Caribbean in Brief:

An information document for Caribbean Small Island Developing States

LC/CAR/2020/16
22 December 2020

Prepared for:

The United Nations Ocean Conference: Scaling up ocean action based on science and innovation for the implementation of Goal 14 Life Below Water

Lisbon, Portugal, 2021

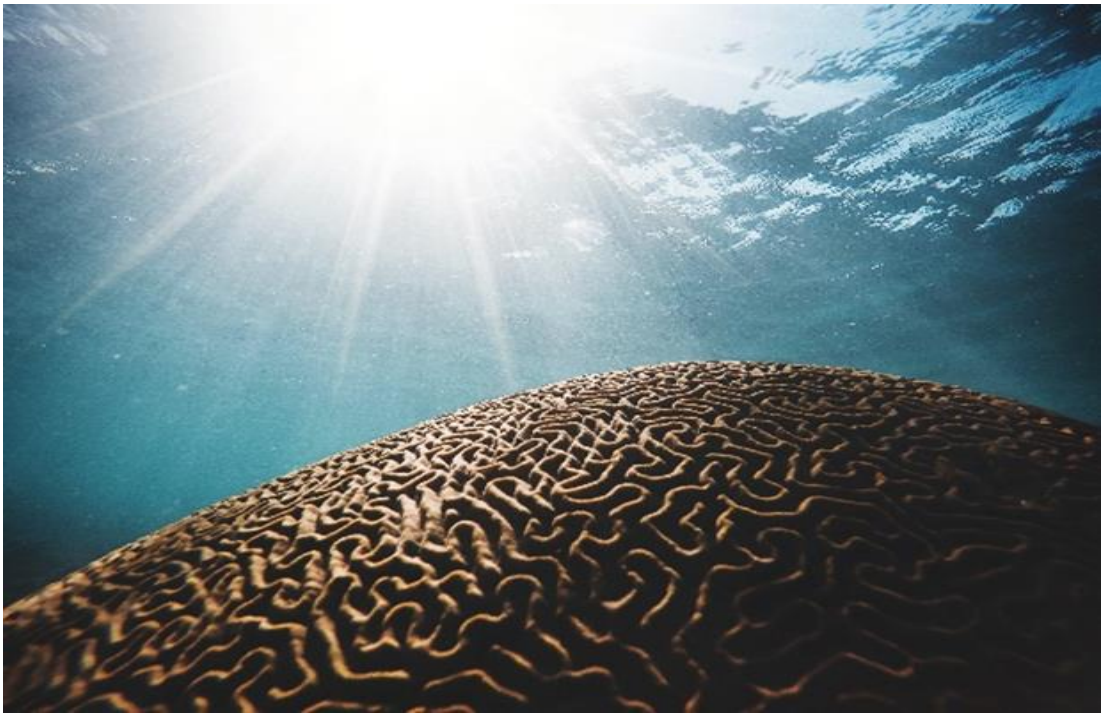

Photo credit: Daniel Öberg, 2020.

Evidence-based assessment is essential in supporting Caribbean Small Island Developing States (SIDS) - sustainable development priorities.

A comprehensive needs assessment including financing requirements on coastal and ocean-based research, science and technology is a required first step to drive the Caribbean SIDS active participation in the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science.

Contents[1]

[1] The agenda to this document is aligned to the draft Programme Agenda for the Lisbon meeting- Interactive Dialogue Sessions.

Introduction

An Information Document on the United Nations Oceans Conference: Scaling up ocean action, based on science and innovation for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goal 14; Stocktaking, Partnerships and Solutions.

This brief is intended to provide general information on the upcoming United Nations Ocean Conference on scaling up ocean actions based on science and innovation for the implementation of Agenda 2030 - Sustainable Development Goal 14 (SDG 14), with a view to stimulating more active, engaged participation of the Caribbean in the discussions. The United Nations Ocean Conference will be co-chaired by Kenya and Portugal, and hosted by the Government of Portugal in Lisbon, during 2021.

The objective of this conference is consistent with the 2017 UN General Assembly proclamation on the Decade of Ocean Science (2021-2030) for Sustainable Development. The focused attention that is being given to ocean science is intended to mobilize the support of governments and global ocean stakeholders towards the shaping of a common framework that will most effectively harness ocean science to support countries in the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Conference aims to promote science-based innovation and the mapping of sustainable development solutions through global ocean action.

Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are often described as the custodians of the oceans because, by virtue of their respective territorial waters and exclusive economic zones, they occupy such significant ocean space. For Caribbean countries, ocean, coastal and marine resources are critical to their sustainable development. The dependence of Caribbean economies on coastal and marine resources is among the highest in the world. Initiatives to both protect and maximize benefits derived from marine resources should therefore be integral to Caribbean SIDS sustainable development strategies. Research, science and technology, innovation and more broadly, knowledge creation systems, have emerged as enablers in the road map for sustainable development in SIDS.

For the Caribbean subregion, information and data on research, science, technology and innovation on ocean related matters are limited. If they are to define and sustainably manage their ocean resources, Caribbean SIDS will need to strengthen their institutions, technologies including the technological expertise, data management systems and research capacities. These are also requirements for meeting reporting obligations established under regional and international agreements[2].

The United Nations Conference on Science, Innovation and Partnership in this regard, offers an ideal opportunity for SIDS to explore and engage with the international community on prospects for collaboration in marine science and ocean research in response to sustainable development challenges faced by these vulnerable countries.

This information document addresses main issues on the draft agenda of the United Nations Conference, signalling those areas which should be of interest to Caribbean SIDS, and highlighting issues which might warrant the careful attention of the member States of the subregion.

It is hoped that this information guide will serve to enhance the Caribbean's active participation in deliberations and decision making at this UN Ocean Conference.
Corresponding documents for this conference can be found at the following link:

- UN Ocean Conference - International Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development - The Ocean we want for the Future we need: https://www.un.org/en/conferences/ocean2020.

[2] See annex 2: Caribbean SIDS membership in global and regional ocean related agreements.

I. Agenda item 1: Promoting and strengthening sustainable ocean-based economies, for SIDS and least developed countries

SDG Target 14.7: By 2030, increase the economic benefits to SIDS and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources, including through sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism.

Photo credit: Mahdis Mousavi, 2020.

The economic valuation of coastal and marine resources and services are necessary for evidence-based assessment and thereby supporting the sustainable development priorities of the Caribbean.

Research, science and technology are required tools for conducting the economic valuation of coastal and marine resources and ecosystem service.

The Ocean provides a vast array of resources and contributes to sustainable livelihoods.[3] Globally, the total value of the major ocean assets is estimated at US$24 trillion based on the ocean's earning capacity.[4] The dependence of Caribbean economies on coastal and marine resources is among the highest globally. The Caribbean Sea is estimated to account for 14–27 per cent of the Global Ocean Economy with a value of US$ 407 billion.[5] The sectors contributing to this economy are living and non-living resources, commerce, tourism, trade and eco-system services among others. In the case of tourism for example, ocean-based attractions are major employment providers and accounting for over six million jobs in the Caribbean region.[6]

Towards a sustainable ocean-based economy the Caribbean will need to commit to the implementation of management structures that are integrated, interdisciplinary, and institutionalized. This will have to be supported through legislation, investments in human capital, technological readiness, statistical systems and institutional structures. With the combined political will, data-driven planning, the coordination and active participation of public, private and civil society stakeholders, the Caribbean subregion can move towards a sustainable ocean-based economy. This will also provide for new employment opportunities including green-blue careers across multiple disciplines.

3 Our global recovery must include a plan for the ocean: available at: https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/05/coronavirusCOVID-19-recovery-oceans-environment-planet-climate-change/, cited 9 July 2020.

4 Reviving the Ocean Economy the Case for Action-2015, available at: https://www.wwf.de/fileadmin/fm-wwf/Publikationen-PDF/WWF-Report-Reviving-the-Ocean-Economy-Summary.pdf, cited 27 October 2020.

5 Patil, P.G., Virdin, J., Diez, S.M., Roberts, J., Singh, A. (2016). Toward A Blue Economy: A Promise for Sustainable Growth in the Caribbean; An Overview. The World Bank, Washington D.C.

6 United Nations Conference on Small Islands Developing States, SIDS 2014, available at: http://www.sids2014.org, cited 10 November 2020.

II. Agenda item 2: Addressing marine pollution

SDG Target 14.1 calls for prevention and significant reduction of marine pollution by 2025.

Photo credit: Dustan Woodhouse, 2020.

With an estimated 80 per cent of marine debris originating from land-based sources, it is necessary for each country to have comprehensive plans for a circular economy. This will also include having the technologies that are adaptable to the scale of economies typical of SIDS.

Given the transboundary implications of marine litter and pollution, regional and international collaboration is required to meet the prevention and control requirement of marine pollution.

Sustainable management of coastal, marine and ocean resources will require the control and prevention of activities such as overexploitation of living resources, pollution from land-based and marine-based sources.[7] Marine pollution compromises the role of the ocean as a provider of food, eco-system services, livelihoods and diminishing its natural beauty and attractions.

It is estimated that roughly 80 per cent of marine pollution originates from land including from such sources as: agricultural run-off, pesticides, plastics and untreated sewage.[8] Increased nutrient loading, combined with the impacts of climate change and other environmental change have resulted in an increase in the frequency, magnitude, and duration of harmful algal blooms.[9]

Other anthropogenic activities contributing to the increasing levels of marine debris are for example: high demands of non-biodegradable/non-recyclable/ non-reusable products and inadequate regulation and enforcement for waste management and land use planning (ECLAC, 2020).[10]

With respect to plastic wastes, the Caribbean is the second most contaminated sea in the world after the Mediterranean Sea. Estimations of the volume of plastic waste in this area range from 600 to 1,414 plastic items per square kilometre in different locations.[11] Caribbean SIDS are among several countries that are seeking to better control single-use plastics including calling for transformation of the marine environment into a plastic free zone.[12, 13]

7 Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Project available at: https://www.clmeproject.org/phaseone/sap/brief.html.

8 Facts and figures on marine pollution, available at; http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/ioc-oceans/focus-areas/rio-20-ocean/blueprint-for-the-future-we-want/marine-pollution/facts-and-figures-on-marine-pollution/, cited 13 December 2020.

9 The Ocean Conference (2017) available at : https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Ocean-fact-sheet-package.pdf, cited 17 December 2020.

10 Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, LC/TS.2020/167, cited 19 December 2020.

11 It is time for the Caribbean to break up with Plastics, available at: https://www.unenvironment.org/cep/news/editorial/its-time-caribbean-break-plastics, cited 18 December 2020.

12 SDG 14: Stepping Up International Efforts To Tackle Ocean Plastic Pollution, available at: https://www.oceanactionhub.org/sdg-14-stepping-international-efforts-tackle-ocean-plastic-pollution, cited 25 October 2020.

13 ECLAC, LC/CAR/TS.2020/5, cited October 2020.

III. Agenda item 3: Managing, protecting, conserving and restoring marine and coastal ecosystems

SDG Target 14.2 calls for sustainable management and protection of marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including the strengthening of their resilience, and to take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans.

Photo credit: Hayden Dunsel,2020.

Ecosystems and natural resources degradation rates are influenced by the type and duration of anthropogenic pressures.

Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) is required for the establishment, sustainable management and restoration of both Marine Protected Areas and multi-use coastal and marine areas. The application of MSP in the Caribbean SIDS will require geospatial data infrastructure, other technologies, data management systems, technical support and capacities.

SIDS are custodians of some of the world's most biologically diverse marine spaces. As one of the most biologically rich marine environments in the Atlantic, the Caribbean is home to 10 per cent of the world's coral reefs, 1,400 species of fish and marine mammals, and extensive coastal mangroves.[14] This biodiversity holds untapped opportunities for bioprospecting and development of new markets in the field of marine-scientific research, biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, foods including nutraceuticals and cosmetics.

Unsustainable activities such as overexploitation of living resources, pollution from land-based and marine-based sources as well as direct physical degradation from inappropriate development practices are threatening the productive capacities of these shared coastal and marine ecosystem services.[15] In addressing the requirements for sustainable management of costal and ocean resources, countries have been working to better integrate coastal, marine and ocean resources management. Barbados, for example, has established its Coastal Zone Management Unit under the authority of the Minister of Maritime Affairs and The Blue Economy of Barbados.[16]

[14] The Caribbean's Marine & Coastal Environment, available at: https://www.caribbeanchallengeinitiative.org/about/caribbean-s-marine-environment (2011), cited 27 October 2020 .

[15] Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Project, available at: https://clmeplus.org, cited 16 December 2020.

[16] Barbados Ministry of Maritime Affairs and the Blue Economy: See web site at: https://www.gov.bb/Ministries/maritime-affairs-blue-economy.

IV. Agenda item 4: Minimizing and addressing ocean acidification, deoxygenation and ocean warming

SDG Target 14.3 aims to minimize and address the impacts of ocean acidification, including through enhanced scientific cooperation at all levels.

Photo credit: ECLAC Caribbean, 2019.

The development of SIDS appropriate technologies; integration of traditional knowledge, linking social and economic impacts, having communication strategies in ways that can be understood and used by all stakeholders are necessary tools for addressing the impacts of Climate Change in the Caribbean subregion.

There are also requirements for scaling up investments in disaster risk financing, resilience planning and management in Caribbean SIDS.

The ocean and coasts provide critical ecosystem services such as carbon storage, oxygen generation as well as food and income generation.[17]

Climate change and its impacts including rising sea levels and sea surface temperatures, ocean acidification, more intense hurricanes and storms, and the resulting impacts on coastal and marine ecosystems, pose significant threats to livelihood of the Caribbean SIDS communities and including impacting on key economic sectors such as fisheries and tourism.[18]

The Caribbean reefs for example, constitute 12 per cent of the total reef area in the world. In addition to their contributions to coastal protection, their role as a carbon sink, eco-systems services, fisheries and value for tourism are of great relevance.[19] Increasing ocean acidification has been shown to significantly reduce the ability of reef-building corals to produce their skeletons. In the Caribbean region, research is suggesting that rising seawater acidity is already impacting the ability of organisms such as shellfish and corals to build shells and skeletons.[20]

Resources for achieving more resilient coastal and marine eco-systems and infrastructures will have to be supported through investment in scientific research. This will also provide for the continued monitoring and analyses of the impacts of climate change and with the knowledge gained being employed to further strengthen mitigation and adaptation strategies.

[17] SDG Goal 14, available at: https://www.un.org/sustainable development/oceans.

[18] CANARI ISSUE Paper No.2, Rising to the Climate challenge: Coastal and marine resilience in the Caribbean, available at https://canari.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08 /CANARI-Coastal-Marine-Resilience-Issue-Paper.pdf, cited 25 October 2020.

[19] Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Project, available at https://www.clmeproject.org/download/sap/?wpdmdl=3026 &refresh=5efdb35c9db8415936848 28, cited 18 December ,2020.

[20] Latin American and Caribbean countries threatened by rising ocean acidity, experts warn, available at: https://www.iucn.org /news/secretariat/201804/latin-american-and-caribbean-countries-threatened-rising-ocean-acidity-experts-warn, cited 16 December 2020.

V. Agenda item 5: Making fisheries sustainable and providing access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets

SDG Target 14.4 : By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics.

Photo credit: Pixabay.com,2019.

Data on fish catch and trade are required to provide for improved quantification of the monetary value and scale of small-scale artisanal fishers in the Caribbean SIDS. Generation and use of which will require having the necessary technologies and skills for data collection, analysis and reporting. This process is to be managed through established institutional systems involving government, research communities, fisher workers, small-scale fishery organizations, fishing communities, private sectors and other stakeholders.

The fisheries[21] and aquaculture sectors are significant providers of food security and livelihoods particularly for the SIDS. For the Caribbean SIDS, fisheries accounts for an estimated 16.49 per cent of the animal protein intake.[22] These sectors further provide valuable inputs to the Caribbean tourism sectors such as supply of sea foods and recreational fishing. Small-scale fisheries account for more than 95 per cent of fisheries in CARICOM.[23] With respect to labour, within the CARICOM countries, fisheries employ an estimated 64,000 persons, with another 200,000 workers involved in the value chain, including fish processing, retailing, boat construction and fishing-net repairs (UN-OHRLLS, 2015).[24] Regionally, it is projected that the development of a sustainable aquaculture sector could increase fish production in CARICOM States by 30 per cent within 10 years while reducing the food import bill.[25]

To be globally competitive, including improving market access for the small-scale artisanal fisheries, the business model for fisheries and aquaculture will require investments in research, science, technology and innovation. This will also require the recognition and integration of local, coastal-communities, and indigenous knowledge.

[21] Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) - Committee in Fisheries, http://www.fao.org/3/nb639en/nb639en.pdf, cited 5 December 2020.

[22] Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, LC/TS.2020/167, cited 19 December 2020.

[23] CRFM (Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism) (2016). CRFM Statistics and Information Report – 2016: http://www.crfm.int/images/CRFM_Statistics__Information_Report__2016_Final.pdf.

[24] UN-OHRLLS (2015) Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, available at https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/2189SIDS-IN-NUMBERS-CLIMATE-CHANGE-EDITION_2015.pdf, cited 8 January 2020.

[25] Food and Agriculture Organization (2014): The Sustainable Intensification of Caribbean Fisheries and Aquaculture; available at: http://www.fao.org/3/a-i3932e.pdf, cited 12 November 2019.

VI. Agenda item 6: Increasing scientific knowledge and developing research capacity and the transfer of marine technology

SDG Target: 14.A. An Increase scientific knowledge, develop research capacity and transfer marine technology, taking into account the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, in order to improve ocean health and to enhance the contribution of marine biodiversity to the development of developing countries, in particular SIDS and least developed countries.

Photo credit: National Cancer Institute, 2020.

Data on research, science and technology, innovation, intellectual property, patents, scientific information of all types including (inter disciplinary studies) should be made accessible and available to all stakeholders.

Taking into consideration the scale of economy of the Caribbean SIDS, a shared knowledge platform can provide for greater access on such fields as: scientific work, research, technology, expertise, emerging needs and gaps in coastal and ocean resources management for the subregion.

Ocean science must be aligned to education and training requirements for addressing priorities, gaps and emerging subjects in marine science, research, innovation and technological development related to oceans.[26,27] This has to be coupled with the inclusion of indigenous, local and costal community knowledge (ECLAC, 2020).[28] Further this should be adequately financed and resourced in order to drive the benefits of building scientific knowledge and understanding and thereby supporting informed decision making (McConney, P et al ,2016).[29]

A required first step in addressing this field will be to conduct a needs assessment to identify existing and additional requirements for scientific and community knowledge, research capacities and required technologies. This assessment must take into context the scale of economies and other resource limitations to the Caribbean SIDS.

The Caribbean subregion has been working to address this requirement for coastal, marine and ocean resources management. This is demonstrated for example, in the services offered by the University of the West Indies - Centre for Resources Management and Environmental Studies (based in Barbados) and the Five Islands Campus (based in Antigua and Barbuda). The latter is directed to be established as a Caribbean Regional Centre for Excellence for the study of oceanography, marine science and including the ocean economy. [30]

[26] United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, available at: https://www.oceandecade.org/ /about, cited 27 October 2020.

[27] The Caribbean Outlook 2018: ECLAC, LC/SES.37/14/Rev.1.

[28] Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), 2020, LC/TS.2020/167, cited 17 December 2020.

[29] McConney, P et al (2016), A First Look at the Science-Policy Interface for Ocean Governance in the Wider Caribbean Region https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2015.00119, cited 16 December 2020.

[30] The University of the West Indies, available at https://open.uwi.edu/uwi-and-undp-join-forces-promote-blue-economy-caribbean, cited 18 December 2020.

VII. Agenda item 7: Enhancing the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law, as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

Photo credit: Michael. Bernander, 2020.

Marine scientific capabilities, research and having the appropriate technological resources are required tools in the implementation of Agreements for the conservation and sustainable use of oceans resources. The guidelines for the transfer of marine technology as established under the United Nations Law of the Sea Convention can serve in supporting the Caribbean SIDS in meeting and sustaining their obligations under these Agreements.

Local and transboundary anthropogenic activities impacting on the costal and ocean resources of the Caribbean Sea include for example: unplanned urbanization resulting changes in coastal, land and sea use; pollution; deforestation, resulting high sediment river discharges, unstainable fishing and depletion in fishing stocks; climate change impacts, alien and invasive species etc.[31] In addressing these impacts through sustainable ocean resources management, countries of the Caribbean have entered into many regional and multi-lateral agreements. [32,33,34,35] Additionally, the SAMOA Pathway further calls for establishment of dedicated regional oceanographic centres and the provision of technical assistance to support in the delimitation of maritime areas.[36]

Regionally, the Caribbean countries have recognised that a subregional Caribbean Sea management system that is adequately financed and with a long-term iteration (vis-à-vis a time-limited project) can support member countries in the implementation of these Agreements .[37] Further it is recognized that this regional management system can serve in bridging the scientific and technical resource requirements for sustainable ocean governance.

31 Achieving SDG 14: The Role of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, available at https://www.un.org/en/chronicle/article/achieving-sdg-14-role-united-nations-convention-law-sea.

32 The Caribbean Sea Ecosystem Assessment, available at https://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/mar/rwebsa-wcar-01/other/rwebsa-wcar-01-crfm-03-en.pdf, cited 20 December 2020.

33 Trinidad and Tobago Address to the UNGA 74 on Area beyond national jurisdiction, available at: https://undoc.org/en/A/74/PV.10.

34 See Annex 11: Caribbean SIDS membership in global and regional ocean related agreements.

35 A/RES/61/197.

36 A/RES/69/15.

37 See for example the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Project, available at: https://clmeplus.org/, cited 18 December 2020.

VIII. Agenda item 8: Leveraging interlinkages between Sustainable Development Goal 14 and other Goals towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda

Photo credit: Renaldo. Matamoro, 2020.

For the Caribbean Subregion, the strengthening of the national statistical offices to provide the required data for evidence-based decision making for sustainable development has been identified as necessary requirements for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. This data management structure should be supported through collaborative open source data platforms and monitoring systems thereby allowing member countries to combine, analyze, visualize, and share data from multiple sources at different spatial and temporal scales.

With an estimated 41 million people living within 10 km of the coastline of the Caribbean Sea (UNEP)[38], the economic, social and environmental elements for sustainable ocean governance are inter-woven and indivisible.

For the SIDS, the sustainable management of coastal, marine and ocean resources and the application of science and innovation is cross cutting and inter-linked in most, if not all the 17- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda and all the targets of SDG 14.[39] In additional to the SDG Goals of the 2030 Agenda, science and innovation are essential tools for advancement in implementation of the SAMOA Pathway[40], the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the Addis Ababa Agreement on Financing for Sustainable Development and other sustainable development agreements.[41] Leveraging interlinkages across agendas, will require investments in policies, legislation, technology, human resources, horizontal and vertical institutional integration and coherencies. This systems approach can also serve in streamlining and thereby reducing the reporting burdens required under these agendas and agreements.

[38] United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), Caribbean Environment Programme (2018), available at: https://www.unenvironment.org/explore-topics/oceans-seas/what-we-do/working-regional-seas/regional-seas-programmes/wider.

[39] United Nations, available at https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2019/goal-14/, cited 9 February 2020.

[40] SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA Pathway), A/RES/74/3 (2019), link, https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/74/3.

[41] See for example Annex 2 on the Caribbean SIDS membership in global and regional ocean related agreements.

Annexes

Annex 1
SDG 14: conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development and the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science

Sustainable Development Goal 14 and its targets:

14.1: By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution.

14.2: By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans.

14.3: Minimize and address the impacts of ocean acidification, including through enhanced scientific cooperation at all levels.

14.4: By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics.

14.5: By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information.

14.6: End subsidies contributing to overfishing.

14.7: By 2030, increase the economic benefits to SIDS and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources, including through sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism.

14.A: Increase scientific knowledge, develop research capacity and transfer marine technology, taking into account the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, in order to improve ocean health and to enhance the contribution of marine biodiversity to the development of developing countries, in particular SIDS and least developed countries.

14.B: Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets

14.C: Enhance the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which provides the legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources, as recalled in paragraph 158 of "The future we want".

Source: United Nations (2018[4]), Global Indicator Framework for the SDG and Targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, United Nations Statistical Commission, 49th session, A/RES/71/313, link: http://ggim.un.org/documents/A_RES_71_313.pdf.

Annex 2
Caribbean SIDS membership in global and regional ocean related agreements

Caribbean SIDS[42]	Global and Caribbean Regional Ocean Related Agreements (selected)															
						MARPOL[48]					Cartagena Convention[49]					
	UNCLOS[43]	UNFCC[44]	UN CDB[45]	NAGOYA PROTOCOL[46]	FAO Compliance[47]	Annex I/II	Annex III	Annex IV	Annex V	Annex VI	Convention	Oil Spill Protocol	LBS Protocol	SPAW Protocol	CRFM[50]	ESCAZU Agreement[51]
Countries																
Antigua and Barbuda	B	B	B	B	N	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	N	B	S/P
Bahamas	B	B	B	N	N	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	N
Barbados	B	B	B	N	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	N	B	B	N
Belize	B	B	B	N	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	S
Cuba	B	B	B	B	N	B	N	N	B	N	B	B	N	B	N/A	N
Dominica	B	B	B	N	N	B	B	N	B	N	B	B	N	N	B	S

[42] For the non-United Nations Members/Associate Members of the Economic Commission of America and the Caribbean: The legal obligations to agreements are usually considered as: Netherlands Antilles including Sint Maarten, Aruba, and Curaçao, United Kingdom Overseas Territories including Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands and Turks and Caicos Islands. France including Guadeloupe and Martinique, United States of America territories: Puerto Rico and United States Virgin Islands.

[43] United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, cited 25 April 2020, available at: https://www.un.org/depts/los/convention_agreements/convention_overview_convention.htm.

[44] United Nations Framework Convention of Climate Change, Paris Agreement, cited 25 April 2020, available at United Nations Treaty Collection: treaties.un.org.

[45] UN Convention Biodiversity cited 25 April 2020, available at United Nations Treaty Collection: treaties.un.org.

[46] Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity: cited 25 April 2020, available at United Nations Treaty Collection: treaties.un.org.

[47] Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Compliance: Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas, cited 25 April 2020, available at fao.org/iuu-fishing/international-framework/fao-compliance-agreement/en.

[48] International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL), cited 26 April 2020, available at: www. imo.org.
Annex I: Regulation for the prevention of pollution of oil.
Annex II: Regulations for the control of noxious liquid substances in bulk.
Annex III: Prevention of pollution by harmful substances carried by sea in packaged form.
Annex IV: Prevention of pollution by sewage from ships.
Annex V: Prevention of pollution by garbage from ships.
Annex VI: Prevention of air pollution from ships.

[49] Cartagena Convention (and its Protocols), cited 25 April 2020: cep.unep.org/Cartagena-convention.

[50] Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism, cited 25 April 2020, available at: crfm.int.

[51] Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú, Agreement), cited 25 November 2020 (this agreement in not yet in effect as of 25 November 2020).

CARIBBEAN SIDS[42]	Global and Caribbean Regional Ocean Related Agreements (selected)															
						MARPOL[48]					Cartagena Convention[49]					
	UNCLOS[43]	UNFCC[44]	UNCDB[45]	NAGOYA PROTOCOL[46]	FAO Compliance[47]	Annex I/II	Annex III	Annex IV	Annex V	Annex VI	Convention	Oil Spill Protocol	LBS Protocol	SPAW Protocol	CRFM[50]	ESCAZU Agreement[51]
Countries																
Dominican Republic	B	B	B	B	N	B	B	B	B	N	B	B	B	B	N/A	S
Grenada	B	B	B	S	N	B	N	N	N	N	B	B	B	B	B	S
Guyana	B	B	B	B	N	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	S/P
Haiti	B	B	B	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	B	N	N	N	B	S
Jamaica	B	B	B	N	N	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	N	B	S
Saint Kitts and Nevis	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	N	N	B	S/P
Saint Lucia	B	B	B	N	B	B	B	B	B	N	B	B	B	B	B	S/P
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	B	B	B	N	N	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	N	B	B	S/P
Suriname	B	B	B	N	N	B	B	B	B	N	N	N	N	N	B	N
Trinidad and Tobago	B	B	B	N	N	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	N
Notes: B: Binding agreement by ratification, accession, acceptance or adoption.[52] S: Signatory; N: Not a Party; S/P State Party. N/A: Country not eligible to join this agreement.																

Source: Authors interpretation based on Table adapted from Fanning, L., Mahon R., Implementing the Ocean SDG in the Wider Caribbean: state of play and possible ways forward, IASS, IDDRI, TMG, 2017 (pp. 22).

[52] See United Nations Treaty Collection for definitions available at: https://treaties.un.org/.