

**Inputs from UN Office for Project Management (UNOPS) to  
Secretary General's background note on the preparatory meeting of the  
United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of  
Sustainable Development Goal 14**

2) Activities, challenges and opportunities for the implementation of SDG 14.  
Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable  
development

2(a) introduction

- Why is it important?
- What is the status of oceans and seas and resources? With reference to global assessments, in particular the Regular Process First Global Integrated Marine Assessment

For each of the 10 targets under SDG 14

2(b) Current activities towards the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources, including capacity building activities

2(c) Challenges to the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development (e.g. areas where gaps exist, where more action is needed)

2(d) Opportunities (e.g. interlinkages of SDG 14 with other relevant SDGs)

2(e) Development of partnerships (Stocktaking of existing partnerships and opportunities for synergies and collaboration, new partnerships to address gaps, in particular capacity gaps)



Targets:

**14.1 Prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds (land-based activities, marine debris and nutrient pollution – eutrophication).**

*b. Current activities:*

- **The Environmental Remediation Programme (ERP)** focuses on solid waste management, environmental restoration and improvement of urban surface water drainage in Sri Lanka.

*d. Opportunities*

- Linkage with SDG 6: The programme has constructed seven landfill sites, a waste transfer station, four recycling collection centres, three organic composting facilities and over 300 communal concrete bins. In addition, it has enhanced the capacities of local authorities to manage solid waste, and introduced a transparent and fair system of user fees for the waste collection service.

*b. Activities:*

- In 2006, the United Nations Country Team in Haiti with UNOPS assistance addressed the urgent need for **canal clearance to improve the sanitation in Cité Soleil, Port-au-Prince, Haiti.**

*d. Opportunities*

- Linkage with SDG 3: frequent flooding and stagnant pools of polluted water posed a major **health risk** to the local population.
- Linkage with SDG 8: The project created **jobs** for local people.

**14.b Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets.**

*b. Activities*

- More than 20 new **fishing harbours and anchorages** were constructed across Sri Lanka under a programme to rehabilitate coastal areas destroyed by the 2004 tsunami.

*c. Challenges*

- When constructing the harbours and anchorages, the marine engineering work presented several challenges, such as unexpectedly high tidal waves. However, the project team devised an innovative way of coping with the change in conditions by constructing additional temporary barriers, without adding any extra costs.

*d. Opportunities*

- Linkage with SDG 8: development of surrounding facilities in the harbour, such as banks, spare parts shops and ice storage, is expected to create 2,000 to 4,000 jobs.

3) Possible **themes for partnership dialogues** should address effective responses to land-based sources of marine pollution through improvement of infrastructure

Goal 14 starts with calling for prevention and significant reduction of marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities including marine debris and nutrient pollution. With eighty per cent of marine pollution coming from land based activities, there is a need for investment in land based structures, such as water-cleaning and reduction of run-off from land based activities, such as industry and agriculture, including urban sewage and water treatment facilities.

Also modern port facilities will address not only the problem of waste management but more importantly they will improve effectiveness and contribute to sustainability in trade and transportation, as well as processing and shipping of fish and other marine products, allowing access to marine resources and markets as called in SDG 14 target b. All of this will require financing as well as project management for their implementation, not least in Small Island developing States and least developed coastal States.