

Solutions:

Exercise 2a.)

Possible special features of some nations:

- USA and Australia

→ many marine protected areas

→ long coastline, larger number of areas which need to be protected

→ many endangered and rare species → the decline of biodiversity is partly compensated by the regeneration of fish stocks and the large number of marine protected areas (high commitment)

- Philippines

→ relatively high value of marine protected areas (probably a lot of tourists who are attracted by the country's nature)

→ attempts to counteract the decline of endangered fish species

- Germany

→ for the relatively short coast length, however, there are many marine protected areas, which counteracts the decline of fish species

-China

→ Marine protected areas exist, but in terms of the coast length and the endangered species they are not sufficient (China also has an extremely high fisheries catch)

Exercise 2b.)

- Uniqueness or rarity of habitats and ecosystems; Habitats of migratory species or unique or unusual features

- Areas of special importance for the survival and well-being of the population (also with respect to the development stages of the species)

- Areas with threatened or endangered species and habitats (to aid their recovery)

- Areas with a high proportion of sensitive habitats, biotopes or species (vulnerability, fragility, sensitivity or slow recovery, susceptible to degradation by human or natural factors)

- Areas with a high biological productivity

- Areas with a high diversity of ecosystems, genetic diversity, habitats, biocoenosis or species