

Chung Vera
Saint-Petersburg State University
History of China

Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources and involvement of young people in this movement

It is said that the United Nations (the UN) were officially established to stabilize relations between countries and to deal with terrifying consequences of the Second World War: destroyed cities, poverty, lack of food etc. Up to recent days, the UN's main aim is to promote prosperity of humankind and protect planet from environmental issues caused by human activity.

In September 2015 historic UN Summit the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) officially came into force. The Sustainable Development Goals claims that every country is expected to build economic growth, update education system, provide better health, social protection, and job opportunities, while tackling climate change and environmental protection.

Goal 14 is related to smart use of the oceans, seas and marine resources. Many countries surrounded by the oceans, seas have large-scale fishing industry providing many people various job, and these countries' great part of national economy depends on this sector.

However, global warming caused by increased amounts of carbon dioxide around the Earth is a core reason of rising sea temperatures, damage of coral, melting icebergs etc. These reasons affect fishing industry. Because of changing marine environment sea creatures are changing their habitats. For example, fishes used to live in equatorial waters are moving towards north, because in their original habitat water temperature is too high to live. These circumstances influence fishers' lives, they do not have enough fish to catch anymore. Therefore, countries situated upper or lower equatorial region are facing abundance of fish that they have never met.

What's more, industrial pollutants and rubbish covered the oceans are causing deaths of many marine creatures. There are many news in the Internet about fishes, turtles, whales and other marine creatures that dead because of eating plastic materials, and petroleum that flow out of oil platforms based in the seas.

Republic of Korea is situated on the southern part of Korean Peninsula surrounded by the seas and Pacific Ocean providing this country with marine products. However, unsmart ejection food leftovers, rubbish, industrial pollutants is destroying marine world influencing fishing industry negatively. At the same time, Korean citizens are trying to take care about their seas. It is said there are some the oceans and seas protection movements.

Although industrial pollution and global warming have affected the oceans and seas so much, that at the first glance it seems it is impossible to improve the health of our marine world, establishing long-term plans containing effective strategies can make the situation better.

Young generation, who will face more severe environmental issues in the future, is expected to take care of the health of our big home – the Earth. When we are young, full of energy and outstanding ideas, should do our best to make our future better. Although having remarkable career path is important, having healthy planet is also extremely important, because without our home, the Earth, we cannot survive. Only in the good environment, it is possible to live and build our careers.

Small steps can cause greater results. Young people can go to beaches to collect rubbish, cure marine creatures, and create projects of making global warming going slower. If we do this, in the future we can enjoy beautiful sunsets on the seashore, swimming with motley fishes, and eating tasty fishes.