



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

4th & 5th September 2018
DEEP SEA SESSIONS

Overview

Under the Common Oceans ABNJ Program, also known as the *Global sustainable fisheries management and biodiversity conservation in the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) Program*, the **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)** is organizing **two side events along with partners and key speakers** as part of the first Session of the Intergovernmental Conference on marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ).

Deep-sea sponges and other biodiversity in the ABNJ: advances in research and information and implications for management

How are deep-sea sponges linked to resource management in the ABNJ and what are the implications for other biodiversity?

Having become a symbolic group for fisheries interactions and marine biodiversity, deep-sea sponge ground ecosystems contribute to key ecosystem services and hold an immense potential for biotechnological advances.

This session will present research highlights and key lessons from the SponGES project¹, which is a research and innovation project under the H2020 Blue Growth BG1 call aiming to develop an integrated ecosystem-based approach to preserve and sustainably use deep-sea sponge ecosystems of the North Atlantic.

Date & location

Tuesday, 4th September from 13.15 to 14.30 in Conference Room 3

Panelists

Arni M. Mathiesen, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Fred Kingston, Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)
Dr Shirley Pomponi, Wageningen University / Florida Atlantic University
Dr Joana Xavier, CIIMAR, University of Porto/University of Bergen

¹ Deep-sea Sponge Grounds Ecosystems of the North Atlantic an integrated approach towards their preservation and sustainable exploitation: deepseasponges.org



10 Years of the FAO Deep Sea Fisheries Guidelines

What has been done since the adoption of the **FAO International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-Sea Fisheries in the High Seas** a decade ago in 2008?

This side event will present perspectives from regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements (RFMO/As), NGOs, IGOs, and the fishing industry on the application of the FAO Deep Sea Fisheries Guidelines in the last ten years, how work has progressed since the adoption of the guidelines, and ways forward while showcasing existing management measures within the context of the various international legally binding and non-binding instruments in the ABNJ.

Date & location

Wednesday, 5th September from 13.15 to 14.30 in Conference Room 12

Panelists

Árni M. Mathiesen, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
William Emerson, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Fred Kingston, Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)
Ivan Lopez, International Coalition of Fisheries Associations (ICFA)
Jon Lansley, Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA)
Tony Thompson, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

For more information on FAO's work on Common Oceans:

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