



MPAs in Western Africa: how can they play a role in fisheries management? (AFD)

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General context

- In the past, before the 2000s, MPAs have provoked lively debate between conservationists and fisheries managers.
- These dissensions disappeared, each part being gradually become aware of the global issues of the protection of biodiversity and socio-economic needs of the fisheries stakeholders, including artisanal fishermen.
- The debate has moved on now dichotomy between food security / livelihoods and conservation.:
- From AFD experience, MPA's can be useful for fisheries, under specific conditions.

Necessary and sufficient conditions for that MPAs can play a role in fisheries management

■ To comply with the general conditions of existence of MPA

- Participatory building of the MPA boundaries with all stakeholders
- Participatory preparation of documents of the MPA (management plan, scientific monitoring, regulation of fishing rights,...)
- Monitoring Control and survey of the MPA
- Sustainable financial balance of the MPA

■ To comply with specific requirements

- Protection of biologically important habitats (coral reefs, mangroves, estuaries, deltas, ...)
- Benefit from regulation and a national fisheries management
- Having a significant size or consist network or corridor MPA
- Benefit for the first years of socio-economic support for artisanal fishermen

Impacts on commercial fisheries are known but not necessarily measurable quantitatively and economically

- **Effects sanctuary (conservation and reproduction)**
- **Spillover effect of commercial-sized fish (for instance one first result was : 11 tons/year for 30 km² after ten years of scientific investigations)**
- **Effect of increase and spread of fish larvae**
- **The corresponding increase in biomass in areas adjacent to the MPA that they are open to fishing**
- **The Ecosystem Restoration**

Some examples to think about, from the smallest to the biggest

- **MPA of Bamboung (Senegal) : long history more baseline data enabled the calculation that I gave before**
- **Tunisia MPA network and Thai MPA corridor : not enough time and scientific observations**
- **The Banc d'Arguin National Park is known to all as the major nursery of many of the West African fisheries, but there are not enough data, neither baseline data.**
- **Sovereign debt against giant MPA (30% of the EEZ is 350 000 km²): the innovative mechanism established by Seychelles in cooperation with TNC**



Pending issues

- How to avoid MPA paper or politically decreed?
- How to link MPA and national fishery strategy ?
- How to assess ecosystem services (ecosystem restoration, larvae spill over effect) and economic services for commercial fisheries made by MPA ?
- How sustainable funding MPAs ?
 - Conservation trust funds are not enough
 - How to pay for ecosystem services, and by whom?
 - How to share the wealth issued form MPA between stakeholders ?
- How to reach the world global objective on sea protected areas in 2020 ?



Thank you

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