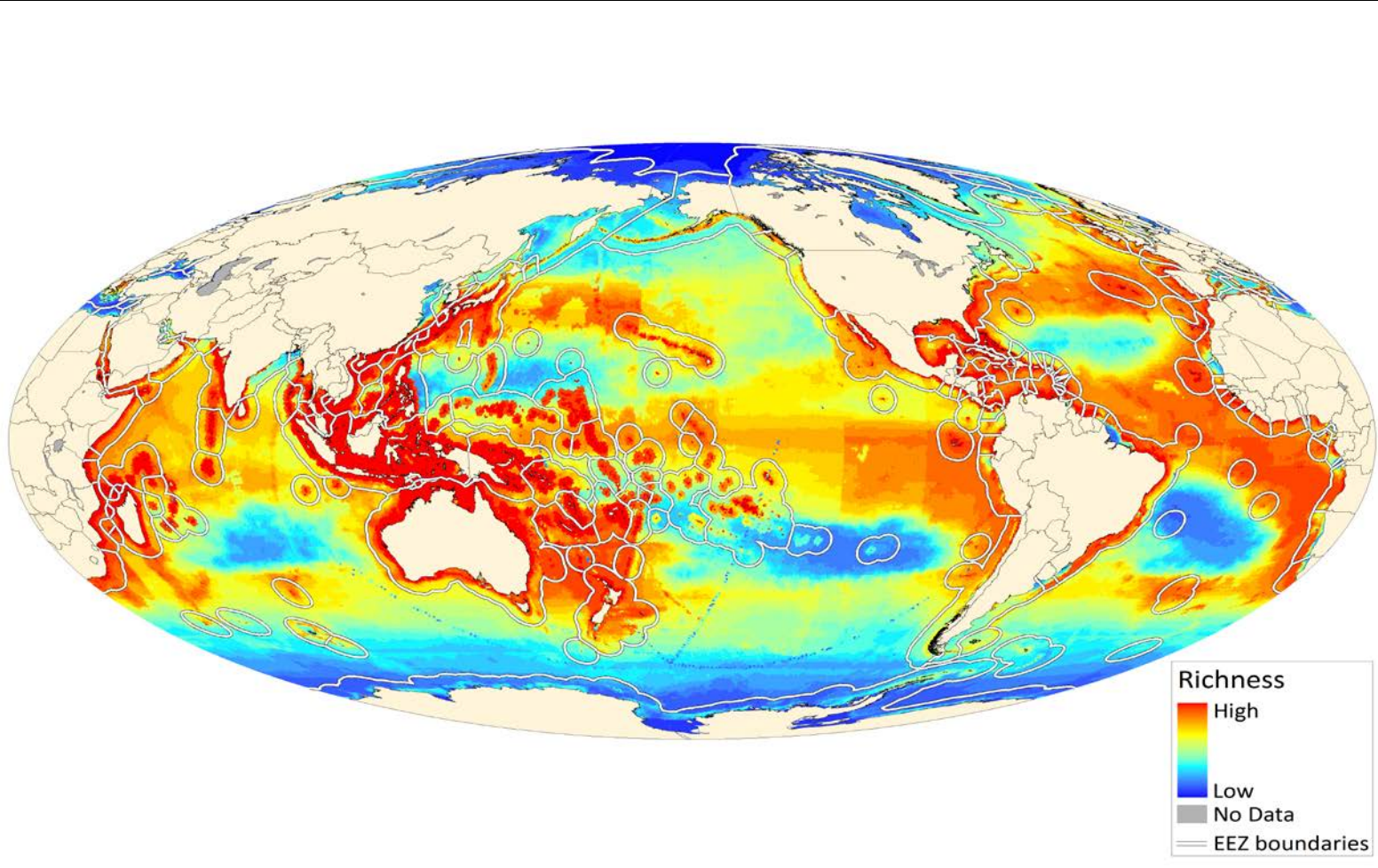


Science Advice for Cumulative Impacts Under BBNJ



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The Role of Scientific Advice

- Structure and criteria for assessments advice (e.g. ICES)
- Synthesis of existing information (e.g. IPBES)
- Peer review and quality control (e.g. US fisheries SSCs)
- Directly engage with policy makers (e.g. RFMOs)

Independent Science – Salient, Credible, Legitimate

- Appoint for technical knowledge not representation
- Science advisory body arms length from policy positions
- Adequate resources - time, meeting support
- Importance of diversity of perspectives
- Ensure there are incentives to participate for scientists
- Minimize bureaucracy
- Address capacity concerns

Cumulative Impacts

- Evaluate impacts of multiple actions within a sector
- Evaluate cross sector impacts
- Likely semi-quantitative or qualitative in most cases



So What is an Impact (Y-axis)?

- Changes that are anticipated to result in a loss of ecosystem services (including services from biodiversity)
- Time frame for the high seas should be very long as many processes are slow
- Example services are nutrient cycling, genetic resources, carbon sequestration.....

Must all Services be Quantified?

- NO! Because it will require change to measure loss so most won't be quantified in advance.
- An indication of direction of impact and likely magnitude of change will be informative for management
- Cumulative impacts may not always be additive

The Role of Scientific Advice

- Structure and criteria for assessments advice
- Synthesis of existing information
- Peer review and quality control
- Directly engage with policy makers...and
- For EIS, advise on the likely loss of services within and across sectors resulting from a given project in light of other projects underway or projected.