

UN Statistical System Organizations statement on Goal 14 at the 2nd IAEG-SDG Meeting

Bangkok, 26-28 October 2015

Madame Co-Chair,

I would like to deliver a collective statement on Goal 14 on behalf of the Chief Statisticians of the UN System and particularly the organizations directly involved in developing the set of indicators for this Goal, i.e. CBD, DOALOS, FAO, UNEP, IOC-UNESCO, IUCN, ILO, IMO and UNISDR. We are very concerned

Indicator 14.1.2 Grey

In line with country comments, the earlier proposal for Nitrogen use efficiency composite indicator can be replaced by metric tonnes per year of plastic materials entering the ocean from all sources reformulated as

Floating Plastic Debris

A second indicator is proposed to cover nutrient pollution.

Index of Coastal Eutrophication (ICEP).

These are two highly relevant, internationally recognized indicators produced by IOC-UNESCO that capture the main elements of the target. By adopting these two priority indicators, the main concerns expressed by countries in the online discussion will also be addressed as both marine debris and nutrient pollution are tackled.

Indicator 14.2.1 Grey

The previous proposal can be simplified and refined. Although it is not fully developed yet, there are a number of data sources and evolving tools that can be exploited.

Percentage of national Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) managed using ecosystem-based approaches.

An additional indicator is proposed

Red List Index (Marine Species)

Indicator 14.3.1 Yellow

A revised formulation is proposed:

Internationally established carbonate chemistry parameters measured at the representative sampling stations of the Global Ocean Acidification Network (GOA-ON).

14.3.2 A second indicator is also proposed. Data are available from a number of sources including IUCN and UNEP-WCMC.

Loss of marine biodiversity caused by ocean acidification

Indicator 14.4.1 Yellow

The existing indicator is retained. It is an established MDG indicator produced by FAO and approved by the FAO Committee on Fisheries.

Percentage of populations of fish stocks at or above biologically sustainable levels

14.4.2 A second priority indicator, is being proposed in response to countries' concerns that an indicator on fish stocks is insufficient to monitor the main elements of this target. The introduction of this indicator also responds to concerns raised by countries during the Sixteenth Meeting of the UN Open-ended informal consultative process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea in April, where member states frequently cited the omission of an indicator on IUU fishing for SDG 14. A metadata factsheet for this indicator is available.

Progress by countries in the implementation of international instruments aiming to combat IUU fishing

Indicator 14.5.1 Yellow

The indicator should be retained but with a refinement. The proposed refinement makes clear that protected areas should safeguard biodiversity rather than area alone, and is already widely used, e.g. as an indicator towards Aichi Target 11 of the 2011–2020 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity.

Coverage by protected areas of marine sites, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity.

Indicator 14.6.1 Grey

Replace the proposed indicator with 14.4.2 on IUU fishing indicator.

Indicator 14.7.1 Grey

Following the comments from many countries, we propose another indicator

Revenues and ecosystem services derived from sustainable fisheries, aquaculture, tourism and other coastal and marine resources uses

An alternative indicator, is also proposed for regional or national monitoring

Productivity of aquaculture

Indicator 14.a Yellow

We are proposing a wider indicator that goes beyond technology

Percentage of GDP invested in ocean research

An initial assessment is expected to be available through the Global Ocean Science Report to be published at the end of 2016 under the auspices of IOC-UNESCO.

Indicator 14.b Yellow

Many countries reacted favourably to the proposal by Korea, thus as a priority indicator we propose

Progress by countries in adopting and implementing a legal/regulatory/policy/institutional framework which recognizes and protects access rights for small-scale fisheries

A two-page metadata factsheet is available.