

Listening to ocean acidification

Did you know that a lower pH, the potential of hydrogen, makes the ocean a louder place?

By 2050, under conservative projections of ocean acidification, sounds could travel as much as 70% farther in some ocean areas. This means ocean acidification affects whales and other animals, not just coral reefs and shellfish.

The ocean absorbs about 25% of the carbon dioxide (CO₂) that we emit. If we had to pay for it, the value of this 'ocean service' to the global economy is USD 60 to 400 billion annually (EPOCA).

By taking up our extra CO₂, the ocean has acidified by 30% since the start of the Industrial Revolution. The current rate of decrease is 0.02 units per decade, faster than any rate in the past 300 million years.

Ocean acidification affects some species directly and combines with other stressors. Nutrient pollution makes local acidification stronger and faster.

We are not powerless in the face of ocean acidification. We can reduce our carbon footprints.

We can help our environments and species cope by protecting them, building their resilience.

We can conserve, protect and restore carbon-fixing ecosystems like forests and wetlands.

We can reduce other local stressors such as destructive fishing and land-based pollution.

When we make the right choices to support our ecosystems, we create positive growth for our ocean, our health, and our industries.

When you use less electricity, buy local, protect wetlands, and keep our rivers clean, you are saving the ocean – and saving us too.

Want to know more about ocean acidification in the Pacific? [Click here.](#)

Help give voice to this Pacific Conversation – learn more about marine and coastal biodiversity in the Pacific islands.

**Join in the Pacific Conversation: #SaveOurOcean
#ResilientPacific**



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For more information: www.sprep.org • sprep@sprep.org