

OCEANS & COASTS ECOSYSTEM

TATA SUSTAINABILITY MONTH, JUNE 2021



WHAT IS IT?

Oceans and seas cover more than 70 per cent of the Earth, with about 620,000 kilometres of coastline shaping them.

THE VAST AMOUNT OF WATER IN OCEANS STORES MAJORITY OF THE PLANET'S MOISTURE, TERRESTRIAL ENERGY, AND HEAT FROM THE SUN.

Oceans feed us, regulate our climate, and generate most of the oxygen we breathe.

THE MARINE AND COASTAL ECOSYSTEMS ARE ASSETS WHICH PROVIDE AND SUSTAIN A WIDE RANGE OF ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND ECOLOGICAL SERVICES THAT ARE A FOUNDATION FOR THE LIVELIHOODS OF MILLIONS.

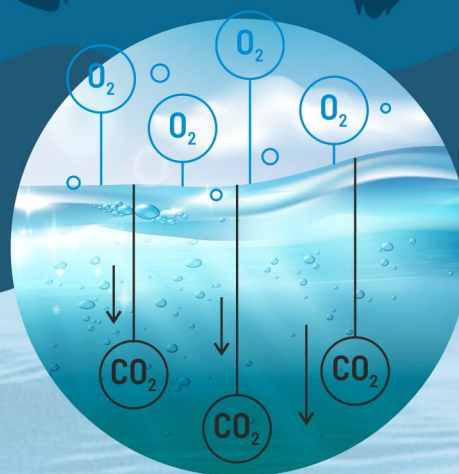


Over **40%** of the world's 7.4 billion people live near coastal areas



Phytoplankton, microscopic plants and animals in the oceans provide the foundation of the global food web of species

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?



The oceans produce **OVER HALF OF THE WORLD'S OXYGEN AND STORE 50 TIMES MORE CARBON DIOXIDE THAN OUR ATMOSPHERE**



More than **50% OF ALL SPECIES** on Earth are found under the ocean



Oceans help sustain us by providing **20% OF THE ANIMAL PROTEIN AND 5% OF THE TOTAL PROTEIN IN THE HUMAN DIET**



They underpin key sectors of the economy such as **TRANSPORT, TOURISM AND FISHERIES**

HOW IS IT DEGRADED?



OVERFISHING

Rampant fishing disturbs aquatic lifecycle



OCEAN POLLUTION

Plastics, chemicals, untreated sewage and oil spills



OCEAN ACIDIFICATION

Human activity induced carbon dioxide increase has led to a drop in the ocean's pH level and 30% increase in acidity

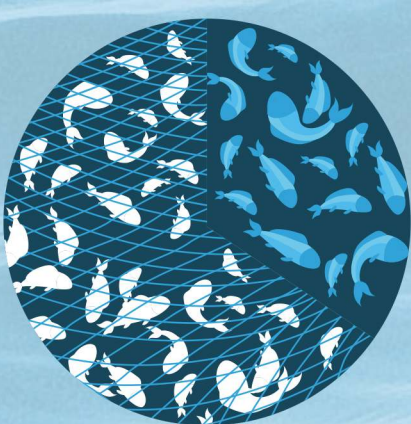


CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change is damaging coral reefs and other key ecosystems, and accelerating rising sea levels

HOW BAD IS THE SITUATION?

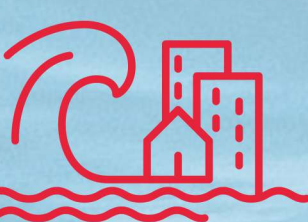
Over **60%** of world's fishing stocks are fully fished



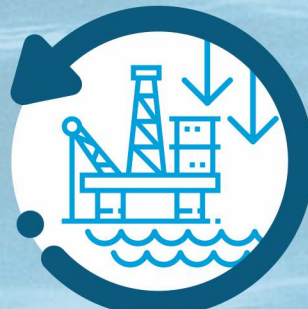
An estimated **8 million tons** of plastic enters our oceans every year. By 2050, there will be more plastic than fish in the ocean



By 2050, high tides could permanently rise above land occupied by over 150 million people, making the land inhabitable



WHAT CAN BE DONE TO RESTORE THEM?



1 MITIGATING EXCESSIVE OCEAN AND COASTAL ACTIVITIES

Reducing the pressure on these ecosystems so they can recover, both naturally and by re-seeding or transplanting key species



2 PREVENTING POLLUTION

Preventing plastics and chemicals from entering oceans and treating all wastewater before discharge



MANAGING COASTAL ECOSYSTEMS

Through activities such as reconstructing salt marshes that have been lost to human development, replanting coastal mangrove forests that have been degraded, and enhancing the structural complexity of damaged coral reefs

WHAT CAN MY ORGANIZATION DO?



CONSERVE AND SUSTAINABLY USE THE OCEANS, SEAS & MARINE RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



ORGANISE BEACH CLEANING DRIVES, MANGROVE PLANTATION DRIVES AS EMPLOYEE VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS



PARTNER WITH COMMUNITIES, LOCAL AUTHORITIES, NON-PROFITS TO SUPPORT RESTORATION ACTIVITIES

WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?



REDUCE PLASTIC CONSUMPTION

Ditch single use plastics and recycle your plastic waste



DO NOT LITTER

Next time at the beach ensure you leave it clean, if not cleaner



MAKE INFORMED SEAFOOD CHOICES

Choose to consume only sustainably sourced seafood



CLEAN PRODUCTS ENSURE CLEAN OCEANS

Choose environmentally-friendly detergents and household cleaners