



## Information Paper 3

### Session 3A: Community-Based Fisheries Management Monitoring

<b>Time allocated</b>	180 mins
<b>Session objectives</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To identify the various data, tools and processes applied for tracking CBFM in PICs.</li> <li>2. To identify what monitoring approach/protocol that are appropriate to the different context (i.e., community monitoring, communities with partners/government, government, and researchers) in order to understand the status of fisheries (stock or key species) and the (perceived) effectiveness of management</li> </ol>

#### Summary/Short description:

Session 3A covers two focal areas of work that are integral to the respective functioning of national CBFM programs on one hand and effective localised management on the other. As such, the session is structured in two blocks, the first focusing on **Tracking of CBFM** and the second on **CBFM Monitoring** in the region. The former relates to broader programmatic tracing of changes in CBFM status (i.e. governance application focus), while the latter relates more specifically to monitoring approaches that seek to understand the impact of CBFM on fisheries resources (i.e. management application focus).

Firstly, the tracking of active CBFM across large areas involves understanding the status of effective management in a country or constituency. Metrics like presence of managed areas, active adaptation of rules and interventions, decision making processes in place, enforcement of rules, visits by national agencies etc are all useful in indicating levels of action. Utilising the Framework for Action<sup>1</sup> and the associated biannual review of CBFM implementation offers a structural approach to reporting on status of CBFM in the region. The session will seek to understand what kind of tracking programs are being applied by countries across the region. Three breakout groups by region/cluster and a fourth by NGOs, will report on experiences in this field. Plenary discussions will build on breakout group results to capture (i) challenges in ensuring accurate and up-to-date tracking occurs and is sustained, and (ii) potential means to align diverse approaches into a meaningful regional reporting system (and why this is important).

Secondly, CBFM monitoring refers to the actions, tools and processes that are applied to follow changes in a fishery productivity, environmental health, functionality of a human system etc, as a result of management intervention (or otherwise e.g., natural disasters, significant climate

<sup>1</sup> <https://purl.org/spc/digilib/doc/yr5yv>



effects). Conventional fisheries management tools looking at stock assessments and maximum sustainable yield applications, while proven useful for informing single species (commercial) fisheries, have been less effective in guiding what are diverse, dynamic and complex community fisheries contexts. In collaboration with SPC and UOW, a consultant has been tasked to carry out a review of CBFM monitoring tools and initiatives being applied across the region. This feeds into the dual objective of (i) identifying synergies and opportunities for adoption of methods elsewhere, and (ii) establishing structural approaches by which to more (cost-)effectively allocate different forms of monitoring based on need and feasibility. The session will present some preliminary results of a regional review, which will furthermore feed into breakout groups with specific prompting questions to guide groups discussion and feedback on a proposed approach.