

Sustainable Development Goals and Regional Seas

18th Global Meeting of the Regional Seas Conventions and Action
Plans, Incheon, 30 September – 1 October 2016

Takehiro Nakamura

Chief, Marine and Coastal Ecosystems Unit, United
Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)



Sustainable Development Goals

- “Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” was adopted in September 2015.
- New agenda for sustainable development: 17 Sustainable Development Goals with 169 associated targets.
- Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the
- oceans, seas and marine resources
- for sustainable development



SDG-14: Life below Water

- 14.1 By 2025, prevent and significantly **reduce marine pollution** of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution
- 14.2 By 2020, sustainably manage and protect **marine and coastal ecosystems** to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans
- 14.3 Minimize and address the impacts of **ocean acidification**, including through enhanced scientific cooperation at all levels
- 14.4 By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end **overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices** and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics

SDG-14: Life below Water

- 14.5 By 2020, **conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas**, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information
- 14.6 By 2020, prohibit certain forms of **fisheries subsidies** which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and refrain from introducing new such subsidies, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of the World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiation
- 14.7 By 2030, increase **the economic benefits to Small Island developing States and least developed countries** from the sustainable use of marine resources, including through sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism



SDG-14: Life below Water

- 14.a Increase **scientific knowledge**, develop **research capacity** and **transfer marine technology**, taking into account the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, in order to improve ocean health and to enhance the contribution of marine biodiversity to the development of developing countries, in particular small island developing States and least developed countries
- 14.b Provide access for **small-scale artisanal fishers** to marine resources and markets
- 14.c Enhance the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing **international law** as reflected in UNCLOS, which provides the legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources, as recalled in paragraph 158 of The Future We Want”

Other relevant Goals

Goal 1. **End Poverty** in all its forms everywhere

Goal 2. End hunger, achieve **food security** and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Goal 5. Achieve **gender equality** and empower all women and girls

Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of **water resources and sanitation** for all

Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and **sustainable economic growth**, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Goal 11. Make **cities** and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Goal 12. Ensure **sustainable consumption and production** patterns

Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat **climate change** and its impacts

Goal 17. Strengthen the **means of implementation** and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development



Review and follow-up

National level implementation: Governments have the primary responsibility for follow-up and review, at the national, regional and global levels, in relation to the progress made in implementing the Goals and targets over the coming fifteen years.

Indicators: Indicators are being developed to assist this work. Quality, accessible, timely and reliable disaggregated data will be needed to help with the measurement of progress and to ensure that no one is left behind

Follow-up and Review

Regional levels:

80. Follow-up and review at the regional and sub-regional levels can, as appropriate, provide useful opportunities for peer learning, including through voluntary reviews, sharing of best practices and discussion on shared targets.

Inclusive regional processes will draw on national-level reviews and contribute to follow-up and review at the global level.

UN Ocean conference, June 2016, New York

- Implementation of the SDG14 on Ocean
 - Secretary-General's report
 - Political Outcome document
 - Partnership Forum
- Preparatory Committee, February 2017

Preparation for the UN Conference on Ocean

Advisory Group, co-chaired by Fiji and Sweden

Under the Advisory Group, Preparatory Working Groups have been formulated with UNEP (co-)convening three and participating in five.

The Groups to analyse implementation gaps and recommend necessary partnerships



Possible Regional Seas action Alignment of regional objectives/goals with SDGs

Mapping of existing and agreed regional seas goals and targets in relation to the SDG targets and associated indicators

Analysis of gaps between the regional and global targets for each regional seas

Regional SDG implementation outlook for each regional seas – strategy to implementation of the SDGs for the period until 2030 (partnerships, financial resources, regional and national targets, regional review mechanisms, etc.)

Possible Regional Seas action

Regionally harmonised national reporting

Use regional seas governing mechanisms for regional SDG implementation;

Preparation of a national reporting format on Ocean related SDGs and technical support to national report preparation;

Possible Regional Seas action

Regional Seas based multi-stakeholder partnerships

Each regional seas is a partnership, but involvement of a wider stakeholders may enhance implementation of SDGs at multiple levels under the regional seas;

Participation in the global multi-stakeholder partnerships, such as Global Partnership on Marine Litter, Global Partnership on Nutrient Management, and Global Coral Reef Partnership, Partnership for Regional Ocean Governance

Possible Regional Seas action SDG Indicators

The Regional Seas Indicator Working Group – separate discussion?

Regional Seas indicators should be closely linked with SDG indicators

Regional seas programmes may want to adopt the indicators at the COP levels

Regional seas programmes may established harmonised monitoring programmes and data management systems

Thank you

www.unep.org/regionalseas

www.unep.org/ecosystemmanagement/water/regionalseas40/

