Accelerating SDG14 implementation

Asia and the Pacific Regional Expert Workshop on Ocean Accounts

1-3 August 2018, Bangkok

Caridad Canales, Environment and Development Policy Section, ESCAP
Jeremy Hills, Consultant, Environment and Development Policy Section, ESCAP

Structure

1. Introduction

2. Accelerating development outcomes

3. SDG14 as a target for acceleration

4. Principles of accelerators

5. Towards an accelerator methodology

6. Discussion on way forward

1. Introduction

- ESCAP is developing a methodology to help governments in the region prioritize needs and identify entry points to accelerate implementation of goal 14 and its targets.

- Implementation of SDG14 is different as it must address the peculiarities of transboundary issues, and issues that require longer-term responses than most development program cycles typically offer (e.g. ocean health and conservation issues).

- Identifying accelerators for SDG14 implementation enables the ability for countries to target specific actions that are pivotal not only for SDG14 but also enable a multiplier effect with other SDGs.

- Due to the regional context and diversity, SDG14 implementation in Asia and the Pacific requires a nuanced approach.
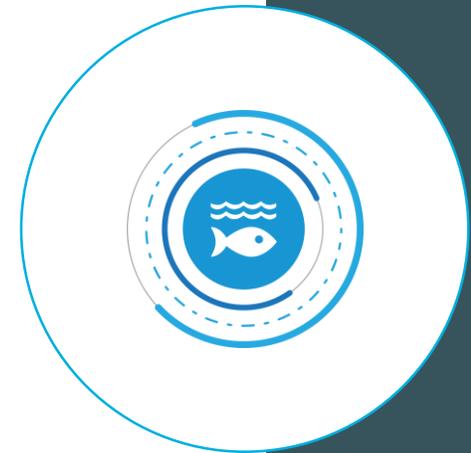
2. Accelerating development outcomes

- Lagging MDGs
- Development of MDG Acceleration toolkit
- Premise – specific prioritized "acceleration solutions" exist.
- Systematic methodology and

shared diagnostics
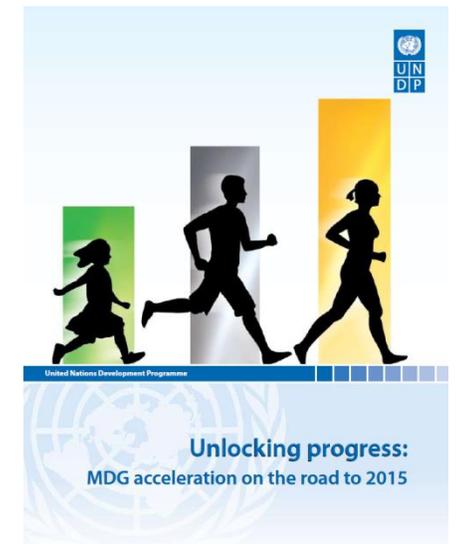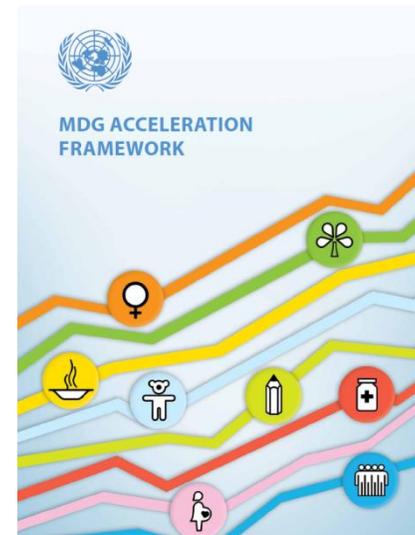
2. Accelerating development outcomes

- Opportunity for proactive approach to SDGs
- Targeted at need for more rapid progress than the present trajectory
- Mobilise interlinkages across SDGs for a ripple of co-benefits
- Developing approaches:
  - UNDP - Mainstreaming, Acceleration, and Policy Support (MAPS) – pivotal interventions
  - UNDP - Accelerator and Bottleneck Assessment tool (ABA) – catalytic development that can trigger positive multiplier effects.

2. Accelerating development outcomes

Mobilise interlinkages across SDGs for a ripple of co-benefits
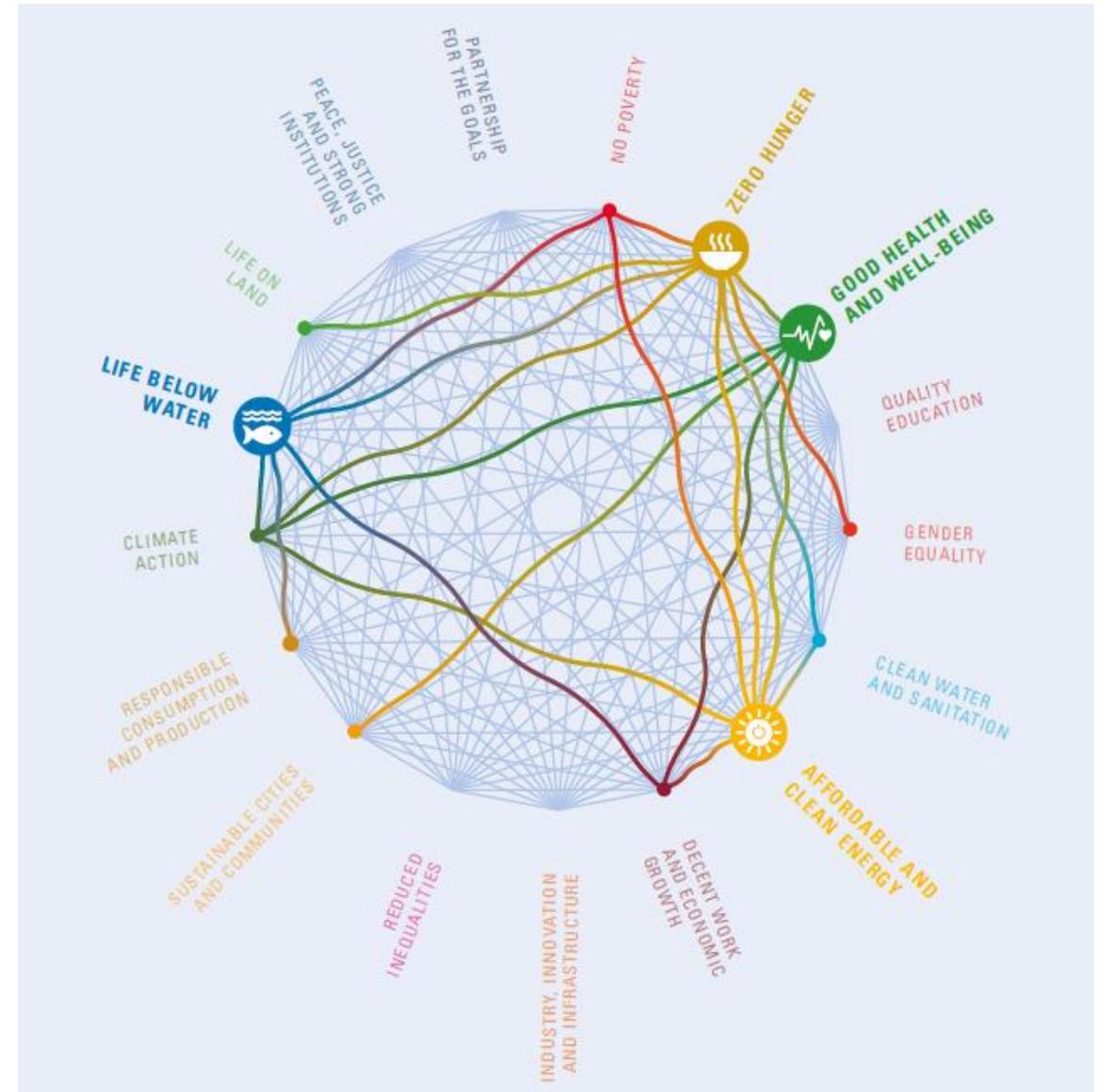
3. SDG14 as a target for acceleration

- Asia and the Pacific – high reliance on marine resources and high rates of degradation.

- Beyond business-as-usual – overfishing caused loss of USD $83b.

- Beyond targeting investments at SDG14 targets – 800 VC of UNOC.

- Transformatory change.

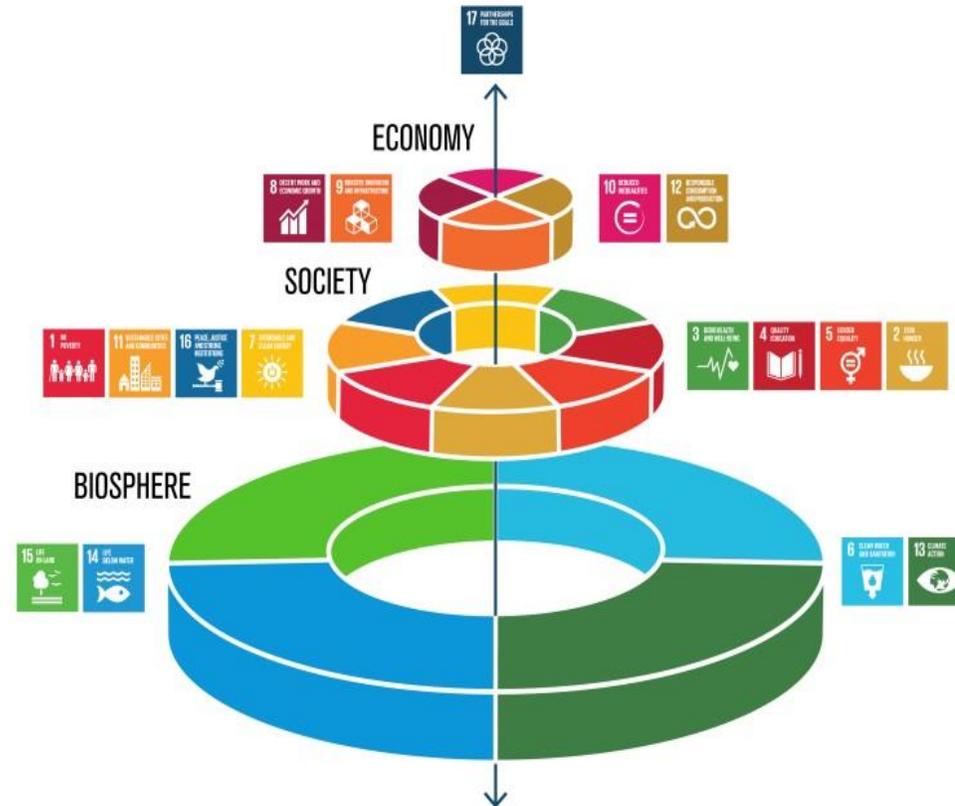- Pivotal investments – catalyse "indivisibility" of SDGs.

3. SDG14 as a target for acceleration

SDG14 a fundamental component of the SDG structure

Illustration: Azote Images for Stockholm Resilience Centre

3. SDG14 as a target for acceleration

SDGs

SDG14 Targets
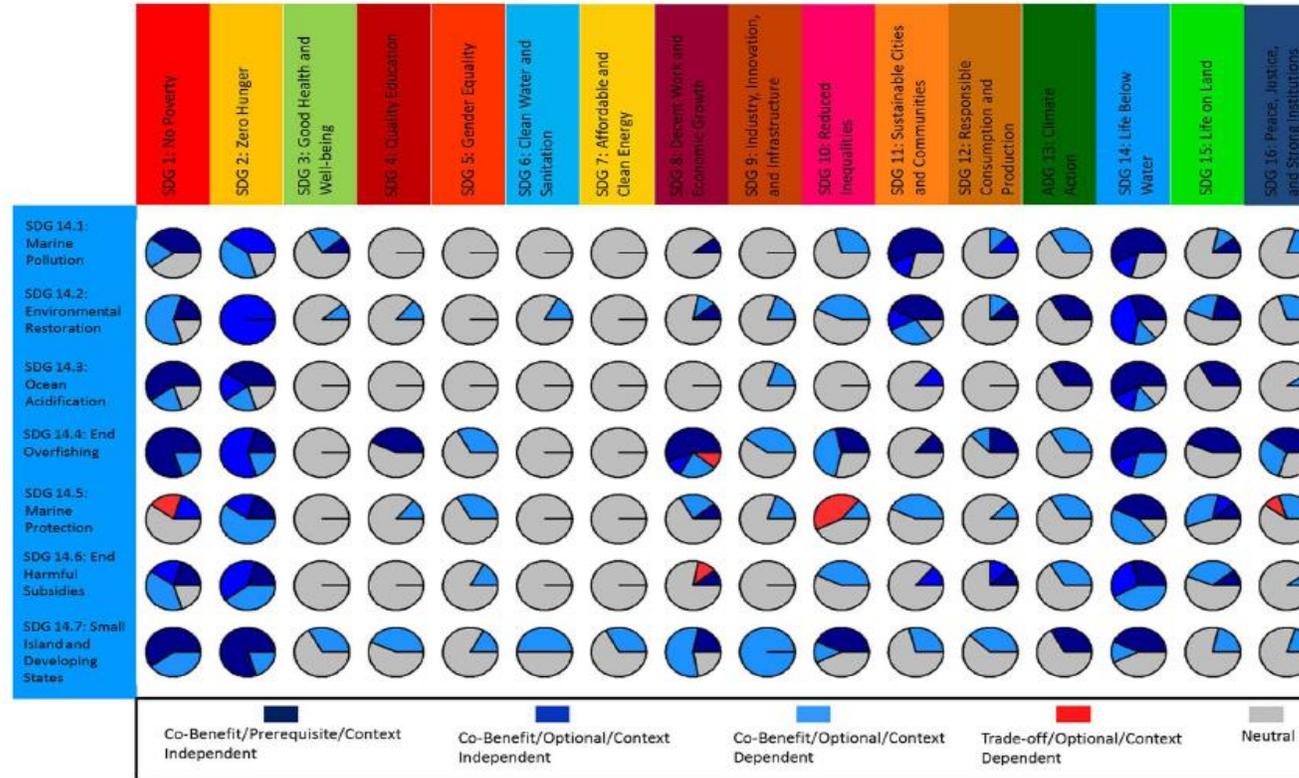
SDG14 is linked to all other SDGs

Potential ?

Singh, G.G., Marine Policy (2017), http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.marpol.2017.05.030

3. SDG14 as a target for acceleration

"SDG14 plays a cross-cutting role in the 2030 Agenda, interacting with many other SDGs. Transformation towards more integrated and aligned policies and measures in response to these interactions, backed by tailor-made capacity building and strengthened institutions, is a prerequisite for achieving the 2030 Agenda".
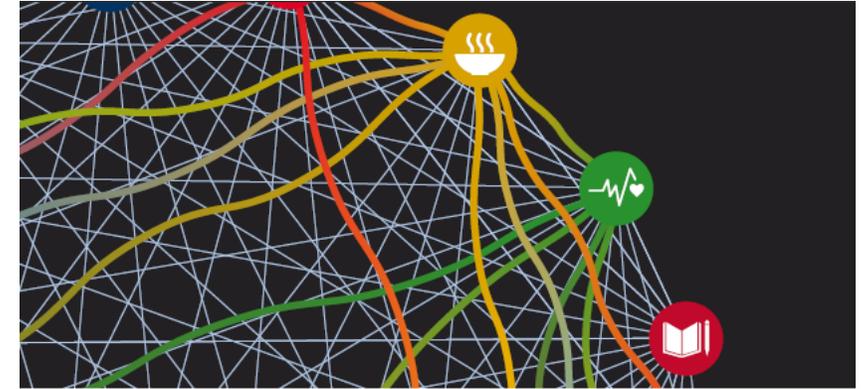
A GUIDE TO
SDG INTERACTIONS:
FROM SCIENCE
TO IMPLEMENTATION

INTERNATIONAL
COUNCIL
FOR SCIENCE

UNITED NATIONS
ESCAP
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

4. Principles of accelerators

- Review of MDG and SDG tools and case studies – common elements.

- 6 Principles identified:

  - **Leap forward** –An identifiable desire or need to hasten forward, or promote more rapid progression, in a goal, target, or cluster of targets which is coherent with national sustainable development policy and which achieves the desired situation more rapidly than the present trajectory.

  - **Linkages between SDGs-** An identifiable group or cluster of SDG targets in which progress is mutually associated and interlinked.
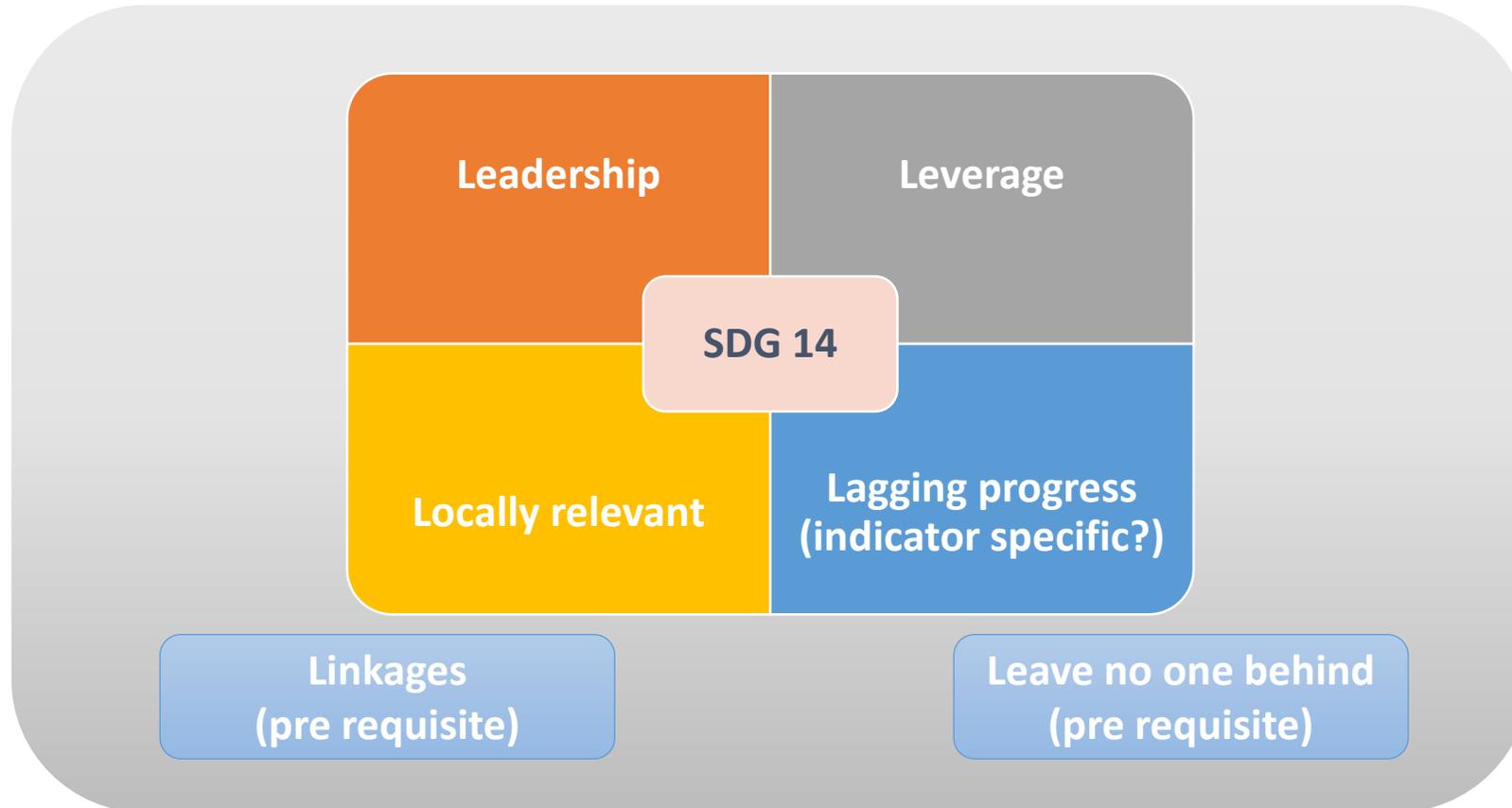
4. Principles of accelerators

- **Locally relevant** - A realistic and relevant intervention, or suite of interventions, which will create positive and appreciable gains in the selected development target at a local scale and which is identifiable by targeted local stakeholders.

- **Leave no-one behind** - Ensuring that poor, vulnerable or disempowered groups received disproportional development benefits or dividends through anti-regressive safeguards and mechanisms.

- **Leadership** - An identifiable political and policy prioritisation and commitment to preferentially progress the identified development agenda through a participatory approach involving all relevant stakeholders.

- **Leverage** - A proactive capturing of assisted advantage to catalyse financial, capacity and technical resources to further progress.

4. Principles of accelerators

Conceptual diagram – core and allied principles

5. Towards an accelerator methodology

Methodology must be framed within ongoing processes:

- National contextualisation promoting a country-owned and self-driven approach.
- Capitalises on achievements from many national planning processes (e.g. NVC, NAP, NDCs etc).
- Ensures "people and prosperity", especially vulnerable groups, are not marginalised but central within a nationally-driven process.
- Coherently binds together high-level national policy objectives with local-level implementation.
- Provides a ready opportunity for national and local stakeholder participation.

5. Towards an accelerator methodology

- Stepwise 4 stage methodology:
  1. Accelerator screening – conform to "leap forward" and "linkages" principles.
  2. Accelerator scoping – assess alignment to other principles (leadership, locally-relevant, leverage and leave no-one behind).
  3. Accelerator refinement – contextualisation of selected scenarios.
  4. Accelerator operationalisation – optimisation through Theory of Change and detailed action planning.

UNITED NATIONS
ESCAP
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

ACCELERATING
SDG14

6. Discussion on way forward

- Is the way that the accelerator approach is framed around Agenda 2030, a potentially useful tool for national governments?

- Do the accelerator principles encompass the important features, or should there be revisions / additions?
  - ✓ Reminder - Leap forward, Linkages, Locally relevant, Leave no-one behind, Leadership & Leverage

- Are the stages of the methodology coherent and aligned to national approaches and processes?
  - ✓ Reminder - Screening, scoping, refinement, operationalization.

UNITED NATIONS
ESCAP
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
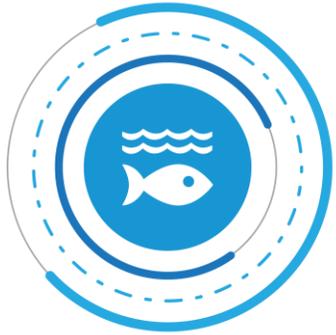
Thank you

Caridad Canales, Environment and Development Policy Section, ESCAP

Jeremy Hills, Consultant, Environment and Development Policy Section, ESCAP