# Understanding the flow of central ocean governance concepts



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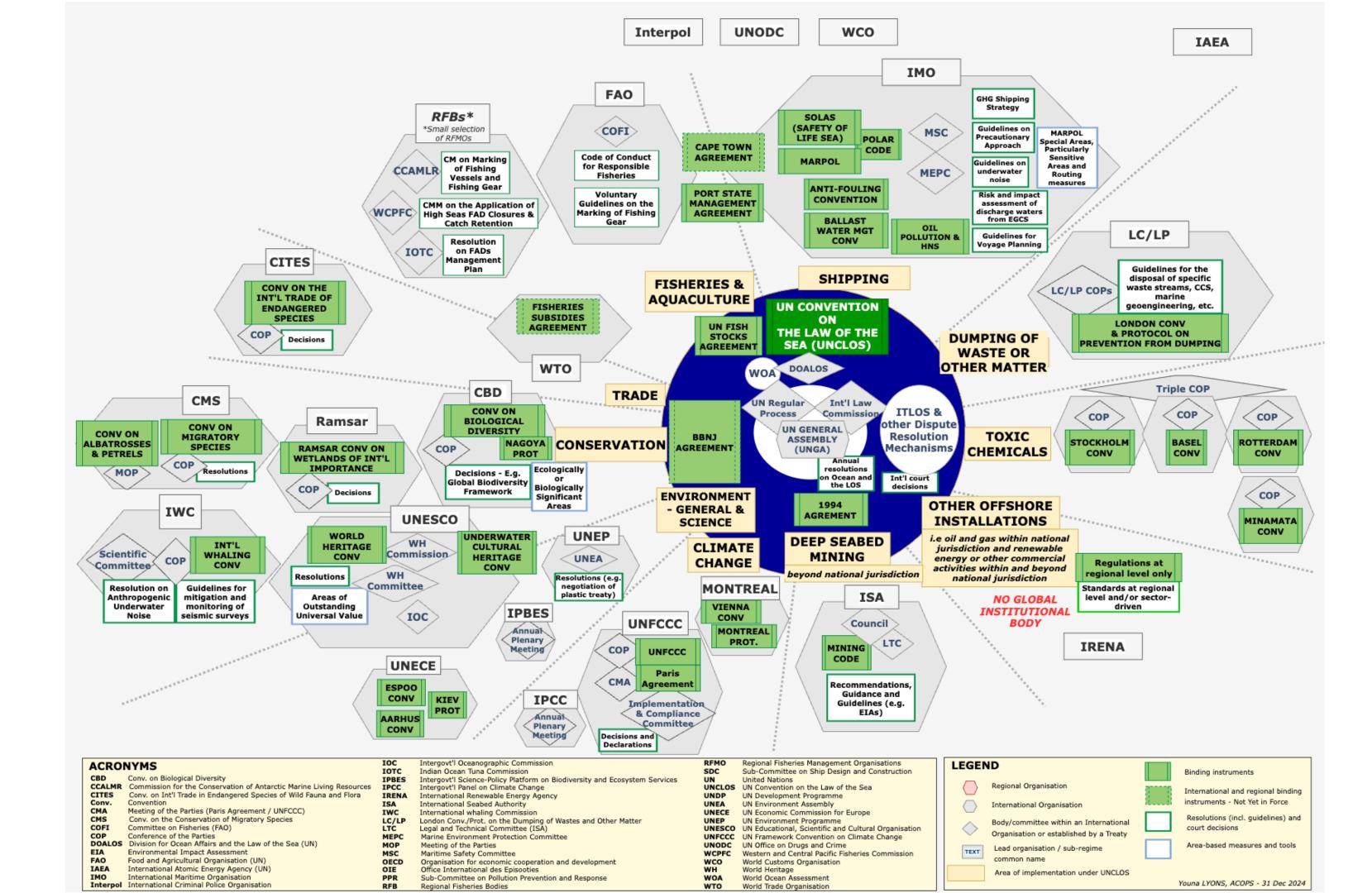
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Memorial University of Newfoundland

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Utrecht University

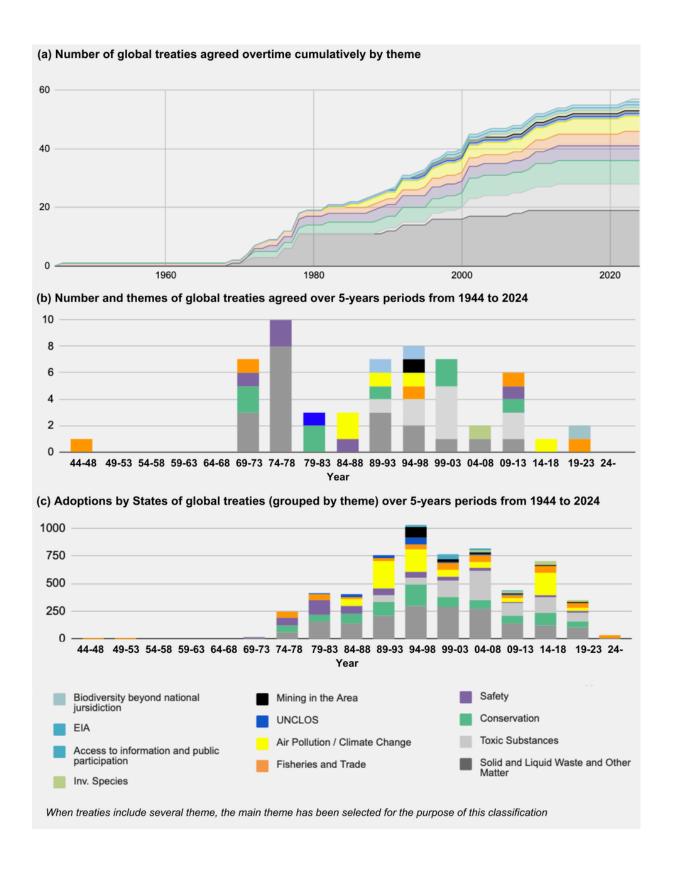
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Oceânicas (INPO)

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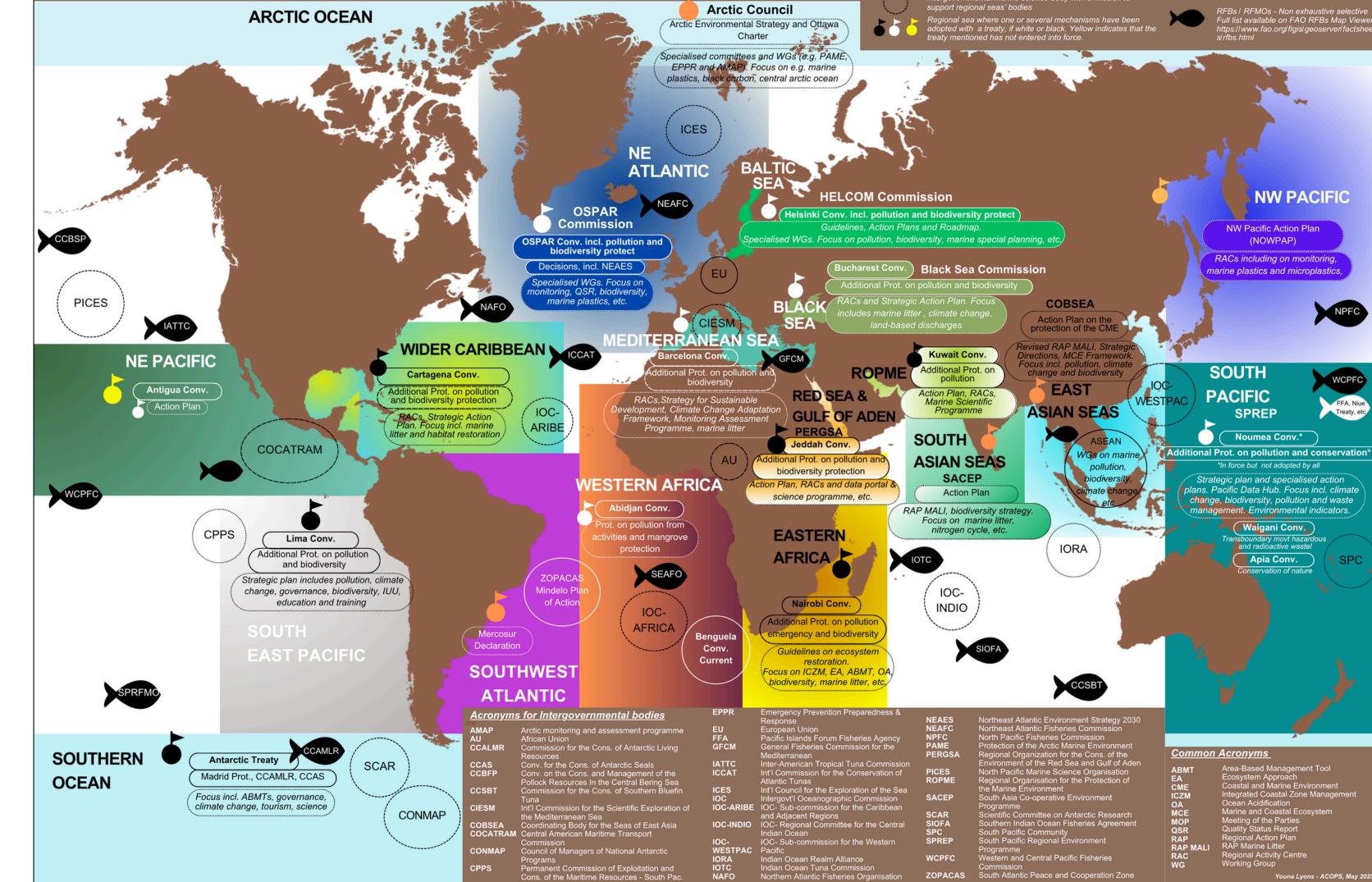
## **Global treaties & adoption trends**

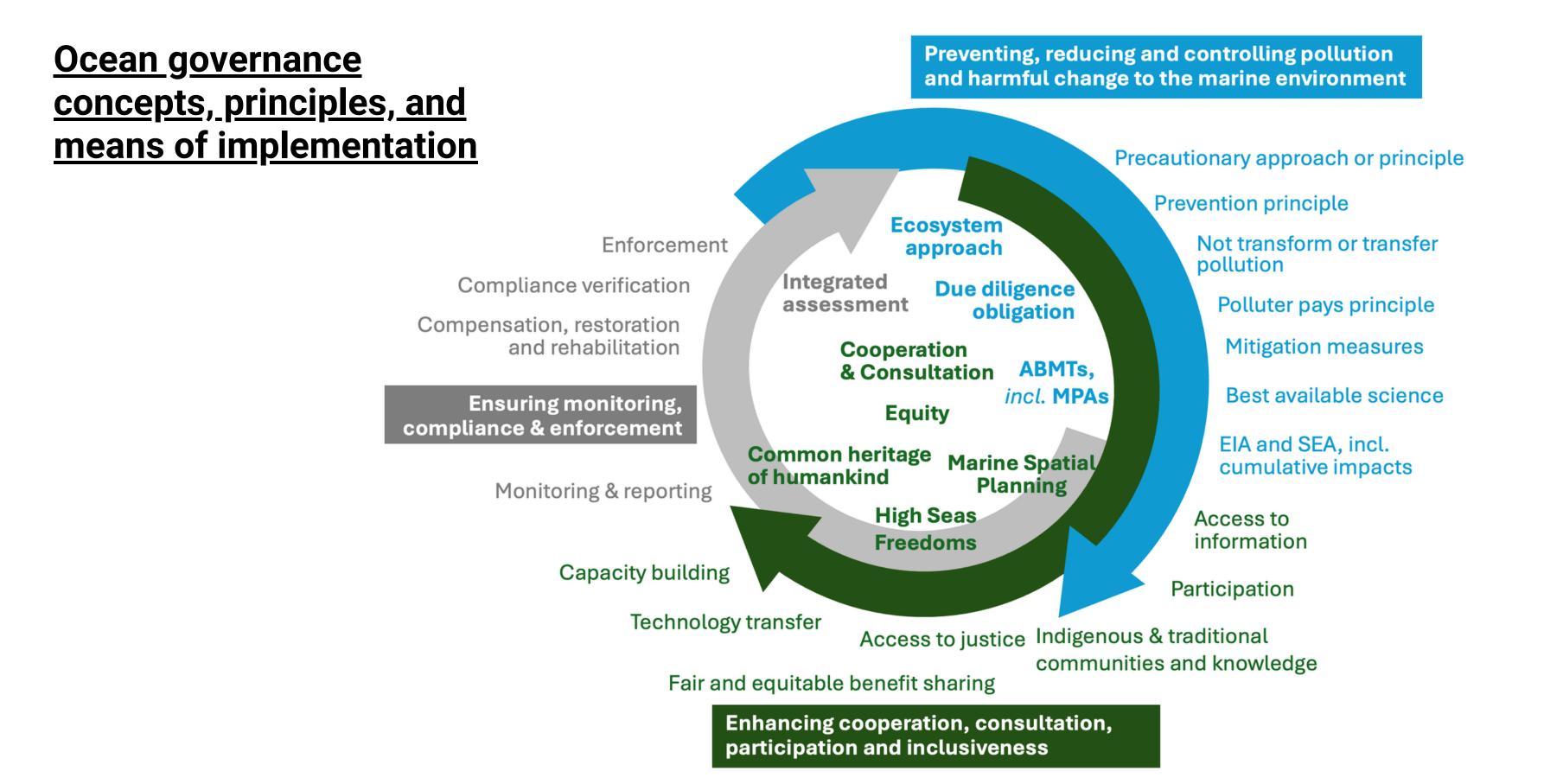


## **Interplay mechanisms**

Primarily procedural	Interplay mechanisms	Examples
(-)	Spontaneous sharing of documents between secretariats	
	Secretariat required by body's resolution to send particular resolutions to other bodies	CBD COP resolutions and IMO MEPC80 to Basel Convention in relation to the entry into force of the HK Convention
	Institution participating to the meeting of another as an observer through its secretariat	CBD Secretariat during IMO MEPC 82; IMO secretariat in the BBNJ negotiations or at UNFCCC COPs; PEMSEA at COBSEA meetings (East Asian Seas); EU as an observer
	Formal coordination mechanisms between institutional bodies	UN-Ocean, MoU between bodies at global (e.g. ISA and LC/LP) and regional (e.g. regional sea and RFMO such as OSPAR and NEAFC) levels
	Joint WG to inform the work of separate bodies	OSPAR and NEAFC through an MoU; IMO, FAO and ILO
	State submission to a body making a request based on resolutions from another body	Submission to IMO for addition of marine plastic litter as an agenda item on the basis of UNGA resolution
	Substantive integration by courts or tribunals, incl. cross-references between them	Substantive cross-references between different treaties and cross-ref from a court to another (e.g. AO, 2024)
	Formal reference in a resolution to the resolution of another body to support it	IMO MEPC, LC/LP and CBD COPs reports and resolutions referring to UNFCCC, Paris Agreement or IPCC reports
	Joint meeting sessions	ILO, FAO, IMO on IUU fishing; LC and LP COPs
Substantive	Treaty with provisions aimed at integration and harmonisation	BBNJ Agreement (e.g. Sargasso Sea WOAIII S4.C5q) and UNCLOS (as demonstrated by international decisions)







Key concepts, principles, approaches and means of implementation in ocean governance are increasingly recognized as transversal and interdependent, influencing international negotiations, domestic law, and policy development. These include procedural and substantive norms that integrate scientific, social, cultural and economic dimensions.

### The ecosystem approach as an example\*:

The ecosystem approach has emerged as a central concept as it developed and progressively sharpened and strengthened through successive uses and re-uses in legal and policy instruments as supporting integrated, precautionary, and preventive measures. Cooperation, inclusiveness, monitoring, and enforcement further consolidate ocean governance's normative and operational architecture.

