



**Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations**

SAP/FIAP/R1282 (En)

**FAO
Fisheries and
Aquaculture Report**

ISSN 2070-6987

Report of the

**PACIFIC REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON EXPLORING SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOAL TARGET 14.b AND ITS INDICATOR 14.b.1**

Nadi, Fiji, 9–11 April 2019



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Pacific Regional Workshop on Exploring Sustainable Development Goal Target 14.b and its Indicator
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Required citation:

FAO. 2020. *Report of the "Pacific Regional Workshop on Exploring Sustainable Development Goal Target 14.b and its Indicator 14.b.1", held in Nadi, Fiji, 9–11 April 2019.* FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Report No. 1282. Apia. <https://doi.org/10.4060/ca7753en>

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ISBN 978-92-5-132212-3

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PREPARATION OF THIS DOCUMENT

This report represents the proceedings of the “Pacific Regional Workshop on Exploring Sustainable Development Goal Target 14.b and its Indicator 14.b.1”, Nadi, Fiji, 9–11 April 2019. The draft of the report was prepared by INFOFISH and then finalized by FAO.

ABSTRACT

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted by the United Nation’s 193 member states on 25 September 2015. The Agenda includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), 169 targets and approximately 230 indicators. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations is custodian agency for several SDG indicators, including SDG target 14.b that aims to “Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets”. The related indicator is SDG Indicator 14.b.1, “Progress by countries in adopting and implementing a legal/regulatory/policy/institutional framework which recognizes and protects access rights for small-scale fisheries”.

FAO’s 32nd Session of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI) agreed that the data submitted as a result of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) survey could be applied by member states as a means to report on the SDG indicators. For SDG Indicator 14.b.1, specifically, variables were selected from three of the five CCRF survey questions relating to small-scale fisheries:

- Variable 1: Existence of Laws, regulations, policies, plans or strategies that specifically target or address the small-scale fisheries sector
- Variable 2: Ongoing specific initiatives to implement the *Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication*
- Variable 3: Existence of mechanisms through which small-scale fishers and fish workers contribute to decision-making processes.

The workshop brought together 30 representatives from FAO’s Pacific Island member countries as well as local and regional partners and civil society and non-government organizations. The event supports the pressing need to improve awareness in the Pacific Region surrounding SDG Target 14.b and its global Indicator 14.b.1, including the relevant linkages to regional and global policies and frameworks.

The workshop included an in-depth examination of the indicator methodology and provided the space to discuss ways to strengthen the capacity to report on SDG Indicator 14.b.1 and achieving SDG Target 14.b in the Pacific Region. In addition to presentations delivered by FAO, regional partners and country representatives, various group work sessions were held, as were plenary discussions and an opportunity to showcase the FAO e-learning course relating to SDG Target 14.b and SDG Indicator 14.b.1.

Acknowledgement was made of the need to improve SDG Indicator 14.b.1 reporting requirements in the region and, as such, it was concluded that further technical support is essential to strengthen understanding, expand the gathering of information and improve reporting and collaboration at the national, regional and global levels. It was agreed that one of the key actions as an outcome of the workshop is to provide the appropriate technical guidance to countries on the CCRF questions relating to SDG 14.b.1 and the associated reporting time frames.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CCRF	Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries
COFI	FAO Committee on Fisheries
CSO	civil society organization
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FCOSS	Fiji Council of Social Services
LMMA	Locally Managed Marine Area
New Song	New Song for coastal fisheries – Pathways for change: The Noumea Strategy
NGO	non-government organization
OPOC	Office of the Pacific Ocean Commissioner of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
PIFS	Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SPC	Pacific Community
SSF	small-scale fisheries
SSF Guidelines	Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication
VNR	Voluntary National Review
WTO	World Trade Organization

CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND

Introduction

The 193 member states of the United Nations adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development on 25 September 2015. Over a span of 15 years, the 2030 Agenda aims to tackle the complex challenges that now face the planet, including those relating to poverty, hunger and malnutrition and climate change, and – at the same time – to achieve inclusive growth and the sustainable management of natural resources. A total of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) with 169 targets and 232 indicators to help measure progress were adopted.

At the global level, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations is custodian agency for 21 indicators relating to six of the SDGs.¹ SDG 14, in particular, is relevant to the fisheries sector in its aim to “Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development”. SDG Target 14.b aims to “Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets”. FAO is the custodian agency for the related SDG Indicator 14.b.1 that focuses on the monitoring of “Progress by countries in adopting and implementing a legal/regulatory/policy/institutional framework which recognizes and protects access rights for small-scale fisheries”.²

Monitoring SDG Target 14.b and related SDG Indicator 14.b.1

FAO’s 32nd Session of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI) agreed that the data submitted as a result of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) survey could be applied by member states as a means to report on SDG indicators. For Indicator 14.b.1, specifically, variables were selected from three of the five CCRF survey questions relating to small-scale fisheries:

- Variable 1: Existence of laws, regulations, policies, plans or strategies that specifically target or address the small-scale fisheries sector (weight: 40 percent)
- Variable 2: Ongoing specific initiatives to implement the *Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication* (weight: 30 percent);
- Variable 3: Existence of mechanisms through which small-scale fishers and fish workers contribute to decision-making processes (weight: 30 percent).

The national indicator is calculated based on questions that specifically focus on actual efforts to promote and facilitate access rights for small-scale fisheries. For the 2015 and the 2017 edition of the CCRF questionnaire, 8 and 10 countries of the South West Pacific region respectively responded to the section on small-scale fisheries of the CCRF questionnaire.

In 2017, FAO held an international workshop on SDG Target 14.b and SDG Indicator 14.b.1 in Gaeta, Italy, which brought together representatives from governments and partner organizations worldwide (including civil society (CSO) organizations representing the small-scale fishers sector).³

This workshop held in Nadi, Fiji for the Pacific, is the first to be held at a regional level. Coordination of the workshop was made by INFOFISH and the Fishery Policy, Economics and Institutions Branch from FAO Headquarters in Rome, together with the FAO Subregional Office in Apia. Funded was provided by FAO through the Office of the Chief Statistician.

¹ For more information, see www.fao.org/3/a-i6919e.pdf, <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i7298e.pdf>

² For more information, see www.fao.org/sustainable-development-goals/indicators/14b1/en

³ For the workshop report, see www.fao.org/voluntary-guidelines-small-scale-fisheries/resources/detail/en/c/1144045

1. Session 1: Introductory session

Session objective: To raise awareness about the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Sustainable Development Target 14.b and its links to regional and global policy instruments and processes

1.1 Opening of workshop

Ms Nicole Franz, FAO Fishery Planning Analyst, opened the workshop on behalf of the organization (Annex 1). She provided an overview of the SDG process at the global level and FAO's role as custodian agency for specific SDG indicators, in particular SDG Indicator 14.b.1. She highlighted the fact that this event was relevant to the region in its effort to improve awareness about SDG Indicator 14.b.1 and its relationship to policies and frameworks at the regional and global levels, as well as to determine ways in which to strengthen capacities to achieve SDG Target 14.b and measure its progress in the Pacific Region.

The Minister for Fisheries in Fiji, Honourable Semi Koroilavesau, formally opened the workshop (Annex 2) by highlighting the significance of SDG Target 14.b, the only SDG target that specifically relates to the small-scale fishers sector and the people whose livelihood directly depends on the fruits of the ocean. He stressed this goal as a priority for the large oceanic states of the Pacific Region that should lead in the support, implementation and reporting of initiatives under SDG 14, especially SDG Target 14.b in relation to the small-scale fishers sector. The Honourable Minister emphasized the need to coordinate efforts and collaborate at the national, regional and global levels to improve the monitoring of progress in relation to SDG 14.

Following the opening remarks, the 30 workshop participants introduced themselves. Among them were representatives from FAO Pacific Island member countries (Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu), as well as local and regional stakeholders and organizations, CSOs and non-government organizations (NGO). The list of participants is provided in Annex 3.

Ms Mele Tauati from FAO introduced the workshop objectives, which aim to:

- raise awareness about SDG Target 14.b and SDG Indicator 14.b.1, as well as their link to relevant regional and global policy instruments;
- explore indicator methodology and issues relating to data and information sources, analyses and reporting methods, including the use of the FAO e-learning platform that has been created specifically for SDG Indicator 14.b.1; and
- identify national and regional capacity development needs and opportunities in relation to reporting on SDG Indicator 14.b.1.

Ms Tauati also explained the workshop agenda and *modus operandi* relating to the combination of plenary presentations by organizers and selected participants, as well as a plenary session and group work discussions. Short sessions would provide the opportunity for participants to undertake the e-learning course on SDG 14.b.⁴ The workshop agenda is provided in Annex 4.

⁴ For more information, see www.fao.org/elearning/#/elc/en/course/SDG14B1

1.2 Sustainable Development Goals and FAO's role in monitoring

The first plenary presentation by Ms Nicole Franz, FAO Fishery Planning Analyst, provided an overview of the SDGs and FAO's role in the monitoring process. Ms Franz explained the SDG process at the global level, which is structured around 17 SDGs, 169 targets, and 232 indicators that have been adopted at the global level and invited countries to monitor their own progress against these goals which, while they may be global, will complement national and regional indicators. National statistics bureaus have a key coordinating role at the country level in relation to SDG monitoring, she stated, particularly in terms of contributing information to the relevant international custodian agencies of the SDGs – data that is ultimately centralized at the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators, created by the United Nations Statistical Commission. This group is tasked to develop and implement the global indicator framework relating to 2030 Agenda goals and targets.

Figure 1. Overview of the 17 interconnected Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations under the 2030 Agenda



For each SDG indicator, a custodian agency (e.g. FAO) has been identified to:

- lead the methodological development and documentation of indicators;
- support the statistical capacity of countries to generate and disseminate national data;
- support implementation of new data collection tools;
- improve the analyses and use of SDG indicators in the decision-making process;
- collect data from national sources, ensuring comparability and consistency, and disseminate them at the global level; and
- contribute to the monitoring of progress at the global, regional and national levels.

There are 21 SDG indicators under FAO custodianship, which are listed in Table 1.

Table 1. Sustainable Development Goal indicators under the custodianship of the Food and Agriculture Organization

Goal	Indicators
Goal 2 (Food security, Nutrition, sustainable agriculture)	2.1.1 Prevalence of undernourishment
	2.1.2 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale
	2.3.1 Volume of production per labour unit by classes of farming/pastoral/forestry enterprise size
	2.3.2 Average income of small-scale food producers, by sex and indigenous status
	2.4.1 Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture
	2.5.1 Number of plant and animal genetic resources for food and agriculture secured in either medium- or long-term conservation facilities
	2.5.2 Proportion of local breeds classified as being at risk, not at risk or at unknown level of risk of extinction
	2.a.1 The agriculture orientation index for government expenditures
	2.c.1 Indicator of food price anomalies
Goal 5 (Gender equality)	5.a.1 (a) Proportion of total agricultural population with ownership or secure rights over agricultural land, by sex; and (b) share of women among owners or rights-bearers of agricultural land, by type of tenure
	5.a.2 Proportion of countries where the legal framework (including customary law) guarantees women's equal rights to land ownership and/or control
Goal 6 (Use of water)	6.4.1 Change in water-use efficiency over time
	6.4.2 Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources
Goal 12 (Sustainable consumption and production)	12.3.1 (a) Food loss index and (b) food waste index
Goal 14 (Oceans)	14.4.1 Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels
	14.6.1 Degree of implementation of international instruments aiming to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing
	14.7.1 Sustainable fisheries as a proportion of GDP in small island developing States, least developed countries and all countries
	14.b.1 Degree of application of a legal/regulatory/ policy/institutional framework which recognizes and protects access rights for small-scale fisheries
Goal 15 (Life on land)	15.1.1 Forest area as a proportion of total land area
	15.2.1 Progress towards sustainable forest management
	15.4.2 Mountain Green Cover Index

For SDG Indicator 14.b.1, FAO supports national SDG reporting through the following:

- 2017 workshop event, “Exploring Sustainable Development Goal [Target] 14.b and its proposed Indicator 14.b.1”, held in Gaeta, Italy.
- Provision of a webpage on SDG Target 14.b and SDG Indicator 14.b.1.
- Provision of tools, such as the FAO e-learning course on SDG Target 14.b and SDG Indicator 14.b.1.
- Capacity development in terms of data collection, analyses and dissemination.
- Implementation of *Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication* (SSF Guidelines).

At the end of the presentation, a short video of the SSF Guidelines was shown.⁵

⁵ For the video, see www.youtube.com/watch?v=uqC9Bef-IwE

The main points of the plenary discussions that followed, are summarized as follows:

- Participants were interested to learn of FAO’s activities in the Pacific Region in support of SDG Target 14.b and the progress so far in achieving SDG 14. It was agreed that the workshop would help build awareness on SDG Target 14.b and relevant SDG Indicator 14.b.1. It was noted that there are other FAO Subregional Office initiatives that relate to achieving SDG Target 14.b in the Pacific in terms of coastal fisheries. FAO plans to organize a similar regional workshop for other SDG 14 targets (SDG 14.4, SDG 14.6 and SDG 14.7) and relevant indicators that FAO is custodian agency for, which will take into account the outcome of this workshop.
- In response to whether SDG 6 (Use of Water) is linked to oceans and how inland fisheries are addressed in the context of the SDGs, it was stated that while no specific SDG addresses inland fisheries, SDG Target 14.b nevertheless can be applied in addition to various other SDG targets that are relevant.
- It was noted that there was a general lack of awareness in the Pacific Region of the SSF Guidelines as a result of limited stakeholder consultation and that only one workshop had been held in 2012.⁶ The application of regional policies already in place (in particular the New Song for coastal fisheries – Pathways for change: The Noumea Strategy (New Song)) as a platform for implementing SSF Guidelines was noted as a way forward.

1.3 SDG 14 in the context of regional ocean policies and frameworks

a) Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and Office of the Pacific Ocean Commissioner

Ms Portia Dugu of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) and Mr Riibeta Abeta of the Office of the Pacific Ocean Commissioner (OPOC) co-presented the session, “SDG 14 against regional ocean policies and frameworks”, based largely on the “Blue Pacific” identity – whereby each nation shares Pacific Ocean stewardship – and the Pacific Roadmap for Sustainable Development. There are several regional initiatives and representative organizations relevant to SDGs relating to the ocean. These include, among others, the following:

- Palau Declaration on “The Ocean: Life and Future” – Charting a course to sustainability (2014)
- Framework for a Pacific Oceanscape (2010)
- Pacific Islands Regional Ocean Policy (2002)
- Framework for Pacific Regionalism (2014)
- Pohnpei Ocean Statement: A course to sustainability (2016)
- Regional Roadmap for Sustainable Fisheries (2015)
- Pacific Roadmap for Sustainable Development (2017), linking commitments to the 2030 Agenda.

Pacific nations are more committed to the SDGs than to the preceding Millennium Development Goals. Workshop discussions highlighted the fact that since the SDG reporting is a process which evolves from the national level, countries need only report on those SDGs relevant to their national sustainable development agenda. It was noted that the Pacific SDG Taskforce has selected 132 indicators⁷ that are most important for the Pacific Region (including SDG Indicator 14.b.1). The *Pacific SDGs Progress Wheels Report 2018*⁸ presents national and regional progress for each of the selected SDG targets and

⁶ For further information, see www.fao.org/3/a-i3063e.pdf

⁷ For further information on the 132 indicators, see http://prdrse4all.spc.int/sites/default/files/sdgs_in_the_pacific_booklet_2018.pdf

⁸ For further information, see www.undp.org/content/dam/fiji/docs/UNDP-PO-2018-Pacific-SDG-Progress-Wheels.pdf

indicators, although SDG Indicator 14.b.1 was not included as it was categorized as Tier III (no established baseline methodology) at the time of reporting.

The reporting of indicators is carried out in line with other relevant frameworks, such as the Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action (Samoa Pathway) and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030. There are challenges to address, however, such as the reporting process itself which can be burdensome. The next steps that were identified in order to fill the gaps, enhance national SDG reporting and support regional processes include efforts to increase leadership accountability; reduce the national reporting burden by creating – with regional collaboration in relation to SDG 14 – a shared knowledge platform; link SDG monitoring with regional priorities on fisheries and the ocean; and holistically inform the region on oceans and fisheries.

Finally, it was made clear that countries in need of support for the submission of annual Voluntary National Reviews (VNR) can call upon OPOC and its partners. In terms of indicators for which FAO is custodian, countries can depend on FAO for assistance.

b) Pacific Community

Mr Terry Opa of the Pacific Community (SPC) spoke about the regional coastal fisheries policy, “A new song for coastal fishers – Pathways to change: The Noumea Strategy” and its regional reporting framework through coastal fishery report cards.

Expected outcomes of the Noumea Strategy include:

- informed and empowered coastal communities with clearly defined user rights;
- adequate and relevant information to inform management and policymaking;
- recognition of, and strong political commitment and support for, coastal fisheries management at the national and sub-national levels;
- refocused fisheries agencies that are transparent, accountable and adequately resourced to support the sustainable development and management of coastal fisheries, strengthened by the community-based Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management;
- effective and up-to-date management policy, legislation and planning;
- effective collaboration and coordination between stakeholders and key sectors of influence;
- more equitable access to benefits and decision-making within communities including women, youth and marginalized groups; and
- livelihood diversification as a means to reduce pressure on fishery resources, thus enhancing community incomes and contributing to improved fisheries management.

Mr Opa added that other leading regional policies (e.g. Framework for Pacific Oceanscape and the Regional Roadmap for Sustainable Pacific Fisheries) are guided by global frameworks such as the SDGs and SSF Guidelines.

Pacific Island countries report annually on outcomes relating to the New Song strategy by way of a coastal fisheries report card. There is evidence of significant progress relating to Outcome 3 (Recognition of, and strong political commitment and support for coastal fisheries management) and Outcome 5 (Strong and up-to-date management policy, legislation and planning). There is, for example, increasing commitment by countries to now publish financial statements in their annual fisheries reports, with 10 countries having a national coastal fisheries roadmap or strategy in place. Reporting by seven to ten countries based on the 2018 Report Card had improved, particularly with respect to data quality for eight indicators as a result of household income and expenditure surveys. It was noted that countries need to be part of indicator development and that continued work is required with countries, communities and partners, to address the data gaps and limitations, especially with regard to the coastal fisheries sector where data is, in general, relatively scant. The Coastal Fisheries Report Card 2019 will include country results by indicator where data are accessible and are of adequate quality.

c) Linkages between FAO's Small-Scale Fisheries Guidelines and relevant regional and global policies

Mr Hugh Govan of the Locally Managed Marine Area Network explained that FAO and SPC had commissioned a study on the linkages between Pacific regional policies on coastal fisheries and the FAO SSF Guidelines. This was carried out so as to lay out the policy basis for international support for a shared regional vision and pathway for collaborative support of sustainable coastal fisheries management and development.

The study not only reviewed the context of small-scale fisheries in the Pacific Islands but also the regional and national institutional and policy aspects. Mr Govan noted that while regional and international policymaking may take place simultaneously with little or no interaction, there nevertheless is considerable coherency in the overall visions and goals. The added benefit is that the regional policies have been endorsed by Pacific Island Forum leaders. Moreover, the vision and goals of each country provide a more contextual level of detail in terms of implementation and outcomes compared to global instruments. He stated that the region's policies have in place a set of indicators that has been monitored for three consecutive years.

From a draft document of the study, there are various points worth noting, as follows:

- Most government income is derived from offshore fisheries; however, only half of the catch is from coastal fisheries that provide, by far, the most essential fisheries-based nutrition.
- There is great diversity among countries in the region, with some territories/countries considered as highly developed. The aggregation of regional indicators, therefore, can potentially mask such variances at the demise of poorer countries that may depend on more support.
- Policy development now needs to progress to the next stage within existing frameworks; that is, to the level of implementation.
- SPC and FAO should explore how the Coastal Fisheries Report Card, SSF Guidelines and SDG Indicator 14.b.1 can be better integrated.
- The Coastal Fisheries Report Card is more detailed than the CCRF survey on which SDG Indicator 14.b.1 reporting is based, reflecting specifically SSF Guidelines. It is thus essential to contextualize regional reporting according to sub-variables in each Pacific nation.

The overall conclusion of the presentation was that FAO could most constructively support progress of the implementation of the SSF Guidelines in the Pacific region by supporting the implementation of regional policies. If FAO desires to add more value to the overall thrusts of regional policies, there are a number of areas which could benefit from FAO support, namely: civil society and fisher organisations development, subnational institution building, sustainable financing of fisheries management, anti-corruption measures, safety at sea, disaster risk management and climate change, human rights and gender.

d) National SDG coordination and reporting processes: Fiji

Mr Kushaal Raj, SDG Country Focal Point for Fiji, stated that although the Fiji's SDG monitoring process is relatively nascent, the country has taken full ownership of the SDGs by mainstreaming them in the Five-Year National Development Plan 2017–2021 and 20-Year National Development Plan 2017–2036. Fiji's most serious concern, however, is climate change based on SDG 13. In addressing the impacts of climate change, the government has created a National Adaptation Plan, prepared a Climate Vulnerability Assessment and submitted to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Secretariat its long-term Low Emission Development Strategy 2018–2050.

Preceded by a high-level meeting in November 2018 attended by the Speaker of the Parliament and the United Nations Resident Coordinator, the Ministry of Economy since has significantly advanced the VNR and has drafted Fiji's first report on the implementation of SDGs. Data collection commenced in 2018 with the support of the United Nations Development Programme. An SDG Taskforce is now engaged in soliciting feedback and further input from various stakeholders for the draft VNR including from NGOs and CSOs and women's and other marginalized groups. The Government of Fiji, in addition, is in the process of soliciting written and digital submissions from the private sector, NGOs, CSOs, academia and philanthropic entities that are involved in programmes or initiatives to support the achievement of one or more of the 17 SDGs.

The government, in making reference to the Fiji Council of Social Services and the 2019 NGO Pacific Dialogue, notes that partnerships are essential. Furthermore, regional and United Nations agencies jointly support Pacific VNRs and encourage their integration into national accountability processes.

Finally, sustainable development is framed within the Framework for Pacific Regionalism and the "Blue Pacific" identity that recognize the power of collectivism and regional cooperation. Fiji will continue to intensify efforts to build capacities, systems and resources that will deliver targets of intervention. It will develop appropriate methodologies for the evidence-based reporting of indicators for the country's nationally determined contributions.

1.4 SDG Target 14.b: Providing access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets

Ms Mele Tauati of FAO facilitated a plenary discussion on SDG Target 14.b in the context of the Pacific Region. Reminding participants that addressing SDG Target 14.b not only relates to other SDG 14 targets but also to those such as Goal 1 (Poverty), Goal 5 (Gender equality) and Goal 13 (Climate change), she reiterated the relevance of SDG Target 14.b to the Pacific Region, based on the many livelihoods that depend on the small-scale and coastal fisheries sectors. While it is crucial to enable access for coastal fishers to marine resources and markets, SDG Target 14.b aims to ensure that the coastal fisheries sector remains sustainable in terms of livelihoods and environmental resources.

SDG Target 14.b can be disaggregated into two separate components (marine resources and markets) to address the issue of access. To determine the means with which to provide or improve access will require an understanding of the challenges that coastal fishers currently face. As such, Ms Tauati opened the discussion to participants, particularly the coastal fisheries officers from various countries, to share their perspectives. The following list exemplifies the obstacles faced by coastal fishers:

- Remoteness and associated risks/costs
- Diminishing resources
- Coastal developments
- Tourism
- Pollution
- Climate change and natural disasters
- Protected areas
- Competition with larger fleets
- Competition for access/no access.

Challenges to access local markets were discussed, including the remoteness of rural fishing communities and islands which makes it difficult and costly for fishers to access proper infrastructure or services to sell quality fish or process by-products. It is often hard to meet international market standards and demand. Given the declining and vulnerable situation of coastal fishery resources, it was agreed that efforts must centre more on providing better access to local markets in the region – at the subsistence and small-scale commercial levels – than on exporting on a large scale to international markets.

The consequence of failing to provide access – or having little or no access – to marine resources and markets will further exacerbate the issues of overfishing, illegal and destructive fishing practices, poor contribution to food security and nutrition, threatened families and livelihoods, community instability, lost economic opportunities and wasted resources. The essentiality of creating an enabling environment to better address these challenges was discussed, including the need to have in place legal and regulatory policies, initiatives to support coastal fisheries, and institutional mechanisms to allow fishers to participate in policymaking. Since SDG Indicator 14.b.1 measures the access rights aspect of SDG Target 14.b, it therefore relates to the creation of an enabling environment.

1.5 Market access

Ms Shirlene Maria Anthonysamy of INFOFISH gave a presentation on markets and access to markets in terms of international trade. The following points were listed:

- The conditions set by countries for the importation of goods into their markets have an impact on the market access of other countries.
- World Trade Organization (WTO) tariff commitments are agreed upon and set out in each member's schedule of concessions on goods. The schedule represents commitments not to apply tariffs above the listed rates, and these rates are binding.
- Non-tariff measures cover a broad range of measures directly and indirectly relating to trade, and their use has risen as tariff rates have fallen under subsequent WTO negotiation rounds. Some areas of non-tariff measures are dealt with under specific WTO agreements, notably the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, Anti-Dumping Agreement, Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures and Agreement on Safeguards. Non-tariff measures arise as a result of various factors; these include compliance with seafood product standards and regulations for food safety in major importing countries and regions; illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing; Agreement on Port State Measures to deter such illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing; Catch Documentation Schemes; Global Record of Fishing Vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels; private and voluntary standards and requests for certification and labels; certification schemes for wild and farmed products; and sustainable fisheries and social responsibility.
- Market access can be facilitated through the elimination/reduction of trade barriers (tariff and non-tariff) and bilateral/regional/multilateral agreements.

In Asian markets, demand over the last few years for fish for human consumption (including imports) has shown steady growth compared to many traditional western markets that have experienced negative growth. This trend also applies to many small- and medium-size import markets such as in India. Prime quality fresh fish is popular in high-end Asian restaurants and value-added products crowd supermarket shelves. At a global level, the market outlook reflects the following:

- World production, food demand and per capita food consumption will increase over the next decade
- Major changes in demand will take place in developing countries
- Domestic markets will become stronger
- Demand for healthy and convenience food will grow in developing countries
- Non-tariff measures imposed by importing countries/markets will increase
- Concern about social and labour conditions will grow within the industry and its suppliers
- Regional trade agreements will impact the international flow of fishery products.

With regard to Pacific fisheries, advantages include the relative absence of external ownership, the Generalized System of Preferences of Japan and the United States, respectively; the potential to develop domestic markets, and the scope for value addition. The challenges, however, include the distance from potential international markets; the fact that exports are too low and there is little direct trade between

the Parties to the Nauru Agreement and international markets; the lack of a European Union Competent Authority for industrial processing; and issues in the seafood cold chain. To increase market access, Pacific fisheries, including small-scale producers must be certified based on internationally recognized health, phytosanitary and HACCP standards and training; a competent authority; training for entrepreneurs in basic management, and sustainable fisheries.

Participants were subsequently guided through Lesson 1 (Introduction) and Lesson 2 (Creating an enabling environment for small-scale fishers) of the FAO e-learning course on SDG Target 14.b and its Indicator 14.b.1.⁹

⁹ For further information, see <https://elearning.fao.org/course/view.php?id=348>.

2. Session 2: Examining Indicator 14.B.1

The objective of Session 2 was to examine the indicator methodology and related issues on data and information sources.



Group discussions at the workshop

2.1 Understanding the indicator methodology

Ms Nicole Franz of FAO described the methodological development of SDG Indicator 14.b.1. In brief, she said, to measure SDG Target 14.b will require an enabling environment with three key characteristics to recognize and protect the rights of small-scale fishers: (i) appropriate legal, regulatory and policy frameworks (regulatory framework); (ii) specific initiatives to support small-scale fishers (actions), and (iii) participation by small-scale fishers' organizations in relevant processes (empowerment and rights). Indicator 14.b.1 therefore captures the existence of a legal/regulatory/policy/institutional framework (regulatory framework), a certain degree of its application (actions) and the recognition and protection of access rights (empowerment and rights).

For SDG reporting, the methodology for SDG Indicator 14.b.1 is based on a COFI agreement to apply three specific questions from the CCRF survey as variables in relation to small-scale fishers. Such methodology was submitted in 2016 and 2017 to the COFI Bureau and the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators. Results to compile national indicators have been obtained from 2016 and 2018 data. Ms Franz also explained the classification criteria for Tier I, Tier II, and Tier III in terms of SDG indicators (Box 1), with SDG Indicator 14.b.1 as Tier II indicator.

Box 1. Tier Classification Criteria and Definitions

Tier 1: Indicator is conceptually clear, has an internationally established methodology and standards are available, and data are regularly produced by countries for at least 50 percent of countries and of the population in every region where the indicator is relevant.

Tier II: Indicator is conceptually clear, has an internationally established methodology and standards are available, but data are not regularly produced by countries.




Tier III: No internationally established methodology or standards available for the indicator, but methodology/standards are being (or will be) developed or tested.

The score for SDG Indicator 14.b.1 is calculated on a scale of 0 to 1. The indicator is computed through weights assigned to the indicator variables derived from the three CCRF questions.¹⁰

¹⁰ For further information, see www.fao.org/sustainable-development-goals/indicators/14b1/en.

- Variable 1: Are there any laws, regulations, policies, plans or strategies that specifically target or address the small-scale fishers sector?
- Variable 2: Does your country have a specific initiative to implement the SSF Guidelines? (If yes, a list of initiatives is provided to check against.)
- Variable 3: Does your country have mechanisms through which small-scale fishers and fish workers contribute to decision-making processes?

Figure 3. How the SDG Indicator 14.b.1 score is calculated based on responses to three questions from the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries survey

WEIGHT	MINIMUM SCORE	MAXIMUM SCORE
Variable 1  40%	▶ NO	▶ YES
Variable 2  30%	▶ NO	▶ YES
Variable 3  30%	▶ NO	▶ YES
The higher weighting assigned to Variable 1 reflects the slightly greater importance of that indicator.	Responses of "NO" to all three questions posed in the variables will result in a "ZERO" score for the composite indicator.	A maximum score will be achieved if all the questions that comprise the indicators are answered "YES".

Differences in score compared with the preceding year will reflect the progress made.

During a simulation exercise as part of Lesson 3 of the e-learning course (Gathering data and compiling SDG Indicator 14.b.1), participants attempted to calculate their own national Indicator 14.b.1 score, based on values for each variable within their country context. To further comprehend the three variables for SDG Indicator 14.b.1, participants were divided into three discussion groups (Group Work 1). A summary as a result of these discussions is as follows, with more in-depth details included in Annex 5.

- Variable 1: Clarification is needed on the terminology ‘small-scale fisheries’ versus ‘coastal fisheries’ (noting that coastal fisheries is the preferred term used in the region). How to respond to the question when existing laws and legislative systems that are significantly weak or do not specifically address the SSF sector
- Variable 2: There is a need for guiding notes on, or a clarification of, terminology, such as tenure, institution strengthening and small-scale fisher stakeholders. There is concern of insufficient awareness in the region of the SSF Guidelines which could hamper reporting efforts, given that the variable makes specific reference to the guidelines. Guidance notes would be beneficial in terms of how these issues – and consequently SDG Indicator 14.b.1 – should be reported, especially with regards to the SPC New Song and the Report Cards.
- Variable 3: The mechanisms that are used at the country level to engage small-scale fishers and fish workers in the decision-making process need to be defined. The ultimate question is whether or not countries also should report on informal decision-making mechanisms that may be in place.
- It was noted that reporting processes should include consultation with specific stakeholders and focus groups (e.g. NGOs, CSOs, fishers’ associations) within and outside of government. Also raised during discussion were ongoing outreach and awareness programmes, incentives, and formal agreements (e.g. Memorandums of Understanding) between government and communities as means of engagement.

Ms Lena Westlund of FAO provided an overview of the region's reporting to FAO in 2018 based on the three SDG Indicator 14.b.1 variables. For reporting purposes within FAO, she said, the Pacific Region (including 18 countries) is classified as the South West Pacific.¹¹ As such, only nine of the 18 countries had responded to the CCRF questions, a slight improvement from the seven that had reported in 2016. On a global comparison, approximately 52 percent of FAO members had responded in 2018, during which there was a slight drop in the percentage of South West Pacific countries despite having introduced or having developed regulations, policies, laws, plans or strategies targeting small-scale fishers. Participants were somewhat surprised at this and suggested that this may have been due to a misinterpretation of the questions or as a result of differing fisheries administration staff having completed the questionnaire from one year to the next. It was agreed, therefore, that guidance materials on SDG Indicator 14.b.1 reporting must be made available to the region.

Workshop participants also stressed that FAO should ensure that fisheries agencies are updated regarding CCRF country focal points and that countries should provide any changes to CCRF focal points. Participants were encouraged to respond to the next CCRF survey (anticipated for late 2019) – particularly after now having discussed the three variables – in an effort to raise the region's profile globally in relation to SDG Target 14.b reporting.

2.2 Information gathering to report on SDG Indicator 14.b.1

Participants were divided into three groups to determine the data sources and collection processes, as well as the challenges of and opportunities as a result of reporting on SDG Indicator 14.b.1 (Group Work 2). In relation to Lesson 3 of the e-learning course (slides 16–23), each group examined one of the three variables relating to SDG Indicator 14.b.1. A summary of discussions is provided in Annex 6.

¹¹ Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

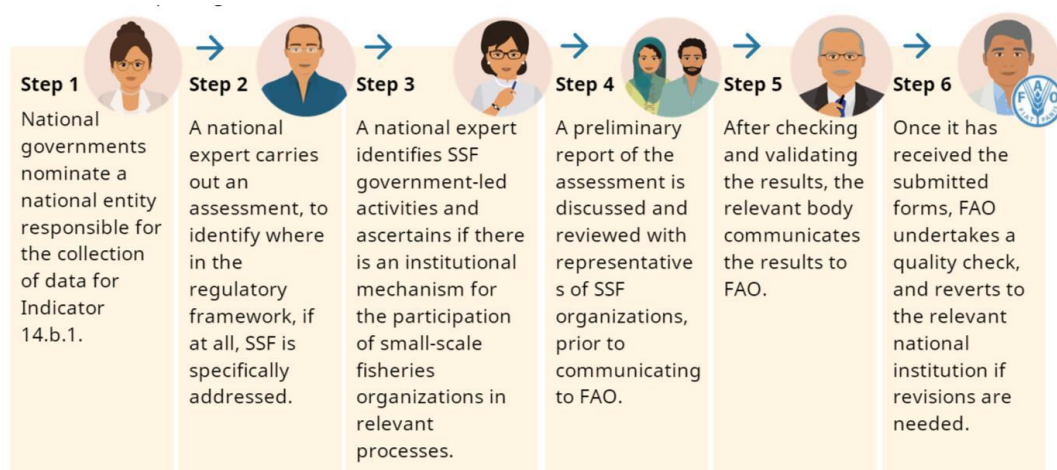
3. Session 3: What does SDG Indicator 14.B.1 signify and how can this information be shared?

3.1 Examine information analyses and reporting

Session 3 was led by Ms Lena Westlund of FAO and included a presentation, “Managing and using the results of SDG Indicator 14.b.1”. Ms Westlund briefly described the reporting process (Figure 4) and explained that collecting information on Variable 1 relates to Step 2 of the process, and that Variable 2 and Variable 3 relate to Step 3. With an effective reporting process in place, there are two aspects to building a knowledge management system:

- It is essential that the data collector communicate early in the process (e.g. during the data collection phase) that the data and results will be made available through various channels. Building trust will facilitate future data collection efforts.
- It is important that those in the small-scale fishers sector are provided the opportunity to contribute to the process and that they have access to information to enable them to engage constructively.

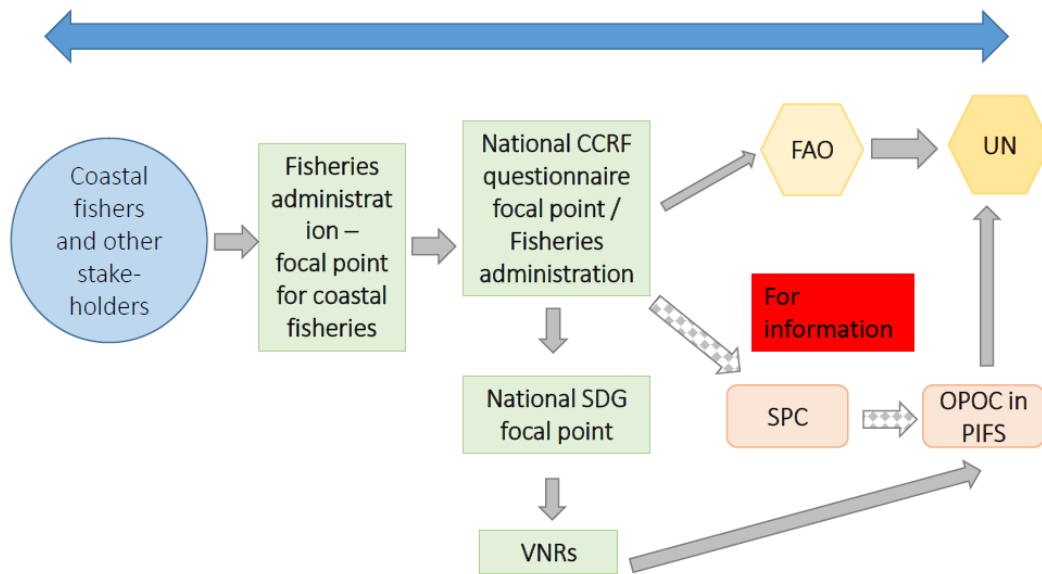
Figure 4: Suggested process for reporting of SDG Indicator 14.b.1 at the national level



In addition to reporting to international frameworks, it is as important to use the data on small-scale fisheries for fisheries development and governance purposes at the local, national and regional levels. Participants were introduced to Lesson 4 of the e-learning course on SDG Indicator 14.b.1, “Managing and using the estimated results of 14.b indicator”, to enforce the key points from this presentation.

Given the diversity of stakeholder mandates and roles in relation to the implementation and reporting of the SDGs at the local, national and regional levels, it was necessary to discuss and clarify the reporting process in general as well as that specifically relating to SDG Indicator 14.b.1 across all levels, including internationally. A draft flow diagram (Figure 5) prompted discussion to clarify the roles of each stakeholder and organization across the Pacific Region, as well as the reporting processes in place.

Figure 5. SDG Indicator 14.b.1 reporting process in the Pacific Region



The key points emanating from plenary discussions are summarized as follows:

- There appear to be three main reporting channels to the level of the United Nations and globally for SDG Indicator 14.b.1. These include reporting by (i) national fisheries agencies (through FAO's CCRF survey); (ii) OPOC/PIFS (e.g. through the Pacific SDGs Progress Wheel); and (iii) SDG country focal points (through VNRs). Countries agreed with the different mandates and reporting procedures of FAO and PIFS in relation to SDG 14.b, as well as to those, in general, of the SPC in relation to coastal fisheries.
- Feedback from the level of the United Nations and globally is essential for the local and national levels.
- Feedback processes that are acceptable to communities should be put in place in a way that will ensure trust.
- Countries should be able to share and use data at their own discretion; each should decide on how to report on the SDGs, including SDG Indicator 14.b.1.
- In-country coordination is essential to ensure inclusion of SDG Indicator 14.b.1 in country VNRs.
- There is a need to clarify the role of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) with regard to SDG reporting and collaboration.
- Methodologies for reporting should be aligned with the New Song and SDG Indicator 14.b.1 reporting. Collaboration at the national level is crucial to ensure that information provided for reporting on SDG Indicator 14.b.1 to FAO and on the Coastal Fisheries Report Card to SPC is consistent, such as in reference to coastal fisheries policies in place.
- The CCRF survey is sent to a representative of each fisheries administration; it can be completed, however, by various parties. The section relating to small-scale fishers should be based on a consultative process.

4. Session 4: Capacity development needs in relation to SDG Indicator 14.B.1

4.1 Identification of key capacity development needs

This session began with group discussions as a means to identify key capacity development needs in relation to SDG Indicator 14.b.1 reporting (Group Work 3). Participants were provided two questions for debate. A summary of the outcome is provided below (for full details, see Annex 7).

a) How to ensure a robust reporting process for SDG indicator 14.b.1

Participants were asked to consider a vigorous process for reporting on SDG Indicator 14.b.1 and to identify a focal point. Among the key outcomes deemed crucial was the continuing need for SDG country focal points. It was agreed that FAO and SDG country focal points should adopt a systematic approach to inform stakeholders (including NGOs and CSOs) of the reporting schedule and relevant updates as necessary. Actual reporting and stakeholder collaboration, however, should remain the responsibility of each country. Emphasis was made of FAO and OPOC taking a lead in establishing a National SDG Technical Working Group to assist in the organization of multi-stakeholder workshops for this purpose. There was also concurrence regarding the introduction of two reporting pathways: (i) country to FAO to United Nations; and (ii) country to OPOC to United Nations.

The SDG Focal Point from Kiribati's Ministry of Finance and Economic Development expressed that a workshop will be organized for relevant agencies to take the e-learning module as a participatory approach to working with CSOs and others at the national level. Participants from Fiji agreed to follow up with each other by email, keeping in mind the June 2019 deadline to submit information for the SDG report. They opined that the existing Task Force should identify key stakeholders to garner more support for SDG 14 and that there is a need to integrate a fisheries agenda within the FCOSS Framework. The Fiji Locally Managed Marine Areas Network (FLMMA) Secretariat is to convene discussions with FCOSS.

It was agreed that FAO would inform the Coastal Fisheries Working Group on country focal points as well as reporting deadlines. The Coastal Fisheries Working Group, at a regional level, will complement national processes and act as a reference group in the preparation of guidance documents relating to the New Song and other objectives such as SDG Target 14 b. In addition, more active participation and follow ups are necessary with the FAO Subregional Office especially for those countries where there is no FAO representation.

b) How to achieve SDG Target 14.b

There was consensus on the necessary steps to be taken by each country, as well as by FAO, SPC and OPOC. Participants agreed that institutional arrangements should be strengthened, the capacity of fishermen be built; empowerment encouraged and support provided to enable access to markets. It is therefore imperative that a clear mandate be established for line ministries to report on SDG Indicator 14.b.1. A framework for reporting on SDGs is also essential to simplify the reporting process.

Participants from Kiribati expressed the need for specific laws and regulations on the rights of the country's fishermen. They also suggested more capacity building and training around markets and value chains for the fishermen. With regards to Fiji, concern centred around fishers' access to fish stock, the sustainability of supply and the need for greater access to markets. There was concern that many along the value chain in Fiji have no licenses, calling for training and regulatory standards. The establishment of the Provincial, Divisional, District and Village Fishermen's Association in Kiribati is viewed as beneficial to the facilitation of trade pathways.

Another point that was agreed as essential is the involvement of fishers in the decision-making process and that it should be encouraged. It was discussed how regional organizations such as SPC and OPOC could provide support in this area. Closer collaboration was called for with regard to the establishment of SDG reporting deadlines and the CCRF schedule.

5. Conclusions, recommendations and proposed next steps

Ms Nicole Franz of FAO led the concluding session by soliciting recommendations based on the outcome of the workshop. Summarized below are the agreed steps to improve SDG Indicator 14.b.1 reporting, regionally and nationally, and what is needed to achieve SDG 14.b.

5.1 Conclusions and general recommendations

Regional level:

- Awareness about SDG Target 14 and SDG Indicator 14.b.1 should be raised, given the crucial dependence of livelihoods on the ocean.
- Synergies between the SPC New Song and SDG Indicator 14.b.1 reporting processes should be strengthened, given that the Pacific Region has a number of relevant frameworks and regional organizations with mandates in relation to the SDGs and the ocean.
- There should be consistency between the SPC data collected from regulatory frameworks through the SPC Coastal Fisheries Report Card and those from Variable 1 relating to SDG Indicator 14.b.1 in the CCRF survey.
- The SPC Coastal Fisheries Working Group can act as a platform to share experiences and complement national participatory processes around SDG Indicator 14.b.1 reporting and the achievement of SDG Target 14.b. A question was raised as to whether or not there should be a coastal fisheries focal point in each country.
- Countries agreed with the various mandates and reporting procedures of FAO and PIFS in relation to SDG Target 14.b and coastal fisheries.

National level:

- Fisheries administrations and SDG country focal points should communicate more efficiently to ensure appropriate SDG 14 reporting.
- SDG country focal points, CCRF country focal points and coastal fisheries staff should consult on SDG Target 14.b and SDG Indicator 14.b.1.
- There is a need for coherency and transparency to facilitate reporting as well as to ensure communication regarding SDG 14.b.1 so as to inform the decision-making process.
- Information on SDG 14.b.1 should be made publicly available at the national level.
- Reporting on SDG 14.b.1 should be based on the participation of coastal fisheries representatives and other relevant stakeholders, with results and proposed/related actions to be shared with communities.

Table 2. Proposed next steps to improve the reporting of SDG Indicator 14.b.1

Regional level	
Action	Responsible Entity
Prepare explanations and definitions for Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) survey (e.g. small-scale fisheries refers to coastal fisheries)	Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
Prepare general guidance material on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Indicator 14.b.1 methodology and reporting procedures; disseminate to CCRF country focal points	FAO
Prepare guidance notes on how SDG Indicator 14.b.1 reporting relates to the SPC New Song Report Cards	FAO and Pacific Community in collaboration with the Coastal Fisheries Working Group
Organize regional workshop regarding SDG Indicator 14.b.1 for SDG and CCRF country focal points in order to present guidance notes and identify further capacity development needs at the national level	FAO
Provide information to Coastal Fisheries Working Group on country focal points and the time frame for SDG Indicator 14.b.1 reporting	FAO
Conduct analyses of national development plans against SDG Target 14.b	Office of the Pacific Ocean Commissioner of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and Pacific Island Forum Secretariat
Increase participation of FAO country offices with regard to SDG 14	FAO

National level	
Action	Responsible Entity
Identify national SDG country focal points and examine existing SDG reporting mechanisms/processes	Country participants
Encourage establishment of national SDG Working Group and related capacity building	SDG country focal points with support from Office of the Pacific Ocean Commissioner of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
Conduct SDG 14 stakeholder mapping to establish a task force	Fisheries administrations
Designate a clear mandate for the relevant line ministry to report on SDG Indicator 14.b.1	Governments
Raise awareness of agencies around SDG Indicator 14.b.1 including through the FAO e-learning platform	Fisheries administrations, SDG country focal points
Ensure that the FAO CCRF survey section on coastal fisheries is compiled in a participatory manner, including relevant staff and stakeholders, particularly civil society organizations	Fisheries administration
Mobilize national networks and platforms to engage in discussions with relevant agencies beyond fisheries to raise awareness of SDG Target 14.b	Civil society organizations (e.g. Fiji Locally Managed Marine Area)
Ensure in-country collaboration to include SDG Indicator 14.b.1 reporting in Voluntary National Reports	Participants

Table 3. Proposed next steps to achieve SDG Target 14.b

Action	Responsible Entity
Implement plans and strategies on coastal fisheries at the country level	Fisheries administrations with support from Pacific Community, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and civil society organizations (CSO), among other partners
Review and improve/strengthen institutional arrangements and legal frameworks in support of coastal fisheries	Fisheries administrations with support from SPC, FAO, JICA and CSOs, among other partners
Build the capacity of fishers to enable market access	Fisheries administrations with support of development partners, private sector and CSOs
Strengthen fisher organizations at all levels and facilitate participation in the national decision-making process	Fisheries administrations, with support of development partners and CSOs
Strengthen available pool of regional expertise on coastal fisheries, ensuring effective national capacity development	Development partners, research partners and CSOs

Participants were informed by the FAO Subregional Office (Samoa) of current and upcoming FAO initiatives (listed below) to support the achievement of SDG Target 14.b at the national level and regional levels. Most of these initiatives will be implemented under a new project, funded by the Government of Japan for seven countries in the region, and will focus on:

- structuring and strengthening fishers' associations and cooperatives;
- expanding community nearshore fish aggregating device programmes;
- promoting livelihood opportunities and revenue-generating activities;
- improving safety at sea;
- strengthening processes within community-based fisheries management programmes; and
- supporting the development of national coastal fisheries policies.

5.2 Closing of workshop

Ms Nicole Franz of FAO thanked participants for their participation throughout the three days of the workshop. She added that having discussed SDG Target 14.b and SDG Indicator 14.b.1 had proved successful and commended the current regional structures. Ms Franz assured participants that there will be ongoing information relating to the reporting of SDG 14. She updated attendees on the upcoming 34th Session of the Committee on Fisheries, to be held in Rome on 13–17 July 2020. Ms Franz encouraged participants of the Pacific Region to share their experiences with regard to small-scale fishers at the national and regional levels.

Annex 1. Welcome address by Nicole Franz, Fishery Planning Analyst, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

“Honourable Minister Koroilavesau, Representatives of Governments of the Pacific Region, Representatives from the Office of the Pacific Ocean Commissioner of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and the Pacific Community, Representatives from civil society organizations, non-government organizations, research institutions, donors and development partners, ladies and gentlemen.

“It is my pleasure to welcome His Excellency the Minister and all of you on behalf of the Food and Agriculture Organization to this workshop on “Exploring SDG Target 14.b and its Indicator 14.b.1”. The Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will guide development activities in the coming eleven years. The Agenda 2030 is in fact a tool for all countries to:

- assess their current situation;
- agree on pathways to achieve established goals;
- take action in order to improve environmental, economic and social sustainability; and
- track progress in this regard.

“The Agenda 2030 is very ambitious. It includes 17 goals with a large number of related targets and indicators. These indicators are important for the monitoring and review of the achievement of these global goals.

“FAO is what is called a custodian agency for a number of these SDG indicators. One of these indicators is number 14.b.1 which measures progress against SDG Target 14.b on providing access for small-scale marine fishers to marine resources and markets. This SDG Target 14.b focuses on the people whose livelihoods depend directly on the oceans – for nutritious food, income, employment, social stability and local traditions and culture.

“Honourable Minister, dear participants, in its role as custodian agency, FAO is ready to support countries to strengthen their capacities to collect data, and to ensure that different national data sets are comparable and aggregated at sub-regional, regional and global levels in order to monitor the SDGs. We are therefore here at this workshop to:

- explore SDG Target 14.b and the related indicator with you;
- see how it relates to the regional frameworks for the Pacific that are relevant for coastal fisheries, and;
- better understand what is needed to strengthen capacities to achieve SDG Target 14.b and measure the related progress.

“And let me conclude with reminding you that the year 2022 has been declared as the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture. This can be an opportunity to celebrate progress towards securing sustainable coastal fisheries, and working towards achieving SDG Target 14.b can contribute to this.

“Thank you all for your attention.”

Annex 2. Keynote address by the Honourable Semi Koroilavesau, Minister for Fisheries, Fiji

“Senior fisheries officials and SDG executives from our Pacific Island countries; Representatives from our international and regional agencies - the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; Office of the Pacific Ocean Commissioner of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and the Pacific Community; Representatives from civil society, non-government organizations, research institutions, donors and development partners; ladies and gentlemen, *Bula vinaka* and a very good morning to you all. It is my greatest pleasure to be with you this morning to officiate in the opening of the workshop centred on SDG 14. On behalf of the Government of Fiji, I would like to warmly welcome all participants to Nadi. To our participants from the region, I hope you will enjoy your travel and stay here in Fiji.

“As members of the United Nations, the Pacific Region adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in September 2015. At the heart of the 2030 Agenda, a total of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (or SDGs) were developed. It called for global partnership to end poverty and other deprivations. Goals that will be achieved through strategies aimed at improving health and education, reduce inequality and drive economic growth, while working to conserve and protect our natural resources in the face of climate change.

SDG 14 in particular, ‘Life below water’, strives to advance the conservation and sustainable use of our oceans and its marine resources through sustainable development. I trust that you would all agree, this Goal is without doubt a priority for us here in the Pacific. Our vast Blue Pacific Ocean is our responsibility. We, as large oceanic states, need to take the lead in supporting, implementing and reporting on initiatives under SDG 14, especially SDG Target 14.b and the small-scale fishers sector.

“In focusing on the priorities of this workshop, it is important to ask “Why is SDG Target 14.b and the small-scale fishers sector the target of particular significance?” While all the SDG 14 targets are mutually supportive and act collectively to conserve and sustainably use our oceans for sustainable development, this is the only SDG target that makes specific reference to the small-scale fishers sector, and to the people whose livelihood depend directly on the ocean. For centuries, our oceans have sustained our Pacific communities and even more so, sustained communities that dwell along our coastlines. Our small-scale sector, or as we often refer to as coastal or artisanal fisheries, is undeniably the most important sector of pacific fisheries in terms of food security and nutrition. It is the sector that is strongly anchored in our local communities and it is sacred, for it holds our tradition and cultural identity. Coastal fisheries provide 50 percent to 90 percent of dietary protein for coastal communities in the Pacific while contributing to 49 percent of total fisheries contribution to GDP. This therefore makes SDG Target 14.b significantly relevant to our region.

“The aim to ‘provide access of small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets’, requires creating an enabling environment, such as having relevant legal or policy frameworks in place, to ensure a sustainable small-scale fishers sector. Over the course of the three days, you will learn more about SDG Target 14.b and its relation to relevant regional and global framework[s]. I urge you to actively think and talk about how you can further ensure the achievement of SDG 14.b in terms of providing access to resources and markets for coastal fisheries. You will also discuss ways to help build your national capacities in compiling reports and share information on its Indicator. The discussions will provide a platform to share challenges and experiences that you may or will [en]counter in this work. It is important to be mindful of the shared fact of our limited resource and capacity. Reflecting on that, it is time to think about feasible solutions and immediate needs that will pave the way forward. It is vital to maximize regional collaboration and coordination as much as possible which is required at all levels. This opportunity provides you with the prefect platform to share experiences that will allow the achievement of sustainable goals. In doing so, we will raise the efforts and profile of the Pacific on SDG 14.b.

“May I take this opportunity to sincerely thank FAO for this important initiative and for providing technical support to the Pacific, in your critical role as the custodian agency for the SDG Indicator 14.b.1. With that said, I am always optimistic with the region’s collaborative approach towards the achievement of shared goals that a lot will be achieved during this workshop. I thank you again for the opportunity to address you and wish you all the very best in your deliberations.

“I now, with pleasure and honour, declare this workshop officially open. *Vinaka vakalevu.*”

Annex 3. List of participants

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Annex 4. Workshop agenda

Day 1–Tuesday, 9 April 2019

TIME	ITEM	SPEAKER
8.30-9.00	<i>Registration</i>	
9.00-9.45	Prayer Welcome Remarks Keynote Address Vote of Thanks Group Photo	TBD FAO - Nicole Franz Minister for Fisheries Fiji - Hon Semi Koroilavesau FAO - Mele Tauati All
9.45-10.15	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	
Session 1: Introductory session <i>Session objective: Raise awareness about the SDGs, SDG Target 14, and links to related regional and global policy instruments and processes</i>		
10.15-10.45	Self-introduction of participants Re-cap of Workshop objectives, agenda and <i>modus operandi</i> Introduction of this session Housekeeping announcements <i>30 mins</i>	All FAO - Mele Tauati INFOFISH - Shirlene Anthonysamy
10.45-11.15	Overview of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and FAO's role on SDGs <i>20 mins talk, 10 minutes for Q&A</i>	FAO - Nicole Franz
11.15-11.45	SDG 14 against regional ocean policies and frameworks <i>20 mins talk, 10 mins Q&A</i>	Office of the Pacific Ocean Commissioner (OPOC) – Riibeta Abeta
11.45- 12.15	Regional policy on coastal fisheries (The New Song) and reporting mechanisms <i>20 mins talk, 10 mins Q&A</i>	Pacific Community (SPC) – Terry Opa
12.15-12.45	The ‘meshing paper’-Linkages between SSF guidelines with regional and global policies <i>20 mins talk, 10 mins Q&A</i>	Hugh Govan (The LMMA Network, author of paper)
12.45- 13.45	<i>Lunch</i>	
13.45- 14.15	The UN SDG's - “National Coordination and Reporting Processes in Fiji” <i>20 mins talk, 10 mins Q&A</i>	Fiji SDG Focal Point (Ministry of Economy) – Kushaal Raj
14.15- 15.00	SDG Target 14.b-Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers resources and markets to marine <i>30 mins talk, 15 mins Q&A</i>	FAO – Mele Tauati
15.00-15.30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	
15.30-16.00	Overview of Market Access <i>20 mins talk, 10 mins Q&A</i>	INFOFISH – Shirlene Anthonysamy
16.00- 16.45	Go through E-learning courses lessons 1 and 2 (re-cap of information presented earlier)	All
16.45-17.00	Wrap up and plan for next day Closure of the day	FAO – Lena Westlund

Day 2–Wednesday, 10 April 2019

Session 2. Examining indicator 14.b.1

Session objective-Examine the indicator methodology and related issues on data and information sources

TIME	AGENDA	SPEAKER
9.15-10.00	Introduction of this session SDG 14.b.1 indicator and its methodology <i>30 mins talk, 15 mins Q&A</i>	FAO – Nicole Franz
10.00-10.30	Go through E-learning course Lesson 3 (re-cap of information presented earlier) <i>20 mins, 10 mins Q&A</i>	All
10.30-11.00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	
11.00-11.45	Group work 1: Going through the SSF-CCRF survey questions <i>45 mins</i>	All
11.45-12.30	Group work 1 – reporting back, Q&A <i>45 mins</i>	FAO
12.30-13.30	<i>Lunch</i>	
13.30-14.00	Presentation on Regional overview of 2018 submissions for 14.b.1 <i>20 mins talk, 10 mins Q&A</i>	FAO – Lena Westlund
14.00-15.00	Group Work 2: Identifying data sources and data collection processes, challenges and opportunities for reporting on SDG indicator 14.b.1 <i>1 hr</i>	All
15.00-15.30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	
15.30-16.30	Group work 2 – reporting back and plenary discussion <i>1 hr</i>	All
16.30-16.40	Individual Work: Countries to trial out the indicator methodology <i>10 mins</i>	All
16.40-17.00	Plenary discussion and wrap up <i>20 mins</i>	All

Day 3 Thursday, 11 April

Session 3. What does Indicator 14.B.1 signify and how can this information be shared?

Session objective-Examine information analyses and reporting

TIME	AGENDA	SPEAKER
9.00-9.30	Introduction to this session Managing and using the results of the 14.b.1 indicator <i>20 mins talk, 10 mins Q&A</i>	FAO – Lena Westlund
9.30-10.00	Go through E-learning course Lesson 4 (re-cap of information presented earlier) <i>20 mins, 10 mins Q&A</i>	All
10.00-10.30	Group Work 3: Potential roles of different players (local, national, regional, global) in sharing and reporting information on indicator 14.b.1 <i>1 hr (30 mins then coffee break, then continue)</i>	All
10.30-11.00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	
11.00-11.30	Group Work 3 – continue <i>30 mins</i>	All
11.30-12.30	Group Work 3 - reporting back, Q&A <i>1 hr</i>	All
11.30- 12.30	<i>Lunch</i>	

Session 4: Capacity development needs in relation to Sustainable Development Goal Indicator 14.B.1

Session objective: Identification of key capacity development needs

TIME	AGENDA	SPEAKER
13.30-14.00	Introduction of this session Identification of capacity assessment and development needs <i>20 mins, 10 mins Q&A</i>	FAO – Mele Tauati
14.00-14.45	Group Work 4: Identify key national capacities and related development needs to identify, gather, analyse and report information <i>45 mins</i>	All
14.45-15.30	Group Work 4: Reporting back <i>45 mins</i>	
15.30-16.00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	
16.00-16.30	Conclusions, recommendations and proposed next steps <i>20 mins, 10 mins Q&A, discussions, wrap up</i>	FAO
16.30-17.00	Closing remarks Workshop closed	FAO
Closing of workshop Cocktail		

Annex 5. Group Work 1: Gathering data, compiling and calculating in relation to SDG Indicator 14.b.1

Participants, divided into three groups, were introduced to Lesson 3. In Group Work 1 (representing the Federated States of Micronesia (1), Nauru (2), Papua New Guinea (1) and Tonga (1)), participants were asked to examine the SSF-CCRF survey, in particular the three selected questions as variables, and report their outcomes. The summary below is based on the working groups' submissions:

- Variable 1: There is a need to clarify the difference between small-scale fisheries and coastal fisheries, the latter of which is a preferred term in the Pacific Region. How to respond to the question when existing laws and legislation are very weak or do not specifically address the SSF sector;
- Variable 2: Guiding notes regarding other terminologies are needed. Examples are as follows:
 - a) Does the word “tenure” relate to the capture from marine and land tenure sources together or separately? If the term is defined as “access”, it should be made clear in the context of traditional restrictions.
 - b) In terms of strengthening institutions, what levels or types of institutional strengthening (including those beyond the fisheries sector) should countries report on? Some issues are under the purview of non-fisheries agencies, such as disasters/climate change.
 - c) SSF actors: a guiding note on who are these actors would be helpful. There is concern that there is insufficient awareness about the SSF Guidelines in the region, complicated by the fact that references in the questions are made to specific paragraphs in the guidelines. It would be useful to have guidance notes on how these questions relate to SDG Indicator 14.b.1 reporting requirements based on the SPC New Song and the Report Cards.
- Variable 3: An explanation is needed of what country-level mechanisms are applied to engage small-scale fishers and fish workers in the decision-making process and whether or not countries should report on these. Furthermore, should countries report on existing informal mechanisms for the decision-making process? For example, a Council of Elders can verbally impose access or restrictions to fishery resources, fishing grounds and the marketing of fish or marine products; or a fishers' association or group may impose a ban on selling fish beyond the association's designated fish markets; or determine fixed fish market prices.
- When discussing existing or recommended methods to improve the engagement of stakeholders within and outside government, it was noted essential to include a consultation process with specific stakeholders or focus groups (including NGOs, CSOs and fishers' associations). Reference was made of ongoing outreach and awareness programmes, incentives, and formal agreements (e.g. Memorandums of Understanding) between government and communities.

Annex 6. Group Work 2: Identifying data sources and data collection processes, challenges and opportunities for reporting on SDG Indicator 14.b.1

- **Group 1 – Variable 1:** Are there any laws, regulations, policies, plans or strategies that specifically target or address the small-scale fisheries sector?
- **Group 2 – Variable 2:** Does your country have a specific initiative to implement the Small-Scale Fisheries Guidelines?
- **Group 3 – Variable 3:** Does your country have mechanisms through which small-scale fishers and fish workers contribute to decision-making processes?

The summary below reflects working group submissions.

1. What information or data sources exist (and what information or data would be useful to collect) to support reporting against SDG 14.b.1?	
Variable 1	There are several types of surveys currently practiced to collect varying data and information pertaining to coastal or small-scale fisheries (e.g. market landings, TAILS and port-sampling programmes, export data and coastal resource assessments). While the majority of these surveys aim to collect data and information to monitor the status and use of resources, they provide useful information that can be applied to inform legal policymaking and plans that relate to small-scale fishers (relates to SDG Indicator 14.b.1).
Variable 2 (main points for Kiribati and Fiji)	There are a variety of primary sources, including reports, available on coastal fisheries initiatives, although it would be useful to have a centralized platform or framework to link all the sources of information needed (e.g. government agencies could report to a country focal point agency).
	Technical working groups that exist in government and other sectors are useful platforms for sharing and reporting data and information.
	Information on donor policies and assistance given to civil society and other organizations should be made available.
Variable 3	Fisheries catch data, fisheries surveys and reports.
2. What processes exist and what would be needed in addition to engaging with stakeholders from across government and beyond?	
Variable 1	Participatory approaches and consultations currently exist in most countries, although it was suggested that closer and regular engagement with certain stakeholders is necessary (an example provided related to communities that manage their own coastal areas could consult on a monthly basis with fisheries agencies).
	Note was made that coastal fisheries has gained the interest of various regional organizations (e.g. Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency and Pacific Community), leading to the capacity building of countries in terms of their policies and management, monitoring and control processes as well as their coastal fisheries compliance programmes.
Variable 2 (Kiribati and Fiji)	A clear step-by-step process on national SDG reporting is needed, mandated by the government; the channel of communication to government focal points should be transparent. Clear roles and responsibilities within government ministries should be defined, with appropriate work plans in place to facilitate SDG reporting.
	For Fiji's national SDG reporting, an SDG Taskforce has been established within the Ministry of Economy, although a major obstacle is the time frame for reporting. It was recommended that civil society organizations be represented in the taskforce.
	More transparency is required from FAO as a custodian agency. Is there another checkpoint authority at the country level? It was suggested that there should be closer engagement with country-based FAO staff or representatives where possible.
Variable 3	Collaboration and networking with other non-government organizations and the Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific is necessary to collect data and encourage participation.
	Focus groups or stakeholders within the community (e.g. fishers or women's groups) are useful to articulate issues.

Annex 7. Group Work 3: Identify key national capacities and related development needs to gather, analyse and report information

Divided into three groups, participants considered the status in their countries and region. The summary below was reproduced from working groups submissions:

1. How can we ensure a robust reporting process on SDG Indicator 14.b.1?	
Action	Responsible Entity
Identify SDG country focal points where there are none	Individual countries
Systematically inform stakeholders (including civil society and non-government organizations) of the reporting schedule and provide updates as necessary	Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), SDG country focal point
Empower countries to lead on reporting and to collaborate with stakeholders	Countries
Establish a National SDG Technical Working Group in those countries where there is none and assist in the organization of multi-stakeholder workshops	FAO, Office of the Pacific Ocean Commissioner of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (OPOC)
Introduce two reporting pathways: country to FAO to United Nations; or country to OPOC to United Nations	FAO, OPOC/Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and Countries
In the case of Kiribati, organize a workshop for relevant agencies to go experience the e-learning module. It should be a participatory approach, working with civil society organizations and others at the national level	Ministry of Finance & Economic Development (SDG country focal point)
In the case of Fiji: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> participants to follow up with each other by email, keeping in mind the June 2019 deadline to submit information relating to SDG reporting; the Task Force to identify key stakeholders to garner more support for SDG 14; and integrate a fisheries agenda within the Fiji Council of Social Services Framework (Fiji Locally Managed Marine Areas Network Secretariat to convene discussions with the former). 	Participants from Fiji
Inform Coastal Fisheries Working Group to provide information on country focal points and time frame for reporting. Coastal Fisheries Working Group to complement national processes at a regional level while acting as a reference group in preparing guidance documents on “New Song” and SDG Target 14 b	FAO
More active participation and follow up are necessary with the FAO Subregional Office, particularly with regard to those countries that do not have an FAO presence	FAO
2. How do we achieve SDG Target 14.b?	
Action	Responsible Entity
Strengthen institutional arrangements; encourage capacity building to empower fishermen; support access to markets	
Establish a clear mandate for the relevant line ministries to report on SDG Indicator 14.b.1 (possibility for confusion with regard to SDG country focal points)	Countries, FAO
A reporting framework on SDG is necessary to enable the reporting process	Countries, FAO, Pacific Community (SPC)
In the case of Kiribati, specific laws and regulations on the rights of fishermen are essential, as well as more capacity building and training around markets and value chains for the fishermen	
In the case of Fiji, there is concern about fishers’ access to fish stocks, sustainability of supplies, and access to markets. Many along the value chain have no license, calling for training and regulation. The establishment of the Provincial, Divisional,	

District and Village Fishermen's Association is a positive move to facilitate trade pathways.	
The involvement of fishers in the decision-making process at the national level should be encouraged. How can regional organizations provide more support to individual countries?	SPC, OPOC
Closer coordination and collaboration is needed with regards to reporting and meeting reporting deadlines e.g. on the CCRF questionnaire.	FAO, Countries (national fisheries agencies)

Annex 8. Photographs



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This report provides a summary of the proceedings of “Pacific Regional Workshop on Exploring Sustainable Development Goal Target 14.b and its Indicator 14.b.1”, which was held in Nadi, Fiji, 9–11 April 2019. The workshop brought together representatives from FAO Pacific Island member countries, local and regional partners and civil society and non-government organizations, to improve awareness surrounding SDG Target 14.b and its global Indicator 14.b.1, as well as the relevant linkages to regional and global policies and frameworks.

ISBN 978-92-5-132212-3 ISSN 2070-6987



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CA7753EN/1/02.20