

# YSLME MPA NETWORKING WORKSHOP

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## Principles, criteria, process and steps towards establishing YSLME MPA Network

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# Key Challenge

***How to get from general principles to practical actions that go beyond the establishment of single or groups of MPAs to an operational MPA network in the YS***

## What is an MPA Network?

### ***Not just a collection of MPAs***

- Must interact in some meaningful manner to meet management, social and/or conservation objectives of the network
- Is also a network of people



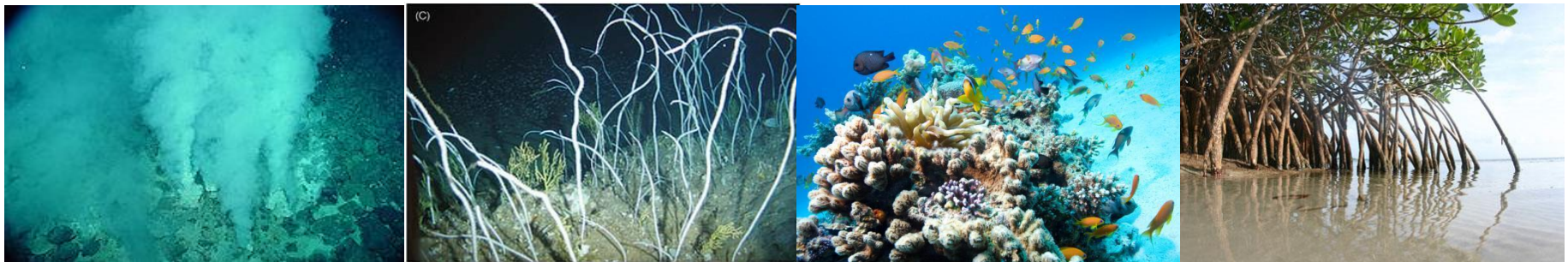
# Principle: Ecologically REPRESENTATIVE network



**What does it mean when we say we are designing an “ecologically representative” network?**

**Defining focus of network: all ecosystems and habitats?**

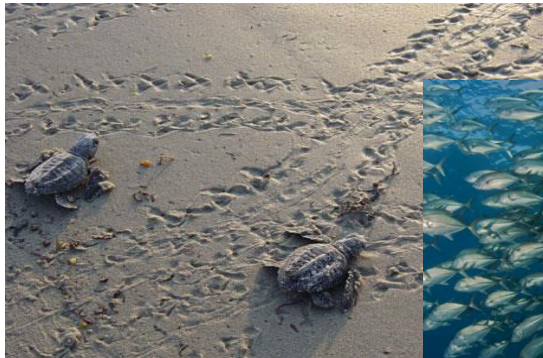
**What exactly are we trying to protect?**



# Principle: Ecologically REPRESENTATIVE network

## Defining focus of network:

- *All ecosystems and habitats?*
- *Critical habitat for threatened or endangered species?*
- *Areas important for vulnerable life stages?*



# Principle: Ecologically REPRESENTATIVE network

## *Defining focus of network:*

- To protect important life and history stages of fisheries resources

## **Result or benefits:**

- Increase in population of fisheries resources
- Increase in protein source
- Increase in income
- Sustainable management

***Need to be specific about our focus for our MPA network **BEFORE** we design the network and start selecting the appropriate sites***

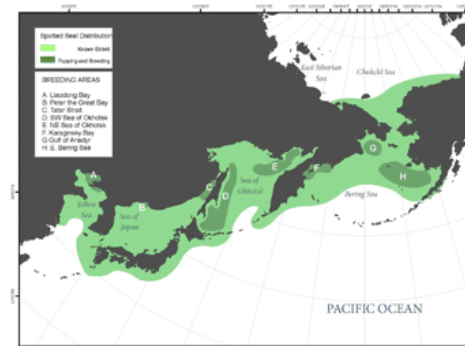


# What about biophysical Connectivity?

MPA network design *should seek to maximize and enhance the linkages among individual MPAs, groups of MPAs* within a given ecoregion, or networks in the same and/or different regions

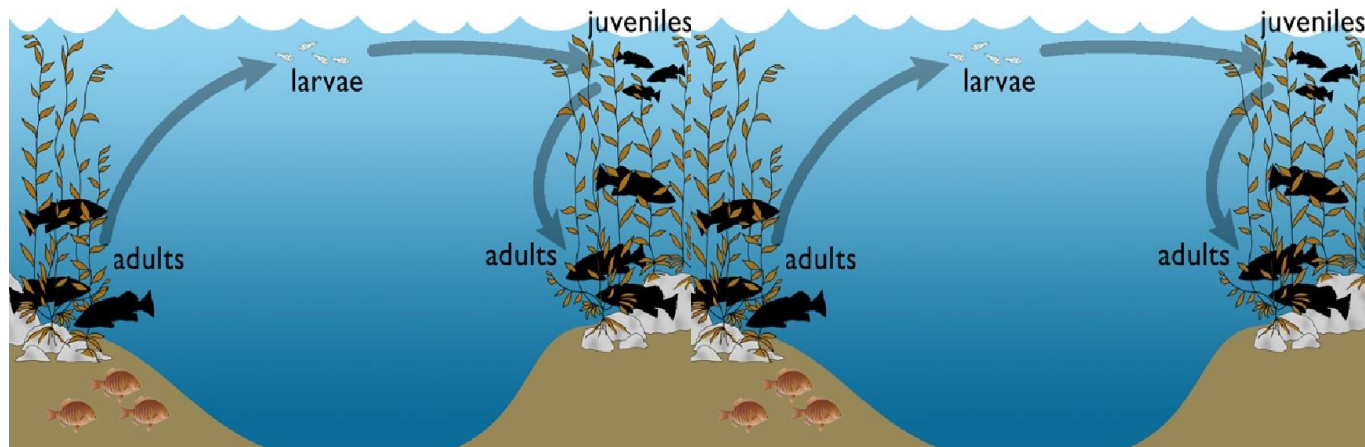
MPAs in a network that interact through ecological and oceanographic linkages enhance the ecological function of and benefits to each

- Large migratory species can have ranges of 1,000km
- Pelagic fish, e.g., blue fin tuna, hundreds to several thousand km
- Smaller fish and bottom dwelling invertebrates – 1 to 100s km
- Sessile species – can be < 1km



# What about biophysical Connectivity?

*Connectivity may also allow for movement of marine life from one habitat to another during different life stages*



# What about biophysical Connectivity?

## **Regional Network of MPAs in West Africa – 23 MPAs in 6 countries**

- Type: Ecological, Social, Governance
- Purpose & Need: High levels of biophysical connectivity through Canary Island and Guinea upwellings, and the movement of migratory species
- **Goal:** to ensure, at the scale of the eco-region that: **“the preservation of a coherent set of critical habitats...for the regeneration of natural resources and the conservation of biodiversity to the benefit of the societies”**

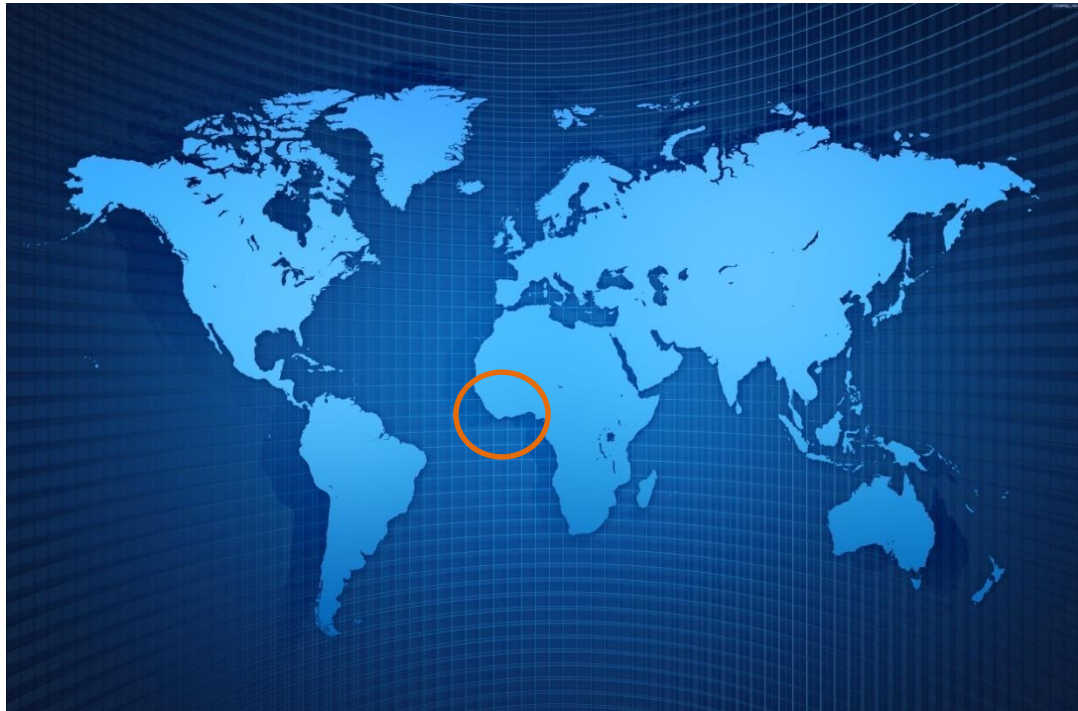




# What about biophysical Connectivity?

## *Regional Network of MPAs in West Africa – 23 MPAs in 6 countries*

- **Administration:** a secretariat facilitates and coordinates the network activities with technical assistance and financials support from international partners



# MPA Training Tool Kit

## Title

Designing a network of MPAs for the Yellow Sea based on principles of biophysical connectivity

**Authored by** Rocio Lozano-Knowlton  
and Anne Walton

Summarizes the *presentations, theory, practices, and exercises worksheets* utilized during the “Designing a network of MPAs for YSLME Workshop” held in Seocheon, ROK, July 23-27, 2018



# Background



**Goal:** to provide a consolidated framework **for MPA practitioners and associated working groups** of the YSLME Phase II project to continue **to establish a functional network of MPAs based on biophysical connectivity**

**Steps, process and materials were designed** and presented by authors of this toolkit **based on 3 indicators and endangered species of the Yellow Sea: a fish (Yellow Croaker), a sea pinniped (Spotted Seal), and a sea bird (Spoon-billed Sandpiper)**

## Table of Contents

Day 1: Design **principles** of MPA networks

Day 2: **Analyzing the setting** for the YSLME MPA network

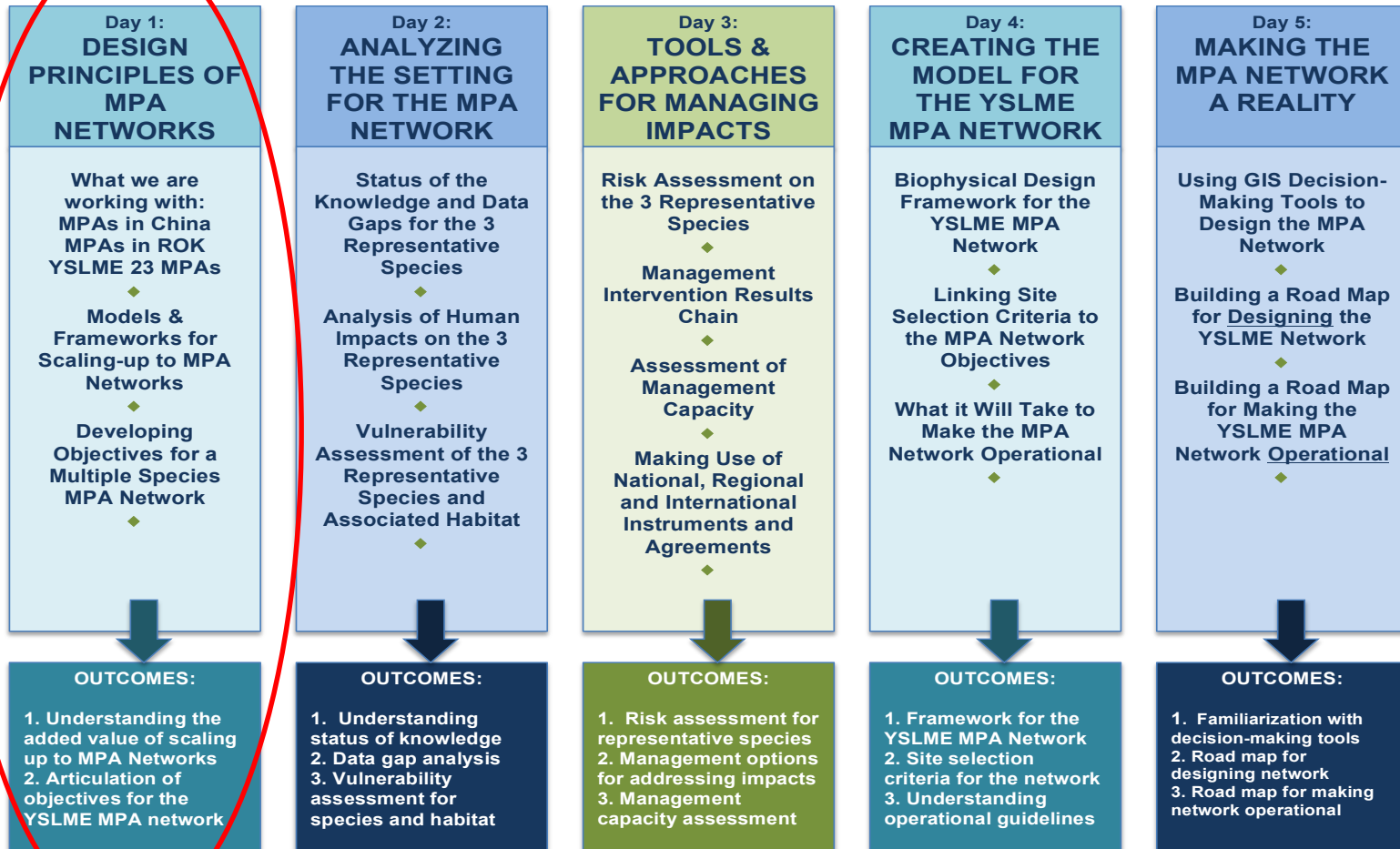
Day 3: Understanding **tools and approaches** for managing impacts on species and habitats

Day 4: **Creating the model** for the YSLME network

Day 5: Moving towards making the YSLME MPA network a reality



## DESIGNING A NETWORK OF MPAs *for the* YELLOW SEA LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEM Workshop Overview



# Day 1. Design Principles of MPA Networks

## Main goals and outcomes:

- Creation of an inventory of MPAs in the YS already established by the governments of PRC and ROK
- Understanding of their status, types of MPAs, what do they protect, articulation of the first draft of SMART objectives and a big picture of the YSLME MPA network

## Participants looked at what information as made available during the study undertaken and published by WWF, KORDI, and KEI in 2006

- The 23 Potential Priority Areas (PPAs) for conservation of the YS Ecoregion
- Information was gathered that can be useful now for the establishment of the YSLME MPA Network



# Day 1. Design Principles of MPA Networks

## 23 Potential Priority Areas (PPAs) for conservation of the YS Ecoregion

- Key steps in the process to make a determination of the location, size and distribution of the 23 PPAs
- Criteria or guidance provided to select each of the 23 PPA sites

## 4 categories covered by some of the 23 PPAs for 3 indicators are:

- **Key places** where life history stages take place are included (ecologically important areas)
- **Key habitats** associated with life history stages are included
- **Important migratory pathways or stopovers** are included
- Sites selected to address **priority human impacts** on this resource



# Table of Contents

## Day 1: Design Principles of MPA networks

### 1.1. Review of the 23 recommended YSLME PPAs

- YSLME PPA network assessment

### 1.2. Overview of China's existing MPAs in the YS

### 1.3. Overview of ROK's existing MPAs in the YS

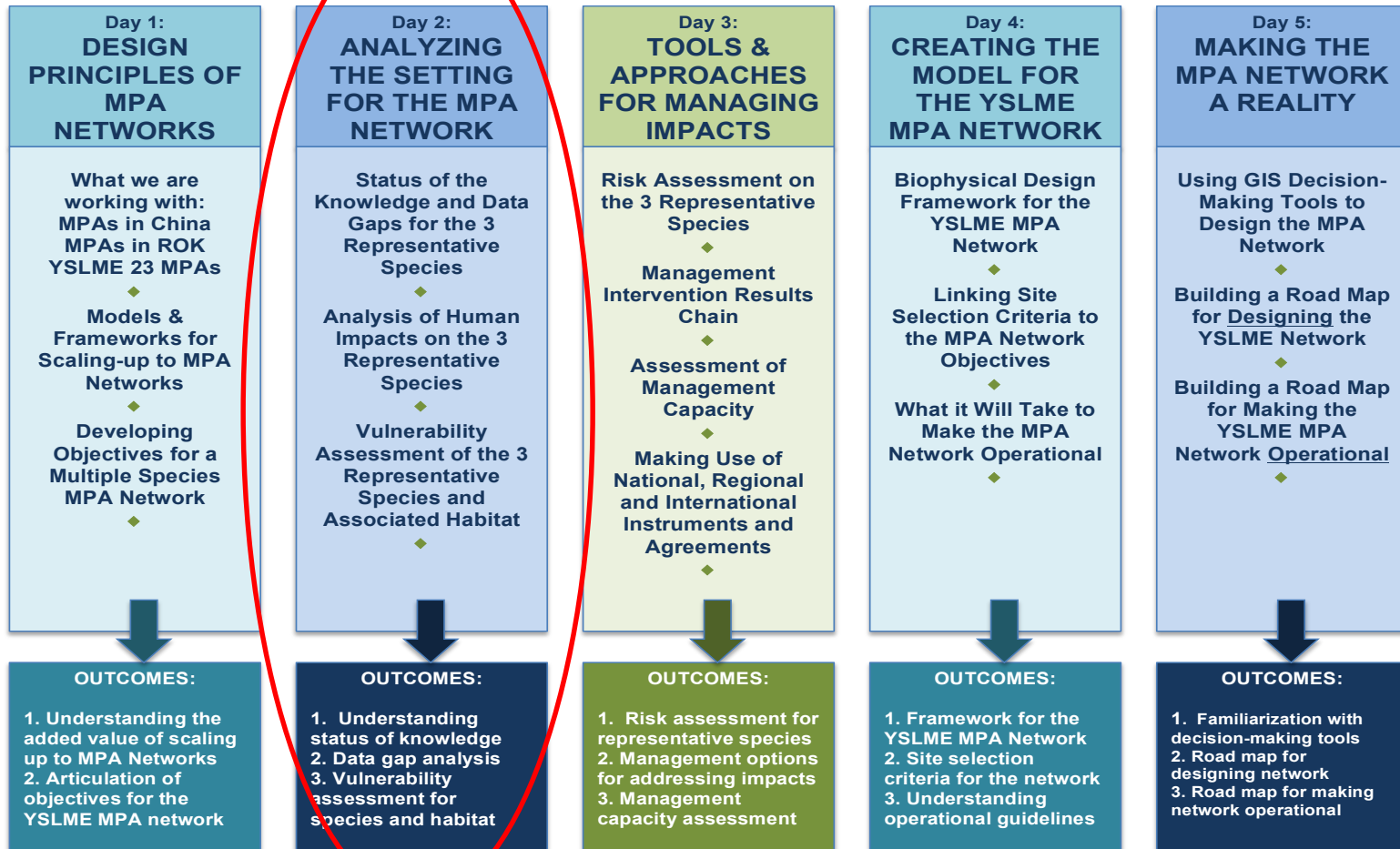
### 1.4. Identifying the gaps among the collective MPAs

- connectivity optimization
- key stages/places of life history of representative species captured
- replication of ecological (biophysical) features that support the health of the species
- adequate number of viable sites included



## DESIGNING A NETWORK OF MPAs *for the* YELLOW SEA LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEM

### Workshop Overview





# Day 2. Analyzing the Setting for the YSLME MPA Network

## Main goal

To understand significance of data for the design of an effective and functional MPA network

## Information that are crucial for MPA Network design

- Life history of the indicator species
- Habitat types associated with their life cycles
- Conditions of those habitats
- Conditions of target species
- Human use impacts



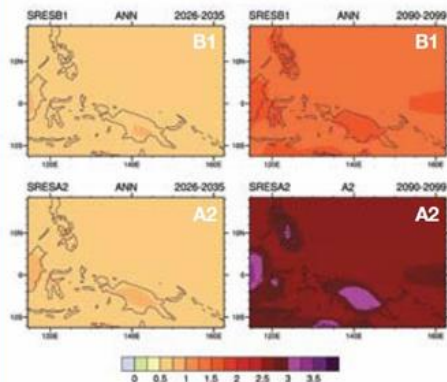
# Day 2. Analyzing the Setting for the YSLME MPA Network

## Why do we need information and data for planning efforts?

Network planning efforts must be able to successfully **integrate information about regional, national and global processes** such as sea level rise and temperature change, with local information about coastal land uses, marine ecosystems and socioeconomics

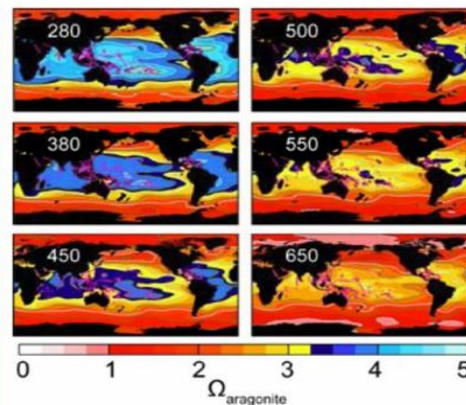
### Sea temperatures will increase

Figure 5: Trends in ocean temperature will continue and will intensify under both B1 and A2 (and A1B) scenarios. Multi-model annual mean surface temperature differences ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) for B1 (top row) and A2 (bottom row) for period 2026-2035 and 2090-2099 (relative to 1980-1999). (Data provided by Julie Arblaster based on Meehl et al., 2007).



### Ocean acidity will rise

Figure 6: Reef calcification will decrease to very low levels if atmospheric  $\text{CO}_2$  increases above 450 ppm. Projected changes in the aragonite saturation state (i.e. availability of calcium and carbonate ions required for calcification) of sea water as a function of atmospheric  $\text{CO}_2$  concentration (white number in each panel, ppm). The pink dots represent the current distribution of carbonate coral reef ecosystems. The regions suitable for coral reefs are defined by the blue areas – note that the conditions necessary for carbonate reef development contract to the equator (and the Coral Triangle) with increasing levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide (reprinted with permission from Science Magazine, Hoegh-Guldberg et al. 2007).



# Day 2. Analyzing the Setting for the YSLME MPA Network

## Existing data and current level of knowledge on

- Species coverage
- Critical life history stages and associated habitat
- Ecological conditions
- Socioeconomic activities



## State of the knowledge for each of the 3 representative species

- Objective: to layout basic life history and spatial requirements for three species
- Activities:
  - ✓ Identified information on 1) **distribution and abundance**; 2) **spatial depiction of critical life history stages**; 3) **associated habitat**; and 4) **major threats**
  - ✓ Used map to draw on spatial references to the above information





# Day 2. Analyzing the Setting for the YSLME MPA Network

## WORKSHEET 2.2: Identification of Data Gaps

Use the worksheet only for the purposes of identifying data gaps on a country-by-country basis. Each individual will use this as their own worksheet, then collectively your small team will prioritize data gaps for each country and put those results on a flip chart for sharing in plenary.

Check one species only:  SPOTTED SEAL     SPOON-BILLED SANDPIPER     YELLOW CROAKER

Country	POPULATIONS		DAY-TO-DAY SURVIVAL & MAINTAINING HEALTHY POPULATIONS		HUMAN USE ACTIVITIES	
	Distribution & Abundance	Critical Life History Stages	Associated Habitat Types	Associated Ecological Processes	Priority Threats	Effectiveness of Management Measures to Address Threats
1.						
2.						
3.						
4.						
5.						
6.						
7.						
8.						
9.						





# Day 2. Analyzing the Setting for the YSLME MPA Network

## WORKSHEET 2.3: Template for Data Sources

As you write down specific data sources in the matrix, also indicate the specific country this might be applicable to, if appropriate.

Check one species only:  SPOTTED SEAL  SPOON-BILLED SANDPIPER  YELLOW CROAKER

DATA SOURCES ↓	DATA NEEDS						
	Distribution & Abundance	Behavior – Critical Life History Stages	Associated Habitat Types	Associated Ecological Process	Human Use Impacts & Threats	Management Measures to Address Threats	Other
MODELS/ EXTRAPOLATIONS							
IN-SITU DATA							
SATELLITE DATA							
INDIVIDUAL AS SOURCE							
LITERATURE SOURCE							



# Day 2. Analyzing the Setting for the YSLME MPA Network

## State of the knowledge for each of the 3 representative species

- Activities:
  - ✓ Identified information on 1) distribution and abundance; 2) spatial depiction of critical life history stages; 3) associated habitat; and 4) major threats

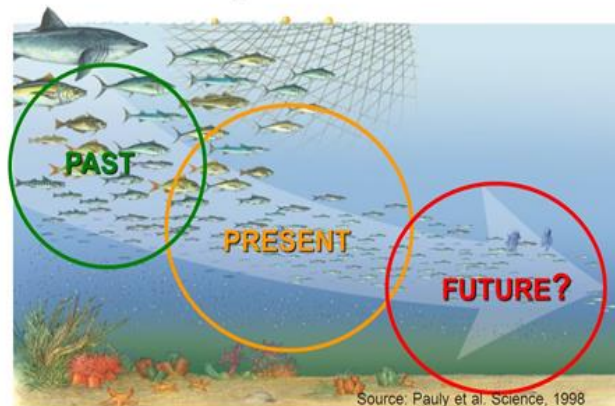
## Threats:

### Impacts from Fisheries

- Entanglement, bycatch, overfishing
- Decreasing fish stocks



“Fishing down the food chain”

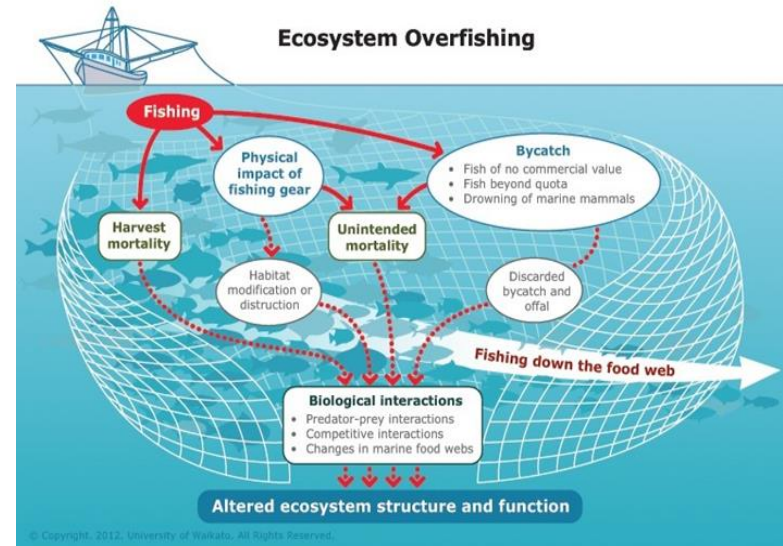


# Day 2. Analyzing the Setting for the YSLME MPA Network

## Threats:

### Impacts from Fisheries

- Entanglement, bycatch, overfishing
- Decreasing fish stocks
- Overfishing
- Impacts from Shipping

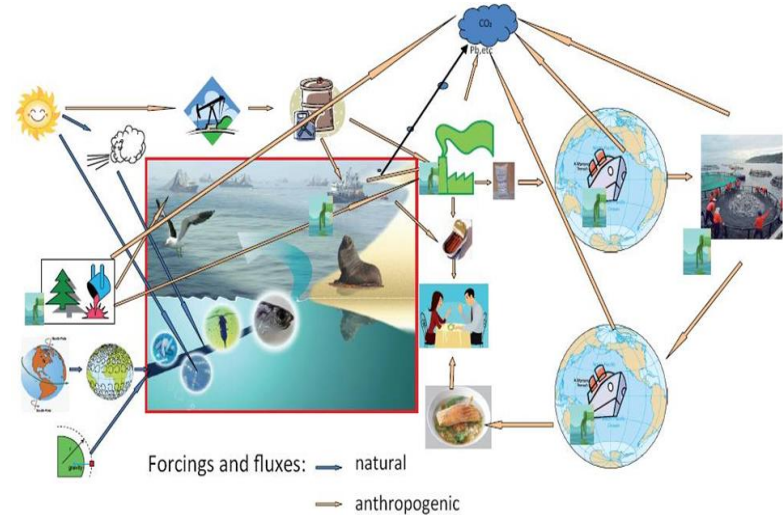


# Day 2. Analyzing the Setting for the YSLME MPA Network

## Threats:

### Impacts from Fisheries

- Entanglement, bycatch, overfishing
- Decreasing fish stocks
- Overfishing
- Impacts from Shipping
- Discharge of pollutants and invasive species, oil spills
- Climate Change
- Habitat loss
- Unsustainable mariculture





# Day 2. Analyzing the Setting for the YSLME MPA Network

## Impact Analysis:

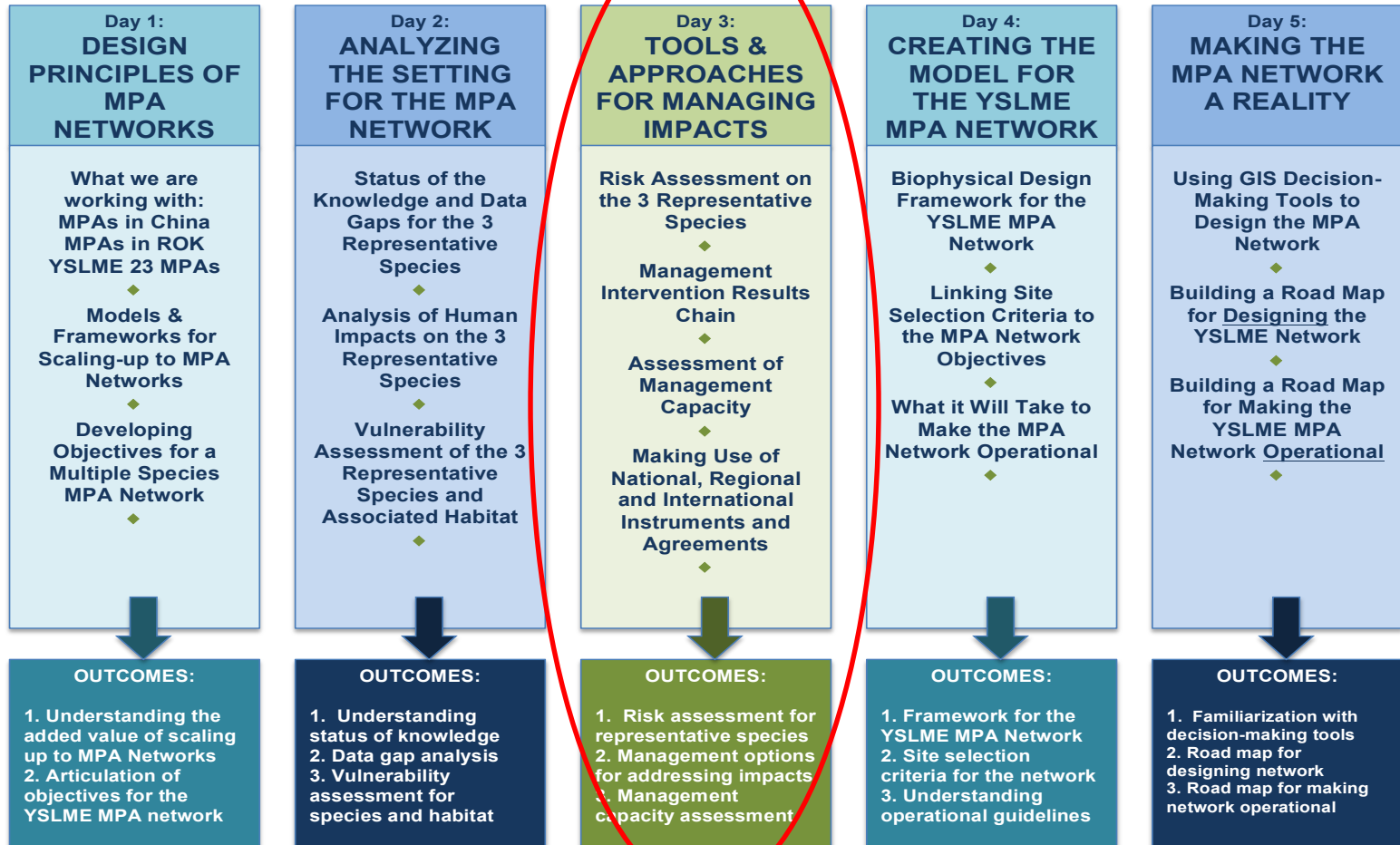
- Based on type of human use impact
- Intensity + frequency of the activity
- Level of impact as a result of the intensity frequency

## Resilience Analysis:

- Resists impact from human use activity
- Recovers from impact
- Irreversible impacts
- Resilience level (level of adaptability)



## DESIGNING A NETWORK OF MPAs *for the* YELLOW SEA LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEM Workshop Overview



# Day 3. Understanding tools and approaches for managing impacts on species and habitats

## Main goal

- To understand the **adaptive capacity of 3 species' key habitats**
- To get early calibration on what **management interventions** might be appropriate to addressing the impacts on 3 species

## Adaptive capacity of the 3 species' key habitats

- Adaptive capacity of different habitat types
  - Each habitats' response to the frequency and intensity of the impacts from human use (fragility and recovery rate)



# Day 3. Understanding tools and approaches for managing impacts on species and habitats

## Adaptive capacity of the 3 species' key habitats

### 1. Considerations for evaluation

- Extent, distribution and connectivity: geographical extent, integrity, continuity
- Past experience of recovery: rate of regeneration
- Value/importance: value ecologically or societally
- Physical diversity: diverse physical and topographical characteristics
- Biodiversity: level of diversity of component species and functional groups in a habitat



# Day 3. Understanding tools and approaches for managing impacts on species and habitats

## POSTER 3.1: Adaptive Capacity Assessment of Key Habitats (based on condition and response)

This is a rapid assessment of the status and condition of the "ecological potential" for each major habitat associated with key life cycle periods of your representative species. Review definitions for "ecological potential" terms in handout 1.3. Then, rate on a scale from 1-5 (see scoring interpretation at bottom of poster) for each habitat type. If you think your answers might vary considerably by stressor, consider evaluating the habitat for each stressor separately.

REPRESENTATIVE SPECIES:     Spotted Seal     Spoon-billed Sandpiper     Yellow Croaker

HABITAT TYPE	ECOLOGICAL POTENTIAL	SCORE	RATIONALE
1.	a. Extent, distribution & connectivity		
	b. Past evidence of recovery		
	c. Value/ importance		
	d. Physical diversity		
	e. Biodiversity		
	(divide total score by 5) TOTAL SCORE →		
2.	a. Extent, distribution & connectivity		
	b. Past evidence of recovery		
	c. Value/ importance		
	d. Physical diversity		
	e. Biodiversity		
	(divide total score by 5) TOTAL SCORE →		
3.	a. Extent, distribution & connectivity		
	b. Past evidence of recovery		
	c. Value/ importance		
	d. Physical diversity		
	e. Biodiversity		
	(divide total score by 5) TOTAL SCORE →		
4.	a. Extent, distribution & connectivity		
	b. Past evidence of recovery		
	c. Value/ importance		
	d. Physical diversity		
	e. Biodiversity		
	(divide total score by 5) TOTAL SCORE →		
5.	a. Extent, distribution & connectivity		
	b. Past evidence of recovery		
	c. Value/ importance		
	d. Physical diversity		
	e. Biodiversity		
	(divide total score by 5) TOTAL SCORE →		



# Day 3. Understanding tools and approaches for managing impacts on species and habitats

## 2. Management Intervention Results Chain

- Look at management approaches appropriate to the network of MPAs, and relevant to the stressors we are trying to address
- What does managing an MPA actually mean?
  - Have to **manage human interactions** with natural resources
- How do we manage human behavior?
  - Influence behavior** - Education; Voluntary compliance; and Best management practices
  - Modify behavior** – Regulations; Permits; Spatial restrictions; Temporal zones
  - Control behavior** – Prohibitions; Enforcement and recommendations to other authorities
  - Other measures: Economic incentives** – user fees etc.



# Day 3. Understanding tools and approaches for managing impacts on species and habitats

## 3. Assessment of Management Capacity

- The ability of effectively manage human use activities

### 1. Management potential

- ✓ Staff is well trained and technically competent
- ✓ Management is responsive and able to adapt to change
- ✓ Stakeholder support and engagement is strong
- ✓ Management is proactive rather than reactive
- ✓ Management engages in strong partnerships

### 2. Organizational capacity

- ✓ MPAs are backed by strong political will
- ✓ MPAs have the necessary authority, policy and regulations
- ✓ MPAs are supported by strong enforcement program
- ✓ MPAs are committed to monitoring and evaluation programs
- ✓ MPAs have sustainable financing mechanisms secured and in place



# Day 3. Understanding tools and approaches for managing impacts on species and habitats

## POSTER 3.3: MPA Management Adaptive Capacity

We will conduct this evaluation by MPA designation category (under what authority was this MPA designated as indicated horizontally across the top). Try to keep in mind your representative species to best understand how these different kinds of MPAs might address the types of impacts you are concerned with. To score each MPA type based on the evaluation criteria, review the scoring system at the bottom of the poster. You may work on this in plenary, as a whole group, or break into country groups. See scoring system at bottom of matrix.

Management Capacity Evaluation Criteria ↓	China MPA Designations					South Korea MPA Designations						
	SEPA	SOA	SFA	Prov. Gov	MOA	Marine Life Protected Area	Marine Ecologic Protected Area	Wetland Protected Area	Marine Environ Conserv	Fisheries Resource Protect	National, Province, Co. Park	Natural Heritage
<b>Management Potential</b>												
1. MPA staff are well trained and technically competent, providing sufficient time, understanding and dedication to effectively manage.												
2. MPA management is knowledgeable and responsive to change in the environment and able to adapt management approaches and actions during incidents or high periods of stress.												
3. Stakeholder relationships are strong and adaptable to changing situations in both the environment and MPA management.												
4. Management is proactive in its ability to identify, respond and adapt to changes before they become evident and an unmanageable problem.												
5. MPA management has strong partnership relationships with other transboundary or interagency entities, in which they work together to solve problems.												
<b>TOTAL SCORES →</b> (Management potential by MPA designation type)												





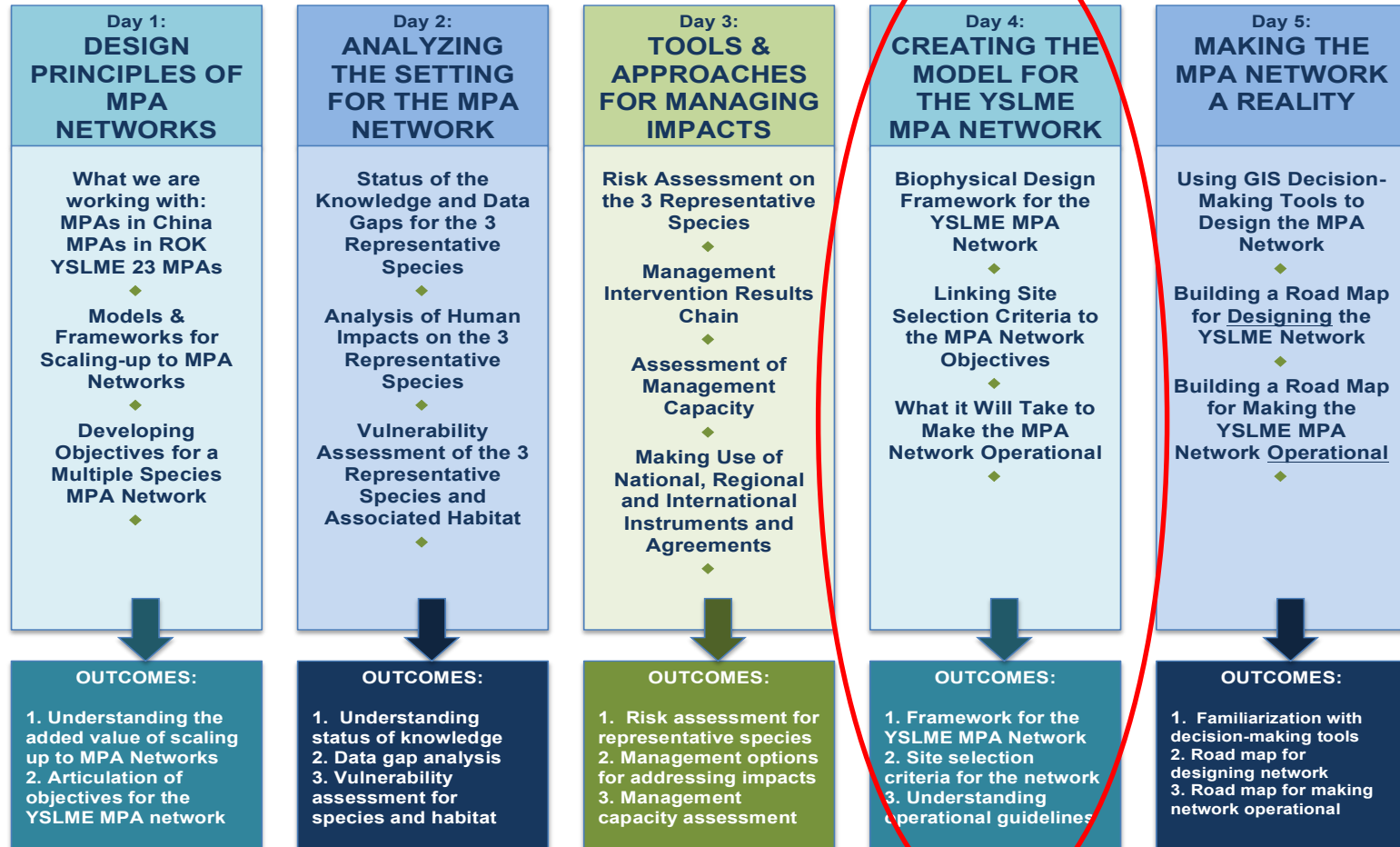
# Day 3. Understanding tools and approaches for managing impacts on species and habitats

## 5. Assessment of national, regional and international legal instruments and agreement

- 6 Categories of MPAs
  - Strict protection (e.g., Nature Reserve/ Wilderness Area)
  - Protection of ecosystem biodiversity and ecological structure (e.g., National Park)
  - Conservation of natural features (e.g., Natural or National Monument)
  - Conservation through active management (e.g., Habitat/Species management Area)
  - Landscape/seascape conservation and recreation (e.g., Protected Seascape)
  - Sustainable use of natural ecosystems (e.g., Managed Resource Protected Area)



## DESIGNING A NETWORK OF MPAs *for the* YELLOW SEA LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEM Workshop Overview



# Day 4. Creating the Model for the YSLME Network

## Main goal

- To design the **site selection criteria**

## Considerations of site selection

- Biophysical criteria (protecting key life history stages of 3 species, protecting critical habitats, and addressing areas of greatest impacts)
- Social criteria
- Governance criteria



# Day 4. Creating the Model for the YSLME Network

## MPA Site Selection: Ecological Consideration

- Recovery of fish stocks
- Exports of eggs, larvae and adults
- Protection and/or recovery of essential fish habitat
- Protection of threatened or endangered species
- Protect fisheries resources during critical stages such as spawning
- Build resilience for fisheries resources in the face of climate change

## MPA Site Selection: Socioeconomic Consideration

- Sustain livelihood opportunities
- Provide food security
- Provide opportunities for engagement in MPA management

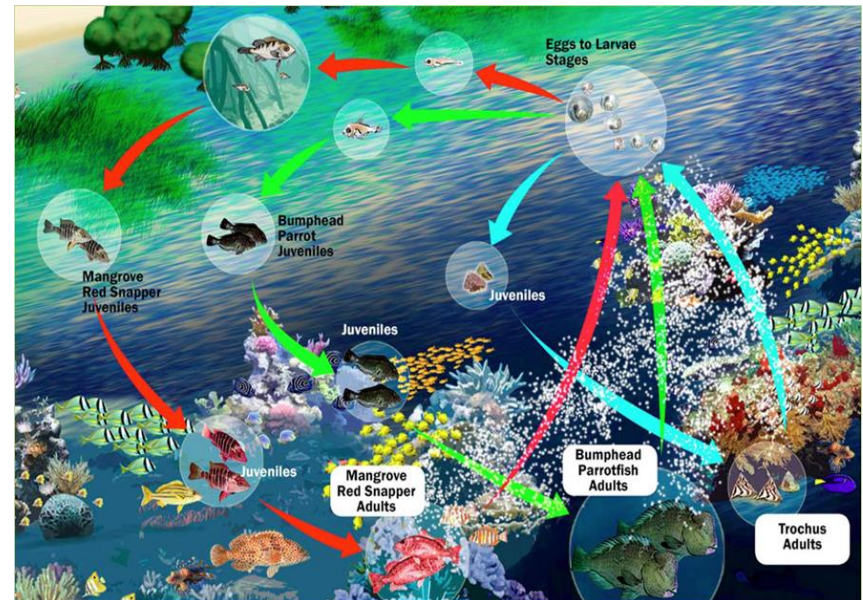


# Day 4. Creating the Model for the YSLME Network

## Ecological Consideration: **Habitats**



## Ecological Consideration: **Connectivity**



Each species of fish need different healthy habitats where it can eat, live, grow and reproduce  
To represent 20-40% of each habitat in the management area (Green et al., 2013)

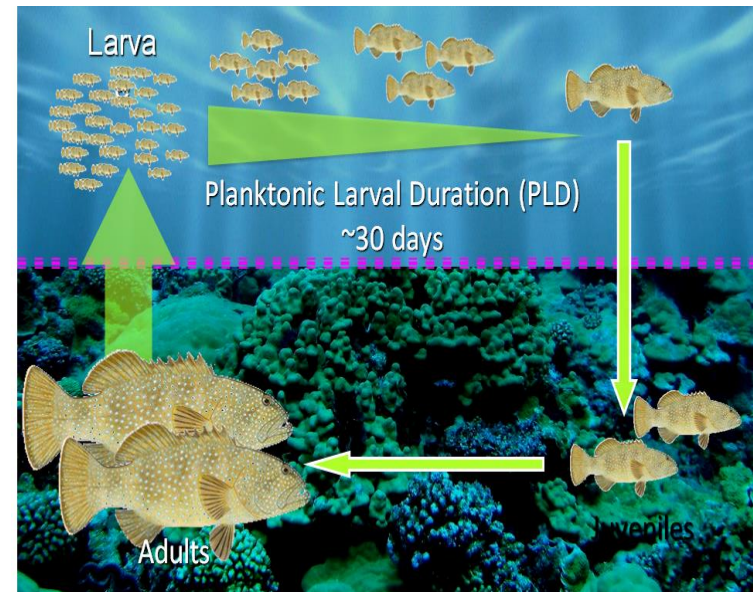


# Day 4. Creating the Model for the YSLME Network

Ecological Consideration: **Reproductive Stage**



Ecological Consideration: **Life history**

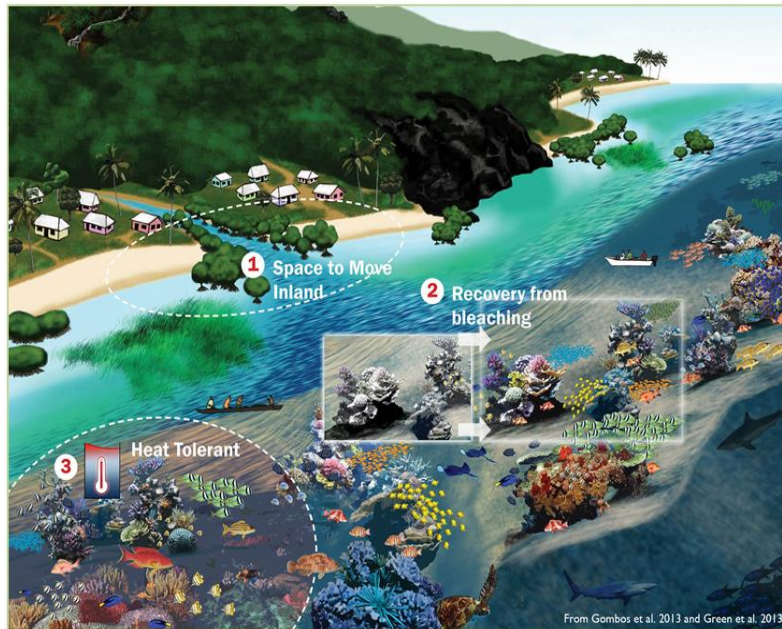


- Successful reproduction depends on location, numbers, body size and timing
- Since adults and juveniles are most vulnerable to fishing outside of MPAs, we **should set the size of MPAs according to movement patterns of adults/juvenile fishes**



# Day 4. Creating the Model for the YSLME Network

## Ecological Consideration: **Resiliency**



## Challenges of using MPAs for migratory species protection

- Size or scale required to protect highly migratory species is not typical of MPA models
- Habitat needs are fluid and difficult to define in terms of **providing place-based habitat protection for highly mobile species**
- May be **difficult to use the MPA management model as a means to address threats to highly migratory species**



# Day 4. Creating the Model for the YSLME Network

## MPA Management - Consideration

- Scientific
- Economic
- Social or cultural
- National & International
- Feasibility and practicality





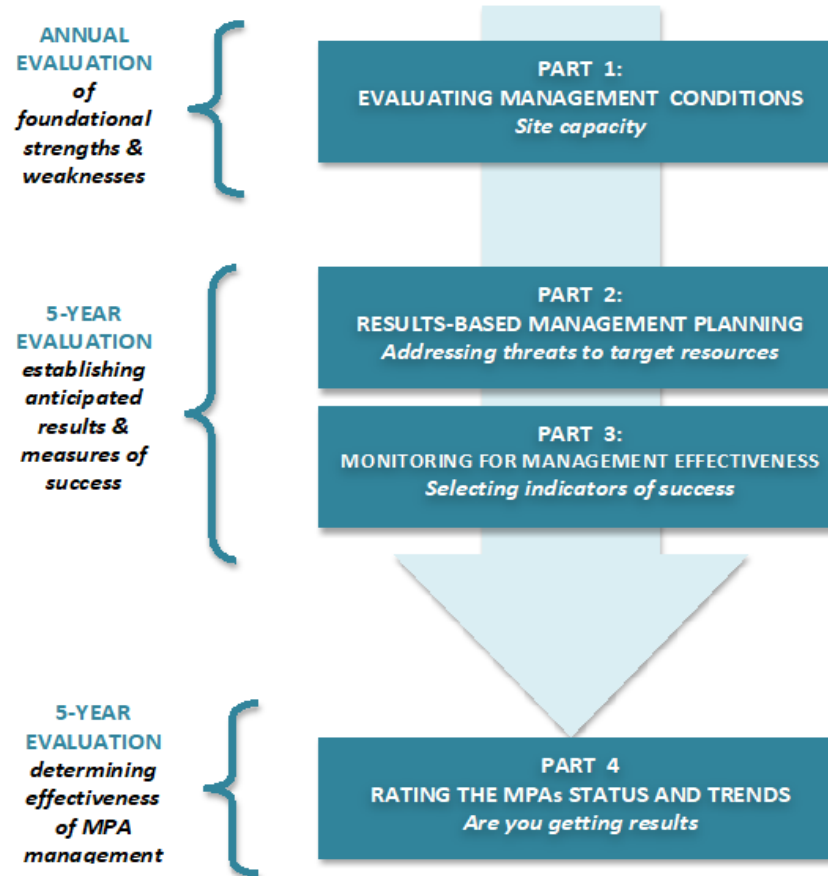
# Day 4. Creating the Model for the YSLME Network

## MPA Network Operational Process

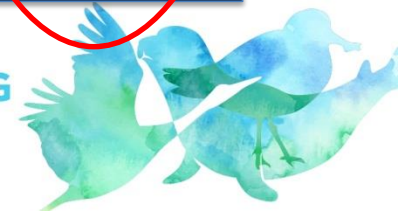
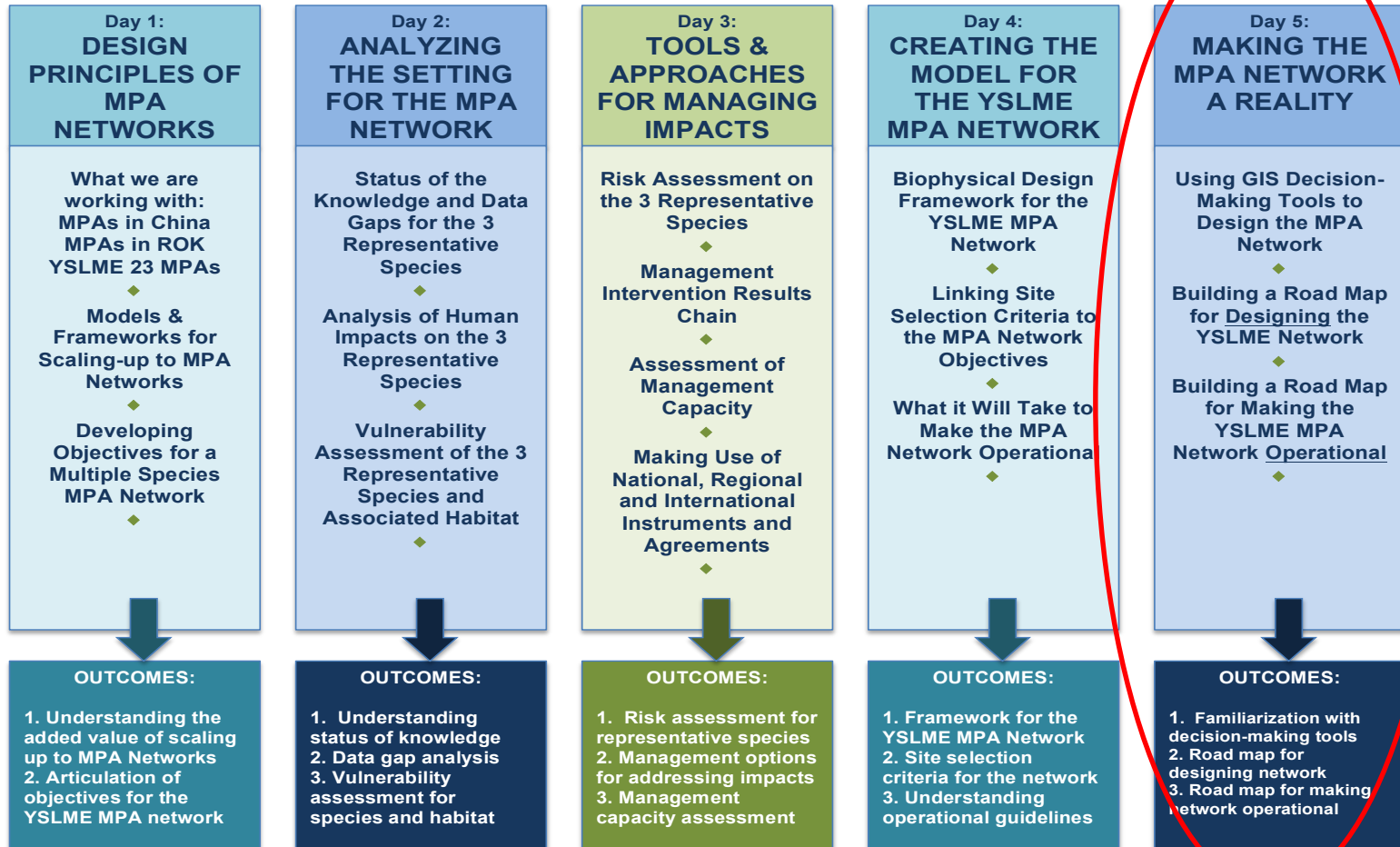


# Day 4. Creating the Model for the YSLME Network

## VIETNAM MPA NETWORK Management Effectiveness 4-Part Evaluation Program Model



## DESIGNING A NETWORK OF MPAs *for the* YELLOW SEA LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEM Workshop Overview

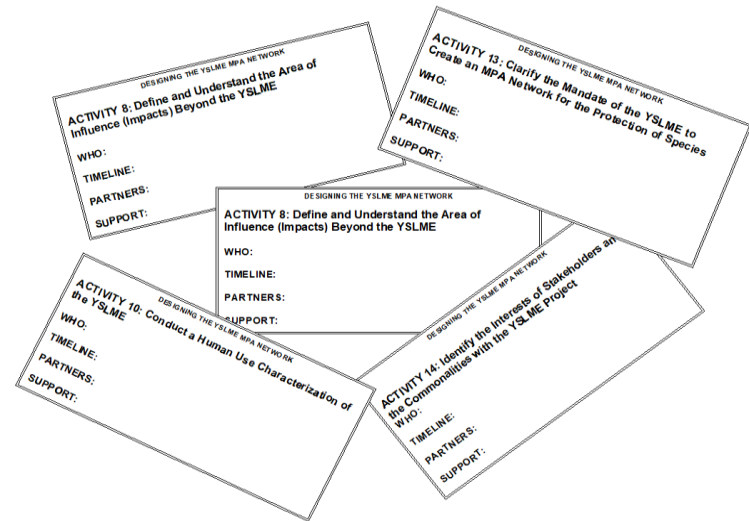
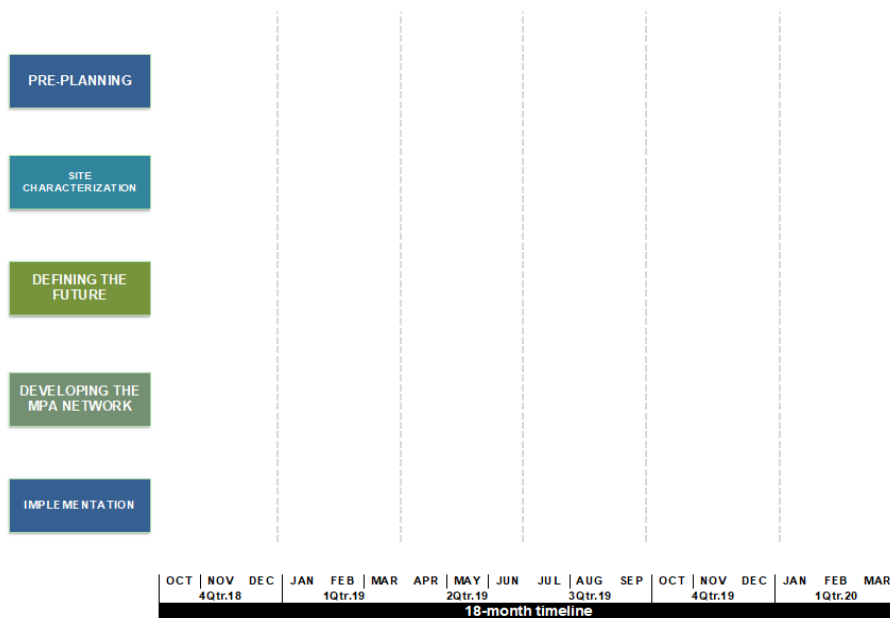


# Day 5. Moving towards making the YSLME MPA Network a Reality

## Main goal

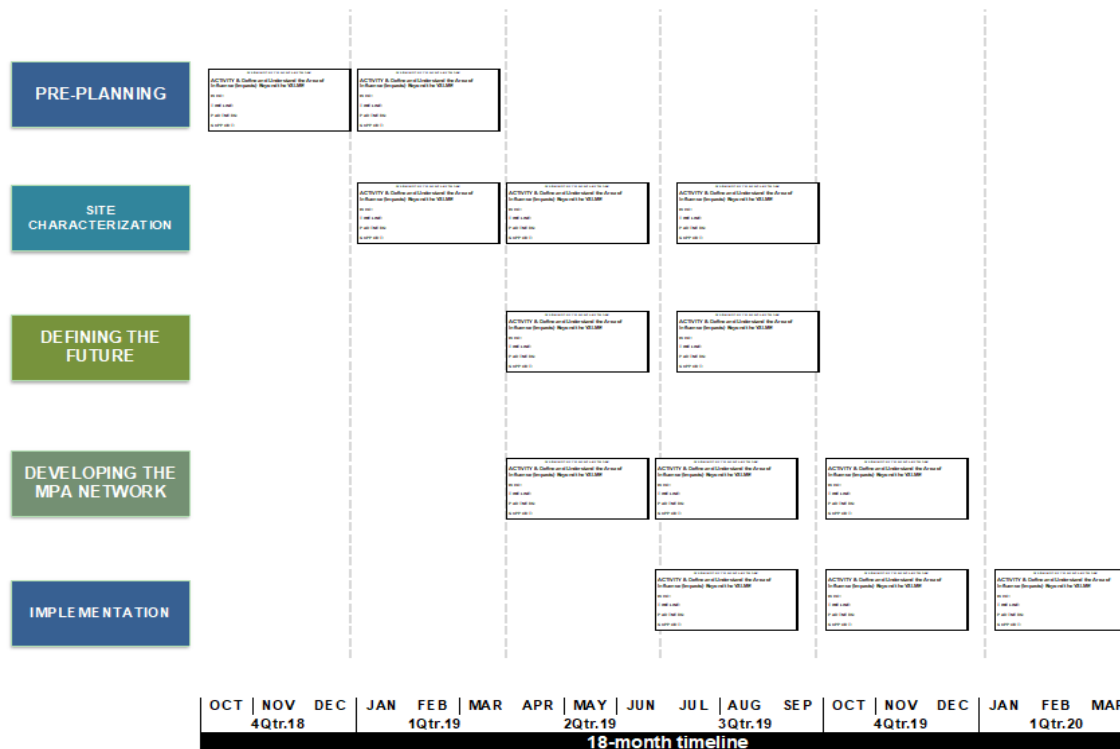
- To build a “Roadmap of process steps for making the YSLME MPA Network Operational”

WORKSHEET 5.1: Sample Road Map



# Day 5. Moving towards making the YSLME MPA Network a Reality

WORKSHEET 5.1: Sample Road Map



# Summary of 1<sup>st</sup> Regional WS on Designing a Network of MPAs for the YSLME Based on Biophysical Connectivity (July 2018, ROK)

## Major findings

- Prioritization of conservation efforts among the 23 PPAs is an emerging priority
- No baseline of MPA coverage in YS by PRC, ROK and DPRK makes it difficult for the **establishing a regional MPA network target** for the YS
- Gaps in conservation of known habitats of both spotted seal and SBS, and clear need for expanding current network of MPAs for both species
- Distribution of MPA coverage indicate areas where potential threats to marine biodiversity may be reduced by the creation of new MPAs. Monitoring the effectiveness of designated MPAs and analyzing how increasing coverage relates to the conservation of ocean biodiversity and productivity remain of high importance
- Needs to agree on assessment criteria of the effectiveness of YSLME MPA network



# Summary of 1<sup>st</sup> Regional WS

## Consensus made at the workshop

### Spotted Seal



- Priority activities are
  - ✓ **Joint surveys** to calibrate number of populations, distribution, migration routes
  - ✓ **Engagement and capacity development of DPRK**
  - ✓ **Establishing integrated management plan**
  - ✓ Information exchange and research with MPAs in Bohai Sea in light of ecological connectivity
  - ✓ Designating new MPAs or adoption and implementation of management measures
- Experts from MABIK and NIFS in ROK and Liaoning Ocean and Fisheries Research Institute ad FIO of PRC agreed to **prepare a joint proposal to monitor the migration of spotted seals**
- Collaboration with DPRK for monitoring and assessment of the species



# Summary of 1<sup>st</sup> Regional WS

## Consensus made at the workshop

### SBS

- Agreed activities are
  - ✓ **increasing the critical habitats by 30% in YS** by designating new MPAs
  - ✓ Improving the value of the MPAs by promoting visibility of site designated
  - ✓ **Establishing a committee under the framework of YSLME MPA network** to share data and experience
- Enhanced opportunities of financial support to NGOs through YSGP





# Summary of 1<sup>st</sup> Regional WS

## Recommendations of the workshop



### Small Yellow Croaker

- Protecting 30% of spawning grounds through designation as MPAs
- Adding value to product by avoiding overfishing
- Reducing the number of fishing vessels in line with national policy objectives to minimize fishing pressure





# YSLME MPA Networking Workshop

## Objectives

- *To familiarize with the theories and principles of MPA networking through biophysical connectivity*
- To review the progress of implementation of PCAs with FIO, NMEMC and YSFRI
- To build on the results and recommendations and follow-up actions suggested at the MPA training WS in Seocheon, ROK, *to discuss and agree on the objectives of the YSLME MPA Network focusing on spotted seals, small yellow croaker, SBS and processes for each group*

Thanks !

