Partnership for Regional Ocean Governance (PROG):

Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies e.V. (IASS)
Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI)
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

The Role of Science in Implementing the 2030 Agenda

Yvonne Waweru, Glen Wright

- Call for a transformation in how societies interact with the planet and each other
- Need new technologies, new knowledge and new ways of structuring societies and economies
- Also a fundamental change in the cultural and political approaches to development

- **Implementing SDG 14 targets will rely heavily on scientific information and data**

  - baseline data for several of the targets remains unavailable, and increased support for strengthening data collection and capacity building to develop national and global baselines where they do not yet exist needed *(Agenda 2030 § 57)*

  - Science to bridge this gap

What is the role of Science in Implementing SDG 14?

Some relevant Targets:

- **14.2 Healthy Oceans :** providing science-based information *(World Ocean Assessment, Regional Assessments)*
- **14.3 Ocean Acidification**: monitoring impacts through enhanced scientific cooperation at all levels
- **14.5 IUU fishing**: science-based management plans to restore fish stocks

Means of Implementation

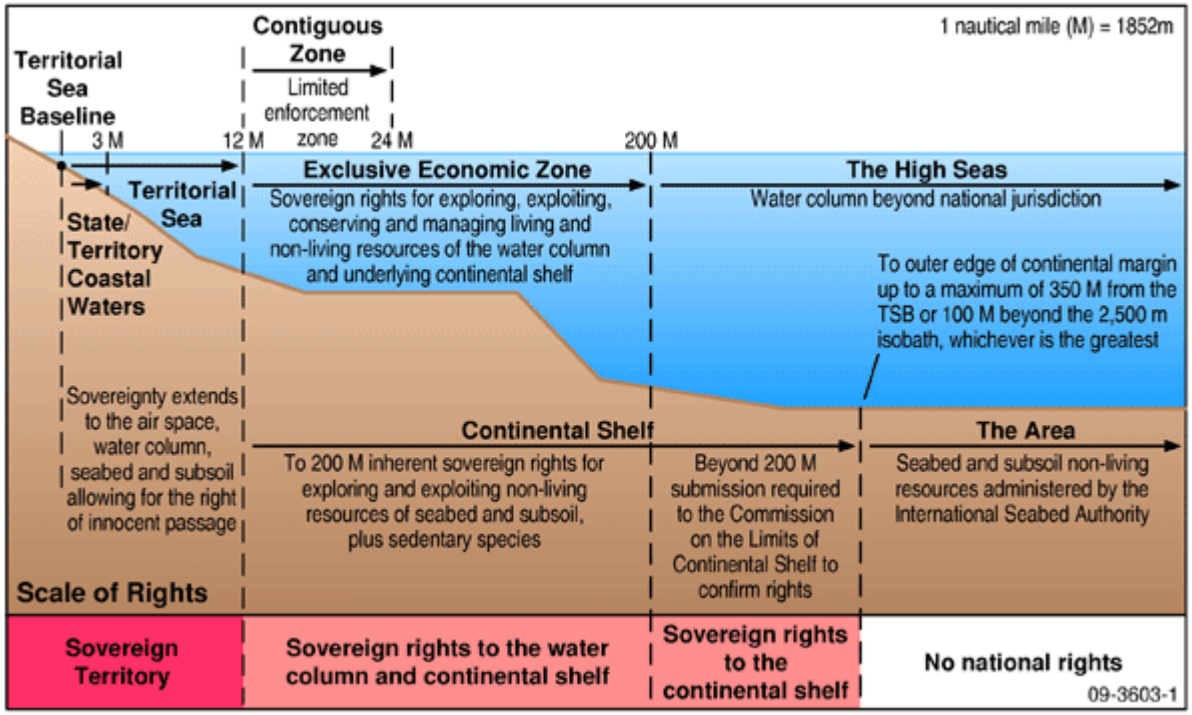
14.a : Capacity development and transfer of marine technology

- Develop Member States' capacities to protect the ocean and sustainably use its ecosystem services.

- IOC Capacity Building Programme at various levels (Regional-National), IOC Guidelines on Transfer of Marine Technology

Means of Implementation

14.c Implementing International Law as reflected in UNCLOS



- Marine Scientific Research in UNCLOS

- There are **10 indicators** in SDG14, i.e. one per target.

- A couple of these are well known and understood:

  - Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels
  - Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas

- However, **most of the SDG14 indicators are new** – scientific community will be responsible for developing them:
  - Index of coastal eutrophication and floating plastic debris density
  - Proportion of national exclusive economic zones managed using ecosystem-based approaches
  - Average marine acidity (pH) measured at agreed suite of representative sampling stations
  - Sustainable fisheries as a percentage of GDP in small island developing States, least developed countries and all countries

- **SDG 9 - Industry innovation and infrastructure**
  - 9.5
    - Enhance scientific research
    - Upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sector
    - Encourage innovation
    - Substantially increase the number of R&D workers
    - Increase public and private R&D spending
  - 9b
    - Support domestic technology development, research and innovation

Goal 17. 6:

- Enhanced **North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation** on and access to science, technology and innovation
- Enhanced **knowledge sharing** on mutually agreed terms
- **Improved coordination among existing mechanisms** at the UN level through a global technology facilitation mechanism

- **Data, Monitoring and Accountability-17.18, 17.19**
  - increase availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data
- **Science as a key Player in the UN Inter-Agency Task Team on STI on SDGs**
  - Online platform to provide access to information, knowledge and experience, best practices and lessons learned on STI
  - Forum to inform HLPF

Science, Technology, Innovation Strategy for Africa 2024

	Priorities	Research and/or innovation areas
1	Eradicate Hunger and ensure Food and Nutrition Security	- Agriculture/Agronomy in terms of cultivation technique, seeds, soil and climate - Industrial chain in terms of conservation and/or transformation and distribution infrastructure and techniques
2	Prevent and Control Diseases and ensure Well-being	- Better understanding of endemic diseases - HIV/AIDS, Malaria Hemoglobinopathie - Maternal and Child Health - Traditional Medicine
3	Communication (Physical & Intellectual Mobility)	- Physical communication in terms of land, air, river and maritime routes equipment and infrastructure and energy - Promoting local materials - Intellectual communications in terms of ICT
4	Protect our Space	- Environmental Protection including climate change studies - Biodiversity and Atmospheric Physics - Space technologies, maritime and sub-maritime exploration - Knowledge of the water cycle and river systems as well as river basin management
5	Live Together – Build the Society	- Citizenship, History and Shared values - Pan Africanism and Regional integration - Governance and Democracy, City Management, Mobility - Urban Hydrology and Hydraulics - Urban waste management
6	Create Wealth	- Education and Human Resource Development - Exploitation and management of mineral resources, forests, aquatics, marines etc - Management of water resources

What next for STI in the SDGs?

- Domestic integration of the SDGs with STI, e.g. placing the SDGs at the center of national research and innovation policies
- Develop tailor-made partnerships on STI for SDGs.
- Move from technology transfer to building innovation capacity.
- Policymakers to listen to scientists, scientists to get out of their ivory towers!
- Science needs to recognise — and work with — other ways of generating knowledge

- Thank you
- Merci