

## What is AquaMaps? ([www.aquamaps.org](http://www.aquamaps.org))



- An approach to generating model-based, large-scale predictions of the natural distribution of aquatic species
- Also models climate change impact on global distribution of marine species based on environmental conditions under the IPCC A2 emissions scenario for the year 2100
- Uses expert knowledge and occurrence data available in different online databases such as the FishBase ([www.fishbase.org](http://www.fishbase.org)), SeaLifeBase ([www.sealifebase.org](http://www.sealifebase.org)) and Global Biodiversity Information Facility ([www.gbif.org](http://www.gbif.org))
- Uses a relatively simple yet robust algorithm that has been validated using independent data, and is found to compare well with other ecological niche models

## How is AquaMaps Useful?

- It can predict areas where a species can occur and at what probabilities of occurrence. For example, Galunggong or Japanese scad (*Decapterus maruadsi*) naturally occurs in Indo-West Pacific. In year 2100, the probability of occurrence in Southeast Asia decreased due to climate change-related variations in sea temperature and salinity.

