

New online course available on

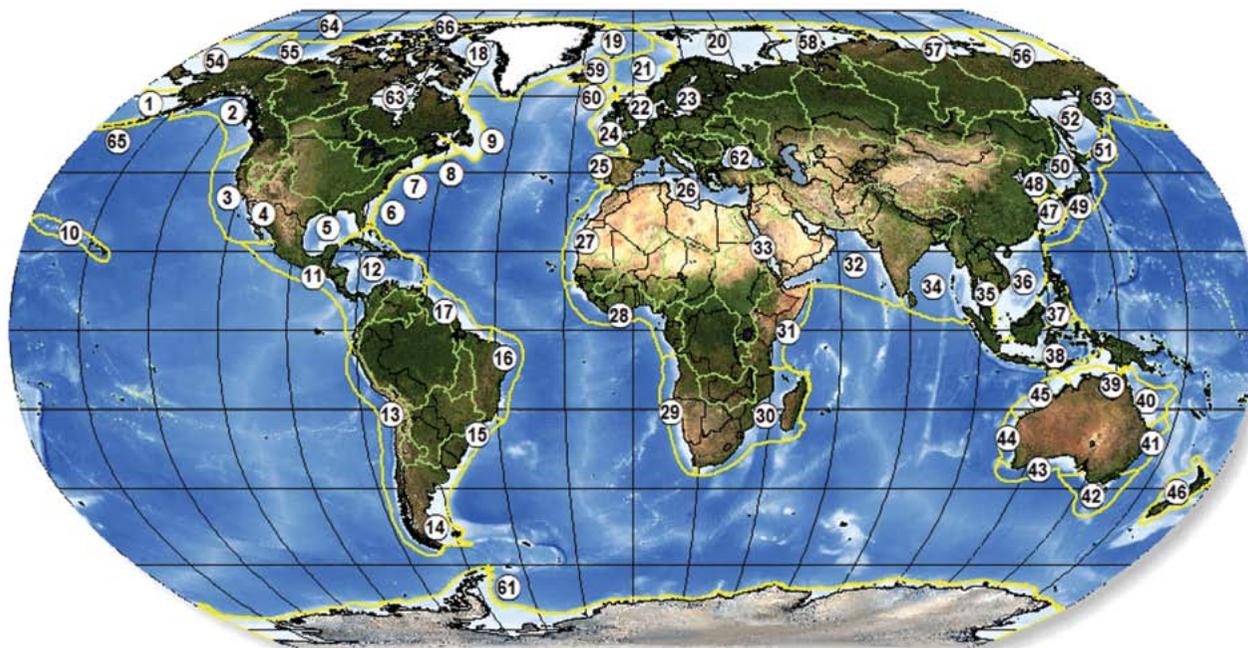
LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEMS Assessment and Management

Large Marine Ecosystems are naturally formed coastal ocean areas of the globe.

An opportunity to study an innovative approach for sustainable development of the world's Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) has been initiated.

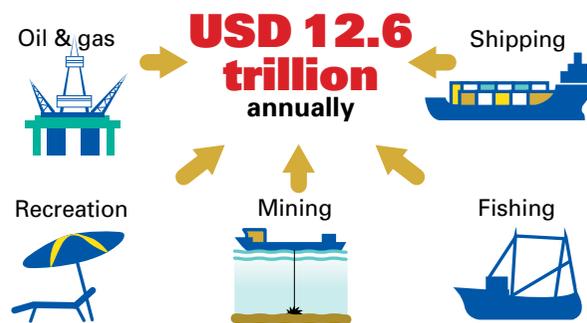
The course, to be self-taught online over a six-week period, can lead to certification by Coursera and the University of Cape Town.

Large Marine Ecosystems of the world and linked watersheds



LMEs are global centers of effort to introduce ecosystem-based management (EBM) practices in support of the recent United Nations-approved goal for achieving targets for sustainable development of the oceans by 2030. **The UN goal for the oceans is identified as Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14. LMEs are the engine of SDG14.**

LMEs are critical to global socio-economic well-being, contributing an estimated **USD 12.6 trillion annually** to the global economy.



Socio-economic contribution of LMEs to the global economy

New online course available on LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEMS Assessment and Management

The course of study will instruct participants in innovative methodologies for assessing and managing coastal ocean goods and services produced by the world's 66 Large Marine Ecosystems.

The self-taught course, developed by Dr. Kenneth Sherman of NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service and Dr. Coleen Moloney of the University of Cape Town, is led by Professor Moloney over a six week LME curriculum focused on:

Week one	What is the Large Marine Ecosystem approach?
Week two	The three Natural Science Modules
Week three	The two Human Dimension Modules
Week four	Tools and actions: the TDA and SAP
Week five	Implementing transboundary EBM
Week six	Taking it home: examples of Best Practice

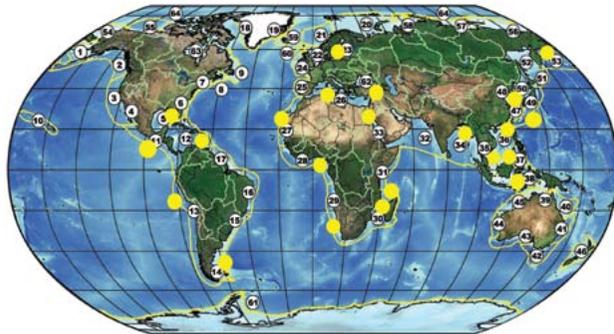
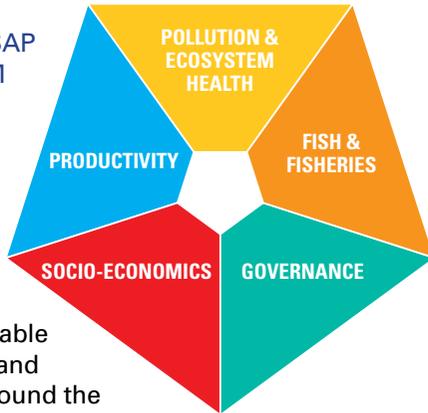


The **Global Environment Facility (GEF)** provides financial support to economically developing countries committed to mitigating human and environmental stress on the planet. The GEF has since the mid-1990s been supporting LME ecosystem-based management (EBM) projects that incorporate five science-based indicator modules of changing LME ecology with the two GEF country-driven bottom-up planning processes comprised of a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) and a Strategic Action Program (SAP). The course describes case studies linking LME theory and EBM practice with five suites of natural and social science indicators of changing LME conditions with the GEF-inspired TDA and SAP project planning process.

Fusion between LME theory and LME-assessment and management.

5 MODULES
Integrated via TDA SAP Practice Process to EBM Practice.

The GEF has catalyzed over **USD 3 billion** in financial support to **110 countries** to assist in planning and implementing the EBM approach to the sustainable development of goods and services in **22 LMEs** around the globe since 1995.



Location of 22 LME projects receiving GEF financial support



The GEF is the world's largest financial supporter of transboundary water mitigation and sustainability projects.

"Today the LME approach is the cornerstone of the GEF strategy for ocean and coastal conservation, and the GEF is the leading global funding source for transboundary water systems."*



Naoko Ishii, CEO and Chairperson, GEF.

The GEF chief executive officer, Dr. Naoko Ishii, supports the LME approach to sustainable development of coastal ocean waters.

"Working in partnerships with many countries and institutions, GEF looks forward to building on successes to date to ensure the sustainability of our oceans for the benefit of present and future generations."

Other leaders among the world's marine science community expressed support for the LME approach at an LME symposium held at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum in 2013.

International Leaders in support of LMEs



Anne Christine Brusendorff, PhD, General Secretary of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea

Jane Lubchenco, PhD, Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), 2009–2013

Wendy Watson-Wright, PhD, Executive Secretary, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and Assistant Director-General, UNESCO, 2010–2015

* From Coast to Coast. Celebrating 20 years of transboundary management of our shared oceans. Chapter 1. Sustaining the world's Largest Marine Ecosystems (2015). GEF. Washington, DC. 178 pp. ISBN 978-92-808-6068-9.

It is inevitable that 7 billion people who presently inhabit the planet will leave their mark. By 2050, the number of people is expected to reach 9 billion.

It is still possible to make individual and collective choices that will result in restoring and sustainably developing the ocean's full potential for present and future generations.

The new online course on LME Assessment and Management presented by the world-renowned University of Cape Town will provide you with information and tools for meeting the global ocean's sustainability challenges.

The online six-week course of study on LME Assessment and Management is freely available from:
<https://www.coursera.org/learn/large-marine-ecosystems/>

More information about the course, how to enrol and how to request financial support for certification is available from:

- <http://www.cilt.uct.ac.za/cilt/moocs-uct>
- <https://iwlearn.net/marine>

Partnering organizations participating in the development of the Large Marine Ecosystems Assessment and Management course include IW:LEARN (iwlearn.net):

