



Intergovernmental Conference on an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (General Assembly resolution 72/249)

Third Session - 19-30 August 2019

Science to Policy in Practice: Multi-institutional Collaboration in the ABNJ

Organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Scope and description

This side event will showcase examples of multi-institutional cooperation for research generation and demonstrate how this underpins management decisions, highlighting science-to-policy pathways for the areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ), and partnerships for capacity development.

The focus will be on biodiversity and fisheries, providing practical examples of how research cooperation has informed the creation of spatially protected areas (e.g. Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems), whilst highlighting the importance of capacity development and knowledge transfer. Information on current adopted procedures for Environmental Impact Assessments in the ABNJ will be presented and discussed by Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs/As), to underline the importance of knowledge and capacity development in this context.

Examples from the work of the EAF-Nansen Programme will demonstrate how multi-institutional cooperation for science development has been used to inform management processes on biodiversity protection and conservation in the ABNJ. Especially in areas where limited knowledge is currently available, including the Southeast Atlantic and the Indian Ocean.

Results of the EU-funded Horizon 2020 SponGES project, which studies deep-sea sponges in the North Atlantic, will also be presented. The knowledge generated from this project has been disseminated in the global fora, and shared with regional organizations in the south Atlantic through capacity development.

During the event, speakers will present on their respective expertise on the above topics. The moderator will then facilitate a question and discussion period to encourage an open and reflective dialogue among the governments and international organizations present.

Date & location:

Tuesday 20 August, from 1:15 to 2:30 pm in Conference Room A



Agenda

Moderator:

Gabriella Bianchi

Research Coordinator, Institute of Marine Research (IMR), Norway

Opening Remarks

Vera Agostini

Deputy-Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture Department, FAO

Science to Management Pathways in the Southeast Atlantic

- Highlights of research surveys in the Southeast Atlantic
- Management and Conservation Measures in the SEAFO Convention Area

Lizette Voges

Executive Secretary, South East Atlantic Fisheries Organization (SEAFO)

Paulus Kainge

Chief Scientist, National Marine Information Research Centre (NatMIRC), Namibia

North Atlantic Collaboration in the ABNJ: The SponGES Project

Ellen Kenchington

Research Scientist, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)

Partnerships for Capacity Development: Opportunities and Challenges

Merete Tandstad

Coordinator EAF Nansen Programme, FAO

Open discussion

Closing Remarks



For more information:

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