## **United Nations Department of Economic** and Social Affairs

Distr.: Participants

#### Expert Group Meeting for the Global Sustainable Development Report - A prototype report, future directions and network of scientific contributors

Dubrovnik, Croatia, 21-22 October 2013





Day One - 21 October 2013	
8:30 – 9:00	Registration
9:00 – 9:20	Opening
	Welcome by the Host Government
	Welcome by the UN
	Opening statement
9:20 - 10:00	Session 1: Introduction
	Context and expectations of the meeting
	Developments at the global level within the context of follow-up to
	Rio+20 and post-2015 development agenda
	Tour de table of participants
10:15 – 11:00	Session 2: Prototype Global Sustainable Development Report
	Introduction: Presentation of the prototype report: contributors, existing assessments, original work; emerging Issues identified by science to be considered policy makers; results of the UN crowd-sourcing exercise; key messages of the report  Discussion:
	<ul> <li>Scope and methodology for future reports</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Remaining gaps and scope for contribution of regional and sub-regional scientific networks</li> </ul>
	Role of the report in advancing sustainable development at all levels
11:00 – 11:15	Coffee Break
11:15 – 12:30	Session 3: Regional perspectives on sustainable development
Breakout into two groups	This session will explore the status of the science-policy interaction around sustainable development in the region. The plenary will be broken into two groups to facilitate discussions and the chair will report back to the plenary
12:30 – 13:00	Chairs of the groups will report back to the plenary
plenary	Do regional scientists identify a "sustainable development" scientific community in the region?
	Are there organized communities and networks? On sectoral or interdisciplinary



# United Nations Department of Economic Distr.: Participants and Social Affairs

	basis? What is the extent of trans-national collaboration at the scientist level?
	<ul> <li>Have these communities been able to impact decision-making?</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>How do these communities relate to those in other regions and at the global level?</li> </ul>
	What is the status of assessments for sustainable development in the region?
	<ul> <li>What are the respective roles of scientists, policy analysts and Governments?</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>What is the scope and perspective of these reports?</li> </ul>
	What impact have they had on decision-making?
	What are the main gaps in coverage, methodology, etc.
	What are top priority issues in the region, and how do they differ from global concerns as identified in the UN debate and by crowdsourcing?
	<ul> <li>Existing review of scientific communities' concerns in the region?</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Do they correspond to those highlighted in European, international debates?</li> </ul>
	What strategies, policy actions are suggested?
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch Break
14:00 – 15:45	Session 4: Highlights on some regional "hot topics"
	This session will discuss topics of high interest in this region. Short presentations will be delivered by participants to kick off the discussion.
	<ol> <li>Use of SD indicators in the region: status, results</li> <li>Addressing issues relevant to the sustainable development in the Mediterranean</li> <li>Regional economic integration</li> <li>Equity, employment and social issues including sustainable consumption and production patterns</li> <li>For each topic:         <ul> <li>Is this a policy priority in your country?</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
	Are regional scientists, politicians collaborating on this?  Mulata second and the high light and in a GCDD and this?
	What message could be highlighted in a GSDR on this?  What message could be highlighted in a GSDR to another the positional level to a decrease this.
	<ul> <li>How could messages from a GSDR be used at the national level to advance this topic?</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>What would be the needs of the region in terms of trans-national collaboration, capacity building, etc.?</li> </ul>
15:45 - 16:00	Coffee break
	5) Oceans and sees/Integrated coastal management
16:00 – 17:30	6) Tourism and culture 7) Climate, land, energy, water (CLEW) nexus
	For each topic:  • Is this a policy priority in your country?



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- Are regional scientists, politicians collaborating on this?
- What message could be highlighted in a GSDR on this?
- How could messages from a GSDR be used at the national level to advance this topic?
- What would be the needs of the region in terms of trans-national collaboration, capacity building, etc.?

Conclusion by the chairs recapping regional priorities identified above and possibly some other ones.

#### Day Two - 22 October 2013

#### 9:00 – 12:00 Breakout into two groups

#### <u>Session 5:</u> Regional and sub-regional contributions to a Global Sustainable Development report

This session will explore ways of enriching a global SD report with inputs and perspectives from the region on a longer term basis

#### 12:00 – 13:00 plenary

Chairs of the groups will report back to the plenary

How could regional and sub-regional networks engage with the GSDR process?

• Need/ interest for engagement from this region on a regular basis? What form, what topics, what deliverables?

### *Coffee break* 11:00 – 11:15

- Does it make more sense for participants to engage in a regional version of the report? If so, is the proposed structure for the GSDR adapted to the region?
- How could global level lessons / regional lessons be made useful to national and regional science-policy dialogues?

Is there an interest for expanding the crowdsourcing that was done for the prototype report to the region?

- Identification of focal points for different languages
- Modalities for consolidation, reporting

Is there a need for more formal or informal networks of exchange on SD issues at the regional/sub-regional level? How could existing networks be better mobilized?

- What deliverables could be delivered by existing networks based on existing knowledge at the national level?
- Where do new networks make sense?
- How can existing or new networks be supported (e.g. by EU, others)?

#### 13:00 - 14:00

#### Lunch Break

#### 14:00-16:00

### <u>Session 6:</u> Follow-up and contribution to future Global Sustainable Development Reports

Discussion on Dubrovnik agreed conclusions

Recapitulation of proposed contribution for the current Report

Proposal from previous sessions on concrete steps to involve regional and sub-regional level scientists and civil society in future Global Sustainable Development Reports

Presentation of options for strengthening the science-policy interface at the regional and sub-regional levels

# United Nations Department of Economic Distr.: Participants and Social Affairs

16:00 - 16:30

Adoption of agreed conclusions and closing of the meeting