

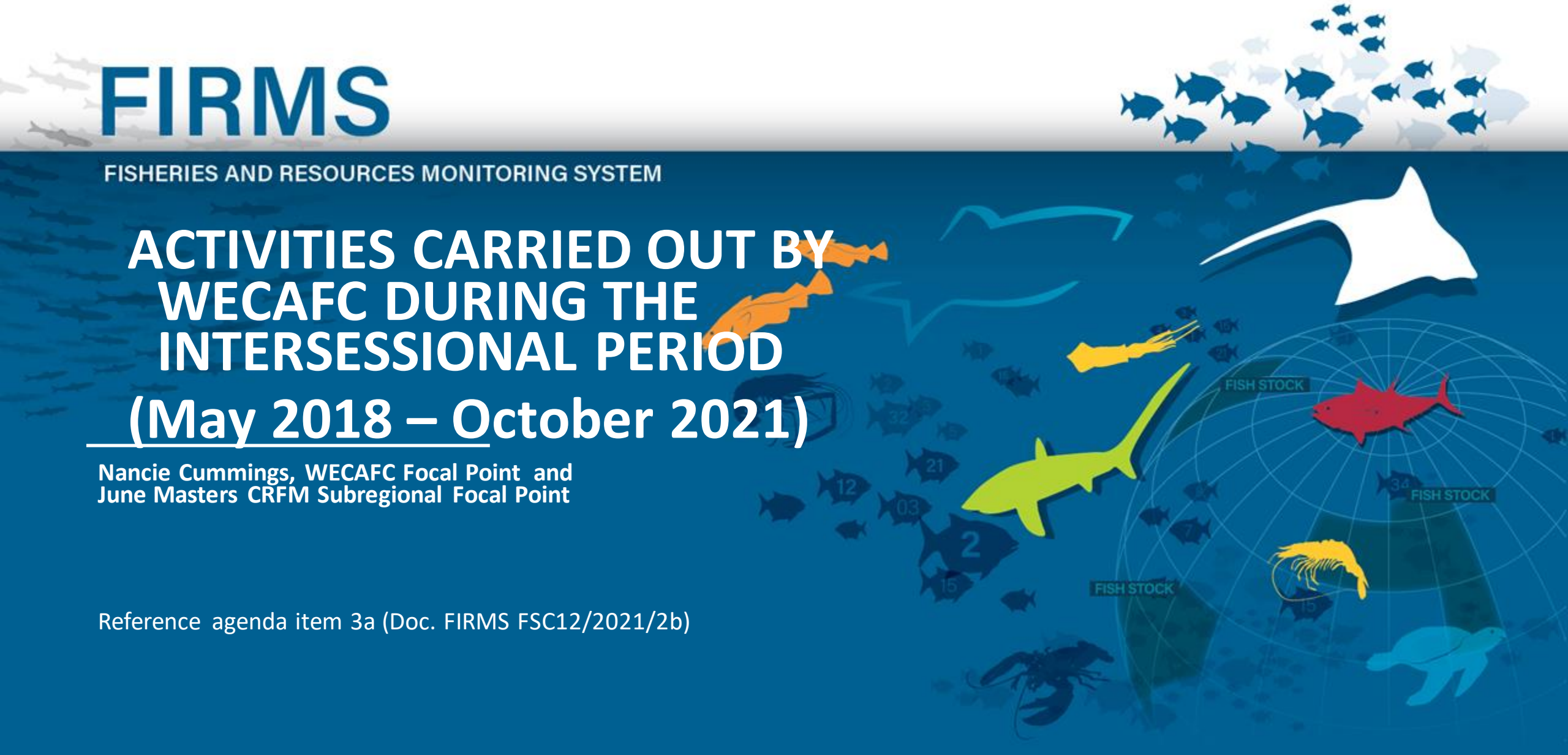
# FIRMS

FISHERIES AND RESOURCES MONITORING SYSTEM

## ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY WECAFC DURING THE INTERSESSIONAL PERIOD (May 2018 – October 2021)

Nancie Cummings, WECAFC Focal Point and  
June Masters CRFM Subregional Focal Point

Reference agenda item 3a (Doc. FIRMS FSC12/2021/2b)



# Developments: fisheries inventories and Marine resources

## Fishery sheets updated for:

- St. Lucia-Queen conch, Caribbean Spiny lobster, Flyingfish, Large pelagics fishery, Sharks, Sea Urchin, Whelks
- St. Kitts and Nevis-Queen conch, Coastal pelagic, Coral Reef and demersal fisheries
- New fishery fact sheets developed for:
- Dominica- Large pelagics and trolling,
- French Guiana (Bottom trawl shrimp, Coastal fish small scale, Handlines red snapper)

## New fishery fact sheets developed for:

- Dominica- Large pelagics and trolling,
- French Guiana (Bottom trawl shrimp, Coastal fish small scale, Handlines red snapper)

## Marine resources:

FIRMS Secretariat and FAO Consultant published new marine resource fact sheet for Seabob Coast of French Guiana

The full list of stocks and fisheries fact sheets reported for the WECAFC region is available at:

<http://firms.fao.org/firms/search/institution/wecafc/en>

# Review of standards

## Work continued through the FDS-WG on revisions of:

- Interim Data Collection Reference Framework (DCRF)- first endorsed by WECAF 17 (June 2019),
- WECAFC List of Species, fisheries and stocks
  - Interim List of Species -first endorsed by WECAF 17 (June 2019),
- Spatial units for WECAFC fishing zones
- Further revisions of fishing practice (gear, mode, effort units and measures)
- Development of preliminary Biological references (length measurement standards, maturity classifications, standard growth models, conversion factors)
- Information on iDCRF and Appendices available at: [DCRF and Appendices](#)

## FIRMS Regional Focal Point as FDS-WG convener, with support of WECAFC-FIRMS partnership and WECAFC Secretariat convened online meetings towards refinements of data collection standards:

- Preparatory Sessions for FDS-WG2 (September 2020)
- FDS-WG2 Virtual sessions (October 2020)
- FDS-WG2 Extended sessions for FDS-WG2 (May 2021)
- Intersessional meetings (3) convened on Spatial units for WECAFC fishing zones (March and June 2021)

# Applications and Case studies

Development of Applications (e.g. new module at Secretariat level, or enhancements in streamlining workflow at Partner level):

- WECAFC-FIRMS focal point developed online communication platform (google share drive) under pilot testing, for FDS-WG towards increasing communication among FDS-WG members and ultimately across all WECAFC WGs and WECAFC-FIRMS task force (October 2021)

Development/work on case studies/prototypes:

- WECAFC FIRMS focal point and Jamaica and CRFM national scientists prepared preliminary surveys to identify potential pilot projects for implementing logbooks (2020)- work to continue in 2022+

## Training or skills development:

- WECAFC-FIRMS focal point conducted one-on one sessions with national scientists on related to developing new fisheries inventories (Dominica) and updating inventories (Belize, Jamaica)
- WECAFC-FIRMS focal point communicated with national scientists via email correspondence towards updating inventories (Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, Belize)

## Promotional / fund raising activities:

- CRFM Focal Point delivered updated information on Work of the WECAFC-FIRMS Taskforce:
- 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum - electronic 27-28 April 2021.
- The Fifteenth Meeting of the Ministerial Council of the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM), (Electronic) Belize City, Belize, 21 May 2021.

## Planned activities during the coming intersession period.

- WECAFC-FIRMS focal point to continue outreach to national scientists towards:
- Increasing awareness of need and importance of updating fisheries marine resource and fact sheets,
- Increasing capacity of national scientists to update fact sheets in a timely manner- through implementation of scheduled data calls,
- Initiating more formal discussions with CRFM and OSPESCA focal points toward identifying bottlenecks and barriers to updating inventories
- Identifying outreach activities with national scientists towards producing required inputs for operationalization of the DCRF
- Data preparatory workshops to be convened November 2021 for purposes of capacity building on readying national data for DCRF task submissions and FIRMS templates



Thank you ▪ Merci  
Благодарю ▪ ¡Muchas gracias!  
謝謝 ▪ شكرا

WECAFC-Regional and CRFM Sub-regional Focal points and FAO-FIRMS

