Implications of the Paris Agreement for the ocean and society

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Ocean: considerable value

- Moderates climate change
- Represents more than 90% of the habitable space of the planet
- Hosts 25% of high-level species
- Provides 11% of global animal protein consumed by humans
- Ocean ecosystems protect coastlines

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Ocean: considerable value



Impacts of human activities





McCauley et al. (2015)

Anthropogenic perturbation of the global carbon cycle (2005-2015; Gt CO_2/yr)





CO₂ emissions from fossil fuels and industry

This generation has altered the composition of the atmosphere on a global scale through radioactive materials and a steady increase in carbon dioxide from the burning of fossil fuels. President Lyndon B. Johnson, 1965

CO₂ emissions from fossil fuels and industry



Source: CDIAC; Le Quéré et al 2015; Global Carbon Budget 2015

Global carbon budget (2005-2014)

33.0 ± 1.6 Gt CO₂/yr (91%)



3.4 ± 1.8 Gt CO₂/yr (9%)





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Ocean: actor and victim of climate change



Ocean: actor and victim of climate change



Ocean: actor and victim of climate change



Vastly different knowledge

Decades to centuries of research

Hypoxia effects

More than 60 years of hypoxia research

Temperature effects

Acidification effects

Almost 20 years of acidification research

What is not understood:

What are the <u>combined</u> effects of these stressors on organisms and their fitness relevant traits?



Hannes Baumann

doi:10.1002/loe2.10002

Ocean acidification

Causes of ocean acidification



What is ocean acidification?

Concentrations of Hydrogen ions compared to distilled water (pH)		Examples of solutions and their respective pH
10,000,000	0	Battery Acid
1,000,000	1	Hydrochloric Acid
100,000	2	Lemon Juice, Vinegar
10,000	3	Orange Juice, Soda
1,000	4	Tomato Juice
100	5	Black Coffee, Acid Rain
10	6	Urine, Saliva
1	7	"Pure" Water
1/10	8	Sea Water
1/100	9	Baking Soda, Toothpaste
1/1,000	10	Milk of Magnesium
1/10,000	11	Household Ammonia
1/100,000	12	Soapy Water
1/1,000,000	13	Bleach, Oven Cleaner
1/10,000,000	14	Liquid Drain Cleaner

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 CO_2 $CO_2 + H_2O \rightarrow H_2CO_3$

Sam Dupont

- CO₂ is an acid gas (it produces acid when combined with water)
- Each of us adds 4 kg CO₂ per day to the ocean (increasing acidity, reducing pH)

pH and acidity





pH and acidity



Ocean acidification can be measured



Bates et al. (2014)

Ocean acidification can be measured



Bates et al. (2014)

Range 1995-2009: -0.0015 to -0.0022 units yr⁻¹



IPCC AR5 WG I

Geographical differences



Spatial and temporal variability of surface pH



Hofmann et al. (2011)

Papers on ocean acidification



Gattuso & Hansson, OA-ICC

Papers on ocean acidification



Gattuso & Hansson, OA-ICC

Papers on ocean acidification



Meta-analysis: Kroeker et al. (2013)

• Significant negative effect

on:

- survival
- calcification
- growth
- development
- abundance



Meta-analysis: Kroeker et al. (2013)



Ocean warming

Warming: mass mortalities



Also elsewhere: Mediterranean Sea



Warming: redistribution of species



Polar displacement? A few corals do not make a reef



Polar displacement? A few corals do not make a reef



Ocean deoxygenation

Causes of deoxygenation

- O₂ decreases due to increase in ocean warming and stratification
- Like ocean acidification, regional and local drivers too
Causes of deoxygenation



Hannes Baumann

doi:10.1002/loe2.10002

Global impacts on the ocean

REVIEW

OCEANOGRAPHY

Contrasting futures for ocean and society from different anthropogenic CO₂ **emissions scenarios**

J.-P. Gattuso,^{1,2,3*} A. Magnan,³ R. Billé,⁴ W. W. L. Cheung,⁵ E. L. Howes,⁶ F. Joos,⁷ D. Allemand,^{8,9} L. Bopp,¹⁰ S. R. Cooley,¹¹ C. M. Eakin,¹² O. Hoegh-Guldberg,¹³ R. P. Kelly,¹⁴ H.-O. Pörtner,⁶ A. D. Rogers,¹⁵ J. M. Baxter,¹⁶ D. Laffoley,¹⁷ D. Osborn,¹⁸ A. Rankovic,^{3,19} J. Rochette,³ U. R. Sumaila,²⁰ S. Treyer,³ C. Turley²¹

Science, July 2015

IPCC coverage of the ocean

2007: AR4



C6: Coastal systems

2014: AR5



- C5: Coastal systems
- C6: Ocean systems
- C30: The ocean
- Ocean reprint package
- Ocean web site

2019: Special reports

- 1.5 vs 2°C
- Ocean and Cryosphere (Proposal from the Government of Monaco)

2021 (?): AR6

Future scenarios



Fuss et al. (2014)

Physics and chemistry



Physics and chemistry



Thresholds: +1.5 °C and -0.2 pH units relative to preindustrial
RCP8.5: 69% of the ocean surface will exceed both thresholds
RCP2.6: < 1%

Risks of impact on marine and coastal organisms and ecosystem services



Gattuso et al. (2015)

Risks of impact on marine and coastal organisms and ecosystem services



Gattuso et al. (2015)





Confidence levels for present-day and the 3 RCPs

*	2*	3*	4 *	5*
very low	low	medium	high	very high

4 key messages

- Ocean strongly influences the climate system and important provider of key services
- 2. Impacts already detectable, high risk of impacts well before 2100, even with a low emission scenario
- Immediate and substantial reduction of CO₂ emissions to prevent massive and mostly irreversible impacts
- As CO₂ increases, the protection, adaptation, and repair options become fewer and less effective



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Institut du developpement durable et des relations internationales 27, rue Saint-Guillaume 75337 Paris cedex 07 France POLICY BRIEF

°04/15 SEPTEMBER 2015 I CLIMATE - OCEANS AND COASTAL ZONE

Intertwined ocean and climate: implications for international climate negotiations

Alexandre K. Magnan (IDDRI), Raphaël Billé (Secretariat of the Pacific Community), Sarah R. Cooley (Ocean Conservancy), Ryan Kelly (University of Washington), Hans-Otto Pörtner (Alfred Wegener Institute), Carol Turley (Plymouth Marine Laboratory), Jean-Pierre Gattuso (CNRS-INSU, Sorbonne Universités, IDDRI)

INTRODUCTION

he atmosphere and ocean are two components of the Earth system that are essential for life, yet humankind is altering both. Contemporary climate change is now a well-identified problem: anthropogenic causes, distur-

bance in extreme events patterns, gradual environmental changes, widespread impacts on life and natural resources, and multiple threats to human societies all around the world. But part of the problem remains largely unknown outside the scientific community: significant changes are also occurring in the ocean, threatening life and its sustainability on Earth.

This Policy Brief explains the significance of these changes in the ocean. It is based on a scientific paper recently published in *Science* (Gattuso *et al.*, 2015), which synthesizes recent and future changes to the ocean and its ecosystems, as well as to the goods and services they provide to humans. Two contrasting CO_2 emission scenarios are considered: the high emissions scenario (also known as "business-as-usual" and as the Representative Concentration Pathway 8.5, RCP8.5) and a stringent emissions scenario (RCP2.6) consistent with the Copenhagen Accord¹ of keeping mean global temperature increase below 2°C in 2100.

 Copenhagen Accord, Decision 2/CP.15: Copenhagen accord (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Geneva, 2009).

KEY MESSAGES

- Climate and ocean are inseparable: the ocean moderates anthropogenic climate change by absorbing significant proportions of the heat and CO₂ that accumulate in the atmosphere, as well as by receiving all water from melting ice.
- This climate-regulating function happens at the cost of profound alterations of the ocean's physics and chemistry, leading to ocean warming and acidification, as well as to sea level rise. These changes significantly affect the ocean's ecology (organisms and ecosystems) and eventually marine and coastal human activities (fisheries, aquaculture, tourism, health...).
- As atmospheric CO₂ increases, possible human responses become fewer and less effective.
- This scientific statement provides further compelling arguments for immediate and ambitious CO₂ emissions reduction at the international level. This conclusion applies to COP21 as well as to the post-2015 climate regime at large.

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COP21



UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE

Paris Agreement



"Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels..."

Implications of the Paris agreement for the ocean

Alexandre K. Magnan, Michel Colombier, Raphaël Billé, Fortunat Joos, Ove Hoegh-Guldberg, Hans-Otto Pörtner, Henri Waisman, Thomas Spencer and Jean-Pierre Gattuso

Nature Climate Change, May 2016

What does it means for the ocean?



What does it means for the ocean?



Gattuso et al. (2015)

----- RCP2.6 ----- RCP8.5

efficient

efficient

What does it means for the ocean?



Gattuso et al. (2015)

----- RCP2.6 ----- RCP8.5

efficient

efficient



Grey: Total quota for 2°C. Green: Removed from quota. Blue: remaining quota. With projected 2015 emissions, this remaining quota drops to 865 Gt CO_2 Source: Peters et al 2015; Global Carbon Budget 2015





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Historical cumulative emissions by country



Cumulative emissions (1990–2014) were distributed USA (20%), China (19%), EU28 (15%), India (5%)

'All others' includes all other countries along with bunker fuels and statistical differences Source: CDIAC; Le Quéré et al 2015; Global Carbon Budget 2015



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Historical cumulative emissions by country

Cumulative emissions from fossil-fuel and cement were distributed (1870-2014): USA (26%), EU28 (23%), China (12%), and India (3%) covering 64% of the total share

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'All others' includes all other countries along with bunker fuels and statistical differences Source: CDIAC; Le Quéré et al 2015; Global Carbon Budget 2015

The emission pledges (INDCs) of the top-4 emitters

Source: Peters et al 2015; Global Carbon Budget 2015

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What it means?

What it means?

How much fossil fuel must stay underground?

To have a 66% chance to remain below 2°C

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To have a 66% chance to remain below 2°C

Redrawn from Carbon Brief

Summary of estimated temperature rise

Estimated increase in global average temperature above pre-industrial levels (in degrees C)

Note: "Likelihood" refers to the probability of limiting global warming to a specified temperature by 2100. For instance, >66% likelihood provides a "likely" chance that warming will not exceed the given temperature.

http://bit.ly/indc-temp

Carbon countdown

Photo credit: NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Stopwatch icon: T-Kot/Shutterstock.com

Carbon countdown

Photo credit: NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Stopwatch icon: T-Kot/Shutterstock.com

Future risks of impact

Magnan et al. (2015)

Future risks of impact

Magnan et al. (2015)

[Ocean-based] Solutions

[Ocean-based] Solutions

CO₂ removal



More: http://bit.ly/1M6YiS6

Many thanks to coauthors





