



Reef resilience and SocMon

By Vineeta Hoon

The Nature Conservancy organized a Reef Resilience Trainer of Trainers (TOT) Workshop from 9–14 June 2013 at Zanzibar. The workshop was very interesting and informative where both ecological and social resilience indicators were discussed and we had to make a communication and bleaching response plan for each of our sites. The workshop participants came from countries around the Indian ocean.

We learnt that coral bleaching and ocean acidification cause reef degradation which impacts the social–ecological situation. The reefs ability to provide goods and services is reduced and this impacts fisheries and tourism as fish catch is reduced and fewer tourists visit degraded reefs. Degraded and dead reefs can no longer serve as a source for important medicinal resources (e.g. drugs to treat heart disease, cancer, and other illnesses). The loss of reefs may affect cultural values and traditional uses of reefs and their associated resources. Such values and uses may be difficult to quantify.

Resilient social–ecological systems (SES) incorporate diverse mechanisms for coping with change and crisis. In social systems, governance and management frameworks can spread risk by diversifying patterns of resource use and by encouraging alternate activities and lifestyles which can help to maintain valuable ecosystem services. During this training, we addressed the actions a manager can take to minimize the impacts of bleaching events, as well as build resilience to a

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Reef resilience and SocMon	1
Increasing adaptive capacity in fisheries	2
SocMon webinar	3
Turks and Caicos SocMon	3
SocMon partner wins award	4

variety of other major stressors into the natural systems they manage. Solutions involve both daily management activities and planning for change. Potential management actions include daily management activities that reduce human stressors on reefs as well as building resilience to climate change into the design of marine protected areas and networks.



This means that supporting and maintaining resilience requires addressing all of the pervasive threats to reefs including land–based sources of pollution, overfishing and climate change. Uncertainty in the ways the climate will change and what this will mean for different reefs certainly makes the situation for managers more

challenging! However, it is possible to develop and implement flexible and adaptive strategies to respond to climate-related and other disturbances that impact coral reefs and the communities that depend on them.

Looking at the SocMon indicators that can be used for reef resilience, attention should perhaps be paid to assessing how the management body is doing, assessing positive and negative impacts of management measures, determining whether the management body has incorporated the resilience indicators into their marine park design and building stakeholder participation and appropriate education and awareness programs.

Increasing adaptive capacity in fisheries

By Maria Pena and Patrick McConney

The role of participatory SocMon as a means of promoting social and institutional learning aimed at increasing adaptive capacity within fisheries systems was discussed by Maria Pena in a panel session entitled *Don't rock the boat: enhancing stewardship to reduce instability* held on 27 June 2013 at the People and the Sea VII Conference – Maritime Futures, 26–28 June 2013, Amsterdam, Netherlands. The panel was within the conference theme *Coastal shocks, disasters and recovery*.

Socio-economic monitoring for coastal management (SocMon): increasing adaptive capacity in fisheries systems



Don't rock the boat: enhancing stewardship to reduce instability
People and the Sea VII - Maritime Futures
26-28th of June 2013, Amsterdam
Maria Pena, The University of the West Indies, Barbados

The aim of the panel also comprising Dr. Patrick McConney (CERMES, University of the West Indies) and Dr. Rodrigo Medeiros (Federal University of Paraná) was to share ideas on how social-ecological systems function in fisheries, how their interactions could be monitored and how the resulting shared learning could develop into sustainable stewardship.

Small-scale fisheries (SSF), and the uncertainties about how they affect or are affected by changes in ecological and social system dynamics, are among the key issues that require immediate attention in order to address the global “fisheries crisis.” Therefore Too Big Too Inore (TBTI) is a global research network and knowledge mobilization partnership on SSF that seeks to enhance the understanding of the real contribution of small-scale fisheries to food security, nutrition, sustaining livelihoods, poverty alleviation, wealth generation and trade, as well as the impacts and implications of global change processes such as urbanization, globalization, migration, climate change, aquaculture, and communication technology on small-scale fisheries (see toobigtoignore.net). TBTI is also concerned with the lack of understanding about both the impacts of SSF on ecosystems and the contribution of SSF to stewardship and conservation.

TBTI is organized around regional issues and thematic research conducted by working groups (WG). The theme “Enhancing the Stewardship” is the focus of WG4. The theme has three main components – ecological impacts, monitoring systems and stewardship in small scale fisheries – each associated with a guiding question. The Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES) of The University of the West Indies leads WG4 and addressed all components in the panel session.

The panel report will shortly be available on the CERMES website (cavehill.uwi.edu/cermes).

SocMon webinar

By Peter Edwards

On Thursday 11 July, 2013, the Ecosystem-Based Management (EBM) Tools Network, National MPA Center, and OpenChannels.org recently co-hosted a webinar, "SocMon: Social Science Monitoring in Coastal and MPA Management". SocMon Global Coordinator, Peter Edwards, provided the participants with some information on SocMon and its overall goals and objectives.



Peter addressed 137 participants and he shared information on the current and potential uses of the SocMon approach and its role in collecting critical information on the impact of MPAs and other coastal management tools on the lives of people who are associated with and depend on tropical coastal ecosystems.

Peter outlined the general goals and activities of SocMon/SEM Pasifika and briefly shared some examples of case studies. These examples were used to highlight lessons learned and the challenges facing the effective use of human dimensions data as part of coastal resource management.

The presentation has been archived online by EBM Tools Network and can be accessed at the

following link : <https://vimeo.com/70130786>

The presentation is about 30 minutes long with an additional 20 minutes of questions and answers. Feel free to listen and share with partners.

SocMon in the Turks & Caicos

By Maria Pena



From 5–13 August 2013, environmental and maritime staff from government, together with representatives of non-government organisations, will convene at the Department of Environment and Maritime Affairs (DEMA) to learn about *Socio-economic monitoring for National Marine Parks in the Turks and Caicos Islands*. Park managers, staff and volunteers will be trained to monitor and understand the social and economic dimensions of managing national marine parks. This seven-day training workshop is one component of a project, *Socio-economic monitoring at National Marine Parks in the Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI SocMon)*, the objective of which is to increase capacity for effective marine protected area (MPA) management among Turks and Caicos MPAs through the use of social and economic monitoring data in MPA decision-making.

The TCI SocMon project is being implemented by the Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES) of the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados, in partnership with the Department of Environment and Maritime Affairs (DEMA) and the Turks and Caicos Reef Fund (TCRF). This project is supported by the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI) with funding from the National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Association (NOAA) Coral Reef Conservation Program.

During the project, socio-economic monitoring programmes will be initiated at three sites - Princess Alexandra Land and Sea National Park (PALSNP), Columbus Landfall National Park (CLNP) and the West Caicos Marine National Park (WCMNP). Stay tuned for more updates.



www.internationalpropertydevelopers.com

Maldives SocMon partner wins Seacology award 2013

By Vineeta Hoon

Marie Saleem from SEAMARC, our SocMon partner in the Maldives is the first woman to win the prestigious 2013 Seacology award. Ms. Saleem is a leading environmental conservation advocate whose research and activism have helped protect marine ecosystems in her home country of the Maldives. Congratulations to Marie!



For regional information contact the regional SocMon coordinators:

Caribbean: Maria Pena, CERMES, The University of West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados maria.pena@cavehill.uwi.edu

Central America: Arie Sanders, University of Zamorano, Honduras asanders@zamorano.edu

Micronesia: Brooke Nevitt, Pacific Marine Resources Institute, Saipan sciencecom@pacmares.com

South Asia: VineetaHoon, CARESS, Chennai, India vineetahoon@gmail.com

Southeast Asia: Michael Pido, Palawan State University, Puerto Princessa, Philippines mdpido@yahoo.com

Western Indian Ocean: Brigid Mibei, CORDIO East Africa, Mombasa, Kenya bmibei@cordioea.net