JNCC

Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) supports government departments and colleagues in the UK Overseas Territories to measure the health of their seas

- ❑ Working together to introduce and raise awareness of the benefits of developing biodiversity indicators to assess the health and condition of marine environments.
- ❑ Supporting governments to ensure Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) meet their objectives, which is critical for achieving many national and international aims and commitments.
- ❑ Building on existing local data and monitoring programs to measure condition.

Currently working with partners in the Cayman Islands, Gibraltar, St Helena, Tristan da Cunha, Turks and Caicos Islands, Anguilla, British Virgin Islands

Marine Biodiversity & Condition Indicators

Supporting UK Overseas Territories and partners to mobilise use of existing data by developing tailored biodiversity and condition indicators to assess the extent and level of impacts on their biodiversity and habitats.

Marine Bird Abundance and Breeding Productivity

Abundance and reproductive success of marine bird species reliant on coastal and offshore areas during their annual lifecycle

Seal Abundance and Distribution

Abundance and distribution using count and location data of pups at breeding sites

Percentage of Habitat Area Protected

Percentage area of priority habitats protected within MPAs/OECMs

Reef Health Index

Overall health of coral reef ecosystems, combining key metrics which account for a variety of species and pressures

Area of habitat at risk

Level of risk to selected habitats from physical pressures due to human activities inside and outside of protected areas

Live Coral Cover

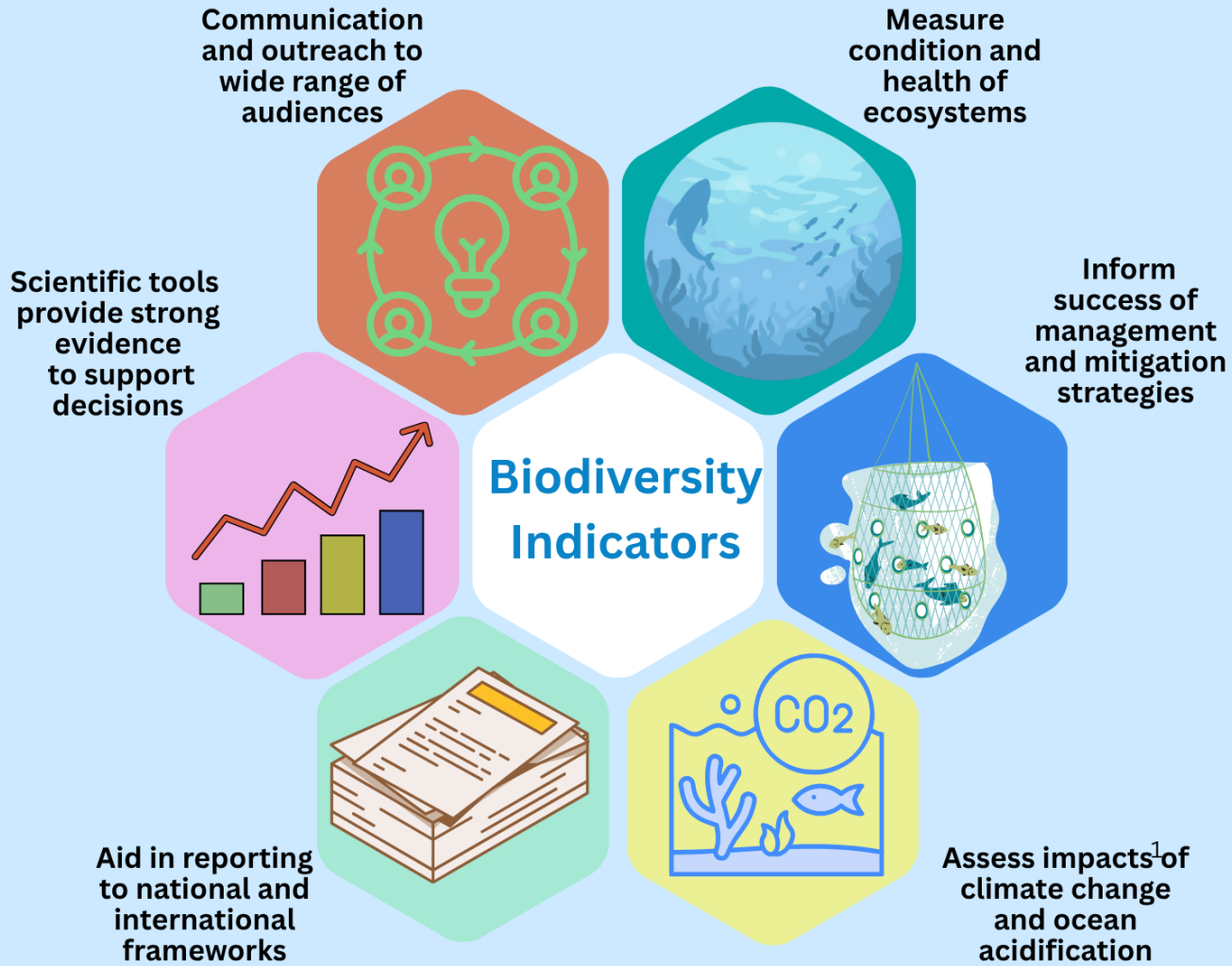
Indicator assesses the overall percentage cover of live coral in a reef ecosystem

Marine Biodiversity & Condition Indicators

Why do we need indicators?

Indicators form the basis of successful monitoring mechanisms and bespoke indicators can enable the territory to provide a timely response to emerging threats and pressures, tracking ecosystem change and prioritizing conservation actions, guide research and allocation of resources.

How can indicators be used?



Condition Assessment Framework

Linking habitat and species assessments to research and monitoring plans and Protected Area Management Effectiveness

THREATS

Coastal infrastructure
Invasive species
Climate change
Ocean acidification
Marine litter
Fishing
Pollution

-ve IMPACT

Healthy State

RESEARCH & MONITORING

Species & habitat indicators

CONDITION ASSESSMENT

Provide tools to inform management effectiveness, progress of environmental policies, mitigation measures, research and monitoring plans, condition of ecosystem services

+ve IMPACT

MANAGEMENT & MITIGATION

Policy response