



Blue Biotrade as a Pathway to Sustainability

UN Oceans Conference

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MARES, Forest Trends



Blue Biotrade:

Why Blue? Why Bio? Why Trade?

- Blue: Oceans Economy is huge (\$2.5 trillion per yr) and growing
- Bio: use that is ecologically, socially, and economically sustainable will guarantee that the Oceans Economy continues to exist in the future
- Trade: BBT principles can ensure sustainable economic growth and sharing of benefits. Biotrade is a growth industry: biotrade principles have guided an exponential growth in sustainable trade, from only \$130 million in 1996 in recognized sustainable trade to \$5.3 billion in 2015

Blue Biotope principles relate to the second objective of the CBD, to CITES, and other international agreements



In addition, Blue Biotope can help nations achieve SDGs – Not only SDG 14 but also all of the other SDGs that deal with food security, equity, and human well-being

Key to sustainability:

Ensuring that use does not undermine ecosystems and the delivery of ecosystem services –

the benefits that oceans provide to coastal countries and communities

This holds true not only for the production process (harvest), but also for shaping the value chain. This distinguishes Biotrade from certification, codes of conduct, and conventional management practices.

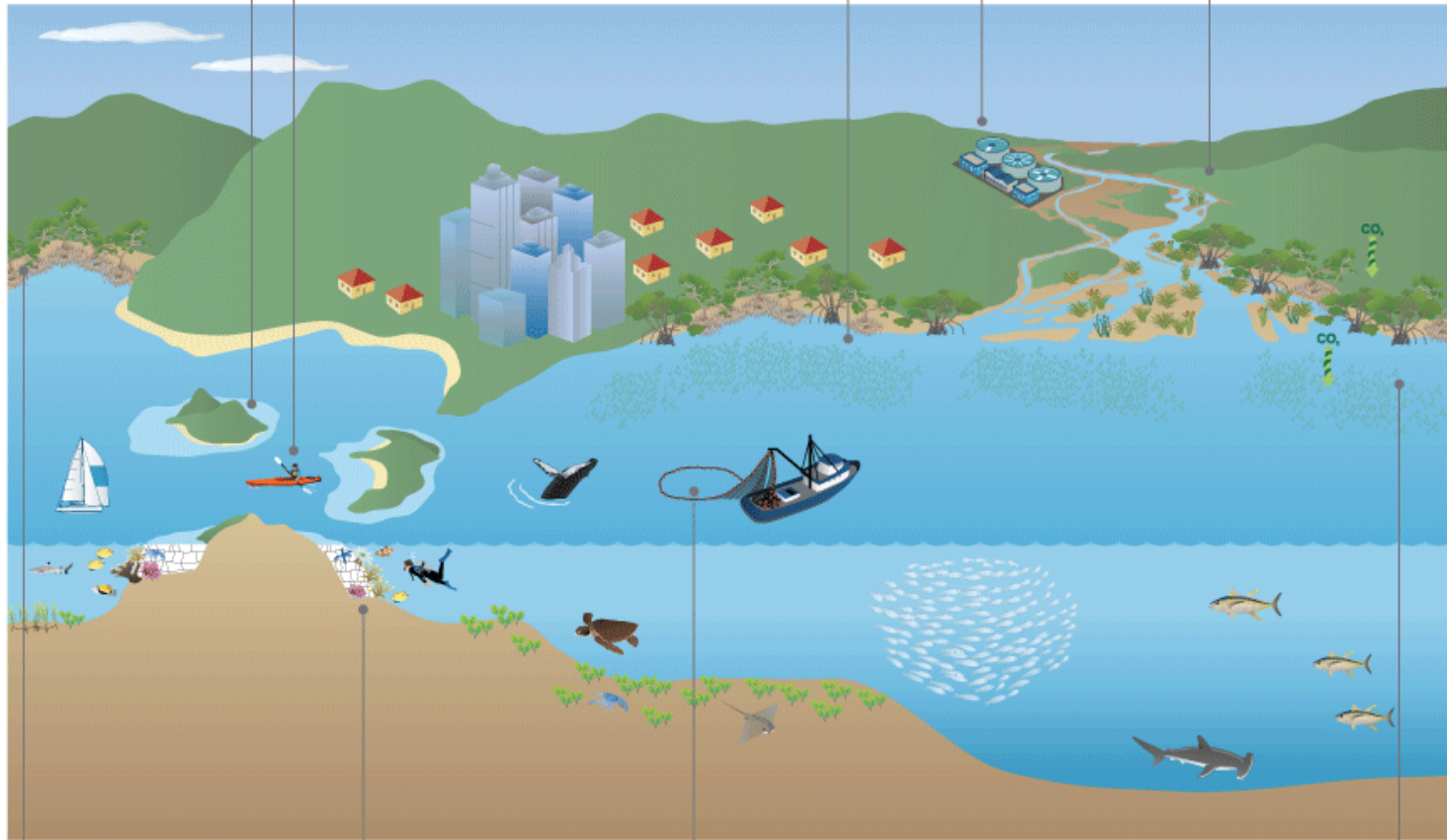
Offshore reefs and islands create sand and protect the shoreline from storms.

Landscape features offer recreational opportunities, such as SCUBA diving, sea kayaking, and sailing.

Estuarine seagrasses and mangroves provide nursery habitat for commercial fish and crustacean species.

Healthy rivers provide drinking water.

Riparian habitat protects waterways



Mangroves and saltmarshes act as **giant filter**, trapping sediments and nutrients.

Healthy coral reefs are incredibly **biodiverse**, providing...

Sustainable fisheries provide food, as well as creating jobs.

Marine ecosystems including seagrasses, mangroves, and saltmarshes act as **carbon sinks**, reducing greenhouse gases.

Blue Biotope Principles

- 1. Conserve biodiversity
- 2. Sustainable use
- 3. Fair & equitable sharing of benefits
- 4. Socio-economic sustainability
- 5. Sound technologies to secure ecological, social, and economic stability
- 6. Compliance with international regulations
- 7. Trade reliant on renewable energy to extent practicable

Characteristics of marine: commons property, EEZs/ABNJ, externalities not easily addressed, highly interconnected

Focal Areas for Blue Biotrade

- **Coastal and Marine EcoTourism**
- **Specialized Fisheries and Aquaculture**
- Sea-based Cosmetics
- Marine Pharmaceuticals

Baird.



Richard Haynes Boardwalk, Rockley

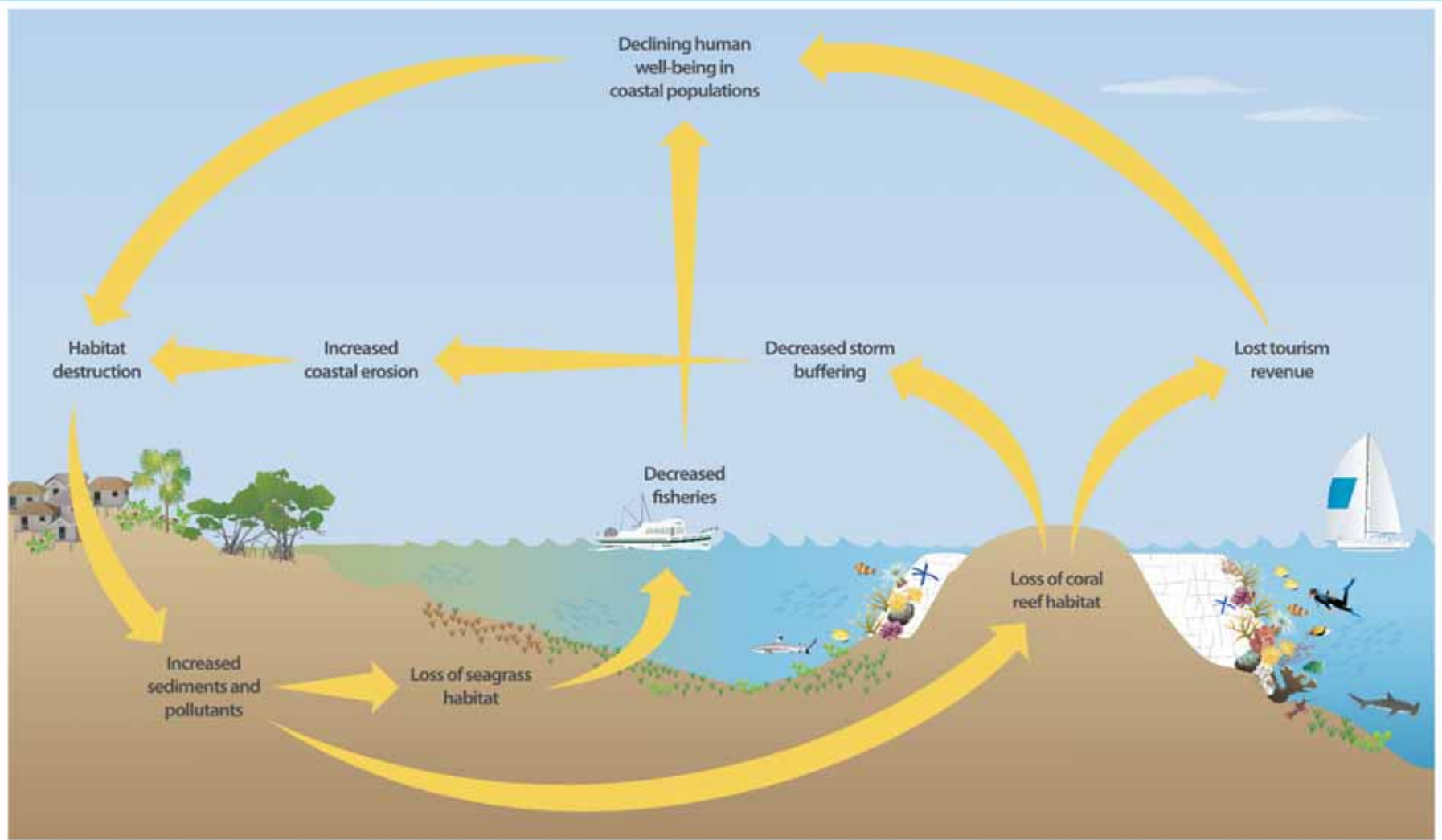
2. Ecosystem-enhancing coastal infrastructure in Barbados



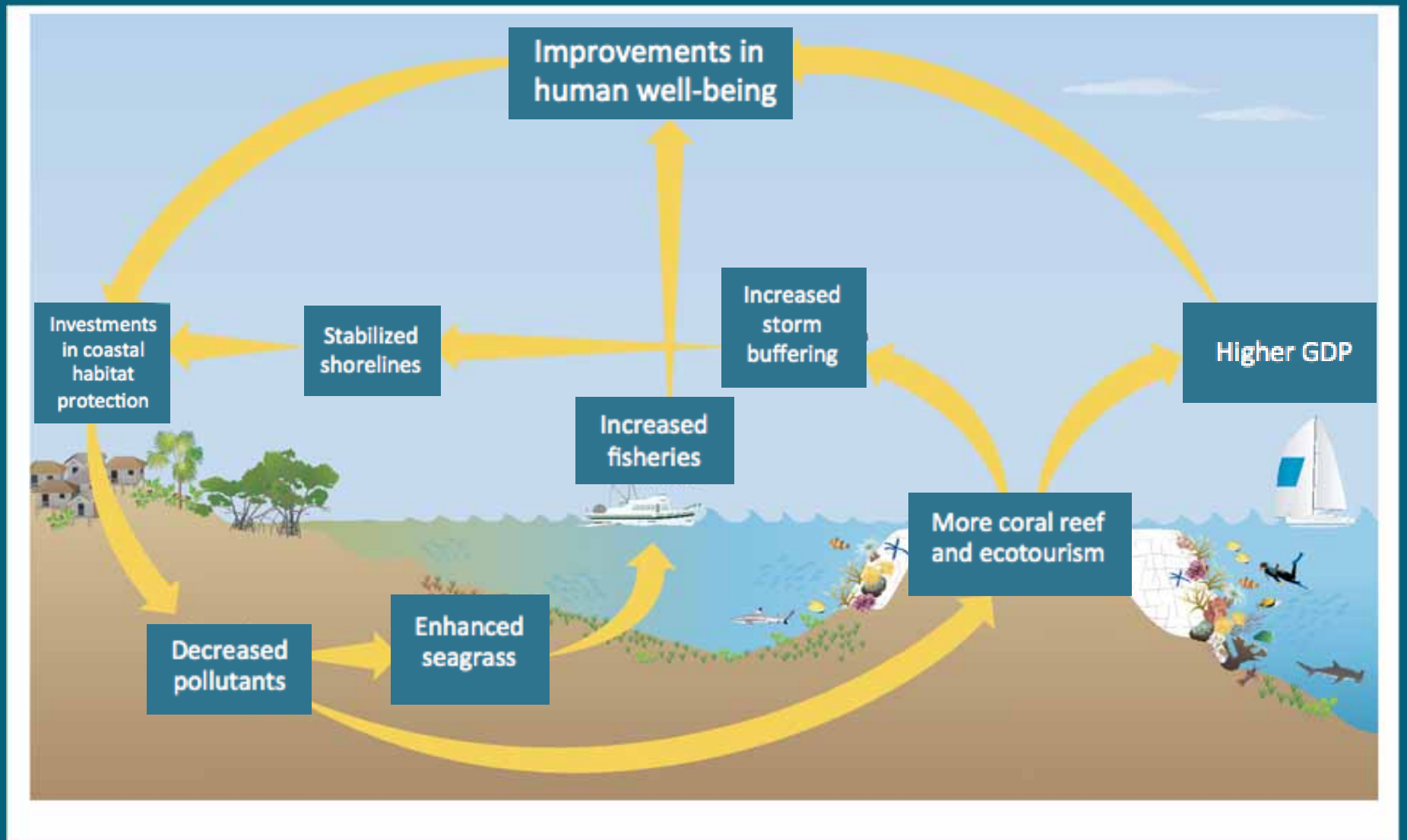


3. Acuisur's macroalgae farming in Paracas, Peru

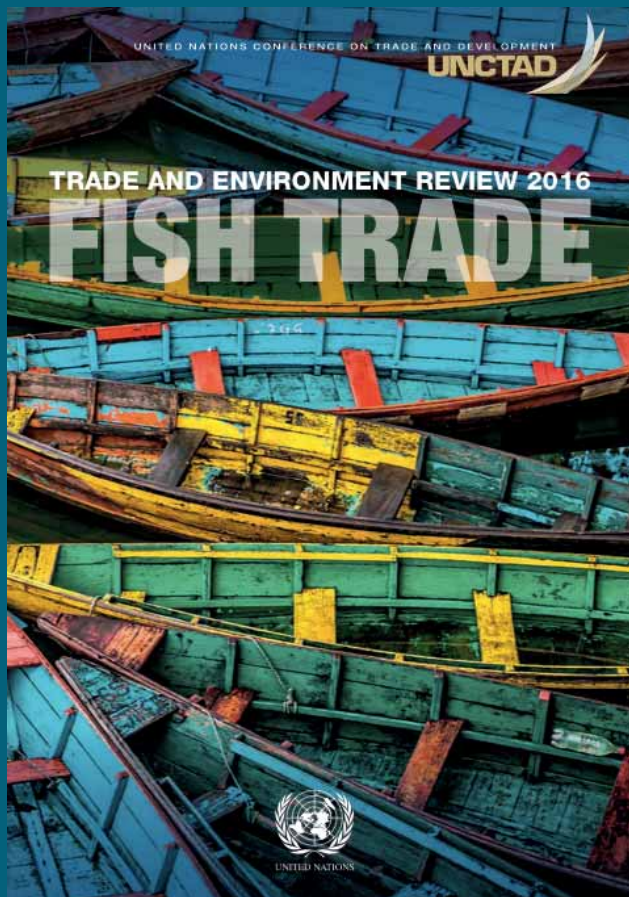
Blue Biotrade can change the dynamic from this:



To this:



CAF / UNCTAD: Ecosystem Services Assessments Quantifying Trade in Blue Economy Developing Blue Biotrade Principles



Thank you

