



**RECLASSIFICATION REQUEST FOR SDG
INDICATORS 14.6.1 AND 14.B.1**

Pietro Gennari
FAO Chief Statistician

SDG INDICATOR 14.6.1

Target 14.6 - *By 2020, prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and refrain from introducing new such subsidies, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of the World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiation*

Indicator 14.6.1 - *Progress by countries in the degree of implementation of international instruments aiming to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing*

- An indicator on subsidies, conceptually more relevant to target 14.6, had originally been included in the first proposed list of indicators compiled by the Secretariat, but the IAEG-SDG rejected it because highly controversial from a political point of view.
- FAO developed an alternative proposal focusing on IUU fishing, which was accepted by the 2nd IAEG-SDG in Bangkok.
- IUU fishing is mentioned not only under target 14.6 but also under target 14.4.

SDG INDICATOR 14.b.1

Target 14.b - *Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets*

Indicator 14.b.1 - *14.b.1 Progress by countries in the degree of application of a legal/regulatory/policy/institutional framework which recognizes and protects access rights for small-scale fisheries*

- Linked to the *Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication* (SSF Guidelines), **adopted by the Committee on Fisheries in 2014** after a consultation involving over 4,000 stakeholders from 120 countries and the **39th FAO Conference in 2015**
- In 2016, the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries questionnaire (CCRF) was reviewed to align it with the SSF Guidelines.

DATA COLLECTION PROCESS

- **Both indicators** are based on a common, long-standing data reporting mechanism => biennial questionnaire on the Code of Conduct on Responsible Fisheries (CCRF). The questionnaire is shared with all FAO member states **since 1995**.
- The response rate of the CCRF questionnaire has progressively increased over time. In 2016, **120 countries** responded to the relevant sections of the questionnaire.
- In 2018 new round of the CCRF questionnaire, which is still **ongoing** (closing date 18 April). To date, **138 countries** have registered and **104 countries** have submitted their questionnaire.
- The revamped online questionnaire provides detailed documentation, including pop-ups describing key terms, to avoid the possibility of subjective interpretation.

14.6.1 METHOD OF COMPUTATION

- The indicator is based on the responses to a section of the CCRF questionnaire covering the implementation of instruments used to combat IUU fishing.
- Each instrument to combat IUU fishing is covered by a given variable: the responses are aggregated using an algorithm to obtain a score for the indicator:
- Variable 1 (10%): 1982 UN **Convention on the Law of the Sea** implementation
- Variable 2 (10%): implementation of the 1995 **UN Fish Stocks Agreement**
- Variable 3 (30%): Development and implementation of a **national plan of action** (NPOA) to combat IUU fishing in line with the IPOA-IUU
- Variable 4 (30%): 2009 FAO **Port State Measures Agreement** implementation
- Variable 5 (20%): Implementation of 1993 **FAO Compliance Agreement** and FAO Voluntary Guidelines for **Flag State Performance**

14.B.1 METHOD OF COMPUTATION

- The indicator is based on the responses to a section of the CCRF questionnaire covering actual efforts of promoting and facilitating access rights to small scale fisheries.
- Each instrument to grant access rights to SSF is covered by a given variable: the responses are aggregated using an algorithm to obtain a score for the indicator.
- Variable 1 (40%)- Existence of **laws, regulations, policies, plans or strategies** that specifically target or address the small-scale fisheries sector
- Variable 2 (30%)- Ongoing **specific initiatives to implement the SSF Guidelines**
- Variable 3 (30%)- Existence of **mechanisms** enabling small-scale fishers and fish workers to **contribute to decision-making** processes

INTERPRETATION

To aid the interpretation of the indicators, the respective scores are then converted into 5 bands:

Score	Bands
>0 – < 0.2	Band 1: Very low implementation of instruments for combatting IUU fishing (14.6.1) or for access to resources and markets for small-scale fisheries (14.b.1)
0.2 – < 0.4	Band 2: Low implementation of instruments for combatting IUU fishing (14.6.1) or for access to resources and markets for small-scale fisheries (14.b.1)
0.4 – < 0.6	Band 3: Medium implementation of instruments for combatting IUU fishing (14.6.1) or for access to resources and markets for small-scale fisheries (14.b.1)
0.6 – < 0.8	Band 4: High implementation of instruments for combatting IUU fishing (14.6.1) or for access to resources and markets for small-scale fisheries (14.b.1)
0.8 – 1.0	Band 5: Very high implementation of instruments for combatting IUU fishing (14.6.1) or for access to resources and markets for small-scale fisheries (14.b.1)

WHY RECLASSIFICATION CRITERIA ARE MET

Governing body approval:

- in 2016 the methodologies of both indicators were agreed by the Committee on Fisheries, the leading intergovernmental platform for fisheries and aquaculture issues. COFI explicitly requested FAO to proceed with presenting the indicators to the IAEG-SDG for upgrading to Tier II.

NSO involvement:

- NSOs and SDG focal points were copied in the dispatching of the CCRF questionnaire, though the respondents nominated by the national governments are usually from the Ministry for Fisheries and Aquaculture.

WHY RECLASSIFICATION CRITERIA ARE MET

Pilot studies:

- 14.6.1 was tested with 9 countries across Asia, Pacific and Africa,
- 14.b.1 with 11 countries across Africa, Europe, Asia, Middle East and America.
- Prior to the official release of the 2018 CCRF questionnaire, FAO also attempted to test the indicators with the IAEG-SDG members that had raised concerns in the last IAEG-SDG meeting, but received no response.
- Over 100 countries have already responded to the 2018 CCRF questionnaire, excluding the EU Commission which responds on behalf of EU countries (with their consent).
- The results from the pilots and the 2018 data collection confirmed:
 - ✓ the feasibility of the indicator methodology;
 - ✓ the suitability of the weights and scoring method;
 - ✓ the interpretability of the results;
 - ✓ the relevance of the indicators to most countries (not only coastal countries)

NEXT STEPS

- To facilitate reporting, a tailor-made data processing tool has been developed within the framework of the existing CCRF questionnaire online platform.
- Upon submission of the questionnaire by the user, an indicator report will automatically be generated for final validation by the country.
- The tool has been put in dormant state, pending the approval of the indicator methodology by the IAEG-SDG.
- **Upon the approval for the reclassification of the indicators, FAO will provide the complete datasets to the Secretariat for publication in the global database**