

Goal 14

Target number: 14.2

Indicator Number and Name: 14.2.1 Proportion of national Exclusive Economic Zones managed using ecosystem-based approaches

Agency: UN Environment

Has work for the development of this indicator begun?

Yes

Who are the entities, including national and international experts, directly involved and consulted in developing the methodology/and or data collection tools?

UN Environment works in close collaboration with the Regional Seas Conventions and IOC-UNESCO.

UN Environment has been using existing meetings on intercoastal zone management, marine spatial planning and marine management to discuss the methodology for this indicator.

The contact persons are:

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What is the involvement of or how do you plan to involve National Statistical Systems in the development of the methodology?

Government Ministries working with oceanic data as part of the National Statistical Systems have been engaged throughout the process. Additionally, pilot testing of the approach for 14.2.1 was conducted in 2017 in Fiji and Colombia. Both pilots worked with the National Statistical Office and a wide variety of members of the National Statistical System.

Please briefly describe the process of developing the methodology for the indicator

A review of existing indicators and methodologies currently used by Regional Seas Programmes and other key intergovernmental, international or regional bodies highlights that there are a number of existing indicators for integrated management and planning strategies for socio-ecological systems, these include indicators based on the implementation status of marine area-based, integrated planning and management approaches, such as Marine/Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) or Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM). This indicates that there are existing mechanisms in place which are reported to the Regional Seas Conventions that can be used for this indicator.

A data collection of the geospatial information to determine the percentage of total exclusive economic zones which are managed using ecosystem-based approaches would require additional resources as compared to measuring the number of countries with a maritime or integrated coastal zone management plan in place. Thus, the number of counties with a plan in place may be considered as a proxy for this indicator.

Please indicate new international standards that will need to be proposed and approved by an intergovernmental process (such as UNSC) for this methodology.

This standard will be adopted by the 18 Regional Seas Convention which cover all UN members which are included in a Regional Seas Programme. It is expected that an additional intergovernmental process will not be necessary. UN Environment is and will continue to consult with the Expert Group on Environment Statistics and the UN Committee on Environmental Economic Accounting to ensure harmonization with the existing standards on environment statistics.

When do you expect the methodological work on this indicator to be completed?

March 2019 with additional refinements by end 2020.

Are data and metadata already being collected from the National Statistical System for one or more components of this indicator?

Yes

If yes, please describe:

Reporting on national progress towards Regional Seas ICZM protocols. However, the number countries covered by Regional Seas or a UN Environment data collection on this indicator will need to increase over time in order to have global representation.

How do you plan to collect the data?

1. Send questionnaire(s) to country
2. Regional Seas Conventions

If the indicator involves multiple components from different data sources, please describe how each individual component of the indicator will be collected here.

With what frequency is data expected to be collected?

National level data will be collected every 5 years.

Is there a process of data validation by countries in place or planned for this indicator?

Yes

If yes, please briefly describe:

Data is officially submitted by countries. Communication is carried out with countries for clarification and validation of data as per the guidelines adopted by the UN Statistical Commission.

If you have any additional comments that you believe would be helpful to IAEG-SDG members in analysing the work plan and methodological development of the indicator, please provide them here:

Data for the underlying statistics for this indicator are already collected for many countries. However, there is a need for additional harmonization and data collection on this indicator.

(As of July 2018)