

Goal 15

Target number: 15.a and 15.b

Indicator Number and Name: 15.a.1/15.b.1 Official development assistance and public expenditure on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem (partial Tier III)

Proposed sub-indicators:

15.a.1

- i. *Official development assistance on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem.*
- ii. *Public expenditure on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem.*

15.b.1

- iii. *Official development assistance on forest conservation and sustainable forest management.*
- iv. *Public expenditure on forest conservation and sustainable forest management.*

Agency: UN Environment, OECD, UNDP/BIOFIN and UNSD

Has work for the development of this indicator begun?

Yes. OECD maintains the International Development Statistics database which covers bilateral and multilateral overseas development assistance (ODA). The proposed sub-indicators i. and iii. are already considered Tier I and OECD has data which can be used to monitor these sub-indicators.

For sub-indicators ii. and iv., Environmental Protection Expenditure Accounts (EPEA) are included in the System of Environmental Economic Accounting (SEEA). Additionally, the UNDP/BIOFIN initiative (the Biodiversity Finance Initiative) has data on public expenditure on biodiversity in more than 40 countries. BIOFIN is a global partnership addressing the biodiversity finance challenge in a comprehensive manner and it includes a methodology for measuring biodiversity expenditures.

Neither the classification of environmental activities in the SEEA or in the BIOFIN is an exact match for the classification proposed in 15.a.1 and 15.b.1; however, an expert group under the UN Committee on Environmental Economic Accounting (UNCEEA) is currently being established to look into a standardization of a classification system for biodiversity expenditures. This working group will be able to provide a linkage table between the classification system and the proposed sub-indicators.

Who are the entities, including national and international experts, directly involved and consulted in developing the methodology/and or data collection tools?

The UNCEEA working group on standardization of protection expenditures will be directly involved in refining the methodology for this indicator. This includes:

- 1) From UN Statistics Division:
- 2) From UNDP/BIOFIN
- 3) From UN Environment Science Division (Jillian Campbell, jillian.campbell@unep.org and Thierry Oliveira, Thierry.oliveira@unep.org)
- 4) From OECD:

What is the involvement of or how do you plan to involve National Statistical Systems in the development of the methodology?

Many national statistical offices are represented in the UNCEEA. Additionally, the UNDP/BIOFIN initiative works directly with national stakeholders.

Please briefly describe the process of developing the methodology for the indicator

The methodology for public expenditure on biodiversity has already been developed. In order to monitor the sub-indicators described above there are two outstanding issues:

- 1) Harmonization of expenditure classifications which are mapped to the sub-indicator 15.a.1.ii and 15.b.1.iv
- 2) Putting in place a mechanism to compile data from countries.

Please indicate new international standards that will need to be proposed and approved by an intergovernmental process (such as UNSC) for this methodology.

There is already an international standard.

When do you expect the methodological work on this indicator to be completed?

The methodology and a mechanism for data collection will be agreed during 2017.

Are data and metadata already being collected from the National Statistical System for one or more components of this indicator?

Yes.

If yes, please describe:

UNDP/BIOFIN has data for more than 40 countries. However, data collection will need to be expanded beyond the BIOFIN project countries. As mentioned, for the ODA related sub-indicators, the OECD already has an existing data collection programme.

How do you plan to collect the data?

Data collection will be discussed by the UNCEEAA working group described above. As mentioned, for the ODA related sub-indicators, the OECD already has an existing data collection programme.

If the indicator involves multiple components from different data sources, please describe how each individual component of the indicator will be collected here.

OECD collects ODA data. The compilation of public expenditure data is still being discussed.

With what frequency is data expected to be collected?

Annually

Is there a process of data validation by countries in place or planned for this indicator?

Data will be provided by countries for the public expenditure sub-indicator. Only official sources will be used. The OECD has a procedure for validation of ODA data.

If yes, please briefly describe:

The OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) has internal validation procedures. For more information see: <http://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/>

(As of 3 March 2017)