



Expert Meeting on OECMs in the Marine Capture Fishery Sector

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Organized by FAO, CBD, IUCN-CEM-FEG and EBCD



Nordic Council
of Ministers

MAFF
Ministry of Agriculture,
Forestry and Fisheries
JAPAN



Meeting Overview

- **FAO's goal:**
 - To assist FAO Members/Parties to the CBD in applying the OECM criteria
 - To Produce technical guidelines under the CCRF on operationalizing the OECM concept in the fisheries sector
- **Purpose of the meeting**
 - To compile a broad range of expert advice on the identification and establishment of OECMs in the marine capture fishery sector under CBD COP Decision 14/8
- **Participants: fisheries, conservation, indigenous interests**
- **Workshop covered four major areas:**
 - 1. OECMs Foundations**
 - 2. Identifying OECMs**
 - 3. Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting OECMS**
 - 4. Revision of OECMs and Selected Governance Issues**



OECM FOUNDATIONS

Discussion topics

- Key concepts and terminology in the CBD's OECM definition and criteria in a fishery context
- Key guiding principles to consider for operationalizing/applying an OECM in a fisheries context

Summary

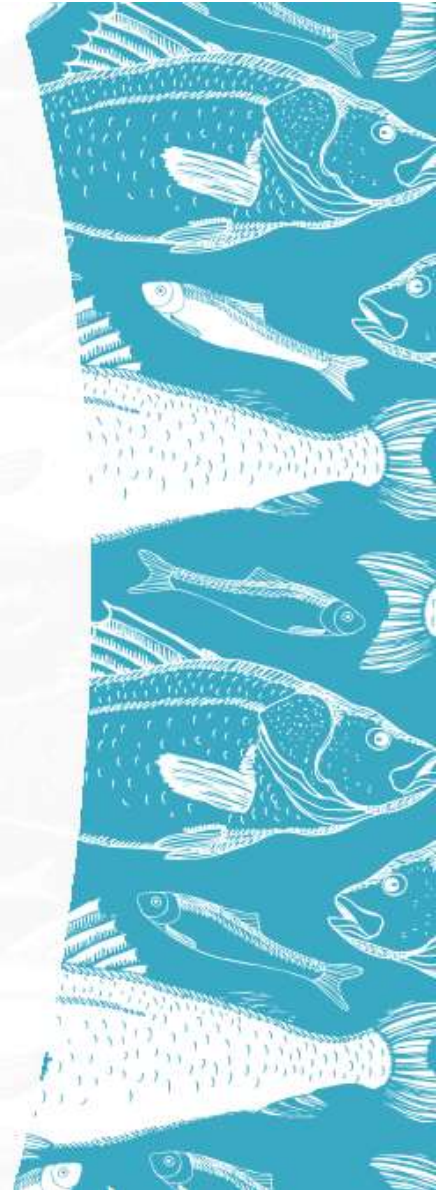
1. Need to define OECMs within their seascape-scale context and purpose
2. Guidance should be sector specific
3. Need for appropriately recognizing and creating OECMs
4. Governance by legitimate authorities
5. Measuring outcomes and effectiveness in the long-term



IDENTIFYING OECMS

Important things to consider

- Information needed for a scoping exercise to identify an OECM
- Who should be involved?
- What should be process be for establishing and documenting/describing OECMs?
- How to assess what are relevant fisheries management measures when establishing OECMs
 - Rapid assessment to identify “candidate OECMs ”
 - Full assessment to select and document/describe OECMs
- How to identify and maintain a list of OECMs



IDENTIFYING OECMS

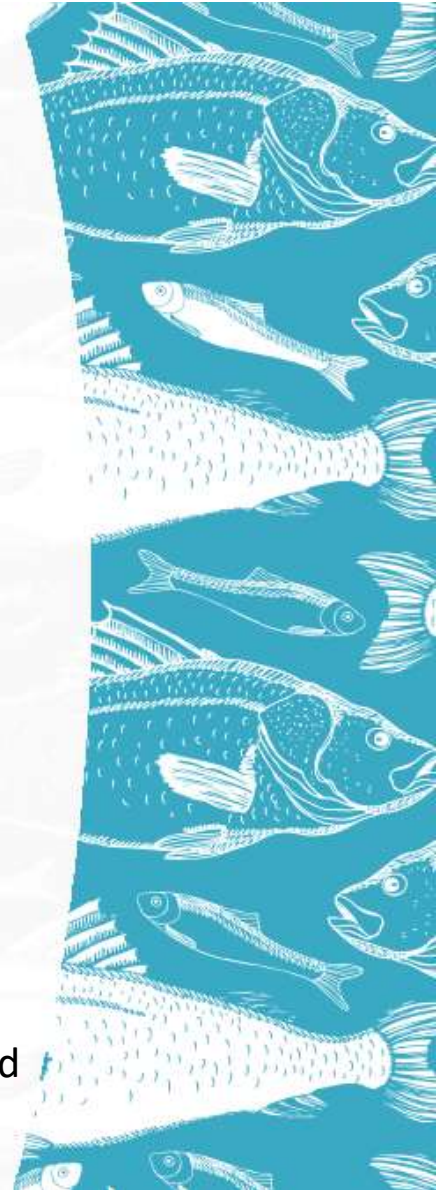
- Need for procedural steps to be applied in a flexible manner, encompassing:
 1. Review/compilation of relevant information
 2. Establish eligibility
 3. Document relevant biodiversity features and ecosystem services
 4. Identifying the current pressures and threats
 5. Describe biodiversity benefits
 6. Assess ancillary properties
 7. Document and Report
- All knowledge systems should be considered
- Use an expert process to ensure quality of evidence and evaluation
- OECMs are not necessarily expected to perform better than an MPA



MONITORING, EVALUATING AND REPORTING OECMS

Important things to consider

- Connect OECMs and fishery management plans
- How should OECMs be managed:
 - Across the fisheries sector? Across sectors? At the seascape level?
- How to monitor for adaptive management of OECMs
- What evaluation should be conducted on fishery and OECM information?
- What needs to be reported to whom?
 - Reporting within the fisheries sector
 - Reporting to international conventions [e.g., Aichi Target 11, SDG 14.5] and across sectors



REVISION OF OECMS AND SELECTED GOVERNANCE ISSUES

- Problem: Very little experience with OECMs
 - **NO EXISTING RULES** –
- Could be fixed interval or life history based
- Or could rely on performance / Context Triggers for :
 - Performance on biodiversity objectives / indicators
 - Performance on fishery sustainability
 - Change in the environmental context of the OECM
 - Interactions from other economic sectors



What to look at when deciding what to re-evaluate

Is it likely that:

- The conservation potential of the measure was misestimated or has changed?
- The potential effectiveness of the area-based measure as applied was mis-estimated or has changed?
- The impacts of other sectors on the biodiversity features was mis-estimated or has changed?
- The environmental or sectoral background has changed?



Topics with Consensus

- Definition of OECMs in CBD Dec 14/8 is the foundation for application in the fisheries context
- Evaluation can lead to appropriate recognition or enhancement of existing measures to achieve dual outcomes
- New fisheries OECMs can be created with an intentional conservation purpose
- Recognition of the legitimate authority and of rights-holders is fundamental to governance in the long-term
- Assume that the discussion on OECMs will be continued at the post 2020 framework



Topics for further discussion

- OECMs are conserving ecosystem services, and in a fisheries context, this is a provisioning service – what should be measured?
- How OECMs should be continued in the post 2020 framework
- When it is appropriate to propose an MPA or an OECM based on intent or reconciliation of conflicting goals?
- Who evaluates, and who recognizes OECMs?
- Risk of creating perverse incentives to improve OVER performance of fisheries (other sectors)
- Where fisheries are adopting ecosystem / oceanographic conditioned Harvest Control Rules, should these automatically apply of OECM provisions?
- How to ensure potential consequences for OECMs become necessary part of approval processes for new developments in other sectors?



A tropical beach scene featuring a large, leafy tree in the foreground. To the left, a small boat is docked at a wooden pier. A yellow kayak lies on the sand in the foreground. The background shows a clear blue sky with scattered clouds and a turquoise ocean. The text 'Thank you' is overlaid in red in the upper center.

Thank you

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