Measuring Progress: Nature and the SDGs

Analysis drafting guidelines

Using the SDG indicators and DPSIR frameworks, the publication analyses the relationship between actions that countries are taking that have impacts on the environment, the state of the environment in countries, and the secondary social impacts. We also adopt the concept of the ‘Drivers of Change’ from the IPBES Global assessment to define the actions, and base the analysis of relationships on direct, rather than indirect drivers of change.

The analysis section of the report is subdivided by goal to assess the goal’s broad perspective and analyse the linkages between the indicators related to the state of the environment and the ones related to the direct drivers of change and human well-being.

Each section shall include a short introduction on the broad link between the goal’s theme and nature, how they are linked together and the impact that the theme has on nature. This part shall be no more than one page.

It shall then dive into the interactions and linkages between the analysed relationships. Each goal’s indicator related to the analysis are investigated against a set number of indicators to identify whether the relationship is significant or non-significant. The purpose is to explain the type of the relationship, why they are formed, what causes them and the impact that one indicator has on the other, whether positive or negative. In addition, it is worth contemplating and assessing the reason(s) why some relationships were considered significant while in fact the analysis shows that they are not significant. The linkages explanation shall also link to the need for policy coherence between SDG goals. A maximum of half a page can be allocated per relationship.

We are proposing to have a lead author that can coordinate with 2-3 authors the inputs for each goal. Each group will discuss and prepare the selected goal section. After the Expert Consultation Meeting, an initial meeting with the goal teams and UNEP will be scheduled to discuss the presentation of the results. During the entire drafting process, UNEP is available for support, whether logistical or organizational.

Experts are encouraged to submit their sections no later than Friday 30 October 2020. The draft publication will then be compiled and sent for peer reviewing.