Learning how to enhance the involvement of stakeholders in MPA designation and management. From the local to the regional perspective.

Ana Tejedor - Ricardo Sagarminaga
1. THE BEGINNINGS/ THE EARLY STAGES.
   • Context Requirements
   • The boiling pot

2. A SNAPSHOT OF AN ONGOING PROCESS:
   • National experiences.
   • European projects

3. FIRST RESULTS:
   • OSPAR Guidance.
   • LIFE INDEMARES

4. NEXT STEPS
   • Application to ABNJ
   • Increasing the Puzzle Resolution

5. CONCLUDING REMARKS
1. THE BEGINNINGS/ THE EARLY STAGES.

• Aarhus Convention (Mandatory).
• Bremen Statement (2003)
• Barcelona Convention

+ High interest of OSPAR contracting parties & observers.
+ Other relevant frameworks: Natura 2000 + CBD+ etc

+ A right, a duty and a neccesity
The Alborán Laboratory

LIFE Nature project CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS AND SEA TURTLES IN MURCIA AND ANDALUCIA 2002 -2006 (LIFE02NAT/E/8610).

One of Europe’s most valuable marine sites...Unique for its extraordinary oceanography...“a transition chamber between the Atlantic and Mediterranean”

The junction of three biogeographical areas; Lusitanian, Mauritanian and Mediterranean

High productivity and extraordinary biodiversity
A migration corridor for marine species (e.g. loggerhead sea turtle, fin whales and 3 species of dolphins) is essential for the maintenance of genetic diversity of marine species.
In addition...an important foraging ground for 8 species of cetacean
Cooperation, not confrontation...see the difference!

• Focused on the last phase of the design of marine protected areas for cetaceans and sea turtles, and the development of management plans for these as well as conservation plans for the target species.
• The process opened for discussion with stakeholders in order to ensure consensus...1127 MEETINGS DURING LIFE PROJECT (2002 – 2006)

ESTABLISH THE CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES.......FROM SCIENCE TO MANAGEMENT

Define the FEATURE’s ATTRIBUTES
Establish SPECIFIC CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES for attributes
Analyse human activities
Identify the threats to these specific objectives
Identify and implicate stakeholders (relevant authorities and other actors)
Priorization of actions

At the level of PRIORIZATION OF ACTIONS the process opened for discussion with stakeholders in order to ensure consensus

LESSON LEARNT: implication also in the research programmes - usefulness of combining knowledge from all parts!!!
The difference it makes

COOPERATION, NOT CONFRONTATION...moving forward towards successful stories

ACTIVE IMPLICATION

FINDING SOLUTIONS TOGETHER
We can keep passing regulations and ... we can work on innovative tools to make their enforcement more and more feasible......

but, at present, the key to the success of our conservation and management plans lies in active stakeholder involvement and consensus.
2. A SNAPSHOT OF AN ONGOING PROCESS

2004 - 2006 - 2008

EUROPEAN PROJECTS

• LIFE02NAT/E/8610
  www.cetaceos.com
• BALANCE project (INTERREG IIIB)
  www.balance-eu.org
• THE EMPAS PROJECT
  www.ices.dk/projects/empas.asp
• THE GREEN BLUE
  www.thegreenblue.org.uk
+ OSPAR MoU with NEAFC (effective from 5 September 2008) + ISA + IMO

NATIONAL EXPERIENCES

• Belgium
• Finland
• Germany
• Norway
• Spain
• Sweden
• United Kingdom

+ TECHNICAL EXPERTS ..... Alnitak, Dialogue Matters, ICES, the European Boating Association, BirdLife International, the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and Asturias University.
3. FIRST RESULTS: OSPAR GUIDANCE.

**Literature Review**

- Benefits of communicating with stakeholders;
- Challenges to accomplish the communication towards MPAs designation and management;
- Main factors to consider for developing a communication strategy with MPA stakeholders;
- Costs (delays, expenses, tension among groups, lack of consensus, maintaining momentum);
- Role of key personalities.
Practical tools

I. Mapping stakeholders and their point of interest...try to be sure you do not forget anybody

II. Checklist to analyze effectiveness of communication...sometimes it just needs some minutes to think

III. Global Mapping – a chart taking up three key items: Natural Heritage / Ecosystems / Activities. (The 2012 Marine Targets seminar)
Proyecto LIFE+ INDEMARES 2009 – 2013

Action A14 – MITIGA
Alborán Adaptative Management

1. Cetaceans/ Turtles / Birds Monitoring (visual & acoustical census)
3. Analysis of conservation status trends.
4. Development of Technological Mitigation Mesures.
The laboratories
MITIGA Defense:
Development of risk mitigation measures for sonar uses.
G.I.S Risk Zoning.
SIRENA 08 & Med 09 – participation on the oceanographic campaign & in the data analysis.
MITIGA Transport:
Analysis & Mitigation of maritime traffic risks (Collisions, IAS, Noise pollution, oil pollution)
Stakeholder Communication.
MITIGA Energy
MEDGAS Project Acoustic Monitoring
Almeria – Oran upwelling cetacean monitoring
Stakeholder Communication.
MITIGA Tourism:
Monitoring & circulation of the Spanish Cetacean Protection Regulations. Stakeholders communication
MITIGA Fisheries:
Artisanal fisheries promotion
4. NEXT STEPS

**Application to ABNJ**

- Same principles, different puzzle

**Increasing the Puzzle Resolution**

- Trial basis (2-3 years).
- Mapping methodology
- Monitoring
- Adapt to changes

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**Experts Decide - stakeholders react**

- Start
- Decide
- Announce
- Defend
- Try to secure agreement
- If there is no agreement impose or abandon

**Collaborative/consensus building processes**

- Prepare
- Decide together
- Secure agreement
- Implement
- Better future for wildlife and people

*Figure extracted from Dialogue Matters*
5. CONCLUDING REMARKS

• **Involving stakeholders from the beginning = fundamental**
  - May provide and make data/information available
  - May clarify errors and misunderstandings in data/information
  - May make management measures operational
  - May find solutions to conflicts with nature conservation objectives

• **Impossible to generalize (too many local circumstances on each MPA) but:**
  - There are basic common sense rules
  - **Transparent and shared goals is crucial**
    - Importance of ongoing dialogue and respect to the commitments.
    - Don’t underestimate the power of public opinion.
    - Build on Trust
  - **Search for “Win-Win Situations”**
    - Changed relationships
    - Improved reputation
    - Good social capital for the next challenge

• **Simple techniques helpful at the regional level**
• **High Seas governance – same principles, different puzzle**
MAHALO!

and mahalo also to the rest of the team, among others:

J. Pantoja, B. Heredia...

For any ideas or question to keep advancing...

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