



# WHY MAINSTREAMING COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN MPAS AND OEABMS?

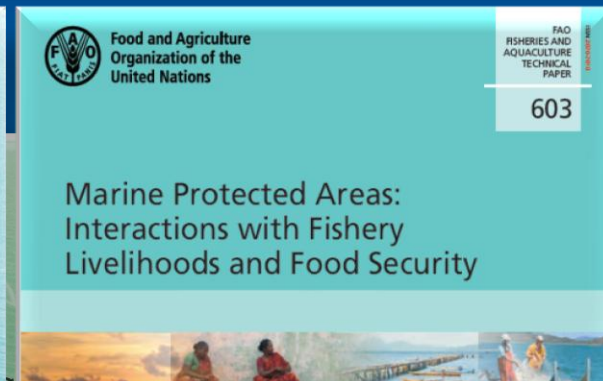
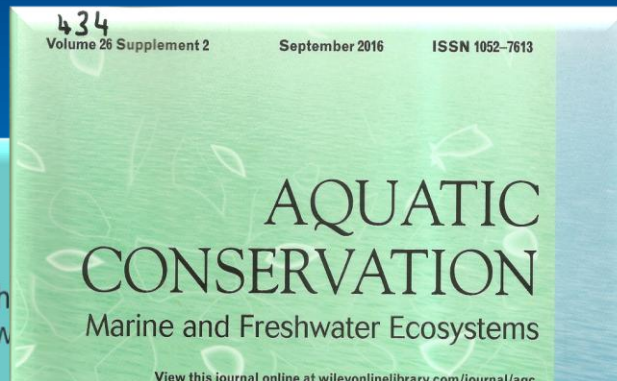
S.M. Garcia (Chair IUCN-CEM-FEG)

Side-event on *Small-scale fisheries communities and Aichi Target 11: Achieving conservation, sustainable livelihoods and food security in MPAs and OEABMs*, organized during CBD CoP 13, 7/12/2016, Cancun (Mexico)



# REFERENCES

Human dimensions of the ecosystem approach to fisheries: an overview of context, concepts, tools and methods



AQUATIC CONSERVATION: MARINE AND FRESHWATER ECOSYSTEMS

*Aquatic Conserv: Mar. Freshw. Ecosyst.* (2016)

Published online in Wiley Online Library  
(wileyonlinelibrary.com). DOI: 10.1002/aqc.2648

## *Fishing livelihoods as key to marine protected areas: insights from the World Parks Congress*

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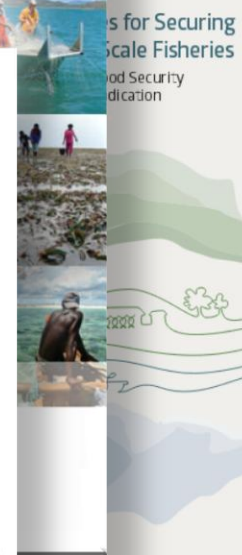
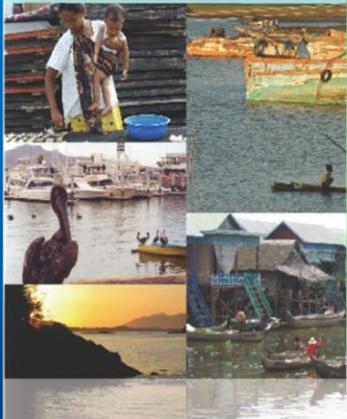
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# ARGUMENTS



- **They are first to be impacted by the potential increase of MPAs**
- **They are a vulnerable component of Humankind:**
  - *Long history of abuse (terrestrial & Marine): green-blue grabbing.*
  - *Face both positive rhetoric and bad treatment in many areas*
  - *They are vulnerable: poor, dependent, and exposed to natural disasters and climate change and Blue Growth consequences.*
- **They are key providers of essential ecosystem services:**
  - *Food and livelihood along the value chain*
  - *If incentivized: they promote conservation (e.g. PES)*
  - *If mistreated: they can derail conservation*

# ARGUMENTS - 2



- Uncertainty calls for their participation to avoid damaging them and the social safety nets they represent in the rural areas, in the SIDS and LDCs
- MPAs are not the only or best instrument available for management but they significantly change the parameters of areas in which communities operate. MPAs should never be planned without them
- There are examples of good and bad treatment of communities:
  - *The first are welcomed. The second are not acceptable and illegal*
  - *Communities have formal rights, sanctioned by international law (Human Rights; rights to information, food, and traditional use rights) providing for States obligations.*



# POTENTIAL IMPACTS

## Wealth, Health, Governance



- Reduced access, catch, food supplies, revenues
- Significant direct and opportunity costs
- Inequitable distribution of costs and benefits (in time, space)
- Re-allocation to ecotourism
- Uncertainty about the fate of excluded people
- Compensations and ALIGAs missing or misguided
- Increased conflicts and fishing pressure outside NTZs
- Impaired development (subsistence fishing only?)
- Communities break-up (→ deruralization)

# POTENTIAL BENEFITS

## Wealth, Health, Governance



- Exclusion of competitors (commercial or foreign vessels)
- Strengthened space-based use-rights
- Improved stock resilience (for some species)
- Food reserve (if can be re-opened, like LMMAs)
- Transfer of management responsibility (co-management)
- Improved capacity (if supported)
- Diversification of activities/livelihoods

Many potential risks and benefits are the two sides of the same coin and depend on local conditions INCLUDING level of participation

# INTRINSIC VULNERABILITY

- Few assets and opportunities. Poor
- Strongly dependent on seafood sources
- Weak political lobbying capacity
- Fisher's minorities in developed environments
- Particular situation of migrants
- Unaware of global economic changes affecting them
- Exposed to natural disasters (storms, tsunamis) and climate change



Positively seen in rhetoric but often badly treated in reality they suffered a long history of abuse including land and ocean grabbing

# HUMAN RIGHTS & RIGHT TO FOOD



*Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control. (Universal Declaration, 1948, Article 25).*

*The Right to Food is the right of everyone to have access to safe and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger (FAO WFS, 1996)*



# MAIN POINTS: WHY?

The first to be impacted by MPAs

Vulnerable part of Humankind

Key providers of ecosystem services

Often been badly treated

The have legal rights

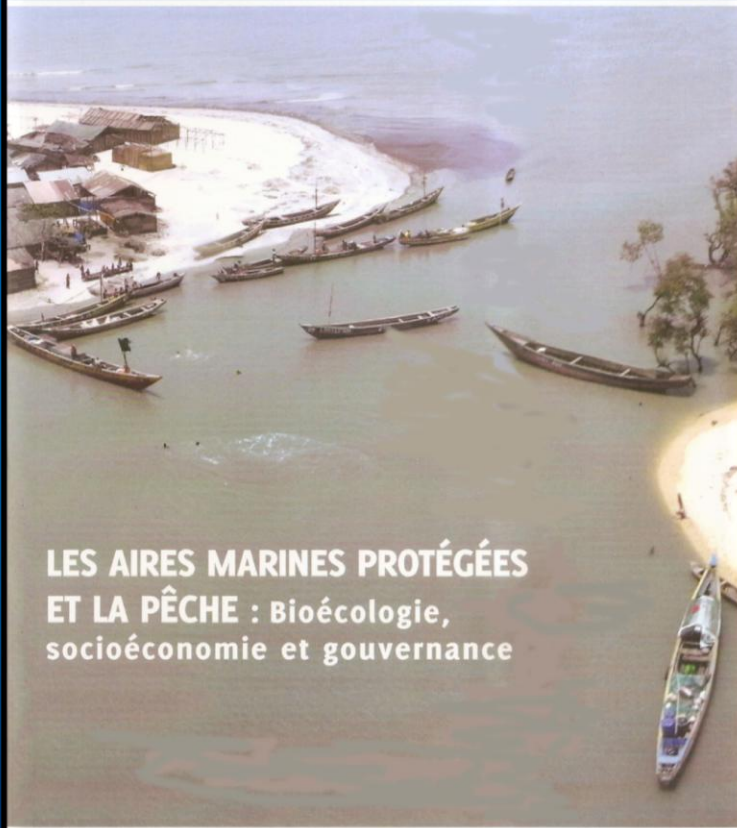
States have obligations

MPAs, one of many instrument



# THANK YOU

Sous la direction de  
S. M. GARCIA, J. BONCOEUR ET D. GASCUEL



**LES AIRES MARINES PROTÉGÉES  
ET LA PÊCHE : Bioécologie,  
socioéconomie et gouvernance**

■ Presses Universitaires de Perpignan

## Governance of Marine Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation

Interaction and Coevolution

*Edited by Serge M. Garcia, Jake Rice and Anthony Charles*



WILEY Blackwell