

Indicators of the performance of MPAs for managing coastal ecosystems, resources and uses - FR

1. Policy Objective & Theme

- SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH: Balancing economic, social, cultural development whilst enhancing environment

2. Key Approaches

- Participation
- Knowledge-based
- Technical

3. Experiences that can be exchanged

The development and use of marine protected areas progress and impact indicators as an MPA management tool.

4. Overview of the case

This case is building and testing indicators of MPA performance for management objectives linked to ecosystems, uses and governance.

5. Context and Objectives

a) Context

MPAs are developing quickly but still their impact is very poorly assessed. There is thus a need to develop proper indicators on the status of the ecosystem and its resources, the MPA impact on uses, and its governance performance. The approach has been applied to a number of MPAs placed in totally different contexts (Mediterranean, north-western Indian Ocean, New Caledonia, Caribbean).

b) Objectives

The objective was to develop an activity grid specific to each management objective associated with one or several indicators.

6. Implementation of the ICZM Approach (i.e. management, tools, resources)

a) Management

The initiative involves a close collaboration of several French MPA managers in the Mediterranean (Corsica, Cerberes-Banyuls), the north-western Indian Ocean (La Reunion, Mayotte), New Caledonia in partnership with the French Initiative for Coral Reef (IFRECOR) and the Marine Protected Areas Agency. The management is based on participatory workshops organised with practitioners and managers of MPAs using previous work (LITEAU II) and the IUCN guidebook on MPAs management performance.

b) ICZM tools

A grid of indicators related to each management objectives identified through a participatory process. The indicators were constructed and validated following an approach by consensus regarding the goals and objectives of management with their corresponding activities. So far the approach has been implemented in all partner sites in order to validate indicators through several applications in a specific context. This required the definition of common data formats, reference tables for species, zoning, and fishing gears, and a database gathering data from biodiversity to governance aspects. Standardised protocols were defined for collecting data related to uses.

7. Cost and resources

The initiative was funded by the LITEAU national programme at a cost of €120,000 and had a duration of 3 years (2008-2010).

8. Effectiveness (i.e. were the foreseen goals/objectives of the work reached?)

The indicators developed are currently being used by MPA practitioners. The objectives are on the way to being achieved. There is a need for a proper and workable system that can be handed over to the MPA managers in order for them to understand the benefit of measuring their MPA performance.

9. Success and Fail factors

There are many field studies in very different areas which makes the overall co-ordination difficult to maintain.

10. Unforeseen outcomes

None

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12. Verified by

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13. Sources

- MEDD LITEAU 3 Interim report. 2009 – Dominique Pelletier, IFREMER, France



LITEAU3_Interim Report_Indicators performance MPAs (404.25 KB)

