



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



DEPARTMENT OF
FISHERIES



Pradhan Mantri
Matsya Sampada Yojana
(PMMSY)

FAO Workshop on Mainstreaming Climate Change into International Fisheries Governance

17-19 October 2023 | Mahabalipuram



Organizers



BOBP





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1. Context

Climate change is significantly altering the distribution of fish stocks worldwide. Recent studies predict that by the end of this century, nearly half of transboundary fish stocks will have relocated, and a vast majority of the world's exclusive economic zones will witness at least one such shift. This movement of marine resources complicates existing fisheries management strategies, especially for straddling stocks. A deeper comprehension of how climate change affects transboundary fish stocks is crucial for robust, climate-resilient international fisheries governance. This understanding is vital not only for the preservation of fisheries resources but also for the sustenance of countless individual's dependent on them. Recognising this, the FAO Committee on Fisheries, during its 35th Session held in Rome in September 2022, where India also participated, urged the FAO to formulate guidelines for climate-resilient fisheries management in collaboration with Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFBs). This workshop for the RFBs in the Indo-Pacific Region facilitated exchanges among RFBs from the Indo-Pacific region about how they are integrating climate change in fisheries management advice, discussed responses and opportunities to address the impacts of climate change on relevant fish stocks and ecosystems and proposed actionable recommendations for future efforts. The workshop fostered a comprehensive understanding of the specific vulnerabilities and risks that climate change poses to the fisheries sector in the Indo-Pacific region. It also explored adaptive strategies, sustainable management practices, and policy frameworks that can enhance the resilience of fisheries and ensure the long-term viability of marine resources. The Workshop encouraged collaboration among Indo-Pacific Regional Fishery Bodies (RFBs) in addressing the challenges posed by climate change and other fisheries issues.

Specific objectives of the event included

- To take stock of good practices and lessons learnt from RFBs that have the most advanced experience in implementing risk-based management approaches to account for changes in ecosystem states, including climate change impacts.
- To provide the basis for the development of a set of tailored solutions to implement risk-based management that considers data-poor contexts and uses the best available science, which also considers regional differences.
- To outline a roadmap to develop a risk management/decision framework on climate resilient management.
- To outline the need for a capacity-building program in this arena.
- To provide an additional channel to foster exchanges of views and enhance cross-fertilisation among RFBs.



2. Brief Proceedings

Topic	Current activities/ initiatives	Good practices & lessons learnt	Potential entry points & opportunities	Gaps & Challenges
Data & Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing collection of fisheries-related data (e.g. catch, effort, bycatch, VMS), fisheries data available for analysis related to CC Existence of openly accessible oceanographic products (e.g. global/regional datasets and projections) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dedicated WGs on CC/ add climate change as a permanent agenda item CPUE Standardizations/ stock assessment workshops incorporating climate change aspects and networks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish dedicated WG on CC/add climate change as a permanent agenda item MoUs between RFBs to share data, information and tools Provide RFBs with available tools (vulnerability assessments, preparedness, risk assessment) Develop and/or update the list of species of concern for focused study and research related to CC and harmonised methodological frameworks Promote mutual learning (e.g. stock assessment integrating CC) among countries, including through workshops Data sharing (e.g. providing modelling learning opportunity) Sharing of data-poor methods for stock assessment, risk assessment, habitat modelling etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need for fisheries-related time series Need for regularly collected environmental/ oceanographic data (Oxygen, Nitrate, Chlorophyll/Primary production) provided to RFBs and to countries Climate change projections at a finer temporal and spatial scale Information on migratory patterns & distribution shifts of fisheries resources Climate change is not integrated into stock status or advice Need to account for socio-economic elements in management responses (i.e. the need for social and economic data) Uncertainty in CC projections and impacts on fisheries resources
Scientific structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CC is addressed through Science Committees, scientific service providers, and/ or WGs on the ecosystem approach. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scientific structures are in place, RFBs have the staff and knowledge base to analyse the data CC should also be mainstreamed in an integrated approach (into an ecosystem approach) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scientific capacity of staff of some CPCs delegations supporting different RFBs Limited human capacity in some RFBs

Fisheries advice and management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of stock status and fisheries management advice considers some current climate change impacts RFBs are supporting countries in developing climate change adaptation plans and ad hoc policy advice Information is presented to RFBs on CC-related information and impact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some existing CMMs are regularly reviewed, giving a chance to assess and revise CMMs on climate change Policy/Strategy that addresses climate change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need creativity in approaching management measures, need measures to be flexible and adaptable. Management should be improved to be more dynamic/adaptive Tools, such as risk assessments and vulnerability assessments, can be used to support management in RFBs, and results can be shared Capitalize on SIDS experience and leadership A dedicated WG on CC should be established 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate change is not integrated into stock status or advice Existing management measures are static, not flexible Uncertainty in management responses to climate change Lack of knowledge on risk-based approaches to management Information-sharing on management fisheries, including the approach to enhance the resilience of fisheries and aquaculture in response to climate change
Institutional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CC is being recognised as an important issue within an institutional framework Some RFBs have CMMs on climate change Projects with a focus on climate change Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI) Utilizing funds from GEF and GCF Existing mandate to deal with climate change impacts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate change as a standing agenda item for some RFBs MoUs exist between RFBs to cooperate and share experience Projects with a focus on climate change Cooperation between RFBs and Regional Seas Organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include climate change as a standing item at regular meetings of the Commission for those RFBs that do not already Develop an action plan on climate change at the level of RFB RFBs can play a role in getting support for countries to develop needed capacity Existing mechanisms of cooperation between RFMOs/RFABs can be strengthened Leveraging existing cooperation frameworks Various international funding mechanisms available Consideration of climate change within the mandate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overlapping jurisdictions is a challenge regarding shifting stocks Institutional (RFB) and national capacity can be too low in some cases to integrate CC in RFBs Complexity of uptake of management measures/advice RFBs may operate more slowly than needed to respond to changes occurring in the fisheries Exchange of information between RFBs Exchange of information and collaboration between relevant national level institutions and RFBs Discussions of climate change at the highest level

Annex I

Agenda



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Regional Workshop on Mainstreaming Climate Change into International Fisheries Governance – the Case of Regional Fisheries Bodies in the Indo- Pacific Region

Venue: Marina Hall II, Welcomhotel By ITC Hotels

Organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in cooperation and coordination with the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying of the Government of India, and the Bay of Bengal Program Inter-Governmental Organisation (BOBP-IGO)

Day 1	17 October 2023	18 October 2023	Day 2
	<p>1330 – 1340 Opening Remarks</p> <p>1340 – 1400 Self Introduction of Participants</p> <p>Representatives from Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFBs) in the Indo-Pacific region, as well as other workshop participants, will provide short self-introductions, in a <i>tour de table</i> style.</p> <p>1400 – 1500 Findings of the global review on RFBs and climate change</p> <p>The presentation will provide an overview of the current state of the climate change knowledge base of relevance to RFBs, highlighting good practices, opportunities, gaps and challenges.</p> <p>Q&A and Discussion</p> <p>1500 – 1515 Tea Break</p> <p>1515 – 1730 Presentations by RFBs</p> <p>The presentation will showcase relevant RFBs activities, strategies and initiatives in response to climate change, summarize good practices and lessons learnt, identify entry points and opportunities for enhanced integration of climate change into the RFB work, and also discuss relevant gaps (e.g., knowledge and data, capacity, finance) and other challenges.</p>	<p>0900 – 1030 Presentations by RFBs (Continued)</p> <p>1030 – 1100 Plenary Discussion</p> <p>All workshop participants will discuss and consolidate a list of good practices, lessons learnt, entry points and opportunities, gaps and challenges that are most relevant to RFBs in the Indo-Pacific region.</p> <p>1100 – 1115 Tea Break</p> <p>1115 – 1230 Legal challenges faced by RFBs in addressing climate change</p> <p>Role of RFBs in addressing climate change including a systemic analysis of their mandates and functions from an international law perspective.</p> <p>1230 – 1330 Lunch Break</p> <p>1330 – 1345 Introduction to break out groups</p> <p>1345 – 1500 Break out groups</p> <p>Workshop participants discuss in-depth in two smaller groups (e.g., Indian Ocean region and Pacific Ocean region) on the relation to monitoring of climate change impacts; data collection and compilation; data analysis and reporting; formulation of conservation and management measures (CMM) and technical/scientific advice; cooperation among RFBs; and legal challenges.</p> <p>Guiding questions for the group discussions are</p> <p><i>What are the data and science available/needed to understand better the impacts of climate change on shared resources that fall under the mandate of your RFB? Is the current scientific structure/body of your respective RFB adequate to provide the required data and science?</i></p> <p><i>What is your insight on the adequacy of the current management measures in the context of climate change? What actions can be taken to ensure management measures address the current and anticipated impacts of climate change?</i></p> <p><i>What are the additional challenges posed by climate change to jurisdictional and institutional capacity (e.g. overlapping jurisdictions due to shifting stocks)? What actions could be taken to foster inter-institutional coordination between RFBs?</i></p> <p><i>What are the main barriers and challenges to the integration of climate change considerations in RFBs work?</i></p> <p>The outcomes of the discussions will be consolidated in recommendations on:</p> <p><i>main elements of a risk management/decision framework on climate resilient management, and the roadmap to develop such a framework;</i></p> <p><i>assessment of the needs for a capacity-building program in support of RFBs' responses to climate change; and</i></p> <p><i>enhancing regional coordination for effective fisheries management.</i></p> <p>1500 – 1515 Tea Break</p> <p>1515 – 1645 Break out groups (cont.)</p> <p>1630 – 1730 Plenary Discussion</p> <p>The outcomes of the break-out group discussions will be shared. The session will provide an opportunity for all participants to collaborate in synthesizing the results.</p>	



Regional Workshop on **Mainstreaming Climate Change into International Fisheries Governance – the Case of Regional Fisheries Bodies in the Indo- Pacific Region**

Day
3

19 October 2023

0900 – 0915 Recap of the previous deliberations

0915 – 1100 Review of main outcomes and proposed follow-up actions

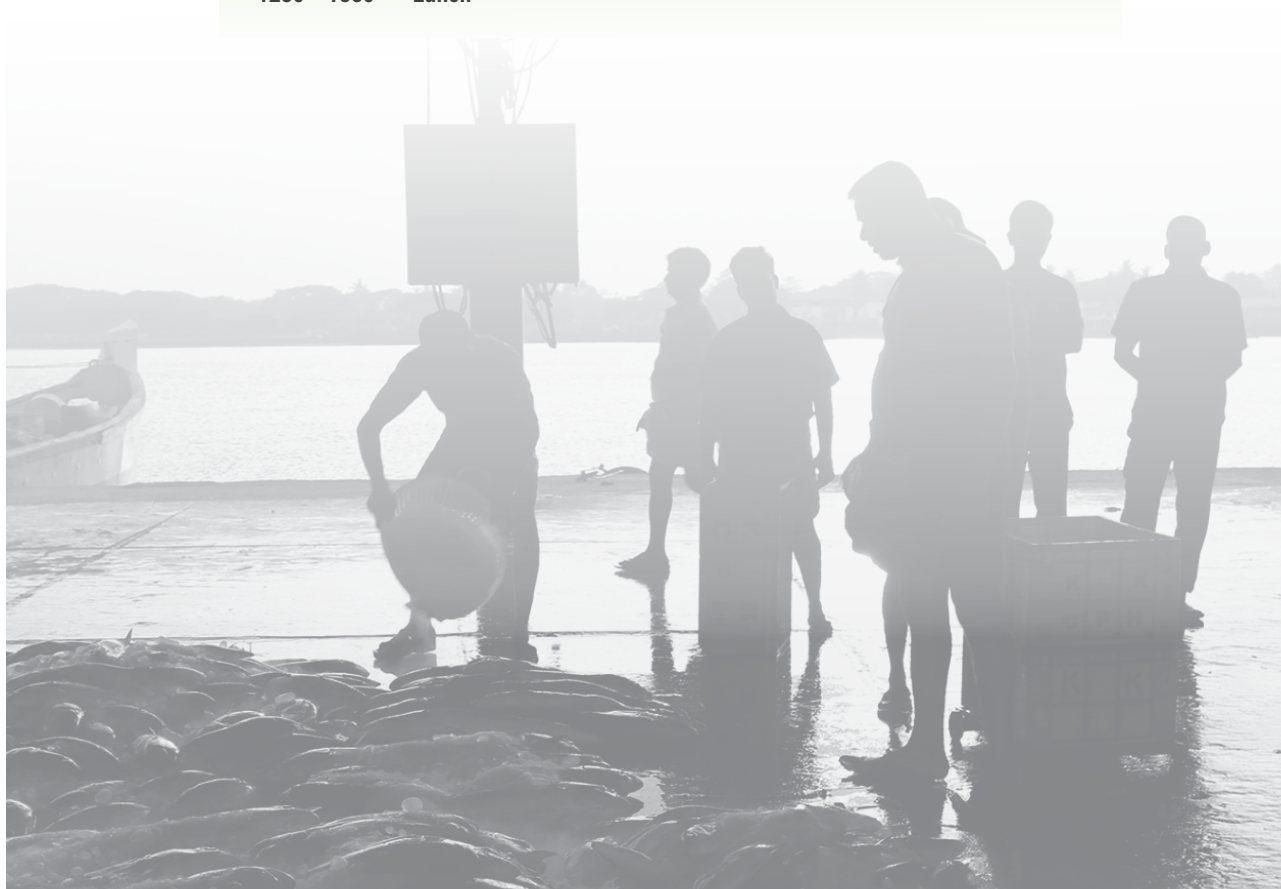
All participants will collectively review and summarize the main outcomes generated during the workshop. Discussions will also focus on proposals for follow-up actions to capitalize on the main outcomes and implement recommendations arising from the workshop.

1100 – 1115 Tea Break

1115 – 1145 Review of main outcomes and proposed follow-up actions (Contd.)

1145 – 1230 Closure of Workshop

1230 – 1330 Lunch



Annex II

List of Participants

Sl.No	Name	Organisation
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations		
1.	Piero Mannini	Senior Liaison Officer, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
2.	Stefania Savorè	Fishery Officer, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
3.	Xuechan Ma	Fishery Officer, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
4.	Tarub Bahri	Fishery Resources Officer, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
5.	Takayuki Hagiwara	FAO Representative in India
6.	Lori Curtis	Consultant, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Regional Fishery Bodies		
7.	P. Krishnan	Director, Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation
8.	Rajdeep Mukherjee	Policy Analyst, Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation
9.	Daniel Philip Crear	Species Ecologist, Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission
10.	Lauren Nelson	Fishery Officer, Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
11.	Darius Campbell	Secretary, North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission
12.	Yoshikiyo Kondo	Executive Director, North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission
13.	Isara Chanrachkij	Head, PPMD, Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center
14.	Sukchai Arnupaphoon	Head, FGOS, Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center
15.	Supapong Pattarapongpan	Fishery Oceanographer, Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center
16.	Thierry Clot	Executive Secretary, Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement
17.	Ahmed Al-Mazourai	Director, Regional Commission for Fisheries
18.	Mitchell Herbert Lennan	Lecturer, University of Aberdeen
Country Representatives		
18.	Mohammed Mizanur Rahman	Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries & Livestock, Govt of Bangladesh
19.	Neetu Kumari Prasad, IAS	Joint Secretary (Marine), Department of Fisheries, Govt of India
20.	Sanjay Pandey	Deputy Commissioner, Department of Fisheries, Govt of India
21.	Nitin Verma	Senior Technical Assistant, Department of Fisheries, Govt of India
22.	Adam Manik	Deputy Director General, Maldives Marine Research Institute, Govt of Maldives
23.	N.A.A.P.S. Nissanka	Additional Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Govt of Sri Lanka
Academic and Research Institutions		
25.	A. John Chembian	Jr. Fisheries Scientist, Fishery Survey of India
26.	Babu	Sr Scientific Assistant, Fishery Survey of India
27.	T. Ravikumar	Assistant Professor, Fisheries College and Research Institute
28.	Mishal P	Scientist, ICAR-Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute
29.	G. Dharani	Scientist-E, National Institute of Ocean Technology
30.	Uma Sankar Panda	Scientist-F, National Center for Coastal Research
31.	R.S. Robin	Scientist-C, National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management
31.	R. K. Shrivastava	Research Fellow, National Maritime Foundation
32.	Shalini Iyengar	Intern, National Maritime Foundation



Bay of Bengal Programme
Inter-Governmental Organization

91, St. Mary's Road, Abhirampuram, Chennai - 600 018. INDIA
www.bobpigo.org