



ABNJ Deep Seas Project

Sustainable Fisheries Management and Biodiversity Conservation of Deep Sea Living Resources in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction

PREPARED BY THE COORDINATOR

v4 JAN2017

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

ABNJ	Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction	M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
ABP	Area-Based Planning	MPA	Marine Protected Area
BBNJ	Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction	NAFO	Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity	NEAFC	North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission
CCAMLR	Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources	NPFC	North Pacific Fisheries Commission
CECAF	Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic	NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
COFI	Committee on Fisheries	OPP	Ocean Partnerships Project
CCRF	Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries	PIR	Project Implementation Review
CPPS	Comisión Permanente del Pacífico Sur (Permanent Commission for the South Pacific)	PMU	Project Management Unit
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific Industrial Research Organization (Australia)	PPR	Project Progress Report
EAF	Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries	PSC	Project Steering Committee
EBSA	Ecologically or Biologically Significant Area	PSMA	Port State Measures Agreement
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone	RFMO/A	Regional Fisheries Management Organizations or Arrangements
GFCM	General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean	RSN	Regional Fishery Body Secretariats Network
GOBI	Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative	RSP	Regional Seas Programme
GOF	Global Ocean Forum	SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
ICFA	International Coalition of Fisheries Associations	SEAFO	South East Atlantic Fisheries Organization
IGO	Inter Governmental Organization	SIOFA	Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement
IMO	International Maritime Organization	SIODFA	Southern Indian Ocean Deep-sea Fishers Association
IOC	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission	SPRFMO	South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organization
ISA	International Seabed Authority	UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature	UNEP	United Nations Environment Program
IUCN-FEG	IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management Fisheries Expert Group	UNEP-WCMC	UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre
IUU	Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated	UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
LTO	Lead Technical Officer	UNFSA	United Nations Fish Stock Agreement
MCS	Monitoring, Control and Surveillance	VME	Vulnerable Marine Ecosystem
MDG	Millennium Development Goals	WOC	World Ocean Council
		WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development

1 2016 Activities at a glance

(a) PMU-arranged activities

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(b) partner activities

CCAMLR – Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living resources

Reported 11 new VME areas.

Provided comments on the legal analysis and guidelines.

Developed, with the GEF, a (USD7 million over 4 years) project to support capacity building in CCAMLR processes for five of the GEF-eligible CCAMLR Member states, including Namibia, South Africa, Ukraine, India and Chile. The project is expected to start in 2017.

CBD – Convention on Biodiversity

Major partner in the FAO, CBD, IUCN international workshop (February) to identify indicators in support of monitoring processes related to Aichi Target 6.

Convened EBSA meeting (February) and the production of a manual for the collection and analyses of EBSA data.

Major partner in the *Sustainable Ocean Initiative Global Dialogue with Regional Seas Organizations and Regional Fisheries Bodies on Accelerating Progress Towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets* (September).

CPPS - Comisión Permanente del Pacifico Sur

Convened a regional Integrated Ocean Policy workshop, Bogotá, Colombia.

Convened the CPPS General Assembly, Galapagos, Ecuador.

[Held informal meetings with the Executive Secretary of the SPRFMO. The objective was to share views on the project, ways to move forward and review some documents \(Valdivia, Chile 25-29 January 2016\).](#)

[Review a series of documents and publications including: An interview framework for the study on "Institutional arrangements and legal instruments in ABNJ"; Chronology of Events in the South East Pacific region related to ABNJ; Governance of ABNJ in the South East Pacific; Introduction to marine datasets of biodiversity importance in the South East Pacific.](#)

[Preparation and presentation of a position paper regarding the ABNJ Deep Sea Fisheries project during the workshop "Development of capacities to improve the management of ABNJ". Grenada May 18th – 22, 2016.](#)

Co-hosted an area-based planning tools workshop (Southeast Pacific) with UNEP-WCMC, and contributions from Grid Arendal, and Duke University. [The workshop "Training on aspects of Ocean Governance and tools for Area-Based Planning \(PBL\), to support the decision-making process", was hosted in Guayaquil, November 2016.](#)

CSIRO – Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation

Supported the CBD EBSA meeting (February) and the production of a manual for the collection and analyses of EBSA data.

Facilitated a meeting on Integrated Oceans in Samoa (November), with attendance by most of the Pacific countries plus all the technical agencies and the private sector. The first 2 days focused on SDG 14.7 (economic development in SIDS).

Participated in the *Sustainable Ocean Initiative Global Dialogue with Regional Seas Organizations and Regional Fisheries Bodies on Accelerating Progress Towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets* (September).

Conducted MSP training workshops throughout the Pacific area - in collaboration with CBD, Aus Aid, SPREP, PIFS - designed to be compatible with the EAF framework.

DUKE University – Marine Geospatial Ecology Lab

Supported the FAO, CBD, IUCN international workshop (February) to identify indicators in support of monitoring processes related to Aichi Target 6.

Support to UNEP-WCMC working on Aichi targets under the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership.

Support to CBD EBSA meeting (February) and the production of a manual for the collection and analyses of EBSA data.

Participated in the *Sustainable Ocean Initiative Global Dialogue with Regional Seas Organizations and Regional Fisheries Bodies on Accelerating Progress Towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets* (September).

Support to the November, CPPS General Assembly meeting in Galapagos, Ecuador.

FAO – Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations

FAO, through the other projects under the FAO Deep-seas Fisheries Programme (supported by Norway, Japan and France), its Regular Programme and the EAF Nansen project has been undertaking a range of unilateral and collaborative activities in support of the Project. In 2016 this included:

- publishing the review on best practices in VME encounter protocols and impact assessments;
- working with RFMOs, including providing training, to update the VME database. Ongoing development of the VME Portal and DataBase;
- development of deep seas inventories in collaboration with (FAO) iMarine;
- publishing an identification guide for deep-sea cartilaginous fishes of the south eastern Pacific Ocean; and testing the guide during a training workshop in November [FAO-NOR];
- publishing a manual on collection of data on deep-sea species. This manual will supplement existing observer manuals and will be useful for those vessels operating in areas without RFMO technical support or without full observer coverage on data collection to meet new data collection requirements;
- ongoing collaboration with the University of Bergen led North Atlantic deep-sea sponges project. FAO, with government and academic agencies aim to develop an integrated ecosystem-based concept for the management and conservation of deep-sea sponge

ecosystems of the North Atlantic. Activities associated with this project will include: strengthening the knowledge base, use of innovation technology, improving the ability to predict change, and providing decision support tools for management.

- published a global review of alfonso fisheries, biology and management (www.fao.org/3/a-i5336e.pdf);
- supported the June workshop of experts to review of orange roughy biology and assessment;
- supported the ongoing work to produce a 2nd edition of the Worldwide Review of Bottom Fisheries in the High Seas, including the May meeting of experts from the eight bodies involved in deep sea fisheries management;
- facilitating a July workshop on the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries and Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs) in the Mediterranean [in collaboration with GFCM];
- facilitating a November workshop on the management of deep-sea fisheries and vulnerable marine ecosystems in the eastern central Atlantic [in collaboration with the CECAF Secretariat];
- major partner in the FAO, CBD, IUCN international workshop (February) to identify indicators in support of monitoring processes related to Aichi Target 6;
- Major partner in the *Sustainable Ocean Initiative Global Dialogue with Regional Seas Organizations and Regional Fisheries Bodies on Accelerating Progress Towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets* (September).

GFCM – General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean

Ongoing work on the development of encounter protocols for VMEs in 2016, with a view to having them adopted in 2017.

Plans to focus on deep seas fisheries more in the future, with development of a management plan and regulations on deep seas fisheries expected.

Collaborating in the UN MAP initiative.

Adopted a three year strategy to support SDG14 (Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development), especially on vulnerable species.

Collaborated with FAO to hold a VME workshop (July)

GRID Arendal

Collaborated in the November, CPPS General Assembly, Galapagos, Ecuador [with UNEP-WCMC].

Contributions to project goals and objectives through its work on development and provision of data on global distribution of seafloor geomorphic features; capacity development activities in Regional Seas and UNCLOS extended continental shelf workshops; and assessment of marine mineral resources.

ICFA – International Coalition of Fisheries Associations

Major role in the organisation and facilitation of the March workshop of deep sea fishing industry representatives.

Representing the deep sea fishing industry in the BBNJ PrepComm and the UNGA review of bottom fisheries.

IUCN – The international Union for Conservation of Nature

Major partner in the FAO, CBD, IUCN international workshop (February) to identify indicators in support of monitoring processes related to Aichi Target 6.

Contributed to the EBSA meeting (February) and the production of a manual for the collection and analyses of EBSA data.

Co-hosted the Nairobi Convention Focal Points (March) Meeting and the IUCN-IDDRI Workshop on Southern Indian Ocean Project – Mauritius

Contributed to the Sustainable Ocean Initiative Global Dialogue with Regional Seas Organizations and Regional Fisheries Bodies on Accelerating Progress Towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (September).

Nairobi Convention

Nairobi Convention, through its other projects and programmes has been undertaking a range of unilateral and collaborative activities which are contributing to the Project. In 2016 this included:

- Nairobi Convention Focal Points (March) Meeting and the IUCN-IDDRI Workshop on Southern Indian Ocean Project – Mauritius;
- hosting the June, Nairobi Convention Science to Policy workshop, Mahé, Seychelles.

NAFO – North Atlantic Fisheries Organisation

NAFO:

- made contributions to the VME database, including a staff member being trained to use the system;
- held the NAFO Joint FC-SC Working Group on Ecosystem Approach Framework to Fisheries (WG-EAFFM) in August. This working group examined VME areas outside the NAFO footprint and the possible refinement of VME boundaries; widening the scope of the NAFO coral and sponge identification guides; risk assessment of scientific trawl surveys impact on VME in closed areas and the effect of excluding surveys from these areas on stock assessments. The WG developed a work plan to address potential impact of activities other than fishing on VMEs, in particular VME closed areas; identifying areas of significant concentrations of non-coral and sponge VME indicator species using all available information;
- is developing a VME indicator guide for the seamounts in the north east Atlantic including corals, sponges and sea pens, with other species to follow;
- participated in the world wide review workshop in May;
- participated in the August UNGA bottom fisheries review meeting in New York;
- convened its annual meeting in Cuba in September and reported on the progress of the ABNJ Deep Seas Project to the organisation;
- is developing a “roadmap” for the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach that will eventually include ecosystem productivity estimates, multi-species and single species stock assessments, and assessment of impacts on benthic habitats;
- is beginning to engage the other sectors such as IMO, ISA and oil and gas.

NEAFC – North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission

NEAFC:

- had no new changes to the VME database;
- made changes to the extent of the high seas in the NEAFC region;
- had three proposals for bottom fishing outside the existing fishing area endorsed by the scientific process, but rejected by the Commission on the basis that the target species (crabs) were sedentary species;
- contributed to the World wide review workshop;
- the working group on deep seas species is mapping fishing effort and species composition in the catch;
- is using new approaches to estimate TACs for around 60 data limited stocks;
- held its second meeting with OSPAR. The Secretariats are discussing how to engage. Engagement with other sectors including IMO and ISA is beginning.

NOAA – National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Contributing to project goals and objectives through NOAAs programs and offices.

NPFC – North Pacific Fisheries Commission

NPFC:

- adopted conservation and management measures for bottom fisheries and protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems in the North Pacific Ocean;
- responded to the UNGA bottom fishing inquiry;
- held small scientific committee meetings on Pacific saury, north Pacific armourhead and vulnerable marine ecosystems in April; followed by the 1st Scientific Committee meeting.

SEALORD LTD

Ongoing multi-frequency acoustic surveys across the Southwest Indian Ocean using the Sealord Acoustic Optical (AOS) system deployed off Sealords commercial fishing vessels — including the use of a full wideband acoustic system on vessels in the Indian Ocean (covering the 30-90 Khz range, which is expected to give improved ground habitat discrimination).

Routine collection of mesopelagic samples for CSIRO, and calibrated acoustic transect data provided to the Australian Integrated Marine Observing System (IMOS) for use by scientists around the world (via the IMOS BASOOP data portal).

Ongoing — testing of real time fibre optic broadband cable, which provides real time footage on the bridge, and the ability to observe and react to VMEs in real time. Associated with this is the development of a cable release from the net.

Ongoing collection of detailed records of sharks caught in the commercial fishery (provided to scientists from the Pacific Shark Research Center for analysis).

Sealord also contributed to the assessment of deepwater fisheries being undertaken through SIOFA.

SEAFO – South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation

SEAFO:

- collaborated in the RV Dr Fridtjof Nansen survey in the South East Atlantic in 2015;
- identified a coral garden in one of the fishing areas and following scientific committee advice, the Commission, closed the area;
- has 13 areas closed for VME;
- held two workshops in May, of which one was on data analysis and this resulted in two publications.

Seascapes Ltd / GOBI – Global Ocean Biodiversity Inventory Secretariat

Seascope has contributed to the work on the review of Area-Based Management Tools in selected case study regions being coordinated by UNEP-WCMC. Seascope has worked on detailed analyses of the North-East Atlantic and the Central Eastern Pacific. These two regions, together with the Southern Ocean and Mediterranean regions that have been analysed by UNEP-WCMC, will help inform options that may be appropriate for the GEF-ABNJ Component 4 pilot areas.

GOBI efforts with strong relevance to the GEF ABNJ project include two expert meetings organised for CBD Secretariat in Berlin and a third meeting organised in New York. These meetings contributed expert views to CBD SBSTTA20 where GOBI contributed to side events. GOBI also attended the first meeting of the BBNJ PrepCom process.

Participated in the *Sustainable Ocean Initiative Global Dialogue with Regional Seas Organizations and Regional Fisheries Bodies on Accelerating Progress Towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets* (September).

SIODFA – Southern Indian Ocean Deepsea Fishers Association

SIODFA is supporting project goals and objectives through its contributions to the business of SIOFA., including field survey activities and vessel time, training programs on the Association's vessels and data collection. SIODFA's main actions in 2016 were related to its participation in the SIOFA Scientific Committee and Commission meetings.

SIOFA – Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement

The first meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee was held in March. The SC developed the following five themes for its first work plan

1. Scientific data standards for the collection, reporting, verification and exchange of data
2. Advice on vulnerable marine ecosystems
3. Current and historical status of fishing activities
4. Stock assessments
5. Advice on the impacts of fishing on associated and dependent species

SPRFMO – South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation

Held Commission and Scientific Committee meetings in 2016.

Is developing a stock assessment for orange roughy; and notes that New Zealand is conducting exploratory fishing for toothfish.

UNEP-WCMC – UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre

UNEP-WCMC, through its other projects and programmes has been undertaking a range of unilateral and collaborative activities which are contributing to the Project. In 2016 this included:
Organising two workshops, one in each pilot region (SEP and WIO); and
Developing the evidence base for consideration of area-based planning in ABNJ.

UNEP – United Nations Environment Programme

UNEP, through its other projects and programmes has been undertaking a range of unilateral and collaborative activities which are contributing to the Project. In 2016 this included: *to be added*

2 2016 financial overview

The ABNJ Deep seas Project budget comprises a GEF grant amounting to USD7 315 597 and co-financing from partner amounting to USD 79 558 500. In this report (2015), the contributions arising from partner contributions are not given, but will be provided in future reports.

GEF budget expenditures* as of the end of December 2016 - to be added

<i>Expenditure of Components</i>	<i>Expenditures</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Policy and legal frameworks for sustainable fisheries and biodiversity in the ABNJ deep seas		\$ 1,150,000
2. Reducing adverse impacts on VMEs and enhancing conservation of components of EBSAs		\$ 1,300,000
3. Improved planning and adaptive management for deep-sea fisheries in the ABNJ		\$ 1,952,236
4. Development and testing of a methodology for area-based planning	439,854	\$ 2,366,990
5. Project monitoring and evaluation		\$ 198,246
GEF Total budget	\$	\$ 7,315,597

*since 20 September 2014

3 Project management unit* events diary 2016

* Those of the Coordinator (FAO) and the Area-based planning specialist (UNEP-WCMC)

January	
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February	
16	CBD-FAO workshop on Aichi Target 6 — Rome, Italy
22-24	Project participation in the CBD EBSA review workshop — Berlin, Germany
24	Project presented at the GOBI Annual meeting — Berlin, Germany
March	
2-4	Meeting of deep sea fishing industry representatives — Rome, Italy.
21-24	Project presented at the SIOFA Scientific Committee meeting — Fremantle, Australia.
23 – 25	Nairobi Convention Focal Points Meeting and the IUCN-IDDRI Workshop on Southern Indian Ocean Project – Mauritius.
April	
14-16	Project presented at the NPFC Small Scientific Committee meeting on VMEs — Tokyo, Japan
25-27	Review of ABNJ Deep seas Project logframe and theory of change — Rome , Italy
May	
3-5	Workshop of regional deep seas fisheries management bodies in support of the Worldwide Review of Bottom Fisheries in the High Seas — Rome, Italy
10-12	GEF International Waters Conference — Colombo, Sri Lanka
19-21	Capacity Development to Improve the Management of Marine Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ): Needs, Experiences, Options, and Opportunities— Grenada
31	Meeting with IUCN on project matters
June	
7-9	Workshop on the biology and assessment of orange roughy — Auckland, New Zealand.
23-24	Project participation in the EU Expert Seminar on Maritime Spatial Planning – Azores, Portugal
July	
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August	
11	Meeting of the FAO Project Task Force, Rome, Italy.
16-18	PMU monitoring and evaluation exercise
September	
26-28	Sustainable Ocean Initiative Global Dialogue with Regional Seas Organizations and Regional Fisheries Bodies on Accelerating Progress Towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (CBD, FAO, UNEP) — Seoul, Republic of Korea.
30 -01 Nov	18th Global Meeting of the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plan – Incheon, Republic of Korea
October	
10-14	Project presented at the SEAFO Scientific Committee meeting — Windhoek, Namibia.
13 - 14	Area-based planning workshop (Western Indian Ocean), Mahe, Seychelles.
17-21	Project presented at the CCAMLR Scientific Committee meeting — Hobart, Australia.
November	
7-8	Area-based planning workshop (South-East Pacific), Guayaquil, Ecuador.
9	Meeting with SIOFA Executive Secretary to discuss project implementation
December	
2	Participated in the World Ocean Council Sustainable Ocean Summit — Rotterdam, Netherlands
7-8	Participated in the 18 th Annual consultative meeting on large marine ecosystems and coastal partners – presenting on fisheries governance in LMEs and ABNJ — Paris, France.

4 Progress towards achieving 2016 activities and draft 2017 work plan

EXAMPLE

Component 1: Policy and legal frameworks for sustainable fisheries and biodiversity conservation in the ABNJ deep seas.

Component 1 - Outcome 1.2: Global and regional networks are strengthened and/or expanded.

Output 1.2.1: Collaborative networks and partnerships, including all stakeholders involved in ABNJ-DSF and biodiversity conservation, strengthened or set-up, with links to global and regional communities of practice under the ABNJ Program.

Activity 1: Carrying out of two global stakeholder meetings for DSF and biodiversity communities.

Prior activities completed

- ABNJ Deep Seas project partners meeting was held in June 2014.
- A 2015 meeting of deep seas fishing industry facilitated.

Activities already completed (before 2016)

2016.

A meeting with fishing industry representatives was in Rome (March 2016) to discuss matters of common interest including the UNGA bottom fishing review and BBNJ PrepCom.

Activities undertaken in 2016

2017.

- Planning for Busan II meeting to review of the implementation of the International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas — and identify challenges and ways forward.

Activities proposed for 2017

Component 1: Policy and legal frameworks for sustainable fisheries and biodiversity conservation in the ABNJ deep seas.	
Component 1 - Outcome 1.1: Improved implementation of existing policy and legal frameworks, incorporating obligations and good practices from global and regional legal and policy instruments for sustainable fisheries and biodiversity conservation, are tested and disseminated to all competent authorities	
Output 1.1.1: Challenges to the implementation of international policy and legal instruments identified and remedial measures are formulated.	
Activity 1: Analysis of challenges and best practices in the implementation of policy and legal instruments and processes as well as of relevant institutions involved, relating to DSF management and biodiversity in the ABNJ.	Completed in June 2016
Activity 2: Carrying out of an e-review to solicit input in the analysis prepared under Activity 1.1.1.1	Completed in September 2016.
Output 1.1.2: Step-wise guide for implementation of relevant international policy and legal instruments to deep-sea fisheries and biodiversity conservation made available to competent authorities, industry partners and other stakeholders.	
Activity 1: Design and production of the step-wise guide.	2016 A stepwise guide was produced.
	2017 The stepwise guide will be formatted for training purposes and key elements developed into training materials.
Activity 2: Training in the use of the step-wise guide.	2016 A plan for training has been agreed to by FAO-Legal and the consultants that will undertake the work. Drafting of the contract is underway.
	2017 Training will be undertaken as part of the regional workshops planned under output 1.1.3
Output 1.1.3: Model policy and legal frameworks, enabling sustainable DSF management and biodiversity conservation at the regional and national levels, developed and integrated into national legislation in countries in at least one region.	
Activity 1: Development of a national model policy and legal framework for at least one selected pilot region.	Activities to start in 2017. Consultants identified and contract being negotiated
Activity 2: Carrying out of a stakeholder consultation in at least one pilot region.	Activities to start in 2017.
Activity 3: Preparation and implementation of a legal capacity building program in the selected pilot region.	Activities to start in 2017.
Activity 4: Revision of the national legislations of selected developing countries in the pilot region, with regards to DSF and biodiversity.	Activities to start in 2017
Output 1.1.4: Options for market-based incentives developed and tested in at least one selected pilot area.	

Activity 1: Best practices in market-based incentives for DSF.	Activities to start in 2017. Consultant identified and TOR developed.
<p>Activity 2: Production of operational manual of best practices and utilization of traceability.</p> <p><i>Prior activities completed</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAO Expert Consultation on Establishing Guidelines for Catch Documentation Schemes to Improve the Traceability of Fishery Products held 2015 and report available. 	<p>2016.</p> <p>National and regional good practices in seafood traceability systems to combat IUU fishing in Asia workshop held in Kochi, India 2016 [FAO-FIAM]</p> <p>Preparation of a good practice guideline on national seafood traceability systems, and related training materials (PowerPoint presentation, country check list, brainstorming activity) to be used in a regional workshop on National and regional good practices in seafood traceability systems to combat IUU fishing in Africa [in collaboration with FAO-FIAM].</p> <p>2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of the guideline and training materials. • Training work to be held in collaboration with FAO-FIAM in Africa. Workshop to include South Africa, Namibia, Angola, Seychelles and Mauritius.
Activity 3: Implementation of a model outline for catch/trade documentation or traceability scheme.	This work will follow on from activity 1 above.
Component 1 - Outcome 1.2: Global and regional networks are strengthened and/or expanded.	
Output 1.2.1: Collaborative networks and partnerships, including all stakeholders involved in ABNJ-DSF and biodiversity conservation, strengthened or set-up, with links to global and regional communities of practice under the ABNJ Program.	
<p>Activity 1: Carrying out of two global stakeholder meetings for DSF and biodiversity communities.</p> <p><i>Prior activities completed</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ABNJ Deep Seas project partners meeting was held in June 2014. • A 2015 meeting of deep seas fishing industry facilitated. 	<p>2016.</p> <p>A meeting with fishing industry representatives was in Rome (March 2016) to discuss matters of common interest including the UNGA bottom fishing review and BBNJ PrepCom.</p> <p>2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning for Busan II meeting to review of the implementation of the International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas — and identify challenges and ways forward. The first meeting was held in Busan in 2010 and reviewed the issues encountered by RFMOs and States in implementing the guidelines. The second meeting will review the challenges 7/8 years on. The timing of this meeting will be such that the results of several project reviews can also be considered.
Activity 2: Strengthening of global and regional networks related to DSF and associated biodiversity.	<p>2016.</p> <p>Informal Secretariats Contact Group formed (CCAMLR, GFCM, NAFO, NEAFC, NPFC, SEAFO, SIOFA, SPRFMO)</p> <p>The EBSA network was strengthen with three regional workshops.</p> <p>Regional Seas Network was strengthened thorough two area-based planning meetings</p> <p>Contributions describing the project have been made to GOBI and RSN newsletters</p> <p>The Project has produced information materials to BBNJ discussions and the bottom fisheries review process, including</p>

	<p>a deep sea fisheries brochure, deep sea project section of the Common Oceans Brochure.</p> <p>D-Groups email discussions and circulation of topical material ongoing.</p> <p>Linkages being developed with the Deep Ocean Observation System (DOOS) group regarding the use of industry vessels (in collaboration with the world Ocean Council) to collect data on deep sea ecosystems.</p> <p>Linkages being developed with the Deep Ocean Stewardship Initiative (DOSI), in particular the DOSI climate change working group, to collaboratively explore the effects of climate change on VMEs.</p> <p>2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning for Busan II meeting to review of the implementation of the International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas — and identify challenges and ways forward. The first meeting was held in Busan in 2010 and reviewed the issues encountered by RFMOs and States in implementing the guidelines. The second meeting will review the challenges 7/8 years on. The timing of this meeting will be such that the results of several project reviews can also be considered.
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Component 2: Reducing adverse impact on VMEs and enhancing conservation of components of EBSAs.

Component 2 - Outcome 2.1: Improved application of management tools for mitigation of threats to sustainable DSF and biodiversity is demonstrated

Output 2.1.1: Biological, ecological and economic analyses of DSF and associated biodiversity in the ABNJ carried out, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, to classify risks and threats and identify VMEs.

<p>Activity 1: Collation and consolidation of existing biological and ecological information on DSF and associated biodiversity.</p> <p><i>Prior activities completed</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSIRO, Duke University and GOBI have been collecting and grooming data as part of the (CBD) EBSA process. • CBD held 3 regional EBSA in 2015. • In 2015 the FAO Deep-seas Fisheries Programme, the EAF-Nansen project and the South East Atlantic Fisheries Organization organized a research cruise with the R/V Dr Fridtjof Nansen in the Convention Area of SEAFO to conduct basic mapping and identification of VMEs and fisheries on seamounts • Development of deep seas inventories in collaboration with iMarine [FAO]. 	<p>2016.</p> <p>Ongoing activities undertaken by Duke University, Grid Arendal, NOAA, GOBI and CSIRO. <i>Please provide details</i></p> <p>CSIRO: ongoing collection of global and regional data sets for the Indian and Pacific Oceans (to be displayed on geoserver and msp.csiro.au).</p> <p>2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duke University: <i>please add</i> • NOAA: <i>please add</i> • Grid Arendal: <i>please add</i> • CSIRO: ongoing collection of global and regional data sets for the Indian and Pacific Oceans (to be displayed on geoserver and msp.csiro.au; <i>please add</i> • CSIRO: holding 2 workshops (Indian Ocean and Pacific Ocean. These will gather the relevant experts and national stakeholders together to develop a draft bioregionalisation. Further workshops will be held in 2019 for both areas to finalise the work – <i>please add</i>
<p>Activity 2: Consolidation and analysis of existing socio-economic information on DSF and associated biodiversity.</p>	<p>2016.</p> <p>A gender analysis of deep seas fisheries, including an industry survey completed.</p> <p>A draft Terms of reference for a study to examine decent work in deep sea fisheries in the ABNJ was reviewed by the PSC intersessionally. A consultant has been identified, and work is expected to start in 2017.</p>

	<p>Ongoing — an ecosystems services valuation has been started. This work will also review and synthesise existing literature and web-based information relating to the direct values, indirect ecosystem values, option values, and non-use values of sponge dominated ecosystems, with particular reference to the North Atlantic region. This is a contribution to the SponGEs project. FAO is also a partner in the SponGES Project which focuses on the deep-sea sponge ground ecosystems of the North Atlantic and takes an integrated approach towards their preservation and sustainable exploitation</p>
	<p>2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing - the ecosystems services valuation • Decent work study to characterise the labour issues and work force involved with deep sea fishing in the ABNJ, including interviews and consultations with relevant stakeholders and experts. Including an assessment of existing decent work practices in the deep-sea fishing industry and associated supply chains against the four pillars of ILO's decent work agenda and ILO's fundamental principles and rights at work. Recommendations for possible follow up work.
<p>Activity 3: Assessment of potential interactions between DSF and biodiversity.</p>	<p>Not started. Potential activities up for discussion</p>
<p>Activity 4: Updating of the Worldwide Review of Bottom Fisheries in the High Seas.</p>	<p>2016 A meeting of regional bodies with a mandate to manage deep sea fisheries was convened (in March) to review the structure and proposed content of the report. To-date, the regional chapters have been drafted [in collaboration with FAO-Norway].</p>
	<p>2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing — finalization of the world wide review [in collaboration with FAO-Norway].
<p>Activity 5: Report on best practices for identification of VMEs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertaking the review of current practices and processes for VMEs, including organising an international workshop in Namibia, in March 2015 to review draft overviews of regional chapters [FAO-NOR]. • Undertaking the review Best practices in VME encounter protocols and impact assessments, including organising the supporting workshop in collaboration with the Norwegian Institute of Marine Research (IMR) in Norway in May 2015. to facilitate the sharing of best practices and effective solutions on VME encounter protocols and impact assessments [FAO-NOR] 	<p>Completed in 2016. The report has been finalised and will be published in Q1 2017 [FAO-Norway].</p>
<p>Activity 6: Production of a manual for the collection and analyses of data to improve EBSA descriptions.</p>	<p>Completed in 2016.</p> <p>CBD and GOBI convened an expert meeting to share experiences and lessons learned on the scientific approaches and methodologies for the description of EBSAs in February. A report on the outcomes of this meeting was produced, and subsequently provided to the CBD SBSTTA-20 meeting [CBD, contributions from GOBI, IUCN, CSIRO, Duke University,</p>

	UNEP, UNEP-WCMC].
Output 2.1.2: Interactive web databases, for identification and use in mitigation of threats to sustainable DSF and biodiversity in ABNJ, particularly for VMEs and components of EBSAs, improved for use in regions in close collaboration with all stakeholders.	
<p>Activity 1: Sharing of geospatial information on DSF and associated biodiversity.</p> <p><i>Prior activities completed</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with RFMOs, including providing training, to update the VME database. Ongoing development of the VME Portal and DataBase 	<p>Ongoing activity — the VME database and portal is updated annually [deep sea fisheries manage bodies].</p>
<p>Activity 2: Development of specialised applications for and interactive VME database.</p>	<p>2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible development of a tool for industry providing VME coordinates, fine scale maps and other information.
<p>Activity 3: Develop a regional EBSA information sharing platform in support of EBSA Global Repository.</p> <p><i>Prior activities completed</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The EBSA database developed and operational. 	<p>Ongoing activity — the EBSA database is updated regularly [CBD].</p>
Output 2.1.3: Indicators for the identification of potential VMEs and for description of areas meeting EBSA criteria, developed in at least one pilot area.	
<p>Activity 1: Review and develop VME indicators in pilot areas.</p> <p><i>Prior activities completed</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RV Fridtjof Nansen survey information analysed and used in the development VME advice to SEAFO 	<p>No activity in 2016</p>
	<p>2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposals welcome.
<p>Activity 2: Use of EBSA information for enhancing conservation and management measures in pilot areas.</p> <p><i>Prior activities completed</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion of good practices in three regional workshops in 2015 	<p>Ongoing activity.</p> <p>In 2016, promotion of the use of EBSA information in various international fora, including the CBD/FAO Sustainable Ocean Initiative Global Dialogue with Regional Seas Organizations and Regional Fisheries Bodies on Accelerating Progress Towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, held in Seoul, Republic of Korea, in September [CBD].</p>
<p>Activity 3: Development of appropriate monitoring methods and tools for VME indicators in pilot areas</p>	<p>Ongoing activity.</p> <p>In 2016, development of identification tools for Sponges (Indian Ocean) and sponges and corals (Mediterranean) [FAO-</p>

	Norway].
	2017. NPFC has indicated some interest in a workshop for members to pool their VME data and undertake combined analysis with a view to making the best use of available data in support of the technical advice on VME thresholds and encounter protocols.
Output 2.1.4: Improved fishing practices to reduce impacts on VMEs and marine biodiversity, developed in at least one pilot area.	
<p>Activity 1: Establishment of partnerships and tools for recording biodiversity information.</p> <p><i>Prior activities completed</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Species guides and catalogues of the deep-sea cartilaginous fishes of the Indian Ocean and the South East Atlantic developed [FAO-Norway]. 	<p>2016. Development of an identification catalogue and guide for deep-sea elasmobranchs in the eastern Pacific region. Marine species biological data collection manual published in 2016 [FAO-Norway]. Ongoing — development of SmartForms, an application for the on-board collection of VME and biodiversity information.</p> <p>2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical workshop on ocean observing methods [FAO-EAFF Nansen] Roadtesting the SmartForms application
<p>Activity 2: Review of regional fisheries management measures on biodiversity conservation.</p>	<p>2016. A list of management measures for the conservation and management of biodiversity conservation (binding and non-binding) and an overview of management measures of relevance to biodiversity conservation has been collated and categorized. Waiting for final inputs from 2016 before finalizing.</p> <p>2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalization of the above document
<p>Activity 3: Testing of new techniques for mitigating adverse impacts from DSF on ecosystems.</p>	<p>2016. Ongoing — testing of real time fibre optic broadband cable, which provides real time footage on the bridge, and the ability to observe and react to VMEs in real time. Associated with this is the use of a cable release from the net [Sealord Group]. Ongoing — use of a full wideband acoustic system on vessels in the Indian Ocean (covering the from 30-90 Khz range), which is expected to give improved ground habitat discrimination [Sealord Group]</p> <p>2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing — testing of real time fibre optic broadband cable, which provides real time footage on the bridge, and the ability to observe and react to VMEs in real time. Associated with this is the use of a cable release from the net [Sealord Group]. Ongoing — use of a full wideband acoustic system on vessels in the Indian Ocean (covering the from 30-90 Khz range), which is expected to give improved ground habitat discrimination [Sealord Group]

Component 2 - Outcome 2.2: Extent of application of improved management tools for mitigation of threats to sustainable DSF and biodiversity in national processes)

Output 2.2.1: Customized support provided to at least ten developing countries to fully integrate best practices for sustainable DSF and biodiversity conservation in their management processes.

<p>Activity 1: Formulation of capacity development programs for integrating sustainable DSF and biodiversity conservation into national management processes and for supporting their implementation.</p> <p><i>Prior activities completed</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training in scientific write up of the SEAFO survey results, through partnerships between regional and international experts [FAO-Norway] • - Training on the identification of deep-sea cartilaginous fishes occurring in the southeastern Atlantic Ocean (June 2015). http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5514e.pdf • 	<p>2016 Training on the use of guides in the identification of deep sea cartilaginous fishes of the south eastern Pacific Ocean held in November [FAO-Norway].</p> <p>FAO expert workshop on the identification of biological samples collected on the RV Nansen / SEAFO research cruise (December).</p>
	<p>2017. <i>For discussion</i></p>
<p>Activity 2: Support to enhance participation of developing countries in DSF and conservation processes.</p>	<p>2016. The project supported the participation of Mr. Paulus Kainge (Namibia / SEAFO) to the ABNJ Regional leaders Program held in March (organized by the ABNJ Capacity Project).</p> <p>2017. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For discussion </p>

Output 2.2.2: Technical and operational support on the application of VME and EBSA criteria provided, for systematic use by countries.

<p>Activity 1: Carrying out of customized training workshops on the application of VME and EBSA criteria.</p> <p><i>Prior activities completed</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every regional workshop on EBSAs (11 since 2014) has started with EBSA training [CBD, in collaboration with CSIRO and Duke University technical support teams]. 	<p>2016 Workshop held on the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries (DSF) and Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs) in the Mediterranean in collaboration with GFCM, in July [FAO-Norway]</p> <p>Workshop held on the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries (DSF) and Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs) in the western, central Atlantic in collaboration with WECAF, in November [FAO-Norway]</p> <p>2017 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible workshop on the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries (DSF) and Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs) in the central east Atlantic in collaboration with CECAF. Date to be advised. </p>
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Component 3: Improved planning and adaptive management for deep-sea fisheries in the ABNJ.

Component 3 - Outcome 3.1: Planning and management processes for achieving sustainable DSF and biodiversity conservation are improved, tested, and disseminated to all competent authorities

Output 3.1.1: Best practices, methods and tools for comprehensive management planning, encompassing an ecosystem approach and allowing for adaptive changes, reviewed and adapted to the special conditions of ABNJ-DSF.

<p>Activity 1: (global) Analysis of best practices for DSF and development of an operational manual for improved planning and management for DSF.</p>	<p>Not started. Anticipated to be a collation of material collected and developed over the course if the project.</p>
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<p>Activity 2: (global) Improving knowledge on key deep-sea species and on methodologies and technologies for studying and assessing them.</p> <p><i>Prior activities completed</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From June to August 2015, the RV Dr Fridtjof Nansen undertook a Trans-Indian Ocean Survey from Indonesia to South Africa. During the second leg of this trip, from Mauritius to South Africa, the crew tested a video grab system for sampling benthic habitats; however, due to bad weather, the results were limited [FAO-Norway] • Proving support to SEAFO relating to the stock assessment of deep-seas species [FAO]. 	<p>2016.</p> <p>Cornerstone document on the biology, assessment and management of alfonsino published published (http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5336e.pdf)</p> <p>Workshop of experts held in July to provide input into a global review of the biology and assessment of orange roughy. The resulting document is at an advanced stage of preparation.</p> <p>Training on the identification of biological samples (from the RV Fridtjof Nansen survey) provided in December 2016 [FAO-Norway]. the use of sponges and corals identification guides— to be followed up on the second half 2016.</p> <p>Ongoing - FAO is a partner in the University of Bergen led North Atlantic deep-sea sponges (SponGES) project which received EU funding in 2015. FAO, with government and academic agencies aim to develop an integrated ecosystem-based concept for the management and conservation of deep-sea sponge ecosystems of the North Atlantic. Activities associated with this project will include: strengthening the knowledge base, use of innovation technology, improving the ability to predict change, and providing decision support tools for management.</p> <p>Linkages developed with the Deep Ocean Stewardship Initiative (DOSI), in particular the DOSI climate change working group, to collaboratively explore the effects of climate change on VMEs.</p> <p>2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop to review the performance of acoustics data in the assessment of orange roughy in the southern Indian Ocean, January. • Possible expert review of the biology and assessment of Pacific armourhead on collaboration with NPFC. • Ongoing – collaboration with the SponGES project. <p>Examination of the effects of climate change on VMEs in collaboration with the DOSI climate change working group.</p>
<p>Activity 3: (Global) Review of effectiveness and application of RBM in fisheries in the ABNJ.</p>	<p>To start in 2017 — consultant has been identified and planning has started.</p>
<p>Output 3.1.2: Adaptive management processes demonstrated, including identification of management objectives and priorities, through participatory risk analysis in at least one selected pilot area.</p>	
<p>Activity 1: (Pilot areas) Preparation of EAF baseline report for the selected pilot areas.</p>	<p>To start in 2017.</p>
<p>Activity 2: (Pilot areas) Issue identification and prioritisation for management planning.</p>	<p>To start in 2017.</p>
<p>Activity 3: (pilot areas) Development of operational objectives.</p>	<p>To start in 2017.</p>
<p>Activity 4: (Pilot areas) Identification of options for improved adaptive management measures.</p>	<p>To start in 2017</p>
<p>Output 3.1.3: Objective-based indicators and reference points selected and a related monitoring programme for DSF in the ABNJ tested in a selected pilot area.</p>	
<p>Activity 1: (Pilot areas) Selection of objective-based indicators and reference points.</p>	<p>For discussion.</p>

Activity 2: (Pilot areas) Design and implementation of monitoring programme.	For discussion.
Output 3.1.4: Action plan for adoption of best MCS practices, adapted to the specific conditions of DSF in the ABNJ, formulated and adopted in one of the selected pilot areas.	
Activity 1: (Global/pilot areas) Review global successful practices in MCS and existing MCS systems.	To start in 2017.
Activity 2: (pilot areas) Consider options for strengthened MCS and compliance and develop or revise MCS action plan(s) accordingly.	Follows on from activity 1, above.
Output 3.1.5: Options for improved management measures for sustainable fisheries and biodiversity conservation, - including: i) encounters with vulnerable species/habitats, (ii) spatial management tools, and (iii) fishing operations aimed at mitigating adverse impacts on sensitive habitats and ecosystems - developed and disseminated. This will include pilot activities in the Indian Ocean and Southeast Atlantic	
Activity 1: (Global/regional) Experimental testing and trial implementation of improved management measures, indicators and thresholds.	From 2.1.4 2016. Ongoing — testing of real time fibre optic broadband cable, which provides real time footage on the bridge, and the ability to observe and react to VMEs in real time. Associated with this is the use of a cable release from the net [Sealord Group]. Ongoing — use of a full wideband acoustic system on vessels in the Indian Ocean (covering the from 30-90 Khz range), which is expected to give improved ground habitat discrimination [Sealord Group]
	From 2.1.4 2017. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing — testing of real time fibre optic broadband cable, which provides real time footage on the bridge, and the ability to observe and react to VMEs in real time. Associated with this is the use of a cable release from the net [Sealord Group]. • Ongoing — use of a full wideband acoustic system on vessels in the Indian Ocean (covering the from 30-90 Khz range), which is expected to give improved ground habitat discrimination [Sealord Group]
Component 4: Development and testing of a methodology for area-based planning.	
Component 4 - Outcome 4.1: Efficient area-based planning tools and good practices based on ecosystem-based management practices are made available to competent authorities	
Output 4.1.1: Adaptation and further development of available area-based planning tools addressing deep-sea ecosystems in ABNJ and connected EEZs.	
Activity 1: Review and outlook of area-based planning. This activity describes the production of scientific or legal reviews on ABP in ABNJ that will guide the subsequent regional work.	2016. 3 studies completed: (i) institutional arrangements and legal instruments in SE Pacific and WIO – final draft completed (ii) introduction to global marine datasets of biodiversity importance in the Western Indian Ocean - published (iii) introduction to global marine datasets of biodiversity importance in the South East Pacific - published
	2017. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalise for publication: Institutional arrangements and legal instruments in SE Pacific and WIO • Ongoing: Review of area-based planning (ABP) tools and their applicability to deep sea ABNJ

<p>Activity 2: Development of area-based planning tools and technologies for ABNJ application in regional pilot areas.</p>	<p>2016. Connectivity study of ABNJ and EEZs, a review - Started</p> <p>Review of area-based planning (ABP) tools and their applicability to deep sea ABNJ [UNEP-WCMC; UNEP DEPI] - initial work started.</p> <hr/> <p>2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connectivity study of ABNJ with EEZs, a review - Complete initial review • Review of area-based planning (ABP) tools and their applicability to deep sea ABNJ [UNEP-WCMC; UNEP DEPI] – complete • Synthesis report - Drawing together the findings from the reviews undertaken in Output 4.1.1 Activity 1 and 4.1.2. Activity 1., a synthesis report will be done to suggest appropriate area-based planning approaches in the two pilot regions based upon each regional context, utilizing suitable experiences of area-based planning approaches in ABNJ and applicable area-based planning tools.
<p>Output 4.1.2: Knowledge and experiences sharing from the Northeast Atlantic and the Mediterranean concerning deep-sea marine ecosystems and area-based planning.</p>	
<p>Activity 1: Collate and communicate lessons learned and experiences in area-based planning processes to regional policy makers and key regional authorities.</p>	<p>2016. A review of regional area-based planning (ABP) approaches in ABNJ started [UNEP-WCMC in collaboration with Seascope Consultants Ltd]</p> <hr/> <p>2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of the review of regional area-based planning (ABP) approaches in ABNJ.
<p>Component 4 - Outcome 4.2: Area-based planning in ABNJ is incorporated into the regional marine planning processes in selected regions through partnerships between competent authorities</p>	
<p>Output 4.2.1: Testing of area-based planning tools in the selected regions.</p>	
<p>Activity 1: Regional pilot area engagement, stakeholder analysis, governance and area-based planning capacity assessment.</p>	<p>2016. Regional pilot area engagement began with representation in each pilot region to present and discuss the project and Component 4 activities in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nairobi Convention Focal Points Meeting and the IUCN-IDDRI Workshop on Southern Indian Ocean Project, Mauritius (March) - Area Based Planning Workshop, Seychelles [UNEP-WCMC, with Grid Arendal] (October) - CPPS Ocean Governance and Area-Based Planning Workshop, Guayaquil, Ecuador [UNEP-WCMC, with Grid Arendal, and skype presentation from Duke University] (November) <p>Stakeholder analysis and capacity assessment – phase 1 undertaken</p> <p>CSIRO, in collaboration with CBD, Aus Aid, SPREP, PIFS, is conducted MSP training workshops in the Pacific area – these workshops are designed to be compatible with the EAF framework.</p> <hr/> <p>2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder analysis and capacity assessment – validation through workshops [UNEP-WCMC & GRID-Arendal].

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing - CSIRO, in collaboration with CBD, Aus Aid, SPREP, PIFS, will conduct MSP training workshops in the Pacific area.
Activity 2: Undertake participatory area-based planning in the pilot regions to test ABNJ area-based planning tools	<p>No activities in 2016</p> <p>2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two regional workshops will be held in the second half of 2017, one in each of the pilot regions (South-East Pacific and Western Indian Ocean). These workshops will be the forum for further developing the methodology and tools for area-based planning in collaboration with the two pilot regions. The workshops are supported by CPPS and the Nairobi Convention.
Output 4.2.2: Science-based and policy relevant advice on area-based planning and management applied in regional deep-sea ecosystem planning processes in the selected test regions with engagement of relevant stakeholders and through the partnership between competent authorities.	
Activity 1: Carrying out workshop with policy makers.	<p>No activities in 2016</p> <p>2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No work under this activity will be undertaken in Year 3.
Component 5: Project monitoring and evaluation.	
Component 5 - outcome 5.1: Project implementation conducted with adaptive results-based management, supported by M&E, including transmission of lessons learned via the IW-Learn Program	
Output 5.1.1: Website established which is compatible with IW-Learn program and contributes to ABNJ Program portal.	
Activity 1: Setting-up of website	The common oceans website is being assimilated into the FAO website framework.
Activity 2: IW-Learn activities	Contributions made to ABNJ-Learn by the PMU included: the GEF International Waters Conference in May; the Annual Large Marine Ecosystem consultation meeting in December.
Output 5.1.2: Project monitoring system operating and systematically providing information on progress in meeting project output and outcome targets.	
Activity 1: Setting-up of monitoring system	See below.
<p>Activity 2: Operation and maintenance of monitoring system</p> <p><i>Prior activities completed</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PSC and Inception meeting held December 2015 	<p>Ongoing — FAO Project task force meeting held in August to review project progress..</p> <p>The project was loaded into the FAO project monitoring system as an additional monitoring facility.</p>
Output 5.1.3: Timely biannual PPRs available for adaptive results-based management.	
Activity 1: Preparation of PPRs	Ongoing — Project Progress Reports produced for Jul-Dec 2015 and Jan-Jun 2016. A GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR) produced for the period July 2015 to June 2016.
Output 5.1.4: Midterm and terminal evaluation carried out and reports available.	
Activity 1: Carrying out of evaluations.	Upon advice from the lead technical officer, budget holder and the FAOs Office of Evaluation, the mid-term evaluation should commence in Q3-4 2017.

5 Progress with respect to the Project Logframe targets (as of December 2016)

Project objective: To achieve efficiency and sustainability in the use of deep-sea living resources and biodiversity conservation in the ABNJ, through the systematic application of an ecosystem approach for: (i) improving sustainable management practices for DSF, taking into account the impacts on related ecosystems; (ii) improving the protection of VMEs and components of EBSAs; and (iii) testing improved area-based planning tools for deep-sea ecosystems

To be added