

# MPAs and fishery management Biology, socioecology and governance

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## Governance of Marine Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation Interaction and Coevolution

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WILEY Blackwell



They vary according to ecosystems, species, MPA type and size, local conditions and governance.

- Positive effects inside the MPA on fish population, communities and habitats, are usually verified if not accurately predictable
- Spill-over effects depend on species and local conditions, are localized (line effect) and visible only when the system is heavily overfished outside the MPA.
- Larval enhancement depends on MPA localization, may be expected but is hard to prove empirically.
- Better stability and resilience may be expected
- Protection of habitats and vulnerable species
- May decrease fishing pressure if located on key fishing areas



- Fisheries-oriented MPAs should cover large areas or be organized as functional networks (easier)
- High priority to the protection of spawning and nursery grounds
- A long term and uninterrupted protection is required
- Fishery-MPAs should be integrated in broader management plans
- Efficient monitoring, enforcement and participation are essential



- Economic and social data are still limited
- Area of socio-economic impact can be very large and impacts very diverse
- Opportunity costs are often conveniently "forgotten" in impact analyses
- Losses in catch/value are rarely recovered even though CPUE may increase outside: Compensation?



- If full control of fishing mortality: Conventional management performs better than MPAs (higher yield)
- If no control of fishing mortality outside the NTZ:
  - The NTZ increase stocks resilience to fishing
  - The NTZ cannot restore durably the profitability of the fishery even if it increases abundance
  - The NTZ may however by the second-best solution



- MPA are public investments in marine conservation
- **Two central issues** when investing :
  - <u>Efficiency</u>: What is the amount of net surplus generated by the MPA for the society ?
  - <u>Equity</u>: How are costs and benefits distributed among fishers? Within society? Compensation measures ?
- Difficulties:
  - Unequal distribution of benefits and costs, in time, space, and between stakeholders.
  - The advocated benefits are "global" and delayed but their costs are immediate and local Garcia, Boncoeur & Gascuel, 2013



- MPAs effectiveness as a fishery management tool depends on the level of control of fishing mortality in and outside the MPA. Do not overestimate their role.
- Do not under-estimate opportunity costs, the potential reallocation of fishing effort, and fisher's reactions and adaptation to closures
- Consider compensation measures: avoid perverse ones (increasing F) and favour virtuous ones (e.g. fishing rights).
- Ex-ante assessment & monitoring are essential



Garcia, Rice and Charles, 2014



- **FISHERY GOVERNANCE**: aim at economically viable fisheries while minimizing impacts on the ecosystem
- <u>MPAs</u>: aim at protecting the ecosystem while minimizing impacts on economic and human development
- COMMON APPROACHES:
  - Good governance principles to boost performance
  - Ecosystem and Precautionary approaches
  - Use rights; market-based instruments

The main objective of MPAs is a constraint for fisheries The main objective of fisheries is a pressure for MPAs



- There are objective limits to compromise due to different perceptions of risk and how to allocate it between nature and fishers
- There is growing pressure to increase coverage of MPAs and NTZs even though their effectiveness is discussed
- Tensions are growing regarding the social impact of the market-based approach on both fisheries and conservation.

### **A - FACTORS OF CONVERGENCE**

- Increasing signs of degradation despite some success
- Increasing attention to social & economic issues
- Good governance; Adaptive management; Participation
- User rights
- Cross-sectoral space-based integration

#### **B - FACTORS OF TENSION**

#### **Fisheries-related**

- Deep sea fishing
- Destructive fishing
- Bycatch and discards
- Overfishing
- **IUU**

#### **MPAs-related**

- Increasing targets  $(10 \rightarrow 30\%)$
- Larger MPAs & networks
- UNCLOS Implement. Agreement
- EBSAs, seen as potential MPAs

e-.g. From 2012 IUCN WCC. Jeju. Korea. 2012

- Conservation of target resources : maintain reproductive capacity; limit fishing pressure; optimize fishing patterns
- Control of fishing capacity: Regulation of access. Revenues or employment? What equitable distribution? Illegal fishing.
- Competition for space with other sectors
- Reduction of collateral impact: On the

Protected areas may be useful when dealing with those concerns more easily and/or cheaply than existing measures





Garcia, Boncoeur & Gascuel, 2013



- What type of fishery will be "accepted" in a multi-use MPA (MU-MPA)?
- What happens when a fishery is included in a MU-MPA or a NTZ is introduced in a fishery?
- What happens if 10 or 30% of the EEZ is put under NTZs?
- Who will manage/decide about the fishery in that MPA?
- What coordination/integration with the Min. of Environment?
- How will we decide on local trade-offs?
- What about integrating fisheries in ICAM or MSP instead of MU-MPAs?

#### Responses depend on: type of stock, ecosystem, jurisdiction and socioeconomic context



**Benefits** depend on ecology and effort control. **Costs** depend on people's dependency on fisheries

			IUCN MPA TYPES						
Fishery activities			la	Ib			IV	V	VI
Commercial fisheries									
Recreational fisheries									
Aquaculture									
Extractive research									
Rebuilding, enhancements									
Traditional (subsistence) fishing									
Prohibited		Conditiona				Authorized			

Garcia, Boncoeur & Gascual, 2013

The primordial objective of an IUCN MPA is conservation The tolerance for commercial fishing is limited

Tolerance increases with horizontal zoning and in multi-use MPAs. Vertical zoning is unavoidable in deep oceans



compatible. They may differ, however, in a given area