



Global Coordinator's Update

By Peter Edwards

Hello SocMon and SEM Pasifika Family! This newsletter is LOOONNNG overdue. Our apologies for this gap in updates. We will strive to improve in 2018 as we continue our work of advancing social science monitoring that benefit coastal and coral reef dependent communities.



Global SocMon Partners have been busy conducting training and assessments as part of the NOAA/NFWF grant. Some assessments have been completed and we expect to get some useful information that we can share.

SocMon and SEM Pasifika research was shared at the 13th International Coral Reef Symposium (ICRS), Honolulu Hawaii (June 19–24,2016). A few SocMon regional coordinators presented on their work and shared findings with hundreds of coral reef scientists and managers from around the world. SocMon is being incorporated as part of the rejuvenation of the Caribbean Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network. Potential new partnerships and trainings in Cuba, French and Dutch Antilles are being formed.

Finally 2018 marks the 3rd celebration of International Year of the Reef! The human connections to reefs must be highlighted. Therefore we have some work to do!

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SocMon/SEM-Pasifika at the International Coral Reef Symposium 2016

By Maria, Supin, Vineeta & Mike



The 13th International Coral Reef Symposium (ICRS) was held in Hawaii from 19–24 June 2016. This is the largest international meeting focused on coral reef science and management. The Symposium's theme was *Bridging Science to Policy*. SocMon coordinators and partners presented their work on human dimensions or integrated monitoring in coastal areas in **Session 64 Social Science Applications to Coral Reef Management: Human and Social Dimensions and the Link to Reef Health and Ecological Change**.

Supin's Presentation Summary

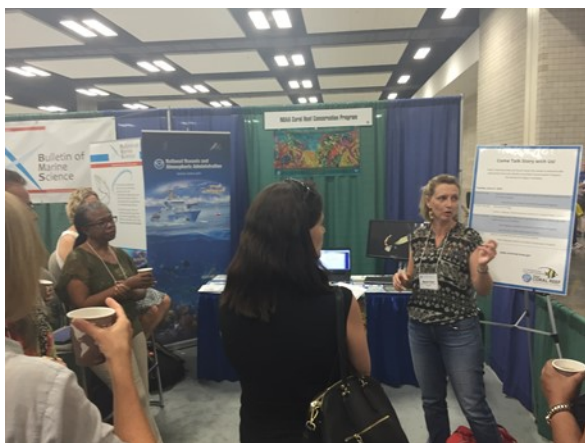


Supin Wongbusarkum gave her presentation titled Applying social science to understand the well-being of reef-dependent communities in micronesia. Her presentation examined the various activities in Micronesia related to the use of social science including identification of the most important human well-being indicators for the region, as well as the opportunities and challenges involved in implementing social scientific research.

Vineeta's Presentation Summary



Using SocMon to address socio-ecological management in the Gulf of Mannar (GOM) and Palkbay: Marine ecosystems shared by India and Sri Lanka. Her presentation focused on two Marine areas the Gulf of Mannar and Palkbay and how fisheries dependent communities understand how ecological health or marine ecosystems impacts their well being.



SocMon and GCRMN Caribbean Networking Session at ICRS 2016



Maria Pena with GCRMN Cuban Colleagues



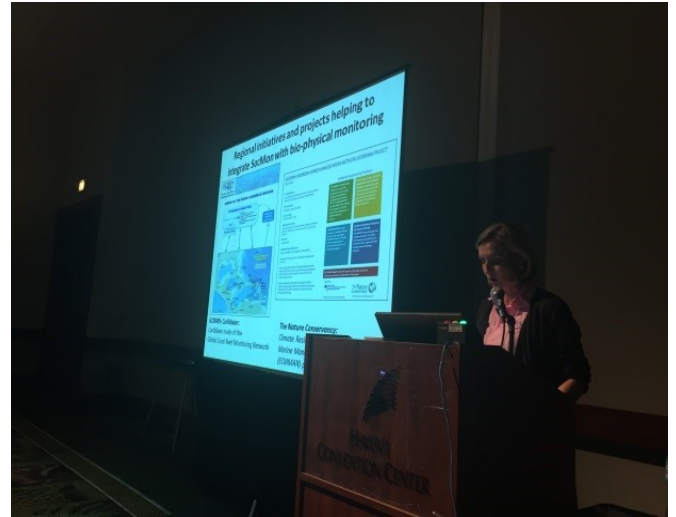
For information on the Global SocMon Initiative contact:
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 Visit the SocMon website at www.socmon.org

Mike's Presentation Summary



The application of socioeconomic monitoring (Socmon) methodology in assessing between two time periods in the Binduyan Marine Protected Area, Palawan, Philippines. He highlighted the usefulness of the SocMon methodology for comparing two time periods in the study area. SocMon has been shown to be a capacity building tool for training new researchers, managers and key stakeholders leading to useful socioeconomic information.

Maria's Presentation Summary



Maria ended the session with her presentation titled SocMon Caribbean and comprehensive integrated monitoring. Here she discussed the attempts to incorporate biophysical monitoring parameters with social science monitoring in the region. She explored the benefits of simultaneously comparing socio-economic and ecological secondary data in order to better understand socio-economic impacts and explain trends in socio-economic characteristics. Her presentation highlighted progress towards integrated comprehensive monitoring in the region through the ECMMAN Project and GCRMN-Caribbean.

Socioeconomic Data Analysis Workshop, Koror, Palau (September, 2016)

By Supin Wongbusarakum

A recent SEM Pasifika Training led by Supin Wongbusarakum and assisted by NOS/NCOSS Matt Gorstein was very successful. The “***Socioeconomic Data Analysis Workshop***” was held in Koror, Palau (September 12–17, 2016). The workshop was funded by NOAA’s Coral Reef Conservation Program, with support from many partners—including the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance, NOAA’s Pacific Islands Regional Office, Pacific Islands Managed and Protected Areas Community, Micronesia Conservation Trust, Palau International Coral Reef Center, and several other organizations and agencies involved in marine conservation and resource management in Micronesia. Participants attended from Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia (Kosrae, Pohnpei, and Yap), Palau, Republic of the Marshall Islands, and Hawai’i. The primary purpose of the workshop was to assist participants with building capacity in the analysis and interpretation of social science data.

Supin Wongbusarakum from NOAA’s Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center and Matt Gorstein from NOAA’s National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS) led the training sessions at the workshop. Using preliminary data collected from a NOAA *Habitat Blueprint* site in Manell-Geus, Guam as well as other sites in Micronesia and Hawai’i the participants had a productive workshop. Participants were trained on data entry, code-book creation and documenting work-flow. They also addressed different analytical approaches to qualitative (e.g. from interviews) and quantitative data (from

surveys). Participants also discussed the use of best practices in data entry, management, and analysis. Supin and Matt provided a comprehensive overview on the use of IBM’s Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) to run descriptive and inferential statistics. The training was regularly reinforced by hands-on exercises and summarized with quizzes. In the course evaluation, the majority of participants rated the overall training as being extremely useful.



Trainers and participants of Socioeconomic Data Analysis Training Workshop

Back row, from left to right: Angel Jonathan, Kailikea Shayler, Matt Gorstein, Bond Segal, Jane Dia, Mochieg Reyuw, Kodep Ogumoro-Ulundong, Rachael Nash.

Front row, from left to right: Noelle Oldiais, Erin Zanre, Supin Wongbusarakum, Marybelle Quinata (NOAA Guam Field Office), Lincy Marino, Alicia Edwards



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SocMon and Integrated Coral Reef Monitoring in the Caribbean

By Maria Pena

The work of SocMon as part of efforts to integrate social science components into the Caribbean Global Coral Reef Monitoring Networks activities was recently featured in an IUCN Web publication. See short summary below and link to the full article.



Integration of socio-economic data into monitoring of coastal ecosystems, particularly coral reefs, is a relatively recent phenomenon under development in the Caribbean region. SocMon Caribbean collaboration with regional and international partners is paving the way for providing coastal resource managers with a picture of human and environmental trends at coastal sites.

For full story click here:

<https://www.iucn.org/news/commission-environmental-economic-and-social-policy/201710/partnerships-integrated-monitoring-coastal-ecosystems-caribbean>

OTHER UPDATES

It is important for us to be reminded that one of the outputs from our Strategic Plan as well as the current NFWF grant is that we need to update the Main SocMon Manual. This includes updating the sampling methodology sections as well as working on Spanish and Portuguese language translations.

The current version of the SocMon manual has now been translated to Brazilian Portuguese. Congratulations to our SocMon Brazil partners!!

We continue to have discussions with the Regional Coordinators on how to update the training materials and other resource material that has been developed over the years. Please feel free to ask any other interested persons for their help. We are particularly in need of persons who with publishing and document editing software and skills. Please note that this update may also include “SocMon Spatial” among other components.



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Please be reminded that this year is the third 2018 is the third [International Year of the Reef](#)—a platform to highlight the importance of coral reefs and all they do for us. We should use this year to remind our biophysical colleagues that impact and depend on valuable coastal ecosystems such as coral reefs. SocMon and SEM Pasifika have a role to play in highlighting those human connections.

Happy International Year of the Reef! #IYOR2018



Human Connections to Coastal Ecosystems



For regional information contact the regional SocMon coordinators:

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Western Indian Ocean: Currently Vacant