

## **UN-Habitat Contribution to the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea**

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18 January 2016

### *Effects of climate change on the oceans – environmental, social and economic*

#### 1. Ocean warming

- i. Effects on marine ecosystems and biodiversity
  - Social and economic

Ocean warming leads to the loss of coral reefs. The loss of the coral reefs significantly increases the vulnerability of urban areas, especially coastal cities' essential infrastructure and utilities to storm surge, and sea level rise.

- ii. Effects on marine species
  - Social and economic

Potential loss or changes in marine species will significantly jeopardize the marine-oriented 'blue' economy of coastal communities and settlements, a



