



SESSION 6. EXPERIENCES, PRIORITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND NORTH ATLANTIC

Opportunities under the Common Oceans Programme

Deep-sea

- Implemented by FAO and UNEP
- Combines partners from Fisheries, Environment, and Biodiversity community
- Main role of partners in this region is to share best practices and information with other project partners-looking at regional best practices for addressing global issues.
- Experience from collaboration between these communities that can be useful for the other partners in the deep-sea project- on particular issues- such as habitat protection, for example.



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- Currently, the partners are committed to sharing experiences through;
 - VME database and portal
 - Second edition of the Worldwide review of bottom fisheries in the high seas (WWR),
 - Current practices for identification and management of VMEs
 - Encounter protocols and impact assessments
 - Industry best practices in deep-sea fisheries.
- In addition, a VME awareness raising session and a VME regional Workshop planned for the Mediterranean in 2015 and 2016, respectively



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Opportunities under the Common Oceans Programme

Tuna

- ICCAT is the responsible tuna-RFMO for both the Atlantic and the Mediterranean, with Atlantic Bluefin tuna being the species that has captured most of the attention due to its value and situation.
- Support for the implementation of the precautionary approach in ICCAT, following the approach of the UNFSA and Code of Conduct, and, in particular, of the science-management dialogue.
- Possible support for the improvement of compliance from ICCAT members, including support for the improvement of the data situation.
- Pilot programs to demonstrate the effectiveness of electronic monitoring systems in improving compliance and enforcement in a developing state in Ghana with strong support from the private sector.

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Ocean partnership for sustainable fisheries and biodiversity (WB)

- Regional initiative - Regional Sub-Project for the Western Central Atlantic / Caribbean executed by the : Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC) and focused on Billfish species including blue and white marlin, sailfish and spearfish,.
- The objective of this Caribbean Billfish Project (CBP) is to develop business plans for one or more long-term pilot projects aimed at sustainable management and conservation of billfish within the Western Central Atlantic Ocean.

Some considerations to guide discussions

1. Regional implementation of ABNJ related global frameworks and processes?

- Current achievements in context of different organizations/mandates
- Collaboration between organizations in the region on implementation of ABNJ global frameworks and processes – Best practices

2. Other examples of regional collaboration between organizations in a region, on common issues, within context of mandates?

3. Role of different actors; Management institution, intergovernmental organizations in relation to specific initiatives, projects etc. What have been or are key opportunities?

4. Outlook - in terms of linking global and regional ABNJ initiatives, collaboration, coordinated or cohesive action in implementation of global objectives, frameworks and processes building on comparative advantages

Thank You

