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Overview from the 2025 capacity building workshop on management procedures & MSE at the Seychelles Fisheries Authority

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Abstract	<p>A capacity building workshop on management procedures, also known as harvest strategies, and management strategy evaluation (MSE) was held at the Seychelles Fisheries Authority on October 20th, 2025. This paper overviews the workshop and its major outcomes, as well as the related FAO eLearning course.</p>

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² Documents available only to members invited to closed sessions.

Overview from the 2025 capacity building workshop on management procedures & MSE at the Seychelles Fisheries Authority

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Abstract

A capacity building workshop on management procedures, also known as harvest strategies, and management strategy evaluation (MSE) was held at the Seychelles Fisheries Authority on October 20th, 2025. This paper overviews the workshop and its major outcomes, as well as the related FAO eLearning course.

Body

A capacity building workshop on management procedures, also known as harvest strategies, and management strategy evaluation (MSE) was held at the Seychelles Fisheries Authority (SFA) on October 20th, 2025. The workshop was organized with support from The Ocean Foundation, The Pew Charitable Trusts, OceanKind, the Paul M. Angell Family Foundation, International Seafood Sustainability Foundation, and the FAO Common Oceans Tuna Project.

The Ocean Foundation received funding from the FAO Common Oceans Tuna Project to provide tailored capacity building workshops in complement to the newly launched FAO eLearning series 'Management procedures for sustainable tuna fisheries' (FAO, 2025). The eLearning series is comprised of 5 modules (with a total of 14 lessons) and includes an interactive management procedure adventure module where learners select management objectives and candidate management procedures, review the resulting MSE results, and choose the most appropriate management procedure. Other modules include an introduction to management procedures, management objectives/reference points, MSE, and best practices for development and implementation. The course is open access, free of charge, and will be available in English,

Spanish, and French to maximize its reach across all continents. Upon completion of the course, learners will earn a badge and certification from the FAO eLearning Academy.

Seventeen participants attended the SFA capacity building workshop, including managers, scientists, and stakeholders involved with both the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) and Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC). Workshop participants were asked to complete the FAO eLearning course described above in advance, so that the in-person presentations and guided group activities could build upon and reinforce concepts introduced in the eLearning. The workshop featured keynote introductions from the executive secretary of the IOTC and the chief executive officer of the SFA, as well as background on management procedure development at Indian Ocean regional fisheries RFMOs (SIOFA and IOTC). Presentations from workshop instructors included an introduction to management procedures and MSE, management objectives, roles and responsibilities of various stakeholder groups in the MSE process, and interpreting MSE results. Hands-on group activities included a mapping tiles game where participants arranged components of a management procedure based on their new knowledge of relationships, sequences, processes, etc., as well as an interactive online tool (Pacific Community, 2021) to explore and choose candidate harvest control rules (HCRs).

The workshop was overall a success, with participants reporting increased comfortability with and knowledge of MSE and MP concepts, as well as positive impressions of the workshop format and facilitators. Workshop participants did note, however, that they would have benefited from more days of instruction.

Any parties interested in receiving a similar, tailored capacity building workshop should first request interested participants to complete the FAO eLearning course (FAO, 2025), and contact Shana Miller (smiller@oceanfdn.org) for more information.

REFERENCES:

FAO. 2025. FAO elearning Academy – Management procedures for sustainable tuna fisheries. In: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations [online]. Rome. [Cited 3 March 2026]. <https://elearning.fao.org/course/mp-series-en>

Pacific Community. 2021. AMPLE: Amazing Management Procedures expLoration Engine. Version 1.0.0 Tarantula Deadly Cargo. Copyright 2021 OFP SPC MSE Team. Distributed under the GPL 3.