

*UNEP's
Global Programme of Action
and the Water Convention*

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Miedzyzdroje, 21 April 2002



Global Programme of Action

for the

Protection of the Marine Environment
from Land-based Activities

The Need for the GPA



80% of all
marine pollution
comes from
land-based
activities!



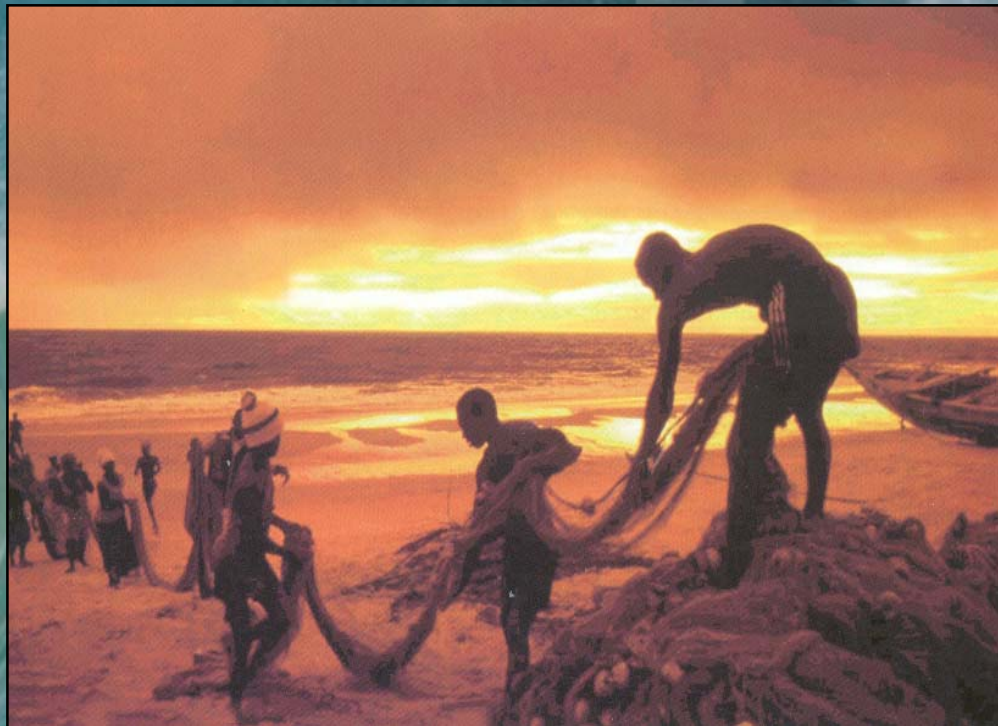
Affecting Coral Reefs !

Coral reefs have been damaged
in 93 of the 100 countries
in which they are found



Affecting Fisheries !

Worldwide fish catches increased more than 4 times between 1950 and 1989; subsidies total up to \$20 billion a year



- **Goods and services provided by the ocean are estimated at US\$21 500 billion annually.**
- **Some 1 billion people live in coastal urban centres.**
- **Almost 50 per cent of the world's coasts are threatened by development-related activities.**

Affecting
Recreational fishing
Bathing
Tourism
etcetera



Some Milestones

- 1992 Agenda 21 / UNCED Prevent
.....reduce and control degradation of the marine environment from land-based activities
- 1995 Washington Declaration – 108 States
- November 2001 Montreal: First Intergovernmental review meeting

Aims of the GPA

- Prevent, reduce and control degradation of the marine environment from land-based activities
- Assist States in taking action individually or jointly within their respective policies, priorities and resources

.... at different levels

- *National:*
develop programmes of action
(integrated coastal management, harmonised with
river-basin management and land-use plans)
- *Regional:*
strengthen regional cooperative arrangements
(support national and local actions and programmes)
- *International:*
strengthen international cooperation

Recommended approach

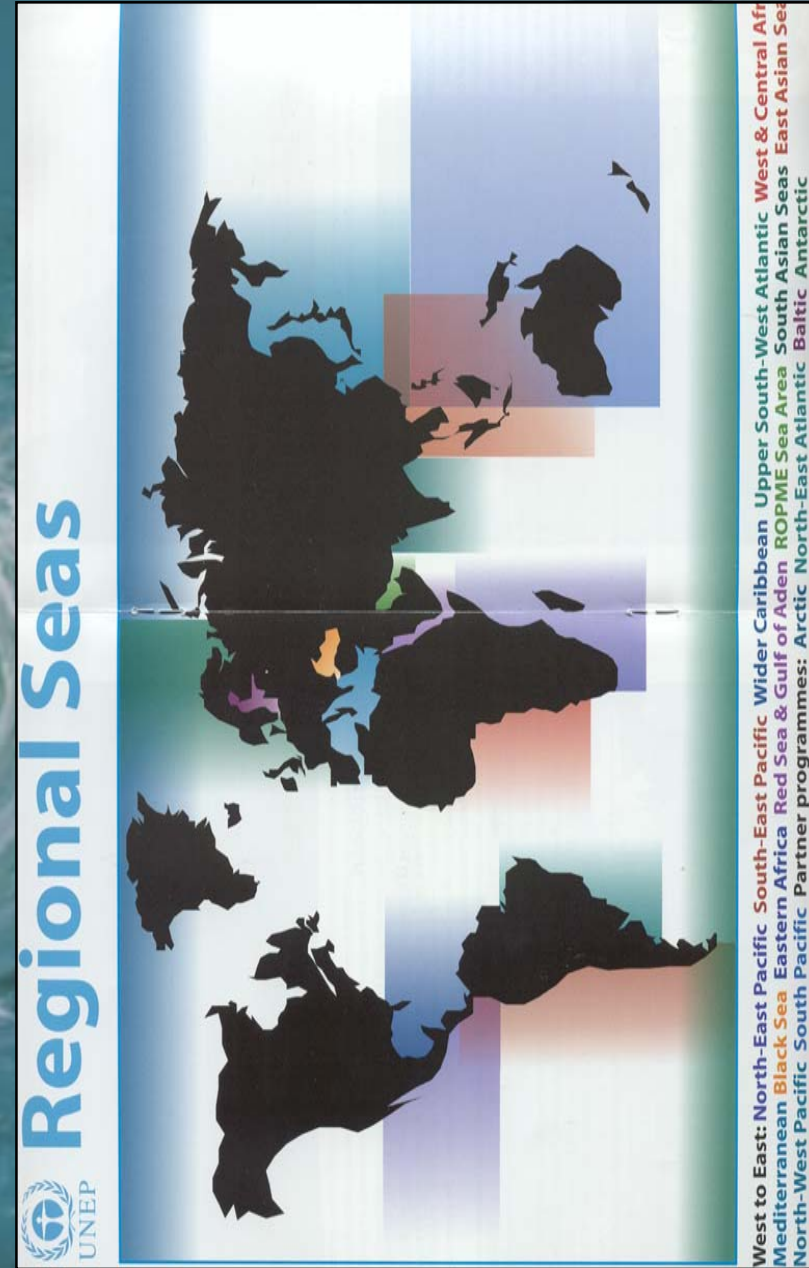
- IDENTIFY and assess PROBLEMS and CAUSES
- PRIORITIES for action
- management OBJECTIVES
- Strategies and MEASURES
- CRITERIA for EVALUATING the effectiveness

The Institutional Framework

- UNEP is the Secretariat;
- Implementing the GPA is mainly the task of governments, supported by
 - ⇒ Regional Organizations
 - ⇒ UN Agencies
 - ⇒ International Financial Institutes/ GEF
 - ⇒ Private sector & other stakeholders
- Regional Seas Programmes play a key role;
- GPA calls for regular reviews.

Lessons learned:

- Regions are lagging behind
- Lack of awareness
- Lack of action
- Freshwater and coastal management not integrated



Visit the GPA Clearing-house!



www.gpa.unep.org



GPA coordination office

Moving from Planning to Action

- **Agree on priorities, actors and targets (NPA)**
- **Per pollutant source category:**
 - ⇒ **Normative function**
 - ⇒ **Demonstration function**
 - ⇒ **Capacity building**
- **Facilitate financing the GPA**

GUIDANCE on MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER

Draft

Working document

Practical Guidance for Implementing the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA) on Sewage

Developed in collaboration with the World Health Organisation (WHO), the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS–Habitat), and the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC).



Version 1.1, 22 August 2001
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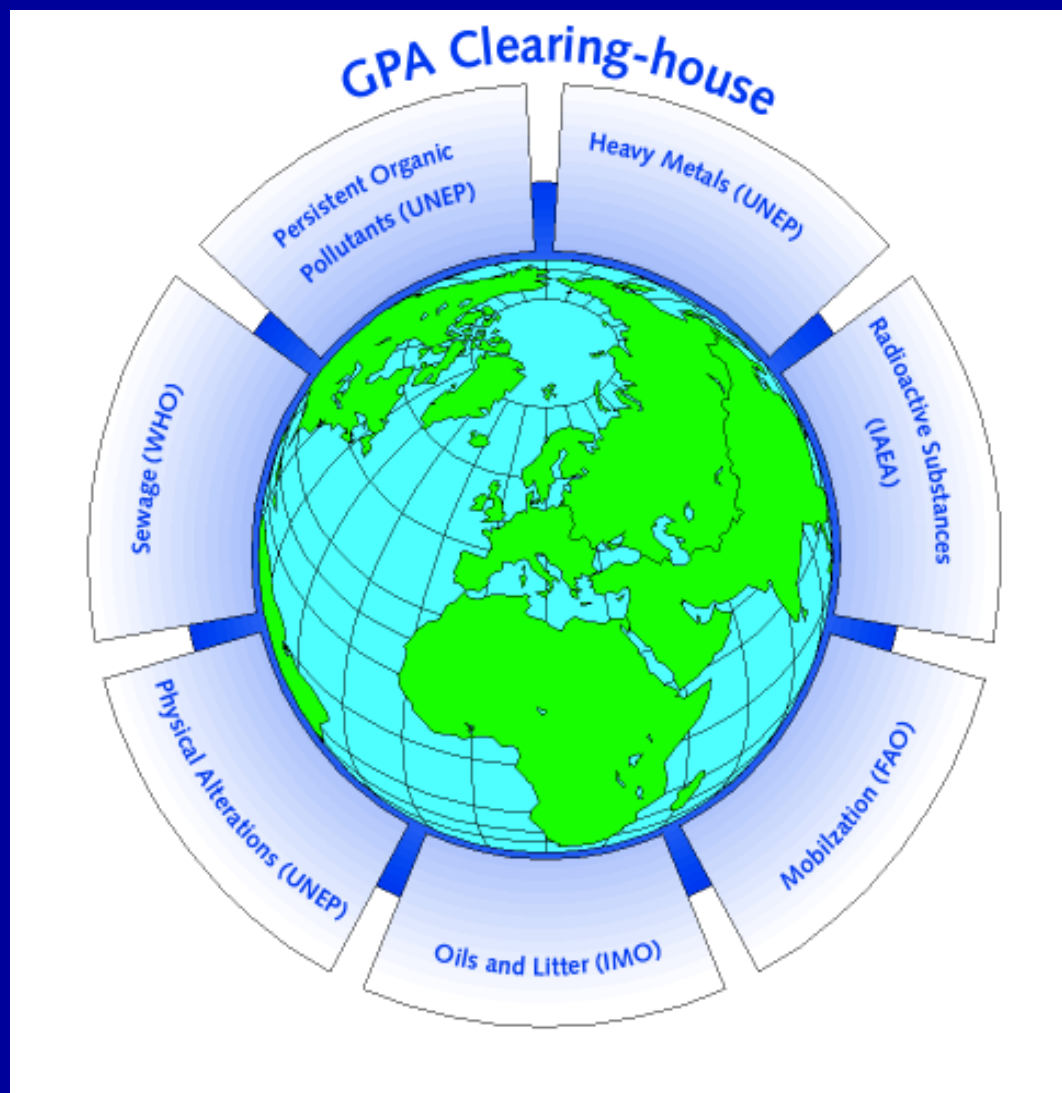


The GPA Clearing-house Mechanism

The screenshot shows the website for the GPA Clearing-House Mechanism. At the top, the GPA logo is displayed with the text "Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities". To the right are the logos for the United Nations and UNEP. Below the header, the title "GPA Clearing-House Mechanism" is centered. A main content area features a photograph of a boat in the ocean under the heading "Oceans for Life on Earth". To the right of the photo is a vertical menu of buttons: "What's New?", "About the GPA", "GPA Partners", "Related Links", "FAQs", "Feedback", "Site Map", "Features", "Case Studies", "Best Practices", "Document Library", "Search", "Kids Page", and "Language". At the bottom, there are two buttons: "GPA-CBD CHM Joint Page" and "Web Links Database", with a small globe icon to the right.

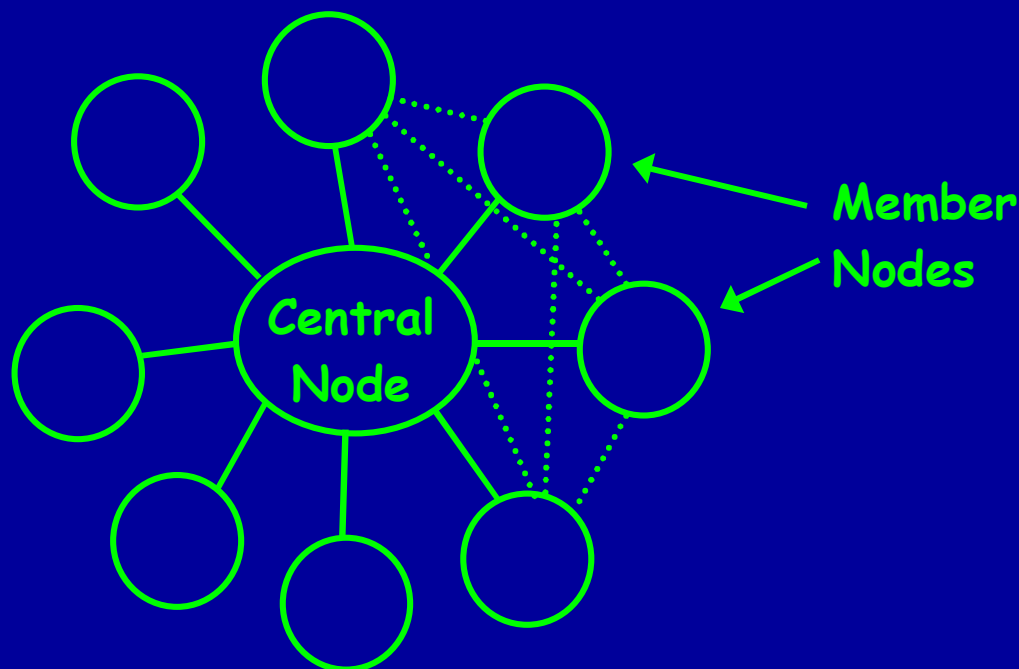
Aims to be the source for GPA information, data, news and sharing of knowledge & experience

The GPA Clearing-house Mechanism



Addresses different source categories

Key Clearing-house Characteristics:



- Fully de-centralized;
- Provides access to information & data;
- Supports networking & decision making;
- Provides sophisticated search, query and retrieval methods.



**The GPA Clearing-House Mechanism:
A “Network of Networks”**

The WAY FORWARD

Move from:

- action planning to real action
- priority setting to addressing priorities
- analyzing options to implementing an option
- From the **WHAT** to the HOW

Business as usual is no longer an option >>> innovative approaches !



Requirements:

- **Political will**
- **Financial resources:**
 - * **stakeholder participation**
 - * **using “innovative” financial tools and mechanisms**
- **Guidance documents:**
 - KEY PRINCIPLES & CHECKLISTS**
- **Pilot Demonstration Projects**



River basin - coastal area

Washington Declaration (1995):

'.... The importance of integrated coastal area management and the catchment area based approach as means of coordinating programmes.....'

Water Convention (1992)

'.... the need for strengthening national and international measures to prevent, control and reduce the release of hazardous substances into the aquatic environment and to abate eutrophication and acidification, as well as pollution of the marine environment, in particular coastal areas, from land-based sources'.

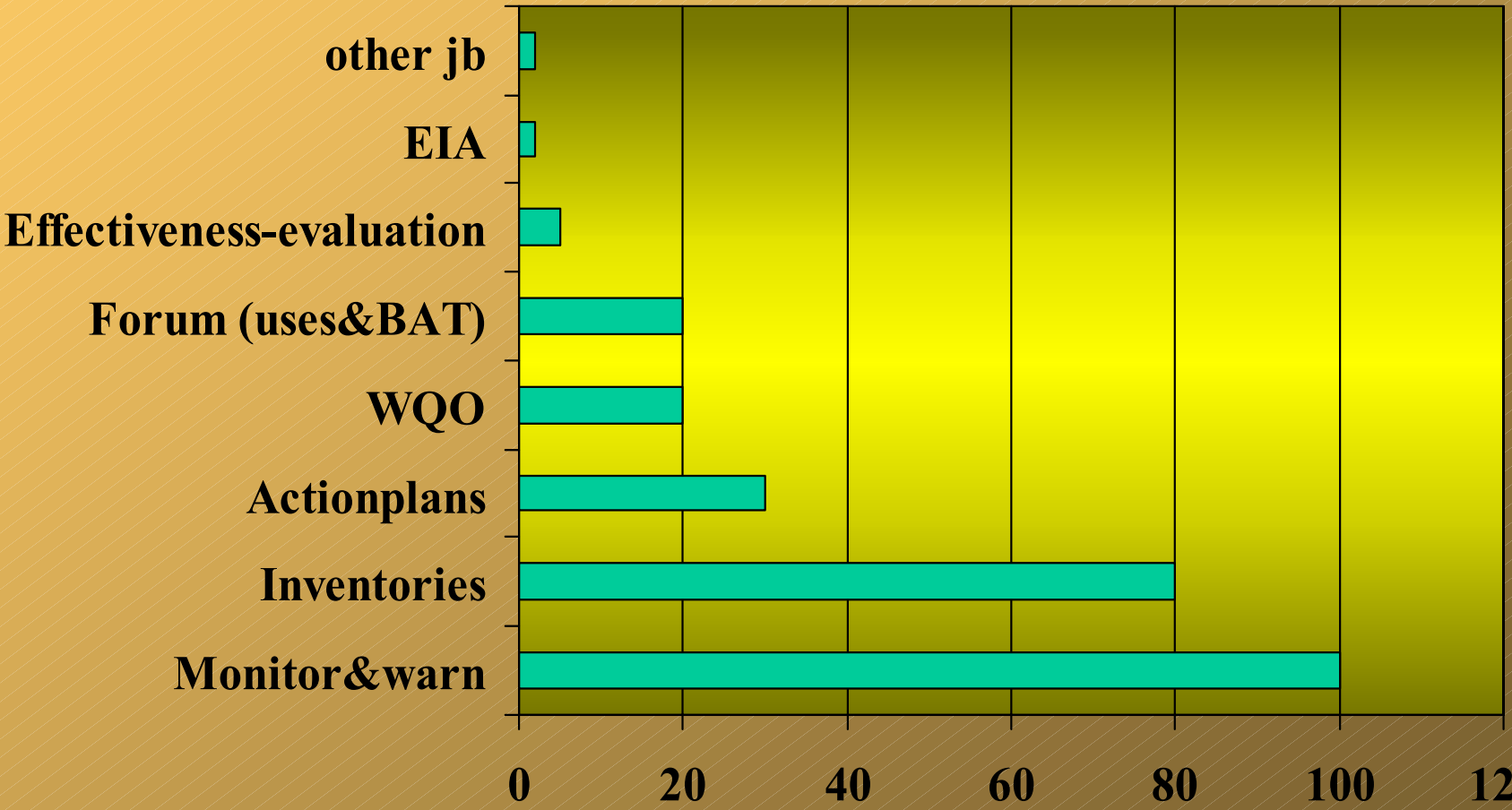
under 'Bilateral and multilateral cooperation':

'... Joint bodies according to this Convention shall invite joint bodies, established by coastal States for the protection of the marine environment directly affected by transboundary impact, to cooperate in order to harmonize their work and to prevent, control and reduce the transboundary impact'.

River basin - coastal area

- ICARM
- alliances, twinning, joint pilot projects
- WSSD, WWF3

Tasks of joint bodies



Conclusions

- River basin - coastal zone
- Translating vision into action
- Conventions → action programmes