



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



FAO eLearning  
ACADEMY

# Introduction to MPs/MSE, the Global Policy Landscape, & the new eLearning Course

COMMON  
OCEANS  
PROGRAM



global  
environment  
facility  
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

THE OCEAN  
FOUNDATION



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Project Director  
International Fisheries Conservation



# What are Management Procedures (MPs)?

- ▶ Also referred to as **harvest strategies**
- ▶ **Pre-agreed frameworks** for making management decisions
- ▶ Management strategy evaluation (**MSE**) is tool used to develop an MP that will meet objectives across uncertainties

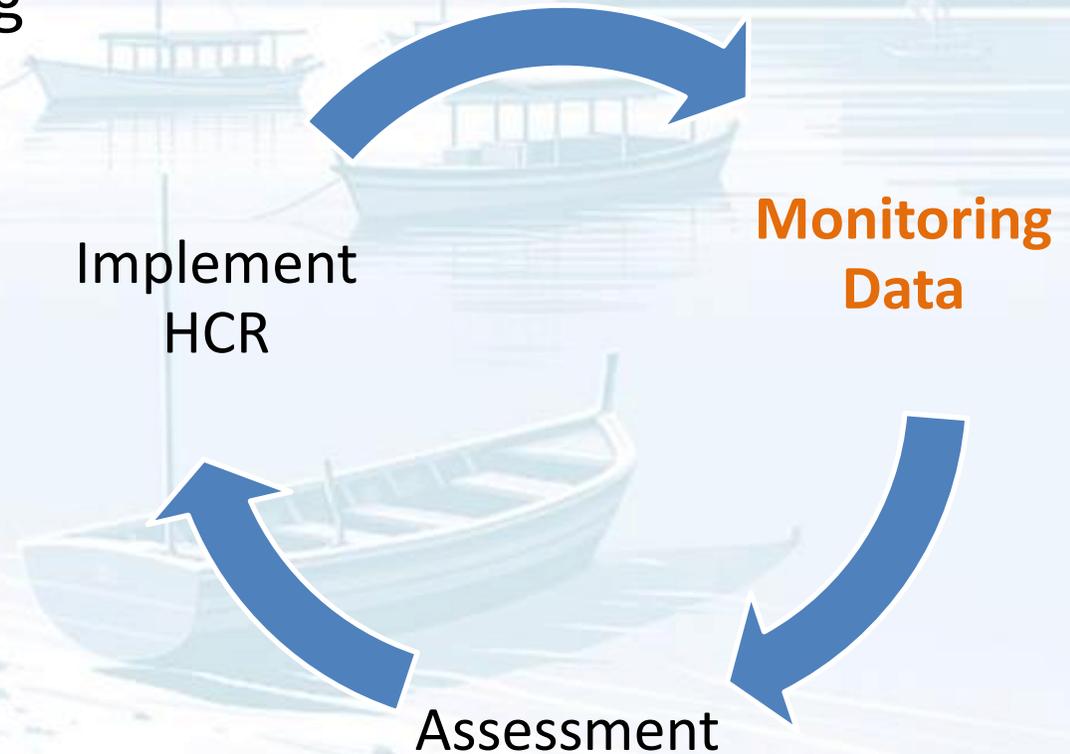
YOU  
CAN'T  
PLAY  
THE  
GAME  
IF YOU  
DON'T  
KNOW  
THE  
RULES





## 3 core components of Management Procedures

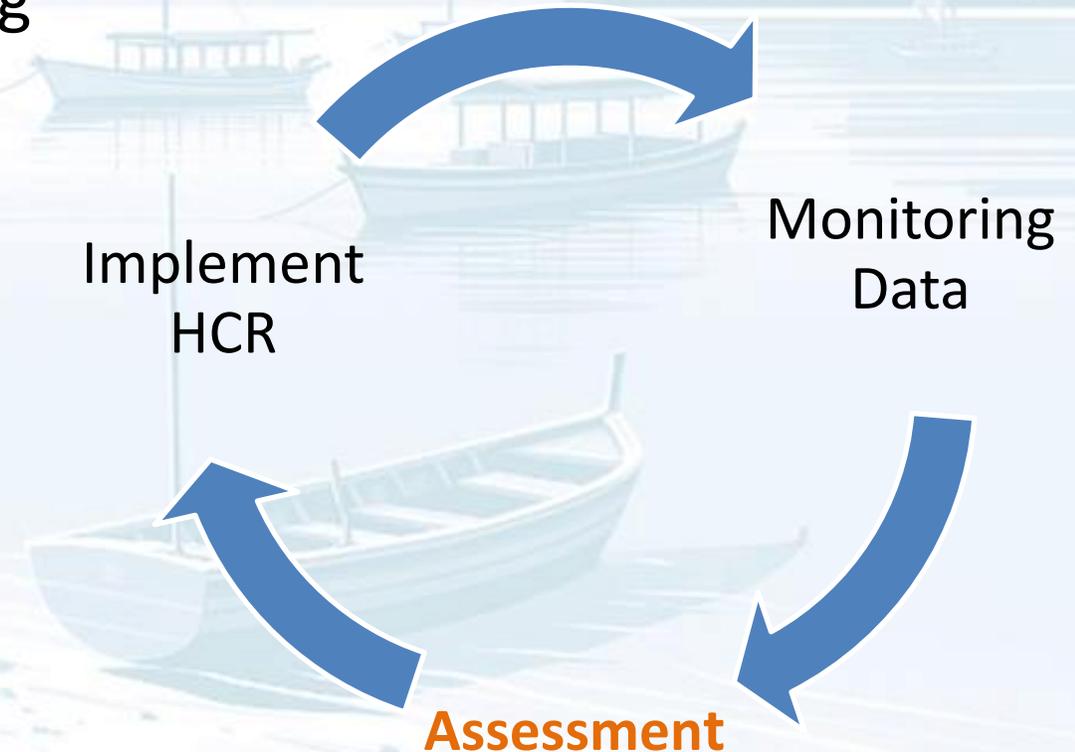
- ▶ A **data collection program** to gather the needed fishery and ecological monitoring information





## 3 core components of Management Procedures

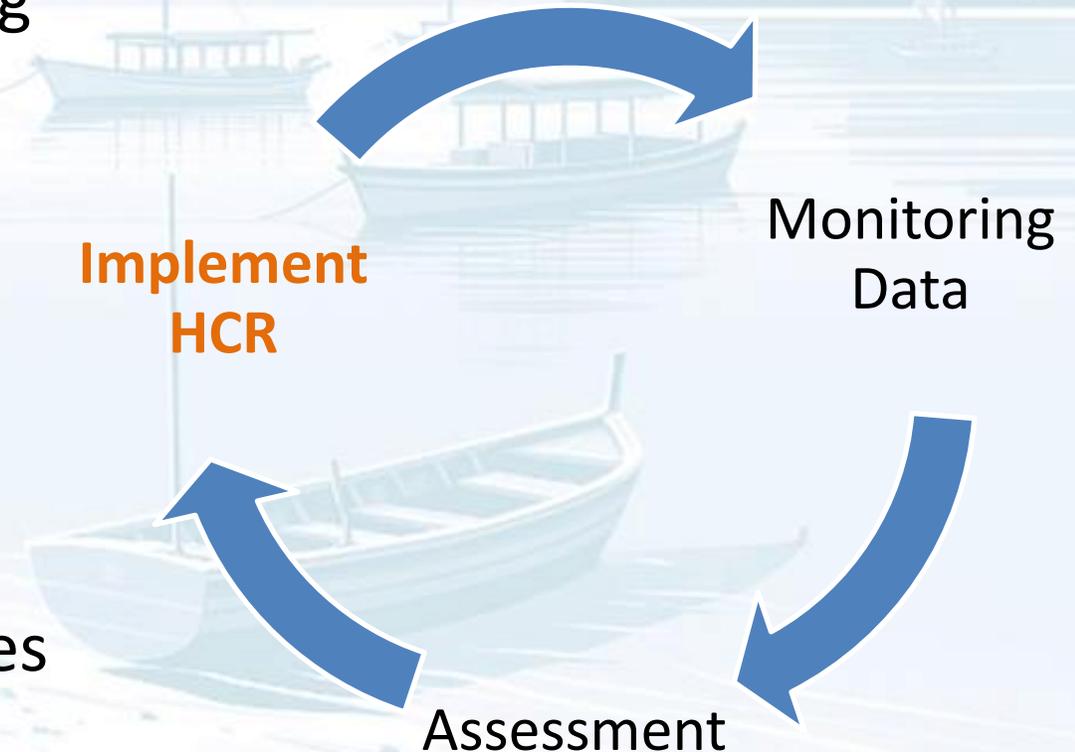
- ▶ A **data collection program** to gather the needed fishery and ecological monitoring information
- ▶ A method to process those data to **estimate stock status indicators**





## 3 core components of Management Procedures

- ▶ A **data collection program** to gather the needed fishery and ecological monitoring information
- ▶ A method to process those data to **estimate stock status indicators**
- ▶ A **harvest control rule (HCR)**, the pre-agreed rule that sets fishing opportunities based on the estimated stock status



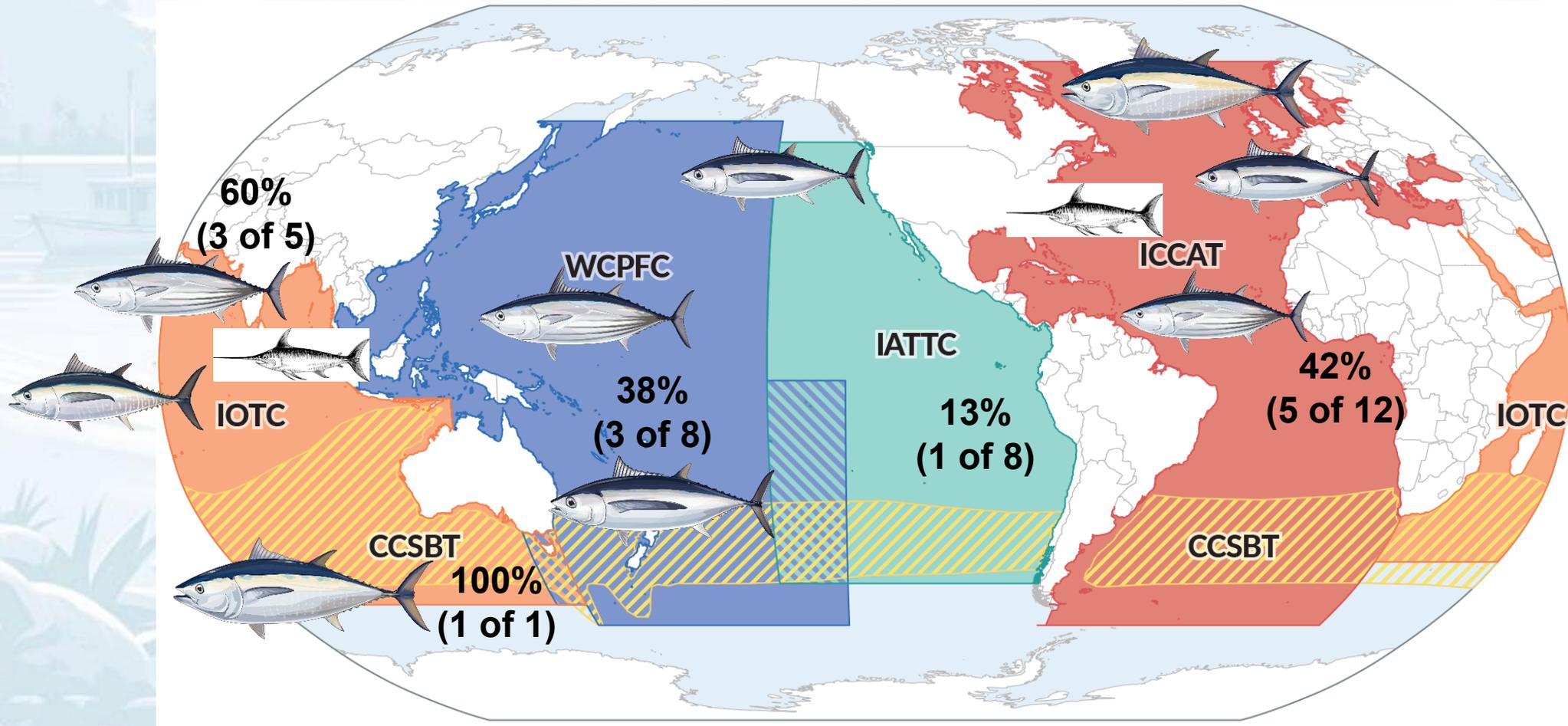


# Benefits of Management Procedures

- ▶ Increase **transparency, predictability, and market stability**
- ▶ Account for **natural variability** and **scientific uncertainty**
- ▶ **Manage risk** and **balance tradeoffs** in objectives
- ▶ **Avoid** costly and highly politicized negotiations
- ▶ **Clarify** scientific advice
- ▶ Facilitate **swift, efficient management** to ensure **resource health** and **industry profitability**
- ▶ Appropriate for data-rich and **data-limited** fisheries
- ▶ Effectively implement the **precautionary approach** (UNFSA, MSC)



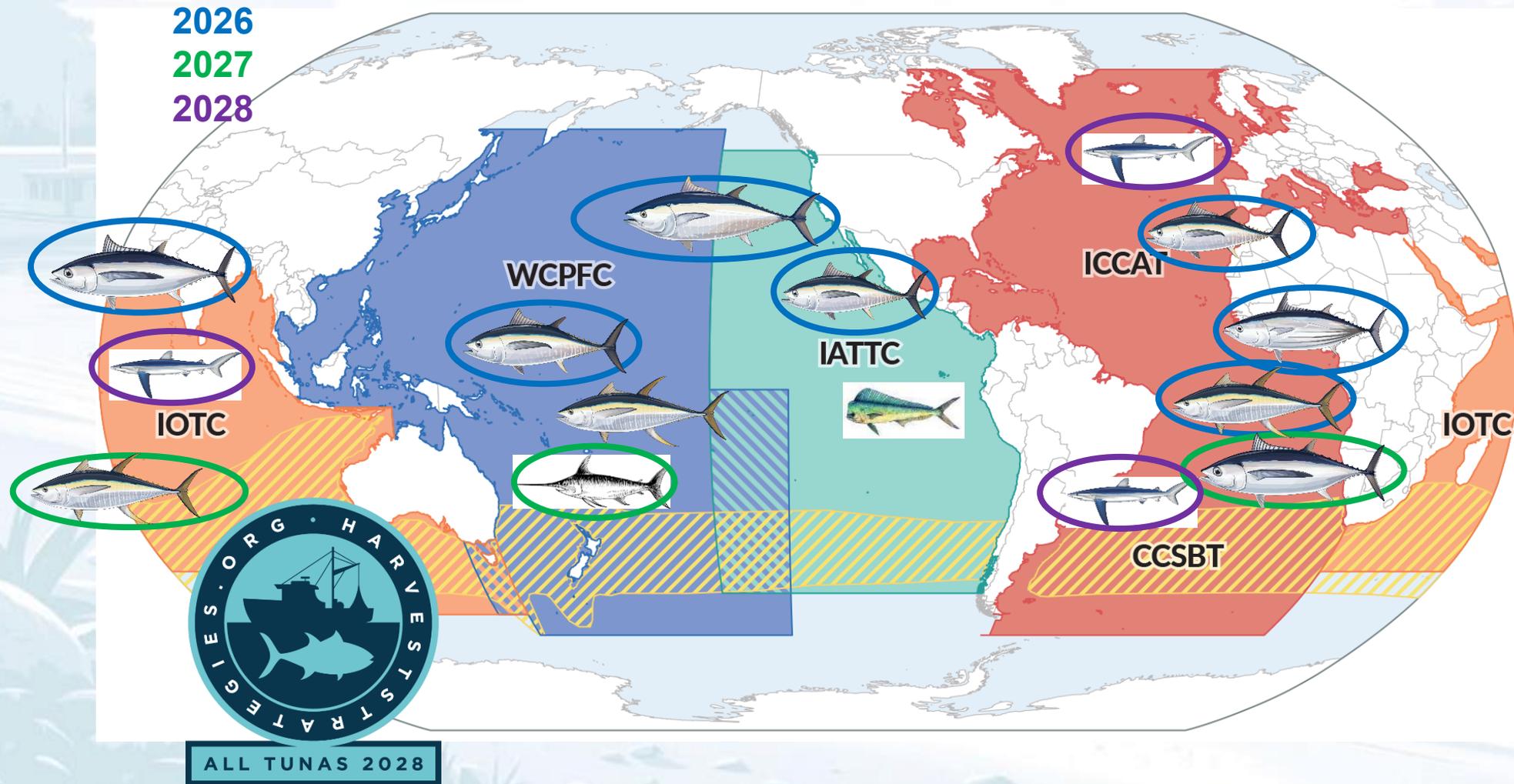
# MPs @ the tRFMOs: In place



**54% of tuna landings!**

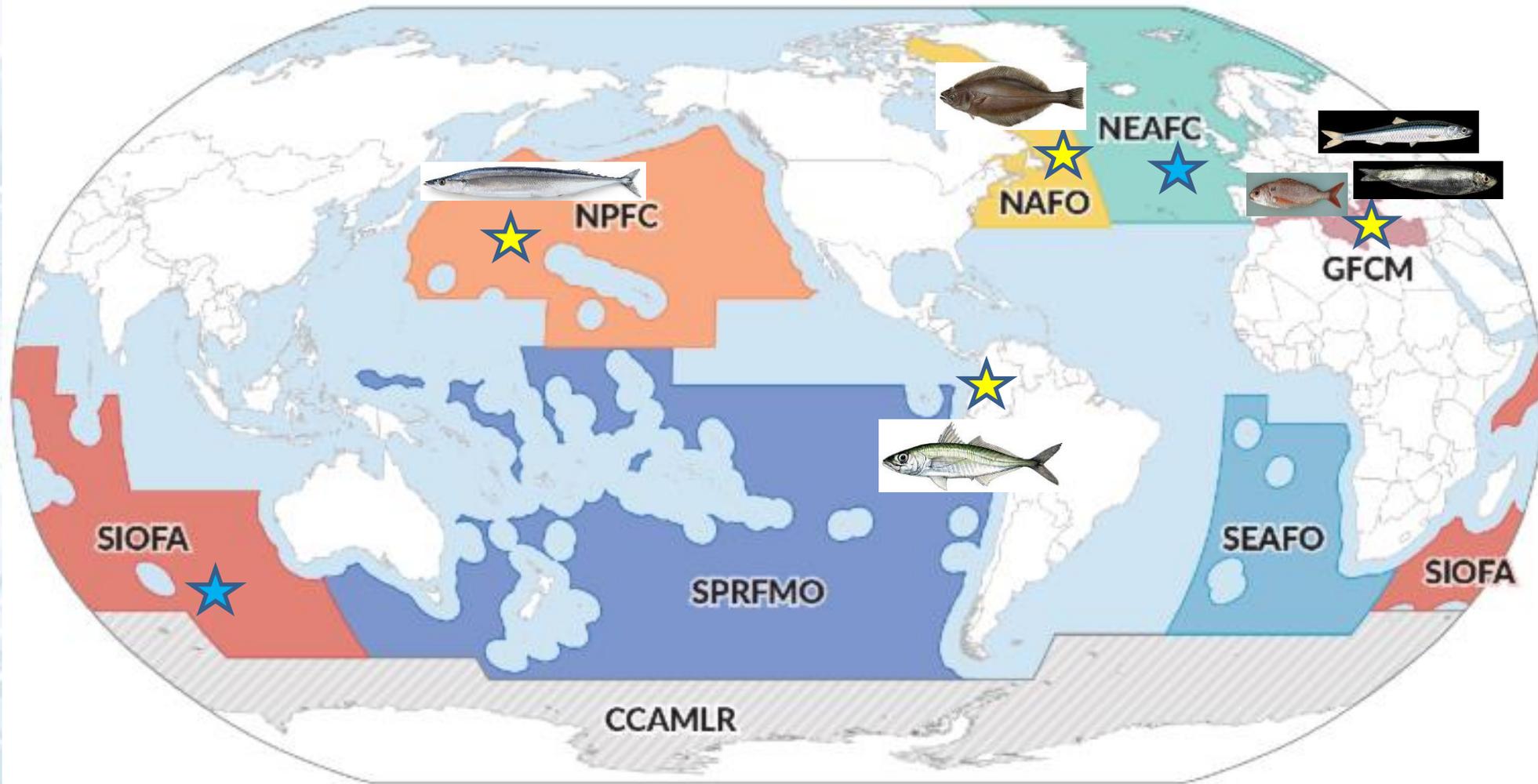


# MPs @ the tRFMOs: In development





# MPs @ the General RFMOs: In place





# E-learning series overview

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations THE OCEAN FOUNDATION FAO E-LEARNING ACADEMY

MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES FOR SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES  
**INTRODUCTION**

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COMMON OCEANS PROGRAM

Tuna project

This cover features a school of tuna swimming in clear blue water. The design includes logos for the FAO, The Ocean Foundation, and the FAO E-Learning Academy at the top. The bottom section has a teal wave graphic.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations THE OCEAN FOUNDATION FAO E-LEARNING ACADEMY

MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES FOR SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES  
**SETTING THE VISION**

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Tuna project

This cover shows a large fish swimming over a vibrant coral reef. It includes the same logos as the 'Introduction' cover and a teal wave graphic at the bottom.

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MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES FOR SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES  
**MANAGEMENT STRATEGY EVALUATION**

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COMMON OCEANS PROGRAM

Tuna project

This cover depicts a group of people on a boat in the ocean. The layout is consistent with the other covers, featuring logos at the top and a teal wave graphic at the bottom.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations THE OCEAN FOUNDATION FAO E-LEARNING ACADEMY

MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES FOR SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES  
**TRAINING ADVENTURE**

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© FAO 2025 PLEASE, SELECT **START COURSE** ✓ TO BEGIN

COMMON OCEANS PROGRAM

Tuna project

This cover features a 3D illustration of a man in a brown suit pointing. The background shows a boat and a fish. It includes logos at the top and a teal wave graphic at the bottom.

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MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES FOR SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES  
**LESSONS LEARNED**

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COMMON OCEANS PROGRAM

Tuna project

This cover shows a person in a hat looking through a telescope. The background is a blue sky with clouds. It includes logos at the top and a teal wave graphic at the bottom.

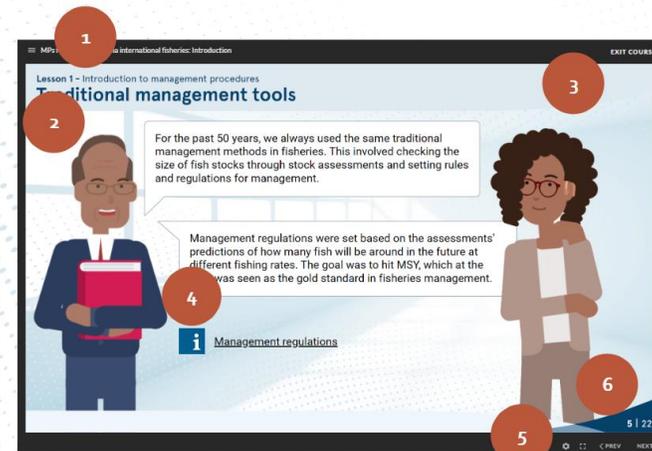


# Course features

About this course

## Course tutorial

Before you start, select the numbers from 1 to 6 for some tips on using the course features and navigation elements.



→ Select each number to learn more about course features and navigation.

### Do you need support?

For questions about the topics covered in this course:

[Common-Oceans@fao.org](mailto:Common-Oceans@fao.org)

For technical support:

[elearning-support@fao.org](mailto:elearning-support@fao.org)

Before contacting us, please consult the

[FAQ section](#) on our website.

About this course

## Meet the crew

Say hello to the crew that will accompany us throughout the course.



→ Select each character to learn more about them.

4 | 7

Lesson 2 - Management procedure elements

## Learning objectives

At the end of the lesson you will be able to:

- explain the main components of management procedures (MPs);
- describe why harvest control rules (HCRs) are the operational element of a management procedure; and
- describe what makes management strategy evaluation (MSE) a powerful tool for testing candidate management procedures.





# Course features

Lesson 2 - Management procedure elements

## Test your knowledge

Which of the following options represent the core elements that cycle together during the implementation of the MP?

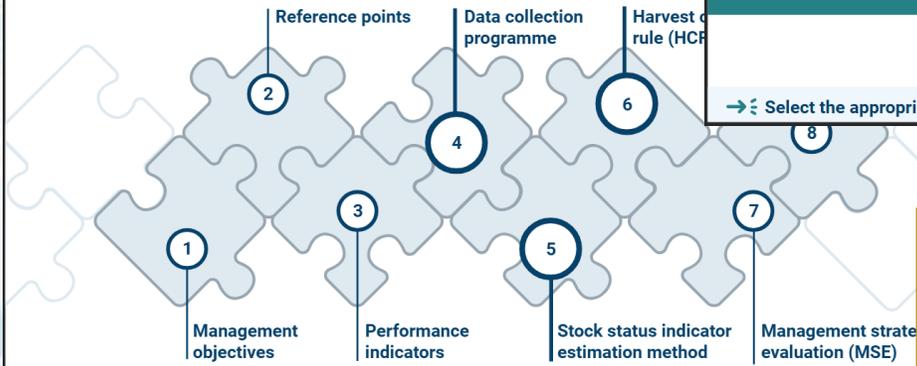
- A data collection programme to gather the needed inputs.
- A management strategy evaluation.
- Management regulations based on the assessment's projections of future population size.
- A method to process data to estimate stock status indicators.
- An HCR setting fishing opportunities based on the estimate of stock st

→ Select the appropriate box or boxes and submit your answer.

Lesson 2 - Management procedure elements

## Eight key elements of fully-specified MPs

Fully specified, best practice MPs are made up of eight key elements, each playing a crucial role in achieving science-based fisheries management outcomes. These elements piece together to form a complete picture, as shown further in the following slides.



→ Select each number to read about each element.

Lesson 2 - Management procedure elements

## 1 - Management objectives

Discussing, understanding and **agreeing to management objectives** is the first step in developing an MP.

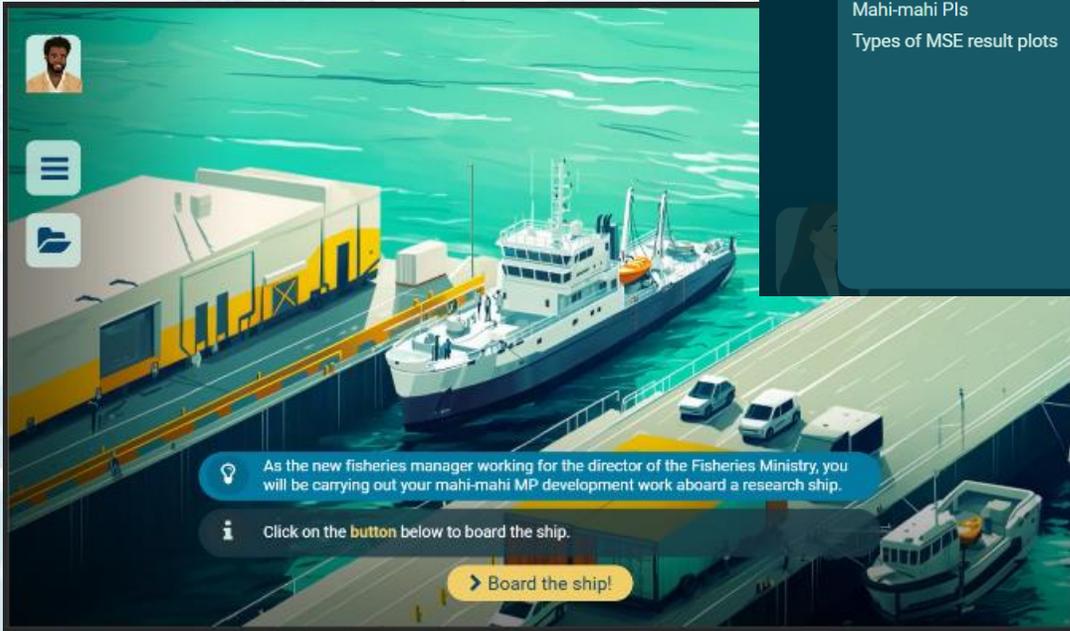
Indeed, as a fisher, it is vital that my concerns and needs are taken into consideration and that my voice is heard at the management level.

**Raul Fisher**





# Training adventure



**Documents folder**

- About Coralina
- Mahi-mahi MP briefing
- Research ship map
- Steps to MP adoption
- Stakeholder views
- Mahi-mahi MOs
- Mahi-mahi candidate MPs
- Mahi-mahi Pls
- Types of MSE result plots

Management procedure for Coralina's mahi-mahi stock

**Mahi-mahi candidate management procedures**

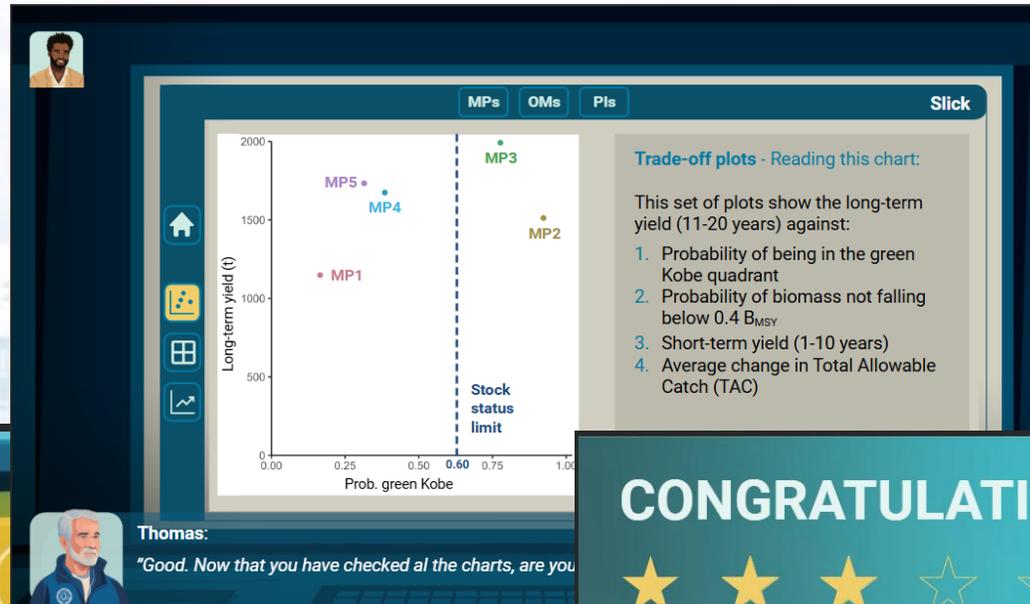
**Candidate MP1:** An empirical MP where the TAC is incrementally adjusted based on the index of abundance. Adjustments in TAC are limited by a stability constraint.

**Candidate MP2:** A model-based, "hockey-stick" MP where fishing mortality decreases linearly from an  $F_{target}$  of  $80\%F_{MSY}$  when the stock is above  $B_{MSY}$  to an  $F_{MIN}$  of  $10\%F_{MSY}$  when the stock hits the limit reference point of  $40\%B_{MSY}$ . Stock status is estimated by a surplus production model. Adjustments in TAC are limited by a stability constraint.





# Training adventure



Thomas:  
"Good. Now that you have checked all the charts, are you

in achieving our specific MOs under various scenarios,

## CONGRATULATIONS!

★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆

Good job! You obtained a star for successfully analysing the MSE results.

> Continue



# E-learning series summary

- ▶ 5 courses, 14 lessons, >6.5 hours of content
- ▶ Learn how to develop & implement MPs
- ▶ Free & offers certification
- ▶ Will be available in French & Spanish from mid-2026
- ▶ Possible to organize bespoke trainings, either in-person or virtual

<https://elearning.fao.org/course/mp-series-en>

