

How can we better measure the impacts and effectiveness of area-based measures and their socio-economic costs and benefits?

Dr Jake Rice

Chief Scientist Emeritus

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Key Challenges

MEASUREMENT CHALLENGES

- Limitations on Information to Measure Progress and Impacts
- Finding the Right Forum for Assessments

EFFECTIVENESS AND IMPACTS CHALLENGES

- Agreement on what “effectiveness” means
- Finding appropriate universal meanings for “costs” and “benefits”

LIMITATIONS ON INFORMATION

Under-sampled, but *not ignorant*

- Scientific legacies like Census of Marine Life, Ocean Biodiversity Information System etc.
- Many International Science Orgs and Inter-Governmental Orgs with science components
- Knowledge advances presented in Partnership Dialogue 6 and at least 12 Side Events
- **HUGE POTENTIAL FOR GREATER USE OF INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL KNOWLEDGE**

RIGHT FORUM for Assessments - No shortage of relevant assessments

- UNGA Regular Process – World Ocean Assmt 1
- CBD – Global Biodiversity Outlooks
- FAO – State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture
- IOC - Global Ocean Observing System Reports
- IPBES – Regional Assmt and Global Synthesis
- IPCC - Special Report on Oceans and Cryosphere
- UNEP – Global Environmental Outlooks

WE HAVE THE PIECES – HOW TO INTEGRATE
WITHOUT CHERRY-PICKING

EFFECTIVENESS: achieving OUTCOMES – What CONSERVATION outcome?

- Delivery of 17 SDGs, not just SDG 14
- SDGs require MORE use of the Ocean, not LESS
 - End Poverty (1) , End Hunger (2) , Access to Sustainable Energy (7) and Growth (8), and others.
- PRISTINE is the WRONG target
- Need more focus on and better knowledge of
 - Factors linked to ocean resilience
 - “Perturbation boundaries” (metrics that function like fish stock biomass limits)

Effectiveness - Costs and Benefits

What SOCIO-ECONOMIC outcomes?

- SDG 8 – Sustain(able)(ed), INCLUSIVE growth
- SDG 10 – Reduce INEQUALITY
- BETTER measures will not focus on HOW MUCH wealth can be created, but on how the created wealth is DISTRIBUTED.
- Blue Growth only a success if the wealth does not favour those with the best technology.
 - the ocean doesn't trickle down

Relevance in Evaluating Spatial Measures

When the relevant area and high-level ecological and socio-economic goals are delineated

- Knowledge – Need to match scale of information available relative to size of area
- Forum – which groups have knowledge of the factors, which agencies have jurisdiction and stakeholders interests that might be impacted
- Effectiveness – shaping the details of the spatial measure to bring into focus:
 - Inter-compatible specific outcomes for all interests
 - Globally acceptable distribution of costs and benefits

Conclusions

- How we USE our knowledge is as important as improving our ability to know more.
- Sectors are DOING a lot already, just have to work together and trust each other more.
- Oceans must be used MORE but more WISELY
- SHARING ocean wealth more necessary than growing ocean wealth.

THANK YOU

