Deep-sea fisheries project
Deep-sea fisheries

- Challenging to manage due to biological characteristics & impact on seafloor
- Small fraction of catches, but some highly valuable
- Limited information and knowledge available
- FAO DSF Guidelines outline international measures to be implemented
COMMON OCEANS | Deep-sea fisheries project

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
**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.

**Areas of work**

- Strengthen and implement regulatory frameworks
- Improve deep-sea fisheries management
- Reduce environmental impacts

**Timeframe**

2022–2027
COMMON OCEANS | Deep-sea fisheries project

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>11:05 - 11:15</td>
<td>Introduction of the DSF Project and presentation of the DSF e-learning course</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15 - 11:30</td>
<td>Overview of the FAO e-learning Academy and certification system</td>
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**E-LEARNING COURSE:**
Strengthening deep-sea fisheries management in areas beyond national jurisdiction

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<tr>
<td>11:30 - 11:45</td>
<td>Presentation of the Review of the implementation of the International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Sea</td>
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<td>11:45 - 12:05</td>
<td>Successes and challenges in the implementation of the DSF Guidelines</td>
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**REVIEW OF IMPL. OF DSF GUIDELINES:**
Review of the implementation of the International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas
Course Overview

- provides introductory level knowledge necessary to sustainably manage deep-sea fisheries (DSF) in areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ)
- 5 Lessons
- 2 h 15 m of learning
- relevant for fisheries experts, policy makers, parliamentarians, fishing operators and those working within the fisheries sector
Lesson 1 - Introduction to deep-sea fisheries

- Biological characteristics and habitat
- Status of stocks
- Challenges associated with management of DSF
Lesson 2 - International obligations and responsibilities for the management of DSF

- Overview of international fisheries instruments related to the management of DSF
- Overview of global environmental instruments relevant to DSF

Lesson overview

There are numerous international legally-binding and non-binding instruments, including regional treaties, conventions and guidelines, that relate to the management of marine species in deep-sea areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ).

Some of these instruments are concerned with the regulation of fishing. 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 for establishing the legal framework for the management of deep-sea fisheries (DSF).
Lesson 3 – Regional approach to fisheries management

• Role of regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs) and how they are established

• Structure of RFMOs and the role of the different RFMO Committees

• Roles of RFMO Contracting Parties, cooperating non-contracting parties and observers

• Example of an advice-decision process
Lesson 4 – Role of States in DSF management – national policy and legal considerations

- Key measures to include in national policy and legal framework for the sustainable management of DSF
- Steps necessary to establish effective policy and legal frameworks at national level
Lesson 5 – Role of States in DSF management – MCS and enforcement

- Key national monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) and enforcement measures
- Steps required to implement MCS and enforcement measures for DSF at national level
The Common Oceans Deep-sea fisheries project brings together a global partnership dedicated to advance responsible deep-sea fisheries management and biodiversity conservation in areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ). Funded by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), led by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and executed by the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM), it works in collaboration with the seven deep-sea RFMOs, private sector, national and international organizations.