



GEO Blue Planet Activities



Dr. Emily Smail

*Executive Director of
GEO Blue Planet
University of Maryland and NOAA*



5th Symposium | Accra, Ghana | 24 – 28 October 2022



GEO Blue Planet

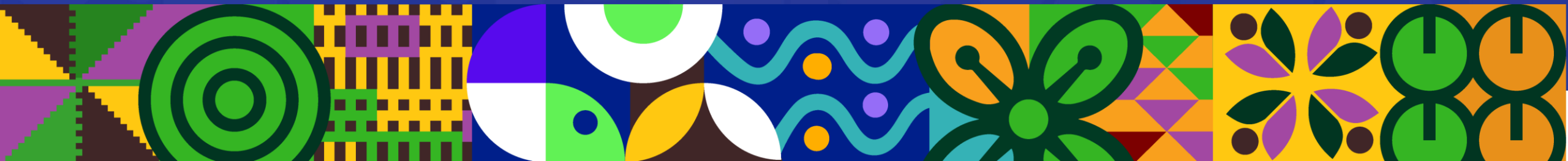
*Ocean and Coastal
Observations for Policy and
Decision Making*

Emily Smail, PhD

Executive Director, GEO Blue Planet Initiative

NESDIS /STAR/ SOCD - NOAA

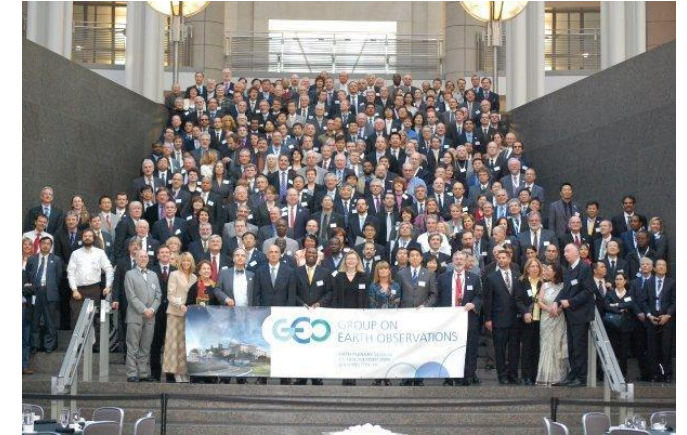
University of Maryland



Group on Earth Observations

Intergovernmental partnership working to improve the

- ➔ Availability
- ➔ Access
- ➔ Use of Earth observations for the benefit of society



GEO fulfils its mission by promoting **open access and sharing of data, information, and knowledge** to ensure that the benefits of Earth observations are available to all.



Group on Earth Observations Engagement Priorities



UN World Conference on
Disaster Risk Reduction
2015 Sendai Japan





GEO WORK PROGRAMME

2023-2025

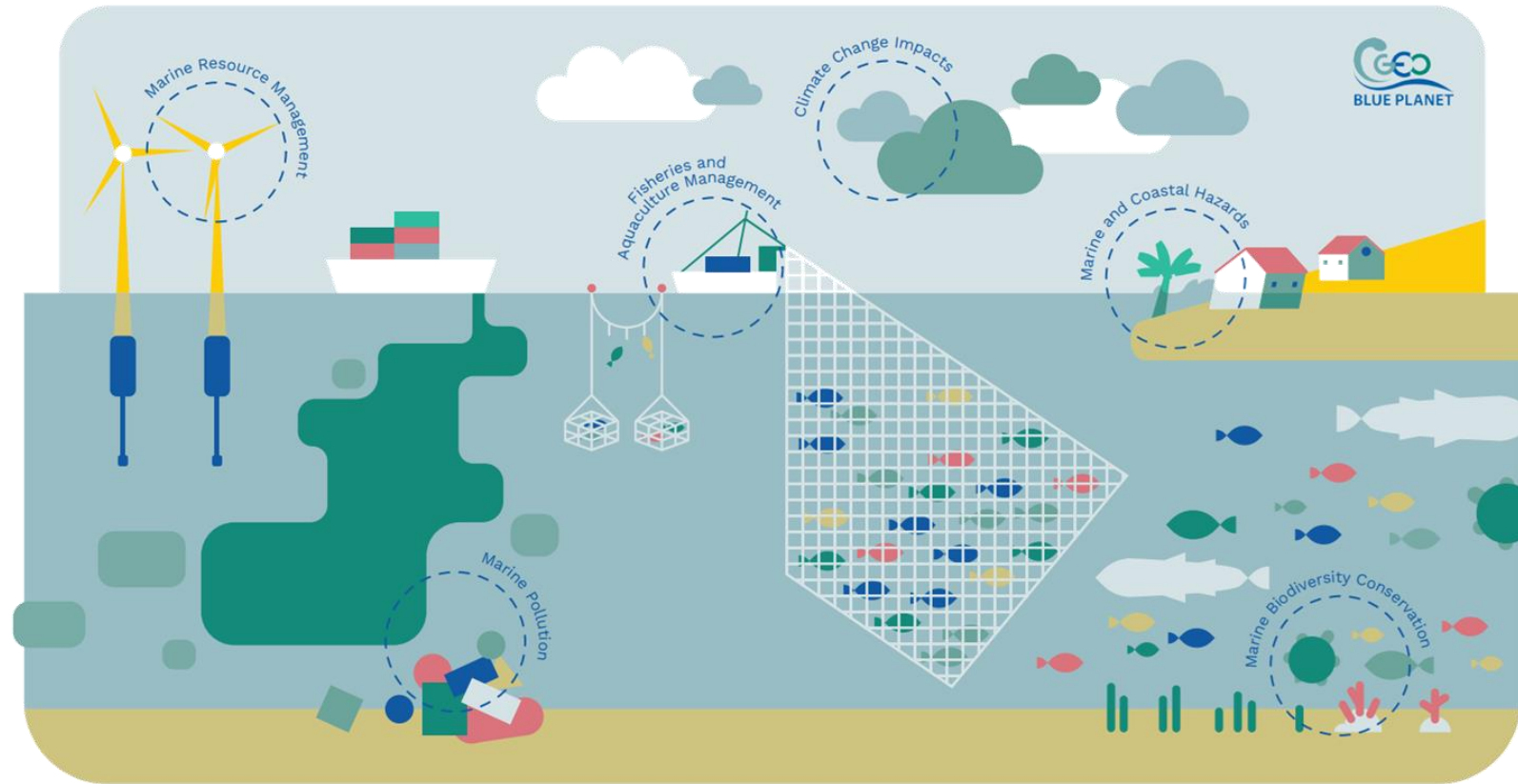
GEO Activities are organised into the GEO Work Programme.

The GEO Work Programme provides a framework for countries, international organizations, the private sector, researchers, and others to work together to harness the power of Earth observations to address environmental and societal challenges.

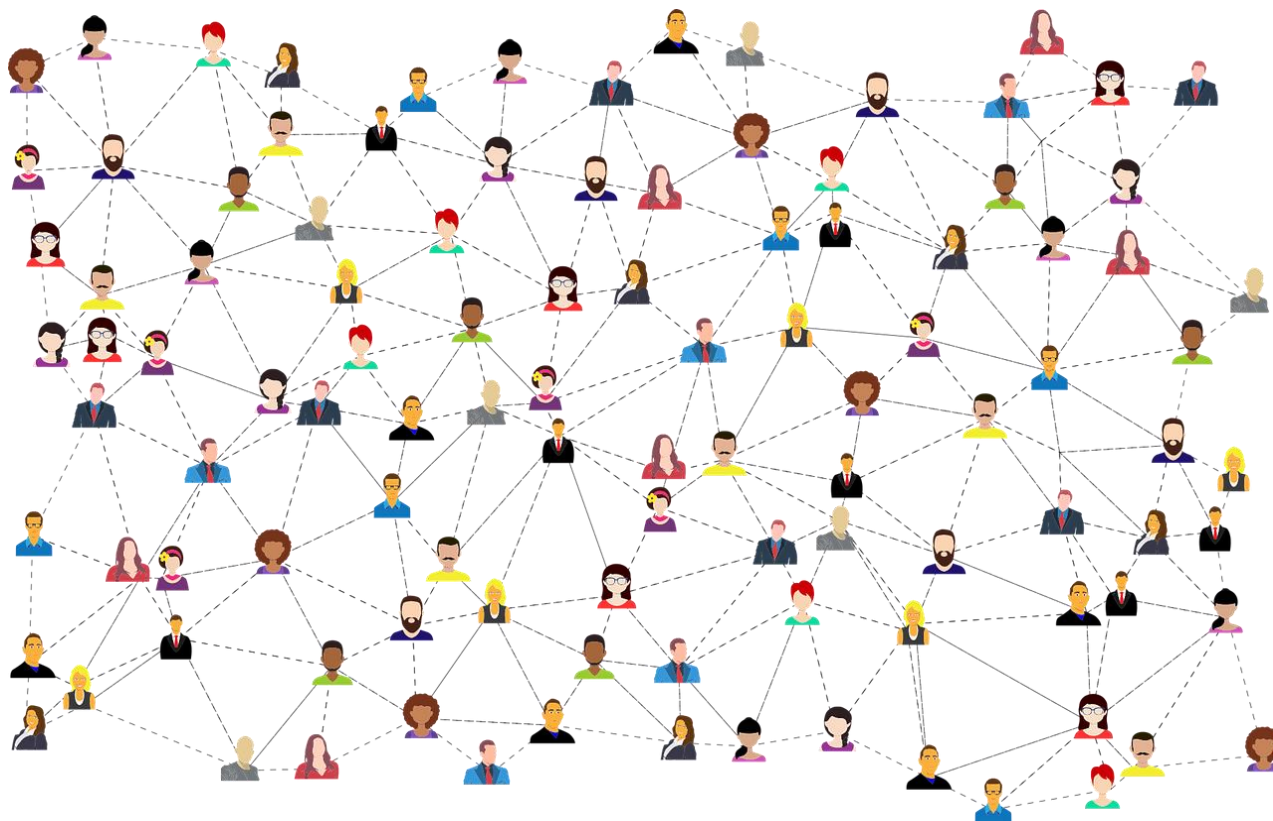
GEO Blue Planet is GEO's Ocean and Coastal Initiative.



BRIDGING THE GAP between ocean and coastal observational data and societal needs to deliver actionable information



The GEO Blue Planet Initiative



GEO Blue Planet is a network of:

- Ocean and coastal scientists
- Social scientists
- End user representatives from stakeholder groups

GEO Blue Planet is an open community and all who share the interests of the GEO Blue Planet community are welcome to join



Secretariat

US Office (2015)



European Office (2020)



Funded by
the European Union



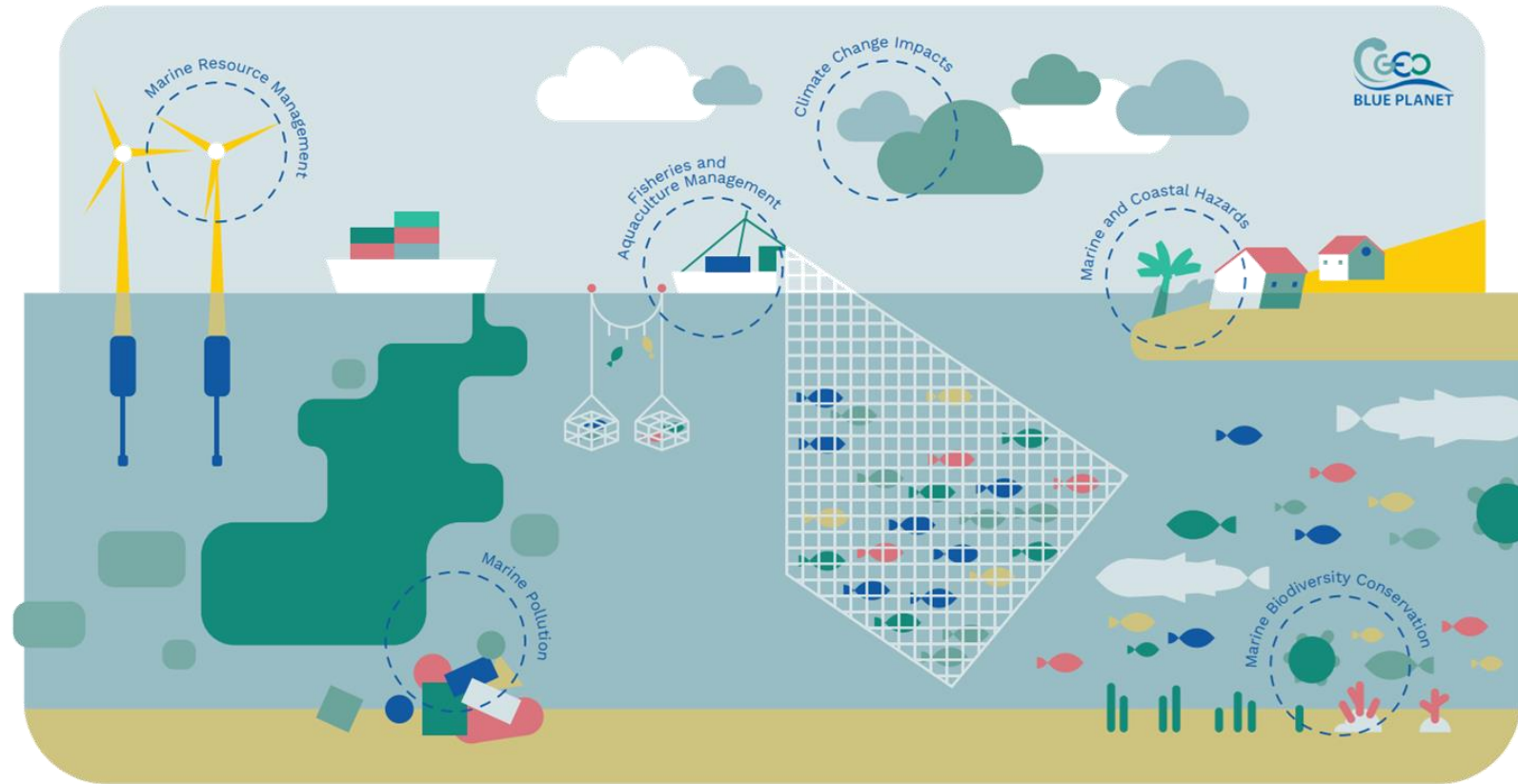
Asian Office (2022)



한국해양수산개발원
KOREA MARITIME INSTITUTE



BRIDGING THE GAP between ocean and coastal observational data and societal needs to deliver actionable information



Core Action Areas



- Stakeholder Engagement – Knowing what the information needs are
- Cooperation and Co-design – Building tools that meet information needs
- Capacity Development – Strengthening and transferring capabilities



Core Actions



Activities



**Marine
litter**



Eutrophication



**Coastline
changes**



Fisheries



Sargassum



**Oil
spill**



**Climate
adaptation**



**All activities support and contribute to the
UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development**





Marine Litter

Past & Ongoing Activities

- White Paper: a global data and information platform to monitor marine litter and inform action
- Series of workshops on marine litter monitoring



Planned Activities

- Congregate communities of practice and promote cooperation
- Support the development of the Integrated Marine Debris Observing System
- Marine Litter Observation needs and their use in modelling
- Marine Litter Observation needs and their use in fisheries impact assessment





Eutrophication

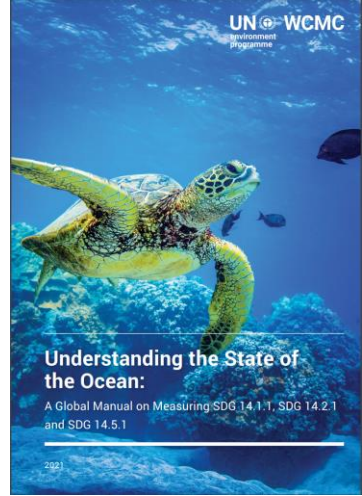
Past & Ongoing Activities

- Indicator development for SDG 14.1.1a (coastal eutrophication)
- Contributing to SDG reporting and UN SDG annual report story lines



Planned Activities

- Peer-reviewed publication on global SDG indicator 14.1.1a indicators
- Reporting Support for SDG indicator 14.1.1a
- Eutrophication data dashboards, information hub and toolkits for SDG indicator 14.1.1a
- Support for higher resolution, locally-tuned products

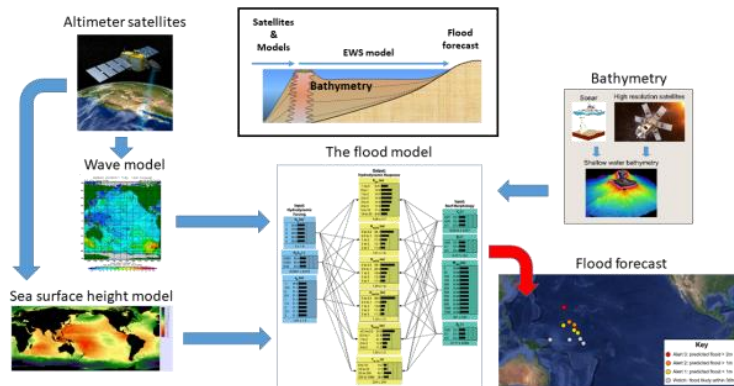




Coastline Changes

Past & Ongoing Activities

- Wave-driven Flood-forecasting on Reef-lined Coasts Early warning system (WaveFoRCE)
- Participation in Digital Earth Africa Coastline Working Group



Planned Activities

- WaveForce Development
- Satellite Derived Coastal Bathymetry Mapping for the Pacific Islands
- Coastal Erosion/Accretion Monitoring





Fisheries

Past & Ongoing Activities

- Societal Applications in Fisheries & Aquaculture using Remotely Sensed Imagery (SAFARI)
- Earth Observations for Tuna Fisheries Workshop



Planned Activities

- SMS Fisheries Alerts for Bangladesh
- EO and Ocean data to support fisheries and Climate Change modelling
- EO data for onshore and offshore culture fisheries
- Develop a road map for the utilization of short and medium-term EO-based forecast products and fishing vessel traffic data relevant to fisheries management
- Identify gaps in EO data to establish the impact of Marine Litter on Fisheries
- Peer-reviewed White Paper from the Tuna workshop





Sargassum

Past & Ongoing Activities

- Series of workshops
- Sargassum Information Hub



Planned Activities

- Sargassum Product Inventory and Review
- Improvements to Sargassum near-real-time monitoring and coastal risk inundation tools
- Further development Sargassum Information Hub

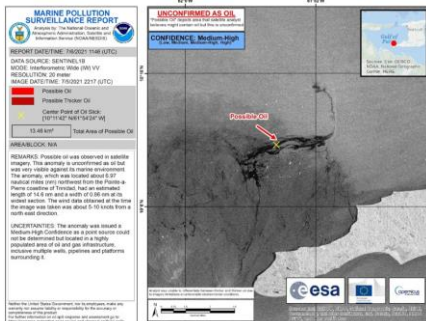




Oil Spills

Past & Ongoing Activities

- Series of workshops with Caribbean and Latin American stakeholders
- Development of Collaboration for Oil Satellite Tracking in the Americas (COSTA)



Planned Activities

- Implementation of the Collaboration for Oil Satellite Tracking in the Americas (COSTA)
- Compiling best practices for tracking oil spills
- Potential trainings in other regions





Climate Adaptation

Past & Ongoing Activities

- Workshop on Coastal Climate and Earth Observation Services for Small Island States
- Participation in National Adaptation Plan Expo for Least Developed Countries

Planned Activities

- GEO National Adaptation Plan Supplement
- Policy Briefs for COP 28
- Integration and expansion of Blue Carbon mapping on needs and their use in fisheries impact assessment



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Thank You.
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