

# Goal 14

**Target number:** 14.b

**Indicator Number and Name**<sup>1</sup> 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

**Agency:** FAO

**Has work for the development of this indicator begun?**

Yes. The indicator is based on a new section on small-scale fisheries inserted in the 2015/2016 version of the questionnaire on the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and related instruments (CCRF questionnaire). This questionnaire is distributed to members and observers (regional fishery bodies (RFBs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs)) of the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) every two years.

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

The indicator for SDG target 14.b directly refers to questions of the CCRF questionnaire and uses a methodology formulated through the FAO Task Force on Small-Scale Fisheries. Membership of COFI is open to all Members of FAO. Currently, COFI has 133 members<sup>2</sup>.

During the 32<sup>nd</sup> Session of COFI, agreed that the data submitted through the CCRF questionnaire could be used by Members for reporting on sustainable development goals (SDGs) indicators and Aichi Biodiversity Targets<sup>3</sup>.

In relation to data collection tools, at its 31<sup>st</sup> Session in 2014, COFI commended the work undertaken by FAO to develop a web-based version of the CCRF questionnaire on the implementation of the Code and welcomed the substantial increase in response rates of Members, regional fishery bodies and non-governmental organizations. In line with a COFI request in 2014, FAO further developed the web-based system, together with the related data processing tools and usability features.

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

As illustrated above, the indicator directly refers to three questions included in FAO questionnaire. The CCRF questionnaire is sent to all FAO members<sup>4</sup> and completed by the relevant national authorities, primarily the fisheries administrations, with the appropriate involvement of national statistical systems. The CCRF questionnaire is also sent to COFI observers, namely regional fishery bodies and non-governmental organizations.

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

In line with a COFI request in 2014, FAO reviewed the CCRF questionnaire, taking into account developments in global fisheries and aquaculture and comments provided by respondents. In view of the importance attached to small-scale fisheries by COFI Members and the endorsement by COFI of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines) in 2014, five structured questions on small-scale fisheries were added to the 2015/16 version of the questionnaire.

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<sup>1</sup> see <http://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/Official%20List%20of%20Proposed%20SDG%20Indicators.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> [www.fao.org/unfao/govbodies/gsbhome/committee-fi/en/](http://www.fao.org/unfao/govbodies/gsbhome/committee-fi/en/)

<sup>3</sup> See COFI report <http://www.fao.org/3/a-mr484e.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.fao.org/legal/home/membership-of-fao/en/>

Target 14.b is focusing on access to resources and markets for small-scale fisheries, in line with the Rio+20 outcome document para, 175. In order to guarantee secure access, an enabling environment is necessary which recognizes and protects small-scale fisheries rights. Such an enabling environment has three key features:

1. Appropriate legal, regulatory and policy frameworks,
2. Specific initiatives to support small-scale fisheries and
3. Related institutional mechanisms which allow for the participation of small-scale fisheries organizations in relevant processes.

The indicator variables are therefore chosen from three (see detailed questions in Annex 1) of the five questions on small-scale fisheries of the CCRF questionnaire to reflect these three aspects. The national indicator is calculated based on these questions specifically focusing on actual efforts of promoting and facilitating access rights to small scale fisheries.

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|-------------|--|
| Variable 1. | Existence of instruments that specifically target or address the small-scale fisheries sector                    |
| Variable 2. | Ongoing specific initiatives to implement the SSF Guidelines   |
| Variable 3. | Existence of mechanisms enabling small-scale fishers and fish workers to contribute to decision-making processes |

The unit of measurement of the indicator is a score on a scale of 0 to 1, computed through scores and weights assigned to the three questions. The weight given to each of the variables in calculating the indicator value for each country is as follows:

- |             |     |
|-------------|-----|
| Variable 1. | 40% |
| Variable 2. | 30% |
| Variable 3. | 30% |

Responses termed “no” in all three questions will result in a “zero” score for the composite indicator. Maximum score will be achieved if all questions are answered “yes”. Differences in score as compared to the preceding year will reflect the progress made. For more details see Annex 2.

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

Preparatory work is completed and first results in terms of answers to the three questions on which the indicator is based became available during the 32<sup>nd</sup> session of COFI in July 2016.

On that occasion COFI also agreed that the data and information submitted through the questionnaire could be used by Members for reporting on sustainable development goals (SDGs) indicators. The importance of the ongoing processes related to Agenda 2030 on SDGs was also highlighted and COFI took note of the upcoming UN Conference to support the implementation of SDG 14 to be held in New York in June 2017. COFI encouraged FAO to continue to support the preparatory process and also to support Members in the preparation of national reports on the relevant SDG targets.

In the COFI Bureau meeting in December 2016, the use of the COFI Bureau as a way to adopting the methodologies for Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries related SDG indicators and during the next COFI Bureau meeting, in April 2017, the methodology for indicators 14.b.1 will be presented and will be subject to approval on behalf of the Member States.

**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:**

National Statistical Systems already collect fisheries-relevant data, with a focus on production, employment, and trade. For the 2016 report on the CCRF questionnaire, 115 Members (58 percent of FAO Members) responded to the questionnaire, setting an all-time record in response rate.

92 Members and the EU<sup>5</sup> responded to the section on small-scale fisheries of the CCRF questionnaire. Responses for the three questions relevant for the indicator are summarized below and available in more detail in Annex 3:

- 77, 74, 73 and 69 percent of Members reported having introduced or developed respectively regulations, policies, laws, plans or strategies specifically targeting or addressing SSF.
- In relation to specific initiatives to implement the SSF Guidelines, 47 percent of the Members responded positively whilst 42 percent reported that they intended doing so in the future. Initiatives already in place were most prominently related to activities supporting SSF actors actively participating in sustainable resources management (84 percent), implementing capacity development of fisheries organizations and other stakeholders (72 percent) and promoting social development, employment and decent work (67 percent).
- Mechanisms through which small-scale fishers and fish workers can contribute to decision making processes have been reported to exist by 85 percent of the respondents. The most common ones include mechanisms for involving small-scale fishers in fisheries management (79 percent) and fisher/fish workers' representatives into advisory/consultative bodies to the Ministries/Departments of Fisheries (77 percent). Out of the Members who responded to have these mechanisms in place, 67 percent reported encouraging the active participation of women.

**How do you plan to collect the data?**

The data is collected through the web-based CCRF questionnaire on a biannual basis. Considering the agreement by COFI in 2016 that it is envisaged to develop an online tool to compile the indicator for SDG target 14.b using the data provided by countries on the three relevant questions of the CCRF questionnaire, also on an annual basis.

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

The indicator components are all included in the CCRF questionnaire which is filled in by FAO Members.

**With what frequency is data expected to be collected?**

Through the FAO COFI the data is currently collected on a biannual basis. However, considering the agreement by COFI in July 2016 that the data and information submitted through the Code questionnaire could be used by Members for reporting on sustainable development goals (SDGs) indicators this frequency could be increased to an annual routine.

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

Yes, planned.

**If yes, please briefly describe:**

An online tool is planned to compute the indicator, based on the data provided by countries in the web-based CCRF questionnaire. The indicator will be submitted to countries for final validation before reporting.

**Annexes listed below provided to IAEG-SDG Members:**

**Annex 1:** CCRF questionnaire questions used for SDG target 14.b indicator

**Annex 2:** Indicator calculation methodology

**Annex 3:** Relevant reporting on the COFI questionnaire from the 32nd COFI session  
(As of 3 March 2017)

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<sup>5</sup> The EU responded on behalf of its Member States in this section.