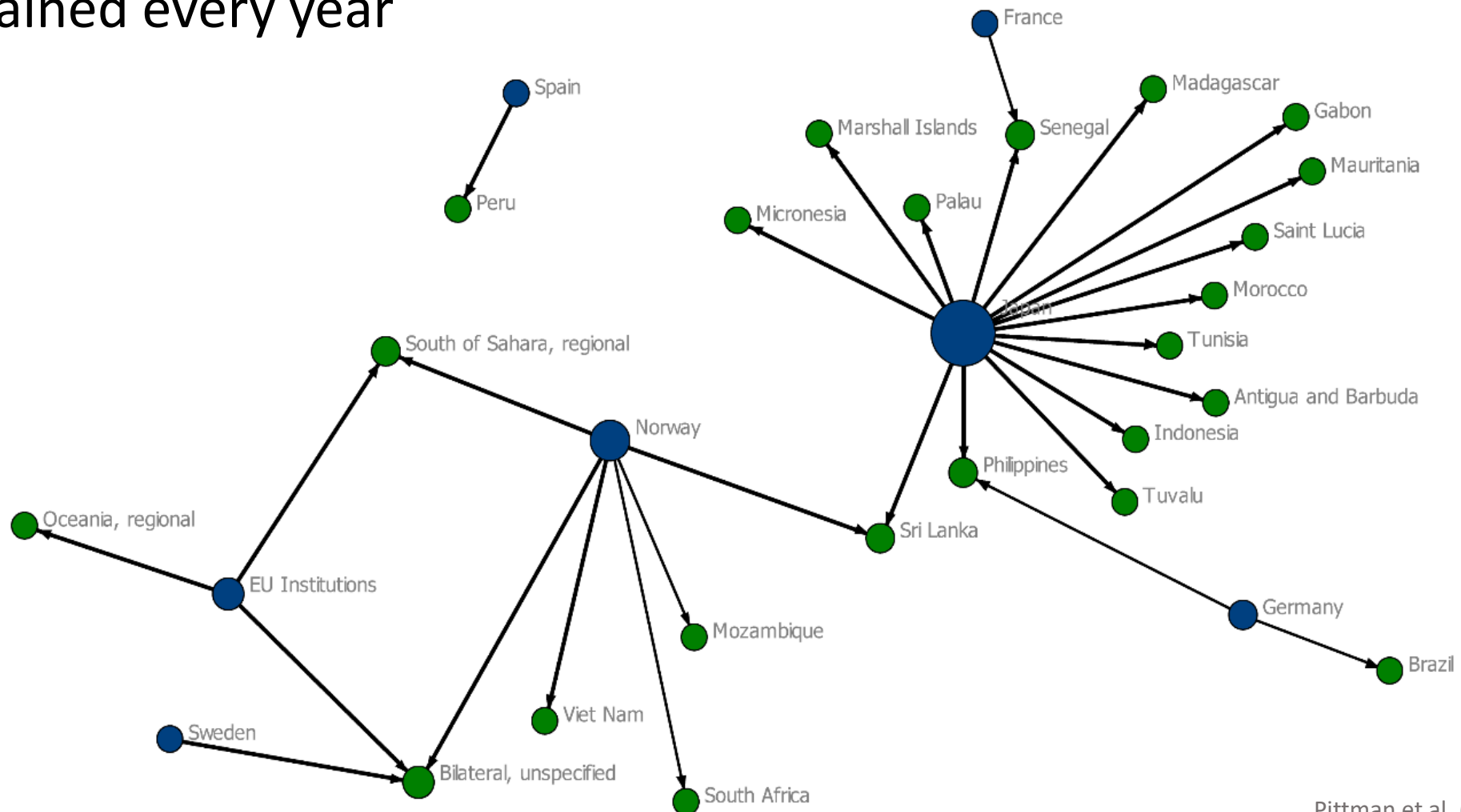


# UK & France ties over time (2002 – 2015)



# Fisheries-related ODA transfers (2002 to 2015)

... maintained every year





# *Marine Policy* special issue: ocean finance

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Series of papers covering four broad categories:

1. Patterns in ODA allocation
2. Regional experiences with fisheries development aid



# *Marine Policy* special issue: ocean finance

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Series of papers covering four broad categories:

1. Patterns in ODA allocation
2. Regional experiences with fisheries development aid
3. The growth in philanthropic support for ocean conservation and sustainable fisheries
4. Future trends (e.g., blue carbon, climate change finance)



Online publication: end of October 2018

# Workshop plans

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## **Purpose:**

1. Launch Marine Policy special issue
2. Identify main drivers of decisions about the allocation of ocean and fisheries funding
3. Discuss how to better track financial resources dedicated to sustainable fisheries and oceans
4. Develop a future research agenda

## **Outcomes:**

1. Consolidated network of expertise
2. A high-impact publication summarizing the workshop's key findings and future research
3. A policy brief targeted at donor agencies, philanthropies, NGOs/IGOs, and the private sector

**Participants:** Lead authors of the Special Issue, and representatives of international agencies and philanthropies.

**Format:** 1 ½ day closed workshop with invited experts and practitioners; ½ day public event launching special issue

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# Thank you!!

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# So... SPECIAL ISSUE!

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Call aimed for topics covered to include:

- regional and global trends in allocation of philanthropic funding and ODA for ocean conservation and sustainable fisheries
- reconciling the priorities and objectives of donor and recipient countries
- how funding modalities influence project implementation and outcomes
- prospects for improved donor coordination
- (mis)matches between funding modalities and international commitments to ocean conservation and sustainable fisheries.



# ODA Non-Infrastructure Ocean Grant Funding

