



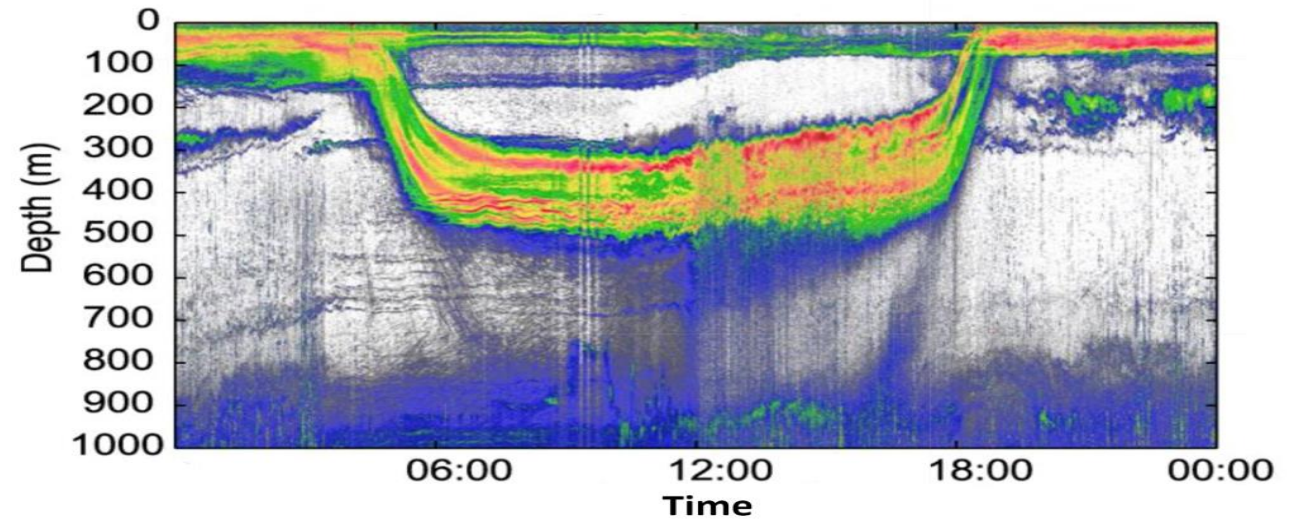
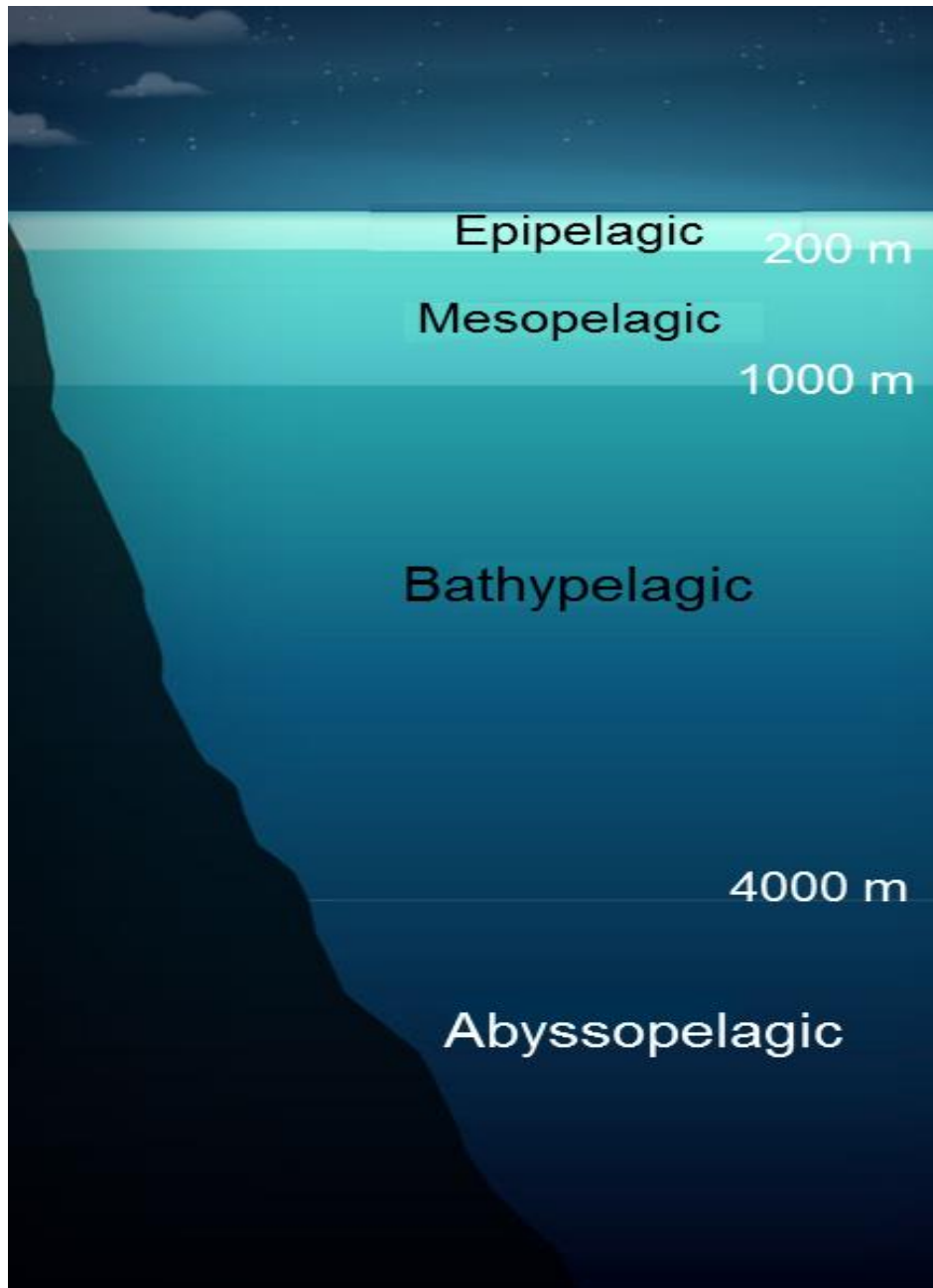
Foras na Mara
Marine Institute

Committee on World Food Security
CFS 46 Side Event, FAO, Rome, Italy.
18.00 to 19.30, Red Room,
14th October 2019.



Opportunities and Challenges for Access to the Utilization of Mesopelagic Biomass

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*“ Balanced Harvest ” ? Too early for this discussion ?
How do we achieve a “ Balanced Approach ” to the
opportunities and challenges for access to the
utilization of mesopelagic biomass ?*



1. How do we feed 7.7 billion people ?
2. How do we ensure sustainable food systems and food and nutrition security for all ?
3. How do we support efforts to reverse the cycle of decline in ocean health ?
4. How do we achieve sustainable development of the ocean ?
5. How do we create improved conditions for sustainable development of the ocean ?



ICES

International Council for
the Exploration of the Sea

CIEM

Conseil International pour
l'Exploration de la Mer



Against the background of the UN

- Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016 to 2025);
- Decade of the Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021 to 2030);
- Sustainable Development Goals (2030);
- Many Mesopelagic Research Projects underway;

Against a background of ongoing mesopelagic research activity;
Ireland and Norway will request ICES for;

1. Guidance on the Sustainable Exploitation of Mesopelagic Species;
2. Recommendations of priority research that needs to be carried out;



Opportunities and Challenges for Access to the Utilization of Mesopelagic Biomass

Three Take Home Messages

- 1. The ocean mesopelagic ecosystem remains largely unknown, where even the order of magnitude of the biomass needs to be evaluated.*
- 2. What species are present ? – who eats whom ? – what are the biodiversity and food web risks ? - what is the link between the surface and the deep ecosystem ?*
- 3. “ Mesopelagic fish are the largest and last living resource that humanity has not yet exploited, and therefore this is a last opportunity to ensure it is done well, if at all “. (Xabier Irigoien, 2019).*