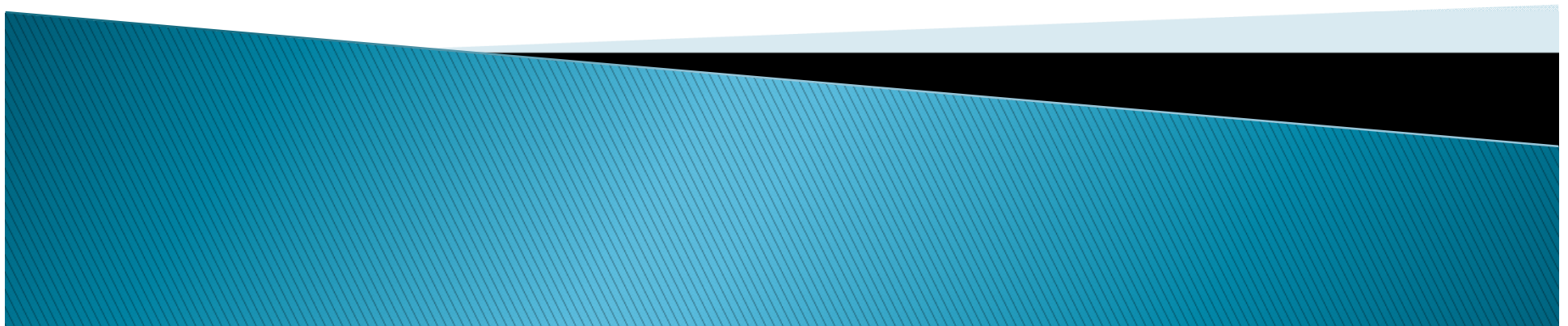


Ocean Acidification Group

10 October 2012



Experiences

- ▶ The link is relatively well established – more CO₂, more carbonic acid in the water that impacts marine life
 - So for shellfish, weaker shells that require more energy to make in stressed environments.
- ▶ It is effecting important fishing livelihoods
 - Example some islands/areas in Jamaica that are entirely reliant on shellfishing
- ▶ Impacts also include GDP, food security and indirectly, displacement



Gaps and limitations

- ▶ We can still learn from other sectors like marine conservation and marine ecosystem management practises
 - This is a sector that hasn't been tapped into in a big way and there is more work to be done
- ▶ Targeted research on thresholds (when do marine ecosystems suffer X, Y and Z)
 - Where are existing adaptation approaches insufficient?
- ▶ What can we learn from other situations
 - Like migration – how do you preserve heritage for example?
- ▶ What are the limits of diversification?



Potential responses

▶ A strong mitigation target

- The impact is a clear consequence of a poor mitigation target and should be at the forefront of efforts.
- Analogy between ocean and atmosphere – same need to stabilise situation.
- Noting it still needs to be targeted (ie short-lived gases are the issue here)

▶ Adaptation strategies

- Understanding the adaptation opportunities and limitations of responding to ocean acidification
- Addressing the non-climate stressors
- Economic and livelihood diversification
 - Develop new sectors
 - Orient efforts to facilitate the transition (WTO, OECD etc)



Priorities

- ▶ Transformational technologies:
 - Example –access to marine–based technologies to secure energy, reduce costs of importing it and build new techs of the future.
- ▶ Support to undertake transformation to new economies
 - The ownership of this support must be with the targeted individuals/communities.
 - Innovative approaches to climate finance such as, investment in risky but green sectors like tidal energy and to examine other approaches like debt relief.
 - Away from monoculture economies.

