



Interactive Dialogue 8: Leveraging interlinkages between Sustainable Development Goal 14 and other Goals towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda

1 July, from 10am – 1pm at Tejo Hall

Thank you, Mr. President/Madame Chair,

By 2025, nearly 6 billion people will live within 200km of a coastline. Population growth and climate change-related impacts are increasing coastal risks and degrading coastal ecosystems upon which millions depend. Climate risks also compound existing pressures. Coastal cities and regions have unique opportunity to mobilize and demonstrate leadership in taking action to protect our ocean and ensure that the ocean and its accompanying coast are sustainably managed. SDG 14 offers a great opportunity to advance ocean sustainability globally and address current and emerging threats. It is underpinned by targets addressing conservation and sustainable use of the ocean, seas and marine resources, including coastal zones, and targets referring to capacity building and ocean governance. SDG 14 recognizes the role of the ocean for economic, social and ecological development and the need to address the most urgent and pressing issues affecting coastal and marine ecosystems, including pollution from land-based sources, ocean acidification and overfishing, to mention a few.

At the same time, SDG 14 has important interactions with other goals and its implementation will assist in achieving a number of other goals. These interactions highlight the possible synergies among the SDGs, whereby the attainment of SDG 14 will also increase the return on investment for reaching the other goals, especially those related to poverty alleviation, food security, sustainable blue/ocean economy and climate change.

It has never been as urgent as it is today to restore damaged ecosystems. We must learn from one another and apply the lessons and practices to protect, manage and restore the vulnerable coastal ecosystems in our cities. CitiesWithNature and RegionsWithNature are international partnership initiatives providing a platform to connect a global community of cities, partner organizations and experts acting for nature.

Stefania Romano
CitiesWithNature and RegionsWithNature Global Coordinator, Advocacy and Recruitment

ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability - Cities Biodiversity Center

ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability is a global network of more than 2,500 local and regional governments committed to sustainable urban development.

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