

Template for IPWG 8 inputs

Theme: Leveraging interlinkages between Sustainable Development Goal 14 and other Goals towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda

The co-conveners of the IPWG 8 kindly request its members to provide information relevant to the drafting of the concept paper on “**Leveraging interlinkages between Sustainable Development Goal 14 and other Goals towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda**” including suggested key questions for the interactive dialogue on this topic and some key recommendations on how build on these interlinkages. Please use the following template for your input(s).

In preparing your responses, please keep in mind that the overarching theme of the 2020 UN Ocean Conference is: “Scaling up ocean action based on science and innovation for the implementation of Goal 14: stocktaking, partnerships and solutions”. It is suggested that your input should accordingly highlight the theme of the Conference in its various aspects as necessary.

Kindly also note that issues related to means of implementation, in particular capacity-building and financial resources, are considered cross-cutting and therefore should also be discussed in your response to the extent possible.

Name of Member	Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA)
Agency/organization	UN Environment Programme
Give an analysis on what are some of the interlinkages between SDG 14 and other SDGs?	<p>Healthy, productive and resilient oceans are critical enabler of poverty alleviation and for ensuring food security, hence a connection between Goals 14 and Goals 1 and 2. Gender equality (SDG 5) is an overarching Goal that is crucial inter alia to ensuring equal rights of access to marine and coastal resources.</p> <p>Achieving SDG target 14.1 to reduce marine pollution will rely heavily on action toward cleaner water and wastewater treatment (SDG 6), sustainable consumption and production (SDG 12) and sustainable urban planning and coastal settlements (SDG 11). SDG 6 further links to SDG 14 as the majority of sources of ocean pollution stems from land-based activities. As such, a source-to-sea approach is advocated for.</p> <p>A shift toward renewable energy options (including advances in sea-based energy technology) will likely reduce impacts on the marine environment from fossil fuel extraction and transport at sea (SDG 7). Employment and economic growth are supported by sustainable growth of marine sectors and a blue economy (SDG 8).</p>

	<p>Goals 14 and 13 are highly synergistic as marine and coastal ecosystems are both vital to combating climate change and are highly impacted by climate change including through ocean acidification and warming.</p> <p>Goal 17 is relevant across all SDGs, as it calls for partnerships and strengthening of means of implementation to achieve the 2030 Agenda.</p>
<p>2. What are some ways in which these synergies/interlinkages that can be leveraged?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage and enable a source-to-sea approach which leverages the synergies between SDG 6 and SDG 14; - Improve and harmonize monitoring systems and data collection on land-based marine pollution, including marine litter - sources, flows and impacts - to inform evidence-based decision making and capture progress on SDG 14, 12 and 11; - Ensuring interlinkages between UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development with UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration and using the UN Ocean Conference to leverage this; - Strengthen and mainstream action plans for ecosystem-based marine and coastal planning and management to balance competing uses of marine resources and address degradation, pollution and resilience; - Encourage countries to mainstream SDG 14 action in VNRs and NDCs; - Conduct review of existing national and regional legal and policy frameworks to ensure SDG alignment; - Feed outputs from the UN Ocean Conference 2020 into the post-2020 framework and agenda; - Map incentives and perform a cross variable analysis on climate change impacts on marine and coastal ecosystems to identify accelerators for action on SDG 14 and 13.
<p>3. What are some of the ways in which your organization has taken steps to leverage these interlinkages? What was the impact?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COBSEA countries have adopted regional Strategic Directions (https://www.unenvironment.org/cobsea/what-we-do) as well as a Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (https://www.unenvironment.org/cobsea/resources/policy-and-strategy/cobsea-regional-action-plan-marine-litter-2019) to guide coherent action. - COBSEA and UNEP are implementing the regional marine litter project SEAcircular to reduce and prevent land-based sources of marine pollution, addressing SDGs 11, 12, 14 and 17. The project engages governments, plastic producers and retailers, civil society, academia and disadvantaged groups to promote market-based solutions, strengthen scientific evidence base, improve planning and monitoring, create outreach, and facilitate regional coordination and learning https://www.sea-circular.org ; - COBSEA is preparing an Outlook on the follow-up and review of ocean-related SDGs to guide implementation, monitoring and reporting. This identifies gaps and

	<p>challenges as well as specific action to be pursued through COBSEA;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A process to strengthen marine and coastal spatial planning has been initiated, which will incorporate policy analysis and recommendations, identification of conservation priorities focusing on blue economy assets, and regional training and networking. This will build capacity for ecosystem-based approaches to marine and coastal spatial planning and management for integrated ecosystem protection across SDGs 6, 11, 13, 14.
<p>4. What gaps have you identified in the area relevant to the topic of this IPWG under your respective mandate?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cross-cutting science/data and capacity gaps in terms of national data collection, monitoring, assessment and evaluation of impacts for follow up and review of SDGs and to inform policies; - Sharing and leveraging of national and regional research initiatives to address knowledge gaps, strengthening regional research networks and harmonization; - Harmonized monitoring methodologies and indicators for data comparability; - Coordination between ministries, agencies and organizations for cross-sector and cross-SDG action, at the local, national and regional level; - Fragmented and at times duplicative reporting on the regional and global level; - Lack of understanding/monitoring of effective performance of area-based management plans and marine protected areas; - Lack of enforcement of environmental laws and regulations across different sectors.
<p>5. Please describe concrete examples where ocean action is scaled up based on science and innovation in to leverage these synergies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SEA of Solutions annual partnership week brings together stakeholders from science, businesses, academia, local and national government, and civil society to build partnerships, share innovative solutions, address knowledge gaps, and leverage financing. The first week was held in Bangkok in 2019 (http://sos2019.sea-circular.org), the 2020 week will take place in November/December in Viet Nam; - A Training of Trainers on marine litter and microplastics monitoring and assessment was organized in September 2019 jointly with the GPML/GPA and regional partners to strengthen capacity for the development of harmonized marine litter monitoring programmes. https://www.unenvironment.org/cobsea/news/story/east-asian-seas-countries-welcome-harmonization-marine-litter-monitoring-efforts ; - COBSEA is working with regional knowledge partners and institutions to develop a regional knowledge hub on marine litter as part of an East Asian Seas Regional Node of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter. A mapping of existing research and initiatives in the region is ongoing to

	<p>inform a searchable database and provide better access to regionally-relevant data for integrated decision making;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analysis of priorities for conservation of critical coastal and marine habitat as blue economy assets is being initiated, for integration into marine and coastal spatial planning, related capacity building and policy development;
<p>6. What kind of measures/interventions should be promoted to fill existing gaps and to assist Member States in scaling up ocean action based on science and innovation in relation to the topic of this theme?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enable and encourage cross-sectoral communication and collaboration between ministries, member States, agencies as well as private and public sector and academia; - Capacity building on interdisciplinary approach and interlinkages between SDG 14 and other SDGs, and strengthening consideration of SDG 14 in VNRs; - Strengthening interdisciplinary scientific and technological research; - Promote an ecosystem-based approach to marine and coastal ecosystem protection; - Integrate SDG 14 in overarching and sector planning frameworks where relevant; - Identify SDG accelerators and prioritize actions and policies that create positive cross-SDG impacts; - Leverage existing regional mechanisms and strengthen alignment and collaboration (e.g. Regional Seas, RFBs, etc) to streamline SDG FUR and improve national data collection and monitoring systems.
<p>7. What kind of new partnerships/opportunities have you identified which could be showcased at the 2020 UN Ocean Conference in relation to this theme?</p> <p>Also, please articulate good practices and lessons learned in the implementation of partnerships relevant to the topic of this IPWG that you may wish to share?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The SEA circular initiative is built upon collaboration with actors such as private sector corporations, civil society groups and NGOs. The SEA of Solutions week provides a platform for partnership building and strengthening other means of implementation of the SDGs (capacity building, financing). The project leverages interlinkages between several SDGs including 11, 12, 14 and 17. The project will strengthen the science-policy interface for effective marine litter management and harmonized data collection, monitoring and reporting; - The UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development is an opportunity to strengthen the science-policy interface leveraging regional mechanisms such as the Regional Seas.
<p>9. Please outline key questions you consider relevant to the panel discussions to be held at the interactive dialogue on the topic of this IPWG.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How are interlinkages strengthened between global initiatives and regional/national action, such as the ongoing and upcoming UN Decades and the post-2020 framework? - How can citizen science and big data be used to address gaps and encourage multi-stakeholder action?
<p>10. Please identify any additional recommendations that</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emphasize the role of regional level coordination, facilitation and capacity development, building on existing regional mechanisms and frameworks, to strengthen SDG

<p>should be put forward for consideration by the 2020 UN Ocean Conference relevant to the topic of this IPWG.</p>	<p>14 follow up and review, to address SDG interlinkages and accelerate implementation.</p>
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