



Using past data to inform future management

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Vison

To bring together existing and new biodiversity and environmental data:

- to deepen the understanding of the deep North Atlantic,
- promote sustainable blue growth opportunities
- transform new understanding into effective ocean governance





Geographical Area



OBIS and published data for benthic VME indicator taxa (WGDEC, 2016)

ECS Submissions

World's EEZ





Geographical Area







Past data sources

- **1. Published literature including cruise reports**
- 2. Major repositories for biological data in the Atlantic (OBIS, Pangaea and EMODnet)
- 3. Biogeographic databases, expert consultation, online libraries and habitat suitability models
- 4. Other global datasets





Cruise List (MAR) n= 131

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Number of publications



Number of publications per 1x1 degree cell







VME indicator spp



OBIS and published data for benthic VME indicator taxa (WGDEC, 2016)











Available data has improved but it's still very limited, hampering proper MSP in the deep-sea



OBIS and published data for benthic VME indicator taxa (WGDEC, 2016)











Deep-sea mining opportunities







Deep-sea mining opportunities

Deep-sea fishing opportunities







Deep-sea mining opportunities

Deep-sea bioprospecting opportunities

Deep-sea fishing opportunities







Deep-sea mining opportunities

Deep-sea bioprospecting opportunities

Deep-sea fishing opportunities





Using data for recommendations





Using data for recommendations

In the context of MSFD, GES and NEAFC/NAFO





Using data for recommendations

In the context of MSFD, GES and NEAFC/NAFO

"VME index": combines how intrinsically vulnerable to human impacts the VME indicator was deemed to be, and how abundant the VME indicator was

"Uncertainty index" based upon:

- a) the numbers of samples available within the grid cell
- b) the provenance of the records in that cell (e.g. visual survey, fisheries data, or inferred from other methods)
- c) the time frame of the data
- d) how recent the last survey was





VME Index (Large-scale)



VME Index 1.3 - 2.6 2.7 - 3.7 3.8 - 4.0





VME Index (Smaller-scale; Rockall Hatton Bank)































Food for thought

Deep-sea data available it's still limited

- An agenda for effective long-term transatlantic deep-sea research to complement on-going research initiatives is still needed (e.g. Azores International Research Centre)

Sustainable development of blue growth and informing effective ocean governance it's possible

- Innovative tools may facilitate transforming new understanding into effective ocean governance





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