

**COMMON
OCEANS
PROGRAM**



PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND BIODIVERSITY
IN THE OCEAN AREAS BEYOND NATIONAL JURISDICTION

Deep-sea fisheries project



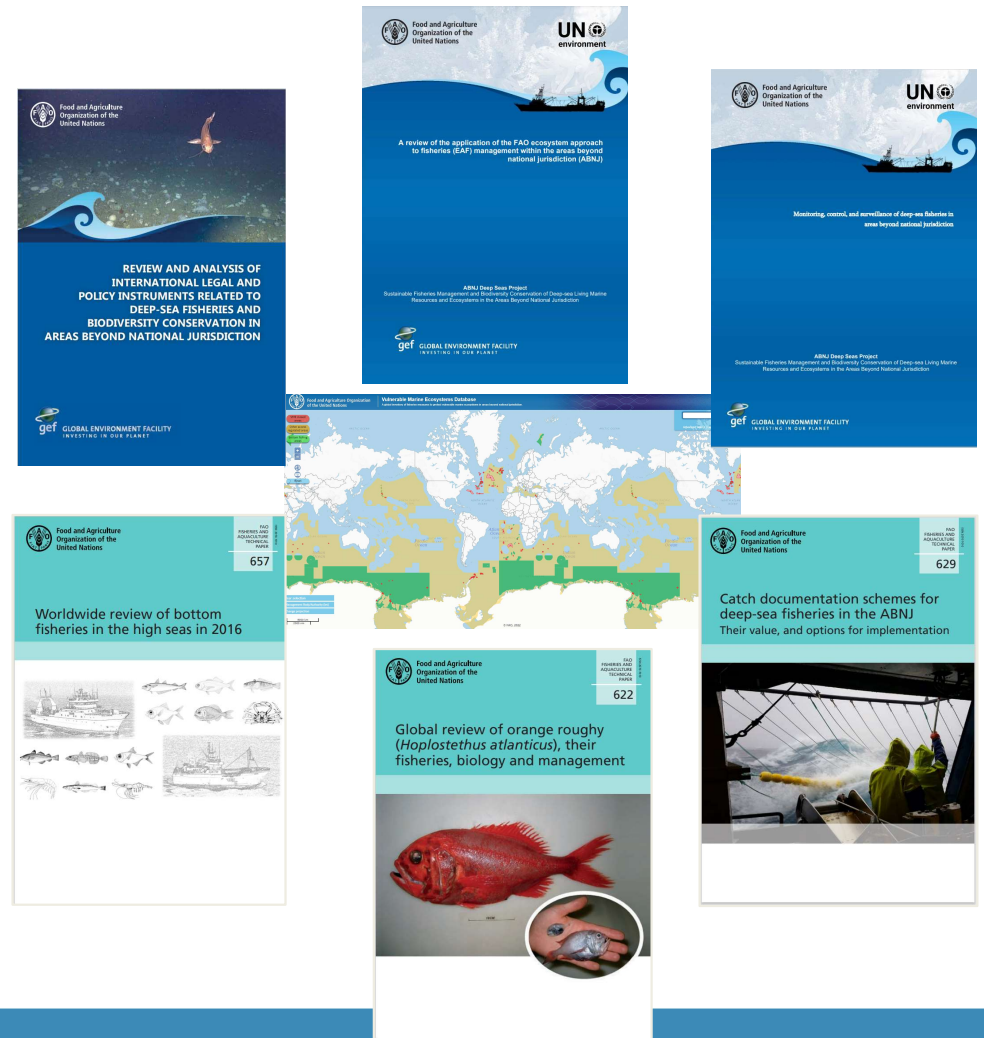
Deep-sea fisheries

- Deep-sea fisheries challenging to manage due to biological characteristics
- Small fraction of catches, but often highly valuable
- Limited information and knowledge available
- FAO DSF Guidelines outline international measures to be implemented



Phase I: 2014-2019

First phase of project contributed to better fisheries management and protection of ABNJ ecosystems



Implementing Agency

FAO

Executing Agency

GFCM

Partners

RFMOs

GFCM, NAFO, NEAFC, NPFC,
SEAFO, SIOFA, SPRFMO

Government

NOAA

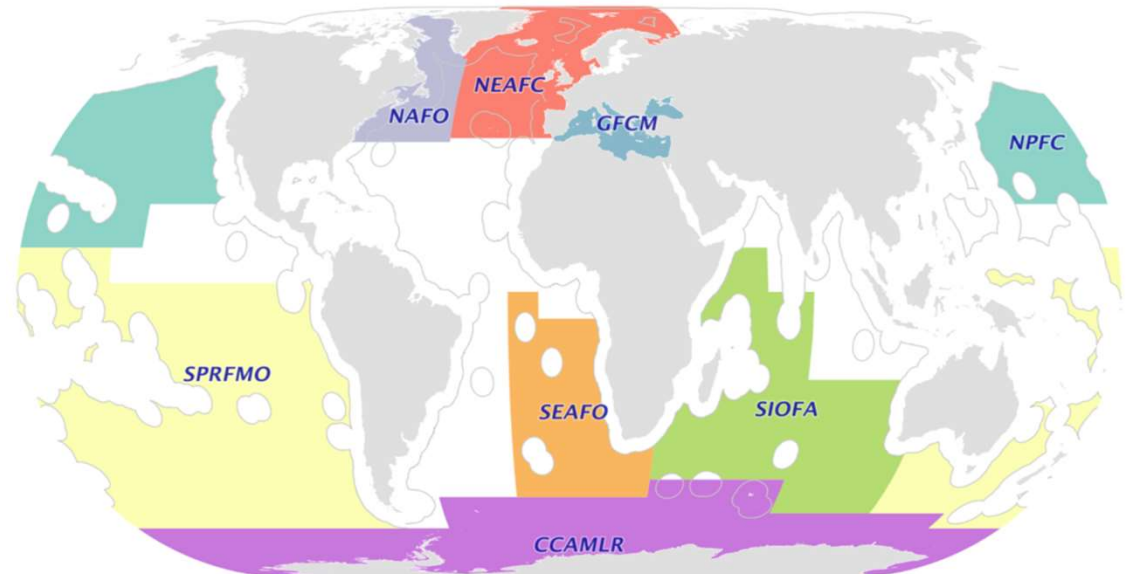
Science advisory body

ICES

Private sector

SIODFA, ICFA

Phase II: 2022-2027



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR)
General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM)
Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)
North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC)
North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC)
South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO)
South Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA)
South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO)

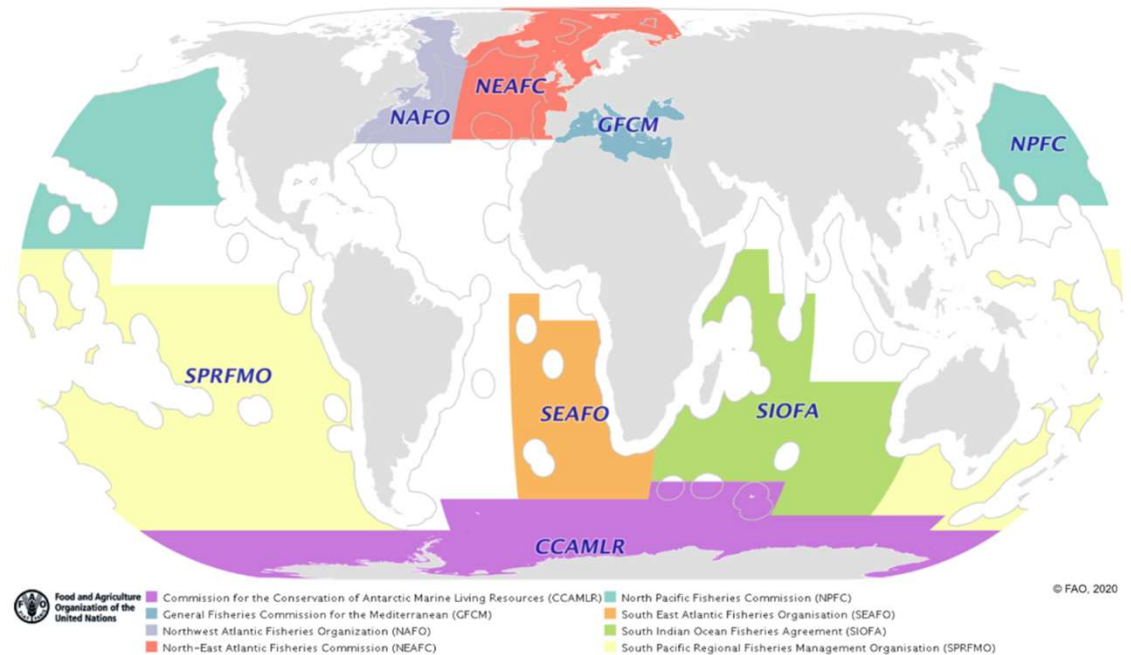
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Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFBs) with the competence to manage small pelagic and deep sea fisheries

Source: FAO Fisheries Division

Project Objective

DSF in the ABNJ are managed **under an ecosystem approach**, with stocks at levels capable of maximizing sustainable yields and minimizing impacts on biodiversity, **with a focus on data-limited stocks, deepwater sharks and vulnerable marine ecosystems**



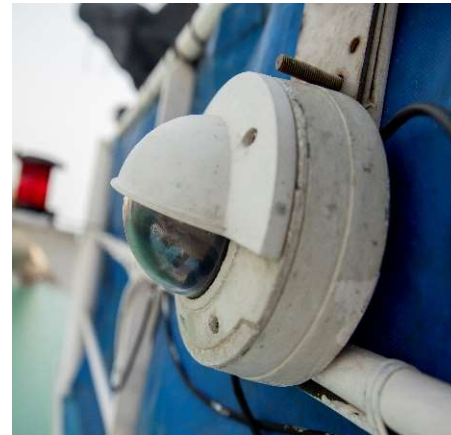
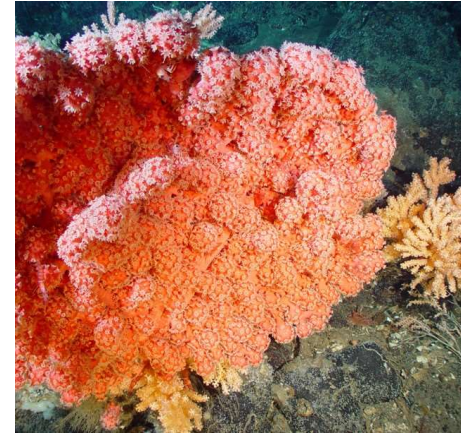
Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFBs) with the competence to manage small pelagic and deep sea fisheries

Source: FAO Fisheries Division

Four key components of work

1. Strengthen and implement regulatory frameworks

- ✓ Strengthen RFMO measures & procedures on fisheries management and compliance
- ✓ E-learning /self-assessment course on DSF management
- ✓ Training /capacity development




Activities of possible interest to the LDAC 2024-2025


Coming soon!

E-learning course on DSF and their management


1 Introduction to deep-sea fisheries
Deep-sea fisheries (DSF) occur in all oceans and are considered highly valuable fisheries. They occur in both areas under national jurisdiction and in areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ). Those in the ABNJ are managed cooperatively through Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs).
This lesson describes the biological characteristics of DSF, as well as the status of DSF stocks and challenges with their management.




2 International Obligations and Responsibilities for the Management of Deep-Sea Fisheries
There are numerous international legally binding and non-binding instruments, including regional treaties and conventions that relate to the management of marine species in the deep-sea areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ).
Some of these instruments are concerned with the regulation of fishing, whereas others, not directly addressed to fishing, may have implications for States when regulating the impacts of fishing operations on relevant marine species and ecosystems.
This lesson presents an overview of the most relevant international obligations and responsibilities establishing the legal framework for the management of deep-sea fisheries (DSF).




3 Roles of RFMOs in DSF management
Regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs) are created by States to jointly manage fisheries in the ABNJ.
This lesson provides an overview of the process through which RFMOs are created, their structure and function, and their role in the sustainable management of deep-sea fisheries (DSF).



4 Role of States in DSF management - National legal and policy considerations
Lesson overview
Lesson 1 introduced deep-sea fisheries (DSF) and their particular characteristics and management requirements. Lesson 2 provided an overview of the international instruments that set out the obligations and responsibilities for the management of DSF. Lesson 3 explained the role of Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) in the management of DSF in the areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ), including their role in adopting binding conservation and management measures (CMMs).
This lesson outlines the key measures States should incorporate into their national policies and laws to manage DSF effectively and describes the process through which this should be done.



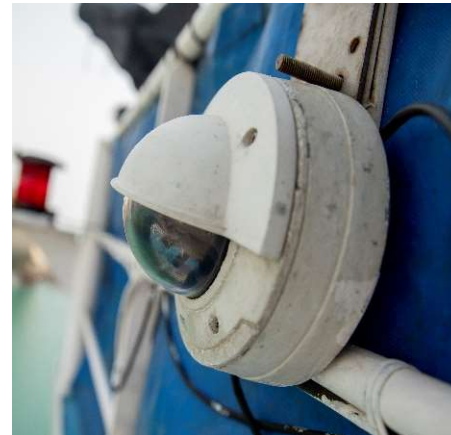
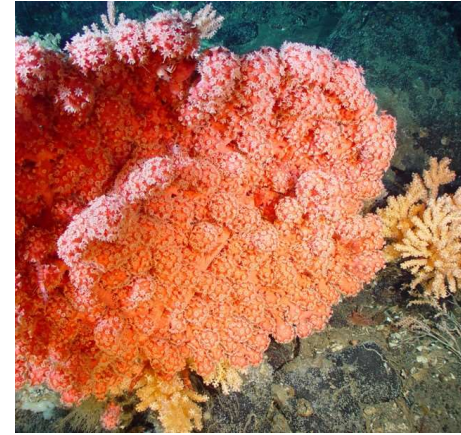
5 Role of States in DSF management - MCS and enforcement
Lesson overview
Monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) activities, such as boarding and inspection regimes, port State control regimes and observer programmes are integral components of fisheries management. Enforcement is necessary to support MCS and ensure compliance with legislation.
This lesson explores how MCS can help achieve the objective of long-term conservation and sustainable use of deep-sea fisheries (DSF), including biodiversity protection. It also details the steps necessary to establish and implement an enforcement regime.



Four key components of work

2. Strengthen effective management of deep-sea fisheries

- ✓ Support RFMOs to implement EAF & PA
- ✓ Establish data collection frameworks for data-poor species and deepwater sharks
- ✓ Explore innovative technologies for data collection
- ✓ Improve industry input into RFMO technical discussions
- ✓ Mapping of bottom fisheries by gear & impact on VMEs



Activities of possible interest to the LDAC 2024-2025

Explore and trial innovative technologies for monitoring and reporting

- Support reporting on deepwater sharks
- Identification of VMEs



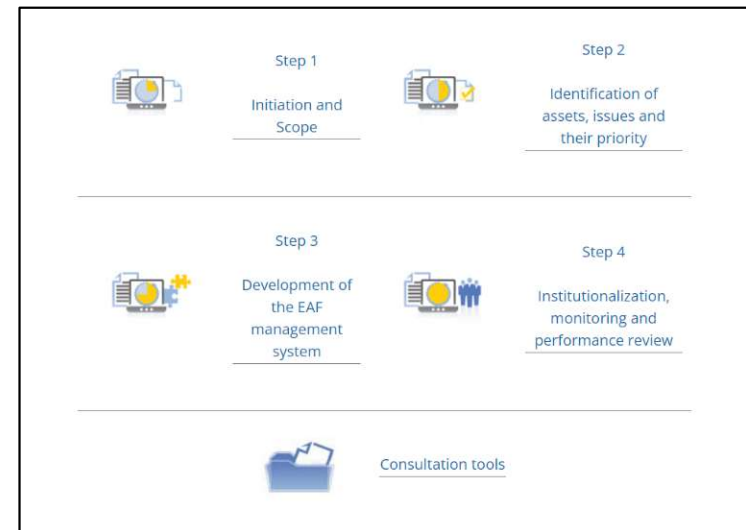
Join our DSF
technical group!



Activities of possible interest to the LDAC 2024-2025

EAF Symposium Q1 2025

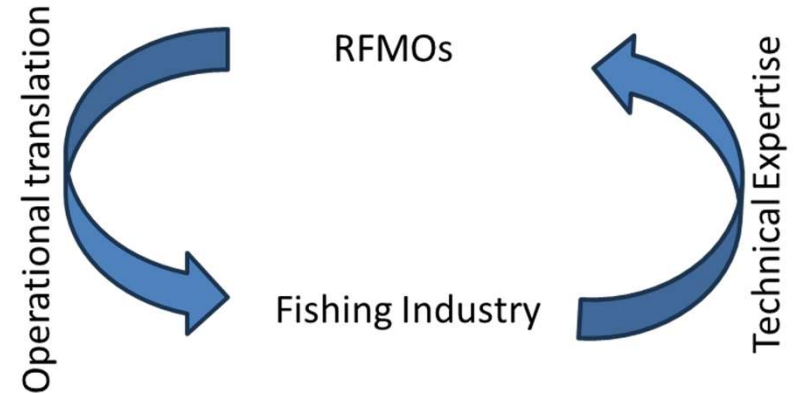
- Sponsored by NAFO & possibly ICES
- Day 1 – Scientific approaches to EAF
- Day 2 – Management approaches to EAF
- Day 3 – Development of a roadmap for the implementation of EAF in RFMOs



Activities of possible interest to the LDAC 2024-2025

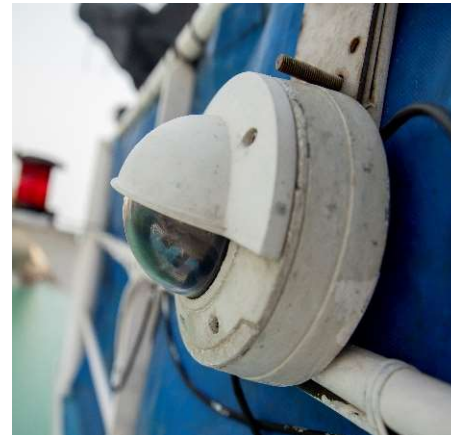
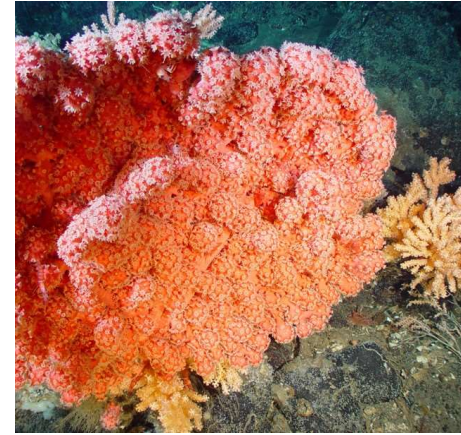
Workshop with industry stakeholders:

- Recognize the important technical and operational expertise held in the fishing industry
- Create a forum for knowledge sharing and information exchange
- Explore mechanisms through which industry knowledge could be better incorporated into RFMO discussions and CMMs



Four key components of work

3. Improve understanding and management of cross-sectoral interactions with deep-sea fisheries
 - ✓ Explore interactions between deep-sea fisheries and other sectors
 - ✓ Explore frameworks for coordination to manage/mitigate cross-sectoral interactions with DSF



Four key components of work

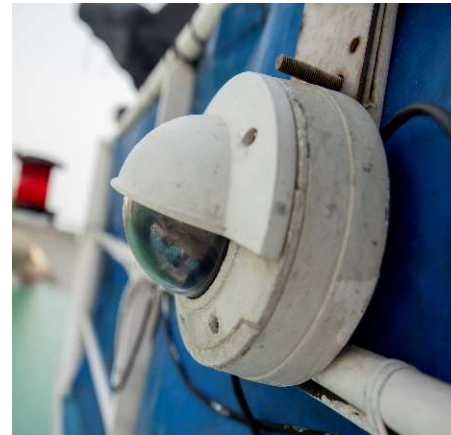
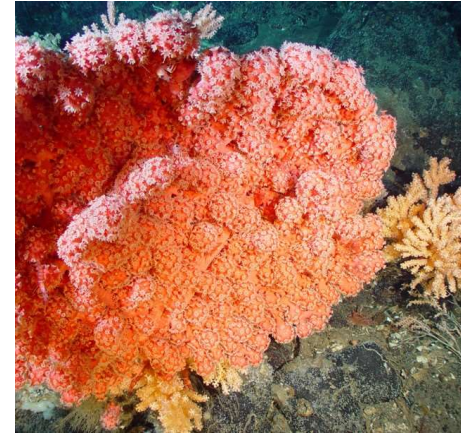
4. Knowledge management and communication

- ✓ Share knowledge & experiences with a wide audience

Join our DSF
technical group!



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Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



IN COLLABORATION WITH:



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission



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