



LEARNING ABOUT **14** **b.1** INDICATOR

SDG Indicator 14.b.1 Securing sustainable small-scale fisheries Web

Lesson: Gathering data and compiling the SDG 14.b.1 Indicator

Text-only version

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Gathering data and compiling the SDG 14.b.1 Indicator

This lesson introduces the proposed methodology to compile Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Indicator 14.b.1.

The lesson will provide guidance on how to gather the necessary data and information and how it is used in the indicator calculation. You will be also introduced to the reporting process.

Learning objectives

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

- describe the Indicator 14.b.1, its components and what it measures;
- describe the methodology to estimate it;
- describe the reporting process for the Indicator 14.b.1.

Introduction

SDG 14.b. focuses on **access to resources and markets** for small-scale fisheries.

You must therefore identify the crucial elements to guarantee secure access for small-scale fisheries in order to be able to measure progress towards achieving the target.

Indicator 14.b.1



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

14.b.1

The proposed **Indicator 14.b.1** measures:

"Progress by countries in the degree of application of a legal/regulatory/policy/institutional framework which recognizes and protects access rights for small-scale fisheries"

In order to guarantee secure access to resources and markets, an **enabling environment** is necessary which recognizes and protects small-scale fisheries rights.

Variables for Indicator 14.b.1

These are the **key elements** for establishing an **enabling environment** for sustainable small-scale fisheries and the proposed **indicator variables** to reflect these three aspects:

Appropriate legal, regulatory and policy frameworks

Variable 1

- Existence of laws, regulations, policies, plans or
- strategies that specifically target or address the small-scale fisheries (SSF) sector

Specific initiatives to support small-scale fisheries

Variable 2

- Ongoing specific initiatives to implement the SSF Guidelines

Institutional mechanisms for the participation of small-scale fisheries organizations in relevant processes

Variable 3

- Existence of mechanisms through which small-scale fishers and fish workers contribute to decision-making processes



For more on how to establish an enabling environment for small-scale fisheries see Lesson 2 “*Creating an enabling environment for sustainable small-scale fisheries*” of this course.

FAO's responsibilities as custodian agency

FAO is the proposed custodian agency for Indicator 14.b.1. As a custodian agency, FAO will be responsible for:

- ✓ Collecting data from national sources, validating and harmonizing them, estimating regional and global aggregates and making them available for international reporting.
- ✓ Contributing to annual SDG progress reports, feeding into the High-Level Political Forum's follow-up and review processes. Flagship publications are set to broaden their scope to include both a storyline and statistical annexes on relevant SDG indicators under FAO custodianship.
- ✓ Establishing partnerships with other international agencies to monitor the increased number of indicators, crucial to achieving interrelated goals.

The methodology

The 32nd Session of the **FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI)** agreed that the data submitted through the [Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries questionnaire](#) (CCRF)

www.fao.org/docrep/005/v9878e/v9878e00.htm could be used by Members for reporting on SDG indicators.

Since Indicator 14.b.1 is not directly measurable, its variables are used as **proxies to assess progress under the indicator**.

The **unit of measurement** of the indicator is **a score on a scale of 0 to 1**, computed through scores and weights assigned to the three variables. The **weight given to each of the variables** in calculating the indicator value for each country is as follows:

WEIGHT		MINIMUM SCORE	MAXIMUM SCORE
Variable 1	40%	NO	YES
Variable 2	30%	NO	YES
Variable 3	30%	NO	YES
		SCORE 0	SCORE 1
The higher weighting assigned to Variable 1 reflects the slightly greater importance of that indicator. Variable 1 has the higher weighting (40%), which reflects the slightly greater importance of the indicator for assessing the degree of application of a legal/regulatory/policy/institutional framework that recognizes and protects access rights for small-scale fishers.		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.

Example the score in some of the possible response combinations for the variables

Variable 1	➤ NO	➤ YES	➤ YES
Variable 2	➤ YES	➤ NO	➤ YES
Variable 3	➤ YES	➤ NO	➤ NO
	SCORE 0.6	SCORE 0.4	SCORE 0.7

Let's take a look at the questionnaire with Natee, the official in charge of compiling the COFI questionnaire for her country. The proposed indicator is based on questions in the **section on small-scale fisheries** of the biannual electronic FAO questionnaire.

Indicator 14.b.1's three variables are considered in **questions 45, 46 and 47** of the questionnaire. As you will see, **Variables 1 and 2 include several sub-variables**.

Question 45 - Variable 1

45. Comments	Are there any laws, regulations, policies, plans or strategies that specifically target or address the small-scale fisheries sector?	
	Yes	No
Law	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Regulation	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Policy	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Plan/strategy	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Question 46 - Variable 2

46. Comments	The Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines) were endorsed by COFI in June 2014. Does your country have a specific initiative to implement the SSF Guidelines?	Yes	No	Unknown

If yes, please indicate what type of activities are included in the initiative:

Improving tenure security for small-scale fishers and fish workers in accordance with SSF Guidelines paragraphs 5.2 - 5.12

Supporting small-scale fisheries actors to take an active part in sustainable resource management in accordance with SSF Guidelines paragraphs 5.13 - 5.20

Enhancing small-scale fisheries value chains, post-harvest operations and trade in accordance with SSF Guidelines paragraphs 7.1 - 7.10

Ensuring gender equality in small-scale fisheries in accordance with SSF Guidelines paragraphs 8.1 - 8.4

Addressing disaster risks and climate change in small-scale fisheries in accordance with SSF Guidelines paragraphs 9.1 - 9.9

Strengthening institutions in support of SSF and to promote policy coherence, coordination and collaboration in accordance with SSF Guidelines paragraphs 10.1 - 10.8

Improving information, research and communication on the contribution of SSF to food security and poverty eradication in accordance with SSF Guidelines paragraphs 11.1 - 11.11

Implementing capacity development of fisheries organizations and other stakeholders in accordance with SSF Guidelines paragraphs 12.1 - 12.4

Establishing or improving monitoring mechanisms and promoting SSF Guidelines implementation in accordance with SSF Guidelines paragraphs 13.1 - 13.6

Other (please specify)

Question 47 - Variable 3

47. Comments	Does your country have mechanisms through which small-scale fishers and fish workers contribute to decision-making processes?	Yes	No	Unknown
If yes, please specify the nature of these mechanisms				
<p>Existence of advisory/consultative body to the Ministry/Department of Fisheries in which fisher/fishworker participate (representation at national or provincial level)</p> <p>Involvement of small-scale fishers in fisheries management (representation at fishery level)</p> <p>Involvement of fishers and fishworkers in data collection and research</p> <p>Involvement of fishers in monitoring, surveillance and control</p> <p>Involvement of fishers and fishworkers in local development processes (e.g. councils, etc.)</p> <p>Other (please specify)</p>				

Let's consider the sub-variables of the three proxies.

a "YES" has a score corresponding to the **full weighting value** for that variable category ✓

a "NO" response, as well as a "BLANK" or "UNKNOWN" one, is scored "0" (zero) ✗

Sub-variables' full weight values

A "YES" response for the sub-variables is scored respectively as follows: ✓

- Variable 1 sub-variables - **YES = 0.1**
- Variable 2 sub-variables - **YES = 0.03**
- Variable 3 sub-variables - **YES = 0.3**

All "NO", "BLANK" or "UNKNOWN" responses for all the sub-variables are scored as zero: ✗

- Variable 1 sub-variables - **NO = 0**
- Variable 2 sub-variables - **NO = 0**
- Variable 3 sub-variables - **NO = 0**

Variable 1

Are there any laws, regulations, policies, plans or strategies that specifically target or address the small-scale fisheries sector?

Variable 3

Are there any mechanisms through which small-scale fishers and fish workers contribute to decision-making processes?

VARIABLE 1

1.1 Law	0.1
1.2 Regulation	0.1
1.3 Policy	0.1
1.4 Plan/strategy	0.1
1.5 Other	--

Variable weight **0.4**

3.1 Does your country have an advisory/consultative body to the Ministry/Department of Fisheries in which fishers/fish workers can participate and contribute to decision-making processes? (representation at national or provincial level) 0.3

0.3Variable weight **0.3****VARIABLE 2**

In the case that your country has a specific initiative to implement the SFF guidelines. What specific activities are included in this initiative?

2.1 Improving tenure security for small-scale fishers and fish workers in accordance with SSF Guidelines paragraphs 5.2 - 5.12	0.33
2.2 Supporting small-scale fisheries actors to take an active part in sustainable resource management in accordance with SSF Guidelines paragraphs 5.13 - 5.20	0.33
2.3 Promoting social development, employment and decent work in small-scale fisheries in accordance with SSF Guidelines paragraphs 6.2 - 6.18	0.33
2.4 Enhancing small-scale fisheries value chains, post-harvest operations and trade in accordance with SSF Guidelines paragraphs 7.1 - 7.10	0.33
2.5 Ensuring gender equality in small-scale fisheries in accordance with SSF Guidelines paragraphs 8.1 - 8.4	0.33
2.6 Addressing disaster risks and climate change in small-scale fisheries in accordance with SSF Guidelines paragraphs 9.1 - 9.9	0.33
2.7 Strengthening institutions in support of SSF and to promote policy coherence, coordination and collaboration in accordance with SSF Guidelines paragraphs 10.1 - 10.8	0.33
2.8 Improving information, research and communication on the contribution of SSF to food security and poverty eradication in accordance with SSF Guidelines paragraphs 11.1 - 11.11	0.33
2.9 Implementing capacity development of fisheries organizations and other stakeholders in accordance with SSF Guidelines paragraphs 12.1 - 12.4	0.33

2.10 Establishing or improving monitoring mechanisms and promoting SSF Guidelines 0.33
implementation in accordance with SSF Guidelines paragraphs 13.1 - 13.6

Variable weight

0.3

One exception is made in the case of sub-variable 1.5. This question allows a response of "OTHER" with an associated text field. A positive response in this field is only scored as a "YES" if the text field is also completed, and at least one of the other prior sub-variables was scored as "NO".

Variable 1

Are there any laws, regulations, policies, plans or strategies that specifically target or address the small-scale fisheries sector?

1.1 Law Yes/No

1.2 Regulation Yes/No

1.3 Policy Yes/No

1.4 Plan/strategy Yes/No

1.5 Other Yes/No + text

*For
Example
⇒*

Variable 1

Are there any laws, regulations, policies, plans or strategies that specifically target or address the small-scale fisheries sector?

1.1 Law 0.1

1.2 Regulation 0.1

1.3 Policy 0.1

1.4 Plan/strategy 0.1

1.5 Other --

Variable weight 0.4



Sub-variable 1.5 is only weighted when a response of "YES" is provided along with supporting details in the text form and there is at least a "NO" in the responses of 1.1-1.4.

This allows the indicator weighting to remain consistent in all cases.

Example of Indicator 14.b.1 scoring.

Questions:	Country A		Country B	
General Questions	Responses	Section Score	Responses	Score
Variable 1. Laws, regulations, policies, plans or strategies targeting SSF - weight 40%				
1.1	Yes	0.4	Yes	0.3
1.2	Yes		No	
1.3	Yes		No	
1.4	Yes		Yes	
1.5	-		Yes + text	
Variable 2. Initiatives to Implement the SSF Guidelines - weight 30%				
2.1	Yes	0.18	Yes	0.3
2.2	No		Yes	
2.3	Yes		Yes	
2.4	No		Yes	
2.5	Yes		Yes	
2.6	Yes		Yes	
2.7	Yes		Yes	
2.8	No		Yes	
2.9	No		Yes	
2.10	Yes		Yes	
Variable 3. Mechanisms through which small-scale fishers and fish workers can contribute to decision-making processes – weight 30%				
3.1	Yes	0.3	Yes	0.3
Indicator Score:	0.88		0.9	

Country A has more "NO" responses overall compared with Country B. However, it retains a similar indicator score. This reflects the **slightly greater importance attributed to Variable 1** within the context of the indicator in assessing the degree of application of a legal/regulatory/policy/institutional framework which recognizes and protects access rights for small-scale fishers.

Example

Can you calculate the indicator score given the following variables' values?

VARIABLE 1	VARIABLE 2	VARIABLE 3
Are there any laws, regulations, policies, plans or strategies that specifically target or address the small-scale fisheries sector?	In the case that your country has a specific initiative to implement the SFF guidelines. What specific activities are included in this initiative?	Are there any mechanisms through which small-scale fishers and fish workers contribute to decision-making processes?
1.1 Law 0.1	2.1 -- 0	3.1 -- 0
1.2 Regulation 0	2.2 -- 0.03	
1.3 Policy 0.1	2.3 -- 0	
1.4 Plan/strategy 0	2.4 -- 0	
1.5 Other --	2.5 -- 0.03	
	2.6 -- 0.03	
	2.7 -- 0.03	
	2.8 -- 0.03	
	2.9 -- 0.03	

The correct score is 0.35

The questionnaire responses relevant for 14.b.1

In 2015, 92 Members States and the European Union (EU) responded to the section on small-scale fisheries in the CCRF questionnaire. Responses for the three questions relevant for the indicator are summarized below:

Variable 1

Are there any laws, regulations, policies, plans or strategies that specifically target or address the SSF sector?

Members reported having introduced or developed respectively:

• Laws	73%	Region (number of respondents in brackets)	Governance Instruments				
• Regulations	77%		Regulations	Policies	Laws	Plans/strategies	Other
• Policies	74%	Africa (26)	76.92	73.08	76.92	84.62	19.23
• Plans/strategies	69%	Asia (14)	57.14	71.43	64.29	71.43	7.14
		Europe (12)	75.00	66.67	58.33	58.33	0.00
		Latin America and the Caribbean (25)	84.00	80.00	80.00	64.00	4.00
		Near East (6)	83.33	83.33	83.33	33.33	16.67
		Northern America (1)	100.00	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00
		South West Pacific (7)	85.71	57.14	71.43	71.43	0.00
		Total (91) and averages	76.92	73.63	72.53	69.23	8.79

Variable 2

If your country has a specific initiative to implement the SFF Guidelines, what specific activities are included?

47% of the Members responded positively while 42% reported that they intended to implement the SFF Guidelines' in the future. Initiatives already in place were mostly fisheries management (79%) related to activities supporting SSF actors actively participating in sustainable resources management (84%), implementing capacity development of fisheries organizations and other stakeholders (72%) and promoting social development, employment and decent work (67%).

Region (number of respondents in brackets)	Members having a specific initiative to implement SSF guidelines	Initiatives/activities					Members that intend to implement SSF guidelines
		Supporting SSF actors to take an active part in sustainable resource management	Implementing capacity development of fisheries organizations and other stakeholders	Promoting social development, employment and decent work in SSF	Enhancing SSF value chains, post- harvest operations and trade	Strengthening institutions in support of SSF and to promote policy coherence, coordination and collaboration	
Africa (26)	61.54	100.00	81.25	81.25	87.50	81.25	50.00
Asia (14)	50.00	85.71	71.43	71.43	57.14	42.86	75.00
Europe (12)	25.00	33.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	33.33	20.00
Latin America and the Caribbean (25)	56.00	85.71	85.71	64.29	64.29	64.29	62.50
Near East (6)	16.67	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Northern America (2)	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	0.00
South West Pacific (7)	28.57	0.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	50.00	0.00
Total (92) and averages	46.74	83.72	72.09	67.44	65.12	65.12	41.94

Variable 3

Does your country have mechanisms through which small-scale fishers and fish workers contribute to decision-making processes?

85% of the Members responded positively. The most common mechanisms mentioned included those involving small-scale fishers in fisheries management (79%) and fisher/fish workers' representatives into advisory/ consultative bodies with the Ministries/Departments of Fisheries (77%). Of the Members who responded as having these mechanisms in place, 67% reported encouraging the active participation of women.

Region (number of respondents in brackets)	Members reporting to have mechanisms	Mechanisms						Encourage the active participation of women at any level
		Involvement of small-scale fishers in fisheries management	Existence of advisory/ consultative body to the national fishery authority in which fishers/ fishworkers participate	Involvement of fishers and fishworkers in data collection and research	Involvement of fishers and fishworkers in local development processes (e.g. councils, etc.)	Involvement of fishers in monitoring, surveillance and control	Other	
Africa (26)	92.31	91.67	87.50	70.83	66.67	66.67	8.33	87.50
Asia (14)	71.43	80.00	80.00	70.00	100.00	70.00	0.00	70.00
Europe (12)	75.00	55.56	77.78	55.56	33.33	33.33	11.11	44.44
Latin America and the Caribbean (25)	88.00	81.82	72.73	77.27	77.27	50.00	0.00	72.73
Near East (6)	100.00	66.67	66.67	50.00	50.00	16.67	16.67	33.33
Northern America (2)	100.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
South West Pacific (7)	71.43	80.00	60.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	20.00	40.00
Total (92) and averages	84.78	79.49	76.92	69.23	69.23	55.13	6.41	66.67

The complete COFI 2016 CCRF report: www.fao.org/3/a-i6882e.pdf

Compiling the questionnaire

The information to answer the three questions that provide the variables for Indicator 14.b.1 is best compiled by one single person in the fisheries administration, after following a participatory process. Although the questions should be answered through a participatory process, including and reflecting the views of small-scale fishing communities' representatives, it is easiest if a single person provides the final responses. The questionnaire is usually filled out by one person from the fisheries administration.

However, **it is to be encouraged that the process for answering** the three questions to compile the indicator be conducted in a **participatory manner**.

In particular, the **involvement of fishing community** representatives is recommended, so as to fully reflect the national situation.

It is very important to be conscientious and rigorous in answering the questions! In order to answer them, you should first look for **relevant and valuable evidence**.

The **consequences of a misjudged situation** could for example:

- divert the attention of the relevant decision-makers away from small-scale fisheries;
- reduce the opportunities of the sector to fully contribute to food security, poverty eradication and other goals, within the framework of the SDGs and beyond.

The reporting process for Indicator 14.b.1. - 6 steps

➡ Step 1

National governments nominate a national entity responsible for the collection of data for Indicator 14.b.1.

Identification of a relevant national body

National governments will nominate a national body responsible for the collection of data for Indicator 14.b.1. This institution is likely to be the fisheries administration. It will be responsible for designating a national focal point tasked with coordinating the collection of information, checking and validating the results, and communicating them to FAO.

➡ Step 2

A national expert carries out an assessment, to identify where in the regulatory framework, if at all, SSF is specifically addressed.

Expert review of laws, regulations, policies, plans or strategies in relation to the SSF sector

A national expert will conduct the national assessments every two years, to identify where in the legal, regulatory, policy and planning framework, if at all, small-scale fisheries are specifically addressed. This assessment should also include the existence of mechanisms through which small-scale fishers and fish workers contribute to decision-making processes, as indicated in proxy 3. FAO is preparing a guide to support the review of the legal framework to underpin this.

Examples of reliable and unreliable sources for the background desk review

Reliable sources of data:	Unreliable sources of data (avoid using):
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Official published primary material on the law and policy framework. • Customary/traditional and religious law or norms if specifically recognized by the legal and policy framework. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social media posts • Informal conversation outside of the customary/traditional context

➡ Step 3

A national expert identifies SSF government-led activities and ascertains if there is an institutional mechanism for the participation of small-scale fisheries organizations in relevant processes.

Expert review of ongoing specific initiatives to implement the SSF Guidelines

A national expert will review activities of the fisheries administration and related administrations to identify such government-led activities. This information can be found in project documents, memorandums of agreements, or donor-funded programs.

This review should be guided by criteria for which initiatives are able to answer the following question positively:

"Does the initiative do at least one of the following?":

- Supporting SSF actors to take an active part in sustainable resource management.
- Implementing capacity development of fisheries organizations and other stakeholders.
- Promoting social development, employment and decent work in SSF.
- Enhancing SSF value chains, post-harvest operations and trade.

- Strengthening institutions in support of SSF and to promote policy coherence, coordination and collaboration.

➡ Step 4

A preliminary report of the assessment is discussed and reviewed with representatives of SSF organizations, prior to communicating to FAO.

Validation of the results by the relevant body

The preliminary results of the assessment will be presented, discussed and reviewed for agreement with a representative group of small-scale fishing community organizations, prior to communication to FAO.

Tips

- Share the reason for the review and the results in advance, so as to foster an informed and fruitful discussion.
- Inquire about perceptions of the preliminary results.
- Inquire about additional aspects that you may have missed, particularly as related to customary/traditional/religious norms outside official government recognition (but which may still have a prominent role in SSF).

For additional suggestions on how to structure a participatory review process refer to the Participatory Diagnosis Compendium in support of implementation of the SSF Guidelines (in preparation).

➡ Step 5

After checking and validating the results, the relevant body communicates the results to FAO.

Step 5 - Communication of the results to FAO

After checking and validating the results, the responsible entity communicates the results to FAO.

To facilitate reporting, a tailor-made data processing tool will be developed by FAO, within the framework of the existing CCRF questionnaire platform. Upon submission of responses by the user, an indicator report will automatically be generated for final validation by the country.

It is highly recommended that at this stage the relevant body also informs the SDG coordinating body - usually the national statistical authority - which will have overall responsibility for organizing SDG reporting at national level.

Results must be communicated in English, Spanish or French.

➡ Step 6

Once it has received the submitted forms, FAO undertakes a quality check, and reverts to the relevant national institution if revisions are needed.

FAO computation of results, validation and submission to UN SDGs Secretariat

Upon receipt of the submitted forms, FAO or supporting partners will undertake a quality check, and revert to the relevant national institution if clarifications or revisions are needed.

FAO will then compute the indicator based on the information supplied by countries. It will communicate the result back to the national institution and seek final confirmation before compiling all the national results and reporting progress on the indicator at global level to the UN SDGs Secretariat.

 *"I could get some valuable information from Darya and Alex, and their community" - Natee*

Our fisheries officer, Natee, has been tasked with reporting the progress on SDG Target 14.b., using the proposed Indicator 14.b.1. *"Progress by countries in the degree of application of a legal/regulatory/policy/institutional framework which recognizes and protects access rights for small-scale fisheries"*.

The methodology using the three variables can help her guide her work but she now needs to compile the information requested. With her team, she gathers supporting information from an array of documents, but she needs more. Natee soon realizes that her colleagues and constituents on the ground (actors and stakeholders) may be able to offer her substantial help in this mission, and bolster the data to be reported.

Variable	Participatory data related
Variable 1 Existence of laws, regulations, policies, plans or strategies that specifically target or address the small-scale fisheries (SSF) sector	After talking to our SSF couple, Natee learned that while there are official policies and regulations in place locally, these are now tightly intertwined with customary practices for managing fisheries. Moving forward, the local administration responsible for fisheries may take a close look at the customary norms that everyone seems to respond to.
Variable 2 Ongoing specific initiatives to implement the SSF Guidelines	After talking to our SSF couple and other key actors and stakeholders in the community, additional specific initiatives of relevance to the implementation of the SSF Guidelines may come to light.

Variable 3

Existence of mechanisms through which small-scale fishers and fish workers contribute to decision-making processes

Darya and Alex (as fishers and fish workers themselves) may provide information on how they have interacted with the government in the recent past to contribute to the decision-making process.

Summary

The proposed methodology for the indicator for SDG 14 aims to capture the enabling environment that ensures access for small-scale fisheries to resources and markets.

Key features for that are an appropriate legal/regulatory/policy framework that is supportive to small-scale fisheries. However, this is not enough. Concrete action must take place to operationalize support for small-scale fisheries.

Institutional arrangements and mechanisms that allow for the effective and meaningful participation of small-scale fishing communities in relevant processes are another crucial requirement for securing sustainable small-scale fisheries.

Three questions of the FAO biannual questionnaire on the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries provide the entry point to capture these three dimensions.

The way in which these questions are answered is critical to ensure capturing the current situation, and to be able to track changes over time. In order to provide a realistic reflection, government authorities should actively engage with small-scale fishing communities, to answer the questions that provide the variables for Indicator 14.b.1.