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Program, Structure and Goals

Program

Seeking to generate a catalytic change, the *Global sustainable fisheries management and biodiversity conservation in the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction Program* was approved by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) under the lead of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in close collaboration with two other GEF agencies, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Bank, as well as other partners.


Focusing on tuna and deep-sea fisheries, in parallel with the conservation of biodiversity, the ABNJ Program aims to promote efficient and sustainable management of fisheries resources and biodiversity conservation in ABNJ to achieve the global targets agreed in international fora.

The five-year ABNJ Program is an innovative, unique and comprehensive initiative working with a variety of partners. It consists of four projects that bring together governments, regional management bodies, civil society, the private sector, academia and industry to work towards ensuring the sustainable use and conservation of ABNJ biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Overall ABNJ Program structure - bringing it all together

FAO, serving as the Global Program Coordination Unit, will be supported by a Global Steering Committee comprised of representation from key partners, and a Technical Advisory Group made up of scientific and technical experts that work to ensure participation and full involvement of key partners from the policy, technical, and scientific communities as well as industry.

Click the diagram below for larger image.



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graph TD
    GSC[Global Steering Committee] <--> GPCU[Global Program Coordination Unit  
(led by FAO)]
    GSC <--> TAG[Technical Advisory Group]
    GPCU --> TFB[Tuna Fisheries & Biodiversity]
    GPCU --> DSFB[Deep-sea Fisheries & Biodiversity]
    GPCU --> OP[Oceans Partnerships]
    GPCU --> SC[Strengthening Capacity]
  
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[Tuna & Biodiversity](#)

[Deep Seas & Biodiversity](#)

[Oceans Partnership](#)

[Strengthening Capacity](#)

Goals

The Program concentrates on short-term milestones as part of a long-term plan to establish the strong networks, best management practices and facilitated information sharing needed to make a transformational impact towards responsible and sustainable use of ABNJ resources. It aims to:

- move towards the ecosystem approach and rights-based systems and away from the "race to fish";
- increase our ability to protect fragile ecosystems;
- foster international and cross-sectoral coordination and sharing of information.

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