



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



# ABNJ Deep Seas Project






GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY  
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

SIOFA Meeting of the Parties  
Flic en Flac, Mauritius  
1-5 July 2019



# ABNJ Deep Seas Project

1. Improving application of policy and legal frameworks 
2. Reducing adverse impacts on VMEs and components of EBSAs 
3. Improving planning and adaptive management for ABNJ deep-sea fisheries 
4. Development and testing of a methodology for area-based planning

# ABNJ Deep Seas Project: partners

## Funding:

US\$ 8 million  
from GEF for  
5 years



## Co-funding

estimate US\$ 79 million

## Executing Agencies



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



## Partners



Convention on  
Biological Diversity



NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC  
FISHERIES COMMISSION  
*Managing Fisheries in the North-East Atlantic*



Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative



CCAMLR



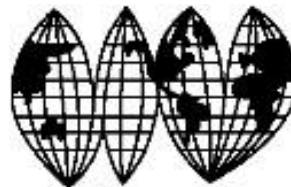
A Centre Collaborating with UNEP



Southern Indian Ocean  
Deepsea Fishers Association



SIOFA | APSOI  
*Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement  
Accord relatif aux Pêches dans le Sud de l'Océan Indien*



International Coalition  
of Fisheries Associations



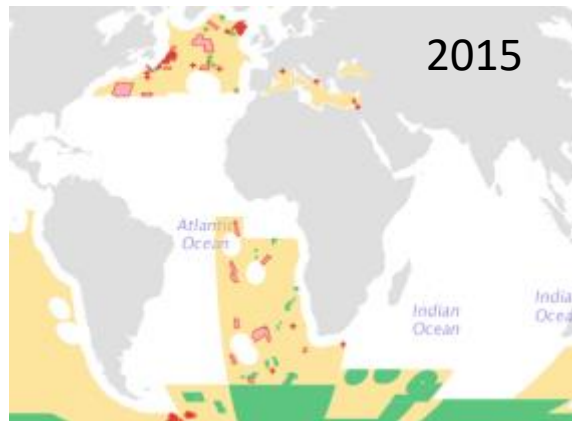
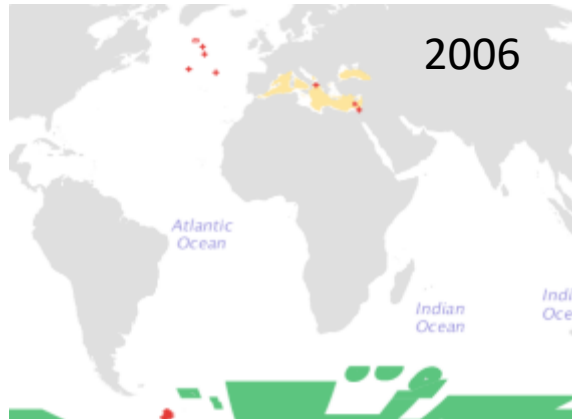


# Component 1

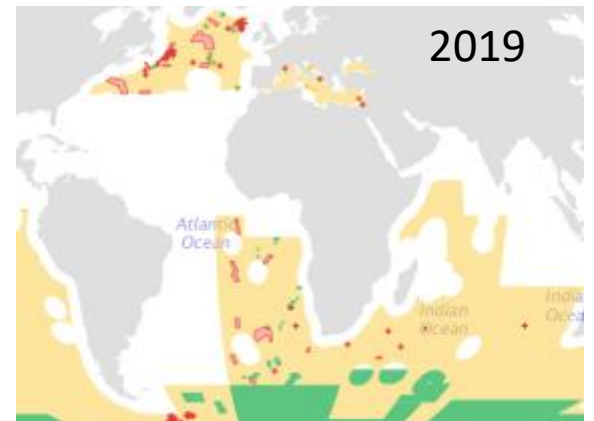
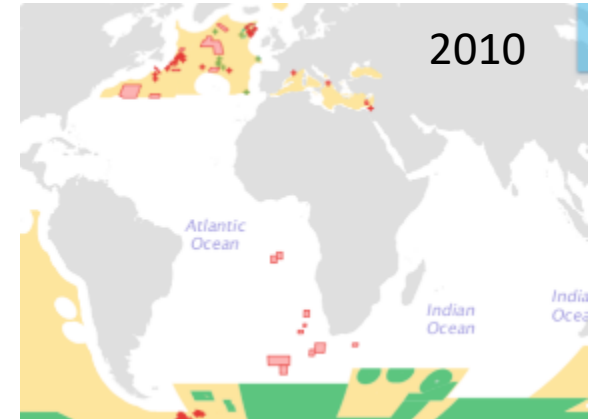
- Review of international legal and policy instruments related to deep-sea fisheries and biodiversity conservation in the ABNJ **published.**
- Report on the processes and practices for VMEs in the high seas is **published.**
- Review of orange roughy biology and assessment **published.**
- Report on climate change and deep-sea ecosystems **published.**
- Good progress has been made on the 2nd edition of the Worldwide Review of Bottom Fisheries in the High Seas – **chapters have undergone regional review and report is being finalized.**
- Contributions to the VME portal and database – ongoing discussions on maintenance and sustainability



# FAO VME portal and database



Contributions to  
the VME portal  
and database –  
maintenance and  
sustainability



# Component 2

- Slower progress
- Work related to EBSA processes and identification is **underway**
- **SIOFA VME Workshop** in March 2019
- Ecosystem Services Valuation report **is being published**
- Ongoing deep-sea sponges valuation work with Horizon 2020 SponGES project
- VME publication on scientific methods and identification of VMEs – **work underway**
- **SMARTFORMS** – collection and recording of biodiversity information

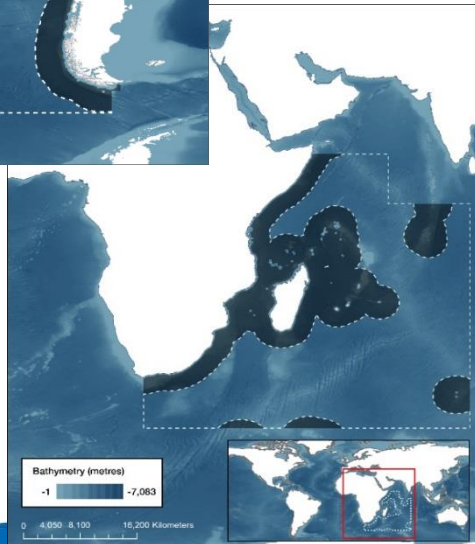
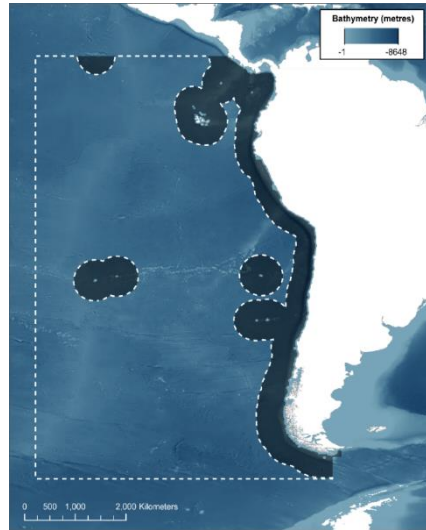


# Component 3

- Handful of activities deleted based on recommendations of the MTR and agreement from the PSC
- Rights-based management for deep-sea fisheries report and workshop took place in **April 2019**
- Ecosystem approach to fisheries management in deep-sea fisheries report – **has been reviewed by deep sea RFMOs**
- Report on MCS practices in deep-sea fisheries **is being published**
- MCS workshop with SEAFO and SIOFA Contracting Parties in **December 2018**
- Feasibility study on the use of Electronic Monitoring Systems for deep sea trawlers **is ongoing**



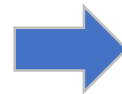
# Component 4



Capacity building & knowledge sharing



Data and tools



Governance framework



Review of **case studies** of ABP in ABNJ

Review of applicability of **ABP tools in ABNJ**

**Capacity assessment** of ABP in ABNJ in pilot regions

**Knowledge sharing workshops**

Collation of global **ABNJ datasets**

Collation of **Regional datasets** of biodiversity importance

Study of ABNJ/EEZ **connectivity** at global and regional scales

Map of regional scale **cumulative impacts**

Analysis of **Data Sharing Platforms** in two pilot regions

Stocktake review of **institutional arrangements** related to ABNJ ABP in pilot regions





# Communications and visibility

## **BBNJ**

Organized and participated in side events, New York, September 2018 and March 2019

## **Global Deep-sea Meeting**

A conclusion to the Deep Seas Project, Rome, 7-9 May 2019



# New FAO GEF-7 Project



Urgent action is needed to improve management of many ABNJ fisheries and strengthen protection of related ecosystems. In this way, we can prevent devastating impacts on marine biodiversity, socio-economic well-being and food security for millions of people directly dependent on those fisheries. [Read more+](#)

# FAO Theory of Change

Meetings in Rome to develop next phase of programme and projects

5-7 December 2018

23-25 April 2019



# Draft Theory of Change (FAO)

## Immediate programme Outcomes and key elements (enabling environment)

### Outcome 1 – Frameworks and processes for more effective governance and management in ABNJ (including fisheries management) strengthened

1. Policy and legal frameworks to support sustainable use of ABNJ resources
2. Government and institutional mandates, roles and responsibilities related to governance of ABNJ
3. Fisheries management processes to enhance responsiveness to uncertainty strengthened
4. Incentives and deterrents to promote compliant behaviour

### Outcome 2 - Capacity for better implementation of ecosystem based management in fisheries management in the ABNJ strengthened

1. Capacity to apply EAM to ABNJ
2. Capacity to develop and enforce governance regimes related to ABNJ resources (e.g. addressing IUU fishing)
3. Data collection, compliance monitoring and reporting to support science-based decision making and implementation
4. Management solutions for sustainable use of ABNJ resources

### Outcome 3 – Participation in multi-sectoral coordination for more effective governance and management of ABNJ improved

1. Mechanisms, tools and resources to improve coordination between sectors and stakeholders with interests in ABNJ
2. Awareness and understanding of the role of all sectors in the sustainable use of ABNJ

### Outcome 4 – Knowledge and information exchange for more informed decision-making among stakeholders to support sustainable utilization of ABNJ improved

1. Technical/scientific information on ABNJ issues
2. Information exchange mechanisms to support decision-making and awareness-raising
3. Information on ABNJ issues available to inform choices of decision-makers and civil society

## Medium-term Outcomes (changes in systems and behaviour)

Effective **compliance and enforcement of fisheries regulations** by RFMO member states

Widespread **adoption of best practices for sustainable management of ABNJ resources** including consideration of impacts on the ecosystem and adaptation to climate change

**Comprehensive, well-informed BBNJ process** underway with coordinating mechanisms among sectoral users (including links to LMEs and RSOs) to achieve ecosystem goals in the ABNJ

**Increased market and political pressure for sustainably sourced ABNJ products** with greater transparency and traceability, reducing presence of IUU products in the markets

Increased **public and private sector support and investment** for sustainable management of ABNJ

Effective and sustainable cross-sectoral **governance** of natural resources in ABNJ

Adaptive, coordinated, **sustainable management** of ABNJ resources following Ecosystem Approach

**Sustainable/optimal use** of ABNJ resources and strengthened biodiversity conservation in face of a changing environment

### Intermediate states (improved environmental + social conditions)

#### Environmental (GEB)

Reduced/minimized negative impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services in ABNJ (e.g. reduced bycatch)  
Improved conservation status of key ABNJ species/ habitats

#### Socio-economic

Improved livelihoods, food security for communities dependent on ABNJ resources  
Improved working conditions and gender opportunities in ABNJ  
Reduced vulnerability/improved resilience of communities reliant on ABNJ resources to CC impacts  
Equitable and managed access and benefit sharing of ABNJ resources including marine genetic resources

### Long-term impacts

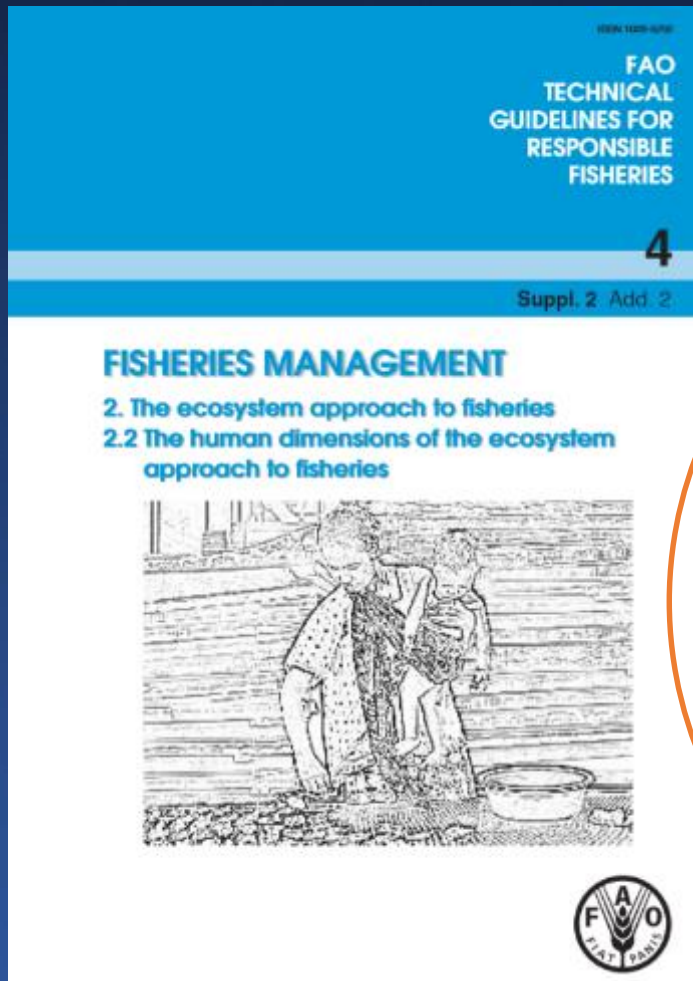
Healthy ecosystem structure, function and processes in ABNJ improved and maintained  
Sustainable supply of ecosystem goods and services from ABNJ with long-term socio-economic benefits (both use and non-use values) to human populations (link with Blue Growth?)



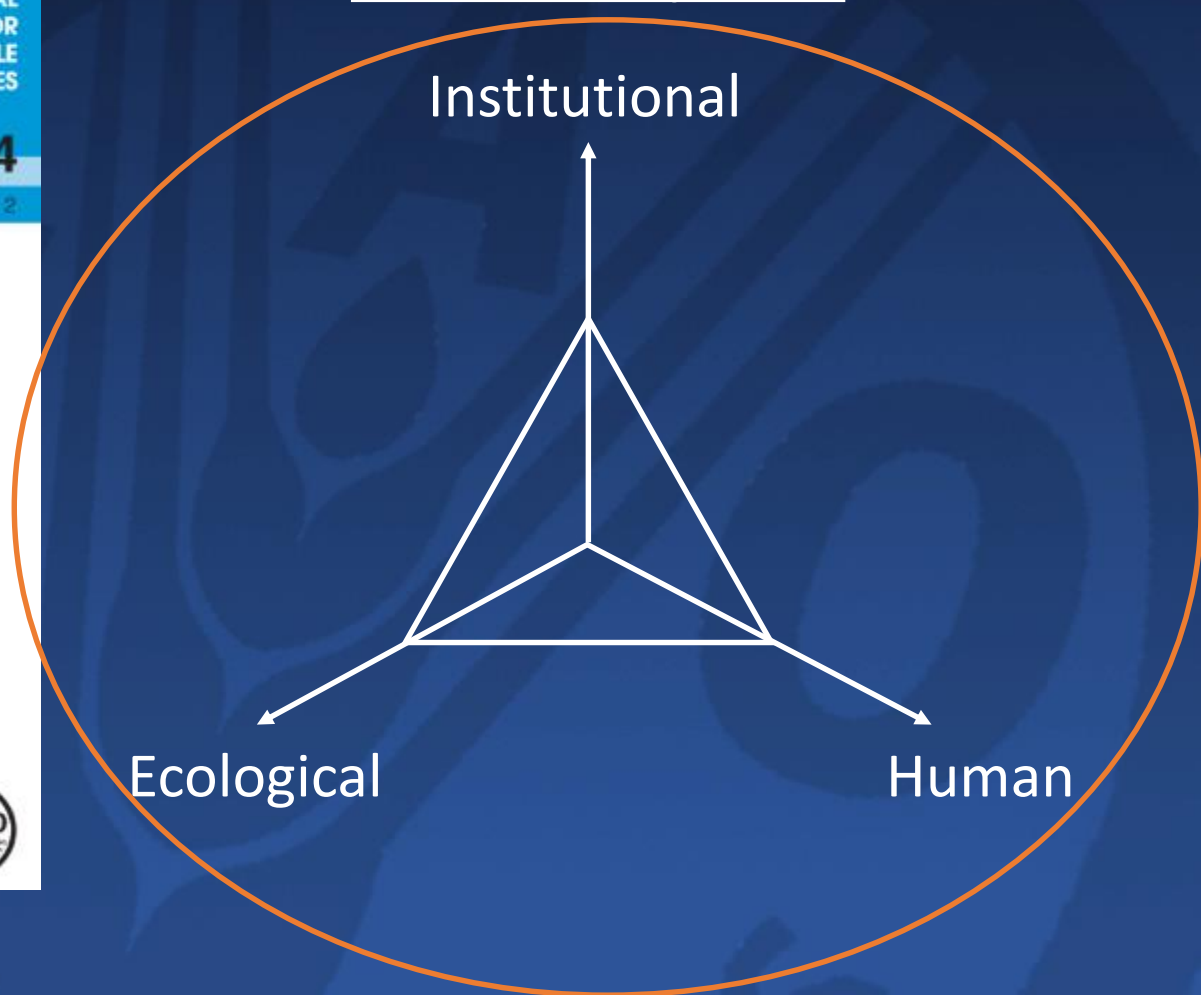
# Immediate outcome matrix

1	2	3	4
Frameworks and processes for more effective governance and management in ABNJ (including fisheries management) strengthened	Capacity for better implementation of the ecosystem approach to fisheries in the ABNJ strengthened	Participation in multi-sectoral coordination for more effective governance and management of ABNJ improved	Knowledge and information exchange for more informed decision-making among stakeholders to support sustainable utilization of ABNJ improved
Fisheries: legal, institutional, management, IUU	Fisheries: scientific advice, monitoring, Impact assessments, ABMT	Multi-sectoral: cooperation, spatial planning	Fisheries: knowledge sharing transparency

# Integrating EAF structure on outcome matrix



## The 3 EAF pillars



# Activity matrix (less activities)

Outcomes	1 Frameworks and processes for more effective governance and management in ABNJ (including fisheries management) strengthened	2 Capacity for better implementation of ecosystem based management in fisheries management in the ABNJ strengthened	3 Participation in multi-sectoral coordination for more effective governance and management of ABNJ improved	4 Knowledge and information exchange for more informed decision-making among stakeholders to support sustainable utilization of ABNJ improved
Work area	Fisheries: legal, institutional, management, IUU	Fisheries: scientific advice, monitoring, Impacts, ABMT	Multi-sectoral: cooperation, spatial planning	Fisheries: knowledge sharing transparency
Themes				
Ecosystem approach				
Institutional component	?	?	?	?
Human component	?	?	?	?
Ecological component				
Ecosystem structure and functioning	?	?	?	?
Commercial fish stocks	?	?	?	?
Associated and dependent species	?	?	?	?

Outcome Title	1	2	3	Outcome 4
	<b>Frameworks and processes for more effective governance and management in ABNJ (including fisheries management) strengthened</b>	<b>Capacity for better implementation of ecosystem based management in fisheries management in the ABNJ strengthened</b>	<b>Participation in multi-sectoral coordination for more effective governance and management of ABNJ improved</b>	<b>Knowledge and information exchange for more informed decision-making among stakeholders to support sustainable utilization of ABNJ improved</b>
Outputs	1. Policy and legal frameworks to support sustainable use of ABNJ resources applied	1. Capacity to apply EAM to ABNJ	1. Awareness and understanding of the role of all sectors in the sustainable use of ABNJ	1. Technical/scientific information on ABNJ issues
Outputs	2. Government and institutional mandates, roles and responsibilities related to governance of ABNJ defined and implemented	2. Data collection: (a) compliance monitoring and (b) reporting to support science-based decision making and implementation	2. Mechanisms, tools and resources to improve coordination between sectors and stakeholders with interests in ABNJ	2. Information exchange mechanisms to support decision-making and awareness-raising
Outputs	3. Fisheries management processes to enhance responsiveness to uncertainty strengthened	3. Capacity to develop and enforce governance regimes related to ABNJ resources (e.g. addressing IUU fishing)		3. Information on ABNJ issues available to inform choices of decision-makers and civil society
Outputs	4. Incentives and deterrents to promote compliant behaviour explored	4. Management solutions for sustainable use of ABNJ resources		
Scope and description	<i>Within fisheries sector: instruments, measures, incentives and IUU compliance. Institutional aspects of EAF Traceability</i>	<i>EAF: Ecological, Institutional, and Human Components. Data collection for science-based advice and compliance. Develop and enforce measures. Novel (new) solutions.</i>	<i>Awareness and understanding of the role of all sectors in the sustainable use of ABNJ (including BBNJ process). Cross-sectoral cooperation in ABNJ</i>	<i>Promoting informed sharing mechanisms and transparent processes. Enhance work of RFMOs and links with other sectors.</i>
<b>Ecosystem approach</b>				
Institutional component	This is effectively work undertaken in outcome 1 (first column) 2. Self-assessment of flag State performance (NAFO PRp30) 3. Decision making framework in new and old RFMOs (NAFO PRp44, DSF Meeting) 3. Effects of uncertainty on fisheries management (short and long term changes – annual to CC effects) (PSC-18,35) 4. CDS (as targeted IUU deterrent, ABNJ DS, DSF Meeting)	4. Bring science to RFMOs: policy or science driven (DSF Meeting)	1. Multi-sectoral governance: compatibility between sectors (PSC-03,11,12,17,45,46, DSF Meeting) 2. Fisheries and biodiversity links between RFMOs, RSP, CBD, and others (DCF Meeting) 2. Reducing wider impacts from fisheries sector (CC, plastics) (DSF Meeting)	1. MSC website development (NAFO-4) 1. Better management information provided on RFMO websites (DSF Meeting) 1. RFMO transparency (PSC-40) 1. Scientific data and advice subject to peer review (NAFO PRp2) 2. Data sharing portals (PSC-06,36) 2. MSC website development (NAFO-4) Capacity building and collaboration among RFMOs (NAFO 5-11/PR34) and with RSO (NAFO-16)
Ecosystem approach: Human component	1. Implementation of legal frameworks (ILO) (NAFO PRp32) 1,2: Crew conditions/anti-slavery (IUU) (PSC-04, 31) 3. New State-level fishing opportunities and quota allocation (NAFO PRp24)	1. Tackling the socio-economic and cultural importance of ABNJ		
Ecosystem approach: Ecological component <u>General</u>	1. Objectives and risk into <u>EAFramework</u> (NAFO PRp16,44) 2. RFMOs: Conventions, CMMs, Rules of Procedure - good practice (PSC-02) 3. Capacity and effective management (PSC-44) 3. EAF science/management interface --> biodiversity, conservation, impact (PSC-15) 3. Precautionary approach and uptake of science advice (NAFO PRp17,p22,p22)	1. Implementation of EAF (PSC-14,16) 1. Environmental (including climate change) monitoring (PSC-35)	1. Aligning ABNJ, BBNJ and the Ocean Science Decade (SPRFMO-03) [joint workshop??] 2. Cooperation (PSC-43) 2. Ecosystem services assessment (continued from ABNJ DSF) (PSC-32) 2. Science needs for cross-sectoral impact assessments: SEA (DSF Meeting)	1. BBNJ awareness ( <u>ToC</u> ) 1. More science side-events at BBNJ (UN, etc??) meetings (DSF Meeting) 1,2. Including climate change information (and shorter term drive on RFMO websites 2. User-friendly data manual (NAFO PRp29)
<u>Commercial fish stocks</u> Targeted and bycatch (landed and discarded)  [project focus on data poor stocks and bycatch species – RFMOs manage the data-rich stocks well]	1. Best practices (Guidelines): Implementation of Port State Measures (NAFO-10) 2. High grading and range harmful impacts (NAFO PRp27) 3. Alfonsino CMM (NAFO PRp24) 3. PA applied to “data poor” stocks (NAFO PRp17) Discard mitigation (NAFO-15, NAFO PRp20)	2. Stock assessment (PSC-21,22) 2. Advice generation of data poor stocks (DSF Meeting) 2. Fishing footprint (monitoring, adaptive) (DSF Meeting) 2b. Alfonsino, Patagonian toothfish, Orange roughy (SIOFA-05) 2. Drivers of stock movement (PSC-23) 2a: Inspections, observers and coverage (PSC-38, 39, 41) 3. VMS and AIS: Position and fishing activity (PSC-42) 3. Electronic catch reporting: weekly, daily and haul-by-haul (e.g. FLUX NAFO-02; SIOFA-01) 3. Better catch monitoring (PSC-20) 3. Catch submission (PSC-37) 4. Observer applications (electronic) (NAFO-03; SIOFA-02)	1,2. Other impacts (marine litter, abandon gear, pollution, land based NAFO-18, PSC-30,34)2. Impact of human activities on fisheries (PSC-33) 2. Coordination of multi-sectoral activities (PSC-8,9,14)	2. MCS and data sharing among general and <u>trRFMOs</u> (SPRFMO 01, PSC-10,19,)
Associated and dependent species (not landed and non-commercial: seabirds, VME indicators, deepwater sharks, etc)	1,2 Review of regulations regarding associated and dependent species ( <u>ToC</u> ) 3. RFMO measures on these, including impact assessments ( <u>ToC</u> )	1. Cumulative impacts of gears (SIOFA-04, PSC-24) 1. Harmful impacts of surveys (NAFO PRp26) 1. Quantifying biodiversity (PSC-28)-1. ELA (SIOFA—06, PSC-5,26,27) 2. Reporting codes and reporting (NAFO PRp26,26) 2. Shark bycatch data collection (ABNJ DSP). 3. Mapping VMEs (SIOFA-03, PSC-29) 3. VMEs and SAI in exploratory and existing fisheries (NAFO-14) 4. Bycatch mitigation (PSC-25) 4. ERA for sharks (ABNJ DSF) 4. Observer applications (electronic) (NAFO-03 SIOFA-02)	1,2. Cooperative multi-sectoral management – overlapping areas ( <u>ToC</u> ) 2. EIA Cumulative (PSC-13) 2. Impact assessments (RFMO and multi-sectoral) ( <u>ToC</u> ) 2. Stressors to sponges (sediment, pH, etc)	1. MSC website development (NAFO-4)



# Ecosystem approach

## Human component

Blue economy

- Food security
- Livelihoods
- Employment

### **Value/supply chain analysis**

- Base line study – current situation
- Future scenarios – where do we want to go?
- How to get there – transformational change

# Ecosystem approach

## Institutional component

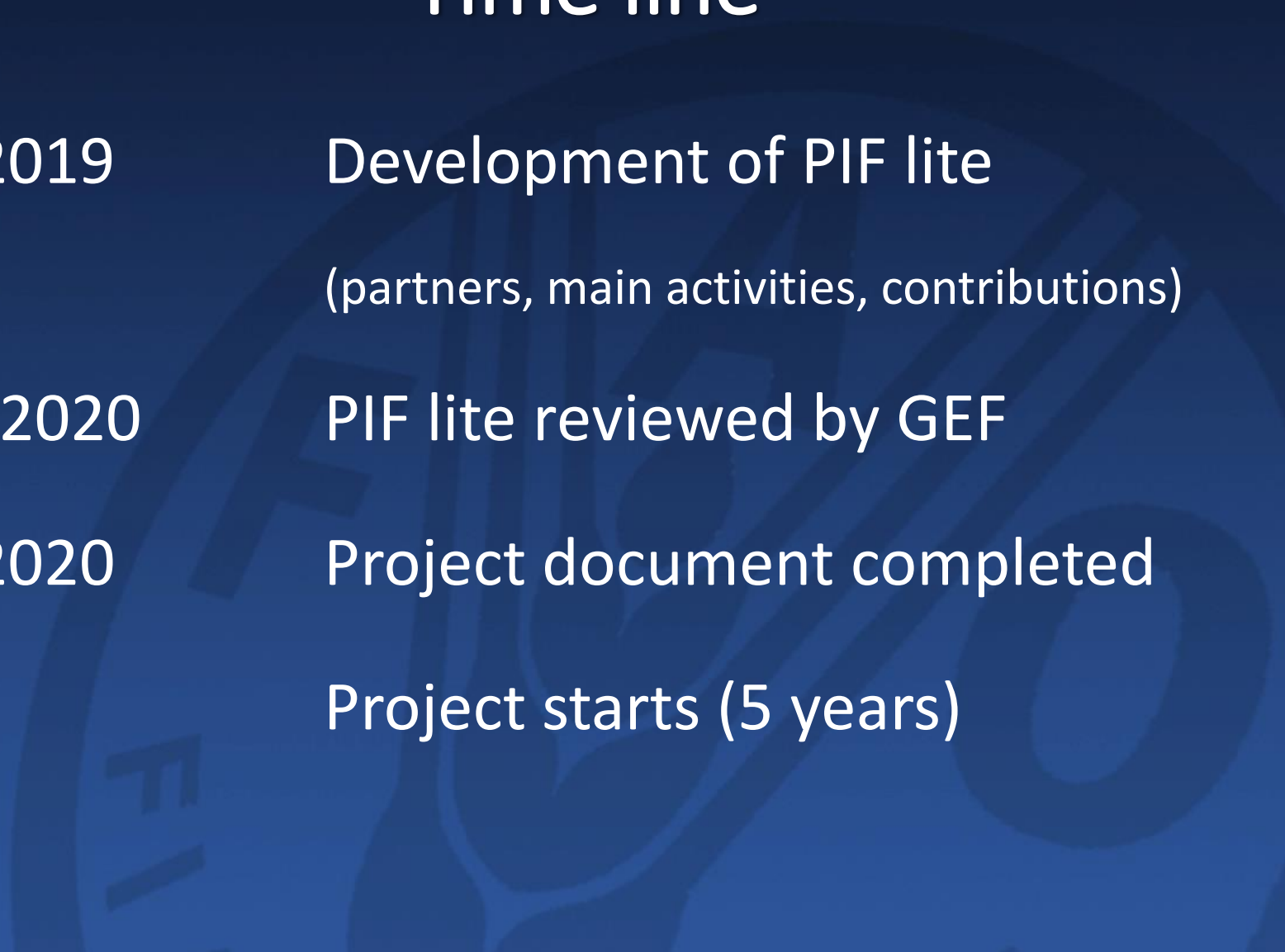
- Legal obligations (focus on data poor and vulnerable species)
- Management regulations (links to science advice)
- Cooperation (with tRFMOs, ISA, CBD, NGOs, etc)
- Performance reviews and self-assessment

# Ecosystem approach

## Ecological component

- Monitoring target and associated species (fish, VMEs, deepwater sharks) including through VMS
- Impact assessments fisheries and compounded (including other sectors)

# Time line

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Dec 2019	Development of PIF lite (partners, main activities, contributions)
April 2020	PIF lite reviewed by GEF
Dec 2020	Project document completed
2021	Project starts (5 years)



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THANK YOU