FAO Instruments and work relevant to bottom trawling in the deep seas

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Presentation Outline

- Other Relevant Instruments
  - Port State Measures Agreement
  - Bycatch Guidelines
- FAO ABNJ Programme
  - Deep Seas Project
- FAO Deep Seas Programme
Within the context of the FAO port State measures Agreement a Regional Fisheries Management Organization (RFMO) is “an intergovernmental fisheries organization or arrangement, as appropriate, that has the competence to establish conservation and management measures”

Following their definition, RFMOs are mentioned 19 times in the Agreement (including Annexes).
PSMA: Measures and provisions adopted by NEAFC

- Provisions of port State control apply to landings or transshipments in ports of Contracting Parties by fishing vessels with frozen catch on board of fisheries resources that have been caught in the Convention Area by foreign fishing vessels and that have not been previously landed or transshipped at a port.

- Designation of ports for landings and transshipments.

- Notification by vessel prior to entry and declaration of intent (landing or transshipment).

- Provisions for inspections and transmission of information; at least 15 percent of landings or transshipments inspected annually.

- Flag State responsibilities to monitor compliance of vessel with relevant obligations; declaration by flag State that the vessel is authorized to fish and the catch is within the quota allocated.

- Requirement of masters to allow access, cooperate, assist and provide information during inspections.

- Relevant information is posted publically on the NEAFC website.
PSMA: General comments, constraints and challenges

- RFMOs play a key role in the implementation of the FAO port State measures Agreement, several of which have formally adopted measures in line with many of the provisions of the Agreement.

- Achieving full implementation (policy, legal, institutional and operational aspects) of RFMO measures by Contracting Parties is challenging and developing countries need to be supported by international assistance.

- RFMOs provide readily available information needed by managers in port control procedures (e.g. IUU vessel lists, authorized vessel lists, conservation and management measures); the development of a one-stop-shop RFMO information system in the future would be highly beneficial.
International Guidelines on bycatch management and reduction of discards

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR RESPONSIBLE FISHERIES

International Guidelines for Bycatch Management & Reduction of Discards

International Plan’s of Action IPOAs

Seabirds

Sharks

FAO Turtle Guidelines

FAO Technical Guidelines

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International Guidelines on bycatch management and reduction of discards

- Characteristics of bycatch and discards
- Governance, Institutional and management frameworks
- Management planning
- Data collection, reporting, and assessment
- Research and development
- Technical measures to manage bycatch
- Pre-catch losses and ghost fishing
- Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS)
- Awareness, Communication and Capacity Building measures
International Guidelines on bycatch management and reduction of discards

Promote cooperation

• take into account fishers’ opinions and suggestions on effective bycatch management measures;

• provide clear explanations and communicate regularly with fishers;

• coordinate and strengthen the activities and programmes of fishers’ cooperatives, companies and similar organizations to manage bycatch;

• provide adequate training to fishers in the use and maintenance of technology and practices for bycatch mitigation

• Allow fishers to develop their own solutions, the handling, recovery and release of bycatch species captured alive.

• States and RFMO/As should collate and share best practice methods for monitoring, estimating and managing bycatch
PROGRAME ON GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION IN AREAS BEYOND NATIONAL JURISDICTION (ABNJ)
ABNJ Projects

1. ABNJ Tuna Project
   Sustainable management of tuna fisheries & biodiversity conservation in the ABNJ

2. ABNJ Deep Sea Project
   Sustainable fisheries management and biodiversity conservation of deep-sea ecosystems in the ABNJ

3. Ocean Partnership Fund

4. Strengthening Global Capacity to Effectively Manage ABNJ

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations – for a world without hunger
The Deep Seas Project
## The Deep Seas Project: Partners

### GEF Agencies:
- FAO and UNEP

### Principle partners

**DSF RFMOs and other institutions:**
- **SEAFO**
  South East Atlantic Fisheries Organization
- **NAFO**
  Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization
- **NEAFC**
  North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission
- **GFCM**
  General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean
- **CCAMLR**
  Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources

### Emerging RFMOs:
- SPRFMO, SIOFA, NPRFMO

### Industry:
- **SIODFA**
  Southern Indian Ocean Deepwater Fishers Association
- **ICFA**
  International Coalition of Fisheries Associations

### Other partners:
- **IUCN**
  the International Union for Conservation of Nature
- **CPPS**
  Permanent Commission for the South Pacific
- **Nairobi Convention**

### Funding:
- **US 8 million** from GEF for 5 years (UNEP US 2.6 mill)
- Co-funding approx: **29 mill USD**
The Deep Seas Project:

project components

Enhance sustainability in the use of deep-sea living resources and biodiversity conservation in the ABNJ, through the systematic application of an EA.

Project Components

- Improved policy and legal frameworks
- Reducing adverse impact VMEs and EBSAs
- Improved planning and adaptive management for ABNJ DSF
- Development and testing of a methodology for area-based planning.

Pilot implementation and demonstration

Project monitoring and evaluation

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The Deep Seas Project:

**timeframe**

Next steps

Consultation process

- Finalize PIF and PPG
- GEF Council
- Detailed project formulation
- Programme implementation

Jan-May 2012 | June 2012 | June 2012-2013 | 2013 - 17

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The FAO Deep-sea Programme
The FAO Deep-Sea Programme

**Overarching goal:** ensuring sustainable use of living marine resources and protection of marine biodiversity in the high seas

**Aim:** assist states, specifically developing countries, institutions and RFMO/As, in the implementation the FAO Deep Sea Guidelines and respond to requests in the Guidelines

**Time frame:** already initiated and ongoing, full breadth of activities dependent on incremental funding from external funding sources.
The FAO Deep-Sea Programme

Current and upcoming activities

VME database

- To facilitate:
  - Multi-stakeholder access to data, sharing of information
  - Decision-making and management decisions
  - Partnerships and the creation of a network among the community of users

- Initial Workshop in December 2011
  - Assess data and information needs for management bodies
  - Design a development strategy (data mechanisms and website architecture)
Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems Map Viewer

Select an area: (select an area)...
Select a projection: WGS84
Corner Rise Seamounts

Local name: Corner Rise Seamounts
Typology: Established
Validity period: from 2007 up to 2014
Reference Year: 2011
Geographic reference: Northwest Atlantic
Identifier: VME_NAFO_01

Geographic Description
Coordinates of closure: 35°00'00" N 48°00'00" W, 36°00'00" N 48°00'00" W, 36°00'00" N 52°00'00" W, 35°00'00" N 52°00'00" W.

Geo References

Intersecting areas
The following areas have been found as intersecting the VME area “Corner rise Seamounts”

- FAO major areas: 21: Atlantic, Northwest
The FAO Deep-Sea Programme

Current and upcoming activities

- **Species identification guides**
  - Specific guides for the identification of deepwater species (sharks, corals and sponges)
  - Species ID guides for North Atlantic Sharks, Batoids and Chimaeras

- **Data collection and collaboration with industry**
  - Fishing Vessel Execution of Acoustic Surveys for Assessment of Deep-sea Species
  - Collection of industry data relevant for VME database (respecting confidentiality)
  - Manual on data collection for vulnerable deep-sea species
North Atlantic Sharks, Batoids and Chimaeras Pocket Guides

- A selection of the most important commercial and/or vulnerable species
  - 38 sharks species
  - 33 batoids
  - 3 chimaeras

- Small, user-friendly guide intended to assist fishers, scientific observers at-sea and port inspectors and other practitioners.

- **Main features:**
  - Scientific, FAO and Local names; 3-alpha code.
  - Hand-drawn colour illustration & photo.
  - Description of key morphological characteristics.
  - Similar species occurring in the area.
  - Main habitat, geographic distribution and other bio-ecological information.
  - Fishery regulations by EU and/or RFMOs in 2012.
  - Conservation Status
  - Water-proof

2000 Pocket Guides will be printed and available at the end of September.
Regional Catalogues of Sharks, Batoids and Chimaeras of the North Atlantic

- Addressed to Scientists and the interested public, they include - general introduction, comprehensive description of each family, genus and species, & classification keys.
- Two catalogues:
  - North Atlantic Sharks (84 species accounts)
  - North Atlantic Batoids and Chimaeras (56 batoid species and 8 chimaera)
- Main features: Scientific name and synonyms – FAO and regional vernacular names – Scientific illustrations – Comprehensive taxonomic description – Habitat and bio-ecological information – Geographic distribution map – Utilization and commercial importance – Vulnerability to fishing – Fishery regulations

The catalogues will be available in electronic format at the end of September.
The FAO Deep-Sea Programme

Current and upcoming activities

- Best practices for collaboration between managers/scientists/industry
  - Background documents, guidelines

- Best practices for Encounter protocols and Impact assessments
  - Background documents, guidelines

- Regional workshops on VME data
  - Regional meeting Indian ocean July 2012

- World Wide Review of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas
  - Second edition is now initiated (2007-2010)
Opportunities for NEAFC

To contribute: Lessons learned, best practices

To benefit from, e.g.:

- Scientific collaboration (VME database, networks, regional exchange, etc)
- New tools and improved information on VME criteria, IA, Species ID guides, market incentives for deep-sea fisheries
- Global review processes (e.g., WWR, economic and socio-economic reports)
- Better engagement and collaboration with the general public interested in deep-sea fisheries
شكراً!
谢谢!
Thank you!
Merci!
¡Gracias!
Спасибо!