

## A Seminar on the International Sustainable Development Goal #14 — “Life below Water”



**Title:** Sustainable Development Goals Implementation through Technical Standards and Regulatory Frameworks

**Speaker:** **Roland Cormier**, *Guest Scientist, Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht, Centre for Materials and Coastal Research, Institute for Coastal Research, Germany (formerly with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, the Canada Food Inspection Agency, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations)*

**Location:** Room 3089, Rowe Management Building, Dalhousie University, 6100 University Avenue

**Date:** Thursday, 25 May 2017

**Time:** 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm (followed by light refreshments)

**Abstract:** In September 2015, 193 member states of the United Nations adopted a plan to achieve a better future for all, at the heart of which are 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Currently, a broad range of technical and regulatory standards are being used in both international and national legislative and regulatory regimes in the management of human, animal, and plant health and safety.

Given the risk management approach to regulatory frameworks of the United Nations Economic Commission

for Europe (UNECE) in trade, the Commission was asked to identify priority areas for standards development to support of the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Based on the interest expressed, SDG 14 “Life below Water” was chosen to examine this approach as it covers a broad range of environmental, cultural, social, and economic risks. In risk management terms, risks are managed through the implementation of management and operational measures to “carry into effect” a policy objective. The intent of regulatory frameworks is to achieve a balance between over-regulations and insufficient regulations. In the implementation of the SDG targets; however, member countries and international organizations will also have to determine if their existing technical standards and regulatory regimes already address SDG targets.

This seminar will discuss the issues surrounding the implementation of SDG 14 targets within regulatory frameworks as well as highlight the type of science that will be needed to underpin such an approach in addition to indicators.

### SUGGESTED READINGS

UNECE. (2012). *Risk management in regulatory frameworks: Towards a better management of risks. Group of experts on risk management in regulatory systems*. United Nations Economic Commissions for Europe. Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies. 108 pp. Retrieved from [http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trade/Publications/WP6\\_ECE\\_TRADE\\_390.pdf](http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trade/Publications/WP6_ECE_TRADE_390.pdf)

UNECE. (2017). *Risk management in regulatory frameworks in support of Sustainable Development Goals. Report on the meeting of the Group of Experts on “Managing Risks in Regulatory Systems” (GRM)*. 20-22 February 2017, Geesthacht, Germany. Retrieved from <http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trade/wp6/documents/2017/GRMF2F/>