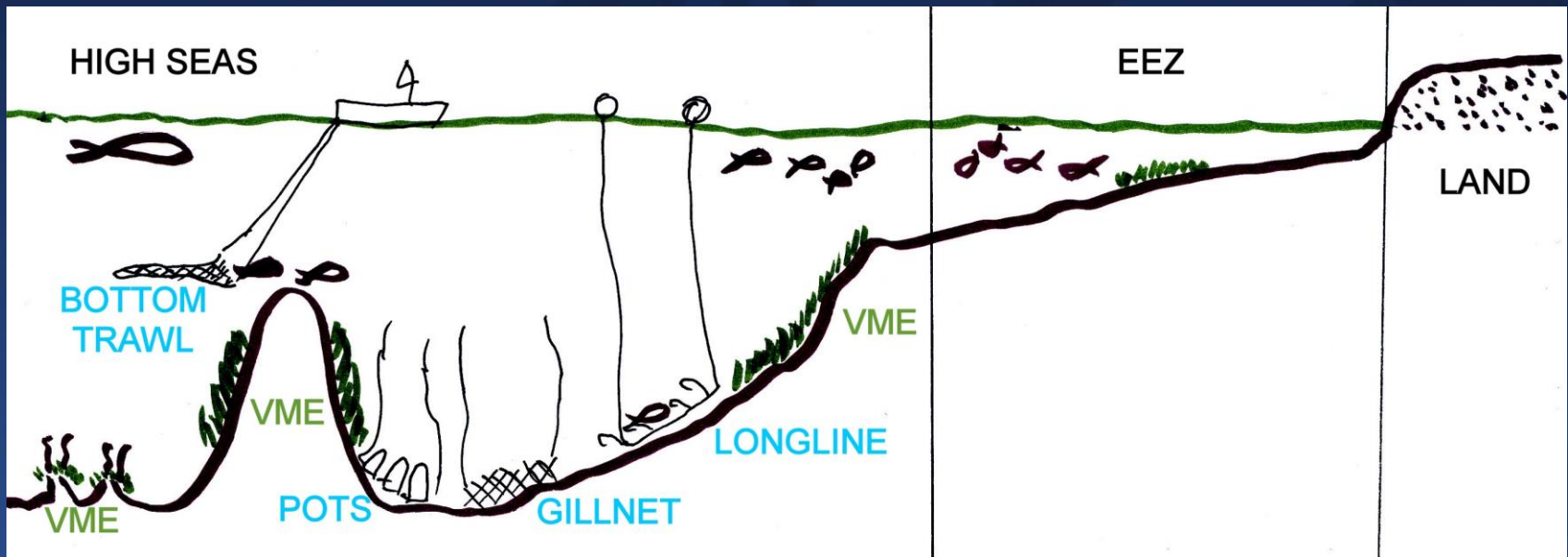
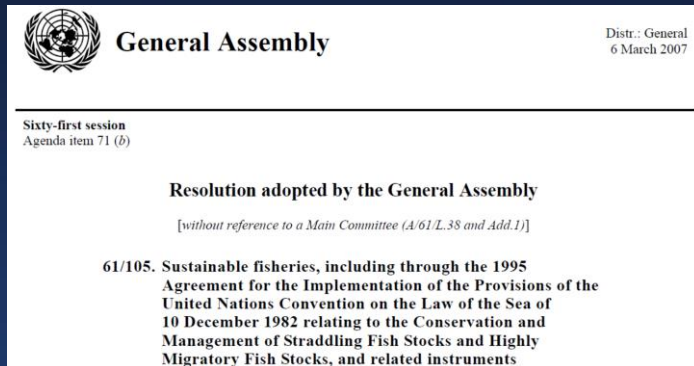


Global perspective on bottom fisheries in the high seas

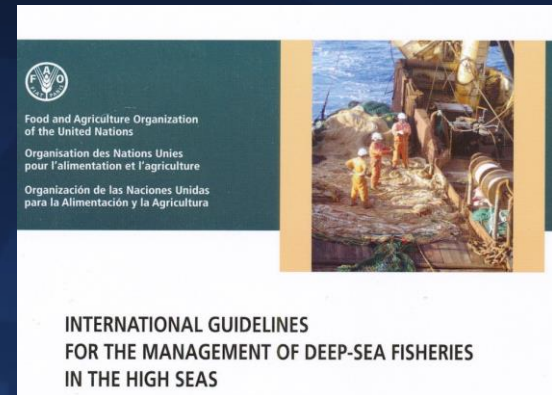


FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Division

Instruments that made transformation change



UNGA Res. 61/105 (2006)



FAO DSF Guidelines (2008)

By 31 December 2008 ...

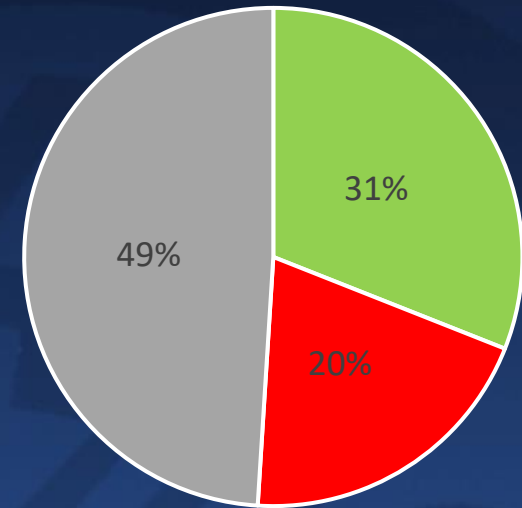
- ensuring the long-term conservation and sustainable use of marine living resources in the deep seas;
- preventing significant adverse impacts on VMEs

International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas (FAO DSF Guidelines)

- Adopted by FAO in 2008 after various workshops and consultations
- Purpose: assist States and RFMOs implement UN GA 61/105 resolutions concerning responsible fisheries in marine ecosystems
- Scope: ABNJ bottom fisheries
- Management objectives: promote responsible fisheries that provide economic opportunities while ensuring the conservation of marine living resources and the protection of marine biodiversity

Sustainable fishing in the deep seas

DSF Guidelines provides directions for sustainable fisheries management



■ Sustainably fished ■ Overfished ■ Unknown

Improvements to catch estimation (226,000 t in 2016)

Considerable changes in monitoring and management of the high seas deep-sea fisheries by RFMOs

Needed improvement in stock monitoring

Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems



Picture from: Coral, Sponge, and Other Vulnerable Marine Ecosystem Indicator Identification Guide, NAFO Area



FAO publication, 2016

- DSF Guidelines provides criteria (Para. 42)
- Mostly deep-sea coral, sponge and sea pen habitats
- Vulnerable to significant adverse impacts from bottom fishing

Area designations for bottom fishing for protection of VMEs



Bottom fishing
areas

Bottom fishing

Measure: VME Encounter Protocol

Other access
regulated areas

No bottom fishing until assessments
undertaken

Measure: Exploratory Fishing Protocol,
VME Encounter Protocol

VME closed
areas

Protect areas where VMEs are
known or likely

Measure: Bottom fishing prohibited

FAO VME DataBase – RFMO measures

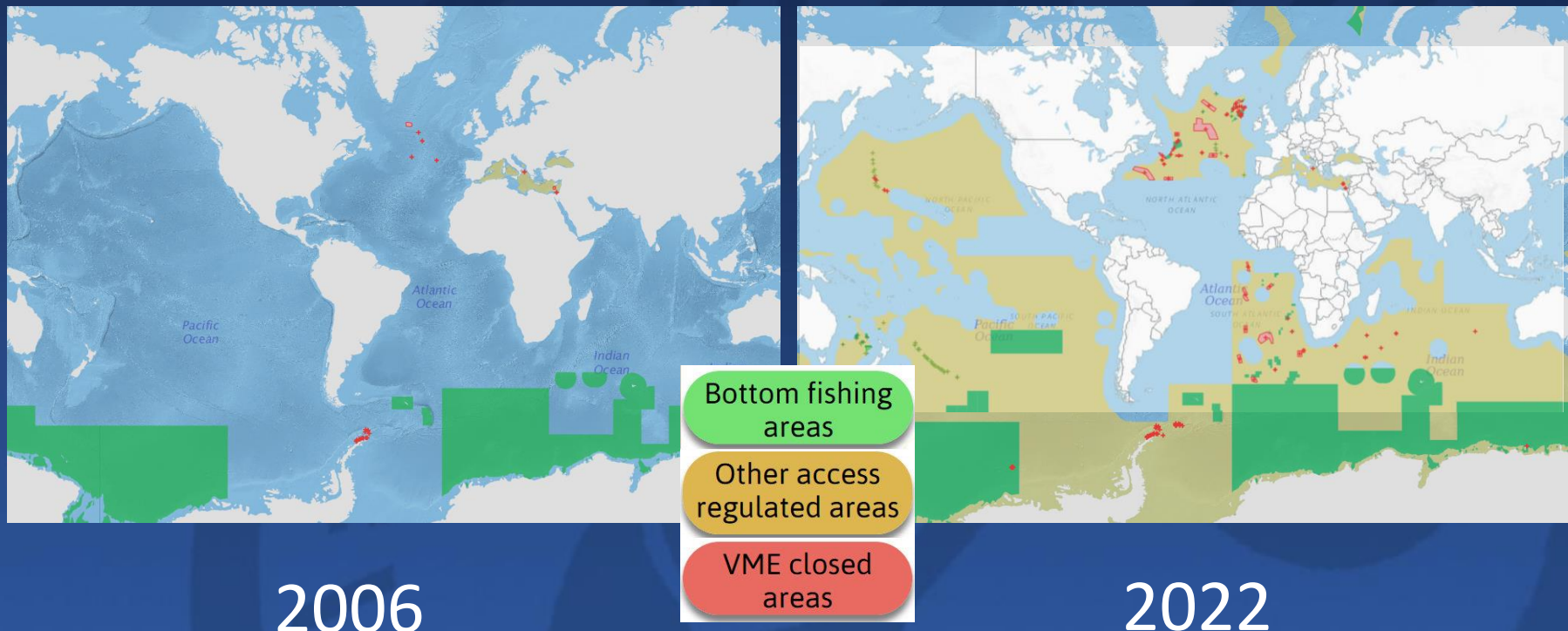


Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems Database

A global inventory of fisheries measures to protect vulnerable marine ecosystems in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

- UNGA Res. 61/105 (2006) Para 90. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to consider creating a global database of information on vulnerable marine ecosystems in areas beyond national jurisdiction ...



2006

2022

2-3 August 2022

Workshop on Bottom Fishing

UN Headquarters, N.Y.

FAO Deep sea Fisheries project Phase II (2022-2027)

Part of ABNJ Common Oceans Programme (GEF-funded)

Focus

- Review of the implementation of the FAO DSF Guidelines (2008)
- Improved data collection – including new technologies
- Assessment of data – limited stocks
- Application of Precautionary approach and Ecosystem approach
- Improved mapping of bottom fisheries by gear types
- Identification of VMEs
- Protection of deepwater sharks
- Ecosystem models – including climate change

The background features a large, faint watermark of the FAO logo. The logo is circular and contains a stylized fish in the center, with the letters 'F', 'A', and 'O' arranged around it. The entire background is a solid dark blue color.

Thank you

2-3 August 2022

Workshop on Bottom Fishing

UN Headquarters, N.Y.