



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

Brief outline of RFBs/RFMOs framework and developing cooperation between regional sea organization and regional fishery management organization in the North Western Indian Ocean

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Brussels, Belgium, 10 February 2017



Origin and role of regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs & RFBs)

According to International Law:

State's **freedom** to sail fishing vessels flying their flag on the high seas is *limited* to some conditions:



flag States have **primary responsibility for controlling** the fishing activities of their vessels both within their EEZs and on the high seas

flag and coastal States have the **duty to cooperate** so as to ensure fisheries sustainability and stocks conservation

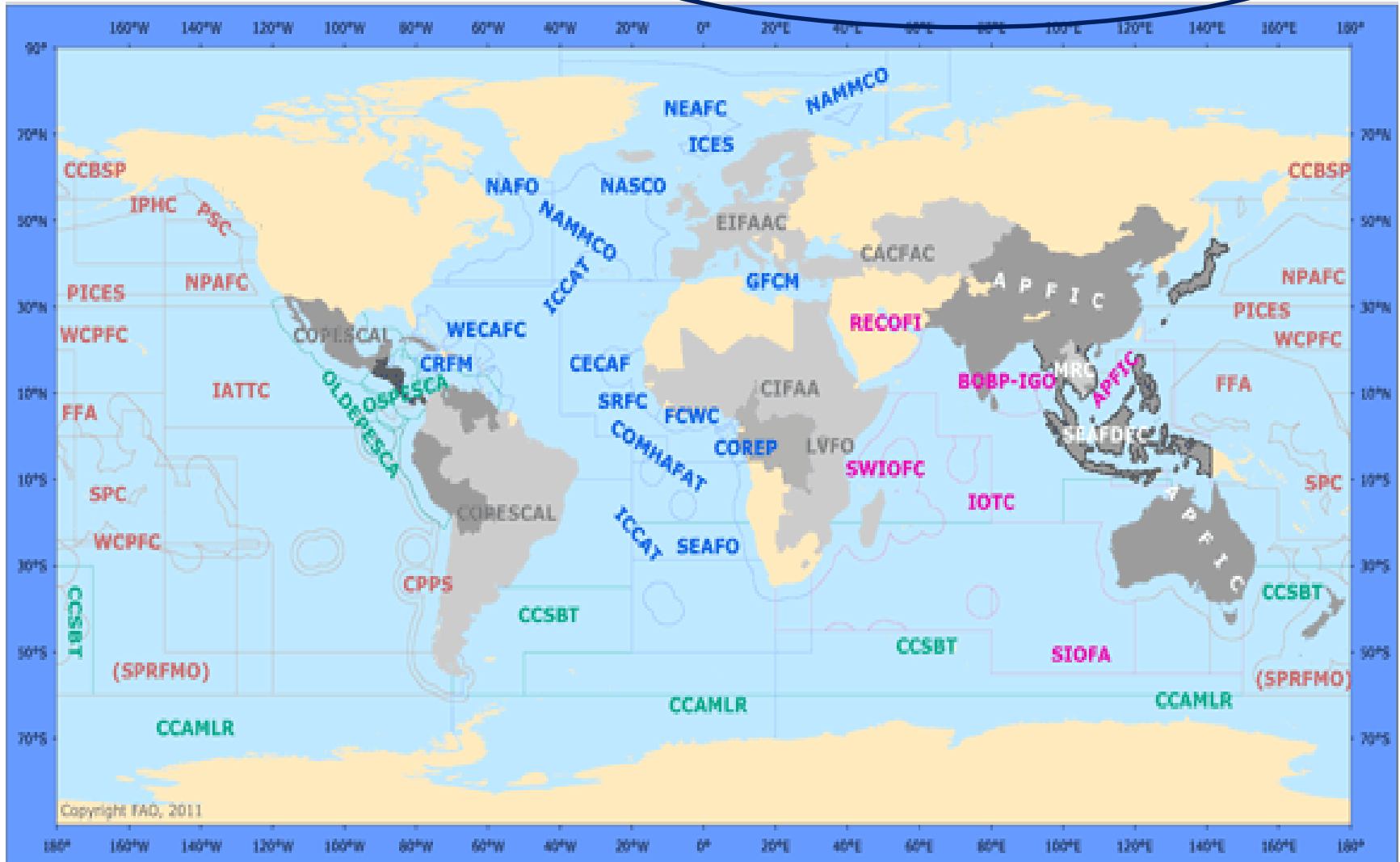


the main mechanism for organizing this cooperative management is through international bodies such as RFMOs

UNCLOS invites States to **create** such organizations where they do not exist



RFBs/RFMOs Net(work?)



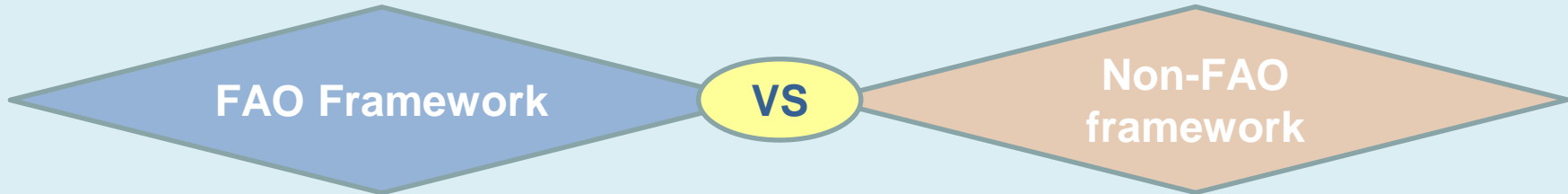
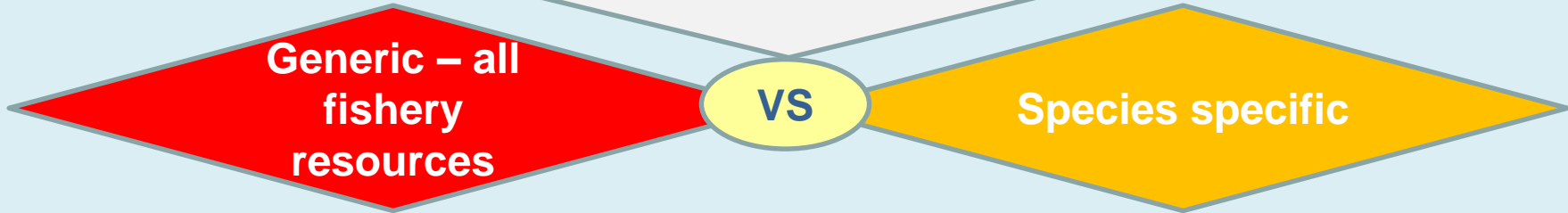
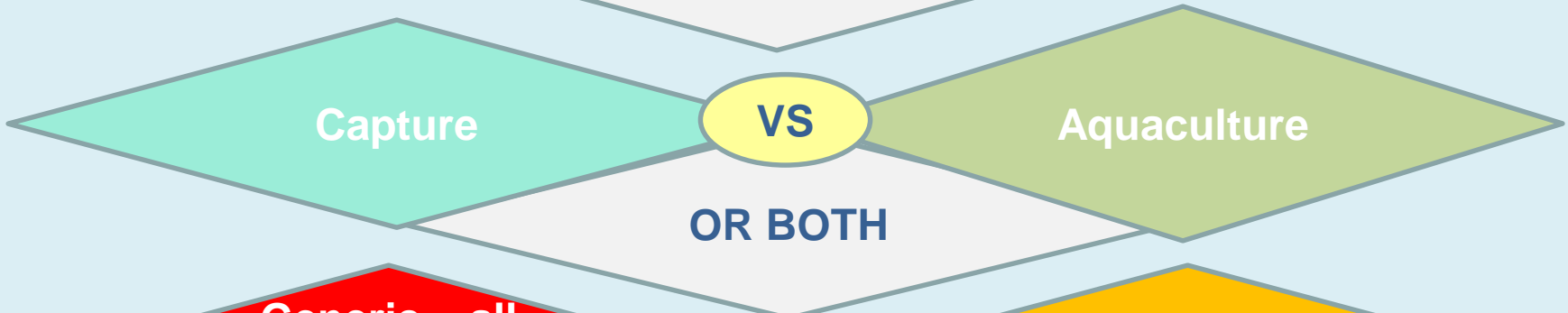
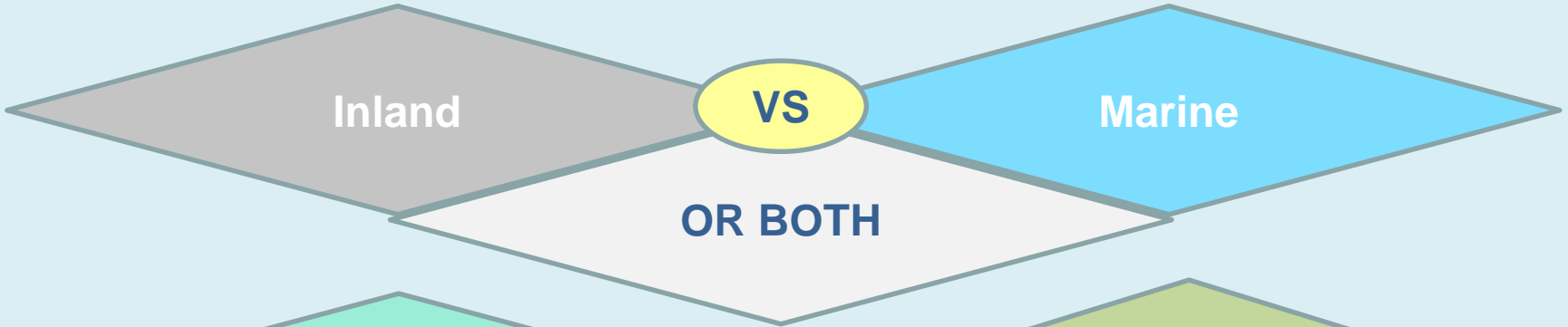


A Regional Fisheries and Aquaculture Body for the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden?

3rd Regional Intergovernmental Consultation to Establish a Regional Aquaculture and Fishery Organization/ Arrangement in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, 29 Nov - 1 Dec 2016.

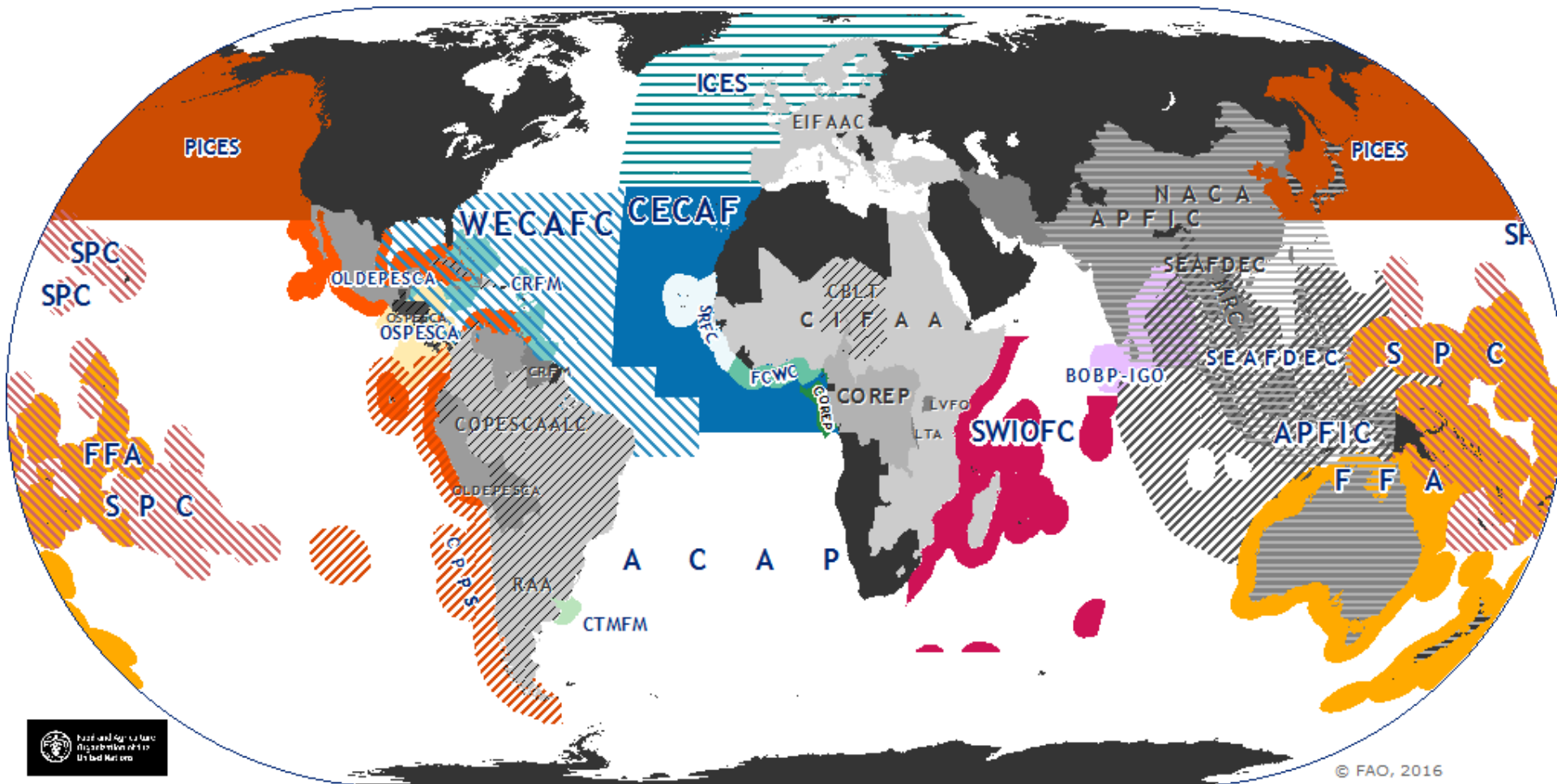


Main categories of RFBs



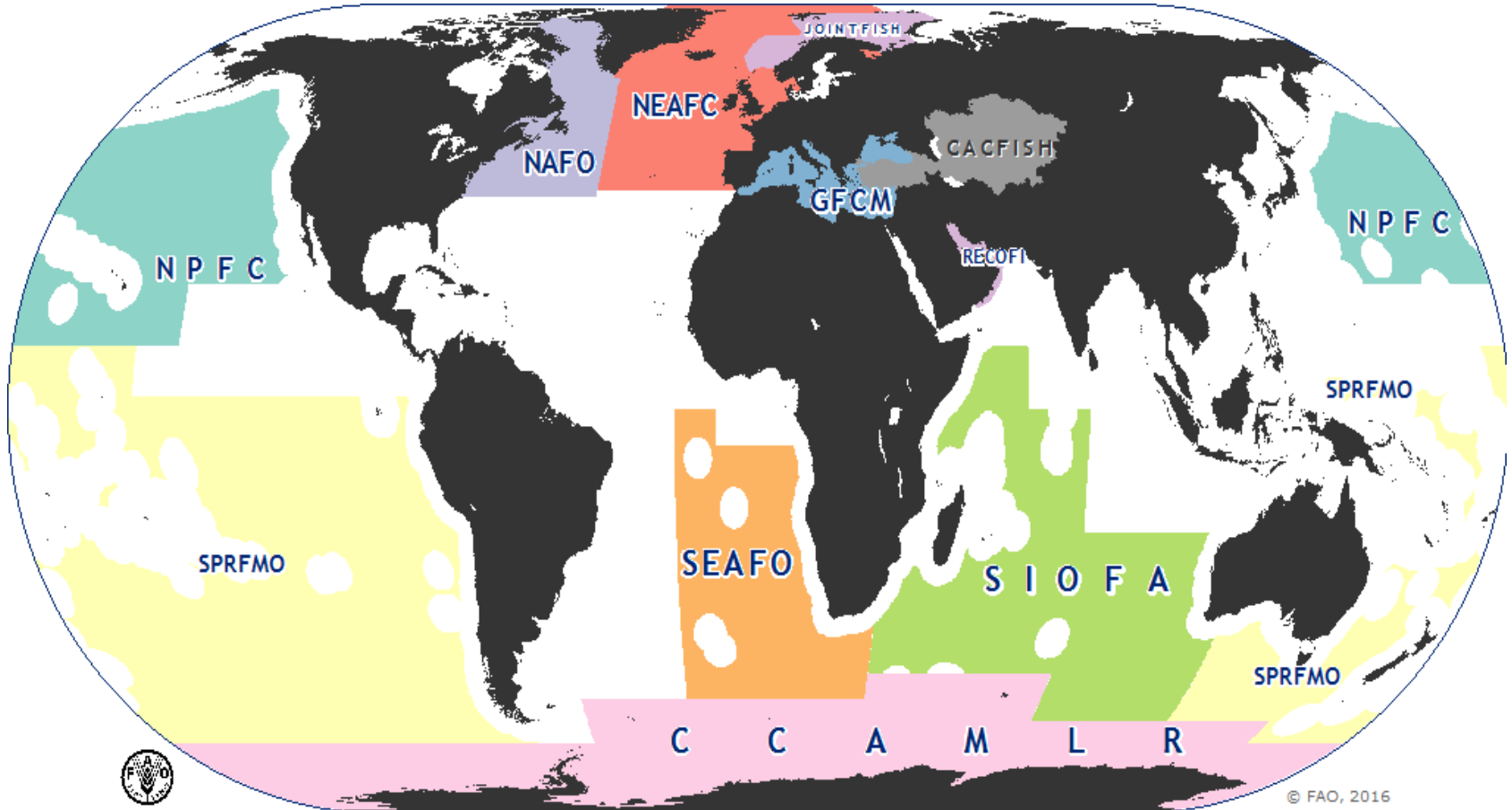












Regional Fishery Advisory Bodies (RFBs)





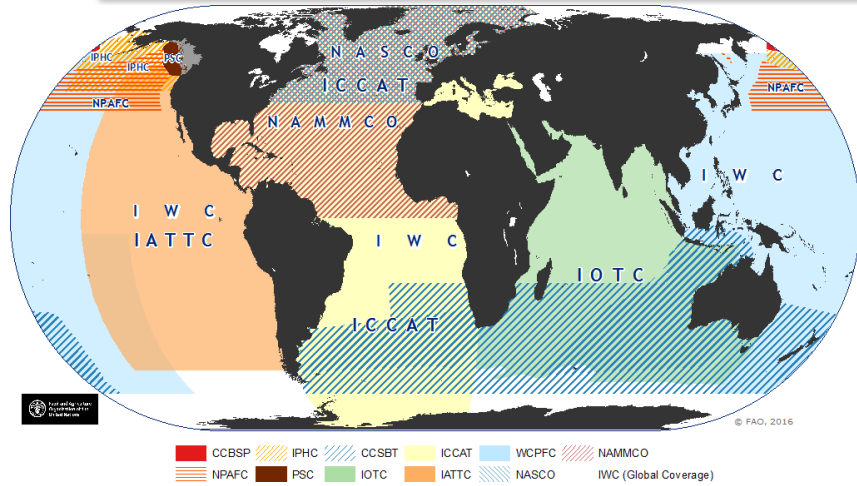
Regional Fishery Management Organizations (RFMOs – non species-specific)



 NPFC	 NAFO	 GFCM	 CACFISH	 SIOFA
 SPRFMO	 NEAFC	 SEAFO	 RECOFI	 CCAMLR

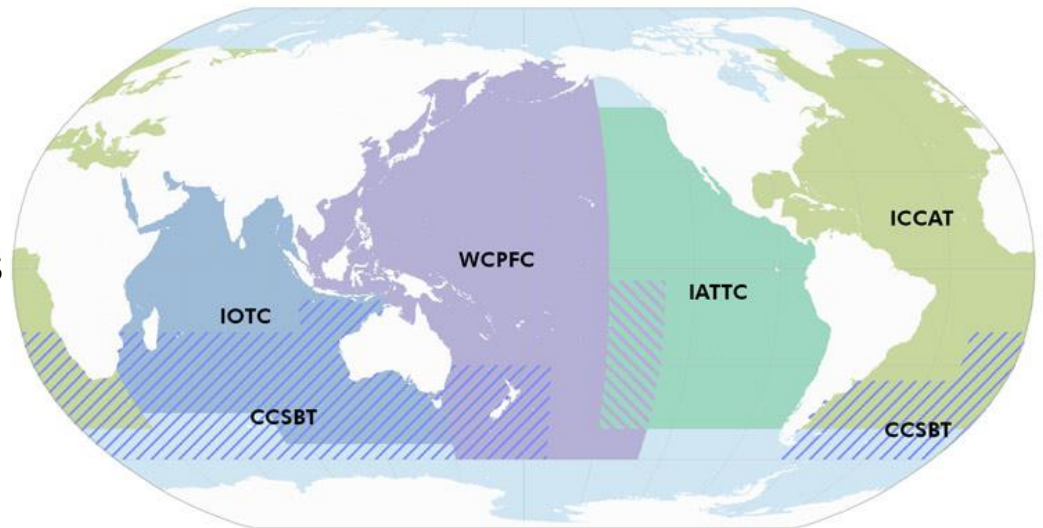


Regional Fishery Management Organizations (RFMOs – species specific)



Species Specific RFMOs (i.e. halibut, salmon, marine mammals, etc.)

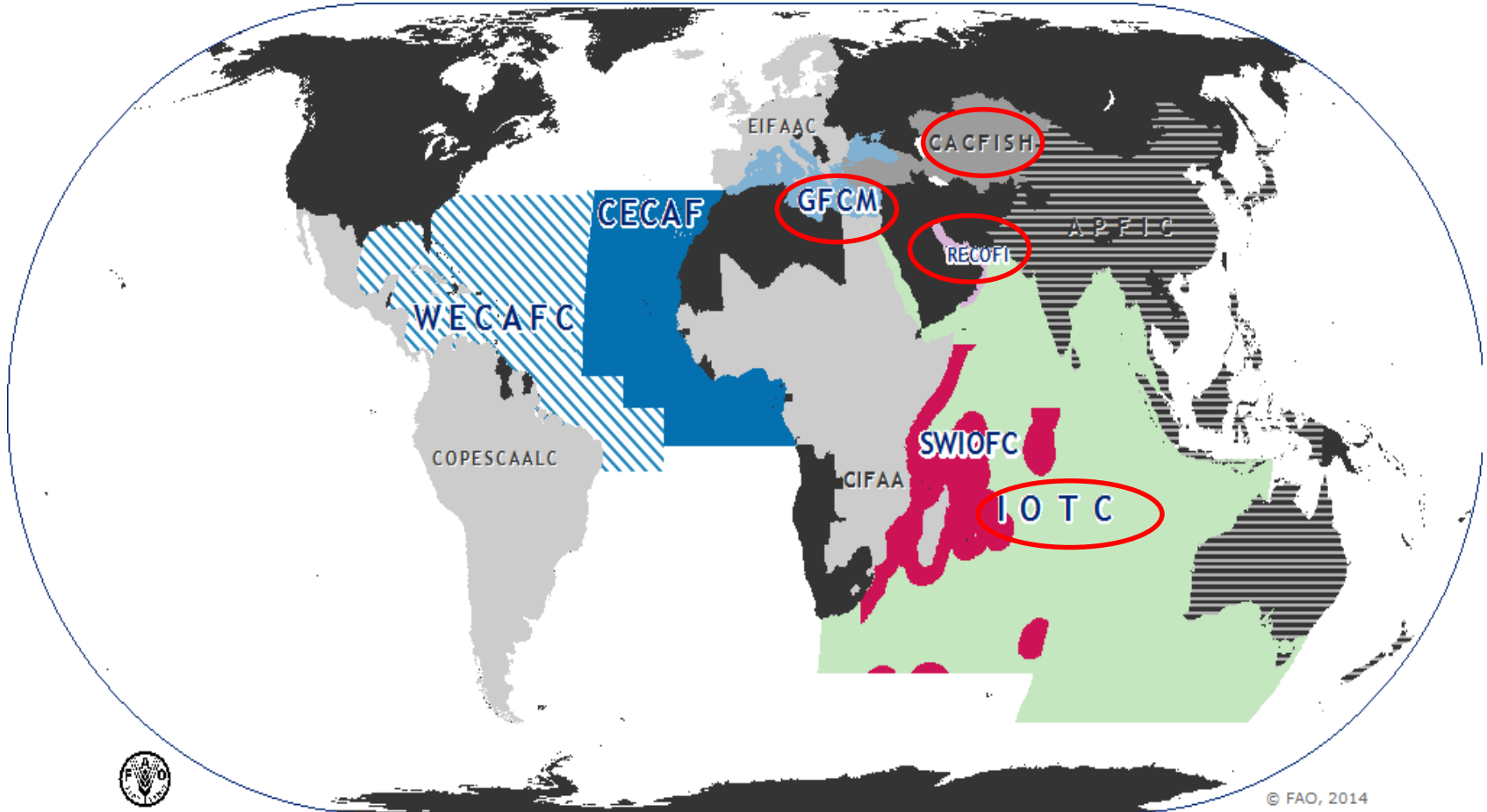
Species Specific RFMOs: tuna RFMOs



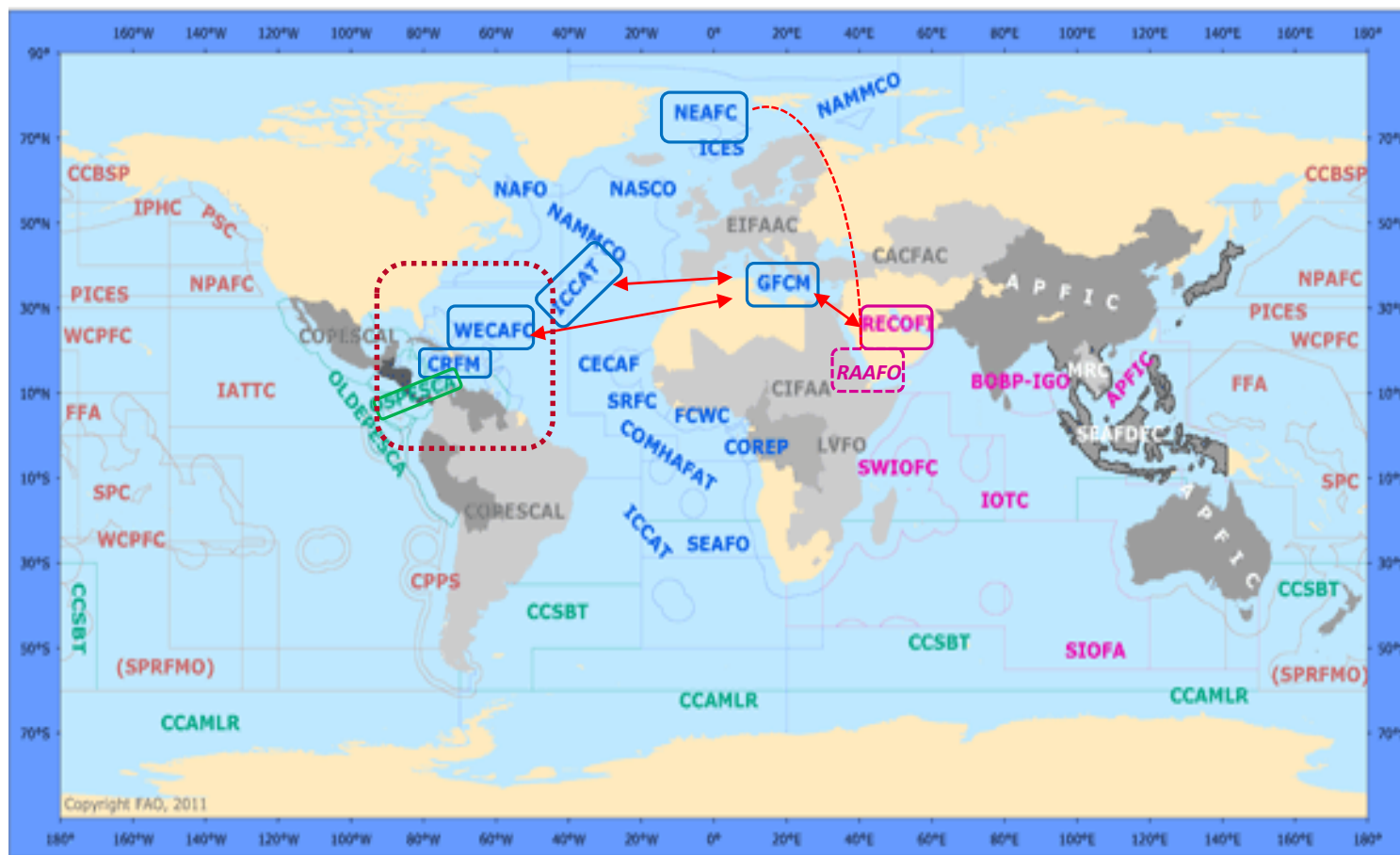


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FAO Advisory (Art VI) and FAO Management (Art XIV) Bodies



Cases of current cooperation





RFB Secretariats' Network

A unique FAO tool for regional and global cooperation

A mechanism to ensure RFBs technical coordination

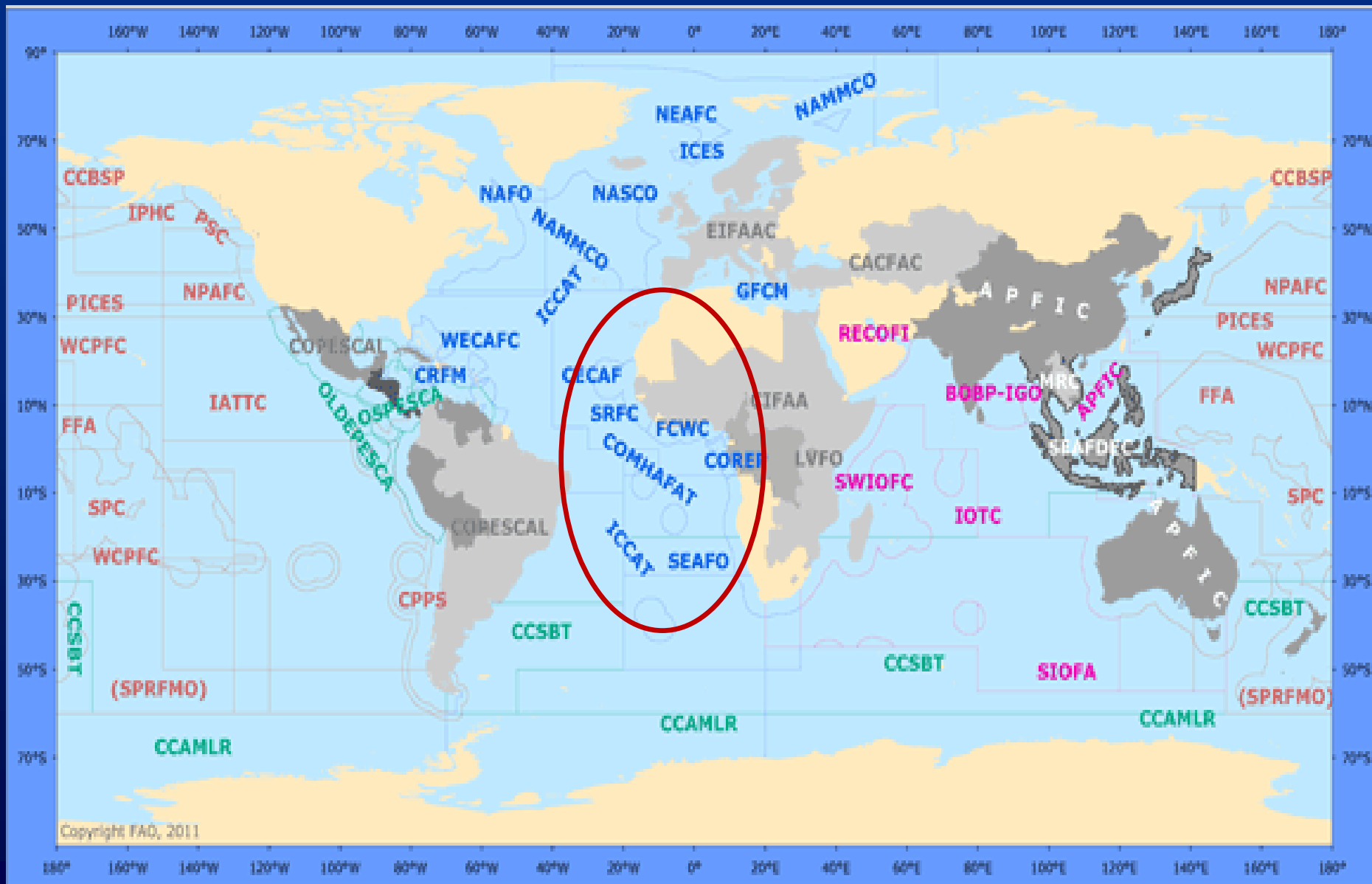
RSN contributes by:

- **Providing a forum for discussion on critical issues and needed strategies;**
- **Harmonizing technical approaches and procedures; and**
- **Sharing knowledge and good practices**



See our reports and newsletter at <http://www.fao.org/fishery/rsn/en>

Eastern Central Atlantic



ICCAT

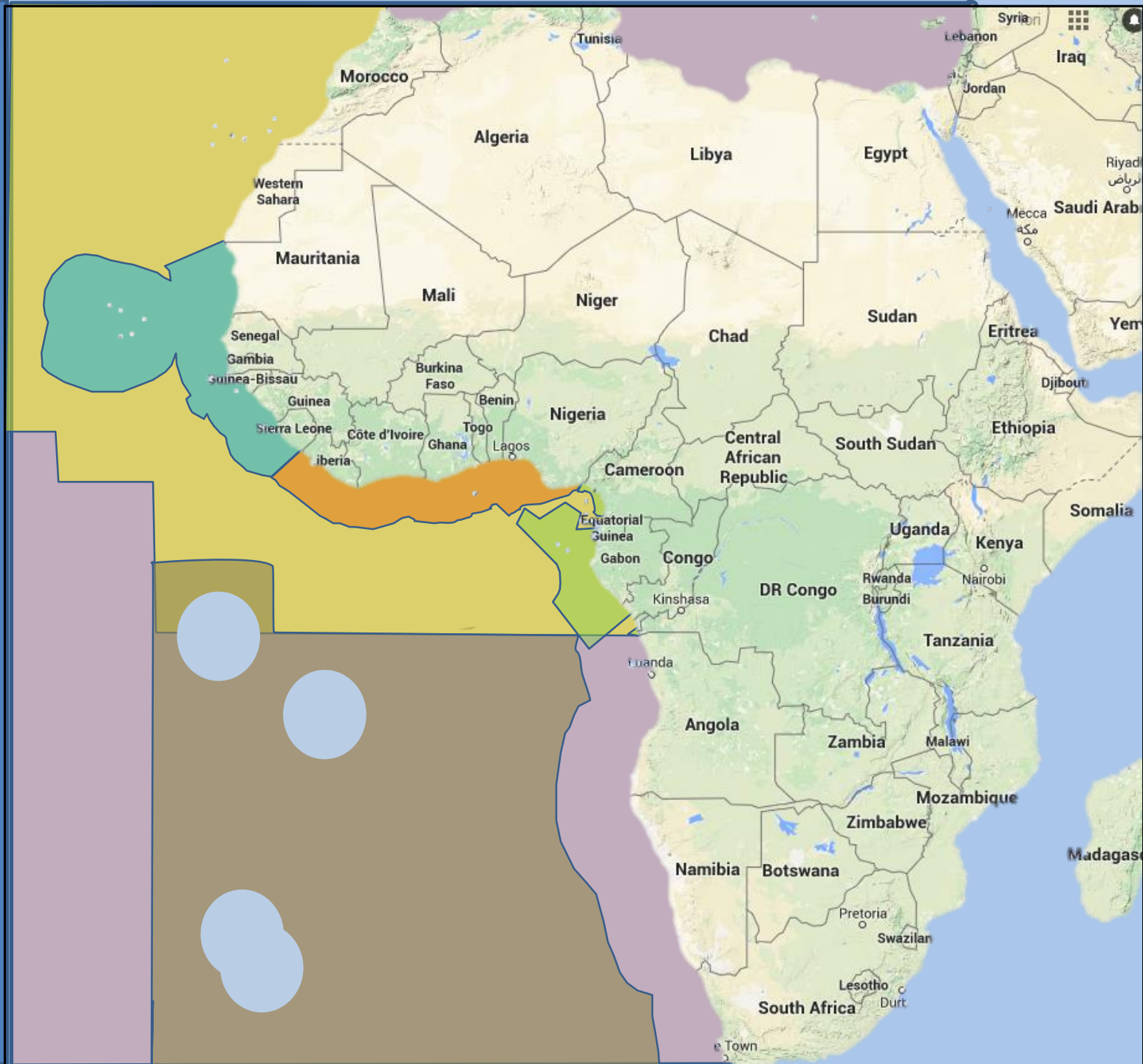
CECAF

COREP

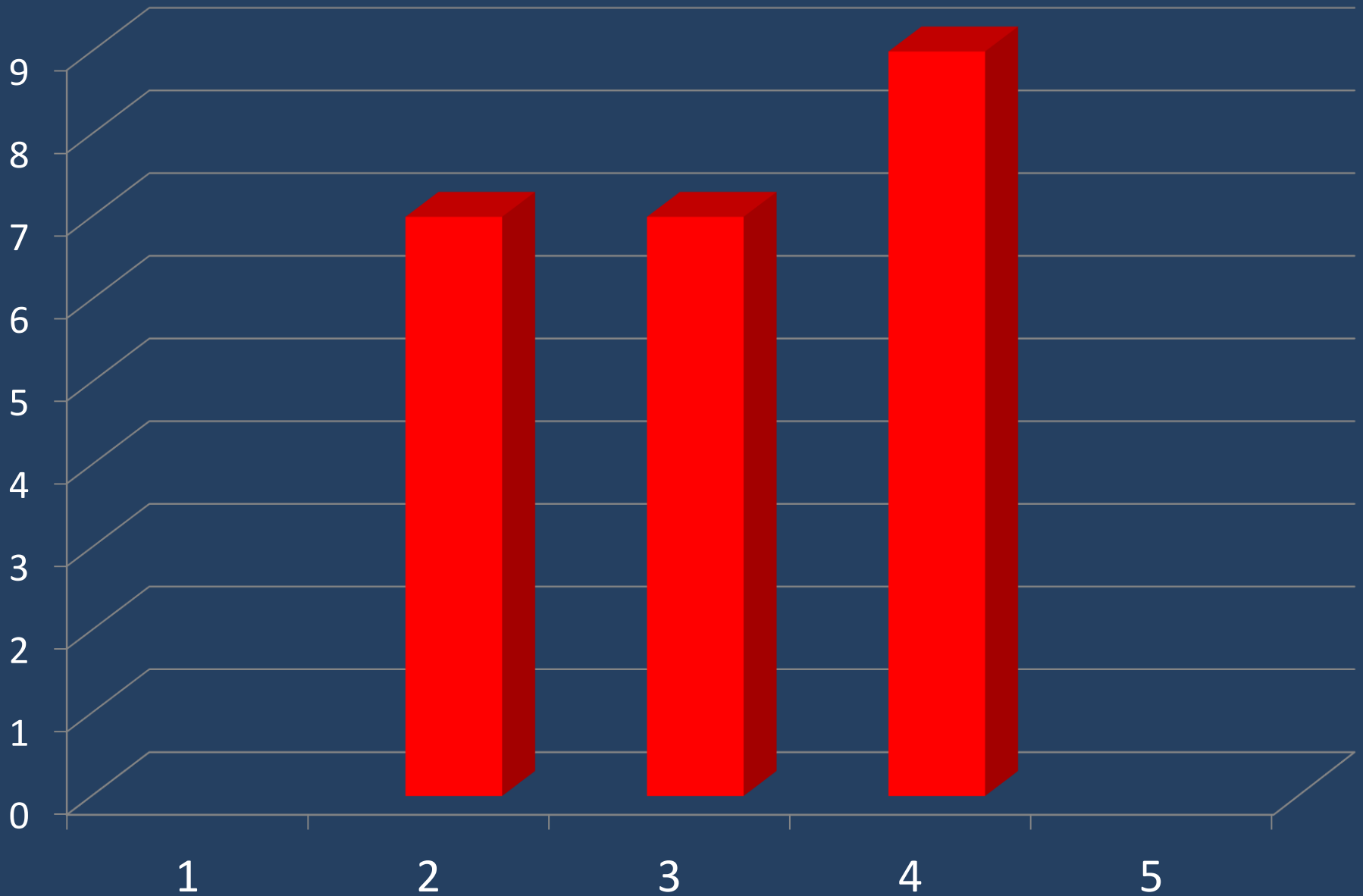
FCWC

SRFC

SEAFO



Eastern Central and Southeast Atlantic Individual country Party to RFBs/RFMOs





The Regional Commission for Fisheries (RECOFI)



On 31 December 2008 all Members had deposited their instruments of acceptance

Members	Acceptance
Kingdom of Bahrain	17 October 2008
Islamic Republic of Iran	6 December 2001
Republic of Iraq	20 August 2008
State of Kuwait	19 May 2006
Sultanate of Oman	19 December 2001
State of Qatar	12 July 2000
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	3 November 2000
United Arab Emirates	26 February 2001

RECOFI is established under the framework of Article XIV of the FAO Constitution - <http://www.fao.org/fishery/rfb/recofi>

Year of establishment: **1999**

Geographical coverage: **Gulf and Sea of Oman**

Secretariat: **FAO part-time secretariat**

Meetings organized during 2008-16: **Fourteen**

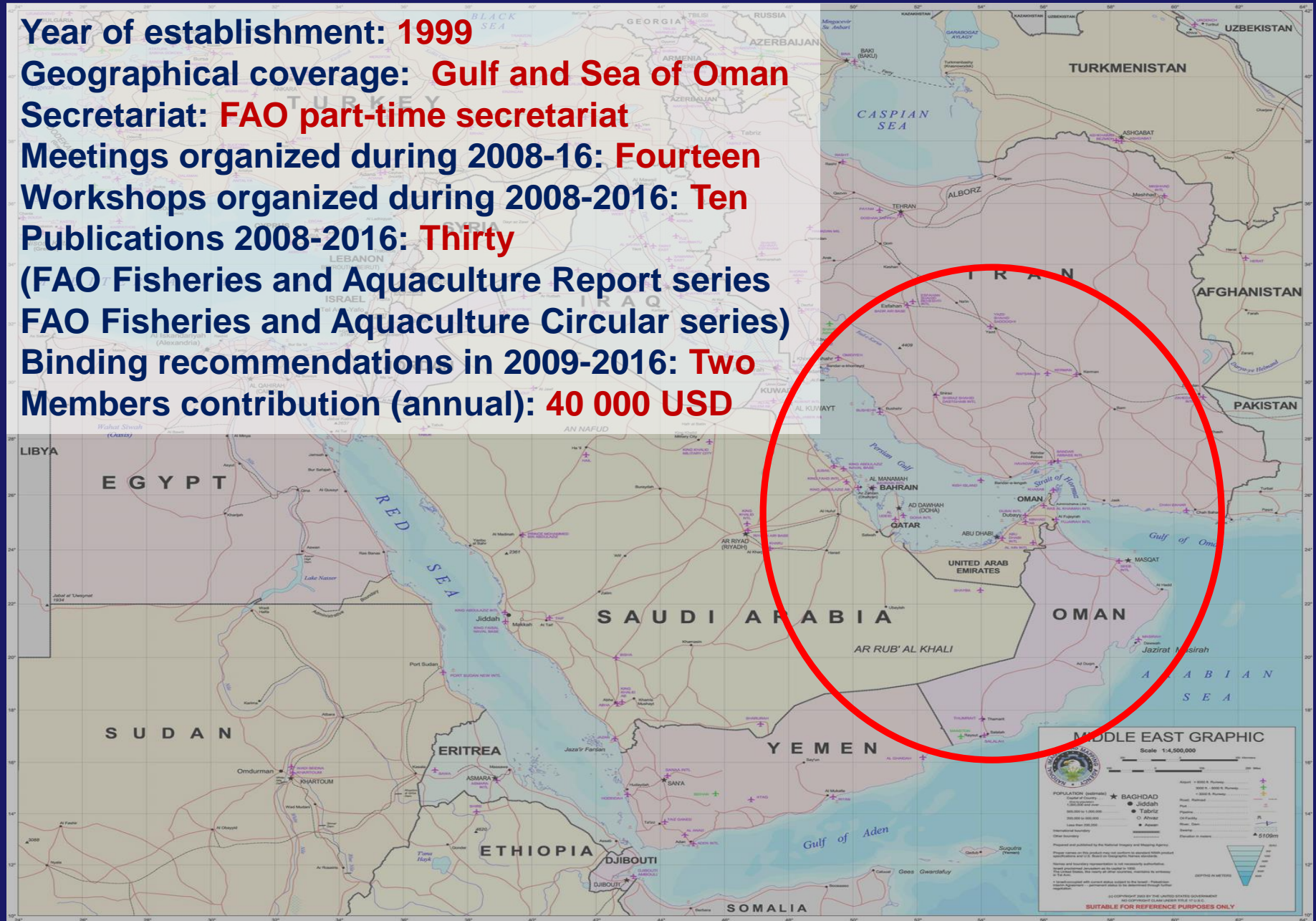
Workshops organized during 2008-2016: **Ten**

Publications 2008-2016: **Thirty**

(FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Report series
FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Circular series)

Binding recommendations in 2009-2016: **Two**

Members contribution (annual): **40 000 USD**





Fishery Management



Regionally concerted list of priority species whose stocks support fisheries of common interest in the RECOFI region

FAO name	ASFIS code	Common name	Scientific name
Green Tiger Prawn	TIP	Green Tiger Prawn	<i>Penaeus semisulcatus</i>
Blue swimming crabs	SCD	Blue swimming crab	<i>Portunus pelagicus</i>
Pharaoh cuttlefish	IAH	Cuttlefish	<i>Sepia pharaonis</i>
Stolephorus anchovies	STO	Anchovies	<i>Stolephorus</i> spp.
Indian oil sardine	IOS	Indian oil sardine	<i>Sardinella longiceps</i>
Bludger	NGY	Jacks	<i>Carangoide gymmostethus</i>
Golden trevally	GLT	Golden trevally	<i>Gnathanodon speciosus</i>
Indian mackerel	RAG	Indian mackerel	<i>Rastrelliger Kanagurta</i>
Snubnose emperor	LBW	Orange finned emperor	<i>Lethrinus borbonicus</i>
Pink ear emperor	LTS	Redspot emperor	<i>Lethrinus lentjan</i>
Spangled emperor	LHN	Spangled emperor	<i>Lethrinus nebulosus</i>
Coral hind	CFI	Coral grouper/Bluespotted grouper	<i>Cephalopholis miniata</i>
Orange-spotted grouper	ENI	Orange-spotted grouper	<i>Epinephelus coioides</i>
White-spotted spinefoot	SCN	Rabbitfish	<i>Siganus canaliculatus</i>
Narrow-barred Spanish mackerel	COM	King mackerel/Narrow-barred Spanish mackerel	<i>Scomberomorus commerson</i>
Longtail tuna	LOT	Longtail tuna	<i>Thunnus tonggol</i>
Kawakawa	KAW	Kawakawa	<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>
Requiem sharks nei	RSK	Sharks	Carcharhinidae
Silver pomfret	SIP	Silver pomfret	<i>Pampus argenteus</i>
Hilsa shad	HIL	Indian shad	<i>Tenualosa ilisha</i>
King soldier bream	KBR	King soldier bream	<i>Argyrops spinifer</i>
Painted sweetlips	DGP	Painted sweetlips	<i>Diagramma pictum</i>
Smalltooth emperor	LEN	Smalltooth emperor	<i>Lethrinus microdon</i>
Indian white prawn	PNI	Indian white prawn	<i>Penaeus indicus</i>



Fishery Management and Aquaculture Development



Some technical topics and publications

REGIONAL TECHNICAL WORKSHOP ON AQUATIC ANIMAL HEALTH

Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, 6–10 April 2008

FAO/RECOFI REGIONAL WORKSHOP TO COMBAT ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED FISHING

Muscat, Oman, 30 March–2 April 2009

FAO TECHNICAL WORKSHOP ON SPATIAL PLANNING FOR MARINE CAPTURE FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

Doha, the State of Qatar, 24–28 October 2010

REGIONAL TECHNICAL WORKSHOP ON SUSTAINABLE MARINE CAGE AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT

Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, 25–26 January 2009

FAO WORKSHOP ON BYCATCH MANAGEMENT AND LOW-IMPACT FISHING

Kuwait City, the State of Kuwait, 9–12 December 2012

WORKSHOP ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF FISHERIES IN THE RECOFI REGION

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain, 22–24 April 2012

Socio-economic dimension of fisheries in RECOFI region

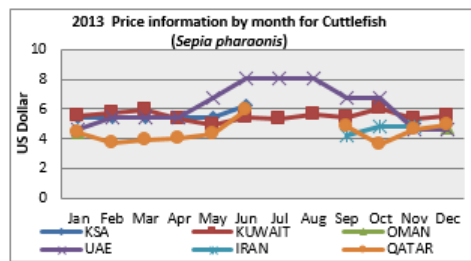
Socio-economic Task group established

Preliminary survey questionnaire designed

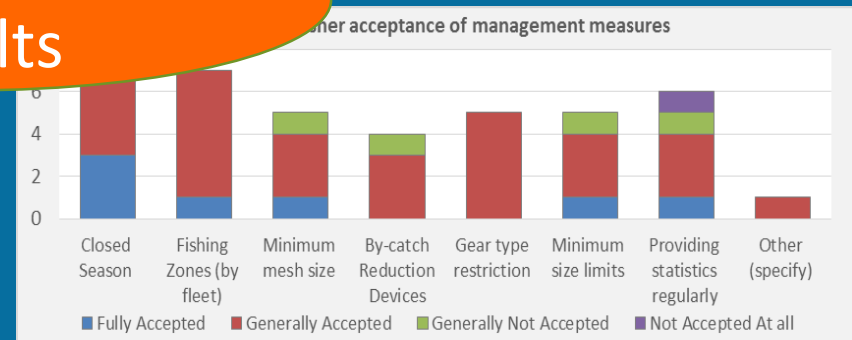
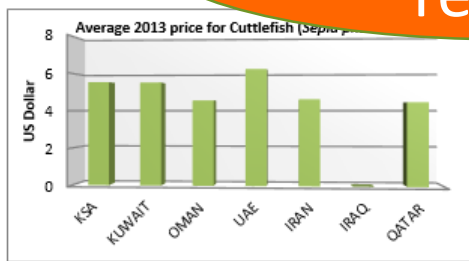
Priority gaps identified

Task Group requested to continue collecting information

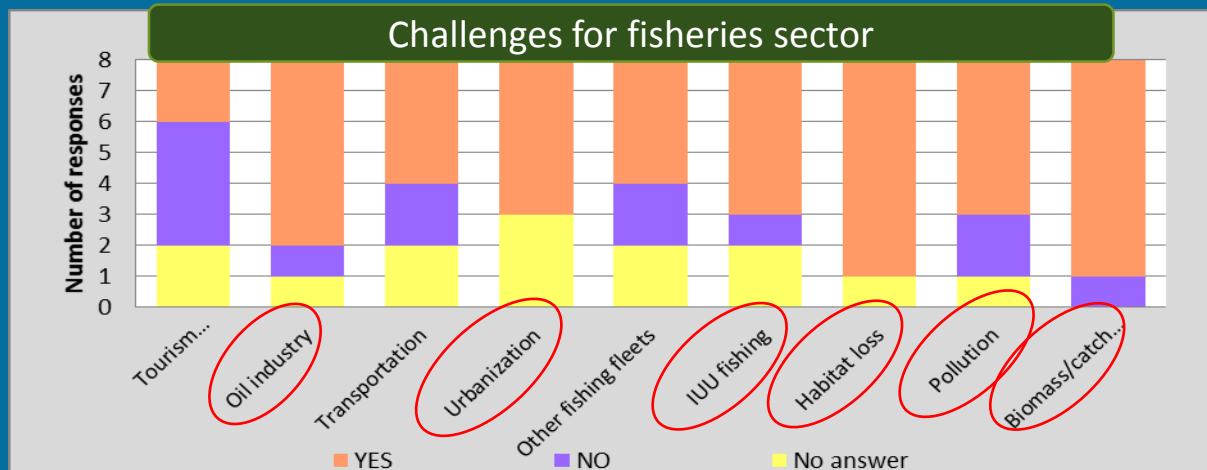
Some example results



Price information



Fishers attitudes to mgmt. measures



REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR FISHERIES

Report of the

SPECIAL MEETING ON CONSOLIDATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Rome, 11–12 May 2010



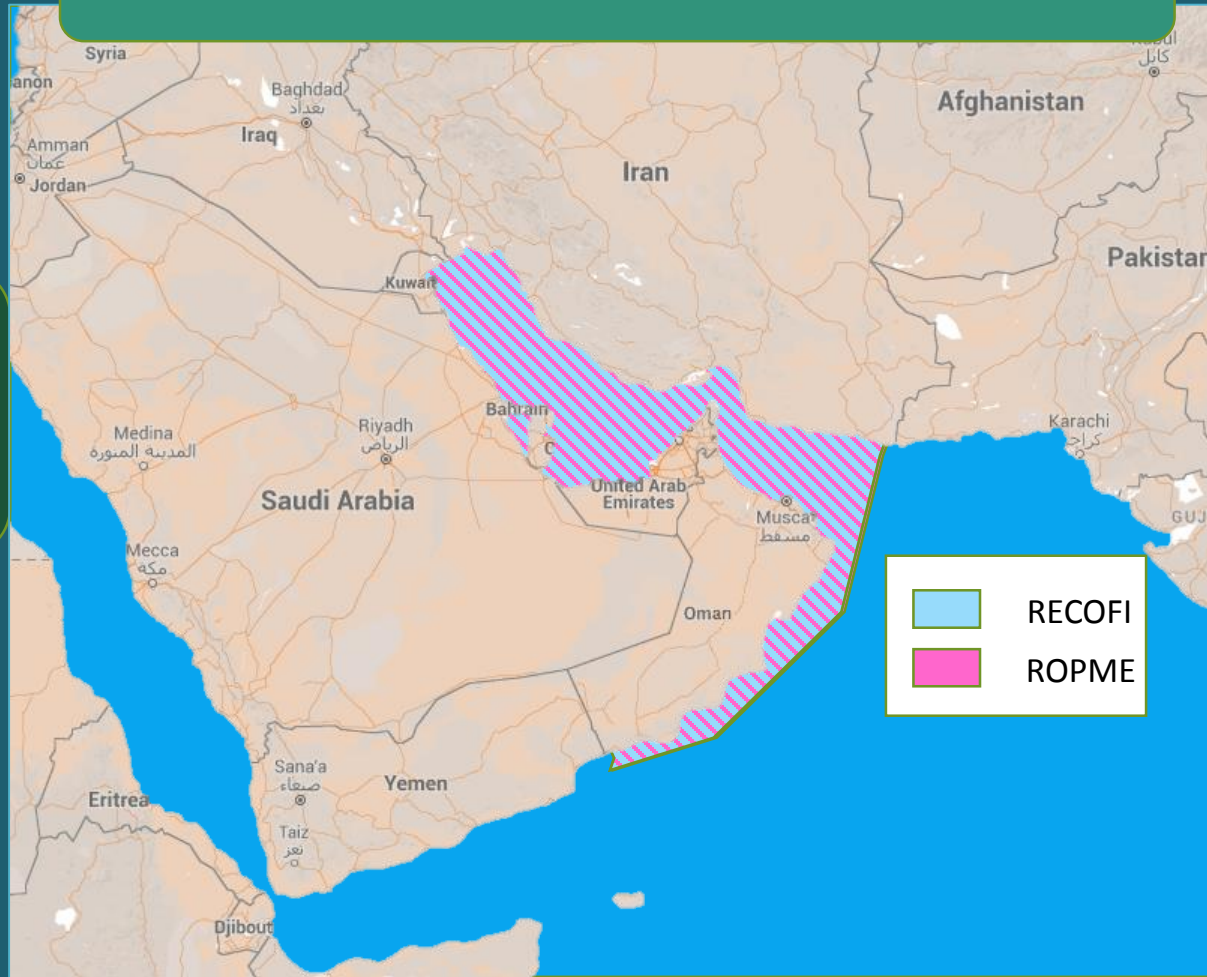
the way forward...

Background to the RECOFI/ROPME cooperative partnership

- The seventh session of RECOFI (Tehran, Iran, 14-16 **May 2013**) concurred on the need for due consideration to be given to ongoing **ecosystem changes and their impacts**, including climate change and red tide impacts on both fisheries and aquaculture.
- The Commission emphasized the value of effective and viable regional cooperation which should be fostered by RECOFI in cooperation with other interested entities, such as the Fisheries Resources Committee of the GCC, **Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment (ROPME)** and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF).
- The Secretariat proposed that a formal **partnership arrangement** between these bodies be sought.

RECOFI and ROPME

Same
convention
area and
member
countries



Action taken and progress to date

- At the ninth **WGFM meeting held in November 2015** in Kuwait, the RECOFI Secretary noted that the Commission had requested cooperation with other relevant regional entities, such as the Permanent Fisheries Resources Committee of GCC and ROPME.
- A meeting between the ROPME and RECOFI secretariats was held at the ROPME hq in Kuwait in the margins of the ninth meeting of the RECOFI WGFM in **November 2015**.
- The Chairperson and the Secretary of RECOFI represented the Commission at the regional workshop entitled “Toward the Development of a Regional Ecosystem Based Management Strategy for ROPME Sea Area”, **April 2016** in Dubai.
- The **Dubai meeting** produced 12 recommendations. **Recommendation 10** specifically addressed the cooperation between ROPME and RECOFI: “*Considering the identical geographical coverage and membership of ROPME and RECOFI, it would be highly desirable and advisable to establish an effective and viable cooperation framework.*”

Action taken and progress to date

- The case of the potential cooperation between RECOFI and ROPME was jointly presented by **FAO/RECOFI and UNEP/ROWA** at the *Sustainable Ocean Initiative Global Dialogue with Regional Seas Organizations and Regional Fisheries Bodies on Accelerating Progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets*, Seoul, **September 2016**.
- The so-called “**Seoul Outcome**” reported that “... *there are many ongoing initiatives to enhance cooperation between regional seas conventions and action plans and regional fishery bodies, including in the North-East Atlantic, the Mediterranean, the Western Indian Ocean, West and Central Africa, and the ROPME/RECOFI region, as presented during the meeting. ...*”

Way forward

- A **coordination meeting** of FAO/RECOFI and UNEP/ROPME Secretariats was held in **February 2017** and a MoU between ROPME and FAO (on behalf of RECOFI) was drafted. The scope of the MoU is to establish a broader cooperation aimed at harmonizing their activities and avoiding duplication.
- The outcome of the meeting and draft MoU will be submitted for discussion and endorsement to the 9th Session of RECOFI in **May 2017** in Kuwait.



Brief outline of RFBs framework and some promising development in the North Western Indian Ocean



Thanks for your attention

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