



Marine Sustainability: Socio-Economic Outcomes of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECMs)

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Marine protected areas (MPAs) have been widely studied in terms of their ecological outcomes. However, cultural, social, and economic impacts of MPA implementation are much less understood but are central for MPA creation and management. Recent studies are evidencing the lack of such assessments as well as the importance of understanding the outcomes of different protection measures. Protection levels are associated with different ecological results, yet they are also expected to deliver diverse social, economic, and cultural outcomes, as these often rely on ecosystems' health. Other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) are areas delivering conservation outcomes, even when primary objectives are not conservation-related. These are being increasingly valued as legitimate area-based mechanisms with ecological but also social, economic, and cultural roles. The SI aims to contribute evidence on social, economic, and cultural outcomes, likely relying on positive ecological results, of different protection and management regimes of MPAs and OECMs. Submitted papers can include empirical case studies, assessments, reviews, meta-analyses, and models.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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