

## In Pursuit of SDGs, MGA Advocates:

A rights-based approach,  
through justice and development  
for all People and all Life



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## To Achieve Goal 14 MGA Will:

**Collaborate** to address the root causes that underpin the destruction of the biodiversity of our oceans, inland waterways and marine life

**Campaign** to prevent the ecological violations and human rights abuse associated with different forms of mining processes.

**Raise** awareness about the abuse of water, inland and coastal, carried out by the extractive industries.

**Advocate** for the human right to water and sanitation i.e. access for every person.

*Mercy Global Action (MGA) for Mercy International Association (c) January 2019*

## MGA is Committed to:

**Integrate** the ideas and concerns of those most affected by of water and oceans.

**Promote** a development model that is just for both peoples and all life below water.

**Highlight** the dangers associated with the privatization of water, especially for the vulnerable.

**Work** with civil society to monitor ongoing progress towards purity and sustainability of water.

## MGA will Continue to:

**Identify** and take action re root causes, where the right to water /sanitation is being abused or denied.

**Network** extensively, to monitor a rights-based implementation of the SDGs in every country.

**Ensure** a person-centred model of development in delivery of the SDGs

**“You may never know what results come from your actions, but if you do nothing, there will be no results.” Mahatma Gandhi**

**Resources:** [www.mercyworld.org](http://www.mercyworld.org); [www.wwf.org.uk](http://www.wwf.org.uk);

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs>;

<http://www.caritas.org/2016/09/un-failing>

H.H. Mitchell, Journal of Biological Chemistry 158

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/ioc-oceans/>

[www.google.com/search?q=free+images+of+one-use+plastic](http://www.google.com/search?q=free+images+of+one-use+plastic)

## MERCY INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION GLOBAL ACTION

# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

## GOAL 14

## Life below Water



Pixabay.com

**“We cannot allow our seas and oceans to be littered by endless fields of floating plastic”**

Pope Francis , Earth Day, September 1, 2018

## WHAT ARE THE SDGS?

The UN 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), came into force 1st January 2016, to run through to 2030. The SDGs address inequality, poverty, sustainable development, protection of ecosystems and climate change.

MIA Global Action (MGA) is producing these pamphlets, to encourage members, to monitor the progress of the SDGs in their countries.



**SDG 14** focuses on the conservation and sustainable use of our oceans, seas, rivers and the life they carry. This necessitates effective strategies and management, to combat the negative impact of overfishing, pollution and ocean acidification.

**The year 2025** is the target to prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, particularly from land-based activities.

*“Cherish the natural world because you are part of it and you depend on it”.* Sir David Attenborough.

## GLOBAL FACTS

**Oceans cover 71 percent of the Earth's surface** and contain 97% of the Earth's water. It exists as ice and vapour and is present in all living organisms

**Less than 1% is freshwater** with 2-3% trapped in glaciers and ice caps. Water is constantly moving from one form to another, due to the water cycle.

**Up to 60% of the human adult body is water.** The **brain and heart** are 73% water and the **lungs** 83%

**Over 3 billion people depend** on marine and coastal biodiversity for their livelihoods

**Threats to marine and coastal ecosystems** include coastal development, global climate change invasive species, overfishing and pollution.

**30-35 % of global marine habitats** i.e. sea grasses, mangroves and coral reefs have been destroyed.

**Around 8 million tons of plastic waste** is dumped in oceans every year, causing the death of birds, sea creatures and destruction of marine life and coral.

**Plastic particles** flow through the global food chain, including humans, with unknown consequences...



[www.sdgdataabs.org](http://www.sdgdataabs.org)

## COLLECTIVE ACTION

Collaborate with others to ensure industries polluting water, must review their practices



**Don't purchase one-use plastic!**

Advocate for just national fishing rights and to end illegal and destructive fishing practices

Promote scientific-based management, to restore global fish stocks and ocean clean up.

## PERSONAL CHALLENGES

Be aware that our daily activities contribute to ocean pollution. Do not buy one-use plastic.

Purchase products that are micro-bead free e.g. shampoo, handwash, lotions and beauty products.

Join campaigns opposing mining practises like fracking that pollute local and ocean water.

## QUESTIONS

- **Is there one action I will commit to take?**
- **Am I willing to campaign against one-use plastic?**