

BUILDING INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS TO ENHANCE SCIENCE-BASED ECOSYSTEM APPROACHES IN SUPPORT OF REGIONAL OCEAN GOVERNANCE

Delivering Adaptive Ocean Management through Collaborative Governance

David Vousden

Professor of Ocean Governance at Rhodes University, South Africa

Consultant to United Nations on Ocean and Coastal Management and Governance



How does Ocean Governance relate to Ocean Management?



Ocean Governance refers to an organised system for the administration of coastal and offshore waters within a legal framework

It recognises who is responsible for overseeing and managing which areas of the world's oceans (national, regional and global)



It further recognises actions which need to be taken to sustainably exploit and conserve resources within those oceans and who will take those actions

Ocean Management is the actual Implementation of that system (allocation of resources, supervision of activities, the day-to-day operations)

The Value of Oceans in Terms of Goods and Services



Ocean services are estimated to be worth US\$23 trillion a year



Marine capture fisheries worldwide have been estimated to be around to US\$ 80-85 billion annually (UNDPI 2010)



Recent estimates (2011) show that marine fisheries directly and indirectly employs 260 million people worldwide



Coral reefs have been estimated to provide services to human society worth \$172 billion per year



Seaborne shipping accounts for close to 90% of global trade



Ocean oil and gas industry activity increased 9% p.a. in recent years and is expanding to ever deeper areas, particularly in many developing countries

Ocean Management and Governance at Different Levels

The Growing Complexity

Local/Community:

Indigenous and local communities can play an important role in relation to resource management and to sustainability of goods and services from natural ecosystems.

Local communities can act as facilitators and compliance monitors on the ground if they are properly involved and supportive of management measures

Co-management by national/local government with local communities can be highly beneficial to both parties

National Level:

Successful ocean governance (including coastal zone management) needs to be intersectoral and participatory and include A. **all** relevant departments of government as well as B. **other stakeholders** (scientific bodies, academia, industry, NGOs)

Ocean Management and Governance at Different Levels

The Growing Complexity

Regional:

More government departments and ministries across a geographical region = interactions become more complex + interest more diverse and so the challenges get greater

E.g. Regional Conventions

Discussions at the 'Conferences of Parties' require detailed pre-planning and consensus negotiations

Different mandates may create a clash of interests

Racial, ethnic and religious considerations as well as cultural differences can be complex and need to be taken into consideration

International/Global:

All of the above multiplied by number of countries!!!

Plus considerable 'interest' from NGO and parastatal groups plus pressure groups

Plus the overarching commitments made by countries through global treaties (esp. UNCLOS)

It is a Huge Challenge!

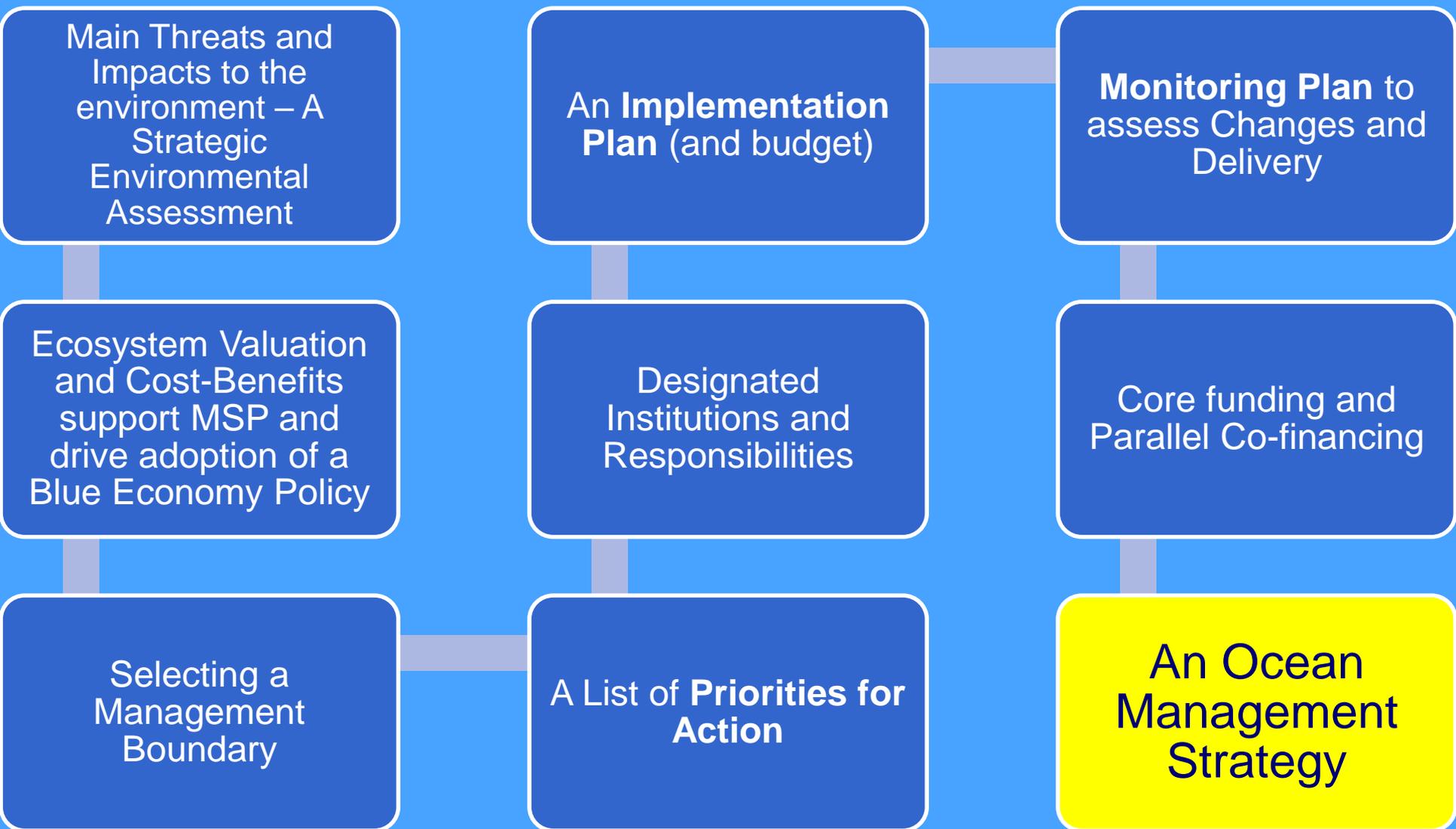
Summary of Constraints to Delivering Effective Ocean Management and Governance

- Historically, over-reliance on sectoral approaches to resource management
- Poor compliance with and inadequate implementation of laws and regulations
- Limited investment in monitoring and enforcement mechanisms
- Limited institutional infrastructure for effective management & governance
- Sectoral interests creating political roadblocks
- Inadequate and inequitable resource allocations
- Inadequate scientific information to underpin adaptive management
- Ineffective cooperation (cross-sectoral; stakeholders; transboundary partners)

Most of these are equally applicable at the national, regional and the global level

All of these can only be effectively addressed through improved collaboration and cooperation and the evolution of strong partnerships

Generic Approach to Developing an Ocean Management Strategy



Ocean Management and Governance

Additional Management Resource Requirements



Capacity Building and Training

You need to know 'How' to manage



Compliance and Enforcement

You need to know your management is effective



Monitoring of Indicators of Change

You cannot manage changes unless you can identify and measure changes



An Adaptive Management Process

Ongoing Adaptive Management Decisions and Actions

Management and Governance as an on-going process

This is a lot of work just to arrive at a 'baseline' for effective management and governance

It becomes even more demanding to continue this work long-term in order to identify change and respond to change (Adaptive Management)

Acknowledging the Importance of the 'Science-to-Governance' Connection

Capturing Knowledge

(Traditional, Historical, etc.)

This linkage here is critically important for effective management

Option A

Option B

Option C

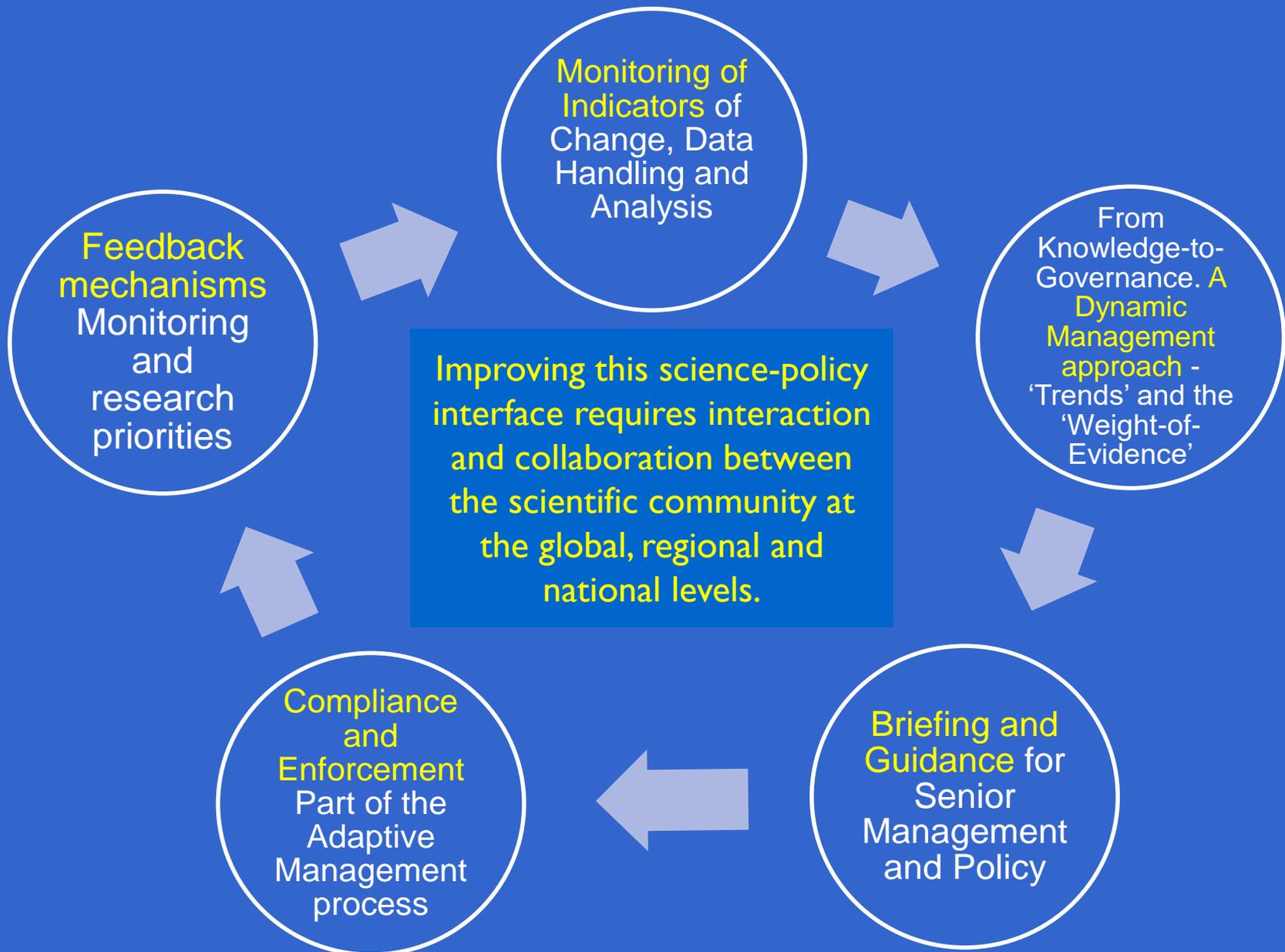
ADAPTIVE
MANAGEMENT

POLICY

Updated Science

(e.g. from Monitoring & Data Analysis)

Maintaining an Effective Governance and Management Approach



“Strengthening the Connection”

Constraints and Ways Forward

Science is an essential tool for management and governance IF it can provide ‘guidance’

Scientists

Need ‘time’ to confirm ‘confidence’ in their results

Managers

Need to act faster to protect the interests of their ‘community’, especially in a rapidly changing world

Policy-Makers

Need to base policy-decisions on professionally supported evidence

- Development of governance toolkits and alliances/partnerships for science-to-policy (e.g. IOC and ICES)
- Peer-reviewed ‘Weight-of-Evidence’ approach

Needs reliable data and information

Requires effort, time and funding

THIS NECESSITATES PARTNERSHIPS!

Regional Level Collaborative Governance

The 'How' and The 'Who'?

HOW?

- Loose interaction as agreed between parties (may just be bilateral arrangements)
- Simple cooperative agreements to form multilateral alliances/partnerships
- Formal legal or contractual agreements to cooperate and deliver on specifics

WHO?

- National government representation
- Intergovernmental Bodies (Regional Convention Secretariats, Fisheries Management bodies, Regional Economic Commissions/Agreements)
- NGOs
- National/regional scientific and academic institutes
- Industry (oil, gas, shipping, fisheries, maritime clusters, etc.)

A Global Partnership for the Sustainable Management, Use and Protection of the Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystems (CLME+)

Interim Coordination Mechanism:

- 8 IGO's each with a formal mandate relating to the marine environment of the CLME+ region
- Forms the 'heart of the CLME+ Partnership and CLME+ Alliance and coordinates implementation of the CLME+ Strategic Action Programme

CLME + Partnership

- Interactive, voluntary non-legally binding long-term partnership for all stakeholders (Governments, IGOs, NGOs, Civil Society, Private Sector, Academia, etc)
- Coordinate and collaborate in order to support the work of the IGOs with their formal mandate for the protection and sustainable use of the marine environment including the successful execution of associated work programmes

CLME+ Alliance

- A broader stakeholder community whose members pledge to contribute to the achievement of the CLME+ Strategic Action Programme and its Objectives

Catalyzing Ocean Finance - Lessons Learned from Global Ocean Management 'Best Practices' (UNDP/GEF)

“Managing the oceans and coasts properly can be economically as well as environmentally profitable but requires on-going engagement between all sectors and with all stakeholders”

“This includes scientists, communities, international agencies, private and public sector leaders and policy-makers”

Effective Ocean Management and Governance is...



Many faces with diverse interest but a commitment to working together



Thank
You!

