

31 October 2019.

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- b. Coordination and management of coastal and marine ecosystems need to be further enhanced at national levels and between countries of the region. Such cooperation is needed to enforce protective measures and curb illegal fishing and polluting activities, and to build the capacity of Arab LDCs in this area.
- c. Small and artisanal fish farming is particularly important both for the incomes of the poor and for food production as it significantly contributing to the food supply chain, however, small fish farmers do not have the capability to optimize their farming or fish catch. (Arab Horizon 2030: Prospects for Enhancing Food Security in the Arab Region, E/ESCWA/SDPD/2017/1).

III. Scaling-up ocean action based on science and innovation

ESCWA and UNEP/MAP, ECE and ECA are developing a joint project on “Enhanced regional knowledge and experience sharing for waste reduction in the Mediterranean”. The objective of the project is to undertake a regional assessment of the effectiveness of high-tech and low-tech solutions that have been implemented in the selected countries of the Mediterranean region, with a view to their widespread utilization in waste reduction solutions and efforts.

The planned expected result is enhanced technical capacities of Mediterranean decision-makers and stakeholders in the targeted riparian Mediterranean countries to achieve waste reduction and ensure sustainable waste management and strengthened dialogue among the regions and countries that border the Mediterranean basin towards progressing into a more circular economy, while contributing to poverty eradication particularly among women and marginalized communities.

IV. Developing partnerships for implementation of SDG14 through voluntary commitments

ESCWA has partnered with UNEP/MAP, ECE and ECA in the organization of a Roundtable on “Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” during the 18th Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD), held in Budva, Montenegro, from 11 to 13 June 2019. ESCWA focused on mainstreaming implementation of the environmental dimension in the 2030 Agenda. The meeting highlighted the need for concrete actions to integrate environment into

- There is an urgent need for technology transfer and capacity building of the countries, particularly the Southern Mediterranean to cooperate on waste reduction and sustainable use of the coasts and develop basin level monitoring schemes to control over fishing and waste dumping.
 - There is a need to enhance North-South and South-South cooperation to achieve Goal 14.
 - Arab countries need the commitment and collaboration of all parties involved to address the waste and other challenges of the Sea to ensure sustainable food security systems and the health of the environment that the communities' livelihoods depend on.
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