

How can MPAs have positive outcomes both for conservation and fisheries management in the context of small-scale fisheries?

Presentation at the Thematic session III – Integration of small-scale fisheries in marine protected areas (MPAs)

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OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION

- * MPAs and fisheries management
- * The FAO Technical Guidelines
- * IMPAC₃
- * International instruments:
 - * The SSF Guidelines
 - * The Tenure Guidelines

MPAs and fisheries management

- * MPAs – usually a tool for biodiversity conservation with increasing importance in global fora.
- * Spatial-temporal-gear closures are historically some of the most common fisheries management measures.
- * MPAs is one fisheries management tool among many others and is not always the preferred one.
- * Fishing communities and small-scale fishers often bear the costs, while not necessarily receiving the benefits.

Technical Guidelines on MPAs and fisheries (FAO, 2011)

- * Need to know more about how MPAs work in the context of fisheries
- * Response to COFI requests and UNGA recommendations
- * Increasing recognition of the need to reconcile conservation and fisheries objectives (EAF)
- * FAO expert workshop on MPAs and fisheries in 2006 → final document 2011
- * FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries



Purpose and contents

PURPOSE

- * Guidance on implementation of MPAs with multiple objectives, when one of the primary objectives is related to fisheries management
- * Address the interface between fisheries management and biodiversity conservation
- * Within the context of holistic management approaches: *focus on fisheries aspects*

CONTENTS

- * Discussion on definition of MPAs, and fisheries management and EAF
- * Biological and ecological effects, and social and economic impact
- * Institutional, legal and policy context of MPAs, and how to plan and implement MPAs

Key messages

MPAs and MPA networks are a potentially powerful tool with both biodiversity conservation and fisheries management outcomes: To gain the most benefits, the two concepts need to be bridged

Process is key for successful results: Only meaningful public and stakeholder participation can ensure compliance, long-term sustainable support and equitable results

IMPAC₃

- * IUCN & French Government
- * Marseille 21-25 October & Ajaccio 26 October 2013
- * 1700 participants – 91 workshops – 37 knowledge cafés
- * FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department:
2 workshops:
 - * MPAs through the eyes of fishers
 - * MPAs as a fisheries management tool

MPAs as a fisheries management tool

- * There needs to be a clear understanding of the importance of objectives: if designed for conservation purposes an MPA may not have benefits for fisheries.
- * MPAs do not substitute for other fisheries management measures.
- * To achieve effective participation, process is as important as the outcomes.
- * Legal and institutional structures need to be established that guarantee customary rights and involvement of small-scale fishing communities.

MPAs through the eyes of fishers

Fishers will only perceive MPAs as useful if they are equitable and provide benefits.

- * *To the decision makers and authorities:* Ensure better transparency and honesty with regard to objectives and trade-offs.
- * *To practitioners and the research community:* Ensure better collaboration and participation of communities, and provide a link between communities and governments/decision-makers.
- * *To citizens and the public at large:* Recognize and respect that fishing and the marine space are the livelihoods of fishing communities

International instruments, SSF and MPAs: *The SSF Guidelines*

Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines)

- * Currently being negotiated
- * Developed through consultation process: 4000 stakeholders and mainly CSO led
- * Human rights based approach considering all three pillars of sustainability: environmental, social and economic

More on the SSF Guidelines in Session V on Friday!

International instruments, SSF and MPAs: *The Tenure Guidelines (VGGT)*

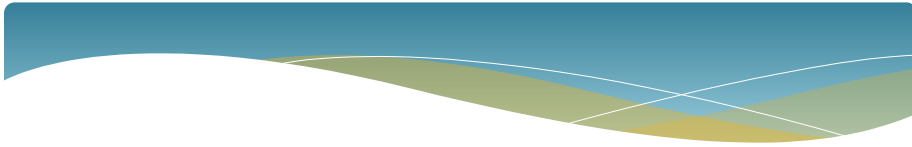
Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (the VGGT)

- * Endorsed by the Committee on World Food Security in May 2012
- * Promotes secure and equitable access to natural resources for food and nutrition security and sustainable livelihoods

Preliminary version of a technical guide for the implementation of the VGGT in fisheries available for comments

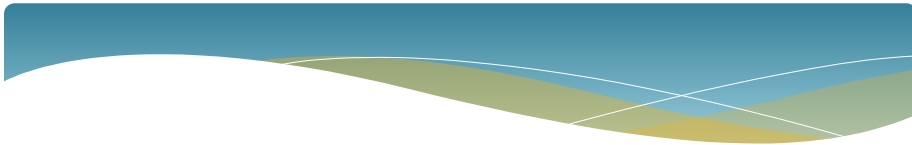
MPAs and SSF

- * As for other activities affecting their lives, true and proper participation of small-scale fishing communities in MPA design and management is required
 - * Co-management and secure access
 - * Combining fisheries management considerations with the need for social and economic development and respect for cultural values
 - * A human rights based approach



- **MPAs have the potential to be a powerful tool to support sustainable environmental, social and economic development, but they should be used wisely and equitably.**
- **It has to be ensured that the benefits MPAs also flow to the small-scale fishing communities bearing their costs**

Transparency, communication, cooperation and empowerment



THANK YOU!