Ocean fertilisation

To reduce global warming, there have been suggestions to fertilise the ocean so carbon dioxide-absorbing phytoplankton can grow. But Dr Benjamin Grandey, a researcher from the Singapore-MIT Alliance for Research and Technology, has found that this could do more harm than good. AUDREY TAN takes a look at his findings.

HOW OCEAN FERTILISATION WORKS



POTENTIAL PROBLEMS



Impact on ecosystems

• Dr Benjamin Grandey says more studies need to be done to investigate the impact of ocean fertilisation on marine ecosystems.

• Singapore has already suffered the negative impacts of this, when plankton blooms in recent years resulted in mass fish deaths.

Effect on rainfall

• Dr Grandey says the increase in dimethyl sulphide emissions could also cause rainfall patterns to be more erratic.

• When this happens, livelihoods, water resources and the environment could be affected.