

Goal 14

Target number: 14.c

Indicator Number and Name: 14.c.1 Number of countries making progress in ratifying, accepting and implementing through legal, policy and institutional frameworks, ocean-related instruments that implement international law, as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, for the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and their resources

Agency:

OLA/DOALOS

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?

Members of UN-Oceans, an inter-agency coordination mechanism on ocean and coastal issues within the UN system (see UN-Oceans website for list of members at www.unoceans.org) are directly involved in developing the methodology for this indicator, including preparing metadata. UN-Oceans has agreed that OLA/DOALOS will serve as focal point for Indicator 14.c.1 and, in that capacity, will, in collaboration with UN-Oceans members as appropriate, compile data and any other relevant information, as provided by Member States, for submission to the Global SDG Indicators Database. Government representatives dealing with oceans, law of the sea and coastal issues are also being consulted in the development of the methodology.

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

At this stage, involvement of National Statistical Systems is not expected.

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

The development of the methodology for this indicator is being led by OLA/DOALOS, in close collaboration with other UN-Oceans members. To date, a proposed methodology has been developed which would consist of a voluntary web-based questionnaire to which would be attached an indicative list of “ocean-related instruments relevant to the implementation of international law, as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, for the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and their resources”. This proposed methodology was presented to States in June 2018 at a side event in the margins of the Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. Some States have already provided comments and constructive suggestions which will be considered by UN-Oceans and reflected in a revised proposal. UN-Oceans expects to present the revised proposal to States later in 2018, at a side event in the margins of the informal consultations of Member States on the draft General Assembly resolution on oceans and the law of the sea. The purpose of that side event would be to receive further feedback from States regarding the revised methodology, and to invite States to volunteer for pilot testing of that methodology. Once the pilot testing has been conducted, and the revised methodology has received the necessary support from States, UN-Oceans will submit a request to the IAEG-SDGs for tier reclassification.

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

N/A.

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

UN-Oceans members aim to submit necessary documentation for the request of tier reclassification by the IAEG-SDGs in 2019.

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

If yes, please describe:

This is a new indicator. However, data on one component of the indicator (on ratifications and accessions of ocean-related treaties) is already being collected by relevant treaty depositories, not from the National Statistical System (NSS), but from relevant ministries and/or other government agencies. With respect to the collection of data on the other component of the indicator (i.e. implementation of international instruments), existing mechanisms for the collection of such data include, among others, notifications to depositories, as well as responses to questionnaires, and/or reporting by Members States..

How do you plan to collect the data?

It is proposed that the methodology for this indicator would consist of a voluntary web-based questionnaire to be distributed to all States, which would collect data on both components of this indicator. Where data has already been collected in respect to ratification, accession or implementation of relevant instruments via one of the existing mechanisms identified above, that data would be drawn to the attention of Member States in the questionnaire (for example, where such information may be found online, a link to the relevant URL or URLs would be included)

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

See response above.

With what frequency is data expected to be collected?

Periodically, as appropriate (perhaps every two or three years). The periodicity of data collection will be further discussed by UN-Oceans members during the development of the methodology, following feedback from States.

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

If yes, please briefly describe:

Data is expected to be directly provided to OLA/DOALOS by the relevant ministries and/or other government agencies. At this stage, a separate data validation process by countries is not deemed to be necessary.

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:

N/A

(as of July/August 2018)