



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



ABNJ Deep Seas Project







GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

LDAC
25th meeting of LDAC WG 2
Monday 11 November 2019
London, UK



ABNJ Deep Seas Project

1. Improving application of policy and legal frameworks 
2. Reducing adverse impacts on VMEs and components of EBSAs 
3. Improving planning and adaptive management for ABNJ deep-sea fisheries 
4. Development and testing of a methodology for area-based planning 

WCMC

ABNJ Deep Seas Project: partners

Funding:

US\$ 8 million
from GEF for
5 years



Co-funding

estimate US\$ 79 million

Executing Agencies



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Partners



Convention on
Biological Diversity



NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC
FISHERIES COMMISSION
Arrangements for the North-East Atlantic



CCAMLR



A Centre Collaborating with UNEP



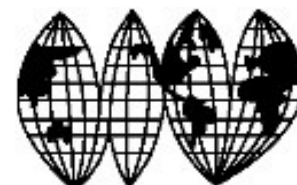
Southern Indian Ocean
Deepsea Fishers Association



Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative



SIOFA | APSOI
Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement
Accord relatif aux Pêches dans le Sud de l'Océan Indien



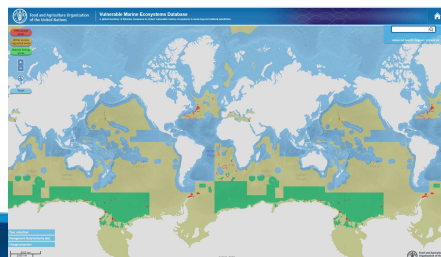
International Coalition
of Fisheries Associations



SPRFMO
South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation

Component 1

- Review of international legal and policy instruments related to deep-sea fisheries and biodiversity conservation in the ABNJ **published.**
- Report on the processes and practices for VMEs in the high seas is **published.**
- Review of orange roughy biology and assessment **published.**
- Report on climate change and deep-sea ecosystems **published.**
- Good progress has been made on the 2nd edition of the Worldwide Review of Bottom Fisheries in the High Seas –**report is going through final edit.**
- Contributions to the VME portal and database – ongoing discussions on maintenance and sustainability



Component 2

- Work related to EBSA processes and identification is **finalized**
- **SIOFA VME Workshop** in March 2019
- Ecosystem Services Valuation report **is being published**
- VME publication on scientific methods and identification of VMEs – **work underway**
- **SMARTFORMS** – collection and recording of biodiversity information

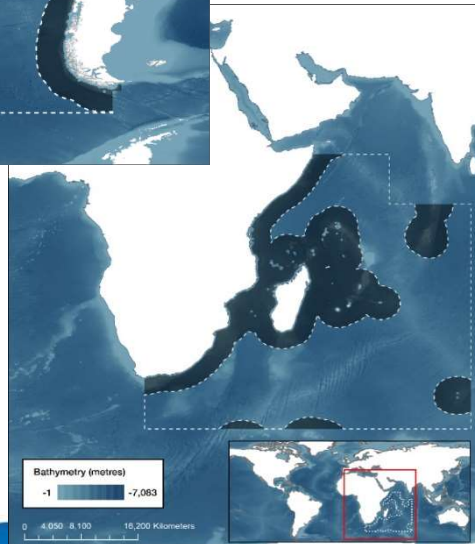
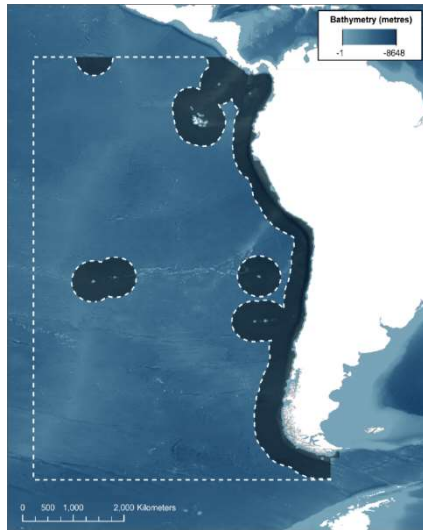


Component 3

- Rights-based management for deep-sea fisheries report and workshop took place in **April 2019**
- Ecosystem approach to fisheries management in deep-sea fisheries report – **is being published**
- Report on MCS practices in deep-sea fisheries **is being published**
- MCS workshop with SEAFO and SIOFA Contracting Parties in **December 2018**
- Feasibility study on the use of Electronic Monitoring Systems for deep sea trawlers



Component 4



Capacity building & knowledge sharing



Data and tools



Governance framework



Review of **case studies** of ABP in ABNJ

Review of applicability of **ABP tools** in ABNJ

Capacity assessment of ABP in ABNJ in pilot regions

Knowledge sharing workshops

Collation of global **ABNJ datasets**

Collation of **Regional datasets** of biodiversity importance

Study of ABNJ/EEZ **connectivity** at global and regional scales

Map of regional scale **cumulative impacts**

Analysis of **Data Sharing Platforms** in two pilot regions

Stocktake review of **institutional arrangements** related to ABNJ ABP in pilot regions



Communications and visibility

BBNJ

Organized and participated in side events, New York, September 2018, March 2019 and August 2019

Global Deep-sea Meeting

A conclusion to the Deep Seas Project, Rome, 7-9 May 2019



New FAO GEF-7 Project



Urgent action is needed to improve management of many ABNJ [fisheries](#) and strengthen protection of related ecosystems. In this way, we can prevent devastating impacts on marine biodiversity, socio-economic well-being and [food security](#) for millions of people directly dependent on those fisheries. [Read more+](#)

<https://www.thegef.org/topics/areas-beyond-national-jurisdiction>

FAO Theory of Change

Meetings in Rome to develop next phase of programme and projects

5-7 December 2018

23-25 April 2019



Draft Theory of Change (FAO)

Immediate programme Outcomes and key elements (enabling environment)

Outcome 1 – Frameworks and processes for more effective governance and management in ABNJ (including fisheries management) strengthened

1. Policy and legal frameworks to support sustainable use of ABNJ resources
2. Government and institutional mandates, roles and responsibilities related to governance of ABNJ
3. Fisheries management processes to enhance responsiveness to uncertainty strengthened
4. Incentives and deterrents to promote compliant behaviour

Outcome 2 - Capacity for better implementation of ecosystem based management in fisheries management in the ABNJ strengthened

1. Capacity to apply EAM to ABNJ
2. Capacity to develop and enforce governance regimes related to ABNJ resources (e.g. addressing IUU fishing)
3. Data collection, compliance monitoring and reporting to support science-based decision making and implementation
4. Management solutions for sustainable use of ABNJ resources

Outcome 3 – Participation in multi-sectoral coordination for more effective governance and management of ABNJ improved

1. Mechanisms, tools and resources to improve coordination between sectors and stakeholders with interests in ABNJ
2. Awareness and understanding of the role of all sectors in the sustainable use of ABNJ

Outcome 4 – Knowledge and information exchange for more informed decision-making among stakeholders to support sustainable utilization of ABNJ improved

1. Technical/scientific information on ABNJ issues
2. Information exchange mechanisms to support decision-making and awareness-raising
3. Information on ABNJ issues available to inform choices of decision-makers and civil society

Medium-term Outcomes (changes in systems and behaviour)

Effective **compliance and enforcement of fisheries regulations** by RFMO member states

Widespread **adoption of best practices for sustainable management of ABNJ resources** including consideration of impacts on the ecosystem and adaptation to climate change

Comprehensive, well-informed BBNJ process underway with coordinating mechanisms among sectoral users (including links to LMEs and RSOs) to achieve ecosystem goals in the ABNJ

Increased market and political pressure for sustainably sourced ABNJ products with greater transparency and traceability, reducing presence of IUU products in the markets

Increased **public and private sector support and investment** for sustainable management of ABNJ

Effective and sustainable cross-sectoral **governance** of natural resources in ABNJ

Adaptive, coordinated, **sustainable management** of ABNJ resources following Ecosystem Approach

Sustainable/optimal use of ABNJ resources and strengthened biodiversity conservation in face of a changing environment

Intermediate states (improved environmental + social conditions)

Environmental (GEB)

Reduced/minimized negative impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services in ABNJ (e.g. reduced bycatch)
Improved conservation status of key ABNJ species/ habitats

Socio-economic

Improved livelihoods, food security for communities dependent on ABNJ resources
Improved working conditions and gender opportunities in ABNJ
Reduced vulnerability/improved resilience of communities reliant on ABNJ resources to CC impacts
Equitable and managed access and benefit sharing of ABNJ resources including marine genetic resources

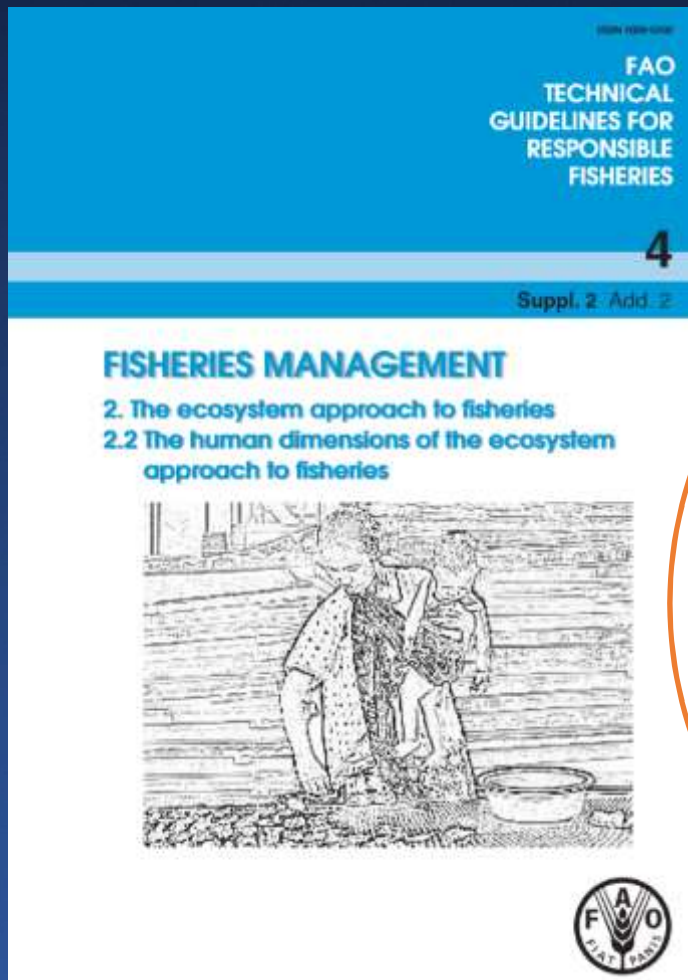
Long-term impacts

Healthy ecosystem structure, function and processes in ABNJ improved and maintained
Sustainable supply of ecosystem goods and services from ABNJ with long-term socio-economic benefits (both use and non-use values) to human populations (link with Blue Growth?)

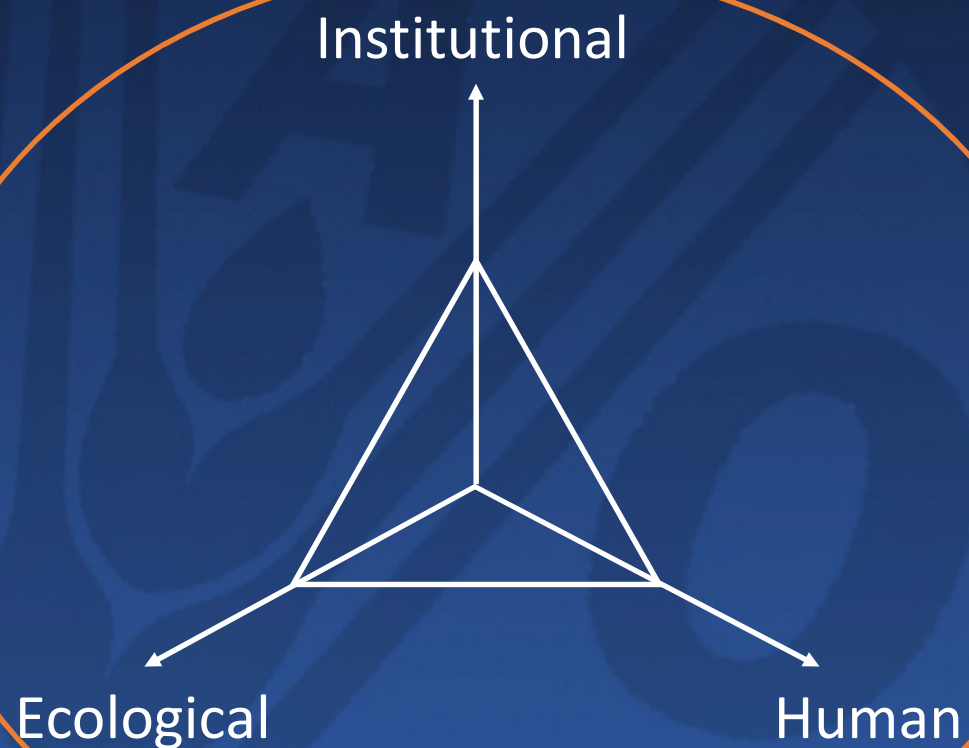
Components

1	2	3	4
Frameworks and processes for more effective governance and management in ABNJ (including fisheries management) strengthened	Capacity for better implementation of the ecosystem approach to fisheries in the ABNJ strengthened	Participation in multi-sectoral coordination for more effective governance and management of ABNJ improved	Knowledge and information exchange for more informed decision-making among stakeholders to support sustainable utilization of ABNJ improved
Fisheries: legal, institutional, management, IUU	Fisheries: scientific advice, monitoring, Impact assessments, ABMT	Multi-sectoral: cooperation, spatial planning	Fisheries: knowledge sharing transparency

Integrating EAF structure on outcome matrix



The 3 EAF pillars



Activity matrix

Components	1 Frameworks and processes for more effective governance and management in ABNJ (including fisheries management) strengthened	2 Capacity for better implementation of ecosystem based management in fisheries management in the ABNJ strengthened	3 Participation in multi-sectoral coordination for more effective governance and management of ABNJ improved	4 Knowledge and information exchange for more informed decision-making among stakeholders to support sustainable utilization of ABNJ improved
Work area	Fisheries: legal, institutional, management, IUU	Fisheries: scientific advice, monitoring, Impacts, ABMT	Multi-sectoral: cooperation, spatial planning	Fisheries: knowledge sharing transparency
Themes				
Ecosystem approach				
Institutional component	?	?	?	?
Human component	?	?	?	?
Ecological component				
Ecosystem structure and functioning	?	?	?	?
Commercial fish stocks	?	?	?	?
Associated and dependent species	?	?	?	?

Time line

Dec 2019	Development of PFD (partners, main activities, contributions)
April 2020	PFD lite reviewed by GEF
Dec 2020	Project document completed
2021	Project starts (5 years)

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THANK YOU