

THE ECOSYSTEM APPROACH TO SMALL SCALE FISHERIES IN SOUTH AMERICA:

where are we standing and where are we going?



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EAF IN SOUTH AMERICA

Few SSFs explicitly implemented an EAF

Many successful fisheries have chased the fundamental steps of EAF development and implementation



LONG-TERM CASE STUDIES → 4 COUNTRIES

- Common paths:
 1. Bottom-up approaches
 2. Site-specific management
 3. Consensus building
- Reasons for holistic approaches
- Lessons learned



CASE STUDIES: URUGUAY

Uruguayan SSFs were overexploited and neglected by the government

2005 → high-level policy goals → EAF supported by FAO

Co-management as formal governance mode

2013 → new fishery legislation provides the basis for an EAF in SSFs

Selection of pilot sites





CASE STUDIES: URUGUAY, THE YELLOW CLAM FISHERY

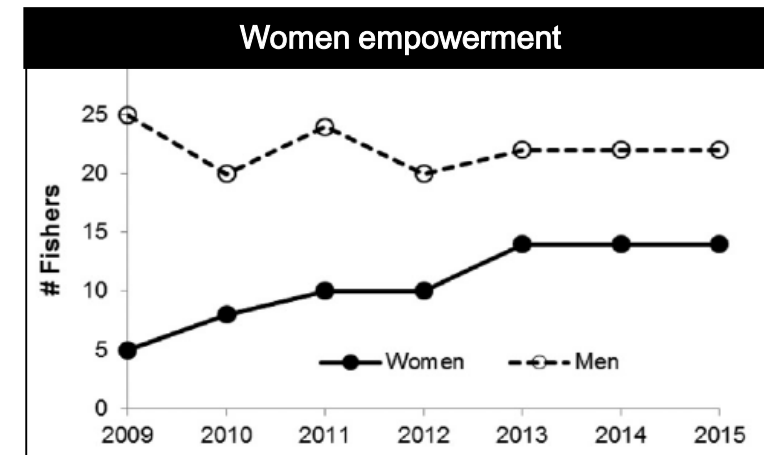
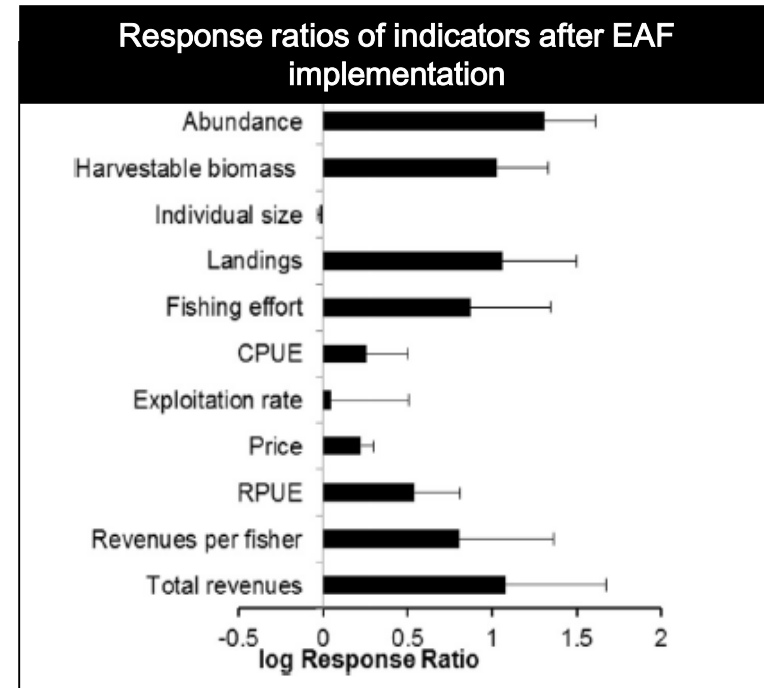
EAF/ Co-M implementation

Goals:

- Sustainable exploitation
- Empower fishing communities
- Develop new market opportunities

Results:

- Positive response in several indicators
- Fishers' group consolidation
- Increase in women participation





CASE STUDIES: EXTRACTIVE RESERVES OF BRAZIL

Extractive reserves (RESEX) → areas allocated to local communities for exploitation and conservation of renewable resources

Goals of the RESEX:

- Biodiversity conservation
- Improving livelihoods
- Integrate resource users in decision-making

Formal steps of a RESEX → analogous of EAF implementation

Governance mode → Co-management





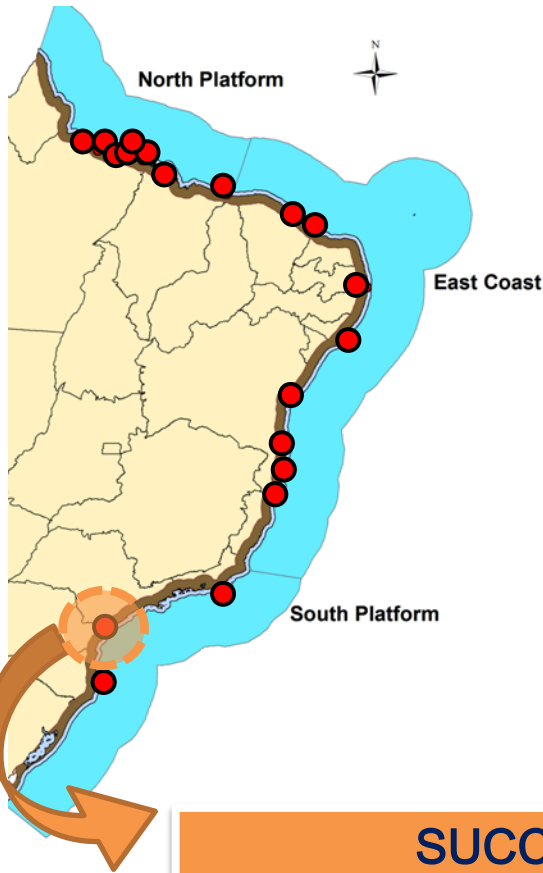
CASE STUDIES: MARINE EXTRACTIVE RESERVES OF BRAZIL

22 Marine Extractive Reserves

Mangroves and estuarine areas

Assessment of 20 RESEX

- Unsatisfactory results
- Many RESEX lack management plans
- Obstacle to consolidate EAF
- Lack of government support to fulfill objectives



SUCCESS: RESEX OF MANDIRA, COOPEROSTRA

Oyster production increased

Incomes increased by removing intermediaries

Appreciation of artisanal production enhanced encouraging tourism



Transformations in governance of coastal resources

- (i) recognition of stock collapse
- (ii) social processes (fishers + scientists)

1991 → the new fishery legislation reformed the fishing sector in Chile

Several novelties including:

- Allocation of TURFs
- Co-management

Rebuilding Chilean Fisheries Through Smart Management

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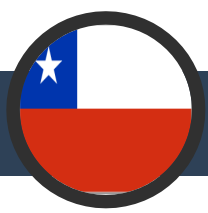
Territorial Use Rights in Fisheries in Chile



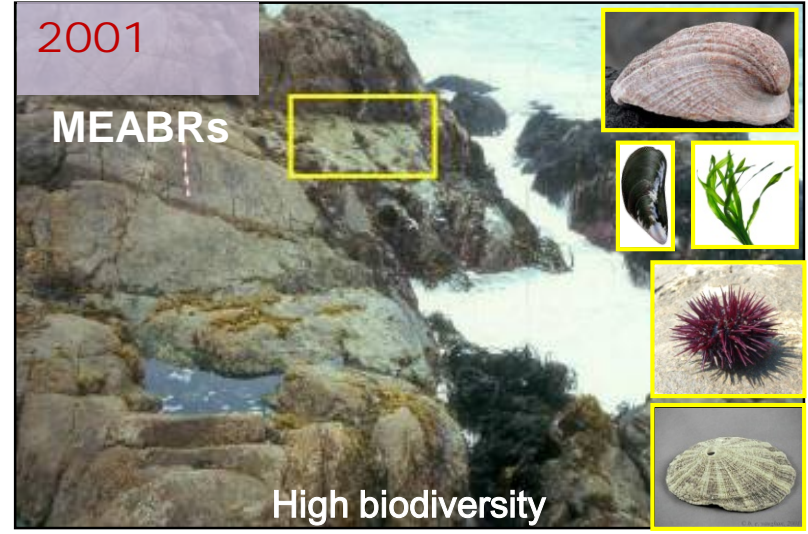
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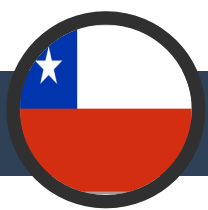
Emblematic, threatened, and now thriving — Chilean abalone industry rebounds thanks to exclusive access rights.

Creation of Management and Exploitation Areas for Benthic Resources



CASE STUDIES: THE CHILEAN "LOCO" FISHERY

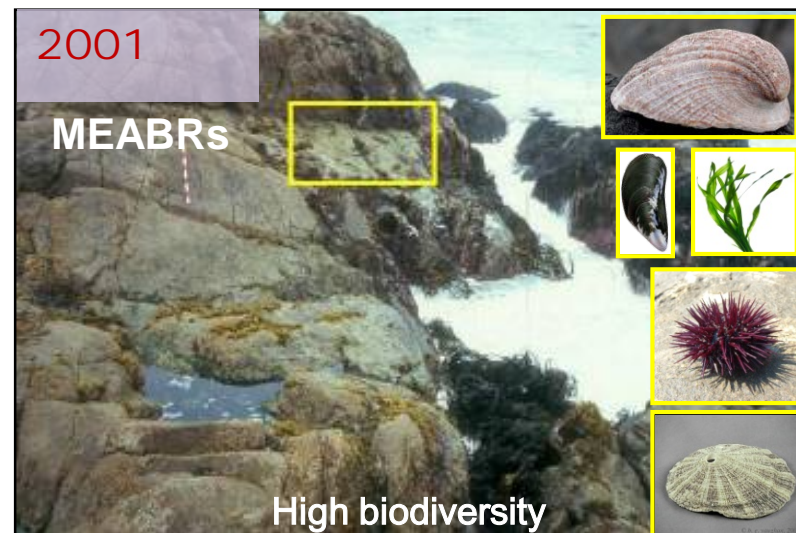




CASE STUDIES: THE CHILEAN “LOCO” FISHERY

Performance assessment of “loco” fishery within MEABRs:

- Higher CPUE
- Low landings
- Decreasing fishing effort
- Stable individual sizes
- Higher unit prices





CASE STUDIES: GALAPAGOS (ECUADOR)

Mid 90s → overcapitalization of artisanal fleet

1998: new legal framework

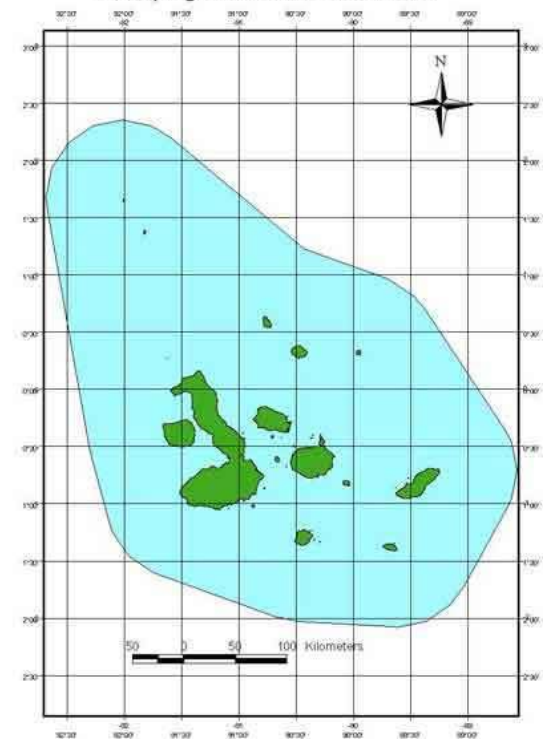
Marine Reserve of Galapagos creation

Management tools:

- Prohibition of industrial fishing
- Moratorium on entry
- Community rights for fishing
- Zoning scheme
- Governance mode → **CO-MANAGEMENT**

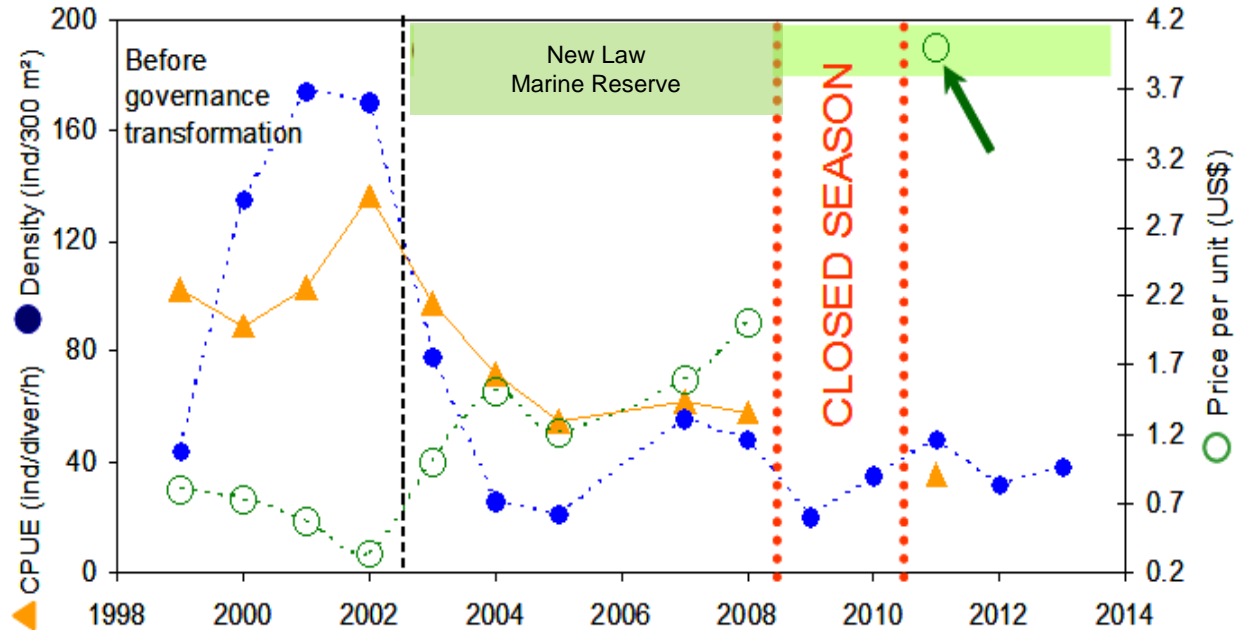


Galapagos Marine Reserve





CASE STUDIES: SEA CUCUMBER FISHERY



- Increase in unit price
- Decrease in CPUE
- Decrease in abundance
- 5 fishery closures in the last years
- Failure in translating high-level policy goals into tangible incentives
- Fishers feel vulnerable because political uncertainty

LESSONS LEARNED AND PROSPECTS

1) BARRIERS FOR EFFECTIVE EA IMPLEMENTATION:

- Legal frameworks on paper but not necessarily in practice
- High-level policy goals are not a sufficient condition for success
- Uncertainty: environmental, economic and institutional
- Lack of economic and human resources

2) STAKEHOLDERS PARTICIPATION IS CRUCIAL:

- CO-MANAGEMENT as formal governance mode
- Community-based data collection

3) NO MAGIC RECIPES, NO SINGLE PATHS !!!

- Combination of adaptable management tools
- Adaptable and dynamic management schemes

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THANKS!!!

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