

Comments and suggestions from Conservation International on the challenges, partnerships and guiding questions Partnership Dialogue 5 for SDG14, “Increasing economic benefits to SIDS and IDCs and providing access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets”:

Challenges

I support the challenges identified by the IPWG6 working group, to be submitted by MS Ling Wang, but would add two additional challenges which are relevant to this dialogue:

11. Engaging the private sector in providing solutions to ocean problems

12. Incorporating projections of climate change on ocean resources and blue economy sectors into decision making about blue economy development plans; and designing ocean-based solutions to climate problems, such as low carbon food production systems.

Partnerships

a. The oceans supplement to the Natural Capital Protocol (CI, the Natural Capital Coalition):

This framework will help businesses understand their dependencies and impacts on healthy oceans, and mainstream the inclusion of ‘blue capital’ – the natural resources in our coasts and oceans - into decision making, harmonizing approaches and getting them to scale, quickly.

b. The Oceans Partnership Project (CI, WB, WWF, FAO, FFA, BoB-IGO):

Developing bankable business cases for investable reforms to migratory fish stocks. CI has created a bankable business case guidelines to inform this work, which can be applicable for other uses too by helping users understand what information needs to go into business cases, and how to structure these.

c. The Ocean Health Index (CI, NCEAS):

A healthy ocean sustainably delivers a range of benefits to people now and in the future. The Ocean Health Index is the comprehensive framework used to measure ocean health from global to local scales. It provides guidance to governments and others seeking to balance different uses of their oceans.

d. The Sustainable Oceans Fund (Althelia Ecosphere, CI, EDF):

The SOF will provide investment capital to projects delivering both a quantitative environmental and economic return.

e. Blue Abadi (CI, TNC, WWF, Indonesian Government):

US\$23 million has been committed in support for the Blue Abadi Fund, which is on track to be the world’s largest marine conservation trust, with a target of raising \$38M. The Fund is uniquely designed to support local community stewardship of the protected areas of the world’s most biodiverse reefs, Indonesia’s [Bird’s Head Seascape](#).

Guiding questions for the dialogue

1. What enabling conditions are needed to catalyse countries to move towards a sustainable blue economy? Data, Capacity, Financial and human resources, tools, stakeholder participation processes? What is most time critical?
2. Is a Blue Economy Development Framework needed, to guide countries towards their goals and provide a framework and common definitions? What should this include?
3. What practical guidance can be provided to countries regarding how to leverage the power of the private sector to achieve countries' triple bottom-line goals – a sustainable blue economy? What can private sector actors do to help?
4. What practical guidance can be provided to countries regarding how to partner with the investor community to channel resources to sustainable ocean enterprises? What can investors do to help?