

Data collection and multiple reporting in WECAFC area Tuna small scale fisheries

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1. The WECAFC Area

2. Statistics reporting needs of WECAFC Member Countries

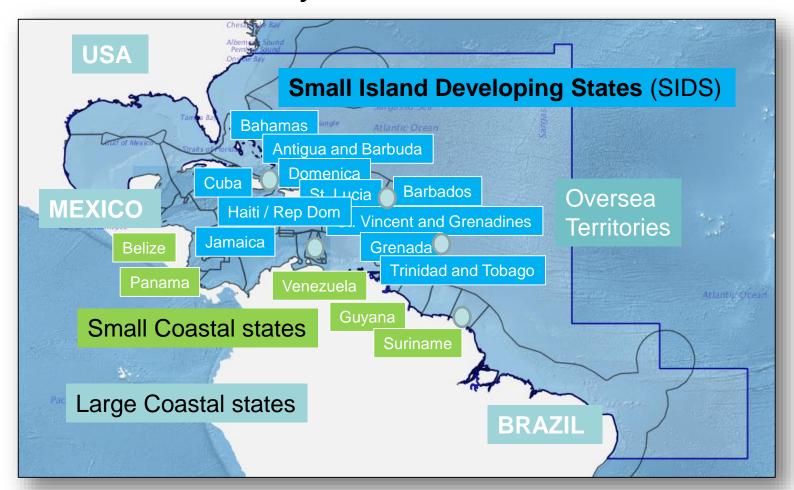
3. Challenges to report to regional and international organizations

4. Solutions?

The WECAFC Area

Area, Commissions, Member Countries

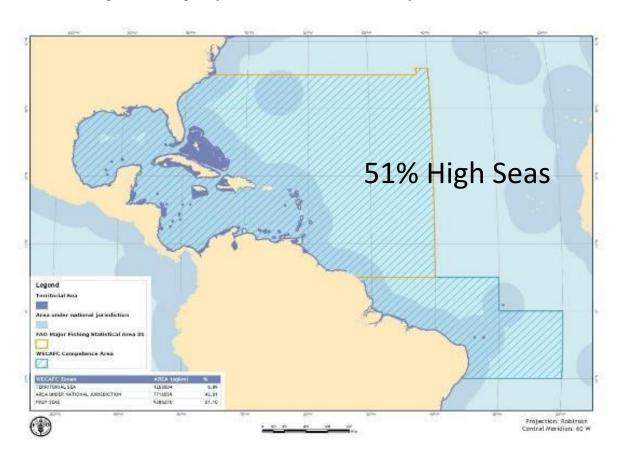
The WECAFC area: a variety of States





The Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission: is a Regional

Fishery Body (article VI FAO)

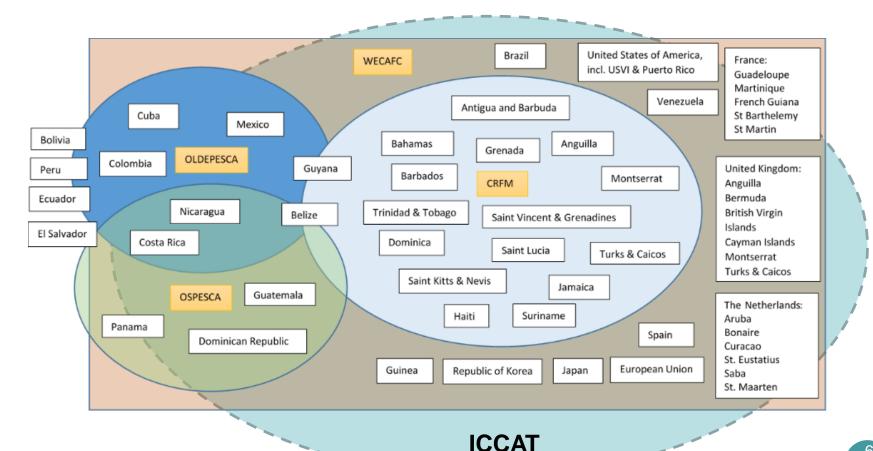


Established in 1973 by Resolution 4/61 of the FAO Council under Article VI (1) of the FAO Constitution

Fishery Commission

34 Member countries, including also the EU

The Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission: Membership of the regional fisheries bodies in the Caribbean region and t-RFMO





National Statistics Reporting

Technical, human and financial considerations challenges

Reporting to RFB and RFMO:



Population: 387,879 (2017 estimate)

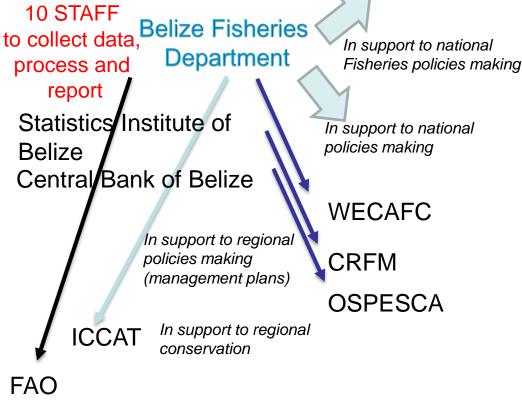
Fishing sector: 4.7 % (SIB)

Fishers: 2 459 (2014)

Catches: 400 000 tons in 2010 to near 76 000 tons in 2014

(High Seas fluctuation)

Min. of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry, the Environment and Sustainable Development



To feed the global statistics database

Data collection is a challenging task:

- Importance of artisanal fleet in the region: surveys are costly in man and funds
- Lack of proper legal framework (T&T fisheries Act: 1914): limited fishing license schema (no proper vessel registry) and distrust of artisanal fishers in data collection system.
- Lack of proper harmonized classification (see species list in T&T)
- Lack of statisticians to review methodologies 5 years after the end of the implementation project
- Lack of IT tools or IT staff
- → The process to compile statistics is usually highly manual.
- → Produce usually only one source of data within SDIS (Excel)

Multi reporting is as a consequence a challenging task:

- One unique source of data that needs to be recompiled according to the needs of the minister, the head of statistics, the OSPESCA species working group on lobster, CRFM on flyingfish, the WECAFC SAG, the FAO questionnaires etc....
- Increasing demand of detailed statistics (t-RFMO) and struggle to have this unique source of data evolving to comply with the data calls (limited involvement of fisheries authority: Grenada or pressure on industry to successfully implement log book: Trinidad)



Reporting to Regional and International Organizations

Solutions?

Opportunities in the region to improve data collection and address the challenge of multi reporting:

- Development of instruments in support to modern fisheries management: 3 regional management plans with provision for vessel registry, licenses.
- In a way or another, vessel records are available in all SIDS Fisheries authorities: for fishing licenses (few), for subsidies, attached to special permit (Free tax, compressor licences):
- One attempt to provide a technical solution: <u>CARIFIS</u> supported by CRFM. Most of SIDS were supported and still use part of it (Vessel registry, data collection). Need for a new iteration (CARIFIS 2?)

Opportunities in the region to improve data collection and address the challenge of multi reporting:

- Many projects in progress in the region to support data and statistics:
 - **WECAFC-FIRMS** to support the first meeting of the newly established WECAFC Fisheries Data and Statistics Working Group (May 2018)
 - **CLME+** with 3 sub projects species specific: Flying fish with CRFM, lobster with OSPESCA, shrimp and groundfish with FAO
 - **REBYC-LAC**: targeting reduction of bycatch in shrimp fisheries
 - Caribbean Billfish Project: improving monitoring of billfish catches (SmartForm, regional database)
 - → WECAFC-FIRMS task force is liaising with all these projects to identify synergies and co-funding for similar activities (FDS WG meeting)

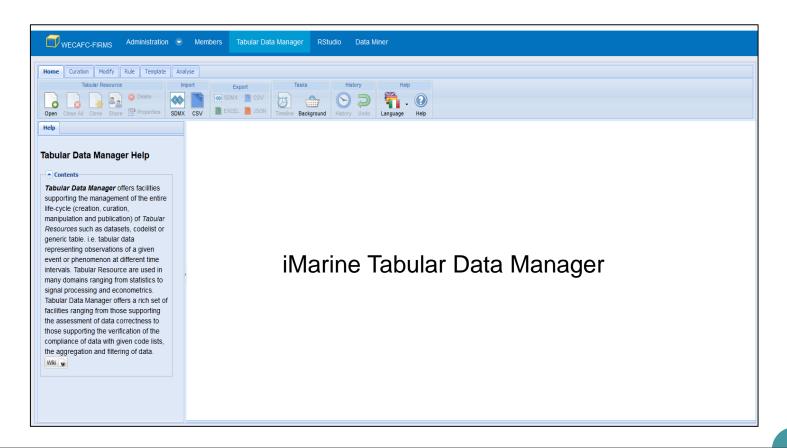


Concretely, how to simplify reporting to regional organization?

- Development of the WECAFC Regional database:
 - The definition of minimum data requirements for reporting: Data collection Reference Framework DCRF
 - A series of tools developed under the BlueBRIDGE project (EU funded) to support reporting:
 - A <u>simple</u> tool for the regional data manager to create data calls based on the DCRF
 - A <u>userfriendly</u> tool based on Excel to help the national data manager to comply with the reporting request (WECAFC being a RFB, it is not yet an obligation!)

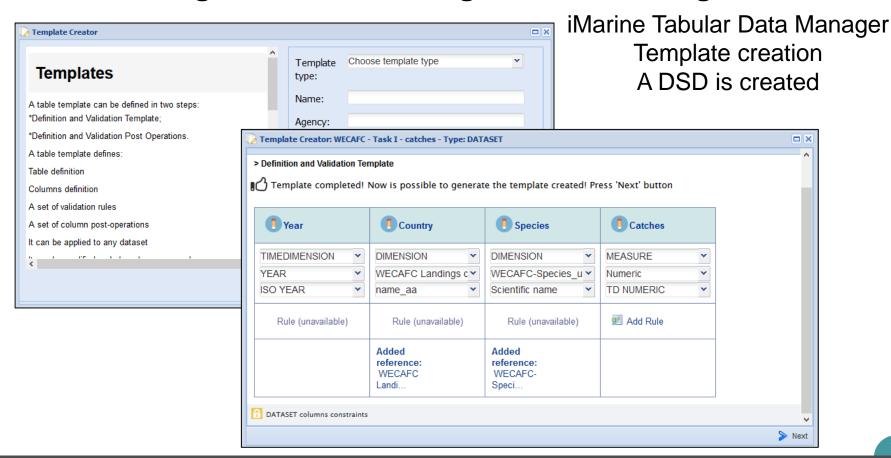


WECAFC Regional database: Regional Data Manager





WECAFC Regional database: Regional Data Manager





WECAFC Regional database: Regional Data Manager

iMarine Regional database administration

Creation of data calls

Based on the DSD

Importing the DSD

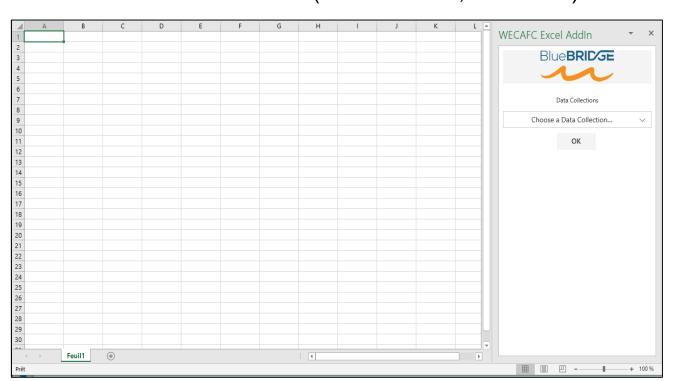
Impor

Creating the collection (data call)

Ready to be used by the national data manager

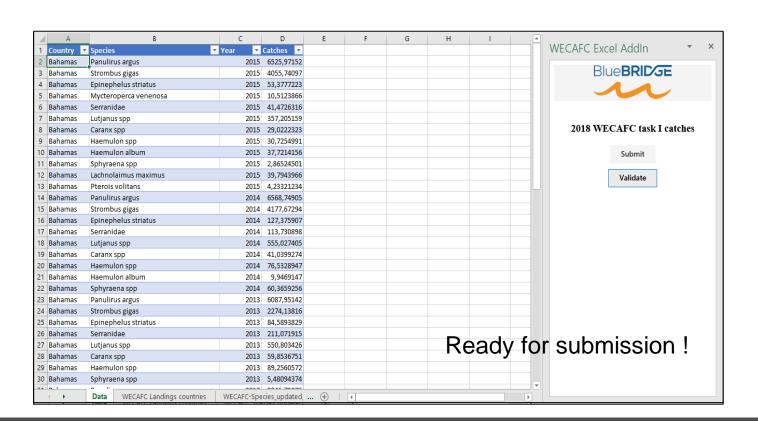


WECAFC Regional database: National Data Manager
 Install an iMarine plugin in Excel
 Validation services (web services; no macro)



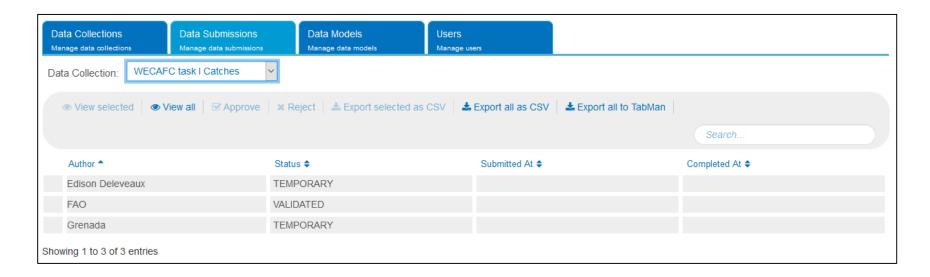


WECAFC Regional database: National Data Manager
 Will use his Excel to fill out the form



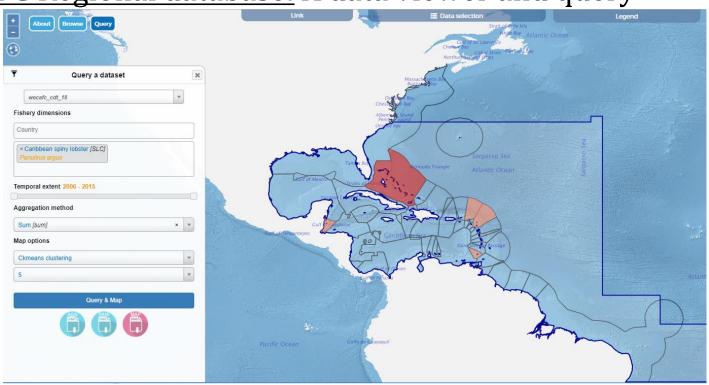


WECAFC Regional database: Back to Regional Data Manager
 iMarine Regional database administration
 Review of submitted data and final validation





WECAFC Regional database: A data viewer and query



Only possible if WECAFC data and metadata are harmonized and standardized!

Simplifying reporting to international organization (FAO)

- WECAFC Regional database can report to FAO:
 - Mapping of regional classification to international ones (ASFIS, regional gear to ISSCFG, FAO AREA 31, part of 41)
 - Uses of similar harmonized concepts (nominal catches in live weight equivalent)
 - Would need a simple transformation similar to the one done for FisMIS in R as all classifications are mapped

Data are produced at national level: Preparing the ground for modern fisheries management in SIDS:

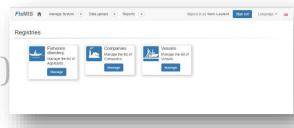
- Support countries to improve their legal framework: provision for vessel registry, vessel licensing, obligation to report catches and effort, for logbook, VMS, AIS etc...
- Support to outreach artisanal fishers: catches declaration is not for yet another tax!
- Outreaching industries, private sector to report purchases for certification schema and fight against IUU (sales notes are a reliable source of data for Fishing Authorities)
- Involving the civil society for modern management and conservation of resource (TNC in the Bahamas)

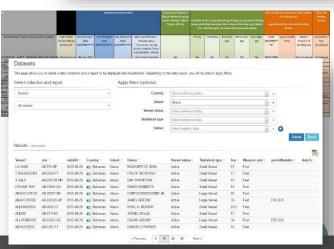


Modern fisheries management requires modern tool:

- FisMIS Bahamas (TCP) / Scalable Software Framework for T&T (Japan Fund):
 - Standard harmonized classifications, mapped to regional and international standards (UN/CEFACT)
 - Data collection (survey, logbook, sale notes, administrative records of vessel and fishers)
 - Methodologies (sample based survey),
 - Automatic processing (R),
 - Automatic reporting to ICCAT and FAO

And capacity building, training, pilot, long term maintenance (new CIO policies)





Modern tools for the WECAFC region: FIT4CC project (not yet validated)

- Seeking support from DEVCO (15 countries in WECAFC):
 - Capacity building / training in fisheries and aquaculture statistics (classification, methodologies)
 - Support to the improvement of legal framework
 - Modern information systems: a CARIFIS 2 for the region with modern tools (mobile, big data?)
 - Communication and outreach for all stakeholders
 - → One key expected outcome: Improvement of the overall quantity and quality of statistics in the region in support to national and regional policy making, in the context of growing threat related to Climate Change



Thank you for your attention