



Lessons from Coastal Marine Resource Management in
Pacific Island Countries

‘Interactive Governance’ Sheds Light on Coastal Zones as Social Systems

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GIZO MARINE CONSERVATION AREAS



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KEYS

- ISLANDS
- REEFS
- SEAGRASS BEDS
- COMMUNITY-BASED MPA
COMMUNITY RULES + ENFORCEMENT
BEST PRACTICES + LOCAL SUPPORTING
COMMITMENTS BEFORE LEAVE OF THE AREA
- TOTAL NO-TAKE AREAS
- TROCHUS-REPAIR AREAS



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Coastal Marine Resource Management In Pacific Islands Countries



- Vital resource for **food and incomes**
 - Some reef resources **depleted**
 - Populations growing, more important into **future**
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- Has been **community management** (Indigenous + NGO supported)
 - **Government:** development (extension) but not much management



Conceptual Framework: Interactive Governance

- Multidisciplinary methods
- Investigate:
 - Diverse actors
 - State and non-state
 - Human and non-human
 - Operating multiple scales: local to global
 - Complex, interactively dynamic situations



Historical Overview

- Some **government** conservation instruments
 - Export bans
- Community Based Resource Management (**CBRM**)
 - Varying levels of effectiveness
- **Donor and ENGO** projects
 - Integrated Conservation and Development (ICAD)
 - Biodiversity Conservation Network (USA)
 - Biodiversity Conservation Program (UNDP)
 - LMMA Network (various)
 - Coral Gardens Initiative (EU)
 - International Waters Program (GEF)
 - Foundation of the Peoples of the South Pacific International (FPSI)
- Marine Protected Areas (**MPAs**)

Successes



- **EIA** applied to all activities affecting coastal areas
- Need for **broad consultation** recognized
- Stakeholder **coordination** promoted
- **De-centralized decision-making** promoted
- **Legislation** amended
- Some **research**
- Community **co-management** promoted
- *Full range of relevant issues & stakeholders identified*

Failures



- Lack of understanding of **economic, social and political factors**
 - Not integrating projects into people's lives meaningfully
 - Collaboration among stakeholders weak
 - Consultation shallow
 - Politics
 - Top down & external
 - Competing development aims
 - Varied interests village level

The ***HOW*** of Coastal Zones as Social Systems



Thank you!

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