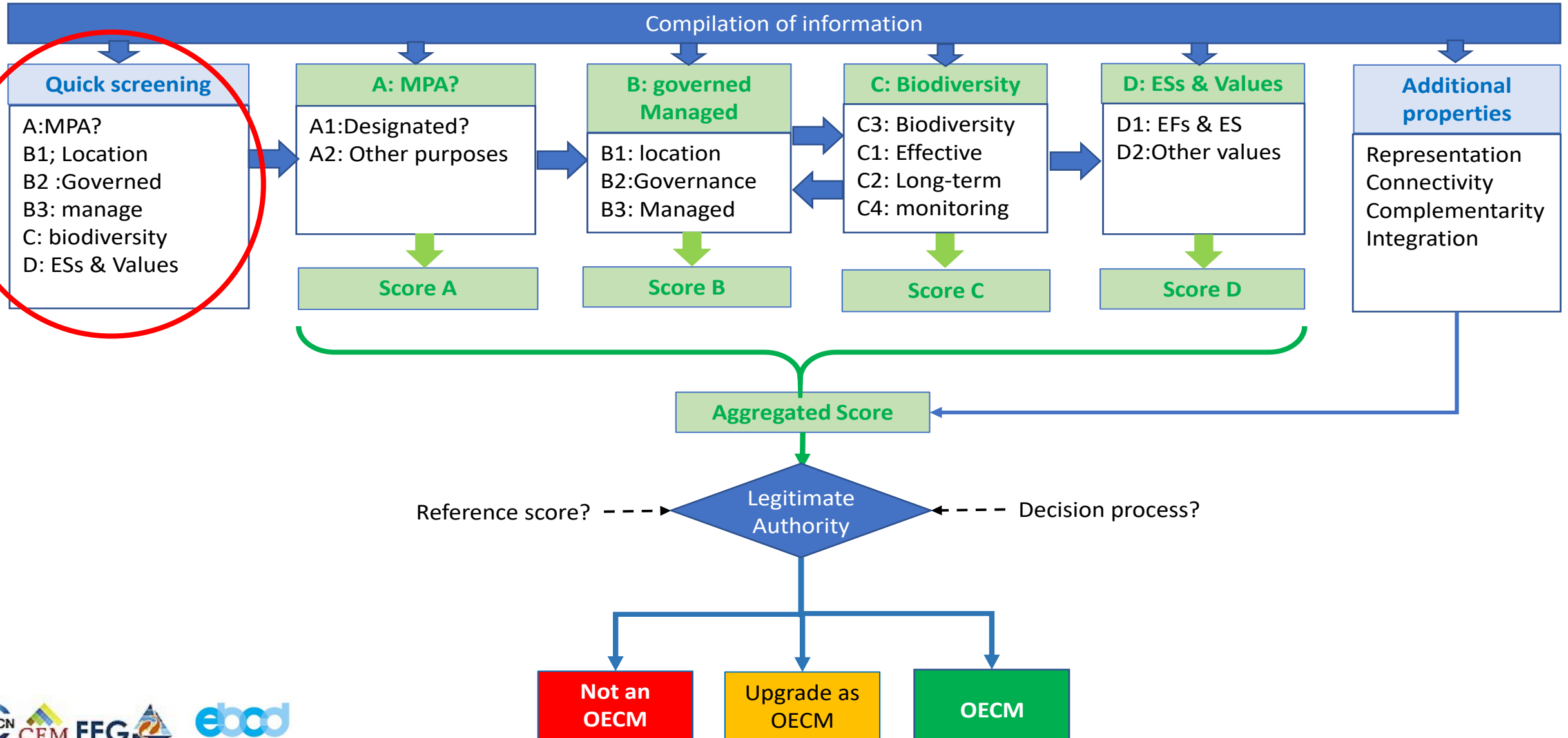# OECMs quick-screening process

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EC-EBCD workshop on Understanding OECMs to achieve the 30 by 30 target:
identification of fishery OECMs within EU waters. Brussels, Belgium. 29 September 2023

OECM full identification process

What is quick-screening?

1. A process to <u>prepare/optimize</u> the full identification process.

2. Going through the same steps but <u>faster and in less detail</u>

3. To apprise <u>the likelihood</u> that an area is worth the full assessment, identifying priorities and "low hanging fruits"

4. It is participative, looks for <u>consensus</u> and mobilize all <u>types of knowledge</u>

5. It identifies potential gaps in competences and information

Relevant questions

Area definition	Governance/ Management	Outcomes /performance
1. Is the area recognized as a protected area? (A) 2. Is the area a geographically defined space? (B1)	3. Governance authority? (B2) 4. Management system?(B3) 5. Current/ anticipated threats (B3)?	6. Area is effective? (C1) 7. G&M is sustained in the long term (C2) 8. Contributes to biodiversity conservation? (C3) 9. Performance is monitored (C4) 10. Management measures support ecosystem services? (D)

Subsidiary questions and possible pieces of evidence are given in the questionnaire.

Questions, and possible pieces of evidence (indicators) are directly from the CBD Decision or inferred from it.
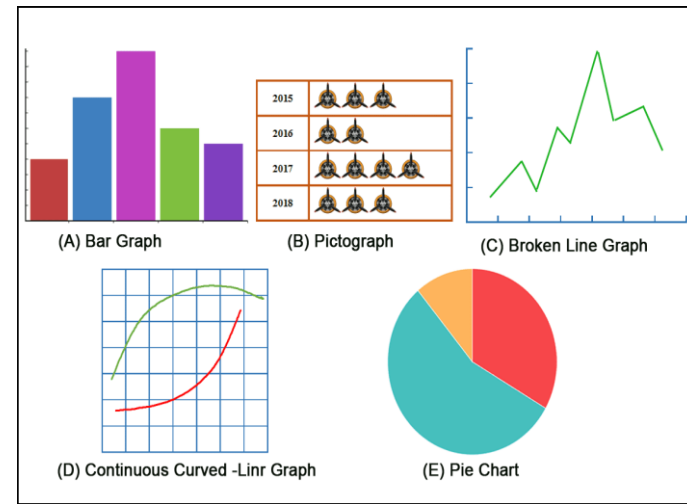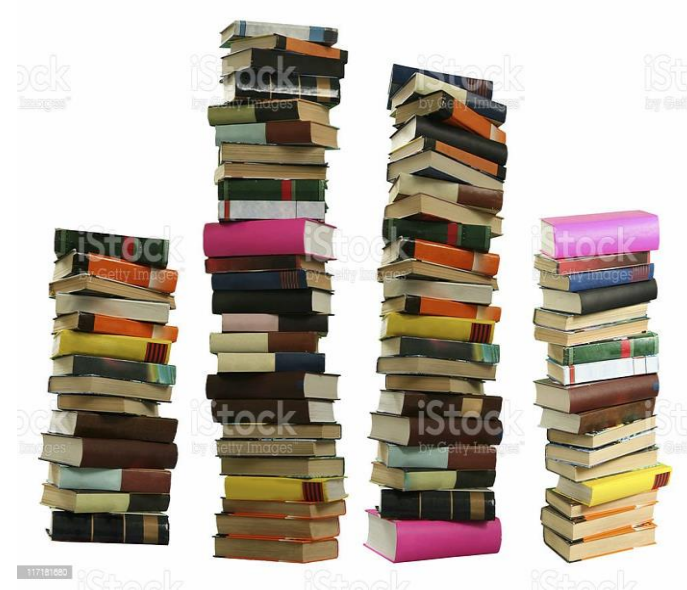
Expert views

Local knowledge

Background information

1. Status of the ABFM (MPA or not
2. Localization, boundaries and size
3. legitimate governance
4. Management system of the fishery
5. Type of ABFM (e.g., gear restriction, zoning, reserve, habitat protection)
6. Biodiversity values, particularly those of <u>concern</u>
7. Ecosystem services being supported, and
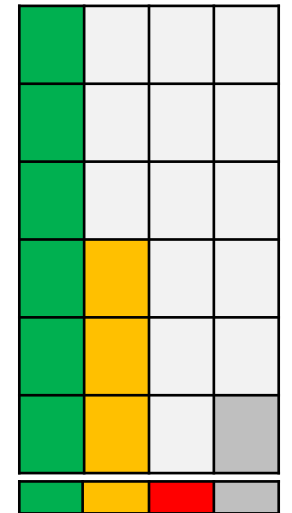8. Other locally relevant social and economic issues; .
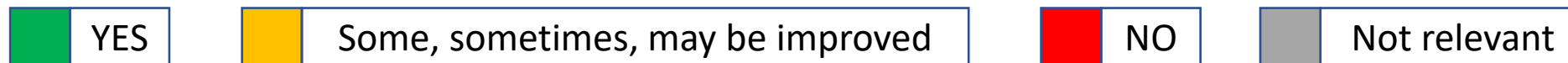

Assessments

Literature

Simplified scoring grid

CRITERIA	SUB-CRITERIA	
A: Not a <u>protected area</u>	*Not in WDPA. Not accounted in 30x30*	🟩
B: The area is governed and managed	*The area is geographically defined (B1)*	🟩
	There is a Legitimate governance (B2)	🟧
	There is a management system in place (B3)	🟩
C: Governance and management are effective	*Outcomes are likely to be achieved (C1)*	🟧
	Outcomes are likely to be long-term (C2)	🟩
	Biodiversity values and ecosystem services are known (C3)	🟩
	Information is managed (monitoring) (C4)	🟩
D: Ecosystem services & locally relevant values	*Ecosystem functions &services; trade-offs, equity (D1)*	🟧
	Other Locally relevant values (D2)	⬜

Overall score

🟩 YES   🟧 Some, sometimes, may be improved   🟥 NO   ⬜ Not relevant

The quick-screening score does not lead to a decision but to a probability ranking, leading into the full assessment

Any questions?

Step 1: Area definition

STEP 1: Area Definition	**The area is not a protected area (criteria A)**
	Q1:The area is listed as MPA in the WDPA? It has been formally designated? It is already counted in the global MPA coverage? Is it a part of an MPA (e.g., as a buffer area)? **YES:** the area is eliminated from the OECM screening; **NO:** Proceed to Q2
	Q2: Is the area overlapping with a formal MPA? Or is there an MPA included inside the area. **YES:** Only the non-MPA area may be considered for screening and global coverage; **NO**: Proceed to Q3
	Q3: The area was created for another purpose: fisheries management? **NO**: The area will not be considered in this fishery-OECM process; **YES**: Move to step 2
	The area is geographically defined space (criteria B1)
	Q1: Geographical coordinates? Boundaries? MAP? GIS shapefile? Area? Depth (if relevant)? **YES**: Proceed to step 3; **NO**: The area cannot be calculated. Delineate better or consider elimination from the screening

Question 1 is the only eliminatory question of the whole process

STEP 2: Governance & Management

STEP 2: Governance and Management

The area has legitimate governance authorities (Criteria B2)

Q1: Is the area under the agreed responsibility of a Legitimate Authority with the long-term powers to act? A State Agency; municipality; traditional community or IPLC; fishery association; private owner? The area may be jointly governed or co-managed. It is established for the long term? **YES:** See Q2; **NO:** Need to formalize / Stabilize the governance responsibilities

Q2: Has the Legitimate Authority consented to the OECM process? **YES:** Proceed to Q3; **NO:** The identification cannot proceed

Q3: Is the governance participative? Are the stakeholders known and participating equitably to the identification and management process? **YES:** Go to Step 4; **No:** It is advisable to improve the process

Note: Governance requires equity in stakeholders' involvement, procedures, and distribution of costs & benefits

The area is managed (criteria B3)

Q1: Is there a sustained management system in place (formal or informal) to take and enforce management decisions? **YES:** Proceed to Q2 ; **NO:** A key criteria is not met. Long-term outcomes are may not be ensured.

Q2: Are there specific measures in place to achieve positive and long-term biodiversity outcomes? Are they consistent with the ecosystem approach? **YES:** Proceed to Q3; **NO:** Without measures, long-term outcomes may not be ensured

Q3: Is management participative? Do stakeholders and local knowledge contribute? **YES:** Proceed to Q4; **NO: This is an area requiring upgrading** Q4: Is management adaptive, with the ability to detect and manage new threats (**see also next step**) **YES:** Go to Q5; **NO: This is an area requiring upgrading**

Q5: is management consistent with the ecosystem approach? **YES:** Go to next section; **NO: This is an area requiring upgrading**

STEP 3: Outcomes

STEP 3: Effectiveness	**The expected outcomes are achieved or are intended to be achieved (criteria C)**
	Q1: The important biodiversity attributes are identified?
	Q2: Does the area <u>achieve</u> (or is reasonably <u>expected to achieve</u>) positive long-term biodiversity outcomes?
	Q3: Are <u>policy frameworks and regulations</u> in place to recognize and respond to new threats.
	Q4: <u>Current threats</u> have been identified? Are there <u>measures in place</u> to reduce, mitigate or eliminate them or restore the system
	Q5: Have <u>future threats</u> been anticipated? Are there <u>contingency measures</u> in place?
	Q6: To the extent relevant and possible, management inside and outside the OECM are integrated.
	Q6: OECMs are or are likely to be in place for the long term (Criteria C2)
	Q7: A monitoring system informs management on the effectiveness of measures wrt biodiversity and ecosystems health
	Q7: Biodiversity attributes, boundaries, aims, values, management and governance are archived
	Q8: Information on identification, biodiversity attributes, relevant local values, governance and management are documented
	Q10: Baselines and processes are put in place to evaluate effectiveness, including wrt equity
	Ecosystem functions and services and other locally relevant values (Criteria D)
	Q1: Ecosystem functions & services are supported, accounting for interactions, trade-offs, positive biodiversity outcomes and equity, and ensuring that their management does not impact negatively on the site's overall biological diversity.
	Q2: Governance & management identify, respect and uphold the other locally relevant values of the area, and the local knowledge, practices and institutions that are fundamental for the *in situ* conservation of biodiversity.