

S5: Land and sea interfaces of the SDGs

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Summary of themes covered in workshop

How does the achievement of one SDG interact with the other SDGs? Are there co-benefits or trade-offs? How do we implement and enforce SDGs from a legal perspective? How is food security and food production (land and sea based food production) affected by climate change/extreme events and what does it mean for achieving the SDGs?

Most controversial question that came up in this workshop?

Meeting the SDG targets: How do we assess whether we are moving in the right direction?

Results of the discussion

We need increasing international collaboration and interdisciplinary work to achieve effective, viable, and governable solutions in context of moving towards the SDGs. For this, it is important to understand the interconnectedness between each of the SDGs. Further, especially with respect to food security/food production we need a better integrated understanding of the land-sea interface. A single sector approach might mask the double, triple, even quadruple jeopardy. With implementing SDGs, a legal and enforcement system needs to be established, and for this, we need policies. SDGs still need to be made more appealing to policy and decision makers on global and local scales.

Research gaps identified

Methodology to factor in human dimension/decision making processes into modeling frameworks. Data could be derived from cultural case-studies.

Have to focus more on legal framework/enforcement systems in order to implement SDG14 (Life below water ii.e. MPAs). SDGs do not provide guidance of turning the SDG targets into enforceable law.

Next steps

Follow up on idea of creating a Global Human Dimensions Database. Increase collaboration especially with economists and environmental law. Engage multiple sectors in research on climate change impacts and SDGs.

Following our workshop, we are working on a manuscript titled 'A research & policy agenda for understanding land & sea connections to meet the UN Sustainable Development Goals' from natural science, social science, legal, economics, and human health perspectives.

Other

NA

3-5 keywords that characterize the session

Co-Benefits, Trade-offs, Multi-Sectoral, Interconnectedness, Food security