

Building scenarios for marine ecosystems under anthropogenic and natural forcing in the XXI Century: are we getting ready?

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Scenarios are constituted by a set of coherent, plausible stories designed to address complex questions about the uncertain future of our marine ecosystems. Consequently and according to the MA (Millennium Ecosystem Assessment 2005) scenarios are not forecasts, projections, predictions, or recommendations. So what are they exactly?

This conference will define what scenarios can do for ecosystem management and the place that scenarios should take in our future marine research by answering the following questions:

- What are the main reasons for building scenarios?
- What are the scenarios that we need to build?
- What are the challenges for moving towards a (more) predictive science?
- What are the good modelling practices for improving scenarios?
- What scientific strategy is needed for developing scenarios?
- How do we communicate scenarios to stakeholders?

This conference will reinforce the importance of building scenarios within an already existing and strong International framework, its value for ecosystem-based management and its interest as a new powerful scientific tool that brings together different disciplines to reconcile conservation and exploitation issues.

Biography

Philippe Cury is a senior Scientist at IRD (Institut de Recherche pour le Développement), Director of the UMR – EME 212 (IRD-Ifremer & University Montpellier 2) – Exploited Marine Ecosystems - and Scientific Coordinator of the European Consortium Eur-Oceans. Dr. Philippe Cury has been working in Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and South Africa to analyse the effect of climate on fisheries and how to implement the ecosystem approach to fisheries. Through these research activities, he has produced 8 books or book chapters, published more than 110 peer-reviewed articles in the main international journals. He won three prestigious national and international awards such as the National Scientific Philip Morris Prize obtained in 1991 (Life Science Prize), The National Scientific "Médaille d'Océanographie Française" obtained in 1995 from the scientific committee of the Prince Albert Monaco Museum of Oceanography and The Gilchrist medal obtained in 2002. He recently published a book entitled 'Une mer sans poisson (A sea without fishes)' that has been translated into Japanese and Chinese.