Class 11.2 – Professor Anthony Charles
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This second part of the class (#11.2) continued the discussion about the subjects covered in the first part (#11.1): The challenge of governance in marine social-ecological systems.

5. Conservation & Stewardship

Although it doesn't exist an exact translation for the English word "**stewardship"** in Portuguese, Spanish and some other languages, it generally means "taking care of something", in a sense of protection. So we can use this word to refer to responsible management.

In Ocean Governance, it is important to determine how different levels and kinds of governments come altogether to address topics such as fisheries in a more integral way, **focusing on people**.

The book: "Governance of Marine Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation - Interaction and Coevolution", by Gacia, Rice & Charles, discuss the trends in decision making, and about the different kinds of power that people have in the decision process. Who is actually able to make decisions? Where the interests merge and where they conflict?

As a Canadian citizen, for example, he is technically one of the "owners" of the fish in the ocean. But generally he doesn't have much power to make decision, since he's "just a person". So this is the "management right", which means the right to be involved in the process of management.

There are mainly two different streams of governance, and they have to interact with each other all the time:

a) fisheries (more related to management) --> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), fishery departments and ministries of the governments, fisher organizations, among others;

b) biodiversity conservation --> Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), environment ministries and Environmental Non-Governmental Organizations (ENGOs), with different missions and points of views.

One of the problems is that these streams of governance have different trends. For example, in the side of the fishery governance trend, it can be observed that in the past most fisheries were traditionally self-governed, and then later it became more focused in the economy issues. On the biodiversity conservation trend, the emergence of 'formalized' approaches to deal with the conservation issue tended to "keep people out of the area" , which is the classic "top-down" type of governance.

Then emerged the **Integrative Instruments** that represent different mechanisms for connecting the fishery and the biodiversity sides, by mediating the importance of the ecosystem and the ocean uses. The idea is to first understand the ecosystem sustainability at the very local level, and then head towards the global level. It is a chance to bring together the institutions that were 'exploring' and that were 'protecting' the fisheries. Some of these instruments are: Integrative assessments, GIS, multicriteria analyses, etc.

6. Co-Management

The Triangle of Co-management

Government Participants

Community Participants *Fisher Participation*

This triangle represents all the stakeholders points of view, when discussing the fisheries. It means that the sides of the triangle need to be balanced, in a cooperative and integrative way. And the challenge consist in determining 'who has the right to be involved in the decisions' and connecting the community level with policy.

Some of the Co-management challenges are:

1) Conflict over boundaries (ecological + human);
2) Connecting with policy, legal and institutional realities;
3) Creating appropriate incentives and rights;
4) Fitting to the right scale of the system;
5) Making governance participatory and adaptive.

7. Community-based Management

Encompass issues such as 'how to deal with situations when people are breaking the rules'? The “Community Fisheries Management Handbook”, by Graham, Charles & Bull, discuss these topics.

When the Community-based Management is applied in fishery communities, fishers gain power over 'rule-breakers'. The union of the community has the power to make rule-breakers be seen with bad eyes and gradually lose their power.

8. Community Role in Conservation

How do coastal communities (and other communities as a matter of fact) protect their environment and sustain their local economy at the same time? And, more importantly: how can the government help these local communities?

It is important to emphasize that the local level community-based conservation works and in the end it can even save money in the future, especially when it comes to fisheries. So the governments and NGOs can and have to really support this small-scale efforts. It brings again the idea of ”**stewardship”**.

The *Community Conservation Research Network* (CCRN) is an organization which links local communities, conservation and sustainable livelihoods to address environmental and economic challenges. Their key messages are:

1) Community conservation is essential to livelihoods and economies;
2) Involving local communities leads to better sustainability results;
3) Excluding communities leads to conflict and management failure;
4) Conservation efforts must properly use community knowledge;
5) Must learn to 'scale up' and 'scale down' to maximize benefits.

Communities in Action - "*A world of communities, conservation and livelihoods*" is an online initiative to showcase these experiences of local communities working to protect their environment and their livelihoods (at the website: <www.CommunityConservation.net>). The project provides ideas of "Local Conservation Solutions", coming out with international policies to empower local communities. The idea is that "you need to first think at the community scale, to then find solutions at higher levels”.

Some of the examples we can find of these type of management can be seen in **Nuu-chah-nulth Nation**, West side of Vancouver Island, Canada. In fact in their own language they have a word similar to ”**stewardship”**, and an expression that shows how integrated everything is in their community:

uu-a-thluk = taking care of
Hishukish ts’awalk = everything is one, everything is connected

In **Punta Allen,** Quintana Roo, México the Sian Ka´an Protected Areas Complex is another example of this kind of management. There, the fishers assigned themselves fishing areas (for example, lobster), dividing it in a way that they can share the resources. The salinity may change, which changes the ranges where lobsters move. When this happens, fishers may share their plots so that everyone may gain from lobster fishing. The affected person may fish somewhere else, so there is an equity aspect when this happens. The National Park and Marine

Reserve of the **Galapagos Island**, in Ecuador also has its own local-level management, due to its importance for biodiversity and for the local fishers at the same time.

I'ts important to make note that the class that was supposed to be given at this time was never given. We took notes of the second part of class 11.1. When this class was finished, the period for questions and discussions started, which took the rest of the time dedicated to his presentation.