The Ocean Health Index Assessment Manual

Contents

1 The Ocean Health Index Assessment Manual

Summary:

This guide provides an overview of conducting an OHI+ assessment. An assessment involves incorporating information from your study area into goal models to calculate Ocean Health Index (OHI) scores using the OHI Toolbox software and WebApp. This process is explained in this guide.

1.1 Where you are in the process

At this stage, you should have **Learned** and **Planned** for your assessment, and are now ready to **Conduct** it.

Here you will learn how to conduct an independent Ocean Health Index+ (OHI+) assessment. The OHI+ process consists of four phases. In the first phase, you **learned** about the OHI to understand the philosophy behind the goals and the motivation for conducting a study. In the second phase, you actively **planned** to conduct your OHI+ assessment. Now you will actively **conduct** the assessment by engaging with the work of finding the data, preparing the goal models, and taking the necessary steps to learn how to use the **OHI Toolbox** and related software to produce the final results. This is where the science of data discovery and goal model development comes in. In the final phase, you will **communicate** the findings and results of your assessment with others.

- **Phase 1: Learn** about the OHI
- **Phase 2: Plan** an OHI+ assessment
- **Phase 3: Conduct** the OHI+ assessment
- **Phase 4: Communicate** and inform

1.2 Why you are conducting an assessment

> Remember that the process of conducting an OHI+ assessment is as valuable as the final results. Documenting decisions made, as well as the challenges and successes encountered along the way, can lead to better understanding of the system, help inform management decisions, and guide future assessments to track changes through time.

The OHI framework allows you to synthesize the information and priorities relevant to your local context. Because the methods of the framework are repeatable, transparent, quantitative, and goal-driven, the process of a carrying out an OHI+ assessment is as valuable as the final results. The first completed assessment for a study area is valuable because it establishes a baseline and highlights the state of information quality and availability in an area. Any subsequent assessments carried out through time are also valuable because they can be used to track and monitor changes in ocean health. With this in mind, the **Conduct** phase will require careful thought and consideration along the way, and we encourage documentation and scripting to be done within the OHI Toolbox to facilitate the transparency and reproducibility of future assessments.

Each OHI assessment should have a clear purpose. One of the typical reasons for carrying out an independent assessment is to have an impact on policy and management decisions, and for this reason it is very important to have explicitly defined purpose. Additionally, assessments can be more relevant to management when they are conducted at the spatial scales in which policy decisions are made. These spatial scales could include political subdivisions like countries, states, provinces, or they could even include ecological regions such as bays. The **regions** and the overall **study area** are definitions that will be used throughout the assessment. The study area is the entire spatial boundary of your assessment, while the regions are the smaller subdivisions within the study area. In the OHI framework, goal scores are calculated for regions separately and then combined to produce an overall OHI score for each study area. The number of regions varies with each assessment's study area; completed assessments have had between one and 221 regions.

1.3 What to expect when conducting an assessment

> It is important to include information that best represents your study area, and to make science-driven decisions and clearly document what was done and why. Your team should as creative and insightful as you can be while working within the bounds of informational and technical limitations.

There are **key processes and considerations** that will be a part of every assessment. Every assessment should build from the lessons learned of previously completed assessments and identify what local characteristics need to be included in a study. This is done partly by comparing the local situation to the example situations in the literature; it is also done by comparing the default information provided in the WebApp to what is known about local realities. After you have outlined and identified local characteristics and priorities, you should prepare to use the Toolbox software and fit the data you have found to be formatted correctly for that software. Finally, once working with the information within the Toolbox, your team will constantly udpate and improve the methods of the assessment before being able to calculate the final results. The last thing you will do is visualize the outputs once more in the WebApp's maps and flower plots that can be shared with other partners and collaborators. Above all, you should be prepared to **know that this process takes time and is an iterative approach**.

The time required to conduct an assessment is not set in stone. On average, assessments have taken between one and a half and three years, but that will vary depending on the a number of factors such as the size and composition of your team and the challenges encountered in discovering and gathering information. The scale of data processing and goal model modifications needed before you will be able to actively use the information available also affects the amount of time it takes to conduct the assessment. The skill sets of the team members and the amount of technical resources available if another factor. You should think about which team members are needed at what stage of the process, including an R programmer, a spatial analyst, and those who will be familiar with GitHub.

1.3.0.1 Understanding completed OHI assessments

It is important to **understand completed OHI assessments** before you can begin tailoring the approach to your needs. By looking at specific uses of the OHI, you can identify how information was found and how it is presented in the results. You can also get a sense of what kinds of research questions are useful to ask. In many cases, studying completed OHI assessments will inform your approaches for discovering data and developing goal models later on in the process, and it is good to keep the literature readily available since you will likely be returning to it throughout this process.

The OHI framework was developed through collaboration and iteration. Your assessment can leverage the collective knowledge and insight used in the methods of the Global Assessment by Halpern *et al.* in *Nature* (2012) as well as the subsequent assessments conducted annually (in 2013, 2014, and ongoing). Each annual Global Assessment has improved upon some of the goal models based on better data availability or a better understanding of the systems involved. Several smaller-scale assessments have been completed that are highly informative as well, and particularly for regional scale assessments. The following studies been published with supplemental online materials, and are available at http://ohi-science.org:

- **Global**
- Halpern et al. (2012) An index to assess the health and benefits of the global ocean. *Nature.*
- Halpern et al. (2015) Patterns and emerging trends in global ocean health. *PLoS ONE.*
- **Brazil**
- Elfes et al. (2014) A regional-scale Ocean Health Index for Brazil. *PLoS ONE.*
- **United States West Coast**
- Halpern et al. (2014) Assessing the health of the U.S. West Coast with a regional-scale application of the Ocean Health Index. *PLoS ONE.*
- **Fiji**
- Selig et al. (2015) Measuring indicators of ocean health for an island nation: The Ocean Health Index for Fiji. *Ecosystem Services*

Additionally, several OHI+ assessments have been done. As information is available about those assessments they will be posted on http://ohi-science.org.

> TIP: The OHI+ development team is prepared to provide guidance for assessments. Please be familiar with past approaches and documentation when requesting guidance.

1.3.0.2 Identifying local characteristics and priorities

The initial actions of an assessment involve **identifying local characteristics and priorities**. This means considering all of the elements unique to your local context. What are the key issues that should be included for your assessment to be credible, useful, and meaningful at the same time? What are the types of coastal habitats in your area that should be included in order to more accurately represent your ecology? How do people typically relate to the ocean in your area in terms of social and cultural patterns? These are the kinds of questions you should consider prior to discovering the data and gathering the indicators that will be needed to fulfill the goal models.

It is important to identify the social and ecological characteristics and priorities that are the most relevant for your study area, even though data that directly measure those characteristics may not be available. But these characteristics may be able to be captured with indirect measures, called proxies. Therefore, knowing which characteristics you want to represent before you start your assessment may remove some of the bias that could occur if the assessment was only based on known available information.

1.3.0.3 Determining goals to be assessed Once you have identified local characteristics important to your study area, consider whether all goals included in the Global Assessment are applicable to your assessment. Should new goals or sub-goals be added? Should a goal that is not relevant to your study area be removed completely? Should a goal or sub-goal be given more or less weighting compared to other goals or sub-goals in the final Index score? These decisions should happen while beginning your assessment and before you become more constrained with what kinds of information are available. At the point where you have determined the goals to be assessed, you will likely modify existing goal models or develop a new ones based on the accessible information. Sometimes encountering difficulties with data availability will lead you to different data sources and indirect measures and will require the models to be redeveloped.

1.3.0.4 Discovering data and developing goal models The actual approach to conducting your assessment will depend on data availability and it will likely require an iterative process to incorporate the best available information into a model that captures the philosophy of the goals. It will also require creative thinking and problem-solving abilities among your team. There are many decisions to be made when gathering data. This is because your data will come from disparate sources, and you will have to engage experts to help identifying good proxies and indicators, deciding reference points, and developing goal models. OHI+ assessments should incorporate higher-resolution information where possible, and always be guided by local priorities preferences to develop tailored goal models and reference points that produce scores that best reflect local realities. Similarly, pressures and resilience measures can be refined using local data and indicators. There are many data inputs that can be included in the OHI framework. The process of discovering and gathering so many different kinds of data and indicators is an important step that you will return to as you continue to conduct the assessment. This is where having a collaborative team that can work across disciplines will be key.

How goal models are developed and reference points set should also be considered when discovering data. Discovering data and developing goal models is an iterative process because how goals are modeled will depend on the data available, and you may return to the data discovery phase to see if other options are available to produce the best possible model. Documenting these decisions is important for the communication of the methods in the ultimate sharing of the results.

1.3.0.5 Using the Toolbox software The **OHI Toolbox** is the main software used for organizing and processing information, documenting decisions made, calculating scores, and visualizing results. It was created to facilitate score calculations as well as the organization of information and transparency of the approach. The Toolbox is built with open-source software, meaning that it is freely available for you to use able to be modified to meet your needs. You will access the software from online and will use several free software tools to conduct your assessment in a collaborative, transparent, and reproducible manner.

Accompanying the OHI Toolbox is the **OHI+ WebApp**, which is a visualization tool that displays input information and calculated scores in several ways. Most coastal countries have a WebApp that was created to facilitate planning and communication during your assessment. The WebApp visually presents inputs, goal models and calculated scores for each defined region through interactive maps, histograms, and tables. All inputs presented in a country's WebApps were extracted for each country from the global analysis, and scores were calculated using Global Goal models.

The Toolbox software should be used when your team is ready to apply to your prepared informational inputs. The steps of carefully preparing and gathering data layers, indicators, and developing goal models can be done independently of the actual software use; however, learning how to use the software when you are ready to organize your files and information can be very useful. Not all members of your team will need to use all of the different platforms, and different members may have expertise in one or more of the tools.

The WebApp is a widely useful communication tool and that is why it is presented first in this guide. Not all team collaborators may be involved with Toolbox calculations or goal model development, but they will all certainly want to see the final results. The WebApp will help you convey the findings and it will orient the component parts that go into building the Index.

1.3.0.6 Outcomes of conducting an assessment

The process of conducting an OHI assessment is as valuable as the final results. This is because while conducting an OHI assessment you will bring together all of the meaningful information for ocean health together to the same place. In doing so, you will have a census of existing information and will also identify knowledge and data gaps that alone is a benefit of conducting an assessment. With your team and advisors, you could also create an ocean alliance that combines both knowledge and cultural values across disciplines. Conducting an OHI+ assessment can engage many different groups, including research institutions, government agencies, policy groups, non-governmental organizations, and both the civil and private sectors.

Your completed assessment will produce OHI scores for each goal for every region in your study area, and scores within the assessment can be compared with each other. These scores will not be quantitatively comparable to those of other OHI assessments because they differ in the underlying inputs, goal models, and reference points. The only *quantitative* comparisons can be made within an assessment, whether between regions or through time. However, *qualitative* comparisons between different OHI assessments can be made because the scores are an indication of how far a region is to achieving its own targets. For instance, a score of seventy in one study area should mean that that country is seventy percent of the way to achieving its perceived ideal state of ocean health, but what that ideal state is will differ between study areas..

Scores can be visualized using the WebApp with interactive maps and flower plots, which helps interpret calculated scores and communicate results. Subsequent assessments will use the same methods and reference points, but incorporating updated data. Repeated assessments enable you to compare and track how scores have changed over time, with the aim of ultimately informing policy to improve ocean health.

1.4 How to use the OHI Manual to start your assessment

Conducting an assessment requires both an understanding of how past assessments have been completed and the innovation to capture important characteristics of your study area using the information available. You can start by understanding the structure of completed assessments at global and smaller scales and the models that were created with the information available. Understanding the approaches in different contexts will help you think about what should be done similarly and differently in your local context. Identifying local characteristics and priorities in your study area will help you determine the relevant goals to be assessed.

Navigating through the WebApp can help frame your thinking and introduce you to the structure of inputs that will be required for the Toolbox software.

This Manual will guide you through the process with the following information:

1. Using the OHI+ WebApp to define regions and develop the approach
2. Defining spatial regions, discovering data, and developing goal models

- Defining spatial regions within the assessment area
- Discovering and gathering data and indicators for goal models, pressures, resilience
- Developing goal models and setting reference points for goals, pressures, resilience

3. Learning how to install and use the OHI Toolbox and supporting software

- Understanding the file system for the Toolbox and assessment repositories
- Formatting data for the Toolbox
- Installing the Toolbox and supporting software
- Learning how to use the Toolbox by modifying data layers and goal models
- Refining goal models and data inputs within the Toolbox

4. Guidance for frequently asked questions and troubleshooting

2 Overview of the OHI WebApp

> **Section Summary:**
>
> Your team should be familiar with the structure of the WebApp since it demonstrates how information is organized and displayed. As you update inputs with local information, you can view these updates with the WebApp.

OHI+ WebApps are websites created to facilitate independent assessments. The WebApp is a good starting point when conducting an assessment because you can easily navigate how information is organized and displayed. The WebApp is also meant to be used to visualize and communicate results.

The WebApp displays input information (data and indicators) as well as final OHI scores. When prepared and formatted for the OHI, inputs are called **layers** and are used in all OHI calculations, including goal models, pressures and resilience. By default, the WebApp only displays layers and score information that have been extracted from the latest global assessment and allocated to subcountry regions with the study area. The default display therefore does not provide fine resolution nor does it guarantee accurate data for each study area. You will substitute these layers with higher-quality information at the local scale in your assessment. However, the default layers can be used as inputs into your assessment in cases where no better information exists. **Incorporating the best information possible will generate results that best represent your study area.**

The WebApp is powered by the **OHI Toolbox**, which organizes all of the layers and calculates Index scores. The Toolbox is where you will actively work to prepare and format layers and develop goal models, which can then be displayed with the WebApp.

A default WebApp is available for most coastal nations. A list of available WebApps can be found at http://ohi-science.org/subcountry, and each WebApp will have a three-letter identifier. For example, Ecuador's WebApp (ECU) is found at http://ohi-science.org/ecu. Note that it is possible to translate the page into your language of choice.

> *Remember that this information is publicly available when stored on free GitHub accounts. If you would like your assessment to be private, you can choose a premium option.*

The WebApp homepage provides tabs for you to explore your data, regions, and calculated scores. The main pages are **App**, **Regions**, **Layers**, **Goals**, and **Scores**, which were described in the **Conceptual Guide**. The App page is described more below.

The interactive **App** page allows you to explore input and output variables. The inputs are the layers and the outputs are calculated scores for each goal and dimension of the Index for each region in the study area. This page is where you should start your exploration. By choosing input layers you can see the range of values for a given variable and you can also see information about data sources. More detailed information about the default goal models and the calculation methods is found in the other pages of the WebApp.

The information displayed on the website is stored online in a **GitHub repository.** GitHub is an open-source development platform that allows multiple users to collaborate, track changes, and share their work to prepare data files and write code. Some members of your team will use GitHub to track layer preparation and view the history of changes made in this process. It also a a way for your team to document the decisions made during your assessment. Any changes made to files contained within the GitHub repository will be automatically displayed on the WebApp for other team members and collaborators to view. The history of these changes is also stored on this platform as an archive, and it can be used to display changes made over time (See the section on **GitHub** for how to modify files using this platform).

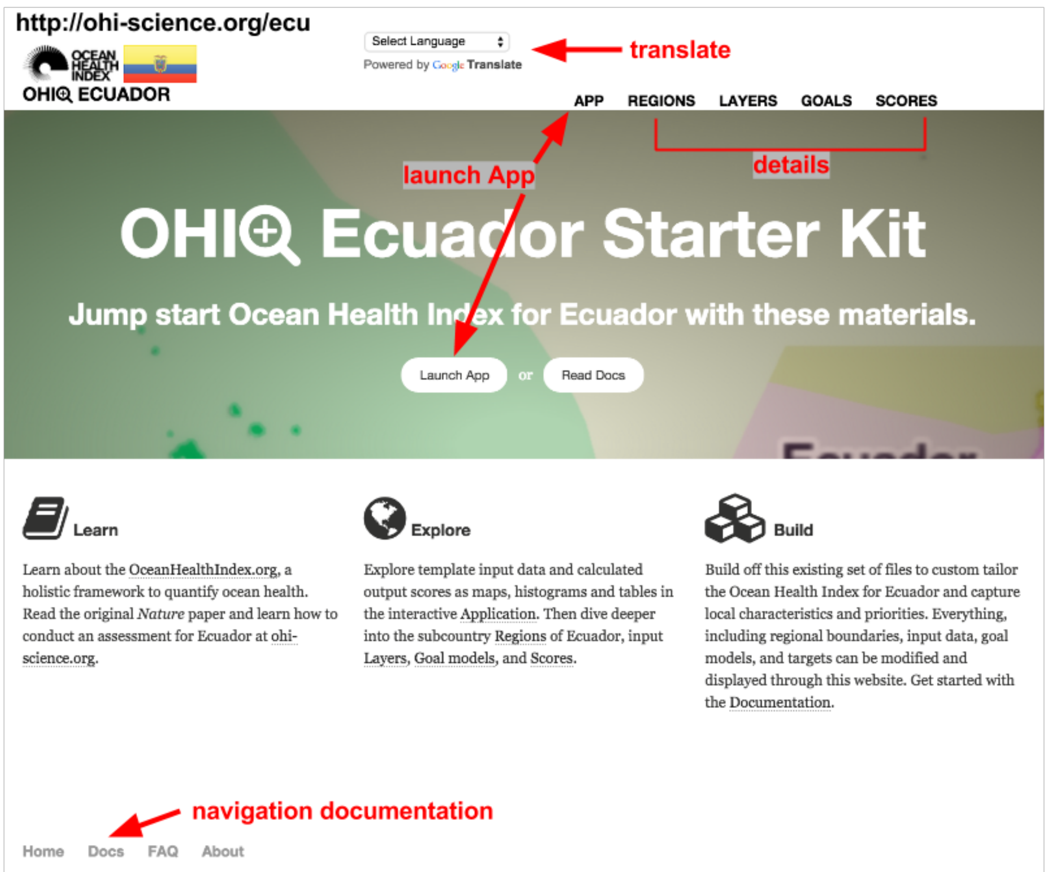


Figure 1: The WebApp start page. Note that it is possible to translate the page into your language of choice.

2.1 Defining and displaying regions

WebApps display subcountry regions within each study area. The boundaries for these subcountry regions are usually states, provinces, or districts reported to Global Administrative Areas (GADM: www.gadm.org). These land-based regions are extended offshore to divide the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) into offshore regions of the study area. Offshore regions are important for Index calculations, in part because scores for each region are combined using the offshore area to weight the average of the final Index score. You can redefine these regional boundaries; these subcountry regions have been provided as a starting point. To redefine the boundaries you will need a spatial analyst; details are below.

It is important to note that the provided WebApps do not claim to take a stance on disputed territories. The boundaries for all EEZs were identified by MarineRegions.org (http://www.marineregions.org), and subcountry regions were identified by the Global Administrative Regions database (http://gadm.org).

2.2 Exploring inputs and outputs with the WebApp's App page

The App page allows you to explore the input layers and calculated output scores for each region in the study area. The page presents data and scores from the global assessment that are applied to each subcountry region in the study area by default. In order to explore data and scores, you can select them on the left to view their attributes and you can also visualize them in a number of ways on this page.

The App page allows you to view displays through the **Data** and **Compare** tabs. The **Data tab** provides summary information on each layer and metadata descriptions that accompany them. The **Compare tab** is mainly used for comparing output scores when modifications are made to the underlying data or models.

2.2.1 The App's Data tab

2.2.1.1 Overview of display options The Data tab displays input layer or calculated scores for each goal parameter. It presents the information through a *Map*, *Histogram*, or *Table*. These options are available as sub-tabs on the Data tab page. The *Map* sub-tab is the default display option for the Data tab, and all data presented are drawn from the global assessments by default. This means they are either directly duplicated across regions, or the raw values are down-scaled using offshore area- or population-weightings. The *Histogram* sub-tab likewise draws from the same data source, but it displays a histogram of observed values with a smoothed line added. The *Table* sub-tab also draws from the same data but offers information in a table.

Data displayed in the Map sub-tab:

The *Map* displays data for every region. A legend is displayed in the lower right-hand corner of the map to explain the meaning of the colors presented. The range of values will change when variables are selected, and the colors will automatically change to match that range.

Data displayed in the Histogram sub-tab:

The *Histogram* shows the distribution of values of the selected variable as the number of observations for each value bin (shown as white bars) and it also automatically creates a smoothed density function (shown as pink shading).

Data displayed in the Table sub-tab:

The *Table* displays the variable's value for each region in the study area. It provides an identifying code (*rgn_id*), name (*rgn_name*), and value (*value*) for each observation. The variables are also searchable since you can use the textbox at the bottom of the page to filter the results displayed.

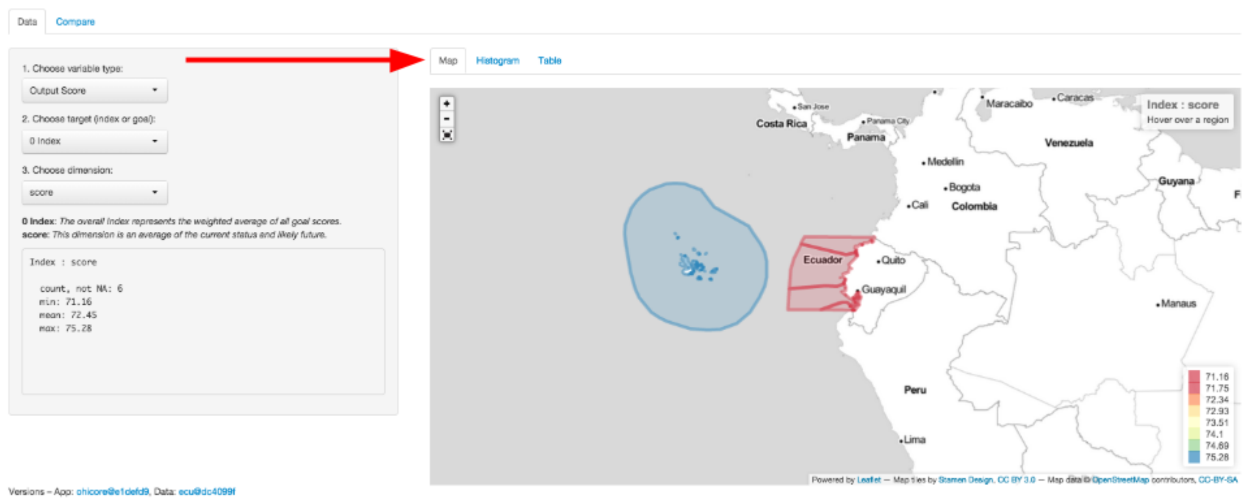


Figure 2: The Map sub-tab. Click on 'Map' to see a geographic view of your assessment region. Colors indicate scores or values for your input layers or output scores. This example shows Index scores for each region in Ecuador.

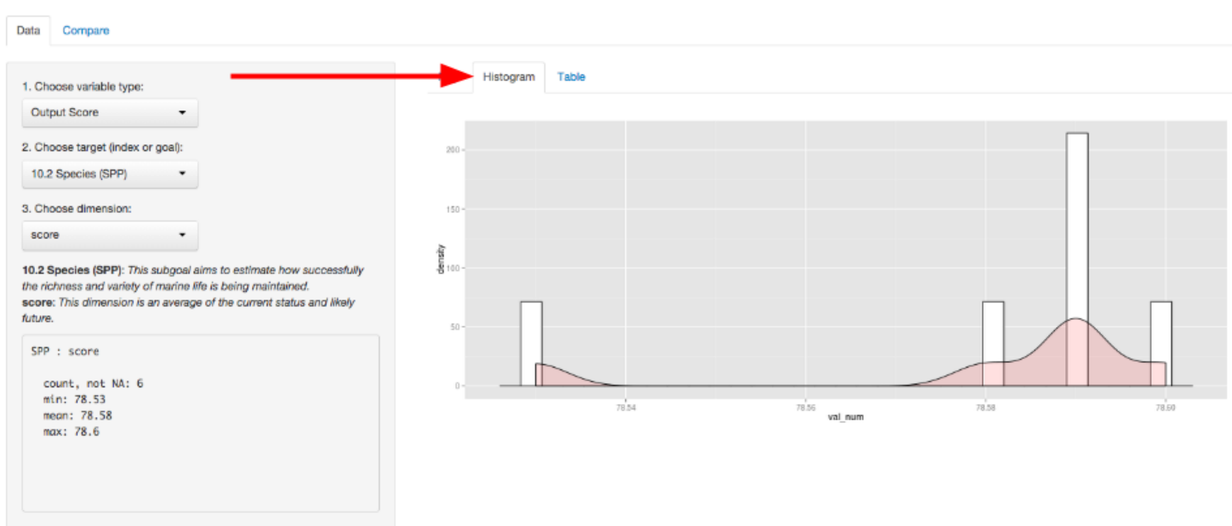


Figure 3: The Histogram sub-tab. Click on 'Histogram' to see the distribution of layers or scores after selecting a variable layer on the left. This example shows the Species sub-goal scores for the study regions of Ecuador.

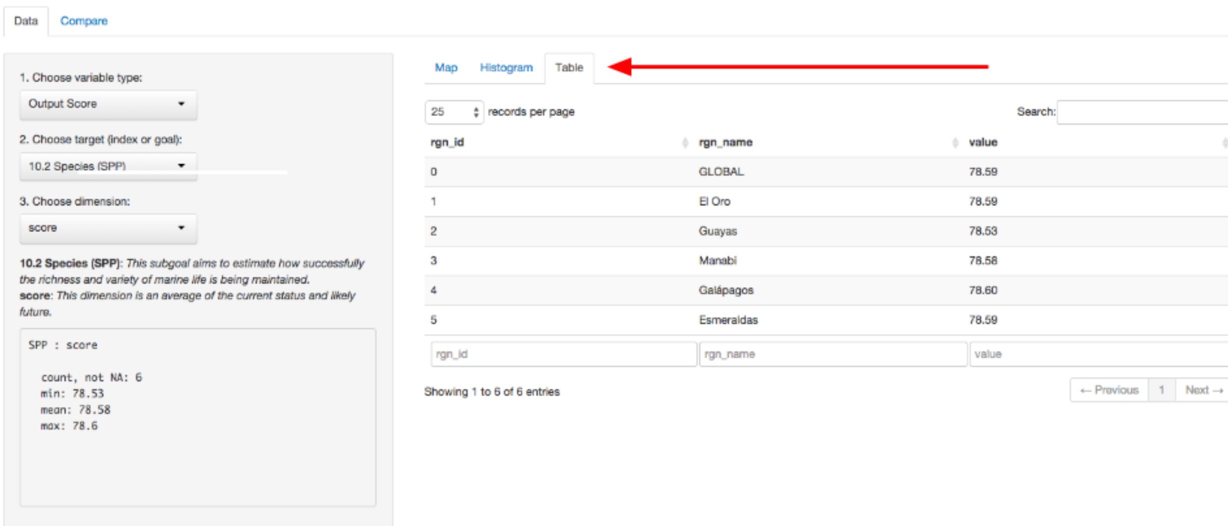


Figure 4: The Table sub-tab. Click on 'Table' to see a table of your data or scores, after selecting a variable layer on the left. This example shows the Species sub-goal scores for the regions of Ecuador.

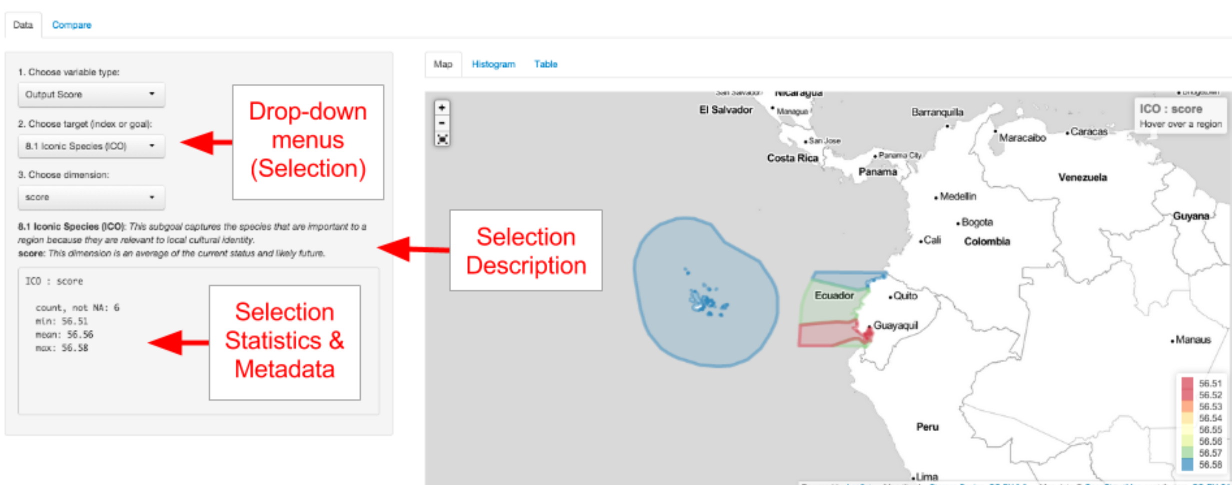


Figure 5: Overview of the Data tab. Choose the variable you would like to explore through the drop-down menus on the left-hand side of the page. Once you select either input data or an output score, you can view a description and summary of values below.

2.2.1.2 Overview of variable options

When you choose the variables to be displayed, you will also see summary descriptions for the layer. These descriptions, statistics, and metadata for the chosen fields are displayed below the drop-down menus on the left side of the page.

> TIP: As you prepare new layers, your updated descriptions will appear here.

The first selection you should make from the drop-down menus is the variable type. This means you can choose either **Input Layer** or **Output Score**. The **Input Layer** will show the layer used for a particular target you select. The targets in this case are either goals, pressures, resilience, or spatial information. The **Output Score** will show calculated scores for the alternative target selections you will make. In this case, the targets are Index or goal scores. In either case, you then have the option to further refine your search by either going into a specific layer or a specific dimension that is used in the overall Index calculations. If you do not make a selection, the **Output Score** is displayed by default.

For example, if you select **Output Score** as the variable type, you will then be able to choose a target goal or sub-goal, and then you will be able to choose the OHI dimension to be displayed. Remember that the dimensions are status, trend, pressures, resilience, future state, and score. In this way you can investigate the components that combine to create the goal scores.

As another example, if you select **Input Layer** as the variable type, you will be able to choose a target such as a goal and a specific layer associated with that goal. If that input layer has multiple categories of input types, or if it has multiple years of information available, you will be able to select more specific information. If you do not make a selection, the default setting is the first alphabetical category and the most recent year available.

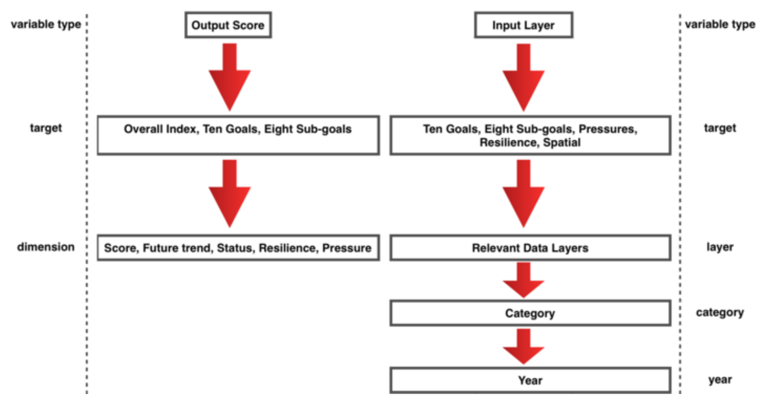


Figure 6: Overview of the variable options. You can choose to select and view either `input layers` or `output scores`.

2.2.2 The App's Compare tab

The **Compare** tab allows you to compare differences in calculated scores based on changes you have made to the underlying layers. These changes can be the values of the layers themselves, or they can be from changing the goal models. Any component you change is tracked through the archiving system of **GitHub** (See the section on **GitHub**) and each version of the changes be visualized here. You can take advantage of this ability to compare one saved version of your calculated Index output to another version of your calculated output. This is done to compare the how changes made to your data or indicators for goals, pressures, or resilience would affect the resulting scores.

You can use this in two ways. One way is use this is to visualize updates as you make them: viewing differences is extremely helpful for error checking and for sharing tests to the data among your technical team. Another way to use the Compare tab is to compare different management scenario to how changes in your assumptions would impact score results. These changes could occur in the goal models themselves, such as through changes to targets or reference points, or they could be changes made to the values of pressures and resilience layers, for example.

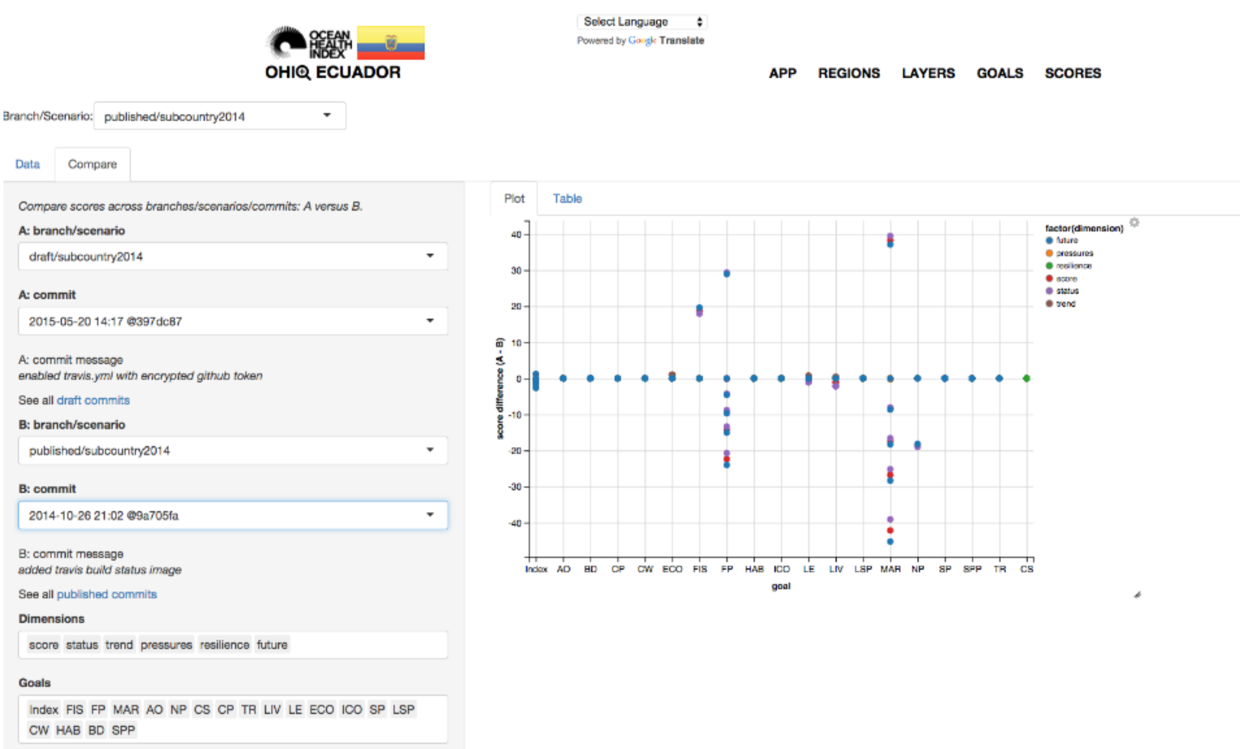


Figure 7: You can use the OHI+ WebApp's 'Compare' tab to error check, and check the outcomes of alternate scenarios of your assessment.

The App page also offers the ability to view different **branches** or **scenarios** in the upper left-hand corner of the page. The **branches** refer to unique copies of a GitHub repository where information is stored. Each branch is a copy of a repository that is meant to be modified independently of other branches. This is done to ensure that changes made to one branch will not affect the information in another branch. This allows for active collaboration and offers a way to archive different outputs to Index calculations. For example, the *published* branch shows information that has been vetted for sharing, while the *draft* branch can be used for experimentation. These branches can be merged together at any time, and that is typically done when important milestones in the assessment process are reached. The *subcountry* folders displayed also offer another way to compartmentalize outcomes by allowing you to compare different *scenarios* within the same branch of your repository.

> The App displays a *published* branch by default. It is recommended work on the *draft* branch until your assessment is finalized. When it is finalized, you can then merge the *draft* branch with the *published* branch.

These options for displaying and comparing information will be useful for understanding the multiple objectives in your OHI+ assessment.

3 Defining Spatial Regions Within the Assessment Area

It is important to think about which spatial regions to use when conducing your assessment. You should consider some of the questions from the planning phase before you begin to involve GIS or other spatial analysts. If managers or policy makers are going to be involved, at what scale do they work? Where are the political and administrative boundaries in your area? How will political boundaries affect your ability to gather and discover data and indicators? Will the regions change in the future? These questions are important for the future relevance of the assessment.

There are several spatial considerations you should have prepared before moving forward with the Toolbox later the process. One is your map definitions for use in the assessment itself and for display in the WebApps. You must check the definitions of your map regions and boundaries even when they have been pre-prepared for you the default OHI Toolbox setup. You should have your spatial analyst prepare the files that best suit your needs. If political boundaries are not appropriate in all areas, there might be other boundaries like biomes or biogeographic considerations you can use. These may be useful when there are disputed territories or undefined border regions in your area.

> Note that the OHI+ tools do not intend to take a stance on disputed territories. The boundaries defer to the judgment of the original map data providers. It is up to you to decide on the quality of the maps.

You may need to prepare spatial data files for your assessment. Not all goals will require spatial data. When considering it, you should be conscientious of how it is presented: is it in square kilometers, or by a kind of region such as an EEZ or other identifier? Do you have better local data than global satellite or modeled data?

Once you have maps, you may also need to define buffer zones. Buffers are distances from shore, both inland and offshore, that can be used in the OHI Toolbox calculations to assess impacts more accurately. For example, mangrove forests were assessed at 1km inland and 1km offshore in the latest Global Assessment in order to approximate aspects of their importance for carbon storage. Buffer zones could also be defined by visual distance. The main thing to do is remember that you are trying to capture ocean health, so going too far inland may no longer relate to ocean health. Perhaps fixed buffer distance might not be appropriate, and it might better to follow the actual path of a habitat extent; this will be up to your team. You will also consider these questions further when you are changing and developing your goal models.

3.1 Discovering and Gathering Appropriate Data and Indicators

The OHI+ approach spans disciplines and integrates diverse data to give a comprehensive assessment of ocean health. A hallmark of the OHI is that it uses freely-available data and indicators to create the models that capture the philosophies of individual goals. The quality of the data matter because the accuracy of Index scores is a reflection of input data quality and the amount of information available for the study area. **Including the best available data and indicators is very important throughout this process.**

The approach of your assessment will depend on the available data. Determining the appropriate scale and defining the study area and any regions within the study area will also depend on available data. The scale and resolution of available data can help inform the scale of the study area to be analyzed and how to divide it into regions.

Finding appropriate data requires creative thinking, particularly when ideal data are unavailable. It also requires problem-solving abilities. There are many decisions to make when gathering data. This is because your data will come from disparate sources, and you will have to engage in many steps of expert judgment such as identifying good proxies and indicators, deciding reference points, and developing goal models.

There are many data layers included in the OHI framework. There are about eighty individual data layers from the global assessment that should be replaced with higher-resolution data in your study area where possible. You will need to search for data used to calculate status models and trends as well as pressures and resilience layers.

3.1.1 Thinking Creatively

Remember that you are trying to capture information that is meaningful for ocean health.

Humans interact with and depend upon the oceans in complex ways, some of which are easy to measure and others of which are harder to define. More familiar measurements include providing seafood, transporting goods, or disposing of waste. A less familiar measurement is finding out the way marine-related jobs indirectly affect coastal communities, how different people receive or perceive benefits simply from living near the ocean. Thinking creatively and exploring the data available can make the Index more representative of reality.

Data used in the Ocean Health Index spans a wide array of disciplines, both within and outside of oceanography and marine ecology. It is important to think creatively and beyond the interests of a specific institution or one particular field of study. Therefore, it is necessary to look beyond the most known or obvious data sources to find data relevant for the goals in the region. Discussions with colleagues, literature searches, emails to experts, and search engines are good ways to understand what kinds of data are collected and to hunt for appropriate data. Simply using a Google search is a great starting place to begin developing ideas for discovering data. Investigate what kinds of information are available from government and public records, scientific literature, academic studies, surveys and reports or other sources, too.

3.1.2 Data sources

Existing data and indicators can be gathered from many sources across environmental, social, and economic disciplines. This includes government reports and project websites, peer-reviewed literature, masters and PhD theses, university websites, and information from non-profit organizations, among others.

All data must be rescaled to specific reference points (targets) before being combined with the Toolbox; therefore setting these reference points at the appropriate scale is a fundamental component of any OHI assessment. This requires your assessment team to interpret the philosophy of each Index goal and sub-goal using the best available data and indicators. Some indicators already are scaled (e.g., from 0-1 or 0-10), and can easily be incorporated into your assessment since the reference points have already been identified. If they are not scaled, you should think about ways to scale them and ways to determine the reference points while you are searching for the data. For instance, can you find historical time-series for the data?

Because the data and indicators you use will come from different sources and available from online databases, reports, spreadsheets and text files, they will also have different formatting. To include these data and indicators in your assessment, you will need to process these files into the format required by the Toolbox, which is explained in the section, **Formatting Data for the Toolbox**. When data have been prepared and formatted for the Toolbox, it's called a **data layer.** Because creating data layers can be quite time-intensive, data should only be prepared for the Toolbox after final decisions have been made to include the data or indicator in your assessment, and after the appropriate goal model and reference points have been finalized.

3.1.3 Gathering responsibilities

Gathering appropriate data requires searching for and accessing existing data. You do not have to go collect the data itself, but you do need to discover and acquire existing data. It is important that team members responsible for data discovery make thoughtful decisions about whether data are appropriate for the assessment, and that they get feedback from the full team to discuss the merits of different data sources. Data discovery and acquisition are typically an iterative process, as there are both practical and philosophical reasons for including or excluding data.

When you begin exploring data possibilities, you can seek local data sources that could directly replace data from the global assessment provided in your repository. Such data would be better quality, i.e., higher accuracy and spatio-temporal resolution, than the data from the global assessment, and models may not need to change. However, we recommend first exploring other data possibilities that could capture specific characteristics to your study area. Assessments conducted at smaller scales are an opportunity to include characteristics specific to your study area that were not captured in the global assessment.

3.1.4 Requirements for data and indicators

There are six requirements to remember when investigating (or 'scoping') potential data and indicators. It is important that data satisfy as many of these requirements as possible. To meet these requirements, you may have to do gap-filling. If requirements are not met and gap-filling solutions are not possible, you will likely need to exclude a dataset from the analyses. If data cannot be included, you may elect to use the global data layers or identify other data and a different modeling approach.

The requirements for good data are:

- Relevance to ocean health
- Accessibility
- Quality
- How to set the reference point
- Spatial scale
- Temporal scale

3.1.4.1 Relevance to ocean health There must be a clear connection between the data and ocean health, and determining this will be closely linked to each goal model.

3.1.4.2 Accessibility The two main points regarding accessibility are whether the source is open access and whether the data or indicators will be updated regularly.

The Index was created in the spirit of transparency and open-access, using open-source software and online platforms such as GitHub, is to ensure as much accessibility and open collaboration as possible. Data and indicators included should also follow these guidelines, so that anyone wishing to understand more about the Index may be able to see what data were used and how. For this reason we emphasize the importance of using data that may be made freely downloadable, as well as the importance of clearly documenting all decisions and reasons for the choices made in selecting data, indicators, and models.

Index scores can be recalculated annually as new data become available. This can establish a baseline of ocean health and serve as a monitoring mechanism to evaluate the effectiveness of actions and policies in improving the status of overall ocean health. This is good to keep in mind while looking for data: will it be available again in the future? It is also important to document the sources of all data so that it is both transparent where it came from and you will be able to find it in the future.

3.1.4.3 Quality Understanding how the data or indicators were collected or created is important. Are they collected by a respected organization with quality control? Are there any protocol changes to be aware of? For instance, were there changes in the collection protocol to be aware of when interpreting temporal trends?

3.1.4.4 Reference point Most data will need to be scaled to a reference point. As you consider different data sources it is important to think about or identify what a reasonable reference point may be. Ask the following types of questions as you explore data possibilities:

- Has past research identified potential targets for these data?
- For example, fisheries goal require a Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY).
- Have policy targets been set regarding these data?

- For example, maximum levels of pollutants allowed in beaches.
- Would a historic reference point be an appropriate target?
- For xample, the percent of habitat coverage before coastal development took place.
- Could a region within the study area be set as a spatial reference point?
- For example, a certain region is regarded as the leader in creating protected areas.

3.1.4.5 Appropriate spatial scale Data must be available for every region within the study area. It is not always possible to fully meet the spatial and temporal requirements with each source. In these cases, provided that the gaps are not extensive, it can still be possible to use these data if appropriate gap-filling techniques are used (See: 'Formatting Data for Toolbox' section).

3.1.4.6 Appropriate temporal scale Data must be available for at least three to five years to calculate the trend. For some goals, where temporal reference points are desirable, longer time series are preferable.

3.1.5 The process of discovery

The most important thing to remember when gathering data and indicators is that they must contribute to measuring ocean health. Not all information that enhances our knowledge of marine processes directly convey information about ocean health and may not be appropriate within the OHI framework. Because of this, compiled indicators can sometimes be more suitable than raw data measuring single marine attributes.

Whether you are working goal-by-goal, or data layer by data layer, it is important to consider where you can find synergies in data discovery. For example, while you are looking for data layers for fisheries goals, you may also find data layers for fishing pressures, such as metrics on bycatch or trawling intensity. This will save you time and allow you to start thinking about how to rank pressures and resilience weights on your goals as well. Conceptually, it will help your team build a picture of how your goals are interlocking in a way that is reflective of the actual linkages that exist in the connected systems you are studying. Some key examples are listed below, and are further explained in the following sections.

You should begin by understanding and comparing the best approaches used in assessments that have been completed, including the Global Assessments (Halpern *et al*, 2012; 2013), Brazil (Elfes *et al.* 2014), Fiji (Selig *et al.*, 2014), and the U.S. West Coast Assessment (Halpern *et al.*, 2014). For OHI+ assessments, if finer-resolution local data were available in the study area, these data were either incorporated into modified goal models that used locally appropriate and informed approaches or into the existing global goal model. When local data were not available, the global-scale data and global goal models were used, which is least desirable because it does not provide more information than the global study.

When looking for data, the following decision tree may be useful when going goal-by-goal for discovering data and developing models:

3.1.6 Example: U.S. West Coast data discovery

Below are examples of some decisions made when exploring available data for the U.S .West Coast assessment. Determining whether certain data could be included began with a solid understanding of the data layers and models included in the global assessment. Since the US West Coast is a data-rich region, finer-resolution local data could be used in place of many of the global data layers. The U.S. West Coast assessment had five regions: Washington, Oregon, Northern California, Central California, and Southern California.

3.1.6.1 Reasons data were excluded There are a lot of existing data that contribute to our scientific understanding of ocean processes and interactions but are not ideal for the OHI. Reasons to exclude data are both due to practical requirements (e.g., resolution, coverage, or other requirements that have been listed) and philosophical requirements (i.e., they do not help capture the attributes of interest for assessing ocean health). Some common reasons for excluding data are:

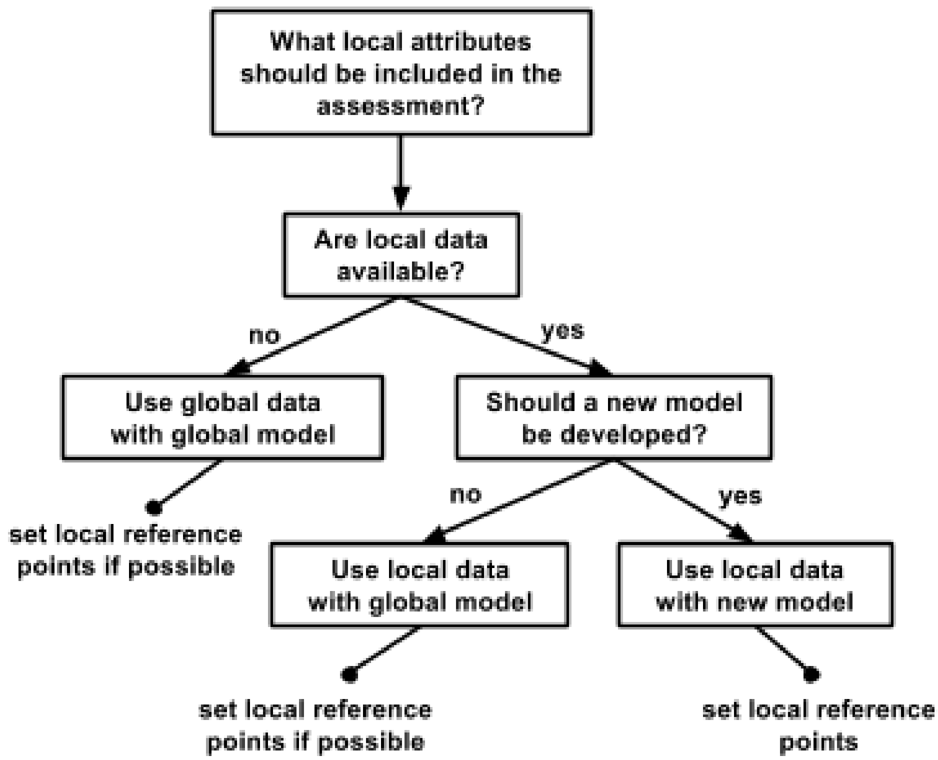

What local attributes should be included in the assessment?
Are local data available?
no
yes
Use global data with global model
Should a new model be developed?
set local reference points if possible
no
yes
Use local data with global model
Use local data with new model
set local reference points if possible
set local reference points

Figure 8:

- **The data do not cover the entire area of the reporting region**. The state of California had excellent, long-term data on public attendance at state parks that would have been quite useful in the calculation of the tourism and recreation goal. However, data were only available for three of the five regions (the three California regions but not Oregon and Washington), so they could not be used.
- **There is not a clear and scientifically observed relationship between the data and ocean health**. Along the U.S. West Coast, kelp beds are a very important habitat because of their contribution to biodiversity and coastal protection. However, kelp coverage variation and is driven primarily by abiotic natural forcing (wave or storm disturbance and temperature) and thus it is not a good indicator of kelp forest health, particularly in the case of anthropogenic impacts. For these reasons kelp coverage was not included in the assessment.
- **The feature being measured may provide benefits to people, but this feature is not derived from marine or coastal ecosystems**. Sea walls and riprap provide coastal protection to many people along the U.S. West Coast. However, these structures are not a benefit that is derived from the marine ecosystems, so only coastal habitats were included in the calculation of this goal. These data can be included as a pressure due to habitat loss. They were not used as a resilience measure because they can often have negative side effects (e.g., by altering sedimentation dynamics), and because they have limited long-term sustainability (i.e., they need maintenance).
- **Data collection is biased and might misrepresent ocean health**. The U.S. Endangered Species Act identifies a species list focused on species of concern within the US. As such, these data are biased in the context of ocean health since they only assess species whose populations may be in danger. For the calculation of the biodiversity goal, using these data would be inappropriate because this goal represents the status of all species in the region, not just those that are currently of conservation concern. Using these data may have shown the status of biodiversity to be lower than it really is because the selection of species to assess was already biased towards species of concern.
- **Time series data are not long enough to calculate a trend or a reference point** (when a historical reference point is most appropriate). For the U.S. West Coast, the current extent of seagrass habitats was available, however, these do not exist for previous points in time in most areas, so could not be used to calculate the trend or set a historical reference point. Therefore, we estimated the trend in health of seagrass habitats using as a proxy the trend in the main stressor (i.e., turbidity). In other words, we assumed that the rate of seagrass loss was directly proportional to the rate of increase in turbidity. Similar solutions may be used to estimate trends in your own assessment, if there is scientific support for assuming that the trend of what we want to assess (or the relationship between the current state and the state in the reference year) has a strong relationship with the trend of the proxy data available.

3.2 Pressures and resilience

Pressures and **Resilience** are two of the four dimensions used to evaluate each goal or sub-goal, along with **Status** and **Trend**.

It is important to identify the pressures that affect the ocean and coastal systems in your study area, and to search for additional pressures not included the global assessments. Once you have identified pressures within your study area, you should identify what resilience measures could counteract or nullify those pressures. Alternatively, you can start with a list of known resiliences, such as the relevant environmental laws in your country, and them map them onto pressure layers.

> TIP: The same considerations and requirements about data presented in the "**Gathering Appropriate Data**" section also apply to pressures and resilience. Every measure you include for pressures and resilience requires data for each region in your assessment.

3.2.1 *Ideal Approach*:

Ideally, every stressor with an identified strong impact should have a corresponding resilience measure. The rationale is that as resiliences in the study area increase (for instance, by improving environmental regulations), they would balance out and eventually neutralize the pressures. This would lead to an increase in the overall goal or sub-goal score. By including regulatory responses in your assessment, you ensure that the actions taken in your country are relevant to ocean health.

In practice, however, the pressures and resilience measures you include in your assessment will be highly determined by data availability. It is best to first consider what pressures are acting in your study area and then determine if data are available to measure them. You should also decide if the pressures data included in the global assessment are relevant for your assessment and determine if local data better capture pressures for all the regions in your study area. When considering resilience measures, look for regulations or indicators that could be encompassed in one of the pressures categories.

3.2.1.1 Pressure and resilience categories The Toolbox calculates pressures in five ecological pressure categories (pollution, habitat destruction, fishing pressure, species pollution, and climate change) and one social pressure category. The reason behind the ecological categories is to avoid hidden weighting (e.g., overrepresentation of pressures for which there is more data). For example, in the global assessment there were many pollution datasets available, but few distinct habitat destruction datasets. If we simply averaged the scores of each individual stressor, pollution scores would have a greater influence on the results (stronger weight) due to the relative higher availability of measurements of various pollutants. Instead, aggregating by pressure categories ensures that different stressor types influence the score based on ranks. Nonetheless, the scores are combined in a cumulative way within each category to account for the fact that multiple stressors within a category have a cumulative impact that is greater than if only one of the stressors were present. The resulting scores for the five ecological categories are averaged to produce a single ecological pressures score. This score is then averaged with the social pressures score to produce the final overall pressure score.

3.2.2 Pressures and resilience matrices

After you identify the pressures and resilience measures for your study area are and gather available data for each region, you will use matrix tables to determine how each of the measures affects each goal and sub-goal (for some goals you will also need to do this for habitat type or natural product categories). The pressures matrix establishes the relationships between stressors and goals are determined, and uses a rank from 1-3 to weight how strongly a given pressure affects a goal or sub-goal relative to all the other pressures affecting it.

The rank weights used in the pressures matrix were determined by Halpern *et al.* 2012 (*Nature*) based on scientific literature and expert opinion (see Supplemental Table S28 of *Halpern et al. 2012*). In the pressures matrix ranks are categorized as follows:

- 3 = high pressure
- 2 = medium pressure
- 1 = low pressure

Stressors that have no impact are not included rather than being assigned a rank of zero, which would affect the average score. Pressures are ranked rather than being represented as a binary (yes/no) measure because the range of consequence of different pressures on each goal can be quite large, and to classify all those pressures as a simple ‘yes’ would give too much influence to the weakest stressors. For example, food provision is most heavily impacted by unsustainable, high-bycatch fishing, but pollution does have some impact on fish populations. Without a weighting system, these stressors would be treated equally in their impact on the food provision goal.

While pressures and resilience are usually displayed as two-dimensional matrices, they are actually three-dimensional matrices: each stressor should have data for each region in the study area, which is the third

	Pollution Pressures Data Layer 1	Pollution Pressures Data Layer 2	Pollution Pressures Data Layer 3	Fishing Pressures Data Layer 1	Fishing Pressures Data Layer 2	Climate Change Data Layer 1	Climate Change Data Layer 2	...
FISHERIES (Food Provision)	1			1			2	2
MARICULTURE (Food Provision)	2				3			
ARTISANAL FISHING **OPPORTUNITY**		1			1		1	3
CARBON STORAGE Habitat 1		1			1			
CARBON STORAGE Habitat 2		1			2			
CARBON STORAGE Habitat 3		2			3			
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Figure 9: Scores from 1-3 are given to rank the importance of each pressure. Only values of 2 or 3 require that a resilience layer be activated when calculating the goal scores.

dimension of the matrix, as shown in the figure. The Toolbox will combine the data with the rank weights to calculate the pressures scores. Therefore, pressure weights should not be applied to the regions, but only to the goals. The Toolbox will multiply the stressor score for each region by the weight (1, 2, 3) assigned to that pressure for a specific goal and subgoal, and then it will combined that score within its appropriate pressure category as previously discussed.

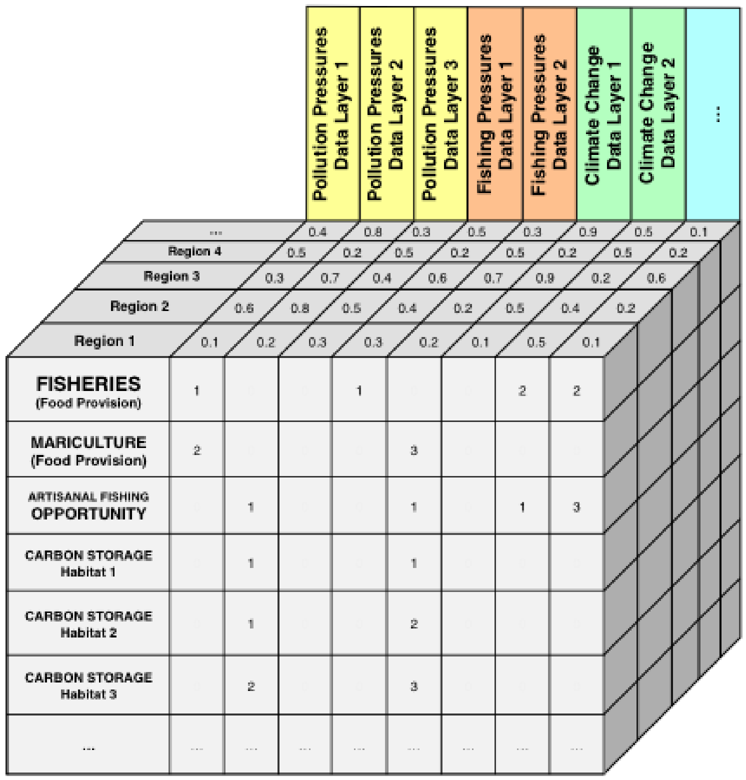


Figure 10: The pressures matrix is three-dimensional: each pressure layer has data per region, which is multiplied by the ranking weights of the pressures matrix.

Each pressure with a rank weight of 2 or 3 should have a corresponding resilience measure, which is meant to 'balance' the pressures since these have the greatest effect on ocean health. The Ocean Health Index considers resilience in two categories: **ecological resilience** to address ecological pressures, and **social resilience**, which may not be strictly marine-related, but they can help estimate how a region may be able to respond to or prevent new environmental challenges. Additionally, **goal-specific regulations** are intended to address ecological pressures, and are measured as laws, regulations, and other institutional measures related to a specific goal. Ideally, for any resilience measure, you would have three tiers of information:

- **Existence of regulations**: Are regulations in place to appropriately address the ecological pressure?
- **Implementation and enforcement**: Have these regulations been appropriately implemented and are there enforcement mechanisms in place?
- **Effectiveness and compliance**: How effective have the regulations been at mitigating these pressures and is there compliance with these regulations?

Ideally, information would exist for these three tiers, and you would be able to weight the resilience measure based on the quality of the information as 1 (existence of regulation), 2 (implementation and enforcement), or 3 (effectiveness and compliance). This approach is different from the way ranks are assigned in pressures, which is based on impact. However, in most cases, information is not available for these three tiers: often, the existence of regulations is all that is available, and this does not always vary by region. In some cases, you may want to consider building your own set of indicators to determine **implementation and enforcement** and **effectiveness and compliance.**

3.2.3 Incorporating local pressures in your assessment

The pressures you will include in your assessment will depend on what is important in your study area and what data are available. If local pressures data are not available, you may default to using data from the global assessment, but this means in most cases that you will not have different information for each region (See **Including pressures from global assessments**). You will determine the weight ranks required in the pressures matrix only after you have identified the data you will include.

The following steps outline the process of how to include pressures in your assessment. The steps are iterative; return to previous steps to ensure you capture all important pressures in your study area:

1. Begin by exploring pressures important to your study area. What are big stressors acting along your coastlines?
2. Are data available to measure these stressors? If not, are other indirect measures or proxies available to represent these stressors?
3. Evaluate the pressures included in the global assessment. For example, if there is no mariculture in your study area, you could remove pressures data layers that only affect this goal (i.e. genetic escapes).
4. Are all of them relevant? Are there local data that can be substituted in the place of global data?
5. Determine the pressure category for any additional stressors in your study area, and add it to the pressures matrix.
6. When all stressors are included in the pressures matrix, determine which goals it affects. Then, determine the weight rankings of all stressors for each goal. Use literature and expert judgement to determine this.
7. Prepare each pressure data layer as described in this manual only after steps 1-6 are completed. In addition to the proper formatting for the Toolbox, pressures data must be rescaled (normalized) on a unitless scale from 0 - 1, where 0 is no stressor at all and 1 is the highest possible value for the stressor, or the value at which the goal achievement is completely impaired. You will have to determine how to rescale the data, whether it is based on the highest value in the data range or other methods.

3.2.3.1 Including pressures from global assessments If you are not able to find local data for stressors, you may use the data from the global assessments for your country. For most of the stressors, this means that there will not be differences between the regions within your study area. However, several stressors included in the global assessment are based on spatial data at high resolution from previous work by Halpern *et al.* (2008) in *Science:* A global map of human impact on marine ecosystems. These data are available at a resolution of 1 km^2 for the entire global ocean, and can be extracted for the regions in your study area. The stressors available at 1km^2 resolution are indicated below with ** ** **.

Table of pressures layers and descriptions

layer	name
cc_acid**	Ocean acidification
cc_slr**	Sea level rise
cc_sst**	Sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies
cc_uv**	UV radiation
fp_art_hb	High bycatch caused by artisanal fishing
fp_art_lb	Low bycatch caused by artisanal fishing
fp_com_hb	High bycatch caused by commercial fishing
fp_com_lb	Low bycatch caused by commercial fishing

layer	name
fp_targetharvest	Targeted harvest of cetaceans and sea turtles
hd_intertidal	Coastal population density as a proxy for intertidal habitat destruction
hd_subtidal_hb	High bycatch artisanal fishing practices as a proxy for subtidal hard bottom habitat destruction
hd_subtidal_sb	High bycatch commercial fishing practices as a proxy for subtidal soft bottom habitat destruction
po_chemicals**	Ocean-based chemical pollution
po_chemicals_3nm**	Land-based chemical pollution
po_nutrients**	Ocean nutrient pollution
po_nutrients_3nm**	Coastal nutrient pollution
po_pathogens	Access to improved sanitation as a proxy for pathogen pollution
po_trash	Trash pollution
sp_alien	Alien species
sp_genetic	Introduced species as a proxy for genetic escapes
ss_wgi	Weakness of governance indicated with the WGI

Note that chemical and nutrient pollution have both land-based (within 3 nautical miles) and ocean-based (within the entire 200 nautical mile EEZ) elements. This is because how pollution affects different goals will depend on the spatial scale of the goal's activity. Some goals occur far from shore, and nutrient and chemical pollution should be included for all offshore waters: FIS, MAR, ECO, and SPP. However, some goals are really only relevant nearshore, so nutrient and chemical pollution should only be included close to the shoreline (3nm in the global study): AO, CS, CP, TR, ICO, LSP, HAB.

These distinctions won't always apply for smaller-scale assessments. For example, in the US West Coast study (Halpern *et al.* 2014), we did not distinguish between offshore and 3nm and therefore only used the `po_nutrients` data layer.

3.3 Guide to searching for resilience metrics

3.3.1 Ideal Approach

Ideally, assessments of social resilience would include national-level and as well as local rules and other relevant institutional mechanisms that are meant to safeguard ocean health. The global focus has been on international treaties and indices, so your region should have more localized information. There would also be information as to their effectiveness and enforcement. of more. Information on social norms and community (and other local-scale) institutions (such as tenure or use rights) that influence resource use and management would be useful too.

3.3.1.1 Practical Considerations In practical terms, resilience is hard to define and finding data can be difficult. It is often difficult to find regulations and indicators that would directly 'balance' individual stressors, but it is worth the effort to explore what information is available in the local context and how it could be included as resilience measures. You may be able to construct your own set of indicators for resilience (particularly social resilience) using proxy data. Your team may have to get creative to develop appropriate assessment measures here. It can be metrically be defined as presence-versus-absence (value of zero or one), or on a scale (value between zero and one) if the measure is an assessment or score. For instance in the global study, resilience measures that were counted in the socio-economic resilience class of data came from the World Governance Indicators (http://govindicators.org). In a regional context, however, a more appropriate data layer might be a local governance index of some kind, preferably developed by a reputable organization using credible methods.

When available, National-level data are preferable to global-level data for your assessment. These include national laws on the environment, or protection of the marine environment or rivers that lead to coastal waters. National laws include things like the Clean Water Act (CWA) and the Endangered Species Act

(ESA) in the U.S., or the national implementations of the E.U. Water Framework Directive. National actions can also be broadened beyond just legislation to include administrative procedures such as those involving permits, licenses, court cases, administrative action, and compliance mechanisms. [Cultural items at the national scale, such as holidays, are also applied at this scale]

State or province-level laws provide more regionally-specific information and thus work well for assessments. This would involve looking at the same types of laws and policies that exist on the national level, but specifically incorporating those that have been tailored to fit the needs of a particular sub-national area. This includes things such as California's state-level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), or the California Ocean Protection Act (COPA), which have laws designed specifically to protect California's environment. This would tell you more relevant information than using data from a national or international law. Local level regulations will usually provide you with the most accurate information for your assessment in order to tailor it best to the local context.

3.3.1.2 Scoring: Turning Qualitative into Quantitative There are several ways to turn the qualitative information of regulations and social actions into quantitative metrics for analysis. A robust way is to give credit for different aspects of the resilience measures. In addition to a score for having the law, policy, or action, in place, it is possible to gauge the effectiveness of that activity.

The simplest way is to give credit for having a resilience measure in place. This means assigning a binary score of zero or one for "presence" versus "absence" of the resilience measure. For international conventions, this can be done by assigning a value of 1 for having signed a convention. A more rigorous score can be given for countries that have further *ratified* a convention in addition to signing it; this is one way to further differentiate scores. This can be done by seeing if a country has signed and ratified CITES, for example.

> For example, if you were trying to find out if there are regulations in place that guide fishing pressure, you could look see if regulations exist for trawl-fishing limitations, or see if there are regulations for fish size, length, or if there are any seasonal restrictions. Another option would be to see if formal stock assessments exist for commercially-fished species.

A further step is to assess how well those measures are being complied with. This will give you more robust way is to assess how well a resilience mechanism is working to maintain the integrity of the regulation and thereby the ecosystem.

> For example, once you have found out whether regulations for fishing pressure exist, you would then try to find values for compliance with these regulations. These could be raw data or calculated statistics such as rate of compliance or proportion of compliance. It should answer the question, "Are there indicators of compliance with fishing pressure guidelines"?

A subsequent, and final, step to creating a robust resilience assessment is to determine whether there are enforcement mechanisms in place to deal with non-compliance of the regulations. This is because a regulation is only as good as its implementation, and having both enforcement and compliance actions in place would reinforce the regulation and make it more effective.

> For example, in the case of fishing pressures, a further look into available data could lead you learn whether there are reported values of inspector visits and enforcement coverage of permitted facilities. Or you could look at reported numbers of enforcement actions in response to non-compliance. Further, you could also see if there are fines that have been paid or exist in association with non-compliance.

3.3.1.3 Data sources

Environmental laws and policies offer tangible information on resilience. The most common type of environmental regulations come from administrative law, such as pollution regulation of various kinds. Land-use law is also important to the integration of social and ecosystem issues, so finding zoning laws relevant for coastal areas could be useful, and so could finding whether or not a region requires environmental impact statements before allowing construction for either coastal land or for marine planning. Other kinds of law some countries include court cases settling disputes or requiring reparation of pollution damages, for example.

Resilience also goes beyond just the law, however. Insurance policies present another option, for instance.. Coastal areas are increasingly requiring climate-related insurance in some countries, and so the existence of such markets in a vulnerable area would be an example of a climate change resilience measure. Social initiatives also present another way to tackle resilience. There might be a beach clean-up day, a percentage of the refuse material that is recycled by the population, or some other social factor that reduces trash inputs into the ocean. A local law banning plastic bags is another way that local jurisdictions control plastic trash.

> In the Brazil study (2014), the marine trash resilience was calculated by counting up whether localities had one of four garbage management services, including access to beach clean-up services, household garbage collection, household recycling collection, and garbage collection in public streets.

3.3.2 Incorporating local resilience measures in your assessment

1. Begin by exploring how resilience could be measured in your study area. What laws and regulations are in place that could provide resilience to ocean health?
2. Are there locally-developed indices that capture social or ecological resilience? Is there information about how each region in your study area are implementing or enforcing the laws?
3. Evaluate the resilience measures are included in the global assessment. Are all of them relevant? Are there local data that can be substituted in the place of global data? Are there resilience measures that should be excluded entirely?
4. Assign the resilience measure to the appropriate goal. Since resilience measures are in response to pressures that have a weight rank of 2 or 3 effect on a certain goal, determining which goals ecological and social resilience measures effect follows the same pattern as the pressures matrix. For goal-specific resilience measures, assign the resilience measure to the appropriate goal.
5. Prepare each resilience data layer only after steps 1-6 are completed. In addition to the proper formatting for the Toolbox, resilience data must be rescaled (normalized) on a unitless scale from 0 - 1. You will have to determine how to rescale the data, whether it is based on the highest value in the data range or other methods.

3.3.2.1 Including resilience measures from global assessments

Remember that local measures are far more appropriate than those included in global assessments, which likely do not reflect local management targets. However, international data were used in the global assessments that are available to you if you cannot find better local data:

Table of resilience layers and descriptions

layer	name
alien_species	Alien species
cites	Resilience from commitment to CITES
fishing_v1	CBD survey: coastal fishing v1
fishing_v1_eez	CBD survey: ocean fishing v1
fishing_v2_eez	CBD survey: ocean fishing v2
fishing_v3	CBD survey: coastal fishing v3
fishing_v3_eez	CBD survey: ocean fishing v3

layer	name
habitat	CBD survey: habitat
habitat_combo	CBD survey: coastal habitat
habitat_combo_eez	CBD survey: ocean habitat
li_gci	GCI: competitiveness in achieving sustained economic prosperity
li_sector_evenness	Sector evenness as a measure of economic diversity
mariculture	CBD survey: mariculture
msi_gov	MSI sustainability and regulations
species_diversity	Ocean ecological integrity
species_diversity_3nm	Coastal ecological integrity
tourism	CBD survey: tourism
water	CBD survey: water
wgi_all	Strength of governance indicated with the WGI

* *CBD = Convention on Biological Diversity; GCI = Global Competitiveness Index; MSI = Mariculture Sustainability Index; WGI = World Governance Indicators.*

4 The Ocean Health Index Toolbox

Section Summary:

In this section, you will learn the basics of how to use the OHI Toolbox to conduct your assessment. You will be introduced to files the Toolbox requires, how you will modify them, and how they interact to calculate the final output scores.

The OHI Toolbox is an ecosystem of small files and scripts that are the tools needed to calculate OHI scores. These files and scripts are stored in two '*repositories*': folders that are synchronized with collaborators. The first folder is your **assessment repository** that has a three-letter code, such as *esp* for Spain or *ecu* for Ecuador. You will edit this repository with your data, goal models, and updated pressures and resilience matrix tables. The second repository is called `ohicore` and it contains core functions for combining your data and goal models to calculate OHI scores. You will not edit `ohicore`, but you are able to explore it to understand the calculations.

Your **assessment repository** contains data input layers, configuration files, and scripts. These files are organized in the same way within a *scenario folder* called `subcountry2014`, with data layers, goal model equations, and configuration files from the global 2014 assessment. Files within the scenario folder are comma-separated-value (*.csv*) files and scripts written in the programming language *R*.

Each OHI+ assessment repository has inputs and goal models based on the 2014 global assessment. This means that each assessment repository isolates the information used for each region in the global assessment and stores it in a separate OHI+ assessment repository. Therefore, it can be an easy way to explore the inputs used in the global assessment for one specific place. When conducting an assessment, you will replace and modify as much of this information with local information that better represents your study area, since information reported at a national scale cannot always be attributed to its subcountry regions, as has been done in most cases in each OHI+ assessment repository. See more details in the discussion of the **layers folder**.

The Toolbox is open-source and can be downloaded and installed for free. You are able to navigate through these files both at `www.github.com/OHI-Science` and on your own computer once you have cloned the repository to your computer. GitHub is an online platform used by the OHI that facilitates collaboration and archives past versions of all files with the author indicated. It can be accessed remotely by all members of your team and enables team members to synchronize their work remotely. Because all versions are saved, you

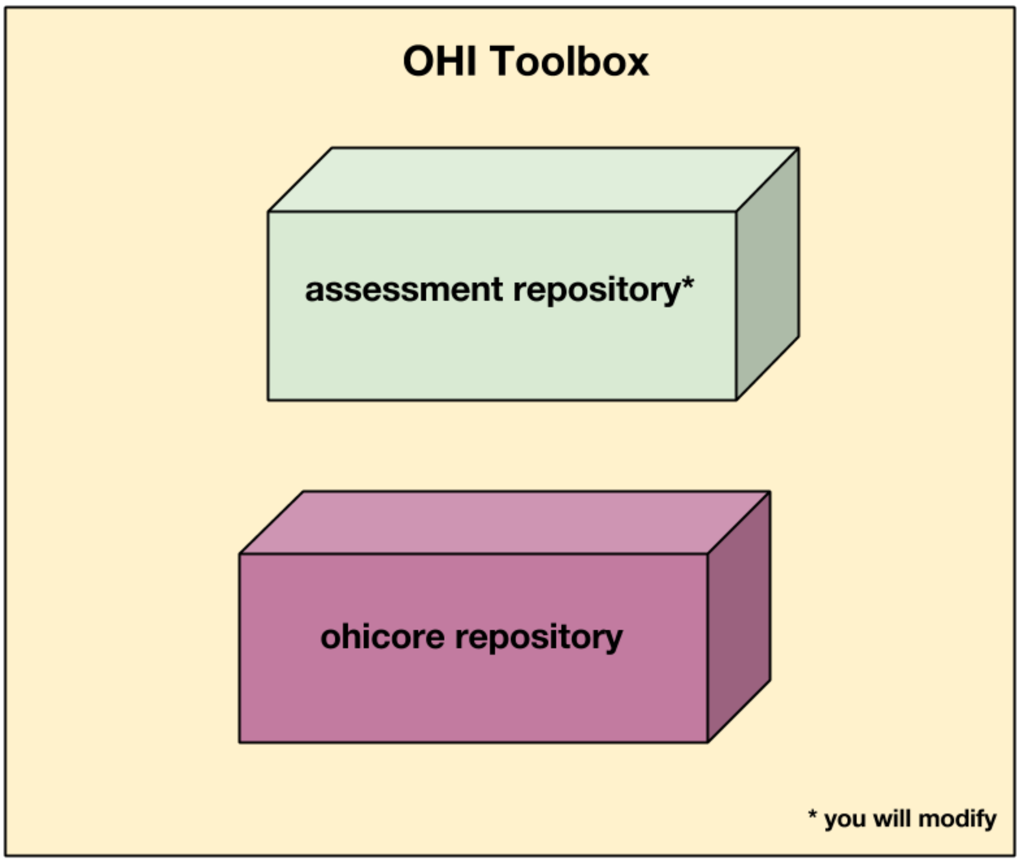


Figure 11: Toolbox = your repo + ohicore

can return to previous work and also compare different points in history to track how changes you make affect the output scores. Instruction on how to access your assessment repository is in the `Installing the Toolbox` section.

The following sections will describe the files included in the Toolbox. You will then learn what is required for data layers for your assessment and how to change goal models.

4.1 Assessment repositories: file system organization

This section is an orientation to the files within your assessment repository. The file system organization is the same for all assessment repositories, and can be viewed at `github.com/OHI-Science` or on your computer. While reading this section it is helpful to explore a repository at the same time to become familiar with its contents and structure. The following uses the assessment repository for Ecuador (*ecu*) as an example, available at www.github.com/OHI-Science/ecu.

4.1.1 Assessment repositories

Assessment repositories are identified by a three-letter code; Ecuador's assessment repository is called '*ecu*'. Assessment repositories contain several things:

- The **scenario folder** is the most important folder within the repository; by default it is named `subcountry2014`. It contains all of the inputs needed to calculate OHI scores, and you will modify these inputs when conducting your assessment. The scenario folder is explained in detail in this section.
- All other files in the assessment repository are accessory files. Files with names beginning with a '.' are required for versioning capabilities by GitHub and do not appear when the assessment repository is viewed on your computer.

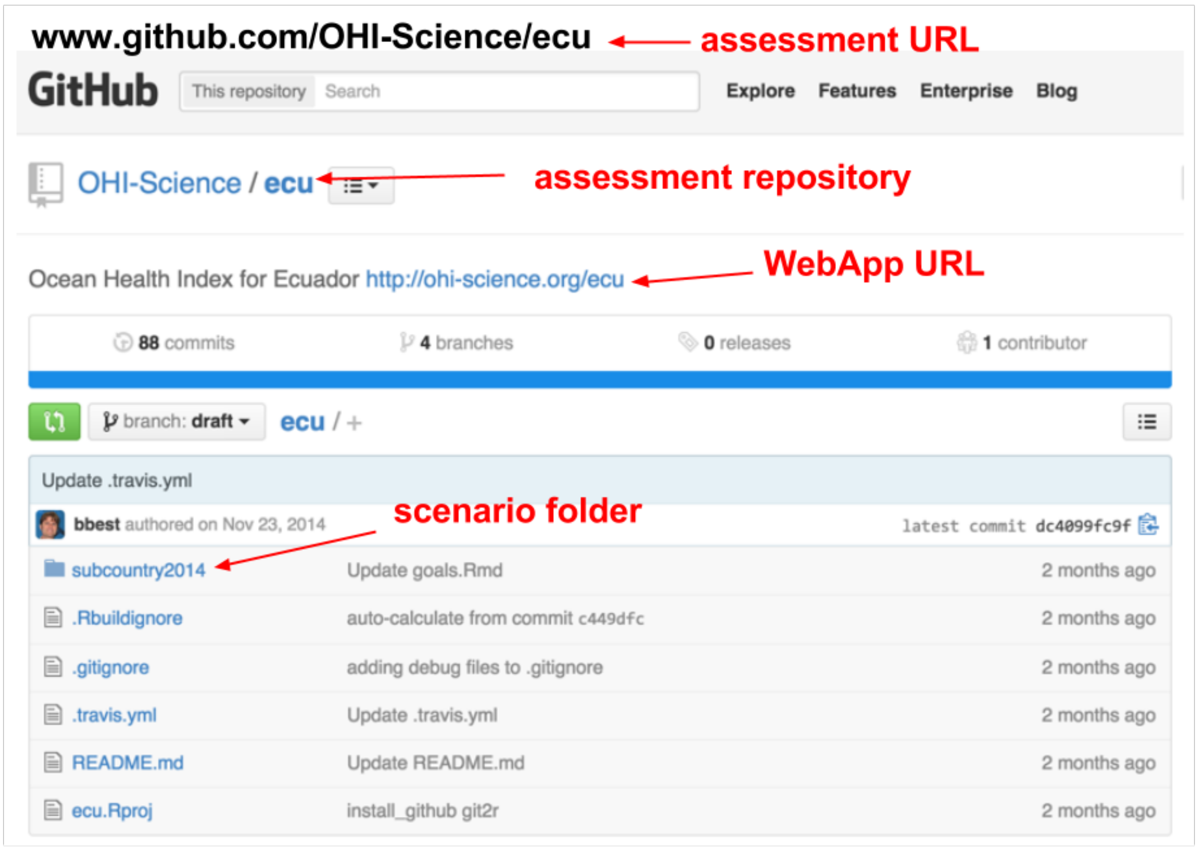
4.1.2 Scenario folders

4.1.2.1 Background Scenario folders contain all files and scripts necessary to calculate OHI scores. There are two file types:

- ** *.csv* files** contain data inputs or configuration information.
- ** *.R* scripts** are written in the programming language R and use data inputs processing and calculations.

There is one scenario folder in your assessment repository and it is called `subcountry2014` to indicate that the assessment is conducted at the subcountry scale (province, state, district, etc.), based on data input layers and goal models used in the 2014 global assessment. When conducting your assessment, you can rename your scenario folder to reflect the subcountry regions in your study area and year the assessment was completed. For example, `province2015` would indicate the assessment was conducted for coastal provinces in the year 2015.

Once you complete your assessment with the `subcountry2014` (or equivalent) scenario, further assessments can be done simply by copying the `subcountry2014` folder and renaming it. This can be done for future assessments, for example `subcountry2016` or `subcountry2018`, which eventually would enable you to track changes in ocean health over time. You can also copy scenario folders to explore different policy and management scenarios, for example `subcountry2014_policy1`.



www.github.com/OHI-Science/ecu
assessment URL
GitHub
This repository
Search
Explore
Features
Enterprise
Blog
OHI-Science / ecu
assessment repository
Ocean Health Index for Ecuador http://ohi-science.org/ecu
WebApp URL
88 commits
4 branches
0 releases
1 contributor
branch: draft
ecu / +
Update .travis.yml
bbest authored on Nov 23, 2014
scenario folder
latest commit dc4099fc9f
subcountry2014
Update goals.Rmd
2 months ago
.Rbuildignore
auto-calculate from commit c449dfc
2 months ago
.gitignore
adding debug files to .gitignore
2 months ago
.travis.yml
Update .travis.yml
2 months ago
README.md
Update README.md
2 months ago
ecu.Rproj
install_github git2r
2 months ago

Figure 12:

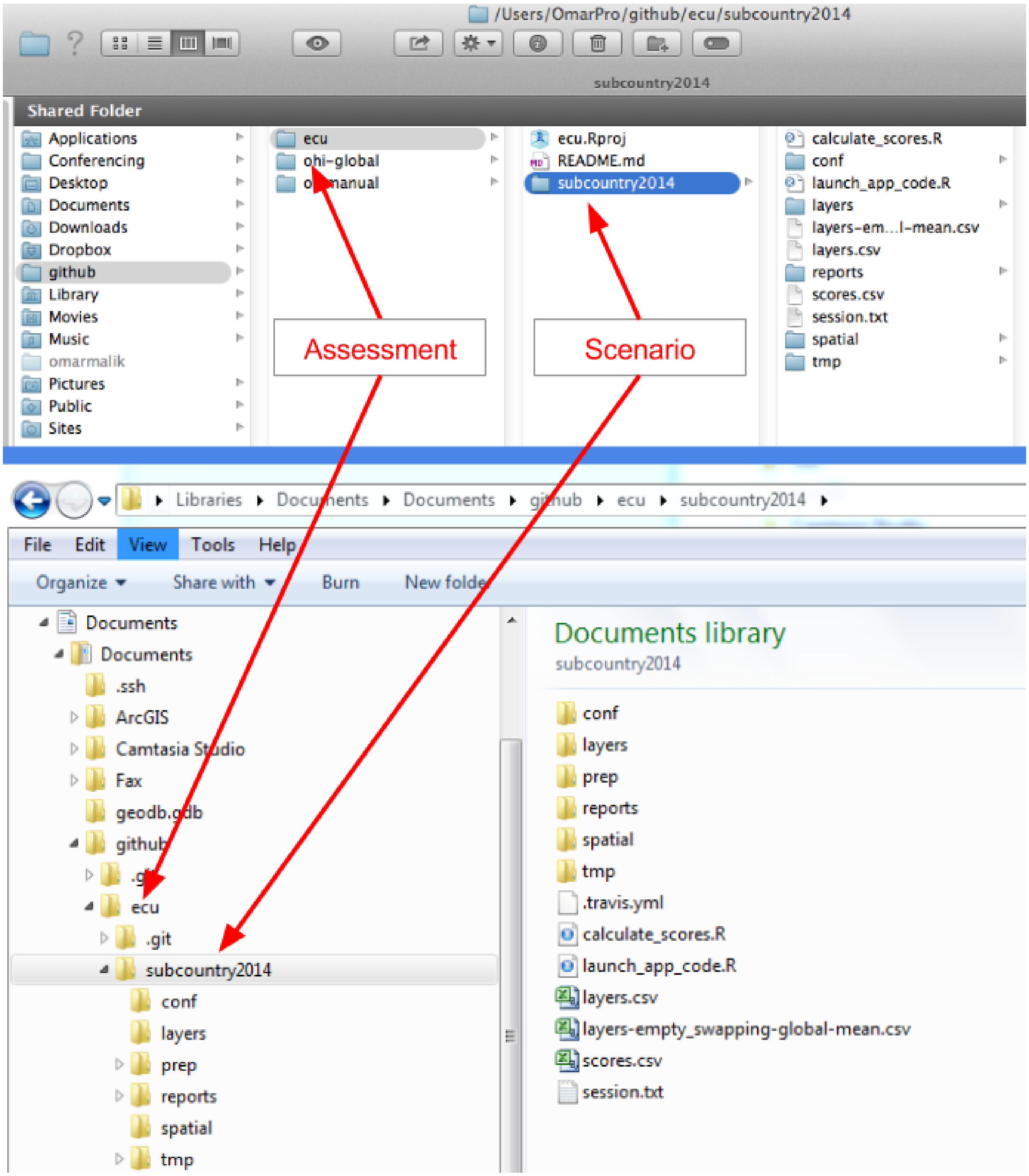


Figure 13: Navigating the assessment repository. The figure shows Mac folder navigation above and Windows navigation below.

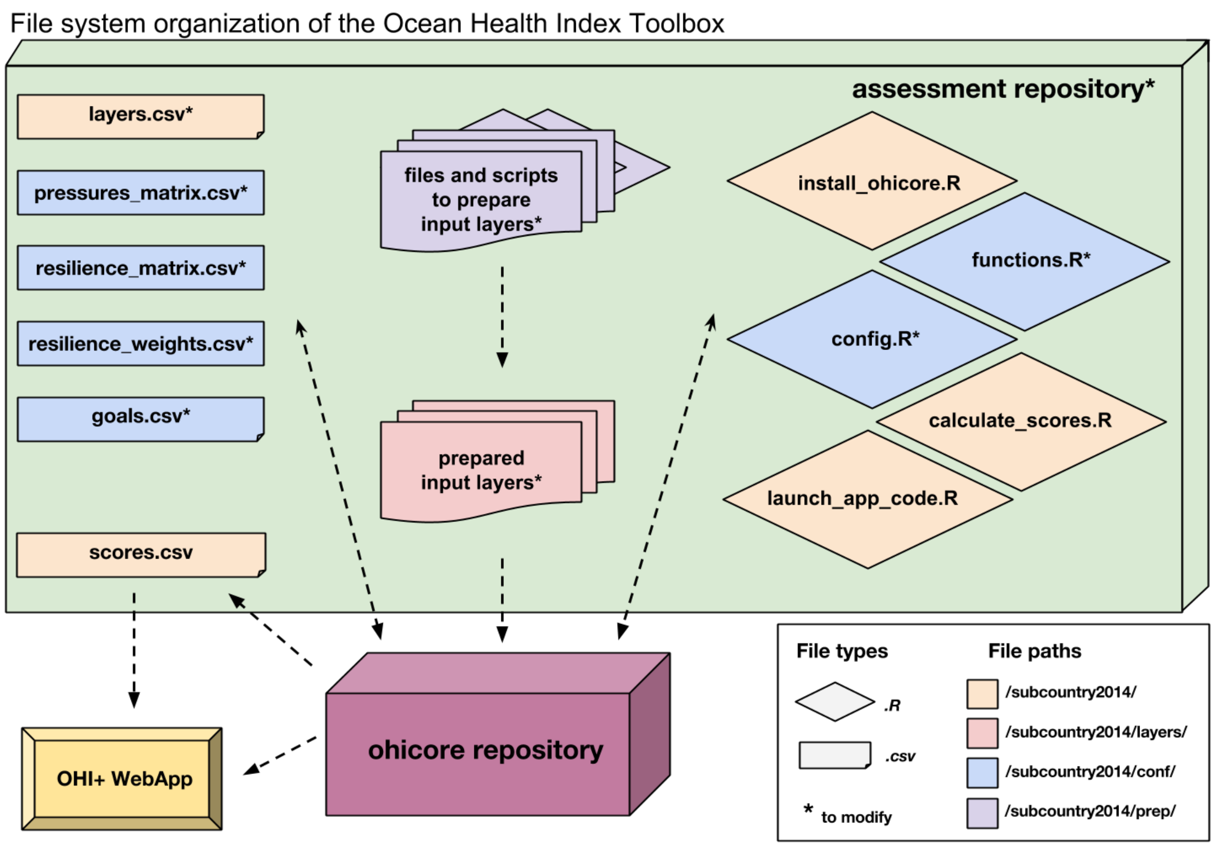


Figure 14: File system organization of the Ocean Health Index Toolbox

4.1.3 `subcountry2014` contents

This figure illustrates the files contained within the `subcountry2014` scenario folder.

These files fall into different categories: some are *.csv* files and some are R scripts, and some are configuration files. Some files you will modify, and some will you leave intact, such as `install_ohicore.R` which is created and maintained by the OHI+ development team to ensure that your calculations run successfully while the software gets developed. The main place you will spend time will be in **preparing the input data layers** for all of your goal models, pressures, and resiliences. This has partially been indicated for you by the default `prep` folders in your repository. You will then prepare the **registration of the information in the necessarily places**, and at the same time develop the goal models and code. It will be a back-and-forth process, but generally speaking you will prepare your files first and then run the code in order to produce the calculated scores.

1	targets	layer	name	description	fld_value	units	filename
2	AO	ao_access	Fisheries manage	The opportunity fc	value	value	ao_access.csv
3	AO	ao_need	Purchasing powe	The per capita pu	value	value	ao_need.csv
4	CW	cw_coastalpopn_tren	Coastal human p	Coastal populatio	trend	trend score	cw_coastalpopn_tr
5	CW	cw_fertilizer_trend	Fertilizer consum	Statistics on fertili	trend.score	trend score	cw_fertilizer_trend.
6	CW	cw_pathogen_trend	Trends in access	Trends in percent	trend	trend score	cw_pathogen_tren
7	CW	cw_pesticide_trend	Pesticide consum	Statistics on pesti	trend.score	trend score	cw_pesticide_trend
8	FIS	fis_b_bmsy	B/Bmsy estimates	obtained using th	b_bmsy	B / B_msy	fis_b_bmsy.csv
9	FIS	fis_meancatch	Catch data for ea	Reported data inc	mean_catch	metric tons	fis_meancatch.csv

Figure 15:

4.1.3.1 *layers.csv*

> TIP: Keep `layers.csv` handy. It's a very useful reference throughout the assessment process.

The `layers.csv` file is the registry that manages all data required for you assessment. All relevant data are prepared as data layers and then registered in this file. The Toolbox will rely on information from this file to use the data layers and display information on the WebApp. You will update some of the layers in `layers.csv`, and some of them will be auto-generated by the Toolbox code when it's running.

When you open `layers.csv`, you will see that each row of information represents a specific data layer that has been prepared for the Toolbox. The first columns contain information that will be updated by your team as you incorporate your own data and edits; all other columns are generated later by the Toolbox as it confirms data formatting and content. The columns you should most pay attention to are: *targets, layer, name, description, fld_value, units, filename.*

The most important columns to pay attention to are:

- **targets** indicates which goal or dimension uses the data layer. Goals are indicated with two-letter codes and sub-goals are indicated with three-letter codes, with pressures, resilience, and spatial layers indicated separately.
- **layer** is the identifying name of the data layer, which will be used in R scripts like `functions.R` and *.csv* files like `pressures_matrix.csv` and `resilience_matrix.csv`. This is also displayed on the WebApp under the drop-down menu when the variable type is 'input layer'.
- **name** is a longer title of the data layer; this is displayed on the WebApp under the drop-down menu when the variable type is 'input layer'.
- **description** is further description of the data layer; this is also displayed on the WebApp under the drop-down menu when the variable type is 'input layer'.
- **fld_value** the units as determined by the column headers in the source file.
- **units** unit of measure in which the data are reported, to be displayed on outputs later.

- **filename** is the *.csv* filename that holds the data layer information, and is located in the folder `subcountry2014/layers`.

Goal (CODE)
Food Provision (FP): Fisheries (FIS) and Mariculture (MAR)
Artisanal Fishing Opportunity (AO)
Natural Products (NP)
Coastal Protection (CP)
Carbon Storage (CS)
Livelihoods and Economies (LE): Livelihoods (LIV) and Economies (ECO)
Tourism and Recreation (TR)
Sense of Place: Lasting Special Places (LSP) and Iconic Species (ICO)
Clean Waters (CW)
Biodiversity (BD): Habitats (HAB) and Species (SPP)

4.1.4 *install_ohicore.R*

Figure 16: Icon of `install_ohicore.R`

This script will install `ohicore`, the engine behind all Toolbox calculations. You will need to run this script only once when using the Toolbox. You will need to run it in oder to run goal functions or calculate scores.

4.1.5 *launch_app_code.R*

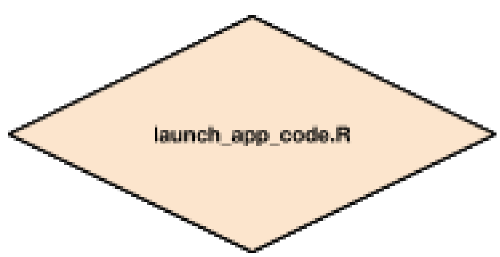


Figure 17: Icon of `launch_app_code.R`

The Toolbox can be launched on your computer so that you can visualize any edits you make while you are offline. To do this, you will run the code in `launch_app_code.R`. Make sure you are in the `subcountry2014` directory at that time: `setwd(~/github/ecu/subcountry2014)`

4.1.6 Your `layers` folder

The `layers` folder contains every data layer as an individual *.csv* file. The names of the *.csv* files within the layers folder correspond to those listed in the *filename* column of the `layers.csv` file described above. All *.csv* files can be read with text editors or with Microsoft Excel or similar software.

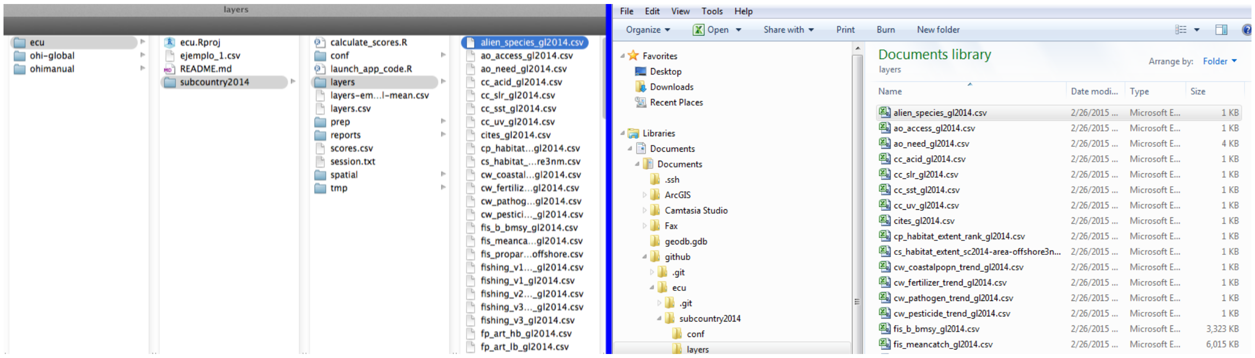


Figure 18: The `layers` folder contains every data layer as an individual *.csv* file. Mac navigation is shown on the left and Windows navigation is shown on the right.

Note that each *.csv* file within the `layers` folder has been formatted consistently. The Toolbox expects all data layers to be in the correct 'long format' and in separate files. See **Using the Toolbox** for more.

Now, open the `layers/alien_species.csv` file: note the unique region identifier (*rgn_id*) with a single associated *score* or *value*, and that the data are presented in long format with minimal columns. See the section on *Formatting Data for the Toolbox* for further details and instructions. Scores can be viewed through the WebApp using the 'Input Layer' pulldown menu on the App page.

> TIP: You can check your region identifiers (*rgn_id*) in the `rgn_labels.csv` file in the `layers` folder.

4.1.7 Your `conf` folder

The `conf` (configuration) folder includes R functions (`config.R` and `functions.R`) and *.csv* files containing information that will be accessed by the R functions (`goals.csv`, `pressures_matrix.csv`, `resilience_matrix.csv`, and `resilience_weights.csv`).

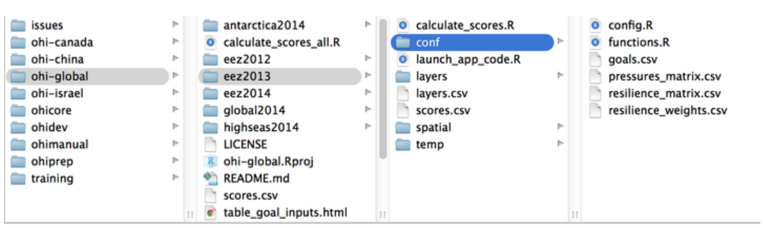


Figure 19: The `conf` folder contains important R functions and *.csv* files. Mac navigation is shown on the left and Windows is shown on the right.

4.1.7.1 *config.R*

The `config.R` is an R script that configures labeling and constants appropriately.

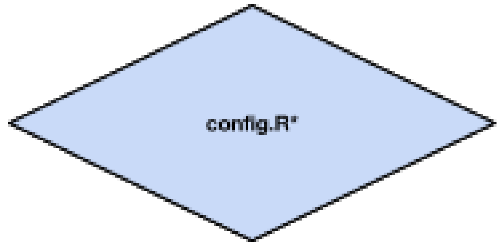


Figure 20: Icon of config.R

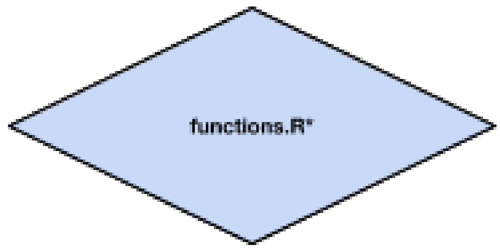


Figure 21: Icon of `functions.R`

4.1.7.2 ***functions.R*** `functions.R` contains the equations for each goal and sub-goal model, which are stored as R functions. These functions calculate the status and trend using data layers identified as 'layers' in `layers.csv`. When you modify or develop new goal models, you will modify `functions.R`; you should also be sure to check which other files, such as `pressures_matrix.csv`

> TIP: It's useful to skip to different sections of `functions.R` to see how key calculations are being done. See section, **Update Functions.R**.

Figure 22: Icon of `goals.csv`

4.1.7.3 ***goals.csv*** `goals.csv` is a list of goals and sub-goals and their weights used to calculate the final score for each goal. Other information includes the goal description that is also presented in the WebApp. `goals.csv` also indicates the arguments passed to `functions.R`. These are indicated by two columns: *preindex_function* (functions for all goals that do not have sub-goals, and functions for all sub-goals) and *postindex_function* (functions for goals with sub-goals).

> TIP: It's important to check the weightings and preindex functions if you're planning to change the goal or sub-goal models.

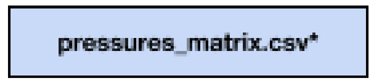


Figure 23: Icon of `pressures_matrix.csv`

4.1.7.4 ***pressures_matrix.csv*** `pressures_matrix.csv` defines the different types of ocean pressures and the goals they affect.

Each column in the pressures matrix identifies a data layer that is also registered in `layers.csv`: and has a prefix (for example: `po_` for the pollution category). The pressure data layers are also required to have a value for every region in the study area, with the region scores ranging from 0-1.

Figure 24: Icon of `resilience_matrix.csv`

4.1.7.5 ***resilience_matrix.csv*** `resilience_matrix.csv` defines the different types of resilience with the goals that they affect.

Like the pressures matrix, the resilience matrix also has weights depending on the level of protection. However, these weights are in a separate file: `resilience_weights.csv`.

Each column in the resilience matrix is a data layer that is also registered in `layers.csv`. Resilience layers, like the pressure layers, are also required to have a value for every region in the study area. Resilience layers each have a score between 0-1.

Figure 25: Icon of `resilience_weights.csv`

4.1.7.6 *resilience_weights.csv*

`resilience_weights.csv` describes the weight of various resilience layers, which in Halpern *et al.* 2012 (*Nature*) were determined based on scientific literature and expert opinion.

4.1.8 *calculate_scores.R*

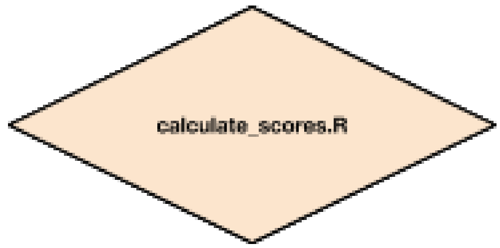


Figure 26: Icon of `calculate_scores.R`

`calculate_scores.R` is a script that tells the Toolbox to calculate scores using the *.csv* files in the `layers` folder that are registered in `layers.csv` and the configurations identified in `config.R`. Scores will be saved in `scores.csv`.

4.1.9 *scores.csv*

Figure 27: Icon of `scores.csv`

`scores.csv` contains the calculated scores for the assessment. Currently, these scores were calculated using data for your country from the global 2014 assessment. Scores are reported for each dimension (future, pressures, resilience, score, status, trend) for each region in the study area (with region identifier), and are presented in 'long' format. Scores can be viewed through the WebApp using the 'Output Score' pulldown menu on the 'App' page.

4.1.10 Your *spatial* folder

The spatial folder contains a single file, `regions_gcs.js`. This is a spatial file in the JSON format; it spatially identifies the study area and regions for the assessment. If you plan to modify your study area or regions, you will need to upload a *.js* file with appropriate offshore boundaries.

> You will need a GIS or **Spatial Analyst** to do this: see http://ohi-science.org/pages/create_regions.html for some instruction.

4.1.10.1 ***layers-empty_swapping-global-mean.csv*** This file contains a list of data layers that were used in the Global Assessment that were note used for your country after you have run `calculate_scores.R`. Without these data for your country, global averages are included in your `subcountry2014` scenario folder so the Toolbox can calculate scores until you replace these data with appropriate data for your study area. This file is not used anywhere by the Toolbox but is a registry of data layers that should prioritized to be replaced with your own local data layers.

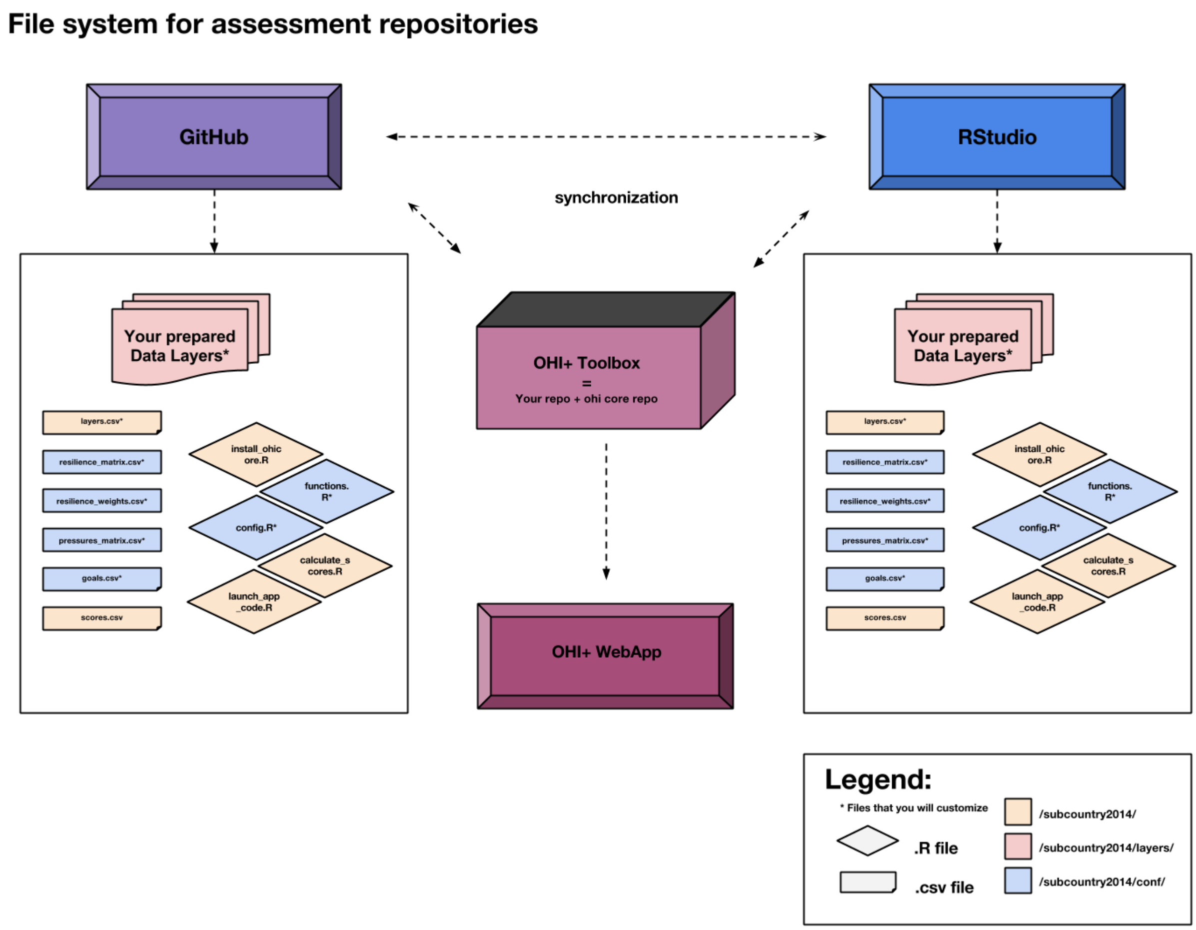


Figure 28: The file system you will use will be available both on your computer and on the Web.

4.2 Formatting Data for the Toolbox

4.2.1 Introduction

The OHI Toolbox is designed to work in the programming language **R** using input data stored in text-based *.csv* files (*csv* stands for 'comma-separated value'; these files can be opened as a spreadsheet using Microsoft Excel or similar programs). Each data layer (data input) has its own *.csv* file, which is combined with others within the Toolbox for the model calculations. These data layers are used for calculating goal scores, meaning that they are inputs for status, trend, pressures, and resilience. The global analysis included over 100 data layer files, and there will probably be as many in your own assessments. This section describes and provides examples of how to format the data layers for the Toolbox.

OHI goal scores are calculated at the scale of the reporting unit, which is called a '**region**' and then combined

Using the OHI+ Toolbox

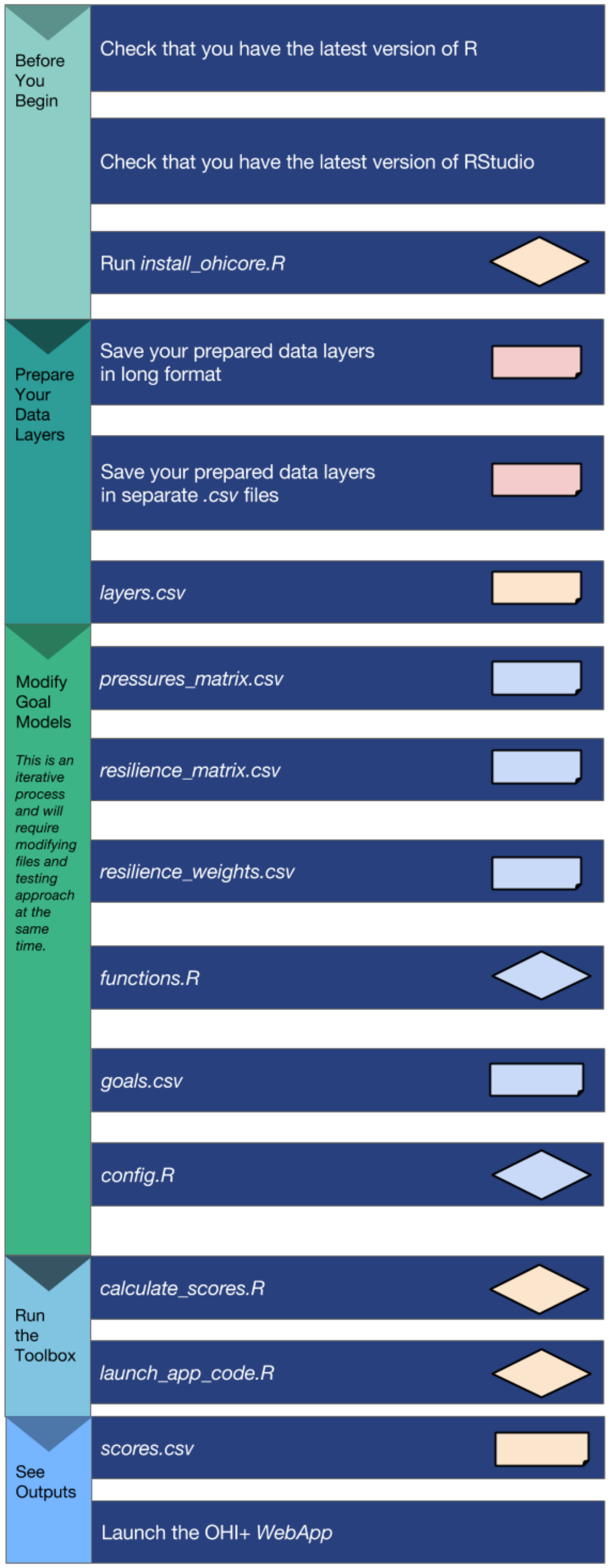


Figure 29: Recommended steps in which to engage with files in the OHI Toolbox.

using an area-weighted average to produce the score for the overall area assessed, called a '**study area**'. The OHI Toolbox expects each data file to be in a specific format, with data available for every region within the study area, with data layers organized in 'long' format (as few columns as possible), and with a unique region identifier (*rgn_id*) associated with a single *score* or *value*. In order to calculate trend, input data must be available as a time series for at least 5 recent years (and the longer the time series the better, as this can be used in setting temporal reference points).

The example below shows information for a study area with 4 regions. There are two different (and separate) data layer files: tourism count (`tr_total.csv`) and natural products harvested, in metric tonnes (`np_harvest_tonnes.csv`). Each file has data for four regions (1-4) in different years, and the second has an additional 'categories' column for the different types of natural products that were harvested. In this example, the two data layers are appropriate for status calculations with the Toolbox because:

1. At least five years of data are available,
2. There are no data gaps
3. Data are presented in 'long' or 'narrow' format (not 'wide' format – see "**Long Formatting**"" section).

Example of data in the appropriate format:

rgn_id	year	count
1	2005	177.14
1	2006	201.39
1	2007	199.81
1	2008	212.99
1	2009	228.81
2	2005	580.98
2	2006	730.18
2	2007	717.00
2	2008	851.44
2	2009	836.68
3	2005	129.69
3	2006	173.45
3	2007	229.86
3	2008	231.44
3	2009	221.95
4	2005	397.00
4	2006	566.00
4	2007	591.00
4	2008	1154.00
4	2009	1570.00

rgn_id	product	year	tonnes
1	ornamentals	2005	10327
1	ornamentals	2006	10389
1	ornamentals	2007	10897
1	ornamentals	2008	9985
1	ornamentals	2009	9001
2	shells	2005	6179
2	shells	2006	6823
2	shells	2007	8239
2	shells	2008	8819
2	shells	2009	9205
3	coral	2005	22079
3	coral	2006	25297
3	coral	2007	25361
3	coral	2008	23817
3	coral	2009	23623
4	shells	2005	7500
4	shells	2006	9700
4	shells	2007	8600
4	shells	2008	9400
4	shells	2009	9300

Figure 30:

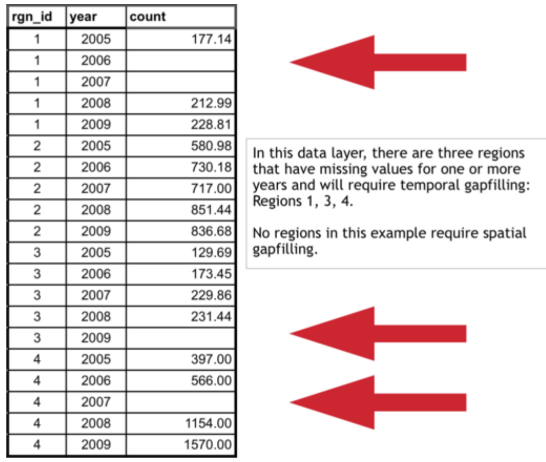
4.2.2 Gapfilling

It is important that data prepared for the Toolbox have no missing values or 'gaps'. Data gaps can occur in two main ways: 1) **temporal gaps**: when several years in a time series in a single region have missing data, and 2) **spatial gaps**: when all years for a region have missing data (and therefore the whole region is 'missing' for that data layer).

How these gaps are filled will depend on the data and regions themselves, and requires thoughtful, logical decisions to most reasonably fill gaps. Each data layer can be gapfilled using different approaches. Some data layers will require both temporal and spatial gapfilling. The examples below highlight some example of temporal and spatial gapfilling.

All decisions of gapfilling should be documented to ensure transparency and reproducibility. The examples below are in Excel, but programming these changes in software like R is preferred because it promotes easy transparency and reproducibility.

4.2.2.1 Temporal gapfilling Temporal gaps occur when a region is missing data for some years. The Toolbox requires data for each year for every region. It is important to make an informed decision about how to temporally gapfill data.



rgn_id	year	count
1	2005	177.14
1	2006	
1	2007	
1	2008	212.99
1	2009	228.81
2	2005	580.98
2	2006	730.18
2	2007	717.00
2	2008	851.44
2	2009	836.68
3	2005	129.69
3	2006	173.45
3	2007	229.86
3	2008	231.44
3	2009	
4	2005	397.00
4	2006	566.00
4	2007	
4	2008	1154.00
4	2009	1570.00

Figure 31:

Often, regression models are the best way to estimate data and fill temporal gaps. Here we give an example that assumes a linear relationship between the year and value variables within a region. If data do not fit a linear framework, other models may be fit to help with gapfilling. Here we give an example assuming linearity.

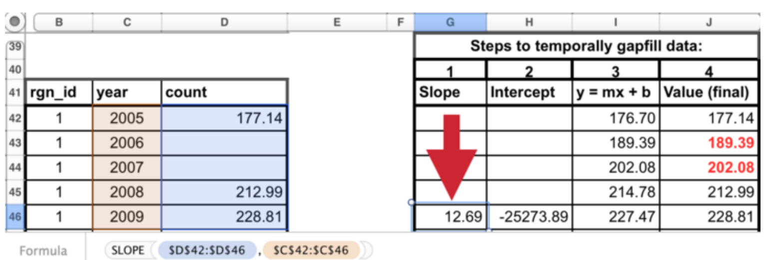
Using a linear model can be done in most programming languages using specific functions, but here we show this step-by-step using functions in Excel for Region 1.

Temporal gapfilling example (assumes linearity: able to be represented by a straight line on a graph)):

There are four steps to temporally gapfill with a linear model, illustrated in the figures with four columns.

1. Calculate the slope for each region

The first step is to calculate the slope of the line that is fitted through the available data points. This can be done in Excel using the **SLOPE(known_y's,known_x's)** function as highlighted in the figure below. In this case, the x-axis is *years* (2005, 2006, etc. . .), the y-axis is *count*, and the Excel function automatically plots and fits a line through the known values (177.14 in 2005, 212.99 in 2008, and 228.81 in 2009), and subsequently calculates the slope (12.69).



rgn_id	year	count
1	2005	177.14
1	2006	
1	2007	
1	2008	212.99
1	2009	228.81

Steps to temporally gapfill data:

1	2	3	4
Slope	Intercept	y = mx + b	Value (final)
		176.70	177.14
		189.39	189.39
		202.08	202.08
		214.78	212.99
12.69	-25273.89	227.47	228.81

Figure 32:

2. Calculate the y-intercept for each region

The next step is to calculate the intercept of the line that is fitted through the available data points. This can be done in Excel similarly as for the slope calculation, using the the **INTERCEPT(known_y's,known_x's)** function that calculates the y-intercept (-25273.89) of the fitted line.

3. Calculate y for all years

The slope and y-intercept that were calculated in steps 1 and 2 can then be used along with the year (independent variable) to calculate the unknown 'y-values'. To do so, simply replace the known three values

rgn_id	year	count
1	2005	177.14
1	2006	
1	2007	
1	2008	212.99
1	2009	228.81

Steps to temporally gapfill data:			
1	2	3	4
Slope	Intercept	y = mx + b	Value (final)
		176.70	177.14
		189.39	189.39
		202.08	202.08
		214.78	212.99
12.69	-25273.89	227.47	228.81

Formula INTERCEPT($D$42:$D$46 , $C$42:$C$46)

Figure 33:

into the **y = mx + b** equation (m=slope, x=year, b=intercept), to calculate the unknown 'count' for a given year (189.39 in 2006, and 202.08 in 2007).

rgn_id	year	count
1	2005	177.14
1	2006	
1	2007	
1	2008	212.99
1	2009	228.81

Steps to temporally gapfill data:			
1	2	3	4
Slope	Intercept	y = mx + b	Value (final)
		176.70	177.14
		189.39	189.39
		202.08	202.08
		214.78	212.99
12.69	-25273.89	227.47	228.81

Formula ($G$46 × C43)+ $H$46

Figure 34:

4. Replace modeled values into original data where gaps had occurred

Substitute these modeled values that were previously gaps in the timeseriew. *The data layer is now ready for the Toolbox, gapfilled and in the appropriate format.*

4.2.2.2 Spatial gapfilling

Spatial gaps are when no data are available for a particular region. The Toolbox requires data for each region. It is important to make an informed decision about how to spatially gapfilling data.

rgn_id	year	count
1	2005	177.14
1	2006	201.39
1	2007	199.81
1	2008	212.99
1	2009	228.81
2	2005	
2	2006	
2	2007	
2	2008	
2	2009	
3	2005	129.69
3	2006	173.45
3	2007	229.86
3	2008	231.44
3	2009	221.95
4	2005	397.00
4	2006	566.00
4	2007	591.00
4	2008	1154.00
4	2009	1570.00

In this data layer, Region 2 is missing from this dataset and requires spatial gapfilling.

No temporal gapfilling is required in this example.

Figure 35:

To fill gaps spatially, you must assume that one region is like another, and data from another region is adequate to be substituted in place of the missing data. This will depend on the type of data and the properties of the regions requiring gapfilling. For example, if a region is missing data but has similar properties to a different region that does have data, the missing data could be 'borrowed' from the region with information. Each data layer can be gapfilled using a different approach when necessary.

Characteristics of regions requiring gapfilling that can help determine which type of spatial gapfilling to use:

1. proximity: can it be assumed that nearby regions have similar properties?
2. study area: are data reported for the study area, and can those data be used for subcountry regions?
3. demographic information: can it be assumed a region with a similar population size has similar data?

Spatial gapfilling example:

For a certain data layer, suppose the second region (*rgn_id 2*) has no data reported, as illustrated in the figure above. How to spatially gapfill *rgn_id 2* requires thinking about the properties and characteristics of the region and the data, in this case, tourist count.

Here are properties that can be important for decision making:

rgn_id 2:

- is located between *rgn_id 1* and 3
- is larger than *rgn_id 1*
- has similar population size/demographics to *rgn_id 3*
- has not been growing as quickly as *rgn_id 4*

There is no absolute answer of how to best gapfill *rgn_id 2*. Here are a few reasonable possibilities:

Assign *rgn_id 2* values from:

- *rgn_id 1* because it is in close proximity to *rgn_id 2*
- *rgn_id 3* because it is in close proximity to *rgn_id 2* and has similar population size/demographics
- *rgn_id 1* and 3 averaged since they are in close proximity to *rgn_id 2*

Suppose the decision was made to gapfill *rgn_id 2* using the mean of *rgn_id 1* and *3* since this would use a combination of both of those regions. Again, other possibilities could be equally correct. But some form of spatial gapfilling is required so a decision must be made. The image below illustrates this in Excel.

The data layer is now ready for the Toolbox, gapfilled and in the appropriate format.

4.2.3 Long formatting

The Toolbox expects data to be in 'long' or 'narrow' format. Below are examples of correct and incorrect formatting, and tips on how to transform data into the appropriate format.

Example of data in an incorrect format:

With 'wide' format, data layers are more difficult to combine with others and more difficult to read and to analyze.

Transforming data into 'narrow' format:

Data are easily transformed in a programming language such as R.

In R, the `reshape` package has the `melt` command, which will melt the data from a wide format into a narrow format. It also can `cast` the data back into a wide format if desired. R documentation:

rgn_id	year	count
1	2005	177.14
1	2006	201.39
1	2007	199.81
1	2008	212.99
1	2009	228.81
2	2005	
2	2006	
2	2007	
2	2008	
2	2009	
3	2005	129.69
3	2006	173.45
3	2007	229.86
3	2008	231.44
3	2009	221.95
4	2005	397.00
4	2006	566.00
4	2007	591.00
4	2008	1154.00
4	2009	1570.00

rgn_id	year	count
1	2005	177.14
1	2006	201.39
1	2007	199.81
1	2008	212.99
1	2009	228.81
2	2005	153.42
2	2006	187.42
2	2007	214.84
2	2008	222.22
2	2009	225.38
3	2005	129.69
3	2006	173.45
3	2007	229.86
3	2008	231.44
3	2009	221.95
4	2005	397.00
4	2006	566.00
4	2007	591.00
4	2008	1154.00
4	2009	1570.00

Formula AVERAGE(H43, H53)

Figure 36:

		Year									
Region	DataLayer	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
A	GDP_USDx1000	8	7	30	26	69	39	108	92	261	151
B	GDP_USDx1000	13	9	13	14	10	12	14	10	6	5
C	GDP_USDx1000	2132	2325	2963	3214	2942	2910	1759	2029	2077	2453
D	GDP_USDx1000	21	5	14	2	11	3	26	14	15	100
A	governance_indicator						0.8545	0.5400	0.706	1	1
B	governance_indicator						0.8564	0.7794	0.861	1	1
C	governance_indicator						0.8779	1	1	0.898	1
D	governance_indicator						0.8537	0.5373	0.704	1	1

Figure 37:

- http://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/reshape2/reshape2.pdf
- http://www.slideshare.net/jeffreybreen/reshaping-data-in-r
- http://tgmstat.wordpress.com/2013/10/31/reshape-and-aggregate-data-with-the-r-package-reshape2/

Example code using the *melt* command in the *reshape2* library. Assume the data above is in a variable called *data_wide*:

```
install.packages('reshape2')
library(reshape2)
data_melt = melt(data=data_wide, id.vars=c('Region', 'DataLayer'), variable.name='Year')
data_melt = data_melt[order(data_melt$DataLayer, data_melt$Region),]
```

Figure 38:

This will melt everything except any identified columns (*Region* and *DataLayer*), and put all other column headers into a new column named *Year*. Data values will then be found in a new column called *value*.

The final step is optional: ordering the data will make it easier for humans to read (R and the Toolbox can read these data without this final step):

Example of data in the appropriate (long) format:

4.2.4 Rescaling your data

An important consideration is how to rescale your data when preparing it for use in the Toolbox. Rescaling involves turning a distribution of data into a value from zero to one. This is based on finding a highest observed or theoretical point in the distribution of the data, and from there, the relative value of the data can be calculated.

GDP_USDx1000.csv		
Region	Year	value
A	2000	8
A	2001	7
A	2002	30
A	2003	26
A	2004	69
A	2005	39
A	2006	108
A	2007	92
A	2008	261
A	2009	151
B	2000	13
B	2001	9
B	2002	13
B	2003	14
B	2004	10
B	2005	12
B	2006	14
B	2007	10
B	2008	6
B	2009	5

governance_indicator.csv		
Region	Year	value
A	2000	
A	2001	
A	2002	
A	2003	
A	2004	
A	2005	0.854599407
A	2006	0.540059347
A	2007	0.706231454
A	2008	1
A	2009	1
B	2000	
B	2001	
B	2002	
B	2003	
B	2004	
B	2005	0.856410256
B	2006	0.779487179
B	2007	0.861538462
B	2008	1
B	2009	1

Figure 39:

4.2.4.1 Example: Global Data Approach

You should base your decision on whether your consider it more appropriate to decide the reference point based on the data distribution of all data points, be they observed or interpolated, or whether we think we should only consider the observed data. If the interpolation covers large areas, and these get assigned values that aren't very frequent in the observed data, then the two distributions will be very different, and what value is in the 99.99th percentile is different too.

In theory, one would favor deciding the reference point based on as many observations as possible (i.e., interpolate first, then obtain the percentile). In practice, if we think that large interpolated areas are very unreliable, we might prefer to use real observations only (i.e., percentile first, then interpolate).

5 Installing the Toolbox

Section Summary:

In this section, you will learn how to successfully download, install, and use the software required to conduct an assessment. You will create a GitHub account and install R, RStudio, git, and the Github desktop app. OHI assessments are conducted through open-source platforms that allow you to make real-time changes with collaborators, and to track progress so that errors can be corrected and new insights can be shared in the future.

5.1 Overview

The **OHI Toolbox** is essentially several folders containing all the files required for an OHI assessment. These folders are stored online on www.github.com, and are called **GitHub repositories**. At this point, you should already be familiar with your assessment's repository, and all of the files it contains (if not, read the section, "**File System for Assessment Repositories**").

Conducting an OHI assessment using GitHub enables collaboration and transparency, and will provide access to the latest developments in the Toolbox software, allowing the OHI team to provide support remotely if necessary.

This section explains the GitHub workflow and how to access and setup required software. Then, it explains how to after modifying files on your own computer, you can use GitHub to upload any modifications you make so that you can work collaboratively with your team.

Required software:

1. **Github App**
2. ** *git* **
3. **R**
4. **RStudio**

Figure 40:

5.2 GitHub

GitHub is an open-source development platform that enables easy collaboration and versioning, which means that all saved versions are archived and attributed to each user. It is possible to revert back to any previous version, which is incredibly useful to not only to document what work has been done, but how it differs from work done in the past, and who is responsible for the changes.

GitHub Vocabulary:

- **clone** ~ download to your computer from online version with synching capabilities enabled
- **commit** ~ message associated with your changes at a point in time
- **pull** ~ sync a repo on your computer with online version
- **push** ~ sync the online repo with your version, only possible after committing

sync = pull + commit + push

5.2.1 Learning GitHub

The following section describes how to use GitHub to access and sync your assessment repository. There are also many great resources available online with more in-depth information:

- **Git and GitHub** by Hadley Wickham: http://r-pkgs.had.co.nz/git.html
- **Collaboration and Time Travel: Version Control with Git, GitHub and RStudio** video tutorial by Hadley Wickham: www.rstudio.com/resources/webinars
- **Good Resources for Learning Git and GitHub** by GitHub: https://help.github.com/articles/good-resources-for-learning-git-and-github/

5.3 Accessing GitHub Repositories

GitHub has an online interface and a desktop application for the version-control software called ** *git.* ** In addition to cloning your GitHub repository to your computer, you will need to download and install *git* software and the GitHub App (application), both of which are freely available.

5.3.1 Create a GitHub account

Create a GitHub account at http://github.com. Choose a username and password. You will use this username and password when you install and set up *git* on your computer.

5.3.2 Install *git* software

How you install *git* will depend on whether you are working on a Windows or Mac computer. It will also depend on your operating system version. If you have problems following these instructions, it is likely because your operating system requires a previous version of *git*. Previous versions are available from http://www.wandisco.com/git/download (you will need to provide your email address).

For Windows:

- Download *git* at http://git-scm.com/downloads and follow the install instructions.
- When running the Windows installer, use all default options except "Adjusting your PATH environment": instead, select "***Run Git from the Windows Command Prompt***". This will allow later compatibility with RStudio.

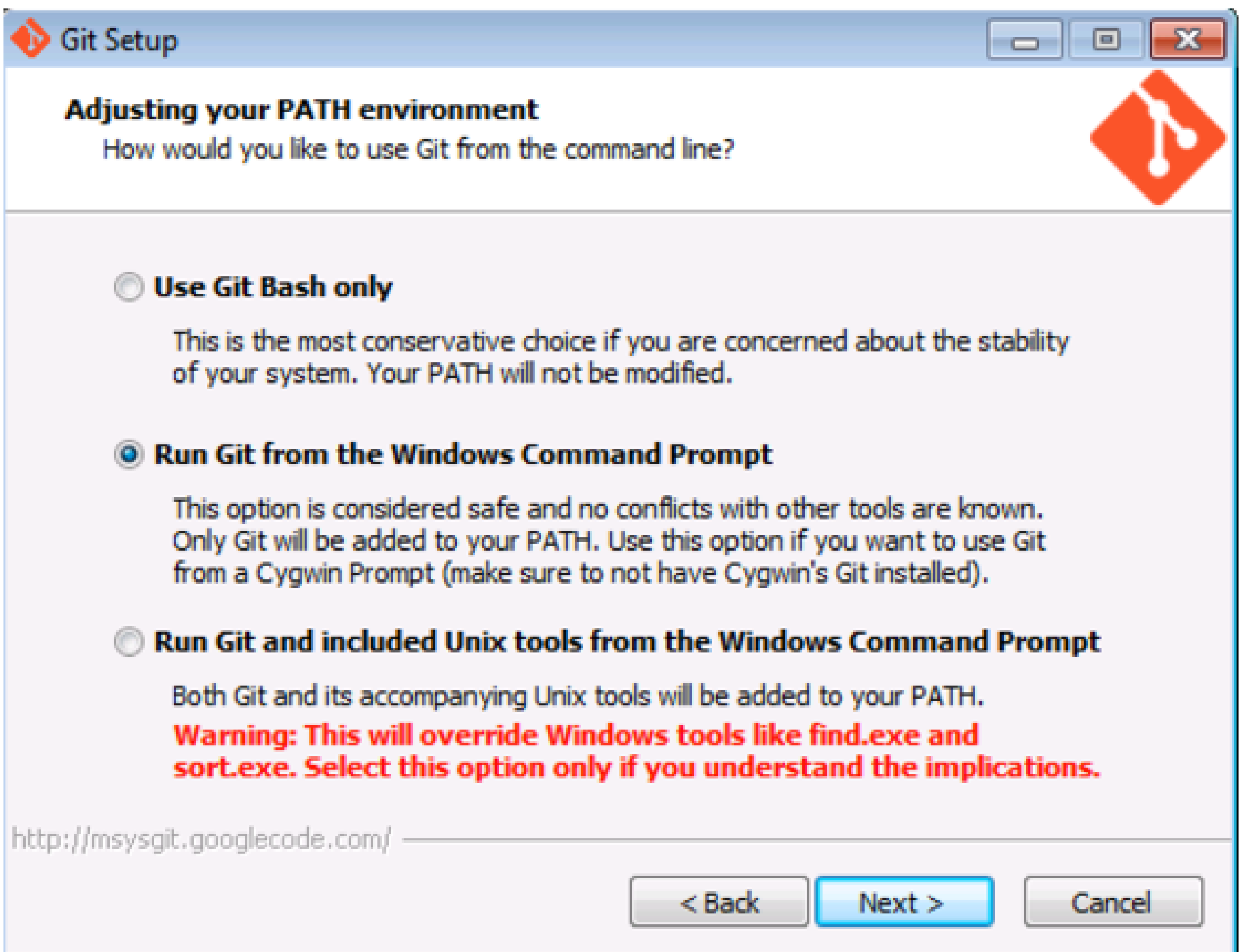


Figure 41:

For Mac:

- Download *git* at http://git-scm.com/downloads and follow the install instructions.
- Apple's Xcode has a command line tools option during install which can override the preferred *git* command line tools. To ensure you are using the latest preferred version of *git*, you will need to launch Terminal and type the following few lines of code:
- Access Terminal from the Applications folder: **Applications** > **Utilities** > **Terminal**. When you launch Terminal a window will appear with your computer's name followed by a `$`. When you type, your commands will appear after the `$`.

Add access your 'bash profile' by typing:

```
pico ~/.bash_profile
```

You are now able to edit your 'bash profile'. Type:

```
export PATH=/usr/local/git/bin:$PATH
```

Exit pico by typing:

control-X
y
return/enter

Exit Terminal by typing:

```
exit
```

Finally, quit Terminal.

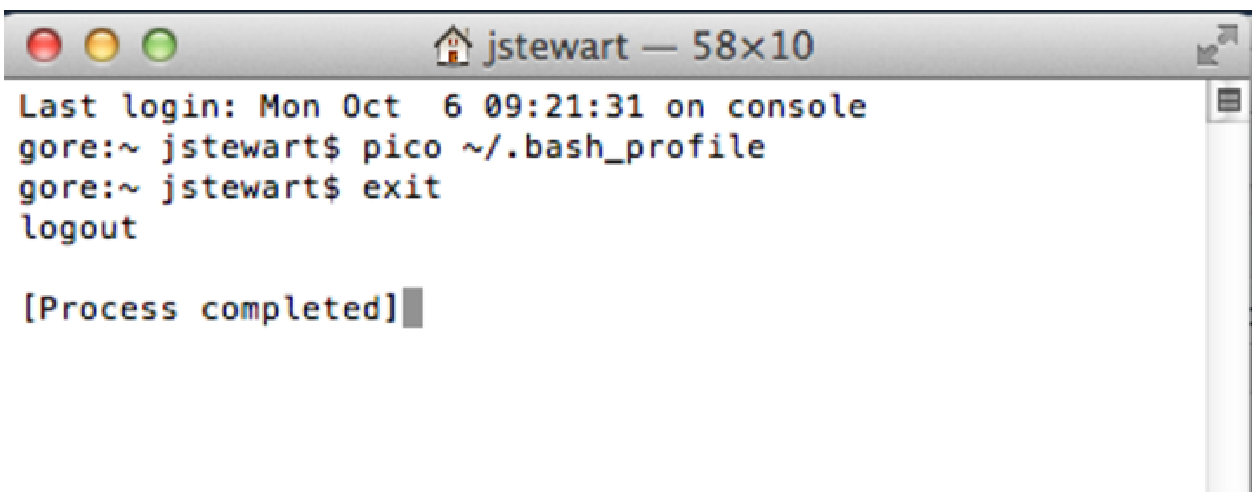


Figure 42:

5.3.3 Set up your Git Identity

After downloading and installing *git*, you will need to set up your **Git Identity**, which identifies you with your work. *Note*: if you have any problems with the following instructions, it is likely because of incompatibility between the version of your operating system and the version of git you downloaded in the previous section. In this case, find and download a compatible version at www.wandisco.com/git/download and then follow the instructions below.

You will set up your GitHub identity using the command line specific to Windows or Mac:

- **Windows**: Start > Run > cmd
- **Mac**: Applications > Utilities > Terminal

In the window, you will see a cursor where you are able to type. Type the following and press return (or enter) at each step. Make sure all spaces and symbols are identical to the example below, including all spaces ( ) and dashes (-).

Substitute your GitHub username instead of jdoe:

```
git config --global user.name jdoe
```

and then: substitute the email address you used to create your GitHub account:

```
git config --global user.email johndoe@example.com
```

You can check settings with the following:

```
git config --list
```

Quit the Terminal after typing:

```
exit
```

5.3.4 Install the GitHub application

There are several options to clone your repository to your local machine. When getting started, we recommend using the GitHub application. This is freely available for download. Follow the default instructions for downloading and installing from the following:

- **Windows**: https://windows.github.com/.
- **Mac**: https://mac.github.com/.

5.3.5 Create a folder called *github* on your computer

Because you will use GitHub to collaborate with your team or request support from the OHI team, it is important you save files in places where the file path that is universal and not specific to your computer. When team members save files in different places, this will create a lot of problems when collaborating, particularly between Macs and Windows machines.

Please create a folder called github in your root directory. The file path for this folder will be:

- **Windows**: `Users\[User]\Documents\github\`
- **Mac**: `Users/[User]/github/`

This folder can be identified by any computer as `~/github/`.

> TIP: You can check the location of your `github` folder by right-clicking the folder icon and selecting 'Get Info' on a Mac or 'Properties' on Windows.

5.3.6 Clone your repository to your computer

Clone a repository by clicking the 'Clone in Desktop' button on your online repository's homepage (https://github.com/OHI-Science/{[}assessment{]}):

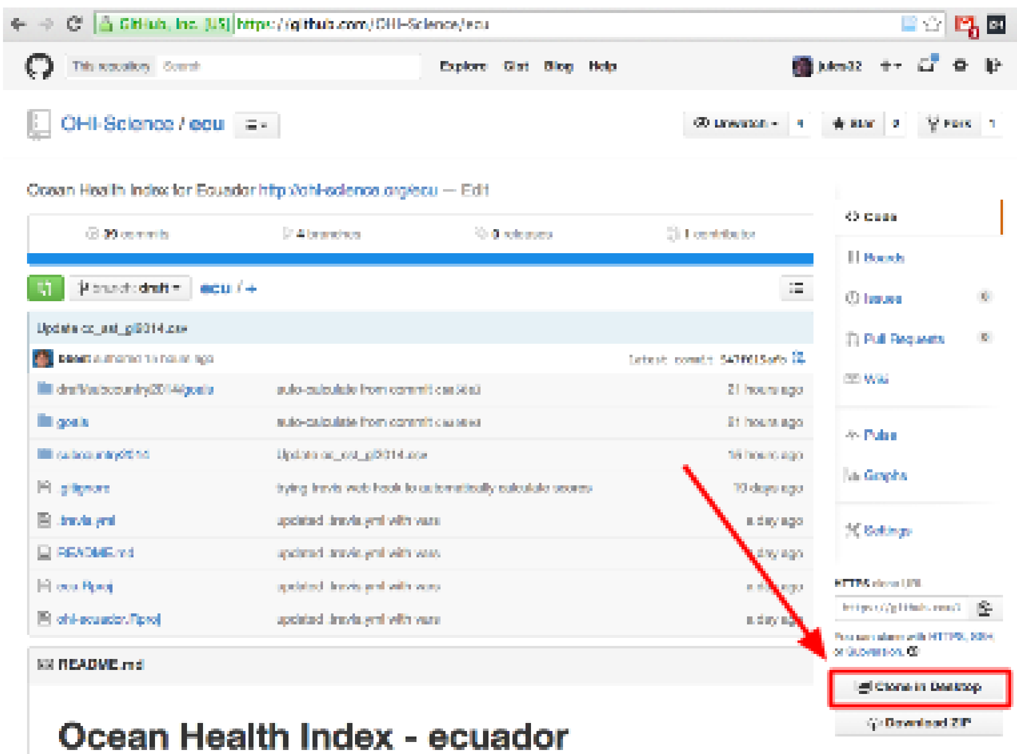


Figure 43:

You will be asked where to save this repository: save it into the `github` folder you created. The file path for your assessment will therefore be:

- Windows: C: `\Users\[User]\Documents\github\[assessment] (example: C:\Users\johndoe\Documents\github`
- on a Mac: `/Users/[User]/github/[assessment] (example: /Users/johndoe/github/ecu)`

The assessment can be identified by any computer as `~/github/[assessment]`.

The entire folder will now be saved on your computer.

5.3.7 Update permissions

You need to **email your username to ohi-science@nceas.ucsb.edu** for permission to upload modifications to your GitHub repository (you only need to do this once). Only team members who will be modifying files will need to do this; all other members can view online and download the repository without these permissions.

5.3.8 Work locally

You will then work locally on your own computer, modifying the files in the repository to reflect the desired modifications your team has identified for your assessment. Multiple users can work on the same repository at the same time, so there are steps involved to 'check in' your modifications so they can merge with the work of others without problems. GitHub has specific words for each of these steps. You have already successfully **cloned** an online repository to your local machine. After making modifications, you will **commit** these changes with a description before being able to sync back to the online repository. **Synching** involves both **pulling** any updates from the online repository before **pushing** committed changes back to the server.

> TIP: While you can edit files in the online GitHub repository, we do not recommend this. It is good practice to track changes through commits and syncing.

The example below illustrates GitHub's collaborative workflow with the `ohi-israel` repo owned by `OHI-Science`:

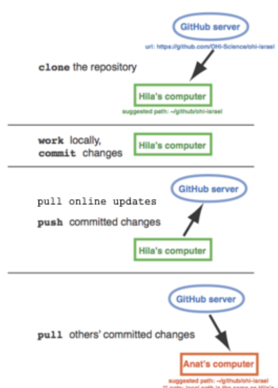


Figure 44:

All changes within your local repository will be tracked by GitHub regardless of the software you use to make the changes. This means that you can delete or paste files in the Mac Finder or Windows Explorer and edit *.csv* files in Excel or a text editor, and still sync these changes with the online repository. We recommend doing as much data manipulation as possible in a programming language like R, to maximize transparency and reproducibility. When modifying R scripts such as `functions.R`, you will need to work in R.

We recommend syncing with either the GitHub App or with RStudio. Both methods require you to commit your changes, before pulling any updates and pushing your modifications. The GitHub App combines the pulling and pushing into one step, called syncing. The following sections show you how to synchronize the repository on your computer with the repository online.

5.3.9 Syncing

When you work on your computer, any edits you make to any files in your repo, using any program, will be tracked by *git*. You can use any of the above to commit and sync your changes back to GitHub. There are many options you can use to sync your edits on a repo with the online version.

- **GitHub App** for Mac and for Windows
- **RStudio**
- **Command line**

If you are just modifying data *.csv* files, you probably only need to use the GitHub App. RStudio is convenient if you are working with *.R* files. Also, the command line can be used by those interested, and there are resources available online.

> TIP: Once you sync your repository, the updated information will be automatically available to the WebApps.

5.3.10 Using the GitHub App to synchronize your repository

The GitHub App will track your modifications and can be used to commit and sync any changes made locally to your repository. Once you are done working on the pertinent files and wish to commit and sync the changes to the online server on the Github server, open the GitHub App. The following example is with the `ecu` repository:

1. Make sure you select the correct repository, located on the left column of the GitHub App window (Step 1 in the figure).
2. Select the different files to which changes have been made (2a), and preview those changes on the right column of the GitHub App window (2b).
3. Once all the changes have been reviewed, write a summary/description in the respective message bars in the GitHub App window (3), then click on 'Commit' (3a) and then 'Sync' (3b) located on the top-right corner of the GitHub App window (Note: If a `Commit` button appears instead of `Commit & Sync`, you can either click `Commit` and then click the `Sync` in this way, or you can alternatively select *Edit > Automatically Sync After Committing* which will then allow you to click on 'Commit and Sync')

Go online and check that your changes are now visible on GitHub online.

5.3.11 Working with R and RStudio

RStudio is a program that can be used to synchronize any modifications you make to files in your assessment's repository, and if you are working in R, it is convenient since you do not need to open the GitHub App. If you do not already have this installed, install the latest version of R and RStudio (and if you do have these installed, check for updates: there are frequent updates to the R software, and the current version is identified on the website). Both R and RStudio are freely available to download.

R: Download the current version of R appropriate for your operating system at http://cran.r-project.org/ and follow the instructions to install it on your computer. If updating, compare the available version on their website with what you already have on your computer by typing sessionInfo() into your R console.

RStudio: Download the current version of RStudio software at www.rstudio.com. RStudio is not updated as often as R, but it is good to check for updates regularly. Note that in this case, you should follow the default install instructions.

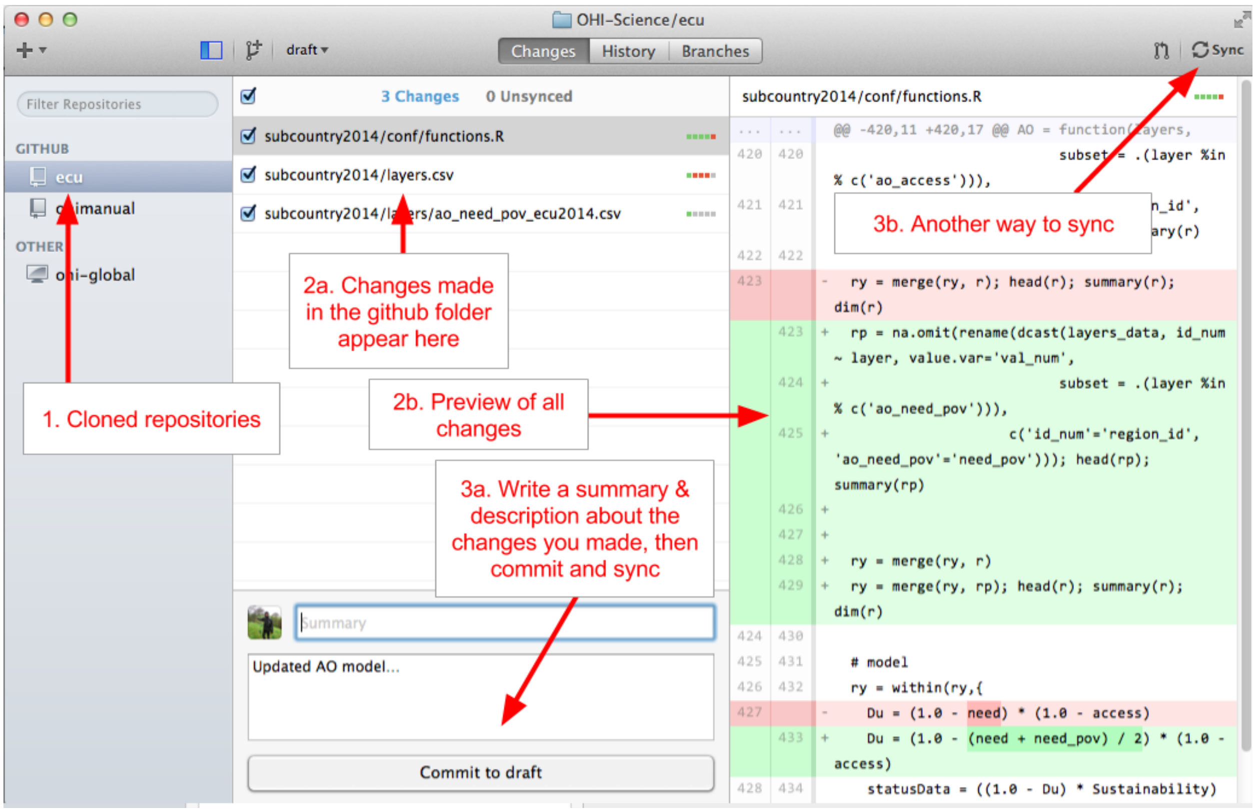


Figure 45: Figure showing the layout of the GitHub App when syncing. Click on 'Commit' and then 'Sync' to push changes to your repository.

If you are working on a Mac, you will need to tell RStudio to use the proper version of Git by doing the updating the preferences for 'Git executable':

RStudio > Preferences... > Git/SVN > Git executable: /usr/local/git/bin/git

5.3.12 Using RStudio to synchronize your repository

RStudio can sync files with GitHub directly, and can be used instead of the GitHub App. Like the GitHub App, it will capture the changes made to any files within the repository, no matter which software was used to modify them. The advantage for using RStudio to sync instead of the GitHub App is if you are working with R scripts already. In RStudio, you sync by first pulling and then pushing (separately); in the GitHub App these two functions are done together.

Launch your project in RStudio by double-clicking the `.Rproj` file in the assessment folder on your local hard drive.

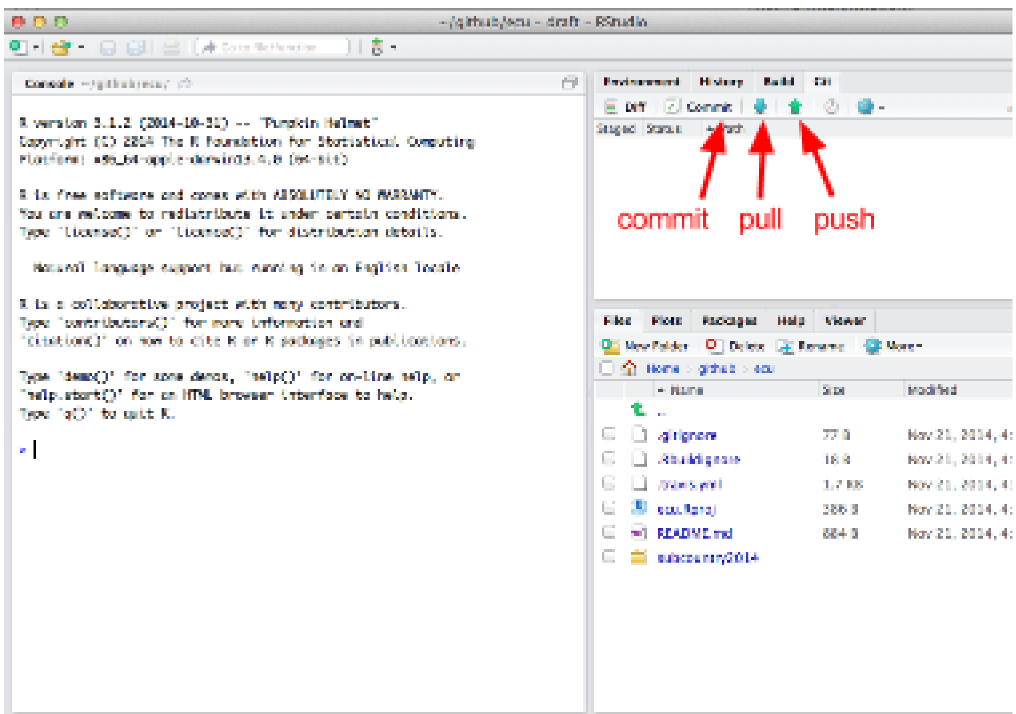


Figure 46:

When you modify or add a file, the file will appear in the 'Git' window once it has been saved. In the example below, the file `test.R` was created.

1. Clicking the 'Staged' box and the 'Commit' button opens a new window where you can review changes.
2. Type a commit message that is informative to the changes you've made.

- Note 1: there will often be multiple files 'staged' at the same time, and so the same commit message will be associated with all of the updated files. It is best to commit changes often with informative commit messages.

- Note 2: clicking on a staged file will identify additions and deletions within that file for your review

3. Click 'Commit' to commit the changes and the commit message
4. Pull any changes that have been made to the online repository. This is important to ensure there are no conflicts with updating the online repository.
5. Push your committed changes to the online repository. Your changes are now visible online.

   TIP: If you aren't seeing your changes in the 'Git' window, try saving the file again.

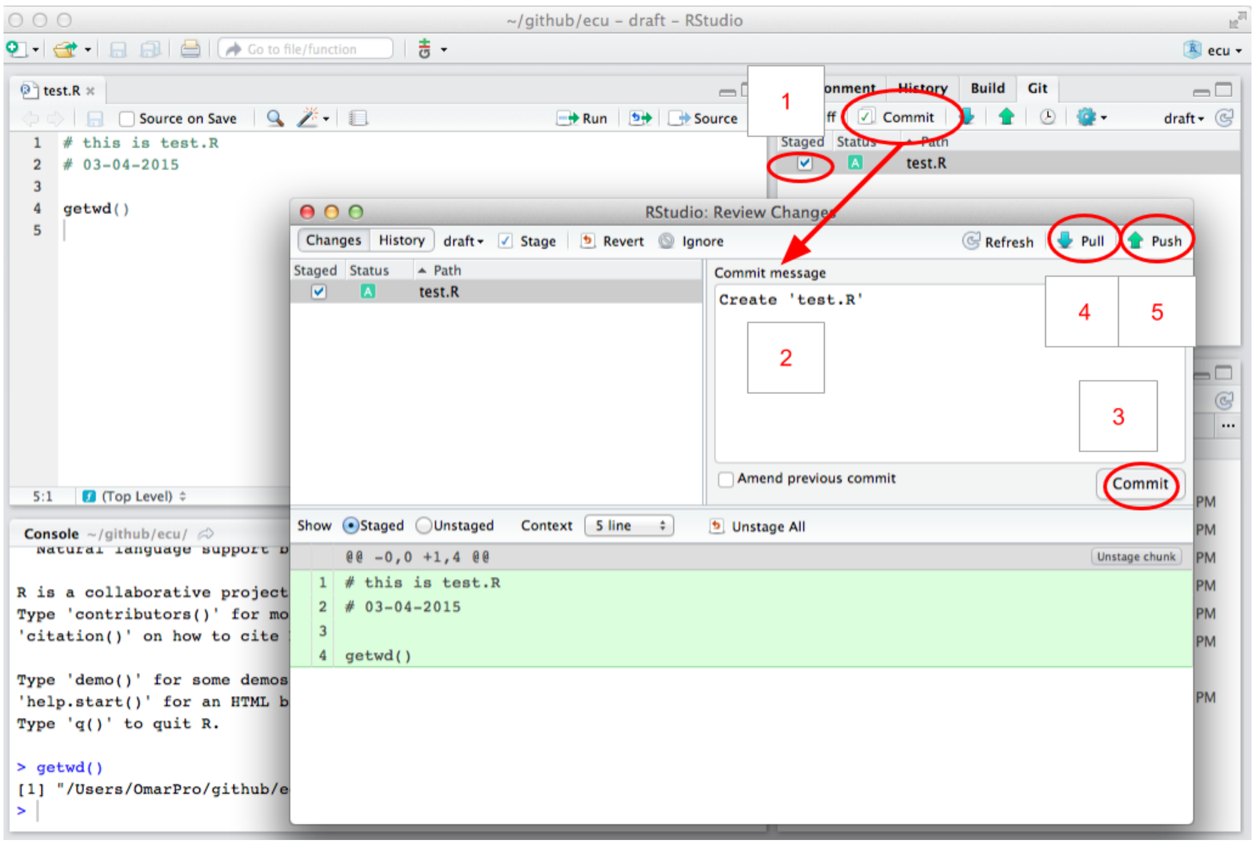


Figure 47: Figure showing RStudio when sycing. After first staging your changes, click the 'commit' button to open a new window where you can enter a 'commit message' and then pull and push new changes.

> TIP: Another way to sync and open the project is to click on 'New Project' in the upper-right-hand corner of Rstudio, then choose 'Version Control', and then you can paste the URL of the desired repository. This URL can be found on on your online repository's homepage.

5.3.13 Install the latest version of R and RStudio

Make sure you have the most current version of R and RStudio. Download **R** at http://cran.r-project.org/ and install on your computer. If you already have R installed, check the website for updates. There are frequent updates to the R software, and the current version is identified on the website. Compare what is available from their website with what you already have on your computer by typing `sessionInfo()` into your R console. (This will also identify packages you have installed).

While not required, we highly recommend working with **RStudio**, which is an interface that makes working with R much easier, and it also interfaces with GitHub so you are able to synchronize without using the GitHub App. RStudio does not get updated as often as R does, but it is good to check for updates regularly.

5.4 GitHub repository architecture

GitHub stores all data files and scripts for your assessment in a repository (a folder). Different copies or complements to these folders, called *branches* can also exist, which aid with versioning and drafting. Your repository has four branches, two of which are displayed on your website (e.g., ohi-science.org/ecu):

1. **draft** branch is for editing. This is the default branch and the main working area where existing scenario data files can be edited and new scenarios added.
2. **published** branch is a vetted copy of the draft branch, not for direct editing. This branch is only updated by automatic calculation of scores if:
    1. no errors occur during the calculation of scores in the draft branch, and
    2. publishing is turned on. During the draft editing and testing phases of development, it is typically desirable to turn this off.
3. **gh-pages** branch is this website. The results sections of the site (regions, layers, goals, scores per branch/scenario) are overwritten into this repository after automatic calculation of scores. The rest of the site can be manually altered.
4. **app** branch is the interactive layer and map viewer application. The user interface and server-side processing use the Shiny R package and are deployed online via ShinyApps.io to your website. Once deployed, the WebApp pulls updates from the data branches (draft and published) every time a new connection is initiated (i.e., browser refreshes).

    TIP: When looking at files on GitHub, note that the timestamps are associated with the 'commit' time rather than the 'push' time.

6 Using the Toolbox

> **Section Summary:**
>
> In this section, you will learn about the most common modifications made to repositories. You will be given examples to follow to help with your own assessment. The most common modifications are changing the pressures and resilience matrices, changing or creating data layers, and changing or removing goals models.
>
> TIP: You should have access to your assessment repository and be familiar with the files in the folder.

As your team finalizes which data should be included in the assessment and begins developing goal models, you can incorporate this information into your repository. Data layer files can be created and updated with any software that handles *.csv* files, but goal models must be updated in R. With any modifications you sync to the online repository, the Toolbox will automatically recalculate goal scores. Calculations can also be done locally and offline by running `subcountry2014/calculate_scores.R`.

This section gives instruction and examples for the most common modifications you will make to your repository:

- **modifying pressures and resilience matrices**
- **modifying and creating data layers for status, trend, pressures and resilience**
- **modifying goal models**
- **removing goals**

The files you will modify are:

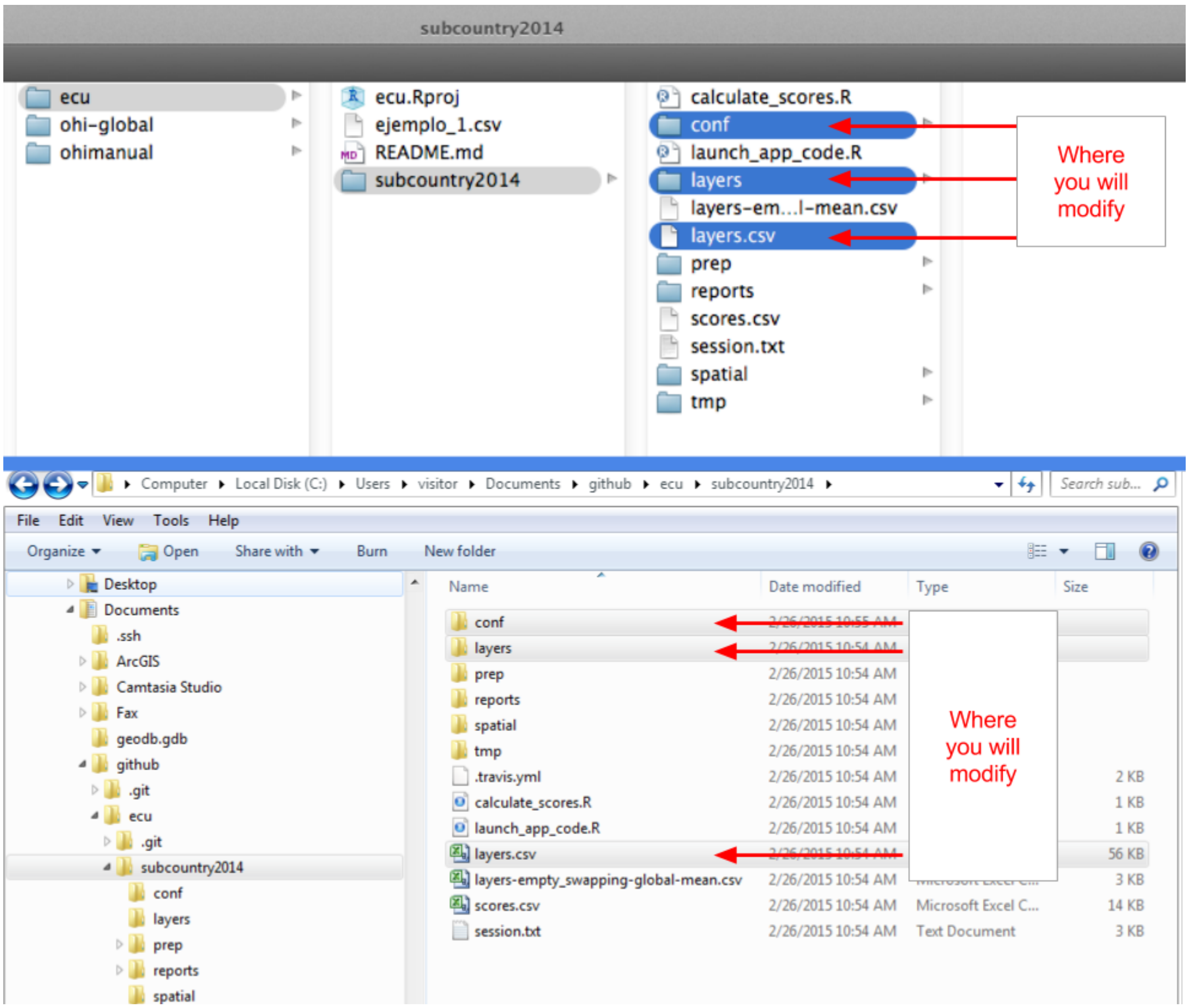


Figure 48: Files you will commonly modify are shown in the figure (Mac navigation is shown above and Windows is shown below). These include the `conf` folder, `layers` folder, and `layers.csv`.

6.0.1 File Preparation Workflow

It is generally recommended that you construct a useful workflow with your team when updating data layers for the Toolbox. This process is one that can be done by one person, or by several who are working through GitHub to sync the work. There are overall two main steps to preparing to input your layers into the Toolbox, starting with data layer preparation, and then going into data layer registration. The firs step involves placing files into `layers` folder, and the second is registering those files in `layers.csv`. This file preparation process can occur in tandem with the model modification process. However, it must occur in order for you to run modified goal code using your new input data.

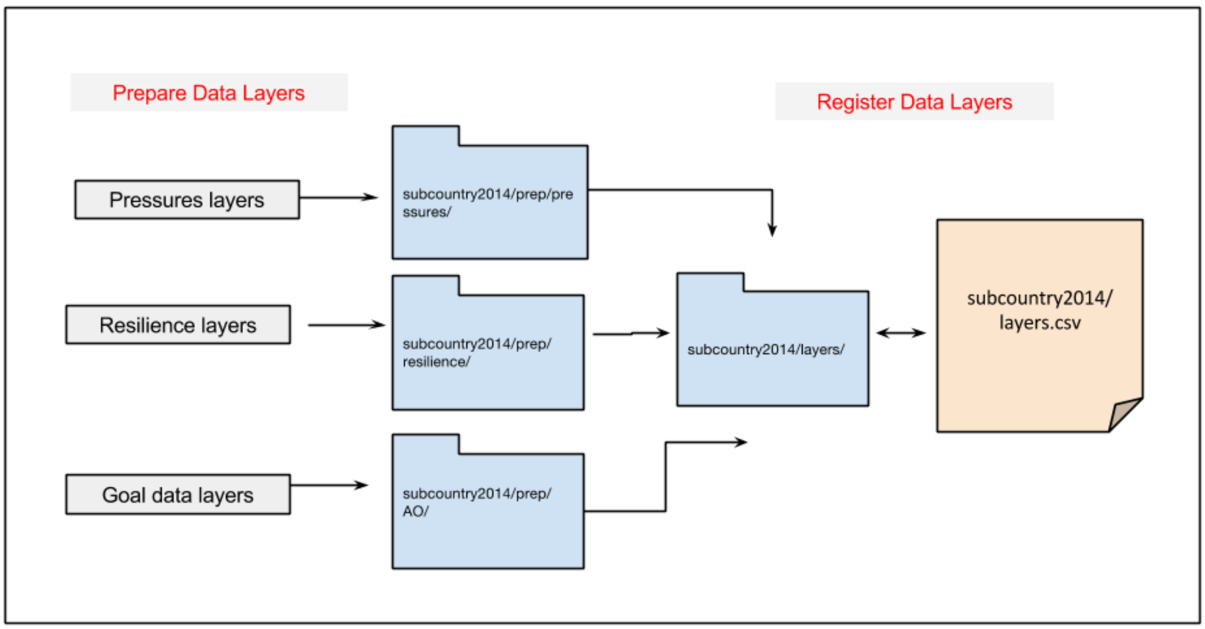


Figure 49: Diagram of OHI Toolbox data preparation workflow. You should start by prepping the files, loading them into the `layers` folder when they're ready for the Toolbox, and then registering them in `layers.csv`

6.1 Modifying and creating data layers

Data layers are *.csv* files and are located in the `[assessment]/subcountry2014/layers` folder. Remember that all data layers provided in your repository are extracted from the global 2014 assessment.

- Layers with the suffix `_gl2014.csv` (*gl* for *global*) have been exactly copied from the global assessment and applied equally to each region, and therefore the values will be the same across all subcountry regions.
- Layers with the suffix `_sc2014.csv` (*sc* for *subcountry*) have been spatially-extracted from global data or adjusted with spatially-extracted data so that each region in your assessment has a unique value. For example, gross domestic product (GDP) used in the global assessment was reported at the national (most often country) level. Instead of being applied equally across all subcountry regions (which would incorrectly increase the nation's GDP several times), national GDP was down-weighted by the proportion of coastal population in each region compared with the total coastal population.

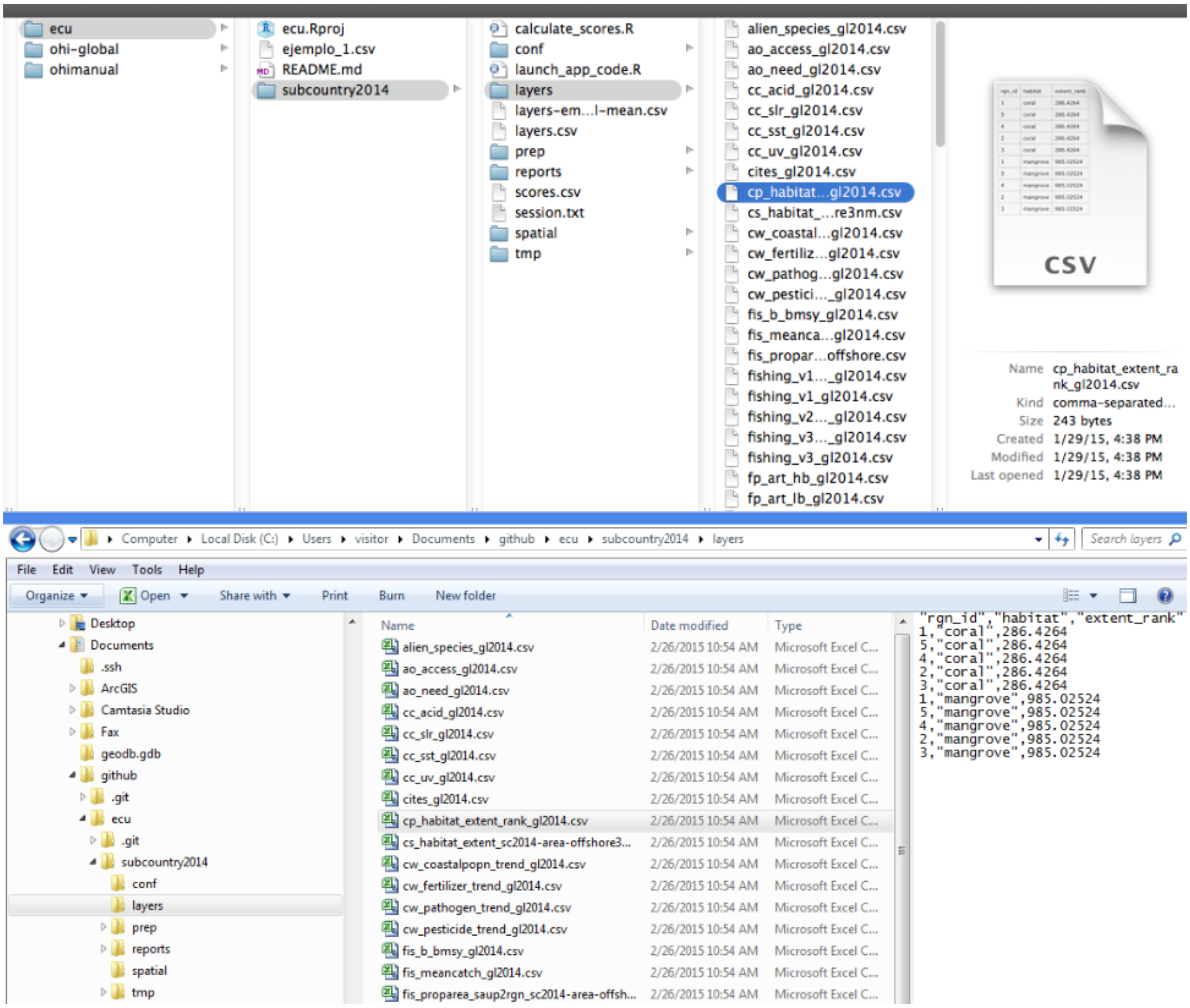


Figure 50: This figure shows the location of your data layers. Mac navigation is shown above and Windows is shown below.

Both types of default data layers are of coarse-resolution and should be replaced with local, high-resolution data when possible. The priority should be to replace as much of the `_gl2014.csv` data as possible.

There are several steps to follow when working with data layers:

1. Modify or create data layer with proper formatting
2. Save the layer in the `layers` folder
3. Register the layer in `layers.csv`
4. Check (and update when appropriate) `pressures_matrix.csv` and `resilience_matrix.csv` (located in: `[assessment]/subcountry2014/conf`)

6.1.1 Create data layers with proper formatting

The OHI Toolbox expects each data layer to be in its own *.csv* file and to be in a specific format, with data available for every region within the study area, with data organized in 'long' format (as few columns as possible), and with a unique region identifier (*rgn_id*) associated with a single score or value. See the **'Formatting data for the Toolbox'** section for more information.

6.1.2 Save data layers in the *layers* folder

When you modify existing or create new data layers, we recommend saving this as a new *.csv* file with a suffix identifying your assessment (example: `_sc2014.csv`). Modifying the layer name provides an easy way to track which data layers have been updated regionally, and which rely on global data. Then, the original layers (`_gl2014.csv` and `_sc2014.csv`) can be deleted.

* Note: filenames should not have any spaces: use an underscore ('_') instead. This will reduce problems when R reads the files.

6.1.3 Register data layers in `layers.csv`

When there are new filenames associated with each layer, they will need to be registered in `[assessment]/subcountry2014/layers.csv`. If a layer simply has a new filename, only the *filename* column needs to be updated:

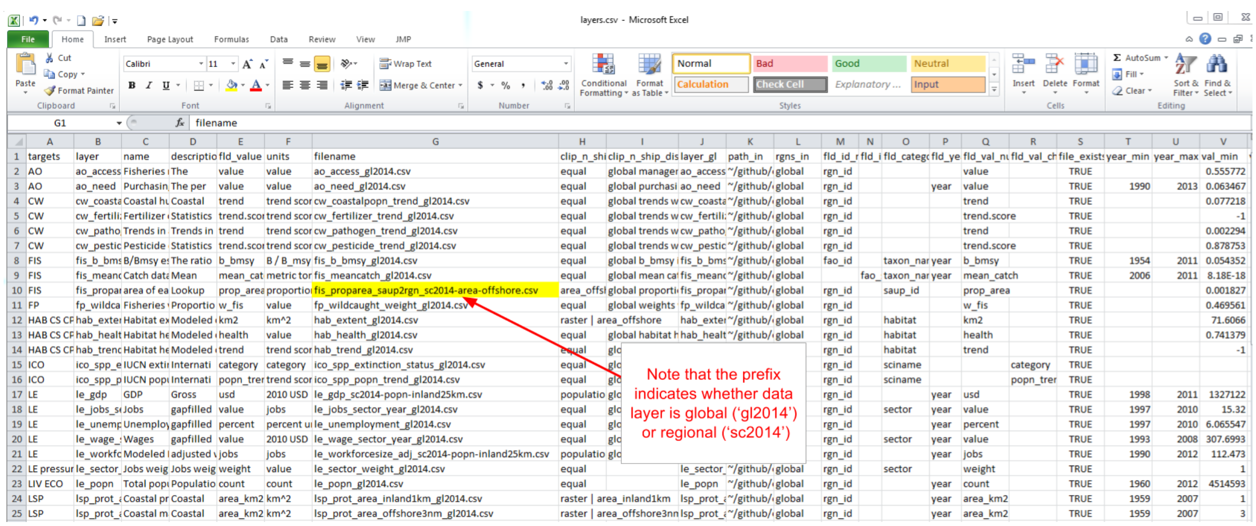


Figure 51: Register new layers in `layers.csv`. Be sure to note if there is a change in the filename.

> TIP: This part is done manually. If you prefer not to manipulate your file by hand, you can generate a script that automates this.

However, if a new layer has been added (for example when a new goal model is developed), you will need to add a new row in the registry for the new data layer and fill in the first eight columns (columns A-H). It is important to check that you have filled you the fields correctly, for instance, if "fld_value" does not match the header of the source data layer, you will see an error message when you try to calculate scores. Other columns are generated later by the Toolbox as it confirms data formatting and content:

- **targets:** Add the goal/dimension that the new data layer relates to. Goals are indicated with two-letter codes and sub-goals are indicated with three-letter codes, with pressures, resilience, and spatial layers indicated separately.
- **layer:** Add an identifying name for the new data layer, which will be used in R scripts like `functions.R` and *.csv* files like `pressures_matrix.csv` and `resilience_matrix.csv`.
- **name:** Add a longer title for the data layer–this will be displayed on your WebApp.
- **description:** Add a longer description of the new data layer–this will be displayed on your WebApp.
- **fld_value:** Add the appropriate units for the new data layer (which will be referenced in subsequent calculations).
- **units:** Add a description about the *units* chosen in the *fld_value* column above.
- **filename:** Add a filename for the new data layer that matches the name of the *.csv* file that was created previously in the `layers` folder.
- **fld_id_num:** Area designation that applies to the newly created data layer, such as: *rgn_id* and *fao_id*.

> TIP: Think about what units you would like to be displayed on the WebApp when filling out "units."

6.1.4 Check pressures and resilience matrices

If the new or modified layer is a pressures layer, check that `pressures_matrix.csv` and `resilience_matrix.csv` have been properly modified to register the new data layers.

6.2 Modifying pressures matrices

Your team will identify if any pressures layers should be added to the pressures matrices, and if so, which goals the pressure affects and what weight they should have. You can transfer this information in `pressures_matrix.csv` (located in the `[assessment]/subcountry2014/conf` folder). It is important to note that the matrix identifies the pressures relevant to each goal, and which weight will be applied in the calculation. Each pressure is a data layer, located in the `subcountry2014/layers` folder. This means that pressure layers need information for each region in the study area, and some layers will need to be updated with local data. In modifying pressures, you will need to consider whether data layers can be updated or added, and whether data layers map onto goals appropriately in the local context.

Adding a new pressure to the pressures matrix requires the following steps:

1. Create new pressure layer(s) and save in the `layers` folder
2. Register pressure layer(s) in `layers.csv`
3. Register pressure layer(s) in `pressures_matrix.csv`

- a. Set the pressure category

- b. Identify the goals affected and set the weighting
- c. Modify the resilience matrix (if necessary)

The following is an example of adding two new pressures layers.

6.2.1 Create the new pressure layers and save in the `layers` folder

If you create a new data layer, give it a short but descriptive name that also includes a prefix that signifies the pressure category (for example: *po_* for the pollution category). There are five physical categories and one social category:

- *po_* = pollution
- *hd_* = habitat destruction
- *fp_* = fishing pressure
- *sp_* = species pollution
- *cc_* = climate change
- *ss_* = social pressure

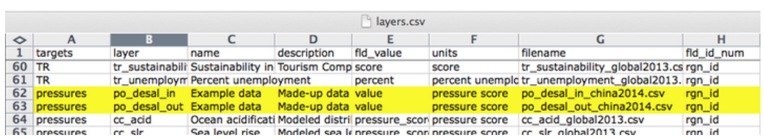
So for example, `po_trash` is a pollution layer with trash on beaches, and `sp_alien` is species pollution due to alien (invasive) species.

In the current example, the two new layers created to account for the input and output effects of desalination operations will be called *po_desal_in*, and *po_desal_out*.

These new layers will have scores from 0 to 1, with values for each region in your study area, and will be saved in the `layers` folder.

6.2.2 Register the new pressure layers in `layers.csv`

Add two new rows in `layers.csv`, and register the new pressure layers by filling out the first eight columns for *po_desal_in*, and *po_desal_out*.


layers.csv

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	targets	layer	name	description	fld_value	units	filename	fld_id_num
60	TR	tr_sustainabili	Sustainability in	Tourism Comp	score	score	tr_sustainability_global2013.cs	rgn_id
61	TR	tr_unemploym	Percent unemployment		percent	percent unemplo	tr_unemployment_global2013.	rgn_id
62	pressures	po_desal_in	Example data	Made-up data	value	pressure score	po_desal_in_china2014.csv	rgn_id
63	pressures	po_desal_out	Example data	Made-up data	value	pressure score	po_desal_out_china2014.csv	rgn_id
64	pressures	cc_acid	Ocean acidificati	Modeled distri	pressure_scor	pressure score	cc_acid_global2013.csv	rgn_id
65	pressures	cc_slr	Sea level rise	Modeled sea le	pressure_scor	pressure score	cc_slr_global2013.csv	rgn_id

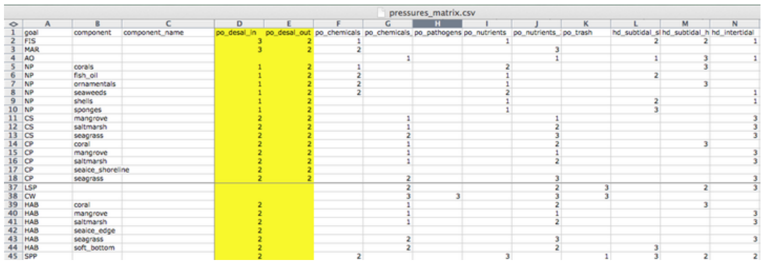
Figure 52:

6.2.3 Register the new layers in `pressure_matrix.csv`

`pressures_matrix.csv` identifies the different types of ocean pressures (columns) with the goals that they affect (rows). Adding a new pressures layer to `pressures_matrix.csv` requires adding a new column with the pressure layer name.

6.2.3.1 Set the pressure category This step requires transferring previous decisions made by your team into `pressures_matrix.csv`. Each pressure category is calculated separately before being combined with the others, so it is important to register the new pressure with the appropriate category prefix decided by your regional assessment team.

6.2.3.2 Identify the goals affected and set the weighting This step also requires transferring prior decisions into `pressures_matrix.csv`. Mark which goals are affected by this new pressure, and then set the weighting. Pressures weighting by goal should be based on scientific literature and expert opinion (3 = highly influential pressure, 2 = moderately influential pressure, 1 = not very influential pressure). Remember that the rankings in the pressures matrix are separate from the actual data within the pressures data layers. The rankings ensure that within a particular goal (e.g. within a row of the pressures matrix), the stressors that more strongly influence the goal's delivery have a larger contribution to that goal's overall pressure score. Therefore, the rankings are assigned independently of the actual pressure scores, and only determine their importance within the calculations.



pressures_matrix.csv

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
1	goal	component	component_name	po_desal_in	po_desal_out	po_chemicals	po_chemicals_	po_pathogens	po_nutrients	po_nutrients_	po_trash	hd_subtidal_sl	hd_subtidal_h	hd_intertidal
2	FIS			3	2	1			1			2	2	1
3	MAR			3	2	2				3				
4	AO						1			1		1	3	1
5	NP	corals		1	2	1			2				3	
6	NP	fish_oil		1	2	2			1			2		
7	NP	ornamentals		1	2	2			1				3	
8	NP	seaweeds		1	2	2			2					1
9	NP	shells		1	2				1			2		1
10	NP	sponges		1	2				1			3		
11	CS	mangrove		2	2		1			1				3
12	CS	saltmarsh		2	2		1			2				3
13	CS	seagrass		2	2		2			3				3
14	CP	coral		2	2		1			2			3	
15	CP	mangrove		2	2		1			1				3
16	CP	saltmarsh		2	2		1			2				3
17	CP	seaice_shoreline		2	2									
18	CP	seagrass		2	2		2			3				3
37	LSP						2			2	3		2	3
38	CW						3	3		3	3			
39	HAB	coral		2			1			2			3	
40	HAB	mangrove		2			1			1				3
41	HAB	saltmarsh		2			1			2				3
42	HAB	seaice_edge		2										
43	HAB	seagrass		2			2			3				3
44	HAB	soft_bottom		2			2			2		3		
45	SPP			2		2			3		1	3	2	2

Figure 53:

6.2.4 Modify the resilience matrix (if necessary)

Resilience is included in OHI as the sum of the ecological factors and social initiatives (policies, laws, etc.) that can positively affect goal scores by reducing or eliminating pressures. The addition of new pressure layers may therefore warrant the addition of new resilience layers that were not previously relevant. Similarly, the removal of pressure layers may warrant the removal of now irrelevant resilience layers.

6.3 Modifying resilience matrices

Previous decisions made with your team will identify if any resilience layers should be added to the resilience matrices, and if so, which goals and/or pressures the resilience affects and what weight they should have. You can then transfer this information into `resilience_matrix.csv` (located in the `[assessment]/subcountry2014/conf` folder).

`resilience_matrix.csv` maps the different types of resilience (columns) with the goals that they affect (rows). New resilience layers may be added to `resilience_matrix.csv` based on finer-scale local information either in response to a new pressures layer, or as a new independent measure. Any added layer must be associated with a pressures layer that has a weight of 2 or 3 in the OHI framework so that resilience measures can mitigate pressures in each region.

Each goal must have a resilience measure associated with it. In the figure below, the Toolbox would give an error because there are no resilience layers indicated for the natural products (NP) goal.

6.3.1 Updating resilience matrix with local habitat information

In this example we will borrow from the experience of `ohi-israel`, where they assessed habitats in the Habitats (HAB) sub-goal that were not included in global assessments `ohi-global`. Therefore, the resilience matrix needed some revision.

The habitats assessed for `ohi-israel` are:

`rocky_reef`, `sand_dunes`, `soft_bottom`

goal	component	alien_species	cites	fishing_v1	fishing_v1_ee	fishing_v2_ee	fishing_v3	fishing_v3_ee	habitat	habitat_combo	habitat_combo	li_gci	li_sector_ever	mariculture	msi_gov	species_diver	species_diver	tourism	water	wgi_all
AO				fishing_v1						habitat_combo							species_diversity_3nm			wgi_all
HAB	coral only	alien_species						fishing_v3_eez			habitat_combo_eez			mariculture		species_diversity		tourism	water	wgi_all
HAB		alien_species									habitat_combo_eez			mariculture		species_diversity		tourism	water	wgi_all
HAB	soft_bottom	alien_species				fishing_v2_eez					habitat_combo_eez			mariculture		species_diversity		tourism	water	wgi_all
HAB	soft_bottom	alien_species			fishing_v1_eez						habitat_combo_eez			mariculture		species_diversity		tourism	water	wgi_all
SPP		alien_species	cites			fishing_v2_eez					habitat_combo_eez			mariculture				tourism	water	wgi_all
CS										habitat_combo									water	wgi_all
CW																			water	wgi_all
FIS						fishing_v2_eez					habitat_combo_eez					species_diversity				wgi_all
MAR														mariculture	msi_gov				water	wgi_all
ECO												li_gci								wgi_all
LIV												li_gci	li_sector_evenness							wgi_all
NP																				
CP										habitat_combo									water	wgi_all
ICO			cites			fishing_v2_eez					habitat_combo_eez					species_diversity			water	wgi_all
LSP									habitat										water	wgi_all
TR																			water	wgi_all

Figure 54:

Updates are required for the following files:

- *layers.csv*
- *resilience_matrix.csv*
- *resilience_weights.csv* (only if adding new resilience layers)

6.3.1.1 Global resilience layers

The first step is to determine which resilience layers from the global assessment are relevant to your assessment, and whether others need to be added. The full list of layers included in the global resilience matrix are:

> `alien_species`, `cites`, `fishing_v1`, `fishing_v1_eez`, `fishing_v2_eez`, `fishing_v3`, `fishing_v3_eez`, `habitat`, `habitat_combo`, `habitat_combo_eez`, `li_gci`, `li_sector_evenness`, `mariculture`, `msi_gov`, `species_diversity`, `species_diversity_3nm`, `tourism`, `water`, `wgi_all`

Some of these layers capture general aspects of governance that apply to the protection of any habitat. These are:

> `alien_species`, `cites`, `msi_gov`, `water`, `wgi_all`

Two layers only apply to the livelihoods and economies goal (LE), so they should be excluded from HAB resilience:

> `li_gci`, `li_sector_evenness`

The remaining layers apply to certain habitats, but not others. We focus on these to determine how to adapt the HAB resilience calculation for `ohi-israel`. They are:

> `fishing_v1`, `fishing_v1_eez`, `fishing_v2_eez`, `fishing_v3`, `fishing_v3_eez`, `habitat`, `habitat_combo`, `habitat_combo_eez`, `mariculture`, `species_diversity`, `species_diversity_3nm`, `tourism`

6.3.1.2 Determining how to modify these resilience layers

- To determine whether `species_diversity_3nm` or `species_diversity` should be used:
  - `sand_dunes` should use `species_diversity_3nm`,
  - `soft_bottom` should use `species_diversity`,
  - is `rocky_reef` mainly coastal? if so it should use `tourism` and `species_diversity_3nm`.

- If the habitats can be affected by mariculture plants (e.g. eutrophication and decreased water quality can occur if mariculture plants are close by and have poor wastewater treatment), then the `mariculture` resilience score should be added.
  - are there any mariculture plants in Israel? If yes, on which habitats do they occur?
- The remaining layers are the `fishing_v...` and `habitat..` layers, which are composite indicators obtained from different combinations of the following indicators:

  `Mora, Mora_s4, CBD_hab, MPA_coast, MPA_eez`,

where:

- `Mora` is a fisheries governance effectiveness indicator by Mora *et al* (2009)
- `Mora_s4` is another indicator from Figure S4 of the supplementary material of the same publication that focuses on regulations of artisanal and recreational fisheries
- `CBD_hab` is a score assigned based on answers to a questionnaire compiled by countries that committed to Rio's Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to establish their progress towards habitat biodiversity protection
- `MPA_coast` is an indicator obtained as the proportion of coastal (3nm) waters that are in a marine protected area (MPA), with the maximum being 30% of coastal waters
- `MPA_eez` is an indicator obtained as the proportion of the whole EEZ that is in a marine protected area, with the maximum being 30% of the whole EEZ.

This table shows which indicators are used by each combo layer:

Layer	Mora	Mora_s4	CBD_hab	MPA_coast	MPA_eez
fishing_v1	Mora		CBD_hab	MPA_coast	
fishing_v1_eez	Mora		CBD_hab		MPA_eez
fishing_v2_eez	Mora	Mora_s4	CBD_hab		MPA_eez
fishing_v3		Mora_s4	CBD_hab	MPA_coast	
fishing_v3_eez		Mora_s4	CBD_hab		MPA_eez
habitat			CBD_hab		
habitat_combo			CBD_hab	MPA_coast	
habitat_combo_eez			CBD_hab		MPA_eez

Questions to consider:

The first objective is to determine whether the general `fishing_v..` or `habitat_...` categories are relevant to each of the habitats. For example, fisheries regulations do not affect the conservation of sand dunes, so this habitat should not use any of the fisheries combos. If the general resilience categories are relevant to the habitat, the next step is to select one resilience layer within the `fishing_v...` and `habitat...` categories that most adequately captures the suite of combined resilience variables that affect the habitat. For example, the sand dune habitat is a strictly coastal habitat, so the most appropriate resilience layer would be the one that uses the MPA_coast (i.e., `habitat_combo`). The rocky reef and soft bottom, on the other hand, should definitely include fisheries and habitat regulations. So, you'll need to choose a fisheries and a habitat combo for these two habitats. To do so, consider:

1) For which habitats should you use both a fishery and a habitat combo, or just use a habitat combo?

- fisheries regulations do not affect the conservation of sand-dunes, so this habitat should not use any of the fisheries combos. Also, this is a strictly coastal habitat, so choose the habitat layer that uses the

MPA_coast instead of the MPA_eez, i.e. habitat_combo (and, as mentioned above, choose the coastal version of biodiversity, i.e. species_diversity_3nm).

- The rocky reef and soft bottom, on the other hand, should definitely include fisheries regulations. So you'll need to choose a fisheries and a habitat combo for these two habitats.

2) Which fisheries and habitat combos for rocky_reef and soft_bottom? The choice depends on two things:

- whether they are coastal habitats (within 3nm of the coast) or EEZ-wide habitats
  - if coastal, use the fisheries and habitat combos with MPA_coast (fishing_v1, fishing_v3, habitat_combo), and the species_diversity_3nm layer
  - if EEZ-wide, use the fisheries and habitat combos with MPA_eez (fishing_v1_eez, fishing_v2_eez, fishing_v3_eez, habitat_combo_eez), and the species_diversity layer
- whether the fisheries occurring on that habitat are mainly artisanal, mainly commercial, or both
  - if only commercial fisheries, use a layer that only uses the Mora data fishing_v1..)
  - if only artisanal/small-scale fisheries, use a layer that only uses the Mora_s4 data (fishing_v3..)
  - if both, use a layer that uses both Mora and Mora_s4 data (fishing_v2..)

3) It may also be that the existing global combo layers are not appropriate for your habitats. For example, if rocky reef is mainly coastal, and it is fished by both commercial and artisanal methods, then we need a new combo that uses Mora, Mora_s4, CBD_hab, and MPA_coast (this is the same as fishing_v2_eez, but we use the MPA_coast layer instead of the MPA_eez). All other combinations are already present.

4) Another issue to consider is whether local data are available to improve the pressure layers (that are based on global data). For example, if there are local data on Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and any areas with special regulations, this should be used to generate the MPA_coast and MPA_eez layers.You may know that only certain types of protected areas are closed to fisheries, and may want to only include those. Also, local datasets may be more accurate and regularly updated. **NOTE: in the global study, these are the same datasets used to calculate the status of Lasting Special Places (LSP).

5) How to update resilience_matrix.csv?

- write the complete list of layers you want to use for each habitat. Based on the above, for example, soft bottom in Israel matches the combination of layers called *soft bottom, with corals* in the default resilience_matrix.csv. But the rocky_reef and sand_dunes don't seem to match any existing combination, so you'll probably need to delete some of the rows, e.g. the *coral only*, and replace with new ad-hoc rows.

6.4 Modifying goal models

When an existing layer is updated with new data, the Toolbox will automatically incorporate it into the goal calculations after the updated filenames are registered in layers.csv. However, if a new layer has been added to the layers folder and registered in layers.csv, the Toolbox will not use it unless it is called in a goal model. To integrate any new data layers registered in layers.csv you will need to modify the goal model to incorporate the data. Furthermore, in many cases, it will make sense to modify goal models based on data availability and/or local context. For example, the models for regional analyses can often be simplified because of improved data.

There are some key steps to follow when working with goal models:

1. Update functions.R

2. Check and possibly update `goals.csv`
3. Check if you need to update `pressures_matrix.csv` and `resilience_matrix.csv` when you change a goal model.

6.4.1 Update *functions.R*

To incorporate a new data layer into a goal model, open `functions.R` in RStudio: this script contains all the models for each goal and sub-goal. A member of your team with the ability to write R code will need to translate the updated goal model into the Toolbox format. Follow the structure of existing goal models in order to incorporate the new data layers, noting the use of certain R packages for data manipulation.

The image below shows the navigation pane in RStudio that can be used to easily navigate between goal models.

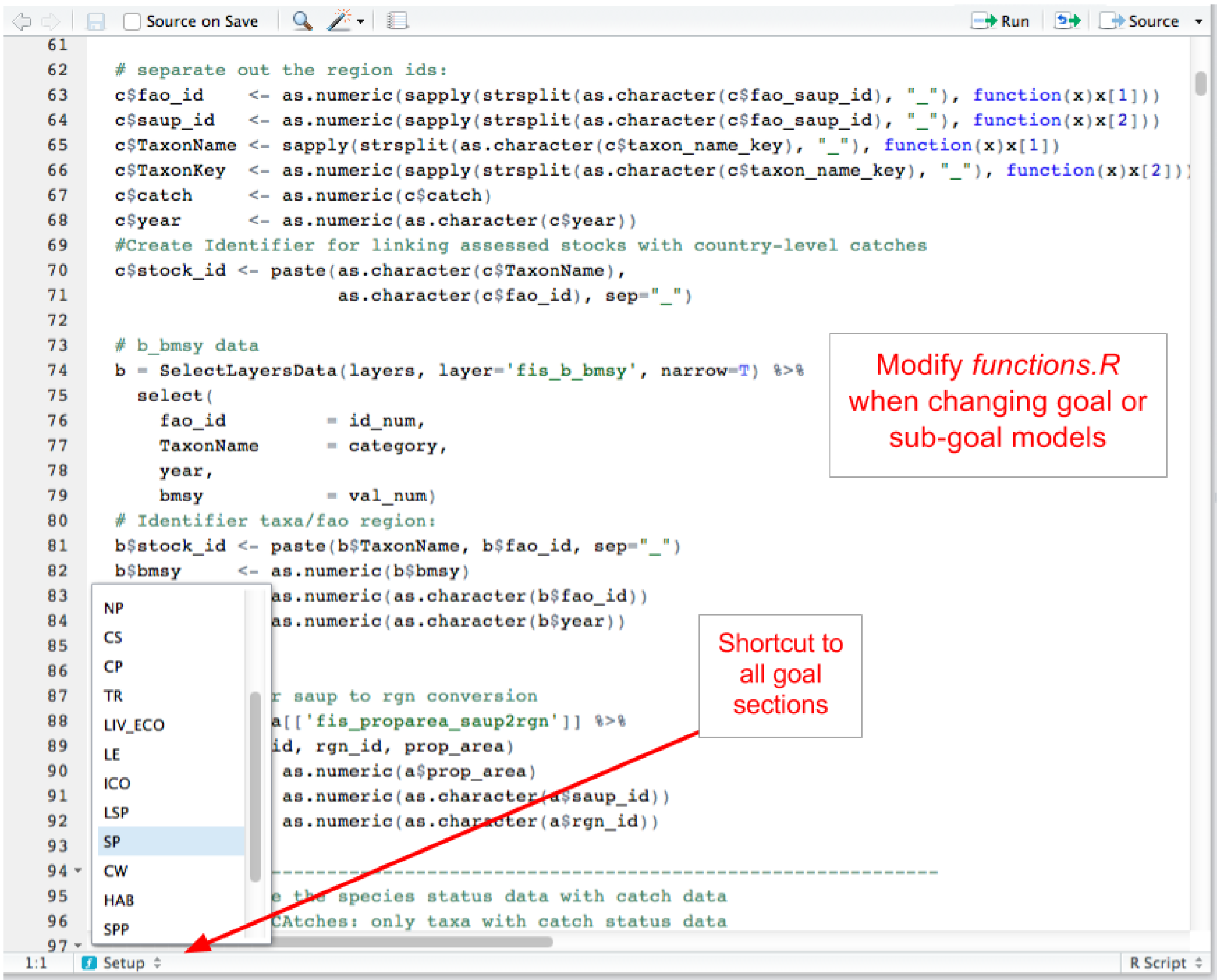


Figure 55: The navigation pane in RStudio can be used to easily navigate between goal models.

6.4.2 Check and possibly update *goals.csv*

`goals.csv` provides input information for `functions.R`, particularly about goal weighting and function calls. It also includes descriptions about goals and sub-goals, which is presented on the WebApp.

Changing goal weights will be done here by editing the value in the *weight* column. Weights do not need to be 0-1 or add up to 10; weights will be scaled as a proportion of the number of goals assessed. `goals.csv` also indicates the arguments passed to `functions.R`. These are indicated by two columns: *preindex_function* (functions for all goals that do not have sub-goals, and functions for all sub-goals) and *postindex_function* (functions for goals with sub-goals).

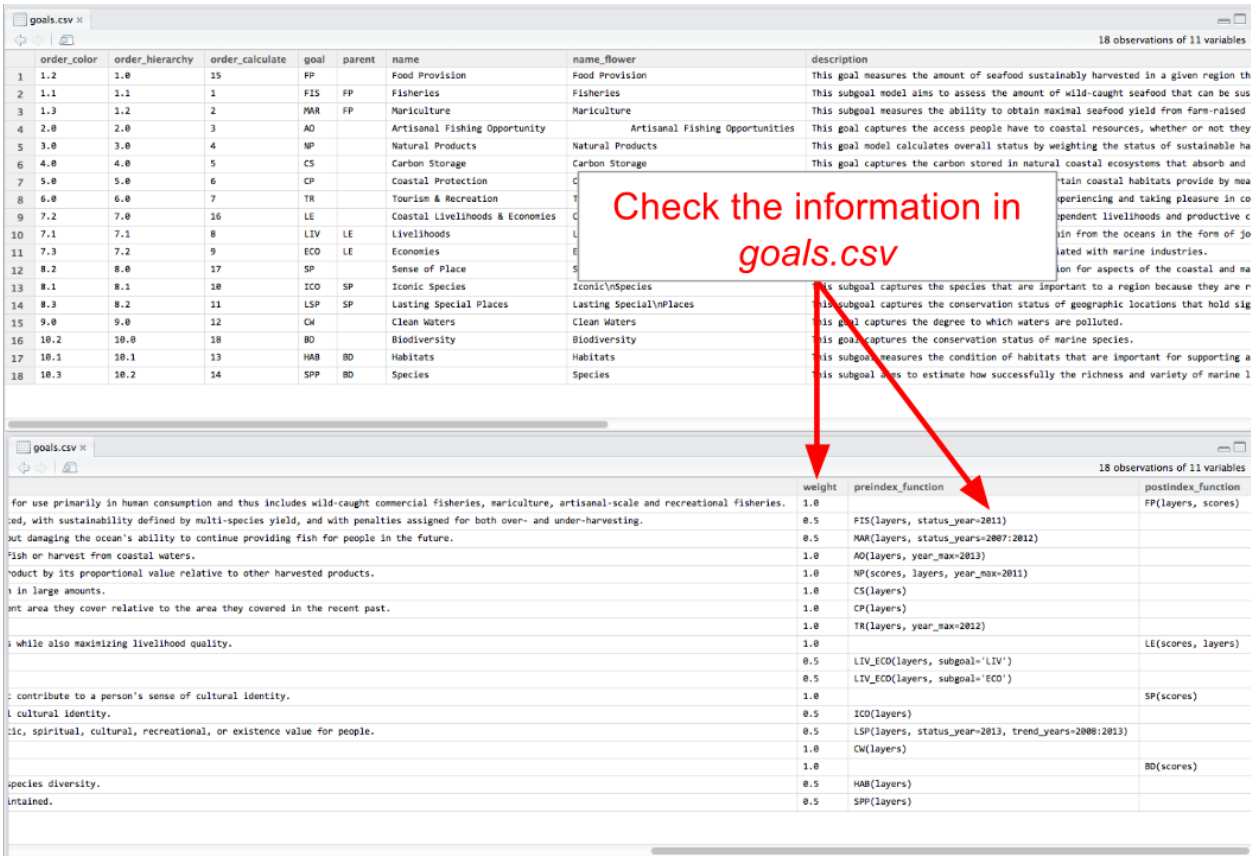


Figure 56: Check the information in `goals.csv`. It provides input information for `functions.R`.

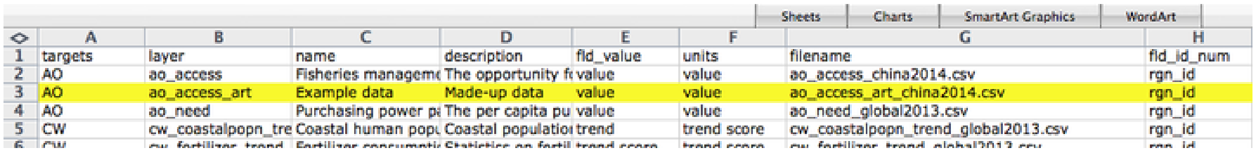
When updating layers or goal models, it is important to ensure that information called from `goals.csv` is correct:

> TIP: In the 'preindex_function' column, you should see what the `year_max`, `status_year`, and `trend_year` say.

6.4.3 Example modification:

Suppose your team has decided to add an 'artisanal access' component to the Artisanal Fishing Opportunity goal because of locally available data. Once the data are obtained and properly formatted, the data layer is saved as `ao_access_art`. To include this new information in the goal model, you will need to do the following:

1. register the layer in `layers.csv`
2. update the goal model in `functions.R`
3. update the goal call in `goals.csv`



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	targets	layer	name	description	fld_value	units	filename	fld_id_num
2	AO	ao_access	Fisheries manageme	The opportunity fo	value	value	ao_access_china2014.csv	rgn_id
3	AO	ao_access_art	Example data	Made-up data	value	value	ao_access_art_china2014.csv	rgn_id
4	AO	ao_need	Purchasing power pa	The per capita pu	value	value	ao_need_global2013.csv	rgn_id
5	CW	cw_coastalpopn_tre	Coastal human popu	Coastal populatio	trend	trend score	cw_coastalpopn_trend_global2013.csv	rgn_id

Figure 57:

Step 1. Register in `layers.csv`

Step 2. Update the goal model

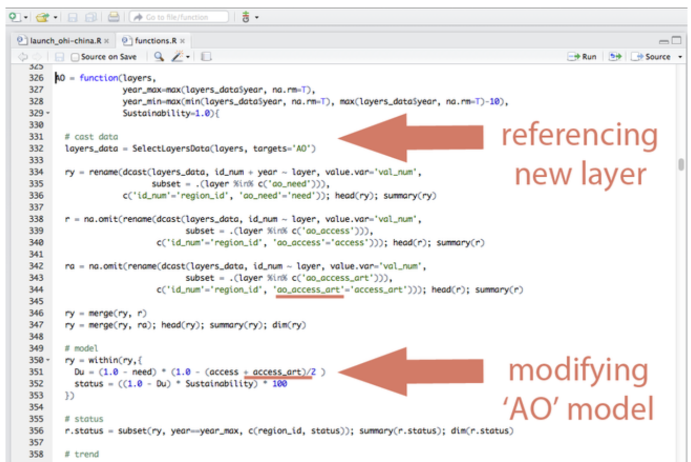


Figure 58:

Step 3. Update goal call in `goals.csv`

6.4.4 What's the code trying to do?

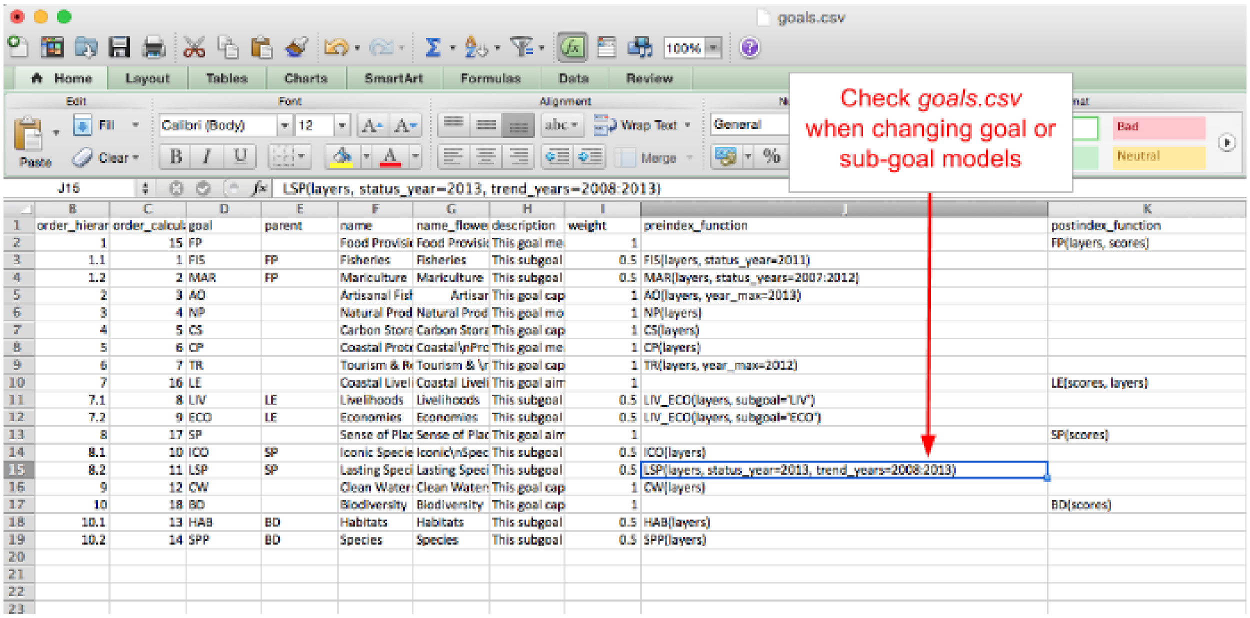
6.4.4.1 Natural Products You may have already looked at the **NP** section of `functions.R`. In simple terms, here is what the code is doing:

- It pulls out the appropriate data layers to find out the amount of each product per unit area. It does gap-filling as necessary for the Global data.

  It should be noted that in the Global Assessments, the harvested amounts are derived from the information from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and these are combined with habitat values used elsewhere in the assessment. You should be conscious of this as you go through the model and change it, because you may be able to simplify aspects of the code such as gap-filling.

- It calculates Exposure by finding how intensely each identified product is being harvested (amount of product per km^2), and then transforms this from a scale from 0 to 1.

  TIP: The data layer, `hab_extent` is used here and in other goal models in the default code for the Global Assessment.



	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	order_hierar	order_calcul	goal	parent	name	name_flowe	description	weight	preindex_function	postindex_function
2	1	15	FP		Food Provisi	Food Provisi	This goal me	1		FP(layers, scores)
3	1.1	1	FIS	FP	Fisheries	Fisheries	This subgoal	0.5	FIS(layers, status_year=2011)	
4	1.2	2	MAR	FP	Mariculture	Mariculture	This subgoal	0.5	MAR(layers, status_years=2007:2012)	
5	2	3	AO		Artisanal Fist	Artisar	This goal cap	1	AO(layers, year_max=2013)	
6	3	4	NP		Natural Prod	Natural Prod	This goal mo	1	NP(layers)	
7	4	5	CS		Carbon Stora	Carbon Stora	This goal cap	1	CS(layers)	
8	5	6	CP		Coastal Prote	Coastal\nPro	This goal me	1	CP(layers)	
9	6	7	TR		Tourism & R	Tourism & \r	This goal cap	1	TR(layers, year_max=2012)	
10	7	16	LE		Coastal Liveli	Coastal Liveli	This goal aim	1		LE(scores, layers)
11	7.1	8	LIV	LE	Livelihoods	Livelihoods	This subgoal	0.5	LIV_ECO(layers, subgoal='LIV')	
12	7.2	9	ECO	LE	Economies	Economies	This subgoal	0.5	LIV_ECO(layers, subgoal='ECO')	
13	8	17	SP		Sense of Plac	Sense of Plac	This goal aim	1		SP(scores)
14	8.1	10	ICO	SP	Iconic Specie	Iconic\nSpec	This subgoal	0.5	ICO(layers)	
15	8.2	11	LSP	SP	Lasting Speci	Lasting Speci	This subgoal	0.5	LSP(layers, status_year=2013, trend_years=2008:2013)	
16	9	12	CW		Clean Water:	Clean Water:	This goal cap	1	CW(layers)	
17	10	18	BD		Biodiversity	Biodiversity	This goal cap	1		BD(scores)
18	10.1	13	HAB	BD	Habitats	Habitats	This subgoal	0.5	HAB(layers)	
19	10.2	14	SPP	BD	Species	Species	This subgoal	0.5	SPP(layers)	

Figure 59: A screenshot of `goals.csv`, used to modify goal model

- In parallel to this, it finds the Risk of each product based on a scoring system that becomes binary: 0, or 1.
- It then averages the two factors, Exposure and Risk, to reveal where risk and intensity are highest. This value is then inverted to become Sustainability and to reward lower intensity and lower risk.
- The amount of each kind of product, relative to the peak historical yield of that product across all regions assessed, and Sustainability are both used create sustainability-weighted scores for all regions and all years available.
- The latest year value is used in the status, and the past few years' values are used in the trend to produce the final score.

Figure needed? Diagram of sustainability calculation, NP; or perhaps a time-series of the available products in country X in order to show where the peak yield would be.]

6.4.4.2 Data Sources If the case is that corals, sponges, and then you might be able to use FAO data, which is the data source of the Global Assessments. Otherwise, you will have to find comparable data in your area or consult local statistical offices and local fisheries managers to get harvest values similar to landing values and any other kinds of stock assessments. The IUCN offers quantified assessments of risk to species, but that is more appropriate for biodiversity; CITES signatory data may be more appropriate for the trade products. Exposure can be calculated spatially, and for this you should be able to find or produce your own maps if possible. Your maps might have finer resolution than those in global resolution.

6.4.4.3 Gap-filling

> TIP: When checking your data, check cases where country-product pair has 0 for sustainability score, but relatively high harvest ratio (curr harvest/peak harvest) – it may be a flag that the sustainability score is off (eg because the habitat area is off)

TIP: Explore simplifying gap-filling: use correlation model of dollar value vs. harvested tonnage, while discarding the part of script using dollar ratio (current dollar value)/(peak dollar value) as a gap-filler for harvest ratio.

TIP: Switch the gap-filling order: using the dollar value correlation model first (in cases where the most recent year has no harvest reported but has dollar value reported, that's a better estimate than using the harvest from the previous year), then gap-fill any remaining cases of missing harvest for the current year with harvest from the previous year

6.4.5 Appendix - source materials

6.4.5.1 Global Data Approach (Technical Notes) Data Overview

product	relative tonnes (1)	weighting (2)	Exposure (3)	Risk (4)
coral	FAO	FAO	coral habitat	all 1
sponges	FAO	FAO	coral + rocky reef habitat	all 0
ornamentals	FAO	FAO	coral + rocky reef habitat	1 if blast/cyanide fishing, otherwise 0
fish oil	FAO	FAO	fish score/100	–
shells	FAO	FAO	coral + rocky reef habitat	all 0
seaweeds	FAO	FAO	rocky reef habitat	–

(1) relative tonnes: tonnes relative to max tonnes for region with 35% buffer. The maximum corresponds to the year with the highest $ value - but it would probably be better to just base this off tonnes. When we redo these data lets evaluate this approach.
(2) weighting: This weights the contribution of each product according to USD at max year for a region. It makes sense to use $, because comparing extraction weight of sponges vs. ornamentals doesn't make sense.
(3) Exposure: For fish oil this value is the FIS score (which is a bit different than what is described in the paper because FIS score can have penalties for underfishing). The other values are determined by: log (harvest/habitat area + 1) / log[max(harvest/habitat area) +1].

The habitat area used for seaweeds: rocky reef The habitat area used for coral: coral The habitat area used for shells, ornamentals, sponges: coral plus rocky reef

6.4.5.2 Notes: Preparing the Data

6.5

6.5.0.3 Notes: Tech Specs

```
<!---Note Ecuador's approach to Natural Products:
Very low data for species, so it has been hard to advance this goal, unknown for each global product. bu
but they need to be looking for data for things they actually produce, like madera, leña de manglares, 

<!---SPP status takes into account the IUCN score and the area that the species occupies (although the 
ICO status is calculated by taking the average of the IUCN ratings for all the iconic species in the EE

<!---SPECIES he original logic was to represent the species present relative to the proportion of their

A disadvantage is that rare species (and those with contracting ranges) will have a relatively small in
```

An advantage is (actually a disadvantage of averaging species scores at the EEZ level): "The bigger an a

<!---SPECIES. For the global assessment, we started with a list of iconic species, and then found which
Are you using IUCN categories? If so, you can use Butchart's method. You'll see in the Toolbox that the

6.6 Removing goals

If a goal is not relevant in your region, it is possible to remove the goal completely from the calculation. There are four places where you will need to remove the reference to this goal. Failing to delete all referenced layers after the goal is deleted will result in errors. To remove goals from your assessment, you will have to do the following:

1. Remove the goal model from `functions.R`
2. Remove the goal's row from `goals.csv`
3. Remove the goal's row from `pressures_matrix.csv`
4. Remove the goal's row from `resilience_matrix.csv`

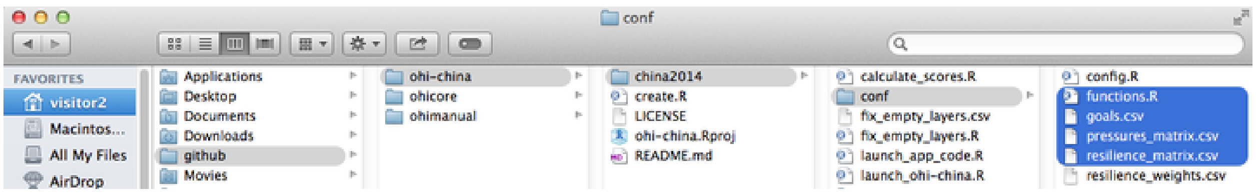


Figure 60:

Example: Removing carbon storage (CS) goal

To completely remove the carbon storage goal from Index calculations, you will do the following.

1) Remove the carbon storage (CS) goal model from `functions.R`. Delete the highlighted text in the figure below that references the CS layers and calculates CS goal status, trend, and scores.

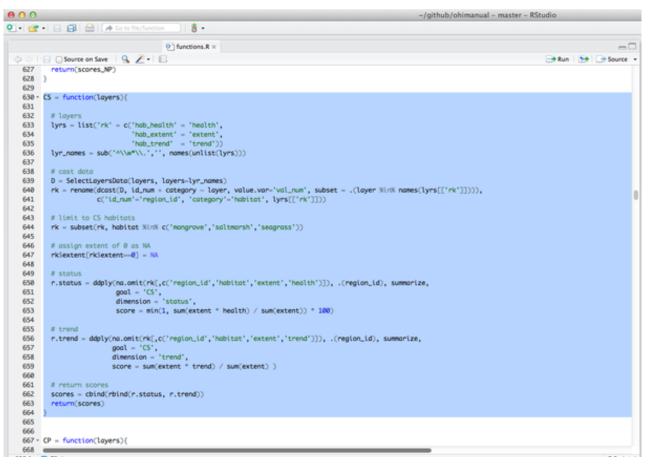
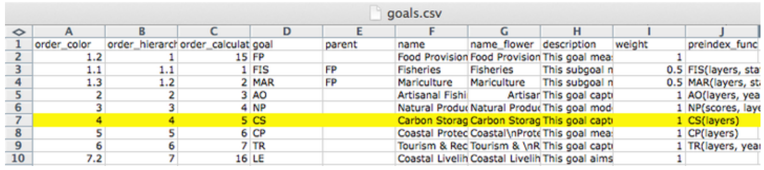


Figure 61:



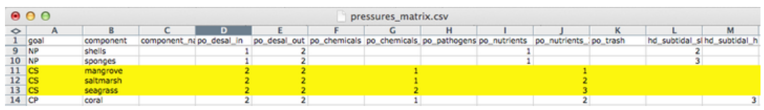
goals.csv

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	order_color	order_hierarch	order_calculat	goal	parent	name	name_flower	description	weight	preindex_func
2	1.2	1	15	FP		Food Provision	Food Provision	This goal mea:	1	
3	1.1	1.1	1	FIS	FP	Fisheries	Fisheries	This subgoal n	0.5	FIS(layers, sta
4	1.3	1.2	2	MAR	FP	Mariculture	Mariculture	This subgoal n	0.5	MAR(layers, st:
5	2	2	3	AO		Artisanal Fishi	Artisar	This goal capti	1	AO(layers, yea
6	3	3	4	NP		Natural Produc	Natural Produc	This goal mod	1	NP(scores, laye
7	4	4	5	CS		Carbon Storag	Carbon Storag	This goal capti	1	CS(layers)
8	5	5	6	CP		Coastal Protec	Coastal\nProte	This goal mea:	1	CP(layers)
9	6	6	7	TR		Tourism & Rec	Tourism & \nR	This goal capti	1	TR(layers, year
10	7.2	7	16	LE		Coastal Livelih	Coastal Livelih	This goal aims	1	

Figure 62:

2) Remove the CS row from `goals.csv`. Delete the highlighted row in the figure below that contains the CS goal.

3) Remove all CS rows from `pressures_matrix.csv`. Delete the highlighted rows in the figure below that contain CS pressures.

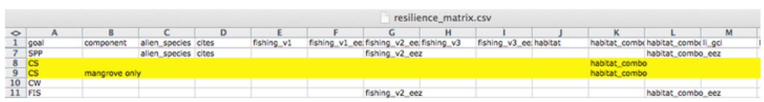


pressures_matrix.csv

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	goal	component	component_na	po_desal_in	po_desal_out	po_chemicals	po_chemicals_	po_pathogens	po_nutrients	po_nutrients_	po_trash	hd_subtidal_sl	hd_subtidal_h
9	NP	shells		1	2				1			2	
10	NP	sponges		1	2				1			3	
11	CS	mangrove		2	2		1			1			
12	CS	saltmarsh		2	2		1			2			
13	CS	seagrass		2	2		2			3			
14	CP	coral		2	2		1			2			3

Figure 63:

4) Remove all CS rows from `resilience_matrix.csv`. Delete the highlighted rows in the figure below that contain CS resilience.



resilience_matrix.csv

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	goal	component	alien_species	cites	fishing_v1	fishing_v1_ee:	fishing_v2_ee:	fishing_v3	fishing_v3_ee:	habitat	habitat_combo	habitat_combo	li_gci
7	SPP		alien_species	cites			fishing_v2_eez					habitat_combo_eez	
8	CS										habitat_combo		
9	CS	mangrove only									habitat_combo		
10	CW												
11	FIS						fishing_v2_eez					habitat_combo_eez	

Figure 64:

6.7 Modifying the pressures matrix for goals with categories

6.7.1 Background

The pressures and resilience matrix tables identify which pressures and resilience measures (layers) are relevant to which goals and how they are weighted. But pressures and resilience measures can also affect the components within a goal differently. When that is the case, those components can have individual entries (rows) in the pressures and resilience matrix tables and will have pressures and resilience scores calculated individually for each component.

The Toolbox calls these components of a goal 'categories', and knows to calculate pressures and resilience for category elements separately because they are identified in three places: in `pressures_matrix.csv`, `resilience_matrix.csv`, and `config.r`. These files are all located in the `conf` folder. To calculate the pressures and resilience scores, the Toolbox uses `config.r` to identify which categories to expect in the matrix tables, and will give a warning if they do not match. `config.r` relies upon the data layers identified in the `pressures_components` and `resilience_components` variables.

In global assessments, there are several goals that have categories indicated in the matrix tables and `config.r` file:

Goal	Category	layer indicated in `config.r`
NP	product types	np_harvest_product_weight
CS	habitat types	cs_habitat_extent
CP	habitat types	cp_habitat_extent_rank
HAB	habitat types	le_sector_weight
LIV	industry sectors	le_sector_weight
ECO	industry sectors	hab_presence

If you have modified any of the category types in the matrix tables of the above goals, or added new category types to any goals, you will likely need to update the layer indicated in `config.r`. It is also possible to identify individual categories in other goals than those listed above. For example, in the mariculture sub-goal, you could specify the pressures on nearshore mariculture separately from offshore mariculture.

It is important that the file identified in `config.r` does not contain any NA values.

6.7.2 Example 1: Pressures

Here is an example of how to modify existing category types for the natural products goal.

In the China OHI+ assessment there are three natural product types (seasalt, sea chemicals, and sea medicine), which differ from those assessed in the global assessments (corals, fish_oil, ornamentals, seaweeds, sponges). After modifying and registering the appropriate data layers and updating the NP function in `functions.r`, it is time to update the natural product types in `pressures_matrix.csv`, `resilience_matrix.csv`, and `config.r`.

- to update `pressures_matrix.csv` and `resilience_matrix.csv`, make sure that each product type has a separate row, with the appropriate pressures identified and weights attributed.
- to update `config.r`, check that the data layer identified in the `pressures_components` and `resilience_components` has the same category types.

When you run `calculate_scores.r`, the following warning will alert you that there is a mis-match between category types identified in the matrix and `config.r`:

```
Calculating Pressures...
The following components for NP are not in the
aggregation layer np_harvest_product_weight categories
(corals, fish_oil, ornamentals, seaweeds, sponges):
seasalt, sea_chemicals, sea_medicine
```

This message indicates that the `np_harvest_product_weight` layer identifies five categories (corals, fish_oil, ornamentals, seaweeds, sponges) but the `pressures_matrix.csv` indicates three (seasalt, sea_chemicals, sea_medicine).

To ensure that pressures are calculated correctly for the categories in your assessment, you will need to change the layer identified in `config.r`.

Note that more subtle examples of these mismatch between the categories identified in `pressures_matrix.csv` and `config.r` can also occur. For example, after updating the carbon storage layers and goal model in the China OHI+ assessment, the following warning message appeared when running `calculate_scores.r`:

```
Calculating Pressures...
The following components for CS are not in the aggregation layer
cs_extent categories (saltmarshes, seagrasses, mangroves):
mangrove, saltmarsh, seagrass
```

The problem here is that the categories identified in `config.r` (saltmarshes, seagrasses, mangroves) are plural, whereas the categories identified in the pressures matrix (mangrove, saltmarsh, seagrass) are singular, and the Toolbox needs exact matches. To fix this warning, you need to update the pressures matrix with the plural names.

6.7.3 Example 2: Resilience

For resilience calculations, the proper categories also need to be identified both in `resilience_matrix.csv` and `config.r`. If there is a mismatch, you will see the following message:

```
Calculating Resilience...
Note: each goal in resilience_matrix.csv
must have at least one resilience field
Based on the following components for NP:
corals
fish_oil
ornamentals
seaweeds
shells
sponges
```

With resilience, if we update only the `resilience_matrix.csv` but not `config.r`, we get the following error message instead of the warning message we saw for pressures above.

~~~~
Based on the following components for NP:
  seasalt
  sea_chemicals
  sea_medicine
Error in subset.default(SelectLayersData(layers, layers = lyrs),
id_num ==  : object 'id_num' not found
In addition: Warning messages:
1: Grouping rowwise data frame strips rowwise nature
2: In left_join_impl(x, y, by$x, by$y) :
  joining factors with different levels, coercing to character vector
  ```

This error can be fixed by updating `config.r` with a layer identifying the appropriate categories.

## Other example modifications

### Preparing the fisheries sub-goal

Here is some background information about how to prepare fisheries data layers for the Toolbox.

**Data layers used by the Toolbox:**

* `fis_b_bmsy`
* `fis_meancatch`
* `fis_proparea_saup2rgn`
* `fp_wildcaught_weight`

#### Description of data layers
~~~~

`fis_b_bmsy`

* *for species*: B/Bmsy estimate (either from formal stock assessment, or from a data-poor method such a
* *for genus/family/broader taxa*: the toolbox will use median B/Bmsy from species in that region + a pe
* *data source (for CMSY)*: catch time-series (at least 10 years of catch >0), species resilience (if av

Example data:

fao_id	taxon_name	year	b_bmsy
51	Ablennes hians	1985	1.112412
51	Ablennes hians	1986	1.222996
51	Ablennes hians	1987	1.371058

NOTE: if a species that is caught in different sub-regions belongs to the same population, you don't war
Use *fao_id* as an identifier that separates different fisheries 'stocks' belonging to the same species
If you don't have multiple stocks in your study area, set all *fao_id* = 1.

`fis_meancatch`:

* average catch across all years, per species, per region
* *data source*: catch time-series (at least 10 years of catch >0), with a unique identifier for each po

Example data:

fao_saup_id	taxon_name_key	year	mean_catch
37_8	Aristeus antennatus_690051	2014	14.24398116
37_8	Atherinidae_400218	2014	27.30120156
37_8	Balistes capriscus_607327	2014	3.247883895

The *taxon_name_key* column indicates the name of the species (e.g. Aristeus antennatus) and its 'taxonk

`fis_proparea_saup2rgn`:

* a conversion file that, for each region for which catch is reported, tells us what proportion of that

Example data:

saup_id	rgn_id	prop_area
166	1	1.0
162	2	1.0
574	3	0.7
37	4	0.8

Specific instances:

only if catch is reported for different regions than the ones used for the OHI assessment: this shoul
If catch is reported for the same areas for which OHI is calculated: then all the *prop_area* are = 1
*If catch is reported for the whole area of the assessment, but you want to calculate a separate OHI sc

`fp_wildcaught_weight`:

only needed if there is mariculture: for each region, this represents the relative proportion of catc
(NOTE that, before all mariculture harvest from all species gets summed, the mariculture harvest for ea

Running CMSY model

Sample data to run CMSY:

id	stock_id	res	ct	yr
6	Acanthistius brasilianus_41	Medium	100	1950
23	Acanthurus dussumieri_61		0.059250269	1950
24	Acanthurus dussumieri_71		0.190749971	1950
25	Acanthurus lineatus_61	Low	12.74821966	1950

The current CMSY script produces an output that looks something like this (split into 2 tables):

stock_id	convergence	effective_sample_size	yr	b_bmsy	b_bmsyUpper
Ablennes hians_51	SC	30974	1985	1.112412	1.8
Ablennes hians_51	SC	30974	1986	1.222996	1.768895

stock_id	yr	b_bmsyLower	b_bmsyiq25	b_bmsyiq75	b_bmsyGM	b_bmsyMed
Ablennes hians_51	1985	1	1	1	1.093932	1
Ablennes hians_51	1986	1.014688	1.075699	1.298437	1.209005	1.160329

where *stock_id* is the unique identifier for each stock that was used in the input file, *convergence*

How to:

1. Include resilience in the CMSY code:

In the CMSY R script, in the PARAMETERS section, replace the following:

`> ![](./fig/include_resilience.png)`

2. Make assumptions about fisheries regulations:

If you assume that fisheries are depleted and there isn't very much fisheries regulation, and you are u
The original constrained prior on final biomass is set by this line within the code:

finalbio <- if(ct[nyr]/max(ct) > 0.5) {c(0.3,0.7)} else {c(0.01,0.4)}

The model uses a uniform prior if that line is replaced with:

finalbio <- c(0.01,0.7) “‘

3. Use data at a different spatial resolution than the final assessment:

See notes above for `fis_proparea_saup2rgn`

4. Calculate B, or Bmsy:

The CMSY model calculates B/Bmsy as a ratio, it does not estimate the two variables separately.

5. Use catch per unit of effort (CPUE):

The CMSY model requires total biomass removed by fisheries, and uses catch as a proxy for that. It cannot use CPUE. Other more sophisticated stock assessment models use CPUE and may be employed. We do not provide documentation for the use of these other models.

6. Use other life-history characteristics, in addition to resilience:

The CMSY model does not use more detailed information. Other more sophisticated stock assessment models use other life-history traits such as fecundity, larval dispersal, r, K, Lmax, etc., and may be employed. We do not provide documentation for the use of these other models.

7. Create a 'taxonkey' to assign to each species:

When replacing the SAUP_FAO data with your own data, assign a key of 600000 to all species. For all catch that is reported at genus or coarser taxonomic level, you will have to choose an appropriate taxonkey. You can create your own key, from 100000 to 500000, based on your own judgment of how many species may be reported under that same denomination, and how different they may be (all that matters for the toolbox code is whether the number starts with a 1,2,3,4,5 or 6 with 1 being the coarsest, such as 'miscellaneous marine animals', or 'crustaceans nei').

6.7.3.1 Resources Martell, S & Froese, R (2013) "A simple method for estimating MSY from catch and resilience". *Fish and Fisheries*, DOI: 10.1111/j.1467-2979.2012.00485.x. Downloadable here

Rosenberg, A.A., Fogarty, M.J., Cooper, A.B., Dickey-Collas, M., Fulton, E.A., Gutiérrez, N.L., Hyde, K.J.W., Kleisner, K.M., Kristiansen, T., Longo, C., Minte-Vera, C., Minto, C., Mosqueira, I., Chato Osio, G., Ovando, D., Selig, E.R., Thorson, J.T. & Ye, Y. (2014) Developing new approaches to global stock status assessment and fishery production potential of the seas. *FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Circular No. 1086*. Rome, FAO. 175 pp. Downloadable here

6.8 Notes about R

The Toolbox is written in R, and relies heavily on a few R packages created to faciliate data handling and manipulation. The primary R package used is called `dplyr` by Hadley Wickham. The `dplyr` package allows for 'chaining' between functions, which is represented with a `%>%`. See: https://github.com/hadley/dplyr#dplyr for documentation.

7 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

This document provides answers to some frequently asked questions about conducting regional assessments using the Ocean Health Index. A few questions are related to general concepts in the Ocean Health Index, but mostly those topics are covered at http://www.oceanhealthindex.org/About/FAQ/. Here, the FAQ are primarily technical questions regarding regional assessments and using the OHI Toolbox. This document will be updated continually as we have more questions. Questions are arranged by theme, and have the format Q: (question) and A: (answer).

7.1 Overall

7.2 Conceptual

Q: Are regional assessment scores comparable with global assessment scores?

A: Regional Index scores cannot be directly compared to global Index scores, or to other regional Index scores calculated through separate efforts. This is because data and indicators (both what they measure and their quality), reference points (set using local knowledge and priorities), and specific goal models are often different for the areas being compared.

However, because scores for each goal are scaled to a reference point, qualitative comparisons can be made. For example, a score of 71 in the US West Coast compared to 66 in Brazil says that the US West coast is closer to fully meeting its sustainable goals (i.e., meeting regional reference points). Furthermore, use of the same Ocean Health Index framework across regional assessments permits fruitful discussion and general comparisons even if data inputs differ. Ocean Health Index assessments at any scale always work within a standardized definition of ocean health, using information to capture the philosophy of the ten goals that have been identified (and undergone scientific peer-review) prior to compiling relevant data. Use of the ten-goal framework is important both to ensure that all aspects of ocean health are captured and to allow better comparison across regional assessments than would be possible if the different regions used different methods.

Q: How does the Index account for ecosystem benefits?

A: The OHI is not an index of ecosystem services. The Index prefers to describe benefits from a healthy ocean and emphasize their relevance, but the ideas are closely related. The ten goals roughly fall into areas of ecosystem services such as food provisioning (**Food Provision**), regulatory services (**Carbon Storage**), cultural services (**Tourism and Recreation**,**Special Places**), supporting services (**Clean Waters**, **Biodiversity**), and other values (**Livelhoods and Economies**).

(Source: OHI Baltic workshop)

Q: Where is climate change measured in the Index?

A: Four different aspects of climate change – increases in sea surface temperature (SST), sea level rise (SLR), ultraviolet radiation (UV), and ocean acidification (OA) – are included as pressures to many goals in the Index, including Natural Products, Carbon Storage, Coastal Protection, Sense of Place, Livelihoods & Economies and Biodiversity. Mitigation of climate change through carbon storage is one of the ten goals.

Q: Why are food provision and artisanal fishing opportunities goals separated?

A: These goals measure different aspects of how people relate to fishing. The catch of fish made by artisanal (=small-scale, subsistence type) fisheries is captured in the food provision goal. Jobs, wages and income from both the food provision and artisanal fishing goals are captured in the livelihoods & economies goal. The purpose of the artisanal fishing opportunity goal is to evaluate the opportunity for people to pursue this fishing in relation to their need to do so.

7.3 Timing and Resources

Q: How much does it cost to produce a regional assessment?

A: Regional assessments can be completed at(varying costs depending on the local context.(Funds are needed for a management and scientific team, workshops and meetings (including travel), communications, policy engagement, and operating costs. Therefore, securing funding is an important component to satisfactorily complete the assessment. We encourage the development of a local proposal or strategic action plan that details a timeline of activities and the resources needed to accomplish them.

Q: How many people are required in a team?

A: rather than a specific number of individuals, what is required are specific skillsets. For example, if the scientific analysts were capable of effectively conducting the R analysis, then a dedicated R analyst would not be required. In current assessments, teams range between 2 and 8 people.

Q: How long does it take to calculate OHI at a regional scale?

A: The duration of an OHI assessment depends on a number of factors, such as the budget and number of people involved, the scale of the study area and whether new regions will need to be created, how easily data can be acquired, how much local data can be incorporated, how many goal models need to be changed. Additionally, decisions about setting reference points require input from experts. For independent assessments (OHI+), we have found that the average time has ranged from 1.5 to 3 years (See **Task Timeline** in the **Conceptual Guide**).

Q: How much time will modifications by an R analyst take?

A: This will depend on if you are changing any models, and potentially data layers–but a lot of changing data layers just requires registering them properly in `layers.csv` (and maybe `pressures_matrix.csv` and resilience_matrix.csv if they are pressures or resilience files) and having the `functions.R` file call those layers. That is more 'bookkeeping' than actual R programming.

Q: How much time will modifications by a GIS analyst take?

A: this will depend on how many layers you are processing: you are clipping spatial data? That will take some time because there are quite a few files, but maybe not too long since it is pretty small scale and once there is a clipping mask created I think you apply it to other files.

Q: Which goals require a GIS analyst?

A: All goals using spatial data could potentially require a GIS analyst. These goals are commonly: habitat-based goals and sub-goals: (Coastal Protection, Carbon Storage, Habitats—a sub-goal of Biodiversity), Food Provision, Sense of Place, Species—a sub-goal of Biodiversity, Clean Waters

7.4 Structure

Q: Can we remove or add goals to the OHI?

A: A lot of deliberation went into defining the ten goals, and they seem to do a pretty good job of covering many if not most ocean uses, so additional goals may not be necessary. But it could be that they eclipse or replace an existing goal.

7.5 Reference points

Q: Can planning targets can be used as the reference points?

A: Yes, planning targets can be used as reference points. This won't be appropriate for every goal, but there are cases where this seemed best (example: iconic species sub-goal in the global assessment, mariculture sub-goal in the US West Coast assessment).

Q: What is sector evenness?

A: Sector evenness (also called a diversity index) is an economic concept that is included in OHI to enable comparison across many different sectors included in the Livelihoods & Economies goal. This goal evaluates jobs, wages and revenues for nine marine employment sectors. The distribution of employment across these nine sectors is an effective indicator of resilience. If total employment within a community is primarily based in one or two sectors, the overall economic system will be excessively vulnerable to downturns in those sectors. Conversely, if employment is spread relatively evenly throughout all nine sectors, the overall system will be more robust and resistant to such disturbances. Overall revenue within the community will remain more stable during such downturns, and workers displaced by a downturn in their sector may be able to find employment in another sector without leaving the community.

7.6 Appropriate data layers

Q: Shipping and port activity are hardly affected by the health of the ecosystem. Why are these included in the Index?

A: Shipping and port activity are included as pressures only

Q: Can oil spills be included in OHI?

A: Yes, oil spills could be included as a pressure and in the Clean Waters goal.

Q: Is seasonal (non-permanent) sea ice included in OHI habitats?

A: No, sea ice only includes permanent sea ice.

Q: Can seaweeds be included in the Carbon Storage goal?

A: Because they store carbon for less than 100 years, seaweeds and corals are not included in the carbon storage goal. While the pelagic oceanic carbon sink (phytoplankton) plays a large role in the sequestration of anthropogenic carbon, the pelagic ocean mechanisms are not amenable to local or regional management intervention. Phytoplankton and contribute to carbon fixation when they die and sink to the sea bottom at sufficient depth, because it is effectively out of circulation. However, if those phytoplankton are eaten, the carbon is cycled back into the system and not sequestered. Something that could potentially be included in the carbon storage goal is mollusc shells, if they are added to a landfill and not recycled in the sea. So if information on mariculture production and waste disposal are available, this could be an interesting addition to carbon storage at a regional scale.

Q: Is coastal engineering included in Coastal Protection? What if it reduces erosion?

A: We did not include an assessment of the protection afforded by man-made structures, such as jetties and seawalls, because these structures cannot be preserved without maintenance, may have other negative side effects (e.g. alter sedimentation rates causing erosion in new locations), thus they do not constitute long-term sustainable services. Coastal engineering (jetties, harbours, marina and breakwater) is not natural, and is mostly seen as a pressure. It will also be evident in the status of due to decreased natural habitat. It gets tricky when structures are built to help reduce coastal erosion–they are still manmade and therefore not a natural benefit that the ocean provides. But if available data allow, it might be possible to include tradeoff effects: maybe in areas where natural habitats are degraded and man-made structures have been built to reduce erosion, we could reduce the pressure that would otherwise be applied.

Q: How is seawater used for cooling on-shore power plants incorporated into OHI?

A: The use of cooling water for on-shore power plants would be a pressure on the ocean, since it causes entrapment of fishes, larvae, etc, and usually is circulated back into the ocean at higher temperatures (and maybe other chemicals, minerals, etc). Since the energy is coming from land-based activities, there isn't a service that the ocean is providing that 'benefits' people, it is only a pressure from the OHI perspective.

Q: How is freshwater production through desalination incorporated into OHI?

A: Desal would be incorporated into OHI in several places. The benefit is that there is freshwater produced, which could be incorporated into the Natural Products goal (or potentially into its own goal). Data required would be the volume of freshwater created based on the volume of seawater involved and spatial extent. Setting the reference point would not be based on how much can be produced, but some other targets perhaps set by government (percentage of the population served). Similar to the mariculture sub-goal and tourism goals, any negative effects caused by desal that affect other goals (example: species) do not influence the ability to obtain desalination targets now and in the future. Therefore, the sustainability coefficient only measures the ability to sustain that goal, but not the impacts on other goals: instead, they are taken into account as pressures when calculating the other goals. Desal should be included as a pressure similar to cooling on-shore power plants since the discharge brine is dense, doesn't plume very well and there are chemicals involved.

Q: Where do energy activities fit in to OHI?

It depends. Energy could be part of a **Natural Products** goal, for instance, such as wave energy – but then the question is, what is the reference point? It is partially accounted for in **Livelihoods & Economies** through sectoral jobs data. The infrastructure is also something to consider. It could also be a pressure or resilience factor if there is a measurable footprint of the activity. You may want to consider for resilience, do you have governance measures that promote more sustainable practices in the energy industry?

7.7 Food Provision

Q: Could the culture of marine fish in closed pools on-shore be included in the Mariculture sub-goal?

A: This should not be included because onshore aquaculture does not require a marine environment.

Q: Can aquaculture farms that receive seawater supply and return seawater back to the sea be included in the food provision goal?

A: This would be more appropriately included in the Mariculture sub-goal, and with finer-scale data additional pressures due to the intake pipes and the processed brine back into the marine system could be incorporated as well. Natural Products

Q: If natural products are all produced through on-land aquaculture, should this goal be removed?

A: In this case you would probably have good reason to exclude the natural product goal due if this was defendable through discussions with experts and any reports/papers on the topic. This would also depend on the origin of these natural products–are they from the region's waters? Habitat-based goals

**Q: I have fish that are used as feed for other fish (e.g., sprat) in my country. Can I include them in this goal?

A: It would be more appropriate to include them in Natural Products rather than Food Provision. This is because they are not being consumed directly. Fish such as sprat, for example, may be used to feed pigs in addition to other fish, and therefore you would need to know how much (tonnage) is being produced, and where it is going to be able to accurately distinguish these categories to avoid double-counting.

(Source: OHI Baltic Workshop, February 2015)

Q: How is coral health calculated?

A: Coral health was estimated by compiling point data from multiple studies of percent live coral cover. In other words, estimates of coral cover within transects of certain sites were repeated in time and we used that rate of change in time as an indication of health of the reefs in the whole region. The difficulty lies in 1) having enough different locations sampled that you can say something about the whole region and 2) finding studies that did repeated measures in time, in the same location, over at least 20 years. In the Global 2013 assessment, there were so few datasets that satisfied this condition that we had to pool observations from different locations.

Q: Is it possible to calculate habitat goals when there is only one year of habitat data?

A: With only one year of habitat data, it is not possible to calculate the trend (which requires 5 years of data). Instead, it might be best to use the available habitat data to calculate the current status and then to overlay pressures for the last 5 years to calculate trend.

7.8 Livelihoods & Economies

Q: Benefits gained from Wild-caught fisheries, Mariculture, Tourism & Recreation are included in specific goals. Why are these counted again in Livelihoods & Economies?

A: The quantity of fish, mariculature, and participation in T&R are considered separately in goals whereas the monetary component is captured in L&E.

Q: Why are revenue data from shipping, boat building, ports and harbors included as revenue? Do these activities rely on a healthy ocean?

A: These sectors are included in the Ocean Health Index because the demand for some of those boats (fishing boats, sailboats, yachts) is dependent on a healthy ocean.

Q: Why isn't oil and gas industries included in revenue?

A: The Natural Products goal does not include non-living items such as oil, gas, and mining products, because these practices are not considered to be sustainable. They are also done at such large scales that including them would essentially make OHI an index for oil and mining–and they are not truly an ocean product. Because these products are not included in terms of quantity extracted, it did not seem appropriate to include information regarding jobs, wages or revenue.

7.9 Tourism & Recreation

Q: How do I calculate the sustainability term for TR?

A: The best way is to use a local indicator or measure of tourism sustainability or competitiveness, otherwise use the TTCI value from the Global 2013 assessment for the study area (applied evenly across all regions.

7.10 Natural Products

Q: Where do Natural Products come from?

A: In the global assessments, Natural Products data come from the UN's Food and Agriculture Administration (www.fao.org/fishery/statistics/software/fishstatj/en). These data are compiled and reported by product for each country, and available by downloading the FishStatJ software.

7.11 Species

Q: Can species and iconic species model scores be penalized if there are local flagship species that have not been evaluated?

Global data are based on IUCN assessments. For these evaluations, IUCN chooses a taxon (e.g. sharks) and a group of world experts assess it comprehensively. Locally identified species identified in a regional assessment may not be in the IUCN database because they do not belong to one of the taxa that have been selected for assessment, or because the experts that did the assessment did not know that information existed. In either case, there is no connection between what IUCN reports and what assessments are done locally. Therefore, it might not be fair to penalize a study area for missing species. For biodiversity, it is unrealistic to expect that all species are assessed, so it seems unfair to penalize for unassessed species. In the fisheries goal, there are penalties for species that are exploited but not assessed, because if there are landings data, it means they are somewhat measurable, and so it is reasonable to expect they should be at least monitored.

It might be reasonable to penalize unassessed iconic species. It is a smaller list of species that are specifically identified as being of interest, for one reason or other. This would work for species that have some form of assessment - unless that information already exists, it might be unrealistic to try to produce the data layer required to develop a new model.

7.12 Sense of Place

Q: Data are only available for marine protected areas, not terrestrial protected areas. Can we still calculate the Lasting Special Places sub-goal?

A: Yes, it is possible to calculate only the marine component of this sub-goal: this is not ideal but OHI is flexible to work with the data available.

Q: Should we calculate each category used in our assessment (e.g., antiquities, MPAs, beaches of special interest) independently, and then give the same weight (e.g., a third of the goal score) to the three categories, or should we instead pool the actual areas of the 3 categories?

A: Whether you group them together or calculate each category separately depends on reference points. Maybe you want 10% of offshore water to be in MPAs, but only 5% of coastlines to be beaches and 3% Antiquities, for example; in this case, you would calculate them separately and then add them together. But if you want 10% of your country's coast to have any combination of these things, you would keep them together.

(Source: OHI Israel assessment discussions, 2014-2015)

7.13 Pressures

Q: How are single ecological pressures (si in Equation S8) calculated?

A: Data included in pressures calculations are accessed in the same manner as any other data layer, and rescaled from 0-1 with an appropriate reference point. For further information, see HowTo_GatherAppropriateData and HowTo_CalculatePressures from ohi-science.org.

Q: Does the pressures matrix need to be changed?

A: It is likely that the pressures matrix will not need to be changed. The weights assigned in the matrix were set using information from the literature and by experts; the matrix was created by Halpern et al. 2012.

Q: How is commercial high and low bycatch calculated?

A: Commercial high and low bycatch are categorical values that were set based on fishing gear type. This began as a list of gear types used, producing a range of potential bycatch frequencies (from local reports when possible), which can be rescaled.

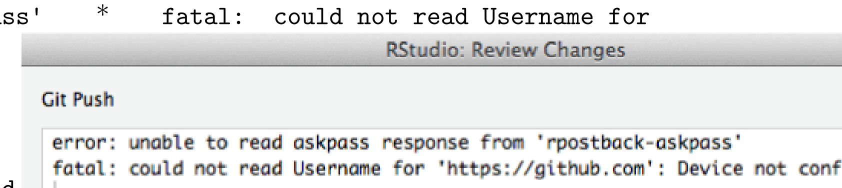
8 Toolbox Troubleshooting

The Toolbox prints messages during its processing to help guide error checking and debugging. Here are a few troubleshooting tips. This section will be updated frequently; please share any problems that you encounter.

8.1 General Software Errors

8.1.1 When RStudio won't push to GitHub

When pushing committed changes within RStudio, would return the error * `error: unable to read askpass response from 'rpostback-askpass'` * `fatal: could not read Username for`



`'https://github.com': Device not configured`

Here's how we fixed it: we updated `git.exe` to the latest version, 2.2.1, edited the search path to point to the new version, made sure the *git* credential.helper was configured to be able to access the OS X keychain, and pushed a test commit from terminal to store the username and password in the keychain, where it can be accessed from other apps like RStudio. Easy peasy!

1. To check your current version of `git.exe`, type this at the terminal command line:
    - `$ git --version` should return something like:
    - `git version 2.2.1` (check online to see if this is the latest version)

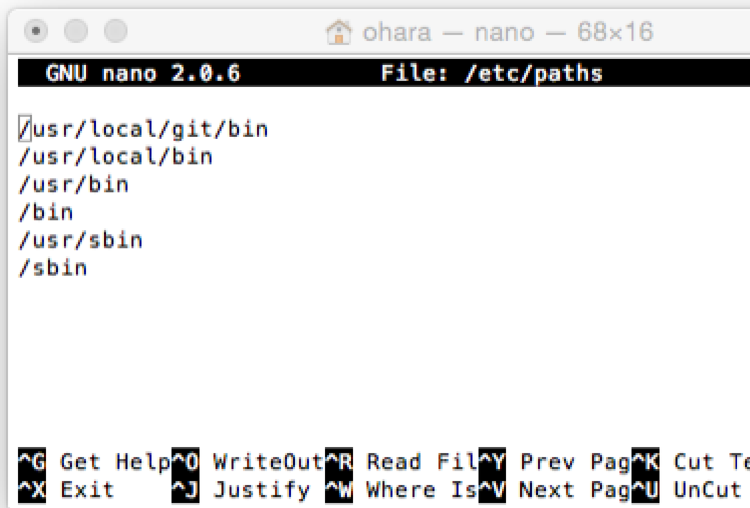
2. To update, go to http://git-scm.com/download/mac, download the latest *git* for OS X, install it.

3. In terminal, type `git --version` and verify that it reports the new version. If it shows the new version, great! Skip to Step 5.

    - Don't be sad if it doesn't't! If you still see the old version, the installer put the new version into a different directory, which has a lower priority in the search path, so now to update the search path. The default Apple *git* seems to install the `git.exe` into `/usr/bin/` directory, this particular updater seems to install into `/usr/local/git/bin/` directory. The search path needs to be updated to look for `git.exe` in the new directory first.

4. To change the search path, open up the paths file in `nano` editor using `sudo`:

    - `$ sudo nano /etc/paths`
    - At the top line of the paths file, add the directory for the updated *git*: `'/usr/local/git/bin'`(without



    the quotes) so it looks like the top line here:
    - Then hit `control-X` to exit, then `Y` in response to the save prompt.

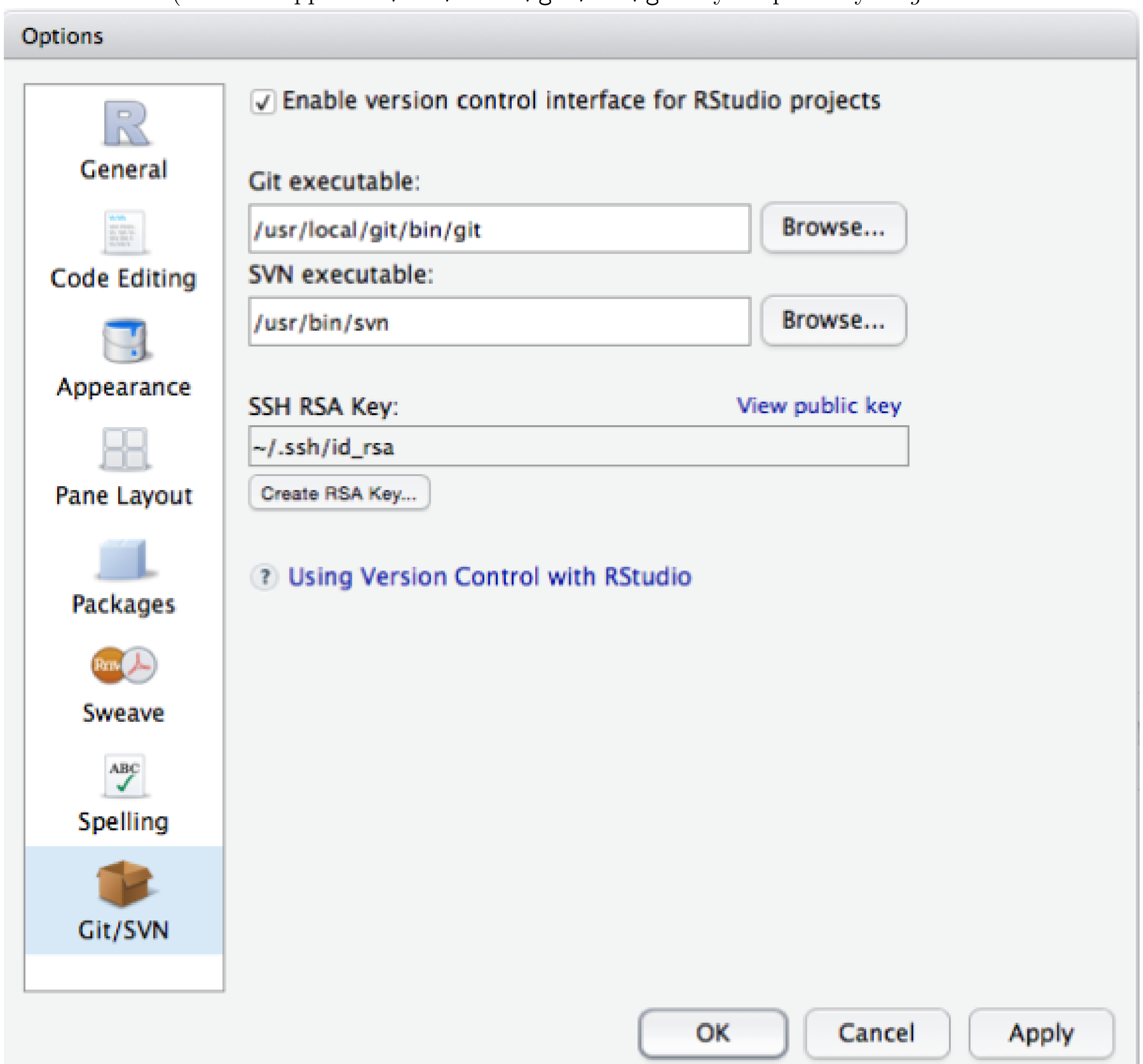
5. Make sure your `git config` is up to date, including `credential.helper`:

    - `$ git config --global -l` should return something like:
    - `user.name="Casey O'Hara"`
    - `user.email=ohara@nceas.ucsb.edu`
        - see https://github.com/OHI-Science/ohiprep/wiki/Setup#git_identity for help on updating user.name and user.email
    - `credential.helper=osxkeychain`
        - (if you need to configure the credential helper: https://help.github.com/articles/caching-your-github-password-in-git/)

6. Now while you are in Terminal, it is important to sync with a repository to establish your security credentials. You must clone a repository and push a 'test' commit, and then once you are prompted for your username and password your information will get stored in the keychain. Here are the steps:

    - Change your working directory to your local github directory: `$ cd github`
    - (Tip: you can check if you're in the right folder by entering `pwd`, short for "print working directory"; or you could look at the line of code preceding the "$".)

- Clone into a repository with a URL *for which you have permissions*. As an example, the following steps use a repository called 'ZAF' but you should use your own URL with a three-letter country code in place of 'ZAF':
- `$ git clone https://github.com/omalik/zaf.git`
- Change your working directory to the folder you just created (here, 'ZAF'): `$ cd zaf`
- Push a test commit to repository 'ZAF':
- `$ touch test.md`
- `$ git add test.md`
- `$ git commit -m "testing"`
- `$ git status`
- `$ git push`
- Check your status again: `$ git status`
  - (TIP: You can check your status with `$ git status` and you can use 'ls' to see if your new changes have registered in this repository.)

7. Now that *git* is updated and your username and password are set, make sure RStudio knows the location of the new `git.exe`. In RStudio, select **Tools > Global Options. . .** , select the `Git/SVN`, and browse to the new `Git executable` (it should appear as `/usr/local/git/bin/git` if you updated your *git* version as above). 

Next time you push a commit from RStudio, it should remember the username and password from your test commit in Step 6, and you should be good to go.

8.1.2 Loading RWorkspace on Restart

When you restart your R Session (**Session** > **Restart R** on a Mac), if you see that it is trying to load `ohicore`, it may give you an error:

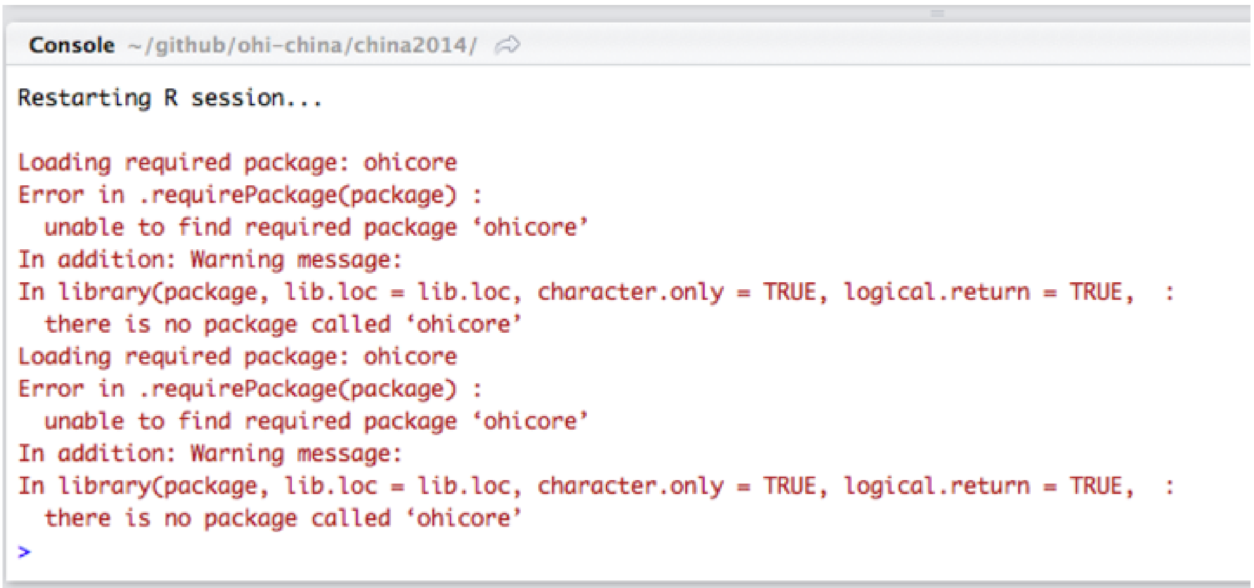


Figure 65:

You do not want it to load `ohicore` or to save anything in your workspace. You will need to change the default setting from you **.Rproj** file. Steps to do this:

1. Go to Project Options, either in the pull-down menu or by double-clicking the .Rproj file:

2. Change all options to **No:**

8.2 Errors when Using the Toolbox

8.2.1 Useful Errors when Calculating Scores

TIP: You can use the *layers* function in `calculate_scores.R` to error-check whether you have registered your files in `layers.csv` correctly or not. If you haven't, you will get an error message regarding ‘missing files’.

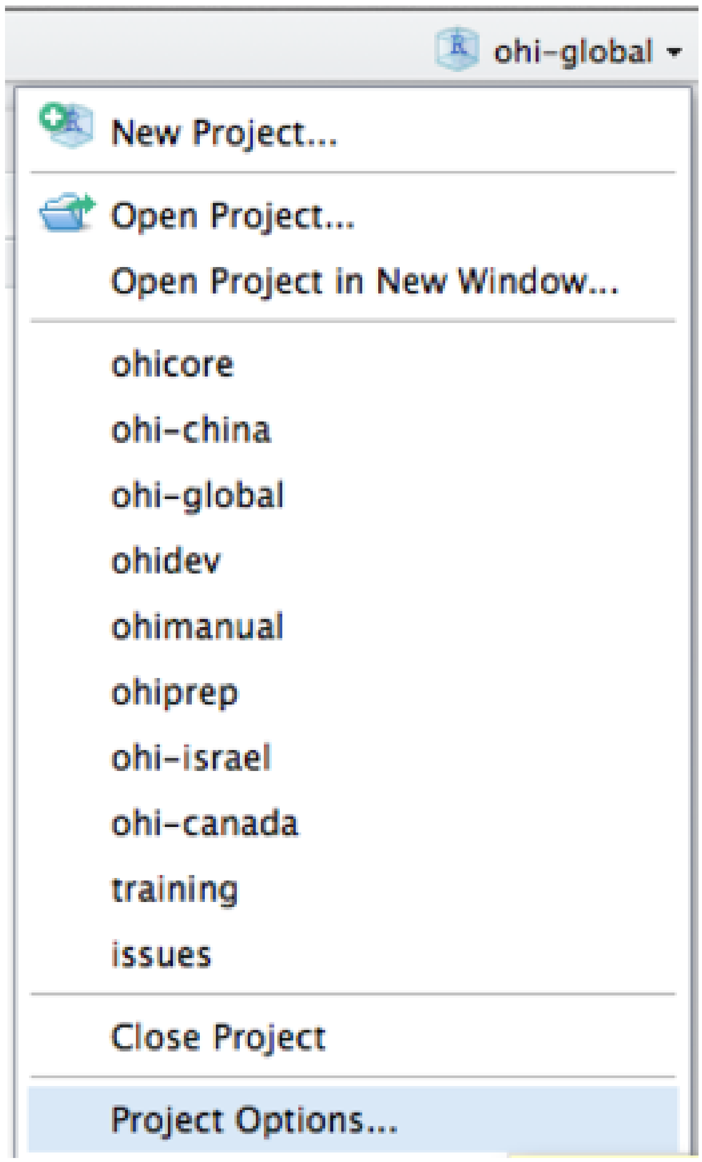

ohi-global
New Project...
Open Project...
Open Project in New Window...
ohicore
ohi-china
ohi-global
ohidev
ohimanual
ohiprep
ohi-israel
ohi-canada
training
issues
Close Project
Project Options...

Figure 66:

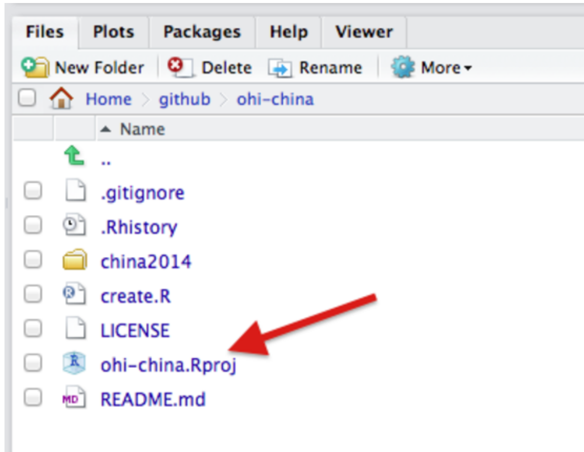
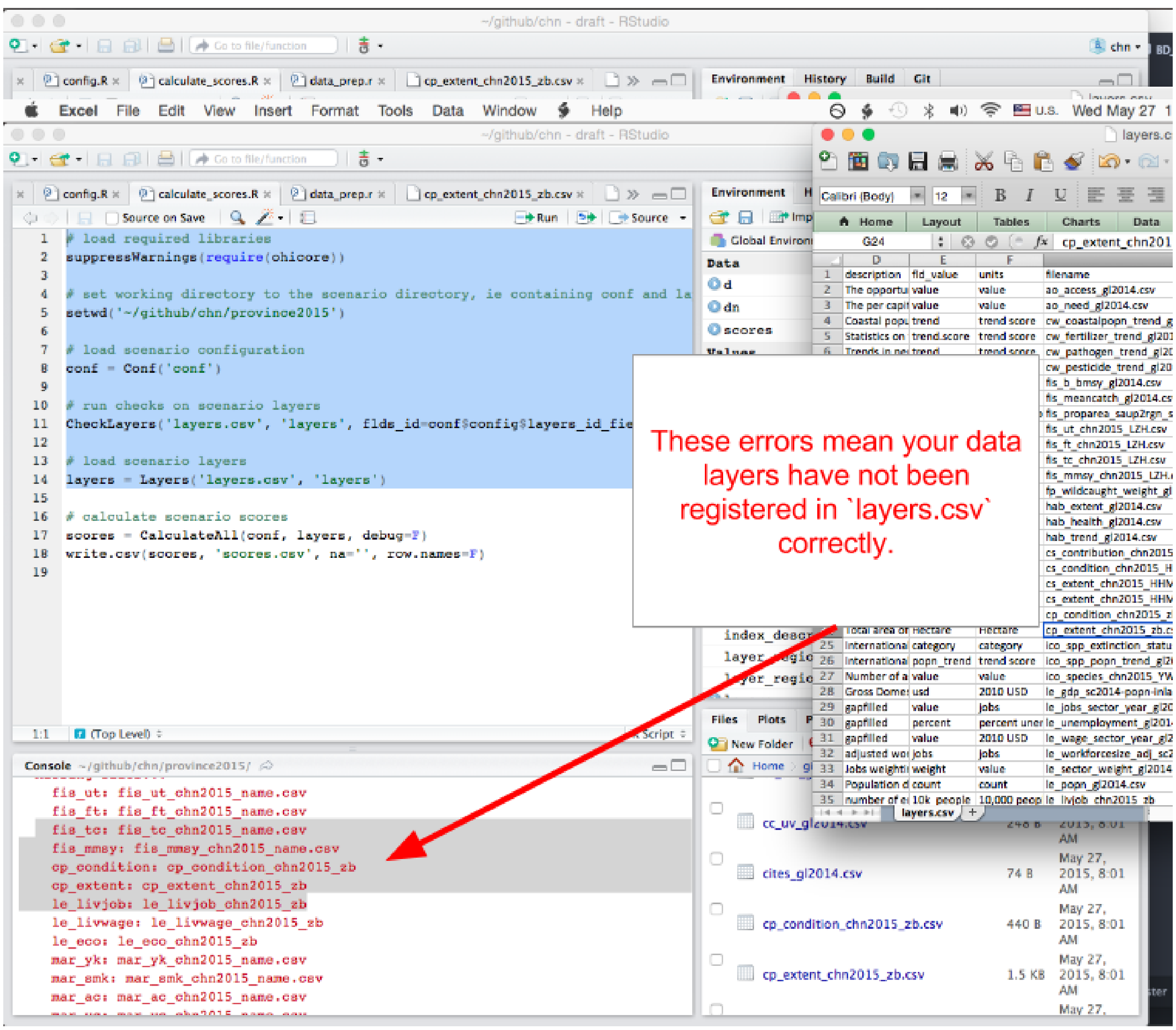

Files
Plots
Packages
Help
Viewer
New Folder
Delete
Rename
More
Home
github
ohi-china
Name
.gitignore
.Rhistory
china2014
create.R
LICENSE
ohi-china.Rproj
README.md

Figure 67:


These errors mean your data layers have not been registered in `layers.csv` correctly.

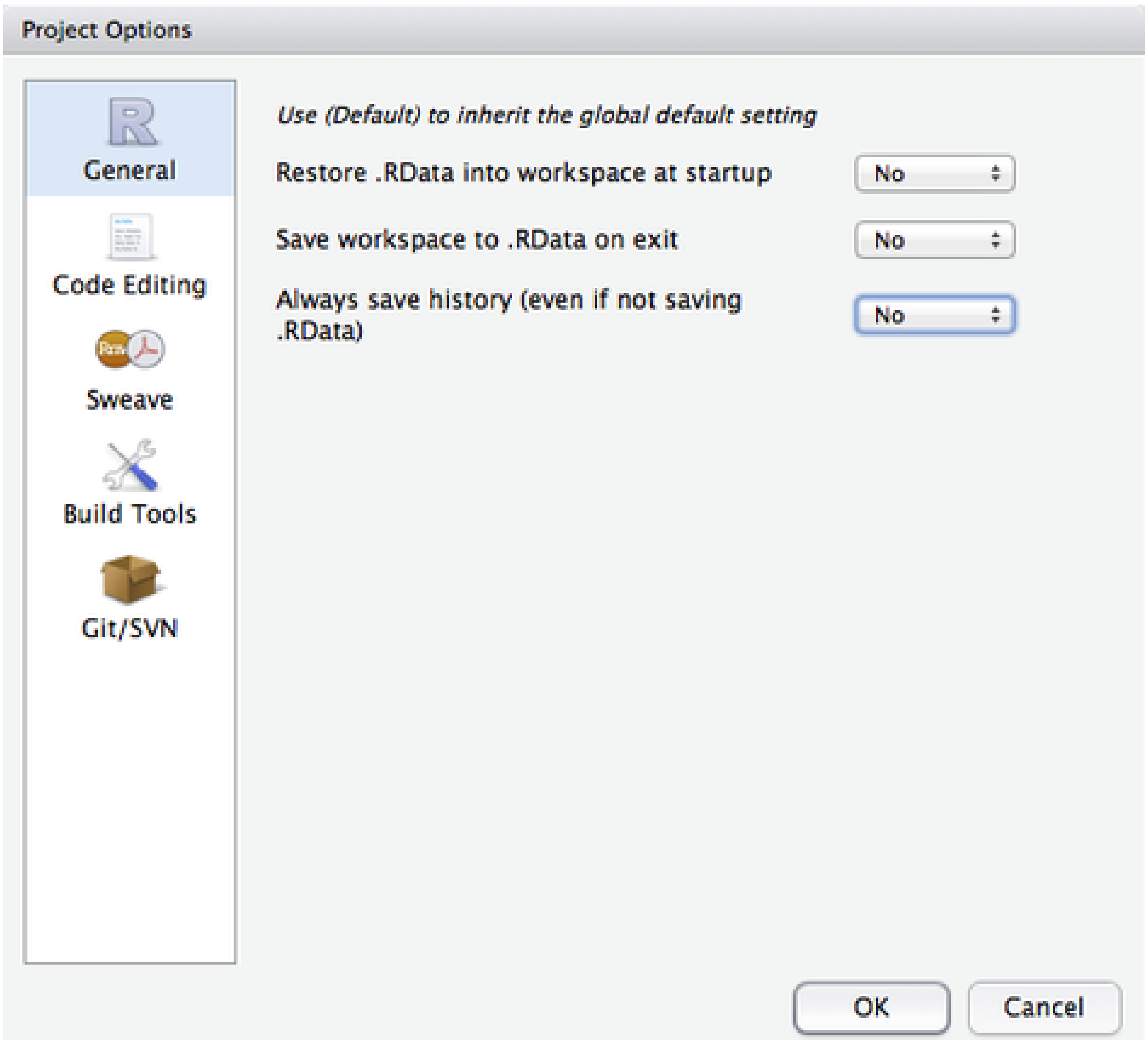

Project Options
General
Code Editing
Sweave
Build Tools
Git/SVN
Use (Default) to inherit the global default setting
Restore .RData into workspace at startup
No
Save workspace to .RData on exit
No
Always save history (even if not saving .RData)
No
OK
Cancel

Figure 68:

8.2.2 Calculating Pressures...

8.2.2.1 'The following components for [goal] are not in the aggregation layer [layer]...' Example:

```
Running Setup()...
Calculating Pressures...
The following components for NP are not in the aggregation layer np_harvest_product_weight categories (fish_oil,
Error in data.frame(names(P), P) :
  arguments imply differing number of rows: 0, 1
```

Figure 69:

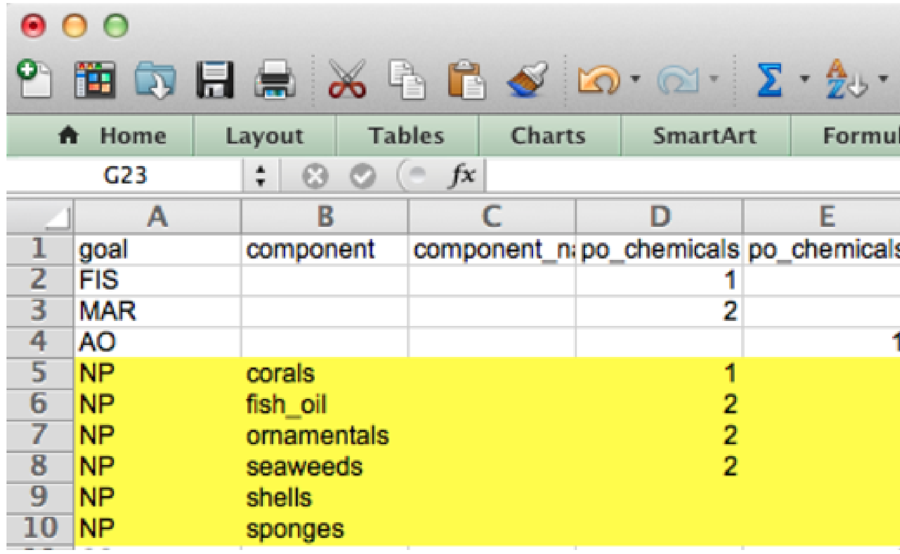
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	goal	component	component_n	po_chemicals	po_chemicals	po_pathogens	po_nutrients
2	FIS			1			1
3	MAR			2			
4	AO				1		
5	NP	corals		1			2
6	NP	fish_oil		2			1
7	NP	ornamentals		2			1
8	NP	seaweeds		2			2
9	NP	shells					1
10	NP	sponges					1

Figure 70:

This error means you should update your pressures matrix because it expects there to be components that your region does not have.

8.2.2.2 'Error in matrix. . . '

Example: >



This error means there is an empty column in `pressures_matrix.csv`, and the Toolbox cannot handle empty columns.

8.2.3 Calculating Resilience . . .

8.2.3.1 'Error in match(x, table, nomatch = OL) : object id_num not found'

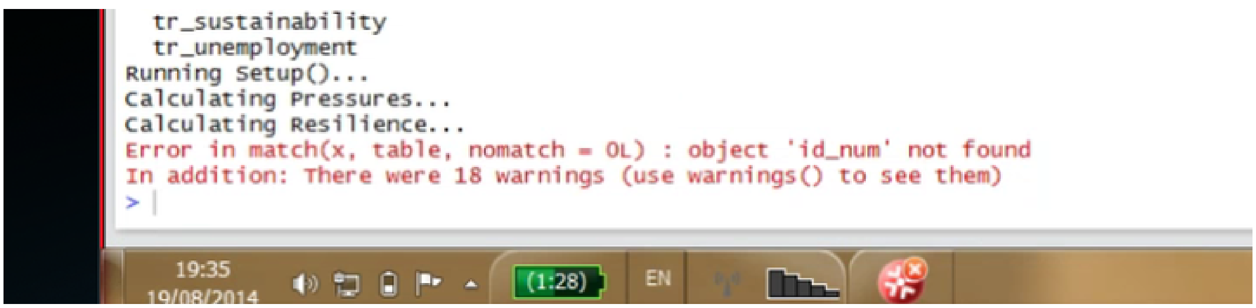


Figure 71:

This error means you should check that there is at least one entry for each goal (for each row) in `resilience_matrix.csv`.