

A cliché of the controversy

- On the one hand, MPAs intend primarily to protect biodiversity and its essential ecosystem services, potentially increasing the future well-being and economic opportunities of the local populations, including presumably their food security (1)
- On the other hand, MPAs restrict or prohibit access to natural resources, particularly in the case of no-take areas, threatening the livelihood and food security of vulnerable and dependent communities (1).



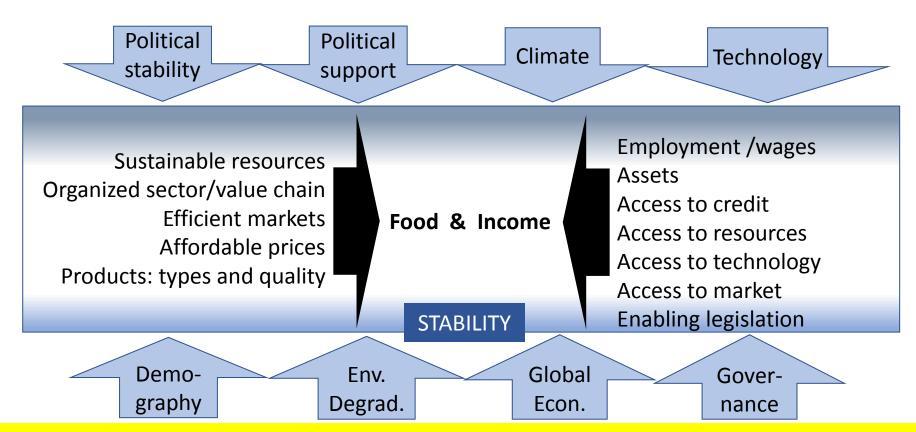
ource: Photo courtesy of Merlijn van Weerd



Source: Photo courtesy of Jan van der Ploe

This creates tensions about costs and benefits of MPAs for food security, and their distribution across time, space, and among stakeholders

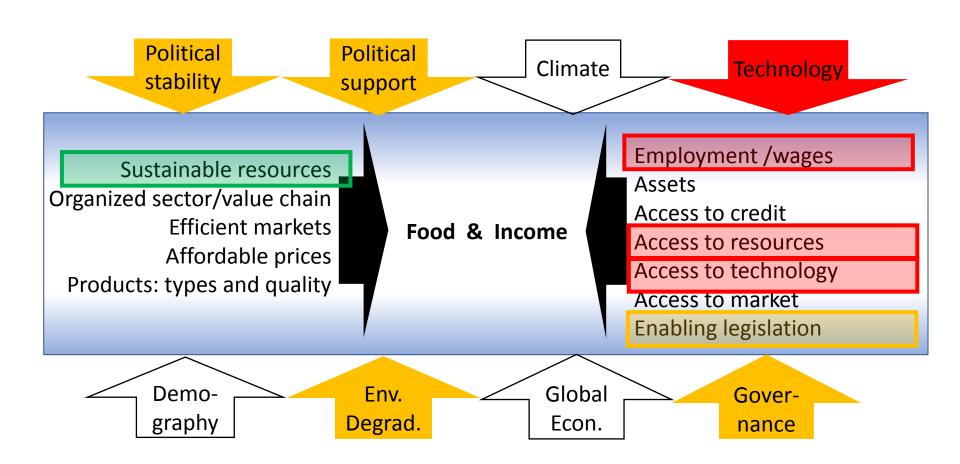
The Food Security Equation



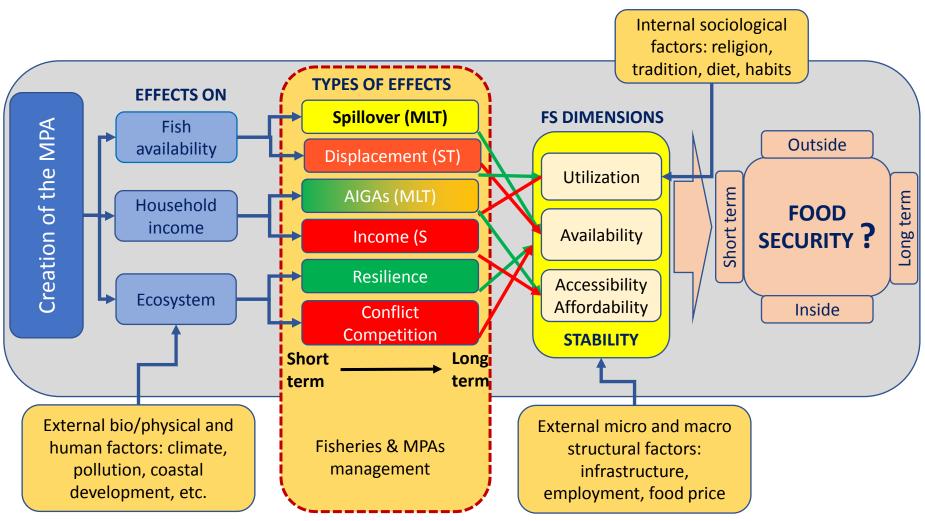
Fisheries and MPAs are contributors to the complex Food Security equation and must be factored in national poverty reduction and food security policies

Their impact on food security depends on their impact on the different parameters of the equation

MPAs contribution to FS



MPAs impact chain



Modified from Béné, 2017, in FAO Tech. Pap.

In this multiple pathway system, referring to one causal relation only does not make much sense.



Thank you for your attention