The Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM)

A better and more holistic way to manage complex marine capture fisherjes



What is an ecosystem approach?

Why the ecosystem approach?

- It is integrated management across land, water and natural resources that promotes both conservation and sustainable use of the whole ecosystem.
- It strives to find a balance between ecological well-being and human wellbeing through good governance.
- Fisheries face many threats and issues that reduce their potential to contribute to sustainable development.
- In the past, fisheries management has taken a single species approach, but there are few success stories.
- There is a need to account for the broader ecosystem impacts of fisheries and to manage more holistically.

Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management



EAFM is the ecosystem approach (EA) applied to fisheries management (FM)

EA + FM = EAFM

EAFM builds on what is in place



Builds on and improves existing management

Strengthens agencies through better planning and cooperation



Builds on and integrates co-management and other participatory approaches

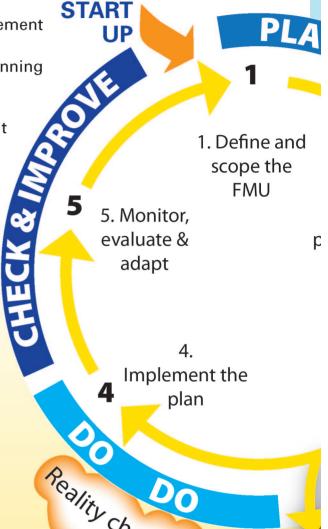
 Uses traditional, local and scientific knowledge that already exists



Improves human capacity needed for sustainable development

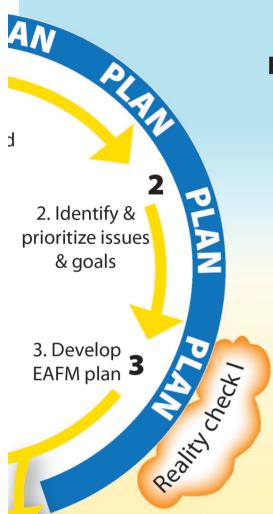
EAFM strengthens co-management

- Encourages stakeholder engagement
- Improves facilitation skills
- Uses effective negotiation
- Facilitates conflict resolution





EAFM PLAN: linking legislation/policy to action



Example:

Sustainably manage fisheries

Legislation/policy

1

Limit fishing effort in the trawl fishery

EAFM PLAN



Control number of fishing boats/gears

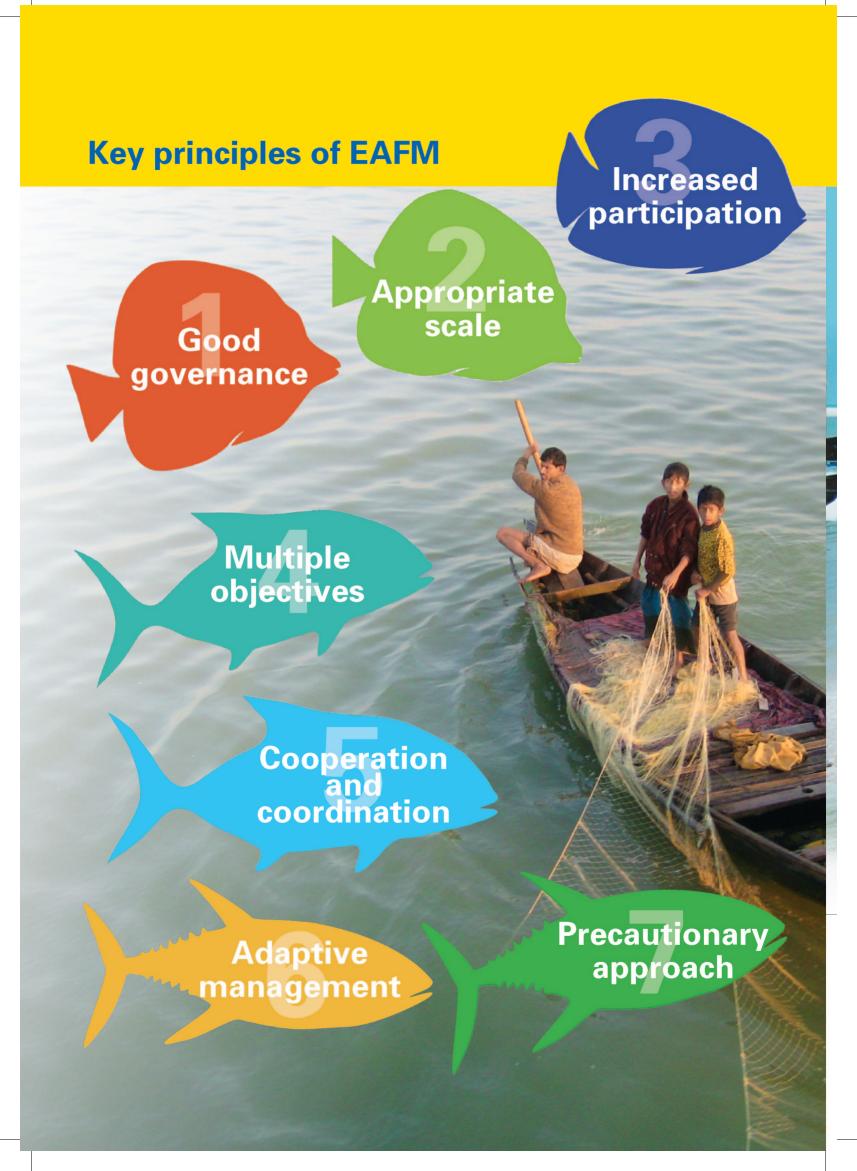
Management actions

EAFM PLAN

EAFM is based on PLAN⇒DO⇒CHECK & IMPROVE







The future we want: our vision

- Increased jobs, profits, and improved economy
- Improved human health and prosperity
- Healthy environment and habitats
- Well-governed fisheries sector
- Abundant fisheries resources



For more information, please visit **www.eafmlearn.org**, a collaboration of:









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