Marine Protected Areas as part of an Ecosystem Approach to Management

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Integrating MPAs and Place-Based Management into EAM

- Background on PAME’s MPA activities
- Focus on how PAME MPA Expert Group is working to integrate knowledge
- Examples of place-based conservation and EAM
Elements of an Ecosystem Approach

- Actions must be based on clear objectives
- Development activities coordinated in a way that minimizes their impact on the environment
- Integrates thinking across environmental, socioeconomic, political and sectoral realms
- Focused on realistic, practical steps to reduce environmental damage, protect biodiversity and promote the health and prosperity of local communities
- Requires research, monitoring and reporting
- Employs a coordinated, regional approach
Marine Protected Areas

- One of PAME’s six expert groups
- Collaboration with CAFF
- Dedicated MPA webpage
  (https://pame.is/index.php/projects/marine-protected-areas)
Marine Protected Areas
Arctic Protected Areas: Indicator Report

- Inventory mapping of existing Arctic MPAs (national input)
- Status and trends of marine and terrestrial protected areas in the circumpolar Arctic.
Arctic Protected Areas: Indicator Report

- 11.4% Total protected
- 4.7% Marine areas
- 20.2% Terrestrial areas

Cooperation with UNEP
- compare with ProtectedPlanet.com data
- 4.7% increased to 5.9%

Carsten Egevang/ARCPIC.com
Protected Areas: Status and Trends

**Figure 2:** Trends in terrestrial and marine protected area coverage within the CAFF boundary, 1900-2016.
MPA Network Toolbox

• **Objective:**
  – To inform decision-makers, practitioners, Indigenous peoples, and stakeholders involved in developing MPA networks and ecosystem-based management in the marine Arctic (MPAs and "other measures").
  – Focuses on “other measures" as additional tools for designing Arctic MPA networks.
  – Summarizes key findings and next steps, as well as case studies.

The focus is not on definitions or targets, but on the utility of area-based measures – both MPAs and “other measures” for achieving desired network conservation objectives and outcomes.
A cross-disciplinary approach among scientists, managers, indigenous experts to inform and foster MPA networks

Exploring ways to support Indigenous/Local involvement in, and Indigenous/Local led, marine protection in the circumpolar Arctic Ocean
Indigenous Communities and MPAs Workshop

• Sponsored by PAME and Government of Canada in March 2019
• Discussion focused on MPAs, but relevant to other Arctic Council efforts
• Strong theme of communication and inclusion of indigenous communities in policy decisions
• Need for greater indigenous involvement in PAME’s MPA efforts
• Concept of "Code of Conduct for Policymakers" on how to interact with local communities
• Need for relationship building and the need for real and meaningful consultation and engagement with local communities
Fact Sheets on MPAs Under Change

- Synthesize scientific information on climate impacts to MPAs in the Arctic, and the role of MPA networks in building resilience
- Synthesize information on impacts of change on indigenous people
Example 1: Place-based conservation and EAM IMO Areas to be Avoided – Bering Sea

- Expecting 100-500% increase in vessel traffic by 2025
- Measures enhance shipping safety
- ATBAs around Nunivak Island, St. Lawrence Island, and King Island
  - Protect sensitive areas and wildlife
  - Protect traditional hunting areas
- US requested – based on US Coast Guard’s Port Access Route Study, with extensive consultation from local communities
- Voluntary, with high rate of compliance
Example 2: Place-based conservation and EAM Conflict Avoidance Areas in the Beaufort Sea

- Goal is to balance development with subsistence
- Provides guidelines for energy industry to avoid and mitigate impacts of oil and gas industry on subsistence whaling (e.g. avoiding aircraft and vessels in whaling areas)
- Relies on local ecological knowledge and western science
Example 3: Examples of Recent Country-based Progress on MPAs

- **Canada**: established Tallurutiup Imanga - Lancaster Sound National Marine Conservation Area with the Nunavut Government and the Qikiqtani Inuit Association in 2017, the country’s largest MPA at 109,000 mi2.
- **Russia**: working to expand MPA network (with WWF-Russia)
- **US**: Established community-based nomination process, resulting in first proposal from Alaska (St. George, Pribilofs)
Next Steps

Projects for PAME 2019-2021 Work Plan

• MPA Toolbox (expansion/refinement) based on recent workshops
• Finalizing workshop report from Indigenous People and MPAs
• Connectivity study: Modelling the biological connectivity and optimum design of Marine Protected Areas within the Arctic
• Further work between CAFF and PAME to update the Indicator Report
• Production of communication materials, including factsheets


3rd MPA Workshop: Scientific considerations of how Arctic Marine Protected Area (MPA) networks may reduce negative effects of climate change and ocean acidification (Finland, Sep 2017).