

**COMMON
OCEANS
PROGRAM**



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

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



Implementing Agency

FAO

Executing Agency

GFCM

Partners

RFMOs

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

Government

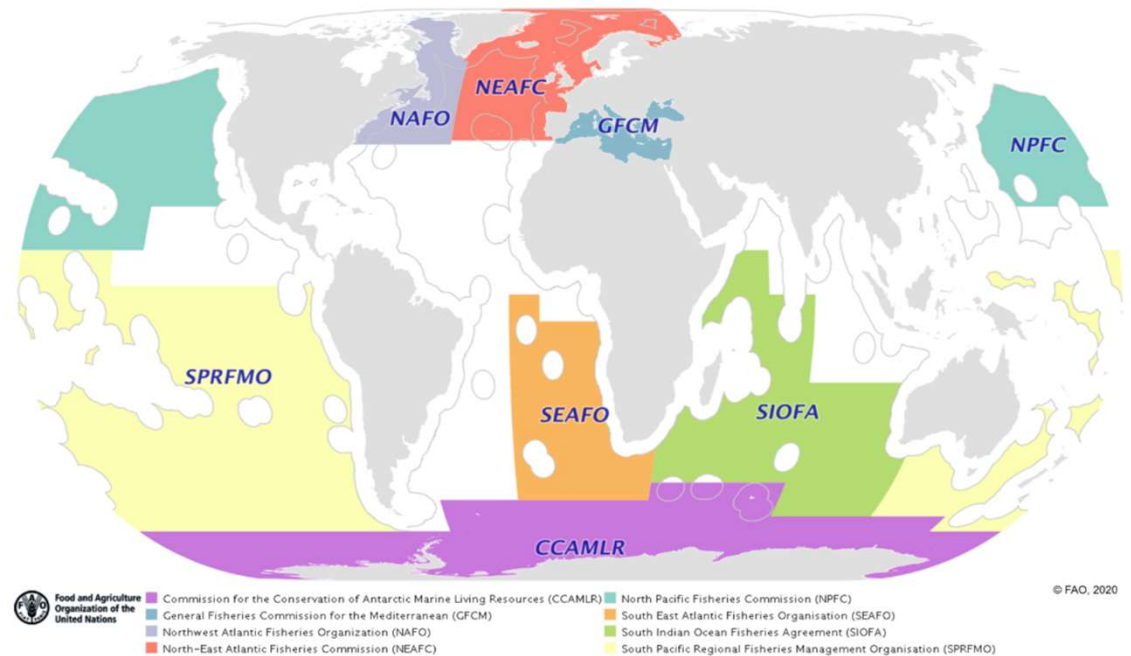
NOAA

Science advisory body

ICES

Private sector

SIODFA, ICFA



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

Source: FAO Fisheries Division

Timeframe

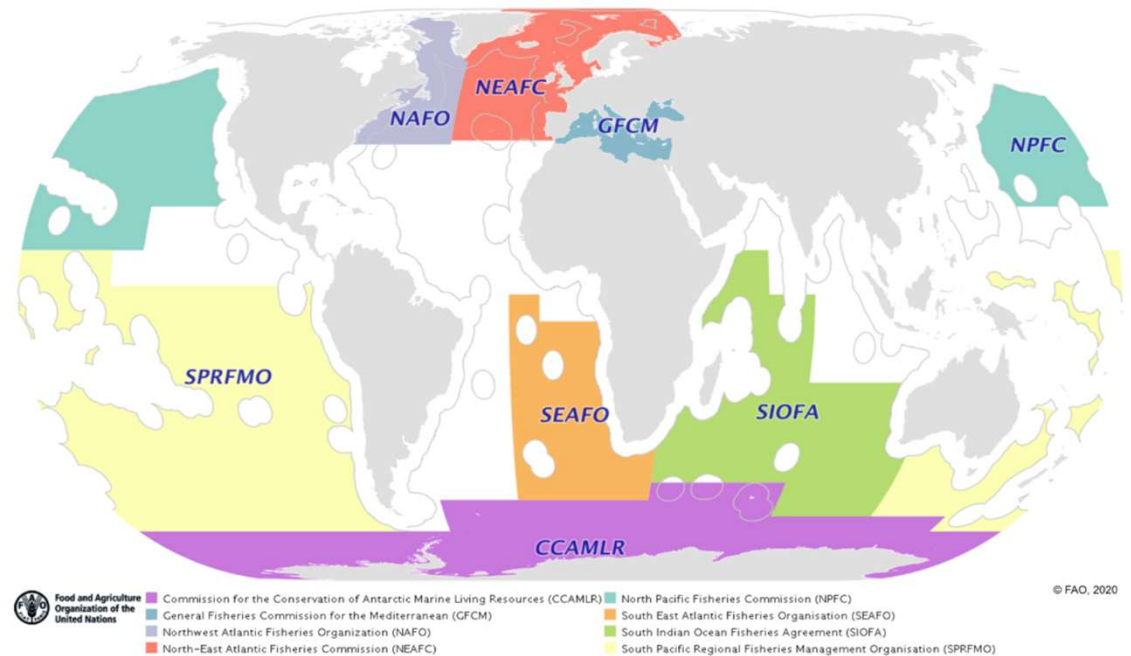
2022-2027

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



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

Source: FAO Fisheries Division

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11:05 - 11:15	Introduction of the DSF Project and presentation of the DSF e-learning course
11:15 - 11:30	Overview of the FAO e-learning Academy and certification system



E-LEARNING COURSE:
Strengthening deep-sea fisheries management in areas beyond national jurisdiction

11:30 - 11:45	Presentation of the Review of the implementation of the International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Sea
11:45 - 12:05	Successes and challenges in the implementation of the DSF Guidelines

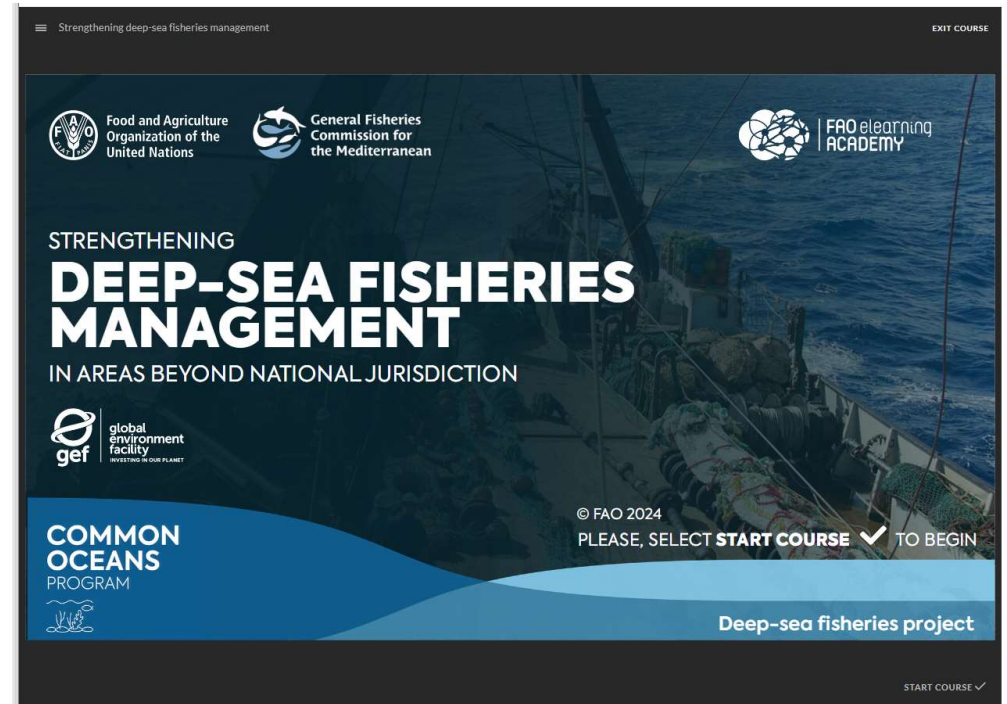


REVIEW OF IMPL. OF DSF GUIDELINES:
Review of the implementation of the International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas

The screenshot displays the course interface. At the top, it says "Strengthening deep-sea fisheries management" and "EXIT COURSE". Logos for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean, and FAO e-learning ACADEMY are visible. The main title is "STRENGTHENING DEEP-SEA FISHERIES MANAGEMENT IN AREAS BEYOND NATIONAL JURISDICTION". Below this, there are logos for the global environment facility (gef) and COMMON OCEANS PROGRAM. A technical paper titled "Review of the implementation of the International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas" is highlighted, with a page number of 703. A "START COURSE" button is visible at the bottom right.

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

1 Introduction to deep-sea fisheries
Lesson overview

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 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 in ABNJ.

 25 minutes



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


2 International obligations and responsibilities for the management of deep-sea fisheries
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).

 30 minutes



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

3 Regional approach to fisheries management
Lesson overview

Regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs) are created by states to jointly manage fisheries in areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ).

This lesson provides an overview of the process through which RFMOs are created, and describes their structure and function, as well as their role in the sustainable management of deep-sea fisheries (DSF).

 25 minutes



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


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 areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ), including their role in adopting binding conservation and management measures (CMMs).

This lesson outlines the key measures that States should incorporate into their national policies and laws in order to manage deep-sea fisheries effectively, and describes the process through which this should be done.

A hand holding a large, spotted deep-sea fish in a warehouse setting.

 30 minutes

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

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 to 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.

 25 minutes



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Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



General Fisheries
Commission for
the Mediterranean



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.

IN COLLABORATION WITH:



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