Developments and directions in marine and fisheries management social sciences research:

Progress from the Australian FRDC Social Sciences Research Coordination Program Perspective: 2009 – 2014
Background

- **Established SSRCP in 2009**
  - Generate understanding and uses of the range of social sciences in fisheries and management

- **SSRCP II 2012 – 2015**
  - Increased focus on the value social sciences can bring to emerging issues
  - Integration, integration, integration

Rationale

- Balance biological research
- Leverage existing effort
- Embed perspectives into thinking
Achievements

• Audit of all social research in fisheries – 2009/317

• 22 past and current projects SSRCP managed
  – Economics
  – History
  – Sociology
  – Communications/Management
  – Indigenous anthropology/sociology
Themes

• Drawing together bodies of work to a central reference point – the Audit
• Generation of a how to guide for the use of social sciences in NRM
• Increasing understanding and awareness
• Creation of linkages between industry and researchers
• Seeking to balance triple bottom line approaches
2015 forward

• Continued focus by the FRDC
• Continued offer of a nexus for researchers, industry and government
• Less overt activities and profile
• Continued focus on embedding social sciences approaches in everyday research and management activities of industry and government departments.
Future directions

- Nationally agreed and benchmarked *economic objectives and indicators*;
- Implementation of *data integration* methodologies for management (economic and social with biological);
- **Systemic (industry and management) processes** to engage with integration of different data types;
- Continued increase of *industry and management engagement with the relevance of social and economic* community aspects and impacts
- Governance reviews of industry and government to identify opportunities to *increase transparency and communication of reporting*. 
Further thoughts/questions....?