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## AFRICAN COMMISSION ON AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

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## SDG INDICATORS 14.B.1 - PROVIDE ACCESS FOR SMALL-SCALE ARTISANAL FISHERS TO MARINE RESOURCES AND MARKETS

### I. SUMMARY

Target 14.b is the only SDG target specifically focusing on small-scale fisheries: Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets. The proposed indicator is 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<sup>1</sup>. Target 14.b focuses on access to resources and markets for small-scale fisheries, in line with the Rio+20-outcome document. It is a Tier III indicator, although in a transition point since it is going to be reviewed for an upgrade to Tier II in November 2017.

The proposed indicator is based on questions of the section on small-scale fisheries introduced in the 2015 version of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCFR) questionnaire. This questionnaire is circulated every two year. The survey responses are usually compiled by national fisheries administrations. The national indicator is calculated based on these questions specifically focusing on actual efforts of promoting and facilitating access rights to small-scale fisheries.

Further training and/or technical assistance to the Member States to successfully produce the indicator is planned to be ensured by FAO with the first workshop planned late November 2017.

### II. INTRODUCTION

The indicator 14.b.1 aims at monitoring the “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” since 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)<sup>2</sup>.

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

<sup>2</sup> <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/futurewewant.html>

It is a Tier III indicator, although in a transition point since it is going to be reviewed for an upgrade to Tier II in November 2017. Thus methodology/standards are being developed and tested. The methodology in development builds on the FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries (VGSSF) and the indicators are based on questions that comprise part of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries questionnaire that is conducted every two years.

### **III. METHODOLOGY**

#### **a. Rationale for the SDG Indicator 14.b.1**

Small-scale fisheries serve as an economic and social engine, providing food and nutrition security, employment and other multiplier effects to local economies while underpinning the livelihoods of riparian communities.

It is estimated that about 90 percent of all people directly dependent on capture fisheries work in the small-scale fisheries sector of which nearer 50% are women. Furthermore, between 90 to 95% of the catch for the SSF are for local human consumption.

In order to guarantee secure access from small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets, 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 is based on a 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 circulated every two years to 194 plus EU, FAO members and observers (regional fishery bodies (RFBs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs)) of the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI). The survey responses are usually compiled by national fisheries administrations.

#### **b. Concepts**

National Statistical Systems already collect fisheries-relevant data, with a focus on production, employment, and trade. Relevant concepts can be found at [CWP Handbook of Fishery Statistical Standards](#) of the Coordinating Working Party on Fisheries Statistics (CWP).

#### **c. Computation method**

It is a composite indicator based on FAO member country responses to part of the CCRF survey. 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. Existence of Instruments that specifically target or address the small-scale fisheries sector (40%);
- Variable 2. On-going specific initiatives to implement the SSF Guidelines (30%) ;
- Variable 3. Mechanisms for small-scale fishers and fish workers to contribute to decision-making processes (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.

#### **d. Interpretation**

This indicator measures the “access rights” aspect of the target. The national indicator is calculated based on these questions specifically focusing on actual efforts of promoting and facilitating access rights to small-scale fisheries. 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”.

#### **e. Treatment of missing values**

Not Available (NA)

#### **f. Regional aggregates**

Not Available (NA)

#### **g. Limitations**

Not Available (NA)

### **IV. DATA SOURCES**

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. The 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.

For the 32nd Session of COFI in 2016, 92 Members and the European Union (EU) responded to the section on small-scale fisheries of the CCRF questionnaire. The CCRF questionnaire will again be submitted to countries in November 2017, to collect data to be reported at the next session of COFI in July 2018.

### **V. CONCLUSION**

Indicator 14.b.1 aims at measure the progress made by countries in the degree of application of a legal/regulatory/policy/institutional framework which recognizes and protects access rights for small-scale fisheries. It is a Tier III indicator, although in the process to be converted to Tier II. First works rely on the questionnaire included in the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries as agreed by COFI during its 32<sup>nd</sup> Session.<sup>34</sup> Further training and/or technical assistance to the Member States to successfully produce the indicator is planned to be ensured by FAO with the first workshop planned late November 2017.

The FAO Focal Points for SDG 14.b.1: [Nicole Franz](#) and [Jennifer Gee](#).

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<sup>3</sup> <http://www.fao.org/fishery/cwp/en>

<sup>4</sup> See COFI report <http://www.fao.org/3/a-mr484e.pdf>

## VI. SOURCES

FAO. 2015. [Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication](#). Rome. 18 pp.

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UNSD. 2017. [Work Plans for Tier III Indicators](#). Prepared by UNSD with inputs provided by international and regional entities responsible for global data compilation. Statistical Commission, forty-eighth session. 7-10 March 2017. Background document Item 3(a) of the provisional agenda. 239 pp.