

Participant-led Workshop on Communities of Practice in the  
Management of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction  
October 31, 2013, IWC7, Barbados

*Building Communities of Practice in the  
Management of Areas beyond National  
Jurisdiction (ABNJ)*

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# Workshop Agenda

- Brief introduction to the workshop
- Introduction of participants
- Group discussion 1:
  - Nature and function of COPs, lessons learned from existing COPS, and usefulness in the management of ABNJs
- Group discussion 2:
  - Goals of the COP, tools that can be used to support the COP, formation of COP from existing working groups, potential products and other outputs, how to assess effectiveness of COPs
- Recap

# Workshop Objectives

1. To promote the establishment of communities of practice in ABNJ in the areas of:
  - Fisheries, Biodiversity, and Climate Change
  - Regional multiple Use Area-based Management

# Workshop Objectives

2. To solicit input from IWC7 participants on the following:

- **Goals of the two communities of practice (COPs)**
- **Nature and function of COPs**
- **Operation of the COPs**
- **Membership and levels of participation**
- **Tools that can be used to support the COPs**
- **Formation of COPs from existing working groups**
- **Potential products and other outputs**
- **How to assess effectiveness of COPs**

# **Rationale for the identification of evolving needs for capacity development in the management of ABNJ**

- **Importance/significance of ABNJ; current and emerging issues**
- **Evolving approaches (EBM and EAFM, integrated approach, MSP, systematic conservation, global and regional approaches)**
- **Rio+20 outcomes, the Green Economy paradigm, and the need to improve on the current institutional framework, developed over 30 years ago (since 1982 UNCLOS)**

# Capacity in ABNJ— General Considerations

- Must be seen as a **continuum** from the coastal zone, EEZ, out to ABNJ, in the context of an ecosystem-based approach—Not solely ABNJ, as processes and ecosystems in these ocean areas are interconnected
- There are needs related both to **integrated** governance and **sectoral** capacity
- Ad hoc efforts will not be enough—Capacity development for ABNJ must be **institutionalized** to support long-term, sustained and coordinated efforts
- The **full range** of capacity development needs for ABNJ must be included, e.g., from addressing sectoral needs to building the enabling environment for improving management and governance

# Capacity Development Needs Assessment

- Provide basis for decision making as to which approach should be followed and what resources should be allocated to the development of the capacity development effort
- Capacity needs assessments should be made at all three levels: 1) individual, 2) institutional/organizational, and 3) enabling environment
- Questions:
  - What exactly are the management issues/problems in ABNJ that capacity development could address?
  - What causes these problems?
  - What could be the capacity development solutions?
  - What are the other management actions needed to make the capacity development effective, including the provision of resources?
- Mapping capacity needs and capacity development resources

# Consideration of the capacity needs of stakeholders and key players in the management and governance of ABNJ

- **Sectors**
  - Shipping, capture fisheries and aquaculture, marine scientific research, tourism, oil and gas extraction, mining, deep sea cable and pipeline industry, disposal of nuclear waste or other substances and military uses, ocean uses by indigenous and local peoples
- **National**
  - National delegations involved in UN negotiations, e.g., in Regular Process, BBNJ sessions; national experts and decision makers in various ministries, e.g., foreign affairs, environment, fisheries, transportation, etc.

# Consideration of the capacity needs of stakeholders and key players in the management and governance of ABNJ

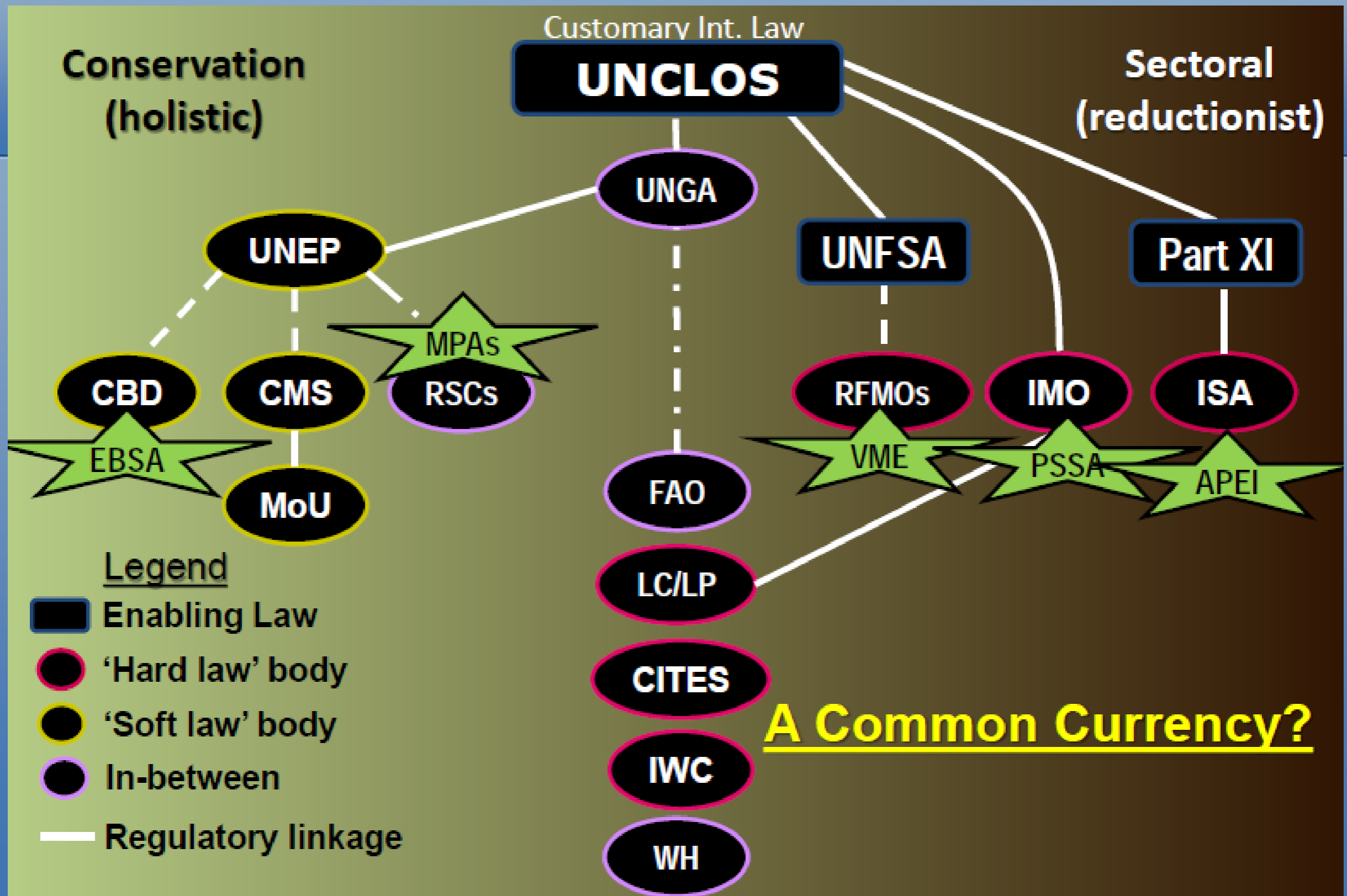
- **Regional**
  - **RFMOs, RFBs/RFAs, other regional ocean management mechanisms, e.g., UNEP Regional Seas Programme, GEF LME programs/projects**
- **Global**
  - **UN DESA, UN DOALOS, FAO, IMO, IOC/UNESCO, UNEP, UNDP, UN-Oceans**
- **Civil Society**
  - **NGOs, academic and research institutions, public outreach organizations**

# Capacity Development Needs: Priority Management Options/1

- Fisheries closures: Stock assessment and modeling
- High Seas MPAs:
  - Ability to apply relevant lessons learned from nearshore MPAs and MPAs in EEZs in high seas MPAs
  - Capacity to use spatial planning tools and modeling processes using biodiversity data and physical proxies to create maps, which can inform conservation decisions based on sound science
  - Ability to compile scientific information and make it accessible to the marine conservation community and those who need it for making decisions
  - Ability to develop and use tools and approaches in managing HS MPAs and establishing management effectiveness

# Capacity Development Needs: Priority Management Options/2

- **EBSAs:**
  - Professional expertise and advice to identify EBSAs/application of EBSA criteria
  - Capacity to collect information and data about the marine areas and to use the available analytical tools effectively and adapt them
  - Capacity to take action and protect EBSAs
- **VMEs:** Different management methodologies and options for VMEs
- **EIA:** Capacity to apply EIA in ABNJ, ecological risk analysis, including methods for assessing cumulative impacts



(Ardron 2013)

# Global sustainable fisheries management and biodiversity conservation in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction Program

## **Project 1**

Sustainable  
Management of  
Tuna Fisheries  
and Biodiversity  
Conservation  
in the ABNJ

## **Project 2**

Sustainable  
Fisheries  
Management &  
Biodiversity  
Conservation  
of Deep-sea  
Ecosystems in  
the ABNJ

## **Project 3**

Ocean Partnerships  
for Sustainable  
Fisheries &  
Biodiversity  
Conservation –  
Models for  
Innovation and  
Reform

**Project 4** Strengthening Global Capacity to Effectively  
Manage ABNJ

# Strengthening Global Capacity to Effectively Manage ABNJ

## CROSS-SECTORAL POLICY DIALOGUE

### **Cross-sectoral Multi-stakeholder Workshops**

- Linking global and regional levels in the management of ABNJ
- Building on experiences and developing synergies to improve ABNJ management

### **High-level Dialogues at Major Ocean-related Meetings**

*e.g. UN ABNJ Working Group Meetings, 6<sup>th</sup> Global Ocean Conference, FAO COFI, 3<sup>rd</sup> International MPA Congress*

# **Strengthening Global Capacity to Effectively Manage ABNJ**

## **CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT**

### **Communities of Practice**

- Fisheries, Biodiversity and Climate Change
  - Multiple Use Area-based Management  
(topics not set in stone)

### **Regional ABNJ Leaders Fellowship Program**

- Support the participation of regional and national leaders from developing countries in global ABNJ discussions

# Strengthening Global Capacity to Effectively Manage ABNJ

## KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT & OUTREACH

### Public Outreach Network


- Awareness-raising & advocacy
- Network of journalists and specialists

### ABNJ Portal

- Information sharing & exchange
- Dissemination of Program information




# Global sustainable fisheries management and biodiversity conservation in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction Program



COMMON OCEANS

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Tuna & Biodiversity





The **Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction Program (ABNJ)** - often referred to as Common Oceans - is a broad scale, innovative approach to achieve efficient and sustainable management of fisheries resources and biodiversity conservation in marine areas which don't fall under the responsibility of any one country.

To achieve this goal the program is comprised of four specific areas of work:

- Sustainable management of tuna fisheries & biodiversity
- Sustainable use of deep-sea living resources & biodiversity
- Oceans Partnership for sustainable fisheries & biodiversity conservation
- Strengthening global capacity to effectively manage ABNJ

### DID YOU KNOW?

*Marine areas beyond national jurisdiction cover 64 per cent of the surface of the oceans, make up 40 per cent of the earth's surface, with marine living resources valued at well over U.S. \$10 billion annually.*



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# Communities of Practice

- A means of strengthening interchange and learning between individuals and organizations
- Raison d'être:
  - Competition between organizations
  - Knowledge can be derived from own practice and that of other organizations and individuals
  - Pressure not to repeat previous mistakes
  - Efforts to strengthen capacity quickly, effectively, economically
  - Improved access to communications technology

# What is a Community of Practice

- A group with ‘a common learning interest’
- Objectives and specific interests will differ according to the particular community
- Share certain key characteristics:
  - a basis in trust
  - ‘recognition of diversity’
  - ‘a willingness to share experiences and knowledge’

# Aims and Basic Requirements

- To establish long-term learning processes that support innovation, the building of capacity, the improvement of practice, and the strengthening of relationships between members
- Need not necessarily have a separate institutional identity but require a minimum input of resources (including financial and time commitments and investment in communication systems)

# Two essential roles

- Facilitator
- Participant (will vary in terms of their involvement and commitment)

# Elements/Strategies

- Planning and getting started
- Relationships and communication between members
- Leadership and co-ordination
- Creating learning processes
- Incentives to create a culture of participation

# Lessons Learned

- Require certain conditions in order to be viable, which should be identified, analyzed, and planned for in advance
- The aim of the community should remain focused on the learning that is desired, and not become forced to take on other objectives.

# Lessons Learned

- Planning should not compromise the flexibility necessary in order to modify the topics covered and means of interaction when necessary
- In order to achieve a continual exchange, individuals and organizations involved need to gain ownership of objectives and issues
- Need to constantly analyze and criticize in order to provide the catalyst to strengthen the participation of members

# Lessons Learned

- Need sufficient resources to hold events and/or reward those who occupy key roles (such as coordinator) and are responsible for ensuring participation and achieving objectives
- More efforts need to be made to continue work on the issue of monitoring and evaluation
- Need to test effectiveness that different users of communities of practice relate within their own organizations