

# Development

## A Review of Strategic Management Processes and Goals

The two primary objectives of this report were:

1

To review the TDA-SAP Process and identify the common issues, threats, causes and barriers and how each of the LMEs are addressing these through SAP implementation

2

Based on this synopsis and 'round-up' of TDA SAP delivery, identify the linkages between the TDA-SAP processes and the SDG 14 Targets

# Development

## A Review of Strategic Management Processes and Goals

Reviewed the assessment and management process in 24 of the world's LMEs through 18 GEF-funded projects and initiatives

It concludes that the TDA and the SAP process are **'fit-for-purpose'** and have evolved good practices and implementation objectives after two decades of trial and improvements

There are some important areas which could be improved however and these are captured under a set of Recommendations that address this need

The review has then looked in detail at the interlinkages between the LME SAP process and objectives and those of the SDG 14 and other SDGs. It confirms that there is:

**An intrinsic alignment between the two processes**

and that:

**The TDA-SAP processes and SAP Implementation will inevitably and significantly assist with the delivery on most, if not all, of the SDG 14 Targets and Indicators and, indeed on many of the other SDG Targets**



**SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT**

**GOALS**

**17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD**

## **GOAL 14**

CONSERVE AND SUSTAINABLY USE THE  
OCEANS, SEAS AND MARINE RESOURCES FOR  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

To Conserve and Sustainably Use the Oceans, Seas and Marine Resources for Sustainable Development

SDG 14 has a series of associated Indicators and Targets which relate closely to the objectives of the Strategic Action Programmes in most LMEs

# Sustainable Development Goal 14

SDG 14 TARGET	ASSOCIATED INDICATOR
1: By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution	Index of coastal eutrophication and floating plastic debris density

- Policy and regulatory reforms are being prioritised to reduce and control both land-based and maritime pollution
- 50% of the LMEs are addressing nutrient pollution/eutrophication and impacts from solid waste & plastics
- A major emphasis in SAPs on increased investment in land-based pollution reduction
- Private sector investment and economic instruments are being leveraged to address threats and impacts to the ecosystem

# Sustainable Development Goal 14

SDG 14 TARGET	ASSOCIATED INDICATOR
<b>2: By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans</b>	Proportion of national exclusive economic zones managed using ecosystem-based approaches

- TDA-SAP process contributes to strengthening resilience and improving the sustainable management/protection of marine and coastal ecosystems
- Habitat degradation and loss of biodiversity are high priorities being addressed through SAPs
- Many of the SAPS are specifically focusing on the restoration of natural ecosystem processes

# Sustainable Development Goal 14

SDG 14 TARGET	ASSOCIATED INDICATOR
<b>3: Minimize and address the impacts of ocean acidification, including through enhanced scientific cooperation at all levels</b>	Average marine acidity (pH) measured at agreed suite of representative sampling stations

- Most SAPs address Environmental Variability and Extreme Events (including climate change and ocean acidification).
- SAPs address need for strengthening and coordination of scientific monitoring and investigation to identify change including climate change parameters
- SAPs are now addressing the need to translate the results from monitoring into adaptive management advice and guidance.
- SAPs are mainstreaming Climate Change and Adaptation to Natural Events and Disasters into national and transboundary management strategies and policies

# Sustainable Development Goal 14

SDG 14 TARGET	ASSOCIATED INDICATOR
<b>4: By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics</b>	Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels

- TDAs identify Unsustainable/Destructive Fishing Practices and Excessive Bycatch and Discards as a primary cause with Inadequate or Ineffective Fisheries Management being identified as the root cause
- SAPs prioritise the need to address Declines in Living Marine Resources as a Result of Over-exploitation
- SAPs have a strong focus on adoption and improvement of management practices for Ecosystem-Based Fisheries and on food security
- SAPs aim to Increase government investment in better fisheries management.
- SAPs promote regional coordination of the EAF process as well as national adoption of effective monitoring and enforcement

# Sustainable Development Goal 14

SDG 14 TARGET	ASSOCIATED INDICATOR
<b>5: By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information</b>	Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas

- All TDAs identify declines in LMRs, habitat degradation and general loss of biodiversity and key species as top priority threats
- Undervalued ecosystem goods and services is one of the main barriers to resolving this
- SAPs are promoting tools such as ICM, MSP and GIS and the development of regional networks of connected MPAs and EBSAs to address these concerns
- Increased percentage coverage of protected and managed marine areas is a common Indicator adopted for monitoring through the TDA-SAP process

# Sustainable Development Goal 14

SDG 14 TARGET	ASSOCIATED INDICATOR
<b>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</b>	Progress by countries in the degree of implementation of international instruments aiming to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing

- LME SAPs are focusing fully on addressing impacts from over-fishing and its various causes
- TDAs note that IUU fishing is an immediate cause of over-exploitation and identify perverse subsidies for fishing effort (boats, gear, fuel, capital) as a root cause
- These are being addressed through adoption and improvement of management practices for ecosystem-based fisheries and through more effective monitoring and enforcement
- SAPs include policy realignment/reform in line with transboundary ecosystem-based management requirements, which will help eliminate

# Sustainable Development Goal 14

SDG 14 TARGET	ASSOCIATED INDICATOR
<b>7: By 2030, increase the economic benefits to Small Island developing States and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources, including through sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism</b>	Sustainable fisheries as a percentage of GDP in small island developing States, least developed countries and all countries

- All LME SAPs embrace the ‘Ridge-to-Reef’ approach
- All LMEs focus on sustainable fisheries and food security and directly support SIDS in the sustainable management and use of their fisheries
- SAPs also address value chain analyses for the fisheries, aquaculture and tourism sectors within a broader cost benefit analysis
- All LME SAPS that include SIDS have specific mechanisms for private sector participation and interactive governance; innovative investment and economic instruments to address threats and impacts to the ecosystem as well as increased government investment in pollution reduction, better coastal planning and better fisheries management

# Sustainable Development Goal 14

SDG 14 TARGET	ASSOCIATED INDICATOR
<b>A: Increase scientific knowledge, develop research capacity and transfer marine technology, taking into account the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, in order to improve ocean health and to enhance the contribution of marine biodiversity to the development of developing countries, in particular SID States and least developed countries</b>	Proportion of total research budget allocated to research in the field of marine technology

- TDAs acknowledge an absence of available advice for policy-makers and managers to make management and policy decisions
- SAP responses and activities include Monitoring, Information Management and Awareness
- This focuses on strengthening and coordinating scientific monitoring and data collection, improvements in information analyses and translation of scientific findings and data into adaptive management and policy guidance.
- SAPs also focus on Alliances and Partnerships provides a valuable vehicle for supporting further studies and research to strengthen knowledge for better adaptive management

# Sustainable Development Goal 14

SDG 14 TARGET	ASSOCIATED INDICATOR
<b>B: Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets</b>	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

- LME SAPs promote the Ecosystem-Based Management approach and EAF with a strong focus on the management of small-scale fisheries
- SAPs focus on the interaction between artisanal or localised fisheries and the bigger commercial enterprises
- For many LME countries, SAPs are specifically developing rights allocations for small-scale fishermen with associated legislation, regulations and improving landing facilities/marketing options

# Sustainable Development Goal 14

SDG 14 TARGET	ASSOCIATED INDICATOR
<b>C: Enhance the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law as reflected in UNCLOS, which provides the legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources, as recalled in paragraph 158 of The Future We Want</b>	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 Nation Convention on the Law of the Sea, for the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and their resources

- SAPs promote strengthen the linkages to international conventions and improved coordination with and between such Conventions and Treaties
- SAPs commonly include the requirement for ratification of appropriate international instruments that deal with LME and EBM related matters such as biodiversity, sustainable fisheries and other UNCLOS-related issues

# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE LME TDA-SAP PROCESS IN ORDER TO FURTHER SUPPORT SDG TARGET DELIVERY

- ❖ Specifically adding the SDG 14 concerns and an assessment of Target and Indicator delivery into the TDA process (captured within the overall Results Framework for monitoring SAP implementation or even the GEF Tracking Tool)
- ❖ Ensuring that the main climate change impacts are included in SAP regional and national indicator monitoring programmes (including sea surface temperature, deoxygenation and acidification)
- ❖ Ensuring that biologically sustainable fisheries yields are established and agreed for main transboundary fish stocks during the TDA process and ensure that the agreement to remain below that threshold is captured within the endorsed SAP

# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE LME TDA-SAP PROCESS IN ORDER TO FURTHER SUPPORT SDG TARGET DELIVERY

- ❖ Ensure that the TDA process reviews subsidies as part of its policy and governance assessment and...
- ❖ Ensure that the endorsed SAP provides positive confirmation from the countries (and, where possible, external parties that fish in the countries' waters) that such subsidies will be eliminated or re-structured so as not to encourage over-extraction of LMRs or IUU
- ❖ Ensure that Cost-Benefit Analyses and Value Chain Analyses are in the TDA process, with the objective of provide guidance to the SAP regarding investment opportunities, ecosystem-friendly economic instruments and potential or actual areas of engagement with industry
- ❖ More emphasis in TDA-SAP processes encouraging research and development in marine technology in support of the SDG 14 Targets and their equivalent SAP priority actions and EQOs

# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE LME TDA-SAP PROCESS IN ORDER TO FURTHER SUPPORT SDG TARGET DELIVERY

- ❖ Any new international instrument for addressing BBNJ under UNCLOS should be added into the TDA process (i.e. to review biodiversity in ABNJ within or adjacent to the LME and what are the transboundary threats, root causes and barriers)
- ❖ SAPs should then endorse the actions to be taken to conserve, protect and monitor such biodiversity in areas adjacent to EEZs alongside other economic activities



**Thank You!**