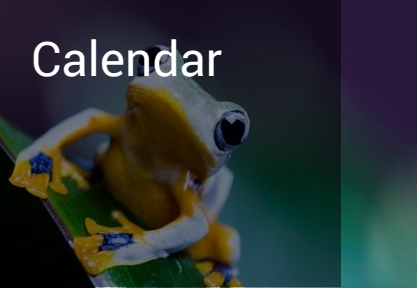
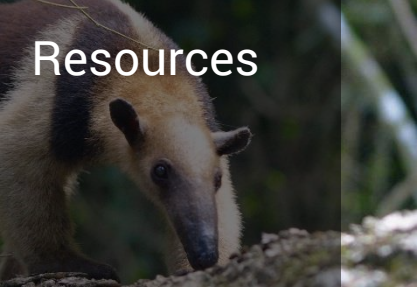


# Proteus Quarterly Update



# Highlights

## New UN Environment report: Assessing Environmental Impacts – A Global Review of Legislation

### UNEP-WCMC supported UN Environment in developing a global stocktaking of environmental assessment legislation

The study provides examples from a wide selection of countries of their institutional and legal arrangements in relation to the different steps of the environmental assessment process, as well as highlighting emerging challenges and trends.

Key findings include an increased focus on follow-up and adaptive management in more recent legislation, as well as increased recognition of Strategic Environmental Assessment as a way of overcoming some of the limitations of Environmental Impact Assessments.

Access the report [here](#)

Contact: [Katharina Rogalla von Bieberstein](#)



# Highlights

Oct  
2017  
to Feb  
2018

## Mainstreaming biodiversity into the infrastructure, energy and mining sectors

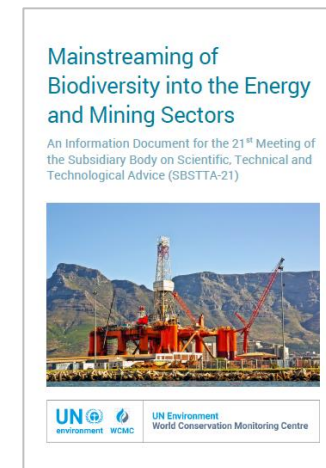
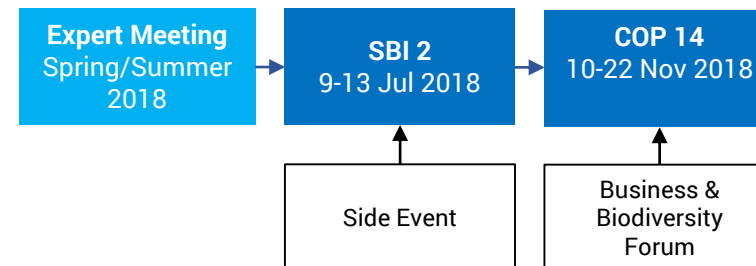
### Co-ordinating stakeholder input for the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP-14) to the Convention on Biological Diversity

UNEP-WCMC, UN Environment and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity hosted a side event on mainstreaming biodiversity into the energy and mining sectors at the 21<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice in December 2017.

UNEP-WCMC would be delighted to further engage with Proteus Partners in the run up to COP-14, in particular, if you have case studies of good practice around mainstreaming biodiversity.

Contact: [Katie Dawkins](#).

Industry engagement opportunities leading to COP 14



# Highlights

Oct  
2017  
to Feb  
2018

## 2017 UN Environment Assembly (4-6 Dec)

- Pollution is rising up the UN agenda, particularly in relation to air quality and plastics.
- Ministerial Declaration acknowledging the link between pollution and climate change on biodiversity loss.
- A side event dedicated to the extractive sector recognized that “people must come before profits” and highlighted “it is possible to exploit and protect” in operations.

Access conference materials [here](#). Contact: [Ruth Fletcher](#).

## International Association for Impact Assessment Special Symposium (29-30 Nov)

- Land-use planning can address the knowledge gap surrounding cumulative potential of offsets
- Greater focus needed on green infrastructure and nature-based solutions
- Strong need for better data sharing and capacity-building, ideally regionally
- Social impact assessments should be regarded as design tools instead of licences to operate

Contact: [Katharina Rogalla von Bieberstein](#).

## World Forum on Natural Capital (27-28 Nov)

- Key themes:
  - Taking nature into account
  - Impact through innovation
  - Cities of tomorrow
  - Prosperous and resilient economies
- Workshop by the Cambridge Conservation Initiative gathered over 90 delegates to discuss integrating biodiversity into natural capital assessments.

Further information on the wider project [here](#). Access speaker slides [here](#). Contact: [Katie Leach](#).

## Business and Biodiversity Offsets Programme Advisory Group meeting (14-15 Nov)

- Focus on integrating a net gain approach into natural capital accounts
- Discussion on a tool enabling ‘Business planning for biodiversity net gain’
- Policy updates for 7 countries illustrating changes taking place to accommodate net gain and no net loss approaches

Download full report [here](#). Contact: [Sharon Brooks](#).

## Feedback from key events

**Four important events took place in late 2017, providing a platform for engagement on business and biodiversity**



# Protected areas

Oct  
2017  
to Feb  
2018

## WDPA data updates

### Highlights

- Bahamas – Complete update resulting in the addition of 20 polygon boundaries
- Chile – Complete update of national-level protected areas, including the designation of the 12,000km<sup>2</sup> Juan Fernández Island Marine Protected Area
- European Environment Agency Common Database on Designated Areas– Complete update of 45 countries, resulting in a net addition of 1,491 records
- Portugal – Complete update of 221 records and addition of 4 new polygons, which includes 135,00km<sup>2</sup> of Marine Protected Areas

Contact: [Sebastian Bekker](#)

Countries updated	6 complete 60 partial
Net increase in records	2,071
% of records updated or validated	47%



# Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool

Oct  
2017  
to Feb  
2018

## IBAT redevelopment

### An exciting tool revamp in 2018

A key recommendation of the IBAT Business Plan for 2018-2022 was a redevelopment of IBAT, in response to user needs. We are pleased to announce that UNEP-WCMC's Informatics Team will be taking the IBAT redevelopment forward. The new tool will be launched by the end of 2018.

The redevelopment team will work closely with the new IBAT Manager and end-users to ensure that the new tool meets expectations and is automated for increased use and impact - thereby fulfilling our vision to ensure that 'decisions affecting biodiversity are informed by the best and most up to date scientific information'.

Contact: [Eugenie Regan](#).



# Marine and coastal data

Ocean<sup>+</sup>

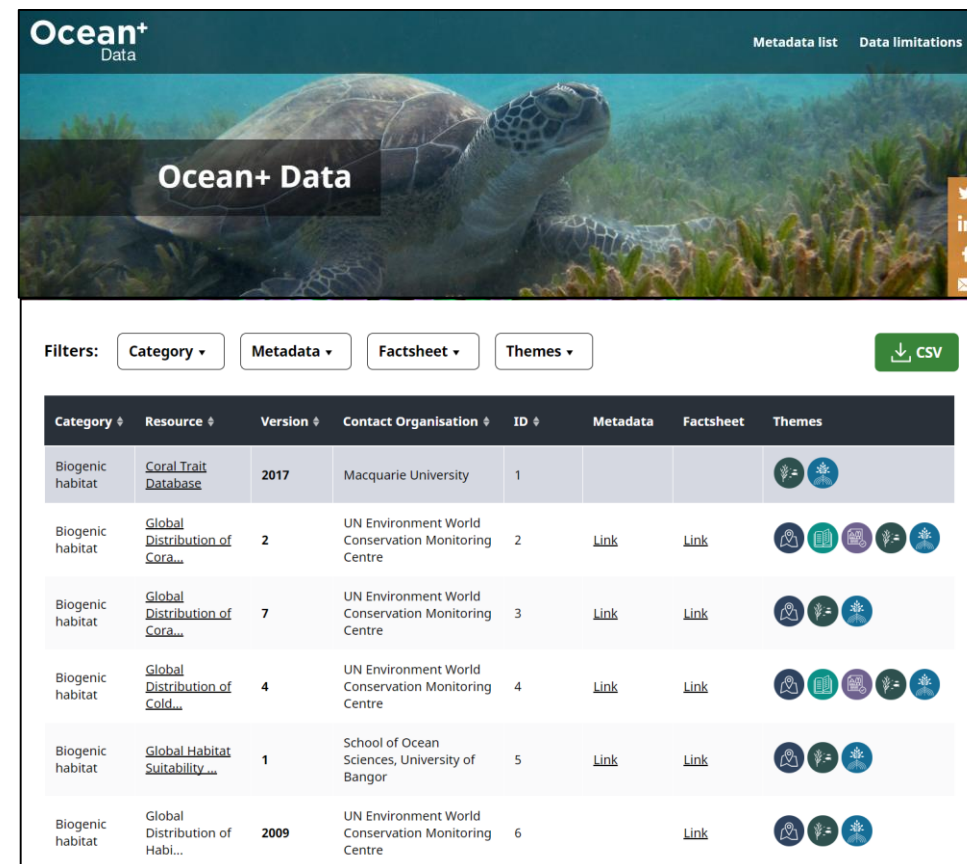
## Ocean+ Data

### New online data catalogue

- First established as the [Manual of marine and coastal datasets of biodiversity importance](#) in 2014, the library of marine and coastal data has grown each year
- Ocean+ Data provides an overview of 183 global marine and coastal datasets of biodiversity importance to support decision making
- The tool allows users to filter by category, organisation and theme (for example marine spatial planning, environmental impact assessment, ecosystem assessment, etc.), and directs users to the relevant data sources

Access Ocean+ Data [here](#).

Contact: [Juliette Martin](#).



The screenshot shows the Ocean+ Data website interface. At the top, there is a header with the Ocean+ Data logo and navigation links for 'Metadata list' and 'Data limitations'. Below the header is a large image of a sea turtle swimming over a coral reef, with the text 'Ocean+ Data' overlaid. To the right of the image are social media icons for Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook, and Email. Below the image is a filter section with buttons for 'Category', 'Metadata', 'Factsheet', and 'Themes', and a 'Download CSV' button. The main content is a table of datasets.

Category	Resource	Version	Contact Organisation	ID	Metadata	Factsheet	Themes
Biogenic habitat	<a href="#">Coral Trait Database</a>	2017	Macquarie University	1			
Biogenic habitat	<a href="#">Global Distribution of Cora...</a>	2	UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre	2	<a href="#">Link</a>	<a href="#">Link</a>	
Biogenic habitat	<a href="#">Global Distribution of Cora...</a>	7	UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre	3	<a href="#">Link</a>	<a href="#">Link</a>	
Biogenic habitat	<a href="#">Global Distribution of Cold...</a>	4	UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre	4	<a href="#">Link</a>	<a href="#">Link</a>	
Biogenic habitat	<a href="#">Global Habitat Suitability...</a>	1	School of Ocean Sciences, University of Bangor	5	<a href="#">Link</a>	<a href="#">Link</a>	
Biogenic habitat	<a href="#">Global Distribution of Habi...</a>	2009	UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre	6		<a href="#">Link</a>	



# Marine and coastal data

Oct  
2017  
to Feb  
2018

## Improved habitat datasets

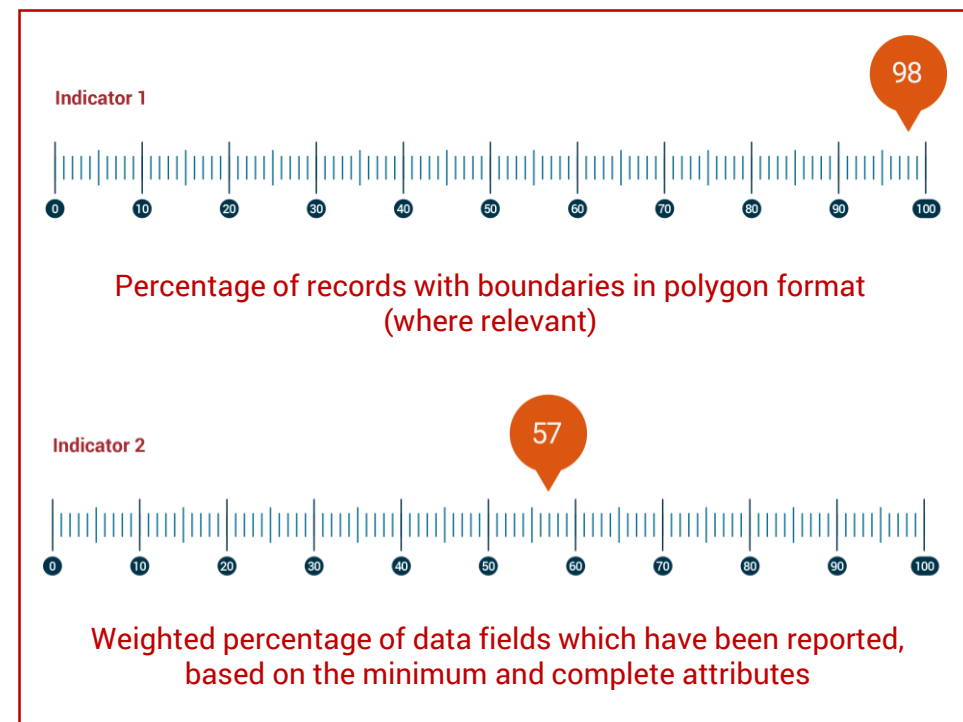
### Standardized attributes and new quality indicators

Attributes for the following datasets have been standardised, improved, and released on the Ocean Data Viewer:

- Mangroves (*World Atlas of Mangroves*)
- Seagrasses (*Global Distribution of Seagrasses*)
- Saltmarshes (*Global Distribution of Saltmarshes*)
- Cold-water corals (*Global Distribution of Cold-water Corals*)
- Warm-water corals (*Global Distribution of Coral Reefs*)

Additionally two new quality indicators have been developed, to track improvements of datasets over time.

Download datasets from the Ocean Data Viewer [here](#).  
View description of attribute data and quality indicators [here](#).  
Contact: [Juliette Martin](#).



Quality indicators for Ocean Data Viewer habitat datasets



# Resources

Oct  
2017  
to Feb  
2018

## Ecosystem-based Adaptation

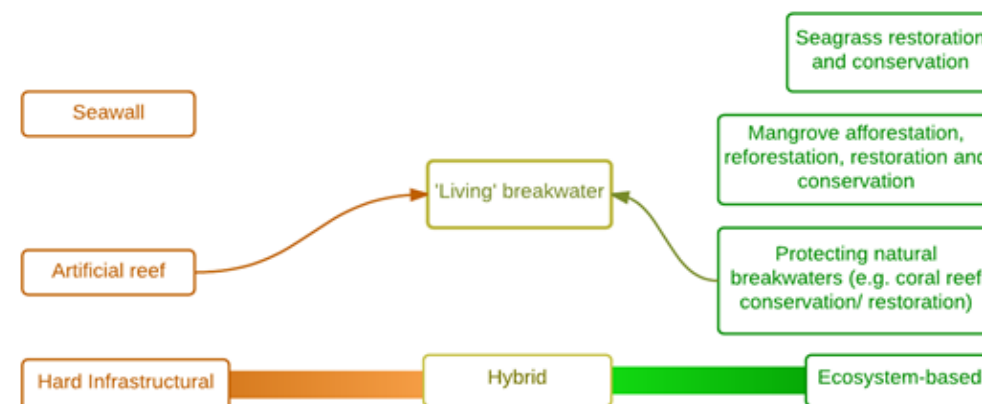
**Technical briefing note on the strategic use of biodiversity and ecosystem services to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change.**

Ecosystem-based Adaptation fits on a spectrum of adaptation options, some of which can be used to complement hard infrastructure such as sea walls.

The approach offers a potential way for businesses to reduce operational risks associated with climate change, while delivering co-benefits for local communities, biodiversity and the wider environment. There is a growing interest in the approach from governments, financial institutions and the insurance sector.

Access the technical briefing note [here](#).

Contact: [Katie Dawkins](#).



Adaptation options for coastal erosion and wave damage protection



# Resources

Oct  
2017  
to Feb  
2018

## Biodiversity A-Z: New factsheets

### Environmental Descriptors Biogeographic Classifications

Both concepts are explained in the context of marine management and conservation actions.

The two new factsheets are directly linked to a number of datasets available on the Ocean Data Viewer, providing a useful reference to business, government and environmental sector users.

Access the factsheet for Environmental Descriptors [here](#) and for Biogeographic Classifications [here](#). Contact: [Juliette Martin](#).



## Webinar: Natural Capital

### Current trends and developments

New webinar available for viewing, including overviews of :

- The [Natural Capital Protocol](#) - a standardised global framework (by Hannah Pitts, Natural Capital Coalition)
- A [Cambridge Conservation Initiative project](#) strengthening the representation of biodiversity in natural capital assessments (by Gemma Cranston, University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership)

Access the presentation and the webinar recording [here](#).  
Contact: [James Vause](#).



# Publications

Oct  
2017  
to Feb  
2018

-  [Present and future biodiversity risks from fossil fuel exploration](#)  
Conservation Letters, Harfoot et al (March 2018) – Contact: [Mike Harfoot](#).
-  [An assessment of threats to terrestrial protected areas](#)  
Conservation Letters, Schulze et al (January 2018) – Contact: [Neil Burgess](#).
-  [Strengthening the Science Policy Interface a gap analysis](#)  
United Nations Environment (December 2017) – More information [here](#).
-  [Reductions in global biodiversity loss predicted from conservation spending](#)  
Nature, Waldron et al (October 2017) – More information [here](#).
-  [Measuring the extent of overlaps in protected area designations](#)  
PLOS, Deguignet et al (November 2017) – Contact: [Marine Deguignet](#).
-  [Dynamics in the global protected-area estate since 2004](#)  
Conservation Biology, Lewis et al (November 2017) – Contact: [Edward Lewis](#).
-  [Temporally inter-comparable maps of terrestrial wilderness and the Last of the Wild](#)  
Nature, Allan et al (December 2017) – More information [here](#).
-  [Forum on Natural Capital Accounting for Better Policy Decisions: Taking Stock and Moving Forward](#)  
WAVES, Vardon et al (October 2017) – More information [here](#).



# Calendar

## Proteus member events...

17 Apr

**Global Biodiversity Agenda Webinar –  
Assessing Environmental Impacts: A  
Global Review of Legislation**

Register here: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/2167815107202901507>

24 May

**Technical Community of Practice –  
User needs for spatial data in  
Cumulative Impact Assessments**

Register here: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/6110834228711975426>

20-22 Jun

**Proteus Annual Meeting**

Location: Cambridge, UK.  
Contact: [Katie Leach](#)

## Also coming up in 2018...

16-19 May

**International Association for Impact  
Assessment 2018: Environmental  
Justice in Societies in Transition**

Location: Durban, South Africa.  
Further information [here](#).

9-13 Jul

**Convention on Biological Diversity -  
Subsidiary Body on Implementation**

Location: Montreal, Canada.  
Further information [here](#).

10-22 Nov

**Convention on Biological Diversity  
14<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties**

Location: Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt.  
Further information [here](#).

