

Global marine protected area target of 10% to be achieved by 2020

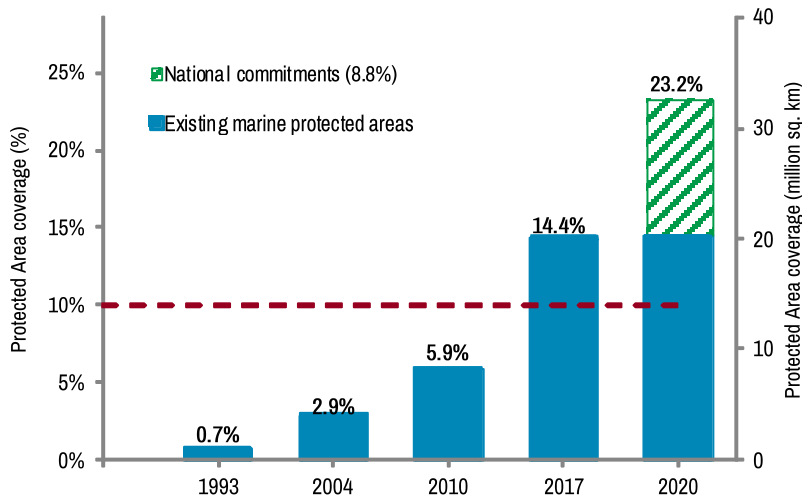


Fig 1. Growth in extent of MPAs in national jurisdiction

Growth in the extent of marine protected areas (MPAs) in national waters (Fig 1) and the global ocean (Fig 2) since 1993 when the Biodiversity Convention (CBD) came into force, 2004 when the CBD Program of Work on Protected Areas was adopted and 2010 when the Parties began implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity. Projected growth to 2020 based on an analysis of commitments is indicated by the hatched area.

Key messages

- The world is on track to achieve the target of 10% protection of the global ocean by 2020.
- Since 1993 when the Convention on Biological Diversity entered into force, marine protected areas have increased almost 20-fold, from 0.29% to 5.7%. Their extent has more than doubled since 2010 when Parties started implementing the Strategic Plan.
- Future efforts are needed to increase representativeness, management effectiveness, governance and equity of marine protected areas.
- Recent commitments of CBD Parties (see web link below), facilitated also by the Promise of Sydney and the Hawai'i Commitments, would add a further 4.4% to the protection of the global ocean.
- If these commitments are fulfilled, the world will reach or surpass the 2020 target of 10%, and also meet Target 14.5 of Sustainable Development Goal 14.

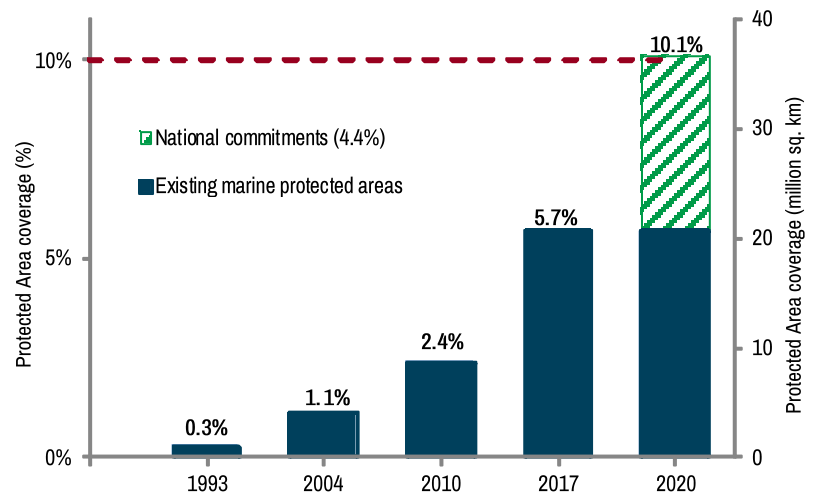


Fig 2. Growth in extent of global ocean protected in MPAs

MPAs and Locally Managed Marine Areas (LMMAs) contribute substantially to social, economic and environmental benefits including through food security, livelihood security, poverty alleviation, disaster risk reduction and climate change mitigation and adaptation. LMMAs may provide a significant contribution to achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 and several targets of SDG 14, but LMMAs are currently under-represented in the global protected area database that is used for assessing progress towards these targets (i.e. the World Database on Protected Areas). Recent studies have recorded nearly 1,000 LMMAs in the Pacific Islands which could amount to 8% of island communities. Their coverage of inshore waters has not yet been estimated but these local management approaches have encouraged many islands to adopt these as national policy approaches to coastal fisheries management and conservation.

