

Conclusions

VME Database WS, Session 4

FAO Workshop on the Global Database for Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems

Rome, Italy 7-9 May 2014

1. Functionality

VME portal.

Entry point to database, providing background information on international resolutions and guidelines ++. To be completed by FAO.

Front page functionalities

- Start-up page with logo, name and brief subheading describing contents and scope.
- Map with RFB names and regulatory areas.
- Menu with measures in relation to 61/105 ('existing fishing area', 'closures', 'other areas with access regulations').
- When clicking on an RFB, factsheet will appear with details on the VME measures and relevant documentation.
- When clicking on individual 'closure', the factsheets for each will appear.
- When clicking on 'existing fishing areas' and 'other areas', the RFB factsheet description of these subarea categories will appear.

- Legends are to be simplified and placed in a good position on the map. They must explain key features (Regulatory areas, EEZs, depths, place names etc).
- GEBCO bathymetry is to be retained, also a layer with names used by and credited to GEBCO. A layer with FAO names of countries and islands should also be provided. (What about highlighting the 2000m isobath to illustrate fishable subarea of ABNJ?)
- Search functions: as indicated but with somewhat added functionality.
- Help button: Video

Factsheets

- Generally good functionality.
- Can .pdfs be reformatted?
- Can .pdfs of multiple factsheets be generated?
- Investigate functionality options for maps on the .pdf?

2. Scope and information

- Scope: Measures implemented with reference to 61/105 and FAO guidelines. ABNJ only.
- Information beyond current scope should, if provided at all, be clearly separated.
- Name and front page description was amended and agreed.

Contents of RFB factsheets:

1) Area-based measures.

2) Other measures.

Under 1) and 2), RFB-specific tabs.

Highlight definitions of terms.

Include also interim measures, but not voluntary industry measures.

3. Future interaction with RFBs

- Most RFBs can probably commit some time every year to updating, but would need top level approval.
- CCAMLR: Harvesting from website much to be preferred.
- Short-term commitments were made to deliver initial information within few months.

5. Future needs and developments

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