



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

Sustainable tuna fisheries management in the ABNJ: a personal perspective

RFMOs: here and now

- **RFMOs continue to be the option for managing fisheries in the ABNJ**
- **RFMOs continue to evolve in response to changing conditions**
- **Structure of incentives and disincentives determine direction and speed of evolution**
- **Yes, still a half-empty glass but filling up slowly but surely**

Management: the three-step model

- **Generation of advice:** Data collection for assessment of status of resources and other relevant information



- **Decision making:** Translating management advice into management actions.



- **Compliance process:** Monitoring the implementation of those decisions

The science: Generation of advice

- **Data analyses:** still driven mostly by fisheries data. Few means to independently verify data. Poor data quality confounds messages contain in the data. Innovation in data collection
- **Precautionary Approach via MSE and Management Procedures:** embracing uncertainty, and moving away from the stock assessment paradigm.
- **EAFM:** Opportunity for a more integrated process. Maybe decision rules to advance process. Improvements on bycatch and other impacts.

The management: translating advice to actions

- Increasing **participation of coastal States** with better information and knowledge about process
- Opportunities for multiple decision instances, **online meetings**, throughout the year
- **MSE, EAFM and allocation procedures**: pre-agreed approach for difficult decisions.
- Review of **efficacy of management actions** (together with compliance)

The compliance and enforcement: monitoring of implementation

- **Reinforced Compliance processes:** more transparency and accountability
- **Better training for compliance officials**
- **Innovation** in methods to collect compliance data, and how to process it (EMS more than observers, synthetic analysis of multiple sources)
- **Traceability** throughout the supply chain from harvest to consumer
- **Market incentives** (e.g. eco-labelling) and barriers to IUU products.

More opportunities

- Opportunities to collaborate in the **BBNJ framework** to enhance ecosystem outcomes
- **Climate change projections** of effects on resources informed adaptation policies in the Pacific, more for Atlantic and Indian
- **Remote sensing solutions** combined to provide better information for compliance and maybe assessment (AIS + EMS + VMS + SAR)