



FIRMS Steering Committee Meeting
Eighth Session
Rome, Italy, 4 - 5 and 8 February 2013
RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF eTWG 3
Author: FIRMS Secretariat

MEETING PLACE: NIGERIA ROOM

TWG 3 was held during the period intercurring between the FSC7 and 8. As agreed during the FSC7 it has been split in two parts held as e-meetings. At FSC7, leading responsibilities have been assigned among partners on the various topics to be covered by TWG3. The leading persons are identified below.

During the two sessions (TWG 3.1 and TWG 3.2) the following themes were presented and discussed:

- FIRMS Thematic pages.
- Revision of Assessment section.
- Implementation of “Fishery Life Cycle” and “Monitoring Period”.
- Reference year vs Reporting year. Issues on definition and display.

Here below a summary of the results obtained, pending issues for each topic and the recommendation for the FSC8.

FIRMS THEMATIC PAGES

FIRMS on Tuna (Pilar Pallares) (http://km.fao.org/FIGISwiki/index.php/FIRMS_on_Tuna_thematic_page)

- Results:
 1. Revision of lists of Tuna and Tuna-like species (still in progress);

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2. Change of the page title from “FIRMS on Tuna” into “FIRMS on Tuna and Tuna fisheries”, which implied also to query fisheries which target tuna species;
 3. Change the introductory statement of the page as follows: “...This page provides a global digest of the information available through FIRMS on Tuna, Billfishes and Tuna-like resources”.

- Pending issues:

Creation of queries based on taxonomic criteria (e.g. family);

FIRMS on deep sea (high seas) resources (Barb Marshall)

(http://km.fao.org/FIGISwiki/index.php/Talk:FIRMS_Deep_Seas_High_Seas_thematic_page)

- Results:

Draft of a mapping interface to better visualize the elements of the table of the High Seas Deep Seas thematic page.

- Pending issues:

1. Revision of the list of deep seas species.
2. Identification of the criteria for identifying the depth range suitable for deep seas (high seas) resources.

- Recommendations:

1. Evaluate the goodness of the proposed mapping interface towards decision to proceed with the implementation work (an advanced prototype will be presented to the FSC8).
2. Enrich data coverage for SEAFO in order to show also management information in the thematic page (creation and reporting on fisheries).

FIRMS in the North Atlantic (Barb Marshall)

- Pending issue:

Creation of a thematic page including ICES, NEAFC, NAFO, DG MARE and ICCAT data for the North Atlantic. This page would provide a comprehensive view of resource assessment, fisheries management and socio-economic assessment in that area.

A further recommendation for the FSC8 is to propose other possible thematic pages.

ASSESSMENT (Pilar Pallares, Yimin Ye) (http://km.fao.org/FIGISwiki/index.php/Assessment_Models)

- Results:

1. Adoption of the proposed option 2 for assessment section within the Marine resources inventory Excel template (details available in the above mentioned Wiki page).
2. Implementation of the Assessment section in the Excel template, schema and SWIOFC fact sheets (example fact sheets accessible from the Wiki page).
3. Creation of a basic prototype for the uncertainty level ranking.
4. Start of a revision of the Assessment model/methods lists presently available in FIRMS.

- Pending issues:

1. Finding a criterion to rank the level of uncertainty in order to obtain a more objective evaluation.
2. Collecting further inputs for revising the Assessment model/methods lists presently available in FIRMS.

FISHERY LIFE CYCLE AND MONITORING PERIOD (Aureliano Gentile, Elena Balestri)

("Fishery Life Cycle" and "Monitoring period" boxes. Example:

Fishery <http://figisapps.fao.org/firms/fishery/484/en> ,

Marine Resource: <http://figisapps.fao.org/firms/resource/10545/163962/en> .

FIRMS Wiki documentation:

http://km.fao.org/FIGISwiki/index.php/Talk:Marine_Resource#Monitoring_cycles_of_marine_resources)

- Results:

Introduction and implementation of the concepts in the Excel templates, schema and fact sheets lay out of both concepts respectively for Fisheries and Marine resources.

- Pending issues:

Layout for closed fisheries and no longer monitored resources must be properly implemented.

- Recommendations:

FSC8 will decide for the final endorsement of the introduction of the new concepts.

REFERENCE YEAR (Aureliano Gentile)

(http://km.fao.org/FIGISwiki/index.php/Talk:FIRMS_Data_Models)

- Results:

Preparation of a proposal for the possible displays of the reference year in the fact sheets in alternative to what currently available (reference year in the title of the fact sheet). Among the options stored in the above mentioned Wiki page, the 4th one has been preferred (reference year within the Main descriptors box).

- Recommendations:

eTWG forwarded to the FSC8 the discussion on Reference year. Possible options would be:

1. replacing the reference year with the reporting year which seems easier to manage and closer to partners reporting standards;
2. removing reference year from the display of the fact sheet keeping it “hidden” but anyway related to data;
3. just changing the position of reference year in the layout of the fact sheet.