Goal 14 Life below Water

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources

The marine ecosystem and the sea resources remains an essential providing for the people of Tonga. There are 10 targets with 10 relative indicators for SDG 14 all measuring the progress on sustainability and conversation of oceans, seas and marine resources. Only 5 out of 10 possible indicators were available for Tonga (Table 15). Unlike most SDG indicators, 14.2.1, 14.5.1 and 14.6.1 are target to be achieved by the current year 2020.

Table 15 Summary of SDG Indicators for Goal 14

Short name	Indicator	Target	Status	Data availability
Protect and restore ecosystems	14.2.1 Proportion of national exclusive economic zones managed using ecosystembased approaches		15	Yes ⁵³
Protected marine areas	14.5.1 ¹ Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas	10	1.51	Yes ⁵⁴
Combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing	14.6.1 Progress by countries aiming to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing		3	Yes ⁵⁶
Income from sustainable fisheries	14.7.1 ¹ Sustainable fisheries as a proportion of GDP in small island developing States, least developed countries and all countries		1.9	Yes ⁵⁵
Research resources for marine technology	14.a.l ¹ Proportion of total research budget allocated to research in the field of marine technology		NA	No
Support small scale fishers	14.b.1 Progress by countries to recognize and protect access rights for small-scale fisheries		2	Yes ⁵⁶

⁵³ SPC

⁵⁴ Ministry of Fishery, 2016

⁵⁵ National Account System, Tonga Statistics Department, 2019

⁵⁶ SPC, Pacific Data Hub - Sustainable Development Goals Tonga, 2018