

The logo for the Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance (AORA) features the letters 'AORA' in a bold, dark blue font. The letter 'O' is replaced by a circular globe showing the Atlantic Ocean and surrounding continents.

ATLANTIC OCEAN RESEARCH ALLIANCE

CO-ORDINATION AND SUPPORT ACTION



Welcome to the workshop  
Mark Dickey-Collas (ICES Secretariat)

 @DickeyCollas

[www.atlanticresource.org](http://www.atlanticresource.org)

# Workshop continuation of a process


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- Part of an initiative into research needs for ocean stressors in the Atlantic
- Conversation between the EU, USA, and Canada
- FAO clear driver on Ecosystem Approach

# Ecosystem Approach: past

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- Convention on Biological Diversity (UN, 1992 CBD) calls for conservation of biological diversity through an ecosystem approach
- Johannesburg Declaration of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (UN, 2002) calls for an ecosystem approach



The ecosystem approach  
to fisheries

Issues, terminology, principles,  
institutional foundations,  
implementation and outlook

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FAO  
FISHERIES  
TECHNICAL  
PAPER

443

# Ecosystem Approach: present

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Integrated management of human activities in the seas and oceans requires an operational ecosystem approach.

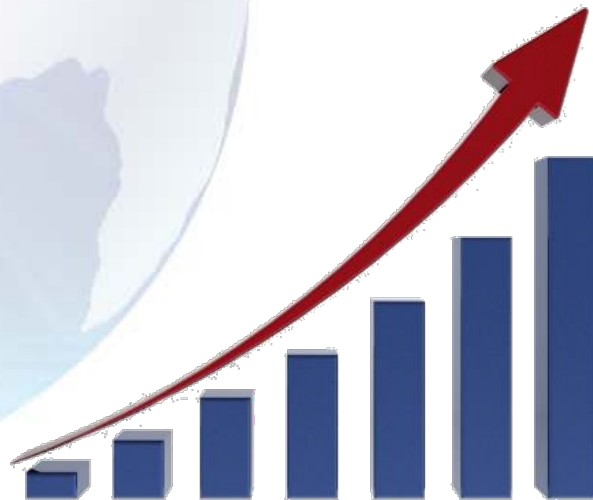


# Ecosystem Approach: future

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## Focus on blue growth/blue economy

“coordinated and coherent decision-making to maximise the sustainable development, economic growth, and social cohesion of EU Member States”

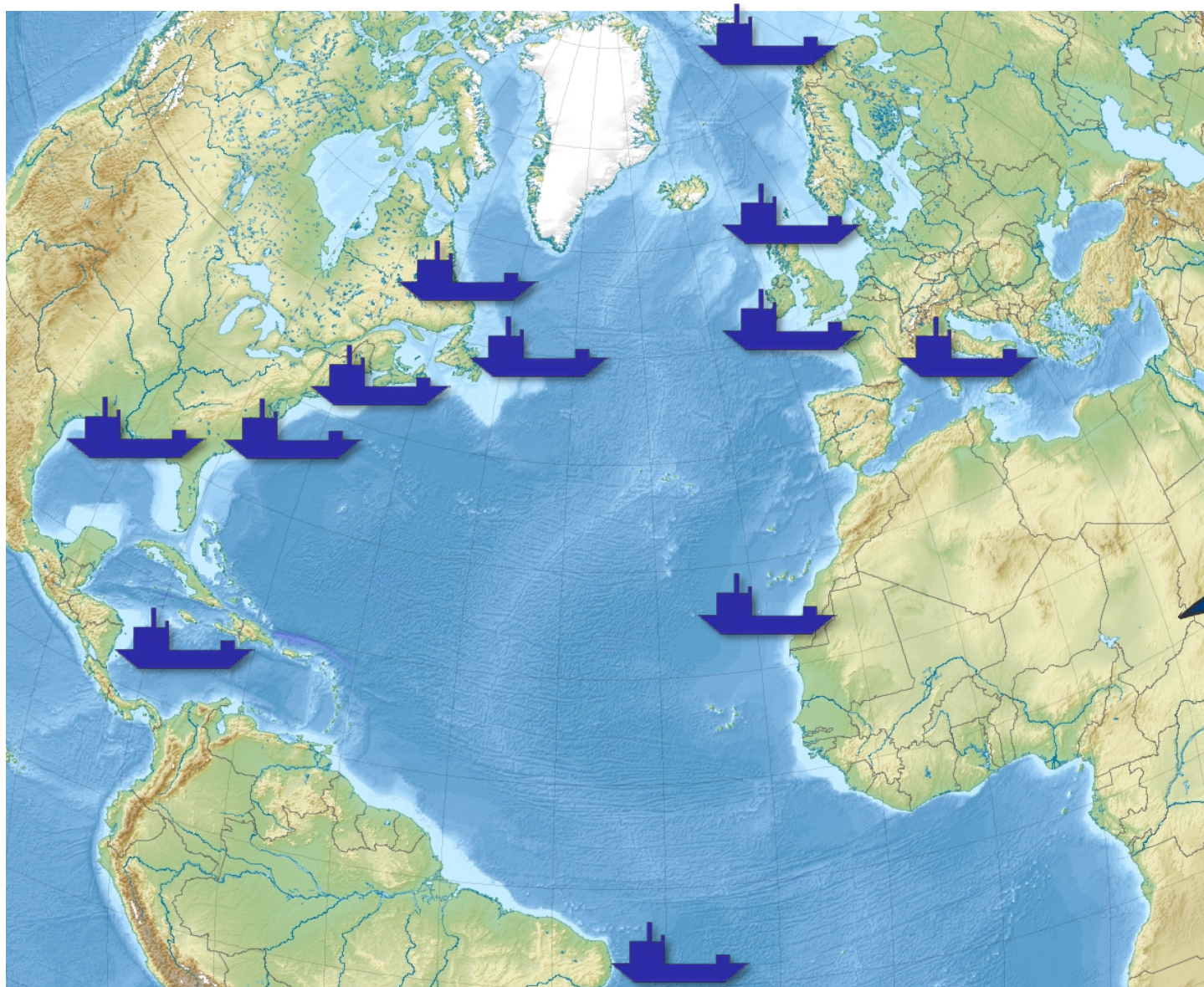


## Workshop structured around 4 issues:

1. Perceptions
2. Challenges for implementation
3. Reconciling sectoral objectives
4. Suggestions

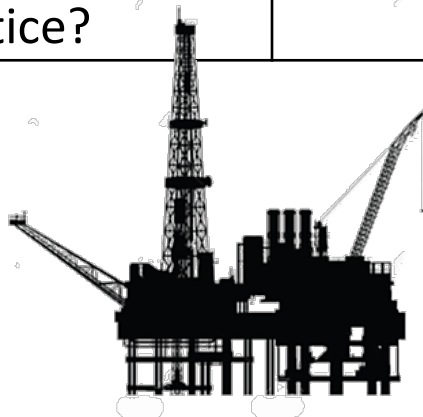


Each issue kicks off with some case studies



# Followed by break out groups for discussion

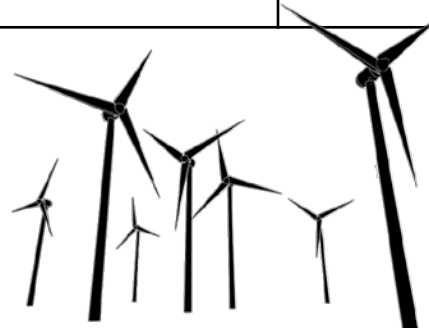
Subject & question	Convener	Leaders
<b>Perceptions of the ecosystem approach</b> What do we mean by the ecosystems based approach to marine management?	Robin Anderson	Marcos Llope Jörn Schmidt Maciej Tomczak Constança Belchior
<b>Challenges for implementing the ecosystem approach</b> In your experience what are the main challenges to implementing the ecosystems approach in practice?	Gabriella Bianchi	Roland Cormier Beth Scott Mark Monaco Paul Snelgrove





## Followed by break out groups for discussion

Subject & question	Convener	Leaders
<b>Reconciling sectoral objectives within an ecosystem approach</b> What is best practice for reconciling different sectoral objectives?	Becky Schuford	Inigo Martinez Mike St John Lucia Fanning Chris Kelble
<b>Suggestions of a fully functional ecosystem approach</b> what were the strengths and weaknesses of the approaches discussed during the workshop?	Erik Olsen	Jörn Schmidt David Smith Icarus Allen Constança Belchior



# Wrap-up synthesis session on Friday

## Concluding thoughts



## Next steps:

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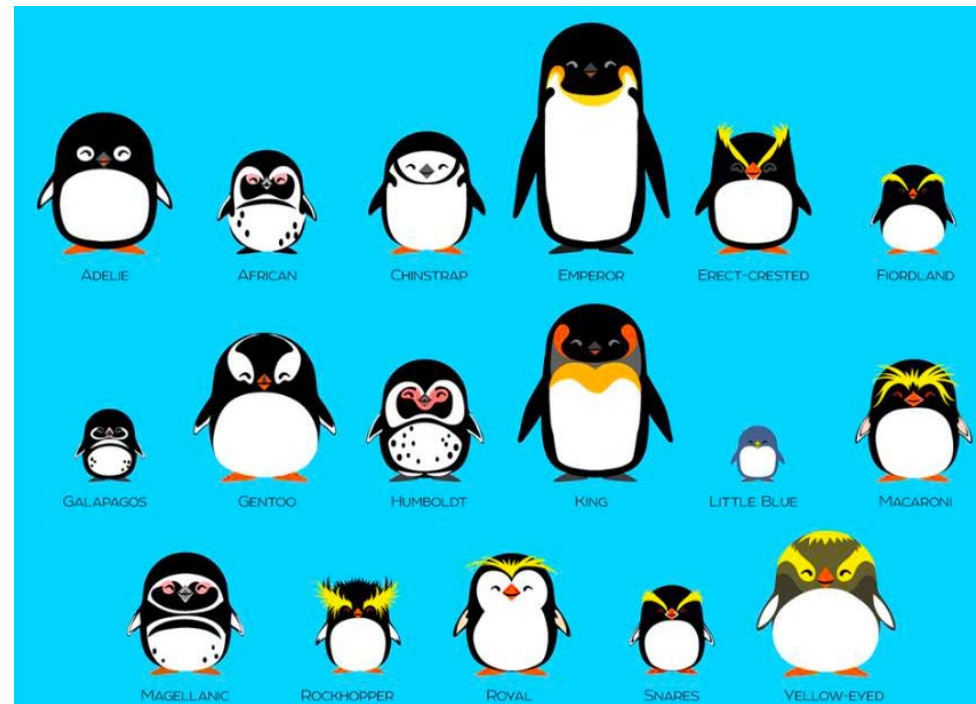
- Hope: Workshop and questionnaire develop a concept for operational guide on the ecosystem approach
- Findings and priorities inform the discussions in AORA and FAO on recommendations for research
- An improved Atlantic network of stakeholders and researchers on ecosystems approach

# Workshop participation

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62 participants

Fisheries, policy developers, commercial, scientists, aquaculture, shipping & ports, renewable energy, environmental NGOs



# APOLOGIES

[www.atlanticresource.org](http://www.atlanticresource.org)



# Benefits of the ecosystem approach

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- Long term sustainability central to decision making
- Transparency and clear documented rationale for trade offs
- Reduce likelihood of perverse and sub-optimal decisions
- Needed to sustain blue economy, reduce conflict & maintain ecosystem services
- Best way for effective & efficient management when working with multisector users
- No component in isolation, balancing societal objectives
- Helps marine spatial planning
- It's the right thing to do

# Impediments to the ecosystem approach

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- COST- transition, monitoring, stakeholder engagement
- Lack of communication & trust in players, the role of actors
- Buy in for trade off tools
- Weak sector engagement, weak governance framework for intersectoral approaches, no road map, policy mess
- Robust understanding of ecosystem processes
- Poor data layers
- Different time-scales of actors



# Logistics

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Wifi: AOResearch

Password: zkKFZItS

Buffet lunches will be provided in the EEA canteen

Twitter #AORA

Thanks to Jason Link





Vivian

and

Ellen

Picture: James Kennedy, Icelandic wilderness

A puffin with a colorful beak is perched on a grassy hill, looking towards the right. The background is a soft, orange-hued sky, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The text 'LET'S BEGIN' is written in large, bold, blue letters, with the puffin's beak appearing to point towards the first few letters.

**LET'S BEGIN**

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