Ocean Accounting and Management for a Resilient Blue Economy

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Webinar: Ocean Accounting – Novel approaches to Ocean Governance

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Ocean accounting and Marine Spatial planning (or ICZM)

MSP typically

- emphasize stakeholder engagement and biophysical sustainability,
- much weaker on economic tradeoffs & impacts

Ocean accounts: link economic and biophysical assessments, critical for

- 1. Designing MSP
- 2. Guiding implementation of MSP
- 3. Obtaining sustainable financing for implementation of MSP





Ocean Accounting in MSP Design Stage

Address Priorities of Oceanic Sectors and Finance

- Demonstrate how the economy benefits from better management of Blue Natural Capital: jobs, income, including fiscal benefits from avoided natural disasters
- Evaluate tradeoffs for options under MSP including distribution of benefits—not everyone benefits equally from the seascape, and not all may support reforms
- Identify the costs/benefits of the reforms/interventions needed

Private Sector Involvement/Support

 Economic info about costs/benefits needed to mobilize private sector investment, finance that is sustainable over time





Ocean Accounting for MSP Implementation

Ocean accounts as key part of Monitoring & Evaluation framework: is MSP working out as designed?

Best done w/consistent and systematic socio-economic framework linked to biophysical framework for

- Monitoring over time (key indicators, definition of spatial units, stakeholders, units of measure, etc.)
- Ability to revise MSP for changed goals/ unexpected outcomes as needed

Not just a one-off assessment based on ad hoc data!





Ocean Accounting and Sustainable Financing

Financing for implementation -- policy reforms, investments needed for transition to Blue Economy

Government and conservation financing is part of the funding strategy—not sufficient/not always sustainable

Partnership between private sector and govt/communities/NGOs builds broader, more diversified funding strategy

Ocean accounts contribute to the economic assessment private sector needs to see for investments





Thank you!

https://www.worldbank.org/en/programs/problue



