

WMO - PROPOSED DIALOGUE TOPICS

WMO proposes two Dialogue topics, linked to two of the SDG 14 targets.

WMO Proposed Dialogue 1:

A safe and healthy ocean - considering innovative ways of science, monitoring and services to improve early warning to protect lives, properties and ecosystems in marine and coastal areas

(linked to SDG 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)

Topics and discussion could address:

- Multi-hazard early warning systems - WMO Resolution 16 (Cg-18) and the close collaboration with IOC-UNESCO, especially regarding the development of services for joint Members, and under the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).
- Coastal barrier protection (e.g. coral reefs, mangroves) to protect the coast from the impacts of physical hazards such as waves, storm surge, tsunami.
- Marine environmental emergency response (e.g. from oil spills, nuclear fallout, Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)) and innovative ways of modelling, forecasting and responding to such disasters.
- Early warning in sub-seasonal to seasonal time scales could be considered (e.g. El Nino impacts on ecosystem health) including international coordination for regions subject to such impacts.
- Ship observations helping to improve forecasts and warnings for mariners at sea, with benefits for sustainable development (eg. safety of lives; more efficient ship routing and reduced emissions; and prevention of environmental hazards from disasters such as oil spill and ship wrecks).
- Examples could be given in SIDS and Polar regions – both of which have sensitive marine and coastal ecosystems.
- International Partnerships WMO, UNESCO-IOC, IMO, IAEA, UNISDR, Future Earth.
- Regional partnerships including SPC, SPREP, CPPS, ERFEN, CMCC, Arctic Council (PAME; EPPR), Antarctic Treaty.

WMO Proposed Dialogue 2 – Ocean and weather observations – developing the capacity of SIDS and LDCs to participate in the collection of, and understand the benefits of, such data.

(linked to SDG 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 small island developing States and least developed countries)

Topics and discussion could address:

- Ocean observations and monitoring - *in situ* to satellite.
- Challenges in establishing and maintaining ocean observations and monitoring data.
- Strengthening the capacity of SIDS and LDC national institutions to deliver better weather and climate services based on improved observations, monitoring and information provided by both technology and traditional knowledge.
- Voluntary ocean observations (VOS) by local fishing and coastal communities – access to inexpensive ocean and meteorological monitoring equipment.
- Reducing ocean buoy vandalism through education and awareness programs for local fishing and coastal communities – helping them to understand the value of ocean buoys and the information the buoys provide which in turn, help the local fishing and coastal communities.
- International Partnerships between WMO, UNESCO-IOC, FAO.
- Regional partnerships , for example with Pacific Islands’ Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), Regional Fishery Management Organizations (RFMOs), SPC.