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	Ignace Beguin Billecocq
Agency/organization	UN Global Compact
Give an analysis on what are some of the interlinkages between SDG 14 and other SDGs?	1. The UN Global Compact, in consultation with more than 300 companies and research institutions around the globe, published a report: **Global Goals, Ocean Opportunities in June 2019.** At its core, the report illustrates how achieving the targets under Goal 14 on Life Below Water has **been connected through co-benefits to all the other Global Goals**. The report also elaborates on how private sector innovation and investment, together with strong public and private governance frameworks, could exponentially increase the amount of sustainable ocean resources, including healthy food, affordable clean energy, and more efficient and lower-carbon transport. **Executive Summary: Connecting the Goals:** Immediately tangible links are associated with **nutrition.** Degraded ocean systems result in negative health outcomes in food deficit countries **(Goal 2: Zero hunger, Goal 3: Good health).** 820 million people also depend on aquaculture and ocean tourism for their livelihoods **(Goal 1: No poverty, Goal**

8: Decent work and economic growth). The ocean also boasts ample energy opportunities **(Goal 7: Clean Energy)** and further pockets of economic growth and decent work through sustainable shipping and trade, maritime tourism, and sea-bed mining **(Goal 8, 3). Crucially,** protecting the oceans through Goal 14 is interlinked with climate change **(Goal 13),** which is the overarching threat to ocean health. Ocean heat waves that result in mass coral- bleaching events and shifts in the distribution of marine fish stocks. Ocean biogeochemistry is also changing, with impacts for the structure of ecosystems, food webs, invasive species and other biotic interactions **(Goal 15: Biodiversity).**

The Goals in action in ocean-related industries

a) Achieving Goal 2 through Ocean food
To provide adequate nutrition for the estimated 815 million people currently food insecure, global food systems will need new growth and to adopt more sustainable practices. Food harvested from the ocean has a critical role to play in creating a food system that provides nutrition to the global population, ensures decent work, and protects the environment. Ocean-harvested food can be produced with a relatively low carbon-footprint when compared to other sources of animal protein.

b) Achieving Goal 8 through Ocean Transport
Shipping is a large, growth business spreading **economic and social benefits**.
More than 50,000 merchant ships carry over 80 per cent of trade by volume with almost 11.7 billion tons of goods loaded in 2017. Ships, maritime technology and shipping services are also instrumental in supporting growth in offshore renewable energy production **(Goal 7)** and the harvesting of seafood **(Goal 2, 3).** With global trade today linked more than ever with local economies, shipping will be a key factor in reaching the Global Goals.

c) Achieving Goal 7 with Ocean electricity
Energy enables the sustainable economic development needed for achieving most Global Goals. Electric power from ocean wind, currents, tides and waves will play a role. Offshore wind can contribute to
local economic development **(Goal 8).** New offshore renewables are adopting best practice early on and complying with rules for protecting life below water **(Goal 14).** The oil and gas industry is targeting more-efficient energy use in oil and gas production and is assessing how to decarbonize its supply chains **(Goal 12)**

d) Achieving Goals 11 and 12 through Ocean Tourism
The growing ocean-related tourism industry, if managed responsibly, can contribute to several Global Goals. Cruise ship

	operators are starting or planning to increase use of local food suppliers and workers **(Goal 2)**; minimize use of single-use plastics and to boost recycling and waste management **(Goal 12).** It further contributes to **Goal 11 by working towards sustainable coastal lines and communities**. It also generates economic growth and quality (Goal 8) work for all including **women** (Goal 5) and young people. **e) Laying the foundation - Goals 16 and 17:** Sustainable development of the ocean requires regulation through transparent institutions and robust public/private cooperation. Without good governance and solid institutions any regulatory frameworks or laws protecting the ocean cannot be adequately enforced. Regional and global approaches and partnerships are needed to ensure the health of transboundary fish stocks, reductions in marine pollution, and vibrant coastal ecosystems.
What are some ways in which these synergies/interlinkages that can be leveraged?	**1. Partnering and data-sharing between ocean-related industries** Partnering between industries can share best practices and leverage synergies. **Examples:** • Electronic tracking tags on ocean fish can also report back on temperature, pressure and other physical parameters of the water they are moving through (Food, science) • Tracking satellites can also offer free locational and other data on vessels engaged in large-scale fishing (food, shipping) **2. Public and private partnerships** Collaborative public-private projects are springing up to explore how to leverage synergies. Ocean industries can partner and work with policymakers and leverage knowledge and efficiencies. **Examples:** • **Ocean tourism:** cruise routes planned in partnership with policymakers and planners so that baseline studies, impact assessment, monitoring and risk management can be established. • **Ocean energy:** An excellent example pertains to the North Sea Energy shared innovation programme in the Netherlands. It is creating a coalition of companies and research organizations to study and exploit synergies between offshore renewable and fossil energy activities.

3. Effective international Ocean Governance and international cooperation

Public governance: Public Policy tools and market-based incentives can create the right incentives for sustainable ocean business.

- **Ocean food:** stimulate markets for nutritious and sustainable food by achieving better integration of fish into national food security and nutrition strategies.

Private governance: Insurance companies, classification ('Class') societies and certification schemes:

- By preventing accidents, managing risks, creating transparency and ensuring trust through quality standards, insurance, classification and certification bodies are important in fostering sustainable development.
- Contributes towards Goal 14 by setting marine expectations, contribute to Goal 8 by compensating workers and ensuring rights.

International co-operation: Cross-sectoral international collaboration is an excellent synergy facilitator.

For instance: The *Ship Recycling Transparency Initiative*

- Using the online platform shiprecyclingtransparency.org, shipowners share information on their approaches to ship recycling based on pre-defined disclosure criteria developed jointly by key industry stakeholders.
- Cargo owners and investors access this information from different companies to assist with decision making about the companies with which they chose to do business.
- The SRTI is a market-based approach to improving ship recycling practices in the current absence of global standards.

4. Continuing to further digital tools and scale-up on innovation

Technology will continue to further interlinkages between Goal 14 and the other Goals.

- Digital solutions are promising tools in the fight against Illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and modern slavery on fisheries vessels.

	• Technology like blockchain may enable full traceability and more sustainable supply- chain management. **5. Thinking globally, acting locally.** • **Local community consultations:** For instance, the cruise ship industry is consulting with local governments in some of the most popular and sensitive locations to schedule visits and other features of trips to limit overcrowding and other potentially negative social and environmental impacts • **Spatial planning and cross-sectoral collaboration:** brings together multiple users of the ocean to make informed and coordinated decisions about how to use marine resources sustainably. E.g. offshore wind farms having cross-sectoral applications in supplying power for marine aquaculture and offshore oil and gas operations
What are some of the ways in which your organization has taken steps to leverage these interlinkages? What was the impact?	1. The UN Global Compact has, in consultation with more than 300 stakeholders worldwide, developed the **Sustainable Ocean Principles**. The Principles **cover three core areas** – climate change, ocean health and productivity; governance and engagement, and data and transparency. The Principles **at their very core <u>interlink the SDGs</u> due to the above-illustrated (See Q1 answer) close connection between Goal 14 and the other SDGs.** Signatories confirm their endorsement of the principles by setting out a framework for responsible business practices. The Principles are signed by the executive management and are designed as a tool for pursuing above minimum standards. They can be used as basis for due diligence assessments and serve as a reference point for interaction between companies on sustainable uses of the ocean. Thus far <u>**42 companies**</u> have signed the principles, producing **wide-ranging impact in their supply chains** and in turn delivering towards the SDGs due to the interlinkages within the Principles. By incorporating the Principles into strategy, policy and procedure, companies are upholding their basic responsibilities to people and planet while setting the stage for long-term success. **Examples of Goal 14 Interlinkages in the Sustainable Ocean Principles:**

	- **Principle 2:** *Consider sustainable business opportunities that promote or contribute to restoring, protecting or maintaining ocean health and productivity* (**Goals 14, 13, 15)** *and livelihoods dependent on the ocean* (**Goal 8, 1, 2)* - **Principle 3:** *Take action to prevent pollution affecting the ocean, reduce greenhouse gas emissions in their operations to prevent ocean warming and acidification* **(13, 14),** *and work towards a circular economy* **(12, 8)** - **Principle 8:** *Where appropriate, share relevant scientific data to support research on and mapping of relevance to the ocean* **(14, 16, 17)** For more information, [visit](#) The UN Global Compact, with companies and stakeholders, is currently developing **Practical Guidances**. The Guidances are intended to broadly outline ways to **operationalize these nine principles** to specific industry sectors. The Guidance aims at guiding Signatories on how they can deliver on the Principles in practical terms. 2. The Action Platform identified **"5 Tipping Points: For a Healthy and Productive Ocean"** based on the Global Goals, Ocean Opportunities report: • Fully Sustainable and Traceable Seafood • Set Sail for Zero • Ocean Electricity • Mapping the Ocean • End Waste entering the Ocean These tipping points all capture the interlinkages between the Goals and Goal 14. **The interlinkages and synergies within the Tipping Points between the SDGs can be gathered from the answer to Q1**
What gaps have you identified in the area relevant to the topic of this IPWG under your respective mandate?	• Ensuring policymakers and businesses truly understand and are educated on the interlinkages between a healthy and productive ocean and achieving the SDGs, is crucial to **incentivize more sustainable practices.** • The willingness and perceived usefulness from ocean businesses and CEOs/executives on undertaking **cross-sectoral work**. Learning from other ocean businesses and industries e.g. shipping and aquaculture has proven fruitful and informative according to Action Platform

	participants. Companies **highly appreciate the opportunity** to explore synergies across sectors and businesses.

Please describe concrete examples where ocean action is scaled up based on science and innovation in to leverage these synergies.	**1. Technology and Transparent supply chains: Decent work (8), Ocean Food (3), Responsible Production (12) and 14:**
	
	• More transparency and oversight of supply chains from harvest to consumer is key for food security and sustainable growth.
	• New digital solutions are promising tools in the fight against Illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and modern slavery on fisheries vessels.
	• Technology like blockchain may enable full traceability and more sustainable supply- chain management.
	
	2. Technological advancements in the shipping industry towards 'voyage to zero' (Goal 8, 12, 7, 14, 2)
	
	• Shipping enables world trade. To fulfil this role responsibly, its future must be with zero emissions.
	• The sector is investing in three main technical developments:
	
	    1. Vessel design and engineering with scope for greater cross-sectoral technology transfer.
	    2. Access to alternative and cleaner fuels
	    3. Digital connectivity assisting route optimization for goals including reduced emissions and business benefits like reduced costs.
	
	3. Clean Energy (7), Decent Work (8), Responsible Production (12) and 14:
	
	• The oil and gas industry is targeting more-efficient energy use in oil and gas production and is assessing how to decarbonize its supply chains.
	• It researches, advocates and uses carbon capture, utilization and storage (Goal 13).
	• New LNG technologies can potentially bring cleaner fuel for ships, onshore power generation, and decent work (Goal 8) to less developed regions with offshore gas.

What kind of measures/interventions should be promoted to fill existing gaps and to assist	[In similar vein to Q2]: 1. Educating policymakers on the interlinkages between

Member States in scaling up ocean action based on science and innovation in relation to the topic of this theme?	ocean health and economic productivity and opportunity. 2. Encouraging multi-stakeholder partnerships and initiatives between Member States and private organizations. 3. Facilitating cross-sectoral initiatives and partnerships to leverage ocean synergies 4. Encouraging and facilitating data-sharing between regional ocean-related bodies.
What kind of new partnerships/opportunities have you identified which could be showcased at the 2020 UN Ocean Conference in relation to this theme? 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?	1. The UN Global Compact and its partners, including UNTIL, are now mobilizing technology companies worldwide as well as the startup community. Through the #Reboot the Ocean campaign, participants are asked to come up with innovative new ideas to work towards furthering Goal 14. The top-ranking solutions from around the world will be selected to participate in the #RebootTheOcean Innovathon in Lisbon, Portugal (May 31-June 1). This is an excellent opportunity for **different ocean-related sectors, civil society and crucially young people to come together** and scale-up innovation and science for Goal 14. 2. The UN Global Compact is now working with industry, science partners, and UN experts to draft the practical guidances for ocean-companies. This exemplifies the excellent work being done in multi-stakeholder partnerships whereby practical, action-orientated results can lead to concrete synergies.
Please outline key questions you consider relevant to the panel discussions to be held at the interactive dialogue on the topic of this IPWG.	How can we further encourage and facilitate cross-sectoral ocean-related industries to work together? The ocean sector boasts many initiatives, but this is often sectoral-based e.g. ocean energy or ocean food. The UN Global Compact has been successful at providing a platform where different ocean sectors come together and address synergies. Further facilitation of this kind of cross-sectoral work

	is crucial.
Please identify any additional recommendations that should be put forward for consideration by the 2020 UN Ocean Conference relevant to the topic of this IPWG.	1. The UN Global Compact can support in finding committed CEOs to join the panel as well as identifying organizations which successfully interlink the SDGs. 2. The UN Global Compact's Action Platform for Sustainable Ocean Business will launch its second **Mapping Ocean Governance and Regulations report** in the run-up to the Ocean Conference. This report can serve as an comprehensive overview of the vastly complex web of ocean governance. The report will identify an agenda of actions for governments and companies, based on the 5 Tipping Points for a Healthy and Productive Ocean. 3. The UN Global Compact's Action Platform will be launching a **Blue Bonds concept paper** in the run-up to the Conference. Financing targeted specifically ocean-friendly markets is a growing market. The blue bonds paper will outline investment practices aiming to encourage investment in the Blue Economy to achieve the SDGs (outlined in Q1)