

#### ATLANTIC OCEAN RESEARCH ALLIANCE

**CO-ORDINATION AND SUPPORT ACTION** 

## Making the Ecosystem Approach Operational

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# Workshop January 2016

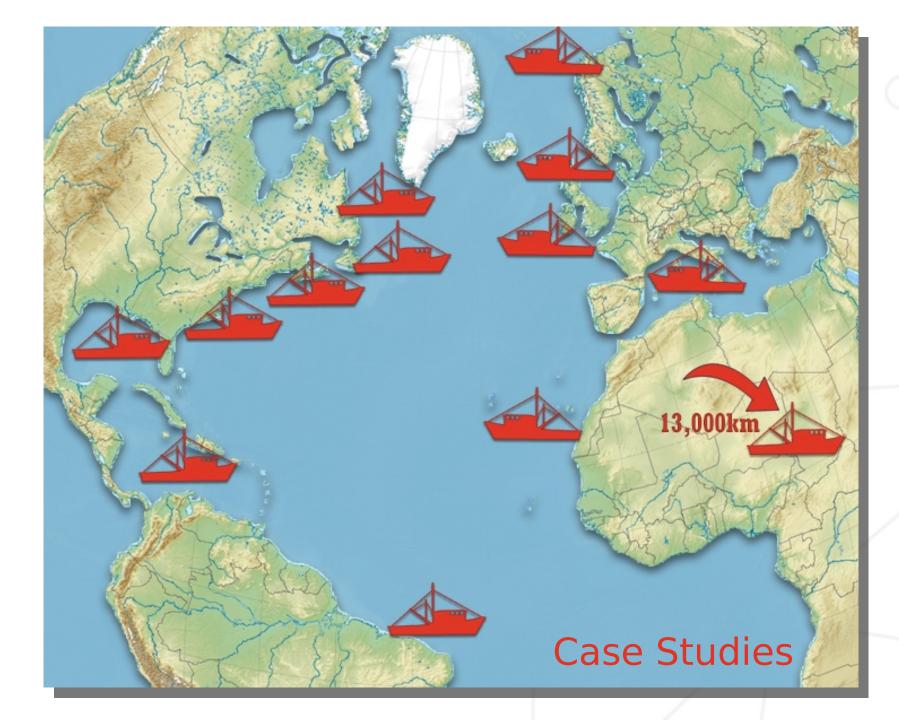


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Explore strengths & weaknesses of recent implementation of Ecosystem Based Management, focus on challenges for cross sectoral approaches.







## Method

- case studies
- online survey
- workshop sub groups
  54 participants

No forum or metrics to quantitatively compare examples

# Why use Ecosystem Approach?



Political need – international and national commitments Operational benefits - trade-offs explicit, ownership of process, spectrum of approaches able to adapt to complex challenges

## **Shared common understanding**



Balancing human activities & environmental stewardship in a multiple use context.



Image: ICES

# **Shared common understanding**



- Evidence based, trans-multidisciplinary
- Participatory
- Adaptive management
- Setting boundaries & limits
- Evaluation

# **Properties of success**

- transparent & trusted evidence base honest brokers
- mechanisms for setting objectives/priorities
- players understand their role in the process
- realistic ambitions
- governance framework honours outcomes
- "right" people at the "right" tables with equity
- limits to understanding acknowledged
- recognise existing sectoral objectives & incentives
- participatory tool development





Most trusted in America

## **Short of expectations - governance**



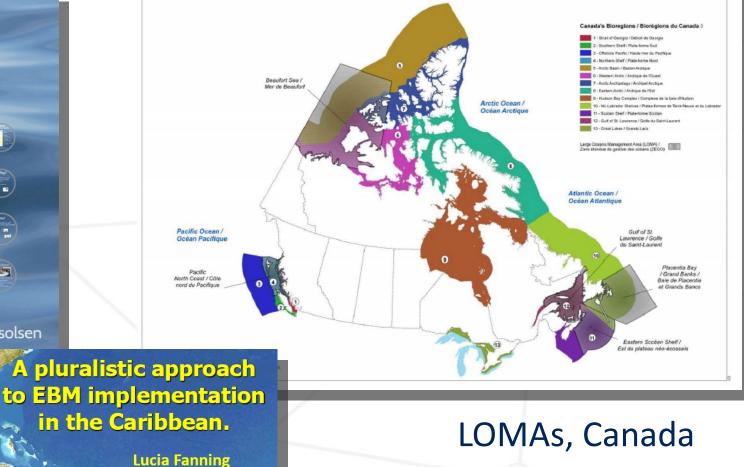


Images: NOAA

# **Example: role of politcal leadership**



#### **Bioregions and LOMAs of Canada**



Marine Affairs Program Dalhousie University

## Short of expectations – framework, methods





No clear framework for implementation



Few transferable metrics & shared currency for trade-offs



Role of science in an applied process

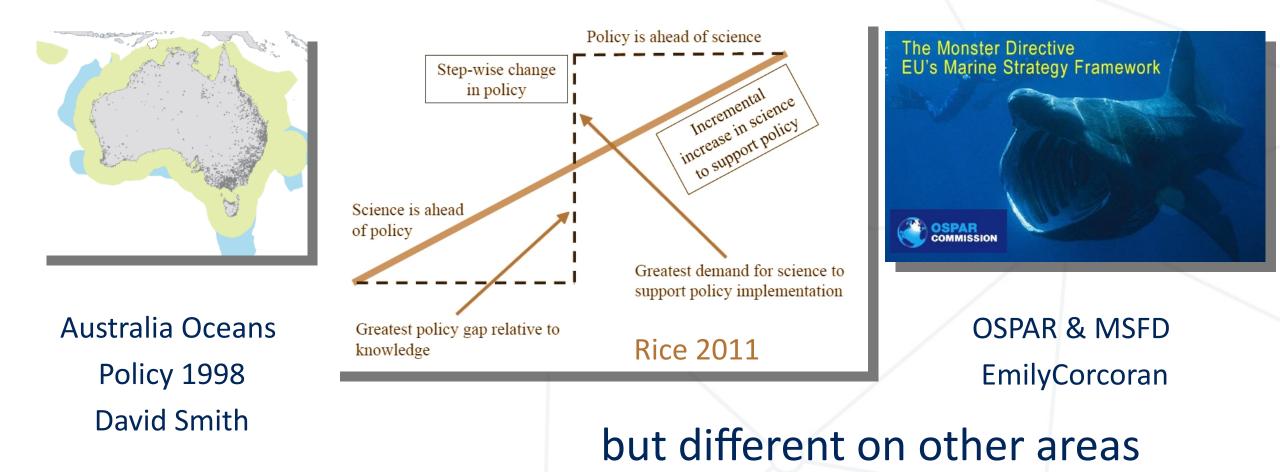


Policy ahead of science

Images: NOAA

# **Example: Policy ahead of understanding**





# **Example: buy-in & incentives**



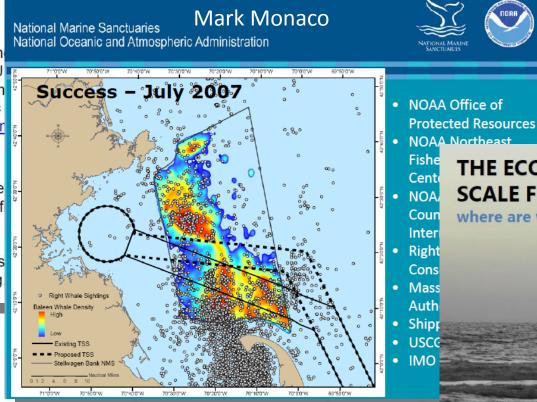


Jenny Oates, WWF-UK Celtic Seas Project Manager www.celticseaspartnership.eu



- Supporting transboun implementation of EU Marine Strategy Fram Directive in the Celtic through the <u>ecosyster</u> approach
- Engagement with ove marine stakeholders f 22 sectors, including fisheries, energy, governments, eNGOs aquaculture, shipping

## Celtic Seas Partnership



Shipping & whales, USA



# THE ECOSYSTEM APPROACH TO SMALL SCALE FISHERIES IN SOUTH AMERICA:

where are we standing and where are we going?

**GNACIO GIANELLI** 

TY OF SCIENCE, URUGUAY

& OMAR DEFEO



# **Options for progress**



- Develop frameworks for implementation
- Acknowledge power of/ownership between sectors
- Trade-offs
- Use whatever governance mandate exist
- Find a honest champion
- Use momentum but temper expectations

See Sardà et al 2014, Ecosystem-based management system

### Governance

Provides authority Policy mismatch

Sectors/stakeholders

Ownership Operational challenges

Knowledge

Legitimacy & translation

## Options for progress – personal note, from a scientist's perspective

As they leave the science closet, knowledge brokers need to be aware & empathetic to the arena they are entering





# Conclusions

- 1. Broad agreement of concepts and best practices
- 2. **Successes** mechanisms for setting objectives & priorities, getting buy-in while understanding respective roles and responsibilities, realistic ambitions & tangible knowledge base.
- 3. Failures misunderstanding incentives, poor stake-holder buy-in, and institutional & governance issues.
- 4. Greater attention to developing appropriate governance frameworks & leadership, roles of actors in process



Picture Icelandic Wilderness



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**THANK YOU** 

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