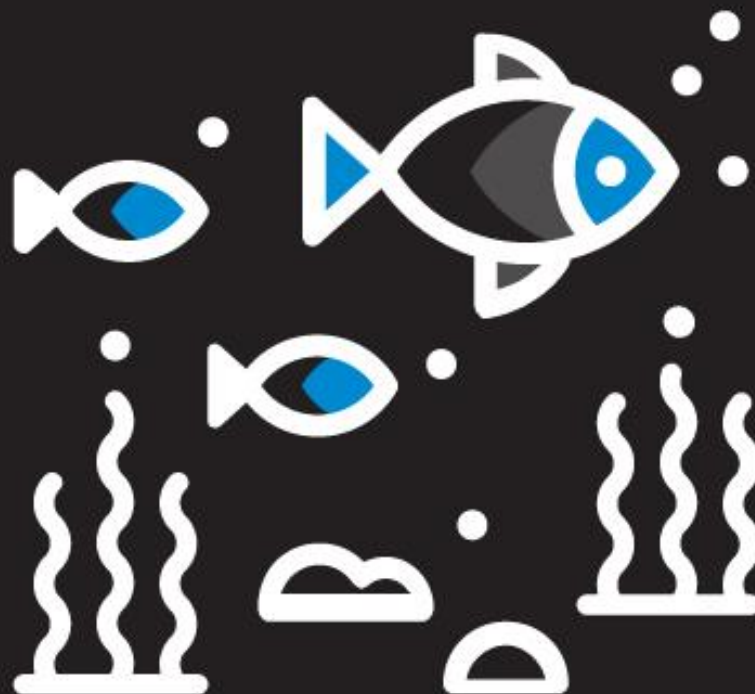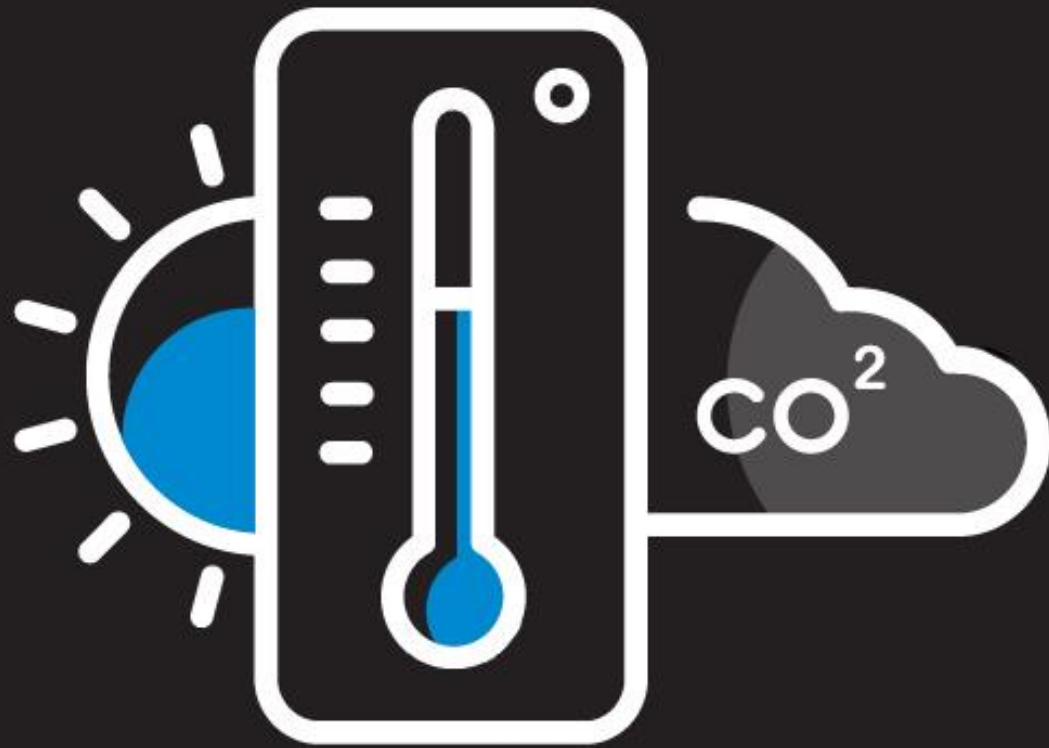# What are Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)

*An MPA is a clearly defined geographical space, recognised, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the **long-term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values.***

01
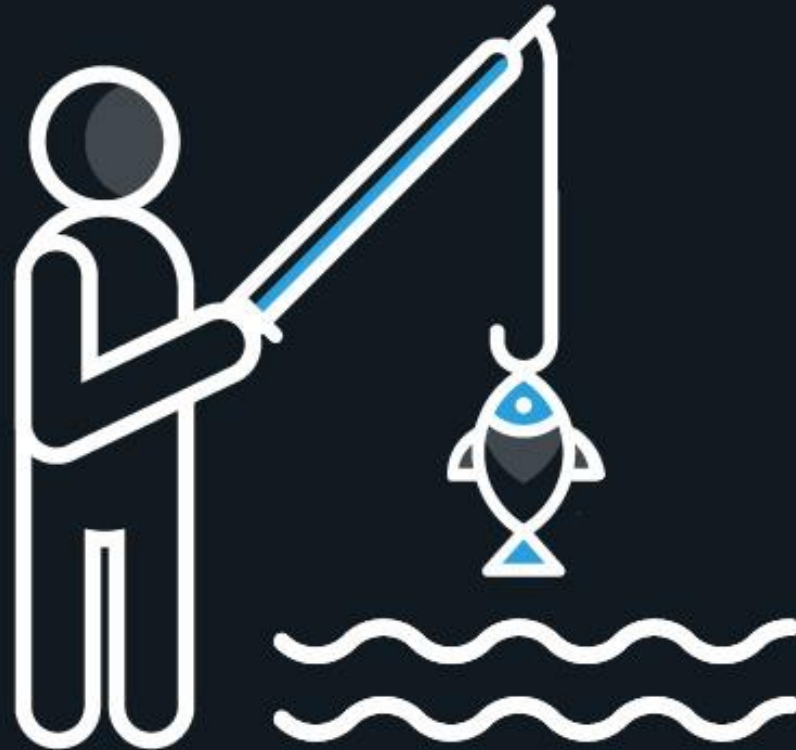
Protect ecosystems, habitats and threatened species

02

Combat the effects
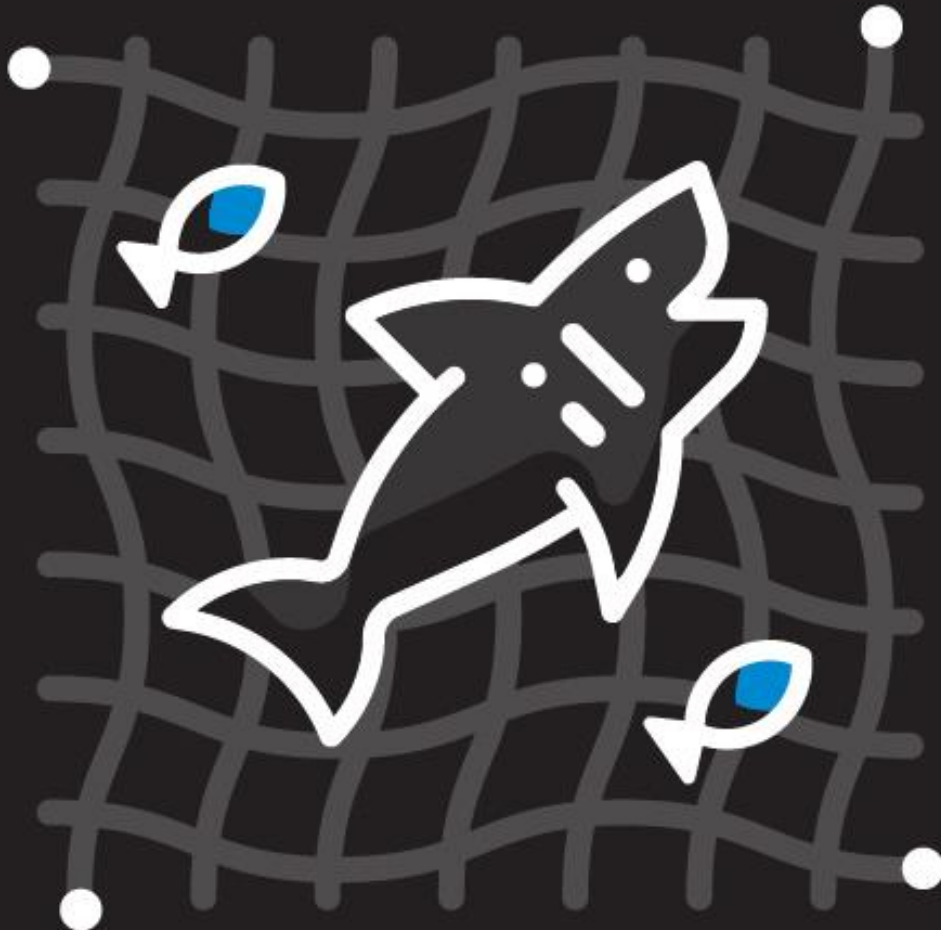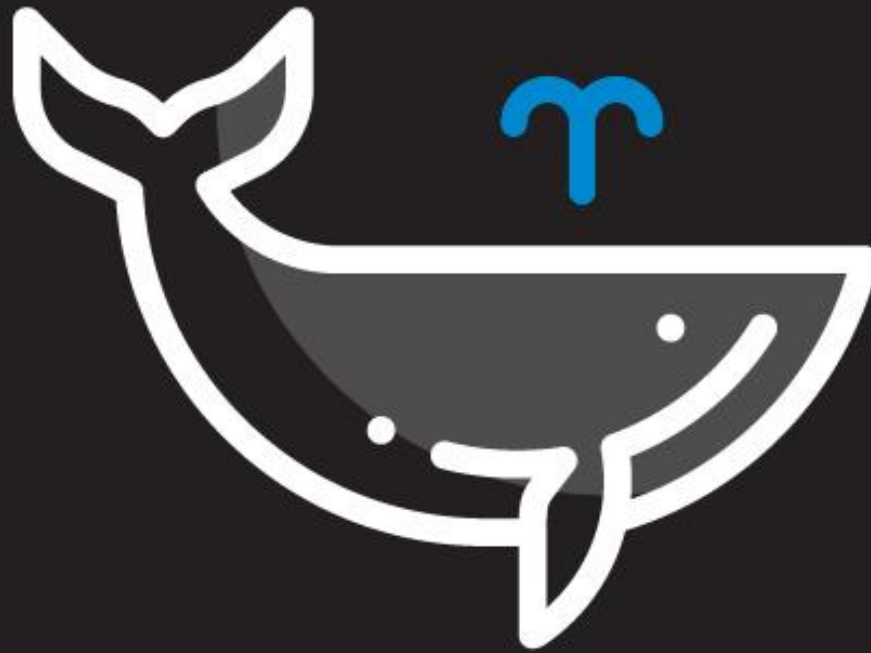of climate change

03

Support fisheries

04

Provide for a sustainable
use of our ocean resources
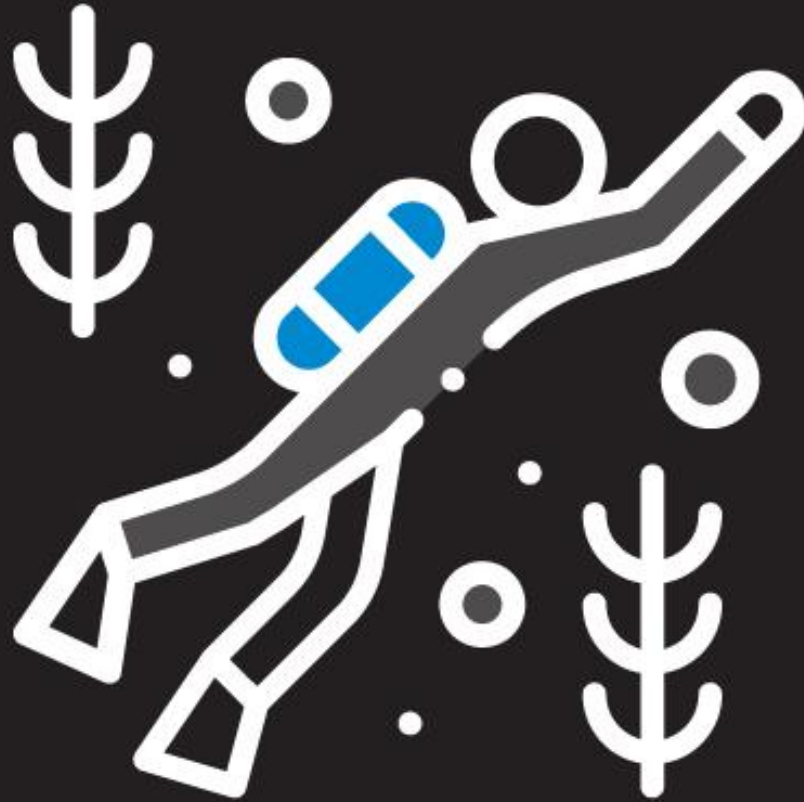
05

Help address
bycatch problems

06

Conservation of threatened
species and sensitive areas

07

Undisturbed
benchmark areas

08

Promote tourism

09

Provide sites for
education and awareness

10

Conflict resolution

SERIAL SPILLERS

ENI reported in their 2018 "sustainability report" that **spills increased from 55 in 2017 to 72 in 2018**

**Convention
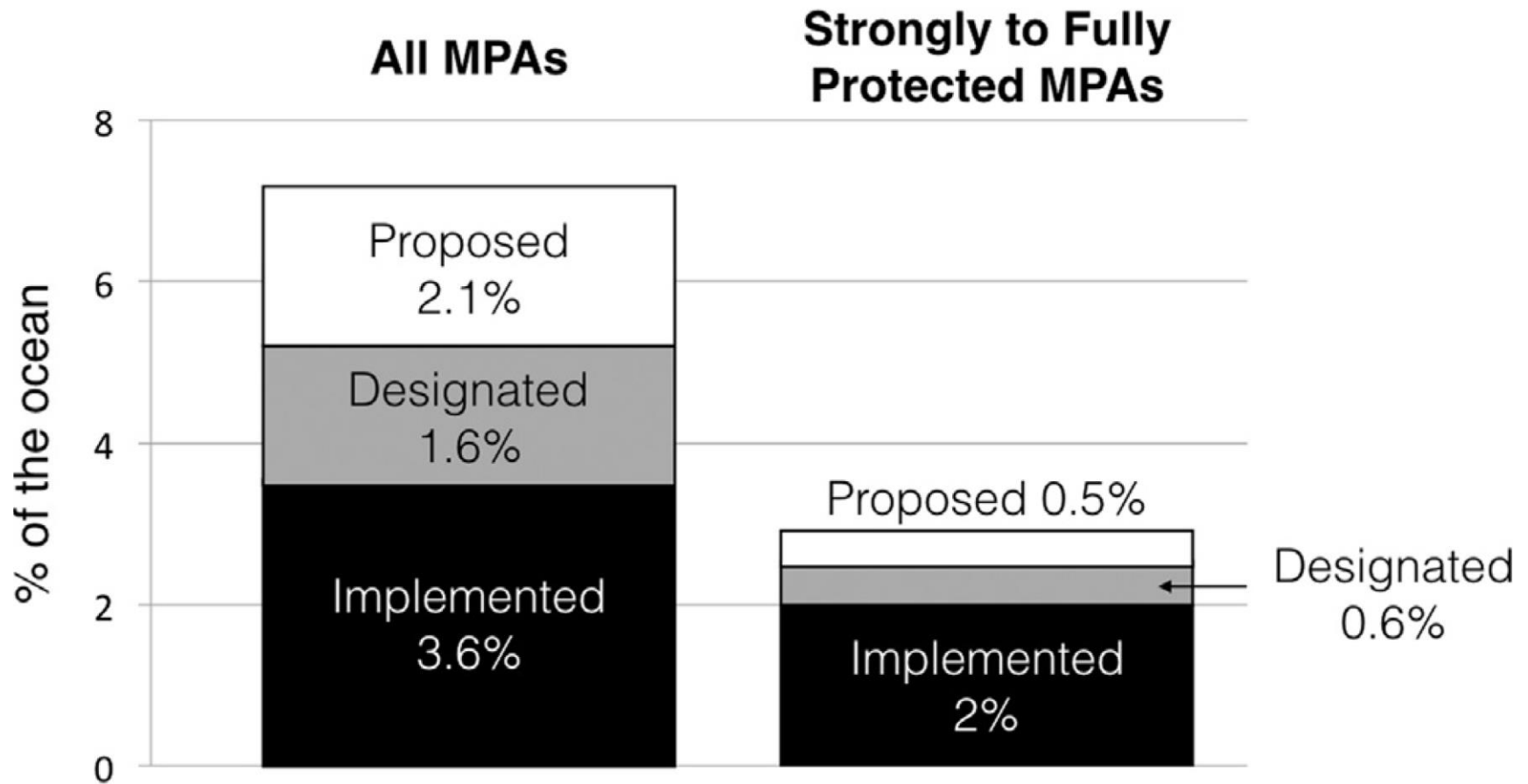on
Biological
Diversity (CBD)**
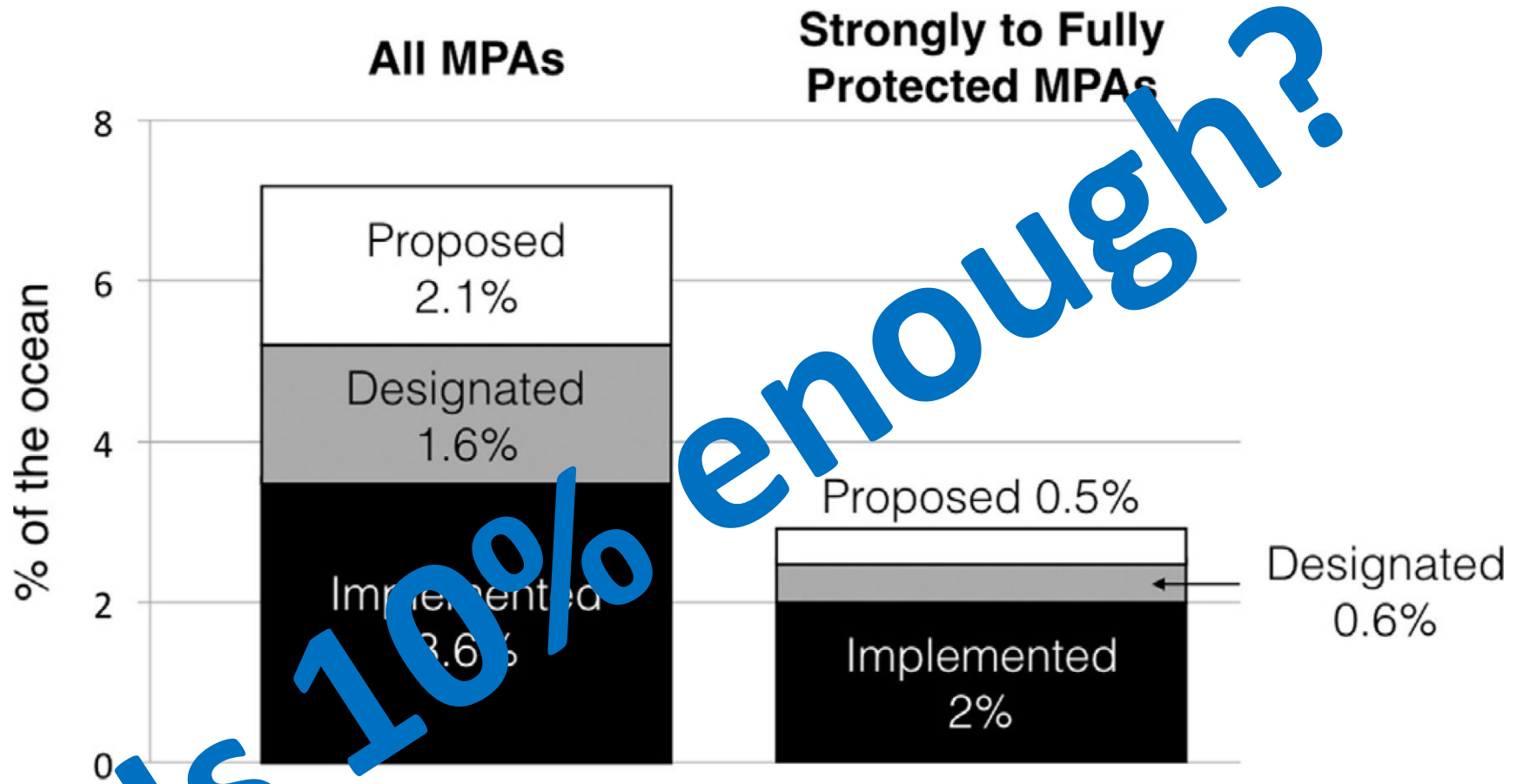
Aichi Targets

Target 11

To protect 10% of the sea by 2020

How are we doing towards achievement of Target 11?

Sala et al. (2018) Assessing real progress towards effective ocean protection. Marine Policy 91: 11-18

WILDOCEANS

Sala et al. (2018) Assessing real progress towards effective ocean protection. Marine Policy 91: 11-18

WILD OCEANS

What does science say about how much we need to protect? O'Leary et al (2016) undertook a global review of the evidence to find out. Synthesis of 143 studies

10% by 2020: Convention on Biological Diversity target and UN Sustainable Development Goal 14

Average 37%
Median 36%
N = 143 studies

Number of Studies (y-axis: 0, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40)

Recommended Coverage for Protection (%) (x-axis: 0-10, 11-20, 21-30, 31-40, 41-50, 51-60, 61-70, 71-80, 81-90, 91-100)

O'Leary, Roberts et al. 2016 Effective coverage targets for ocean protection Conservation Letters

WILDOCEANS

The coverage of MPAs needed is very similar for different goals, so networks can be designed for multiple benefits

10% protection not nearly enough to protect species and ecosystems, boost resilience to climate change, maintain ecosystem services, and support socio-economic needs and expectations.

At least 30% (possibly 50%) protection is needed in HIGHLY PROTECTED MPAs

ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF PROTECTION

- The **insurance value** of marine protection alone is enough to justify their creation

- **Recreational value** - a shark is more valuable alive than dead!

- The medium & long-term **fisheries benefits**

- **Carbon sink value** of an ocean teeming with life

- Protects **option values** for future generations

- **Climate mitigation and resilience value** of protection

- **Equity values** - can support a fairer distribution of benefits between groups (high seas protection)

Rashid Sumaila 2019, Durban Ocean Risk Workshop

Lauck *et al.* (1998); Sumaila (1998);); Rogers *et al.* (2014); Sala *et al.* (2016); Roberts *et al.* (2017).

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- **Equity valu[...]** [...] support a fairer distribution of benefits between groups ([...] protection)

How can we afford not to?

Rashid Sumaila 2019, Durban Ocean Risk Workshop

Lauck *et al.* (1998); Sumaila (1998);); Rogers *et al.* (2014); Sala *et al.* (2016); Roberts *et al.* (2017).

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