

Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.Secretary of State in charge  
of Sustainable Development

Under the high patronage of His Majesty King Mohammed VI of Morocco  
تحت الرعاية السامية لصاحب الجلالة الملك محمد السادس، نصره الله  
Sous le Haut Patronage de Sa Majesté le Roi Mohammed VI

# SUSTAINING INTERNATIONAL WATERS COOPERATION

## IWC-9, Marrakech PRACTICES AND TOOLS CLINIC CAROUSEL

**Title:** How do I promote the effective management of marine areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ) through the TDA-SAP process?

Organized by the Global Ocean Forum; ABNJ “Doctor”: Miriam Balgos (mbalgos@udel.edu)

This clinic began with a brief overview of ABNJ and its management and the [ABNJ Capacity project](#) under the GEF/FAO [Common Oceans Program](#). The “doctor” then responded to questions coming from IW project “patients” regarding addressing ABNJ issues through the TDA-SAP process within the context of the GEF-7 objective on ABNJ, existing management frameworks for ABNJ and LMEs, and the ongoing process of establishing an international legally-binding instrument on ABNJ under UNCLOS.

### Report

- Result of the in-clinic survey: "Has the clinic session helped increase your understanding of the pre-identified challenges and your subsequent capacity to implement appropriate tools and solutions?"

32/32 participants in two sessions responded positively to the above question.

- Reporting questions
  - 1) What are some of the main messages coming from your clinic discussion with the clinic participants?
    - Collaboration within and between/among regions on ABNJ is important.
    - Integration of ABNJ considerations in the TDA-SAP process in terms of data, capacity needs and linkages can lead to more stakeholder awareness of ABNJ; provide factual basis in the identification of issues that affect the EEZs, transboundary waters, and ABNJ, and in the development of alternative solutions; help identify global benefits of ABNJ; and highlight EEZ-ABNJ interlinkages.
    - Management actions in the EEZ affects ABNJ and vice versa.
    - The management of ABNJ affects everyone, all countries, whether coastal or land-locked.
  - 2) What were some of the gaps participants identified during the clinic that your tools/methodologies were able to address?
    - Data on ABNJ are often not available to countries with limited resources. - Consider tapping into regional/global data sources (e.g., NAFO, ICES, visualization tools such as those developed by Census of Marine Life and OBIS/ UNESCO) (see [report](#) of multi-stakeholder dialogue on this topic for more information)

- Lack of awareness, motivation and capacity in countries (in particular, developing states) regarding the importance of ABNJ and ABNJ management. – A media guide on ABNJ has been prepared to engage key stakeholders and the public in ABNJ-related issues; Consider individual, organizational, and societal pathways to capacity development in ABNJ (see [Policy Brief on ABNJ Capacity](#) and [report](#) of multi-stakeholder dialogue on ABNJ capacity for more information; see example of an ABNJ capacity development initiative [here](#)).
  - Lack of coordination between/among countries on ABNJ. – Identify common interests and join forces in intergovernmental processes and negotiations; Encourage countries to define their interests in ABNJ by setting Nationally Determined Goals (NDGs) for biodiversity in ABNJ that would allow them to set goals and priorities, assess capacity needs in regards to an [international legally-binding instrument under UNCLOS](#) (ILBI), according to their own national priorities, capabilities, and responsibilities, and may be jointly carried out by a group of countries as a step in a regional planning process for regional waters (see [Policy Brief on ABNJ Capacity](#)), perhaps through the TDA-SAP process.
  - How to extend EEZ management frameworks to address ABNJ issues and adapt existing management tools. Examples: 1) Agenda setting in the Pacific through TDA–SAP within the [GEF OFMP2 project](#) on Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States: influence uses of high–seas pockets in ABNJ through access to EEZ fishery, [PNA](#) group and vessel day scheme to pay for fishing days; 2) Collaboration between Seychelles and Mauritius through the Joint Management Area ([JMA](#)) between Mauritius and Seychelles for the Continental Shelf in the Mascarene region, as well as the associated Contiguous Adjacent High Seas Areas.
- 3) Were there any gaps identified that your tools/methodologies could not address?
- IUU fishing unresolved by existing management measures.
  - In addition to the existing institutional framework on ABNJ, who would have the mandate to implement management programs on ABNJ? The ILBI is expected to provide the answer to this.