MCCIP Marine Climate Change Research Priorities 2014
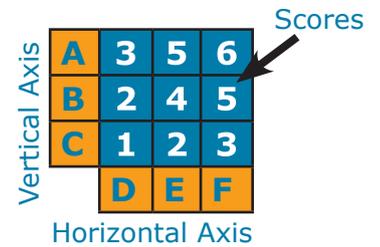
Scoring methodology

Gathering scores

The UKMMAS evidence groups were provided with all of the knowledge gaps, as listed in the "Supplementary note on source material". They were asked to score each of the knowledge gaps within their evidence group section, using this matrix.

Scoring by category

Each gap was awarded a score, from one to six, for each of three categories:

Category 1: Marine policy drivers

Vertical axis		Horizontal axis	
Timescale to fill gap		Policy urgency	
A	>10 years to fill the gap	D	Not urgent
B	6-10 years to fill the gap	E	Required for some policy needs
C	Gap could be filled within 5 years	F	Immediately required for key/wide-ranging policy needs

Category 2: Science drivers

Vertical axis		Horizontal axis	
Relevance to key climate change issues		Addresses a major research issue / will enable wider research	
A	Highly relevant to key issues identified	D	Not a major research issue and/or has limited potential to enable wider research
B	Has some relevance to key issues identified	E	Would make a useful contribution and/or has some potential to enable wider research
C	Of limited relevance to key issues identified	F	Would make a significant contribution to a major research issue and/or has significant potential enable wider research

Category 3: Growth and sustainability

Vertical axis		Horizontal axis	
Potential socio-economic benefits		Impacts on environmental sustainbilty	
A	Major	D	Likely to have negative impacts
B	Moderate	E	Neither positive or negative impacts
C	Minor	F	Likely to have positive impacts

Identifying the priority gaps

By combining scores from each category, the top gaps within each evidence group were identified.

A worked example is shown below for 'vulnerability of the fishing industry to ocean acidification', the highest scoring research priority for the productive seas evidence group (PSEG).

Category 1: Marine policy drivers = 5   (Cell **BF** on the matrix)
Category 2: Science drivers = 6   (Cell **AF** on the matrix)
Category 3: Growth and Sustainability = 6   (Cell **AF** on the matrix)

Total score = 5+6+6 = 17 out of 18

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