

## UNEP Regional Seas SDG 14 Outlook Report - Proposed summary outline

### Part 1: Framing the context for the Outlook Report and the role of Regional Seas

- Introduction to global and regional policy context (including global frameworks and targets, CBD, SDGs, BBNJ etc.)
- Historical context of Regional Seas
- Regional approach
  - Connectivity of the ocean and interdependencies within and across regions;
  - Ecosystem-based management
  - Climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts
  - Efficiencies across greater scales
- Importance of Regional Seas
  - Regional Seas as conveners, coordinators and catalysers of national and regional action;
  - Regional Seas as links between national and global goals, targets and indicators (action plans, voluntary commitments etc.)
  - Demonstration of successes and milestones in relation to the regional approach to date.

#### Section data needs:

- Regional Seas Geographic boundaries;
- Evidence of regional seas coordination and cooperation role;
- Voluntary commitments, action plan linkages to global goals and targets; *and*
- Evidence of regional successes

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### Part 2: Contributions towards global, regional and national targets (SDGs, NBSAPs, Action Plans)

- Overview of status of SDG **Target 14.2** (*Indicator 14.2.1: Proportion of national exclusive economic zones managed using ecosystem-based approaches*) and **Target 14.5** (*Indicator 14.5.1: Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas*)
  - Global summary
  - Status per region
  - Overlap with important ecosystems (mangroves, seagrasses, corals) and areas (VMEs, EBSAs etc.)
  - Challenges with using these SDG target indicators
- Interactions between SDG Targets
  - Between Targets 14.2. and 14.5
  - Other SDG targets
  - Blue economy strategies by region
- Area-based/Ecosystem-based measures noted in other national, regional, or multilateral agreements.
  - CBD Aichi Target 11

- CBD NBSAPs
- Voluntary commitments
- Other (e.g. CMS, CITES) where possible
- Summary of progress per region (e.g. where possible, a traffic light system, showing green for meeting the target, amber for on-track, and red for not on track)

**Section data needs:**

- EBM data from regions, including spatial data on MSP/ICZM etc.;
- Geographic boundaries for regions (to avoid double counting);
- Updated habitat data (if available);
- Blue economy information in relation to EBM. Including priority sectors, emerging sectors etc.;
- Country EBM and ABMT commitments in line with regional strategies and action plans (Case studies to demonstrate linkages rather than focusing on all RSPs); *and*
- Measures or commitments noted under other MEAs.

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**Part 3: Key obstacles and challenges to achievement of SDG Targets by 2030**

- Indicative **common obstacles/challenges** across regional seas (case studies)
  - Policy and management
    - Governance frameworks: institutional mandates, global, regional or national policies and plans, etc.
      - Successes in overcoming challenges and lessons learned
  - Data and information/knowledge
    - Status of data gaps, user needs (link to aspirations of UN Decade of Ocean Science and the UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration)
    - Data needs for effective monitoring and tracking progress towards achieving the set global targets.
    - Data sharing mechanisms, partnerships, limitations etc.
      - Successes in overcoming challenges and lessons learned
  - Technology
    - Marine Spatial planning use/availability, data dashboards, protected area database, connectivity and mapping.
      - Successes in overcoming challenges and lessons learned
  - Funding
    - Identify approach to collecting information on— and analysis of— information on funding to support EBM, identify potential opportunities.
      - Successes in overcoming challenges and lessons learned

**Section data needs:**

- Information on key challenges/obstacles for each region;
- Evidence and input demonstrating how each challenge has affected progress towards SDGs 14.2 and 14.5;

- Evidence of success for ALL challenges (where possible);
- Info on aspirations relating to UN Decades (Ocean Science and Ecosystem restoration);
- Regional seas data needs and ongoing efforts;
- Indication of technology available to support progress towards and tracking of EBM-related targets; *and*
- Funding information

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#### **Part 4: Recommendations and conclusions**

- From the challenges section, indicative best practices
- Modalities for sharing information and experiences between countries/regions
- Opportunities for strengthening collaboration and enhancing shared benefits and provide insight on how to scale up national and regional action.
- Summary of key recommendations, including ambitious actions by governments and other stakeholders to achieve the desired state by 2030.
- Next steps

#### **Section data needs:**

- Collaborative input to develop recommendations;
- Identification of opportunities for enhancing coordination; *and*
- Next steps in terms of regional priorities and key actions