



**Australian Government**

**Fisheries Research and  
Development Corporation**

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

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

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# 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....?

