

An underwater photograph of an artificial reef structure. The structure is a large, dark, rectangular block partially covered in coral and other marine life. The water is a deep blue, and the lighting is somewhat dim, highlighting the textures of the coral and the structure. The overall scene is a rich, diverse ecosystem.

## **PART B:**

**How and why artificial reefs meet their goals socially and ecologically?**

Jessica SALAÜN



**Ph.D in Geography and spatial planning** (March 2022) - Paul Valéry Montpellier 3 University  
**Geologist Engineer** (2013) - Master 2 equivalent at Institut Polytechnique LaSalle Beauvais  
**Scientific divers certificate** (Classe I B)

## Ph.D student CIFRE (2019-2022)

LAGAM (Geography laboratory), M2C et Paul Valéry Montpellier 3 University

- Social-ecological approach in order to assess coastal project with artificial reefs.
- Quantification of social-ecological benefits, suggesting monitoring indicators
- Sociological investigation by interviews of 134 stakeholders and network analysis
- Trophic network modelling
- Management of the scientific monitoring program of artificial reefs,
- Research and development of scientific project on artificial reef
- Outreach initiative and teaching on the functioning of coastal ecosystems

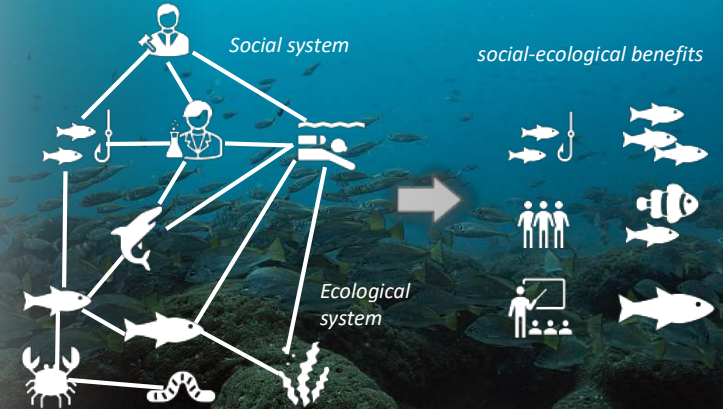


LABORATOIRE  
DE GEOGRAPHIE ET D'AMENAGEMENT  
DE MONTPELLIER



### « Development of a methodology to assess social and ecological Projects with Artificial Reefs »

Comprehensive Evaluation Approach Integrating Stakeholder Networks and Trophic Networks



**Better Control the Effects of Interventions on the Socio-Ecological System  
Improve Their Performance by Combining Social and Ecological Benefits**



**Ph.D in Geography and spatial planning** (March 2022) - Paul Valéry Montpellier 3 University  
**Geologist Engineer** (2013) - Master 2 equivalent at Institut Polytechnique LaSalle Beauvais  
**Scientific divers certificate** (Classe I B)

## Post-doc (2023-2024)

EPHE, Labex Corail, Criobe, CNRS

- Social-ecological system approach to ensure sustainable management of **MPA** on coral reef systems
- Characteristics of the coral reef social-ecological systems of french overseas territories
- Identifying mechanisms to set up enabling conditions and ensure effectiveness of conservation in coral reef system
- Sociological investigation by interviews of 87 stakeholders in French Polynesia



École Pratique  
des Hautes Études



CRIOBE



## Characteristics of the coral reef social-ecological systems on French overseas territories

### OBJECTIVES

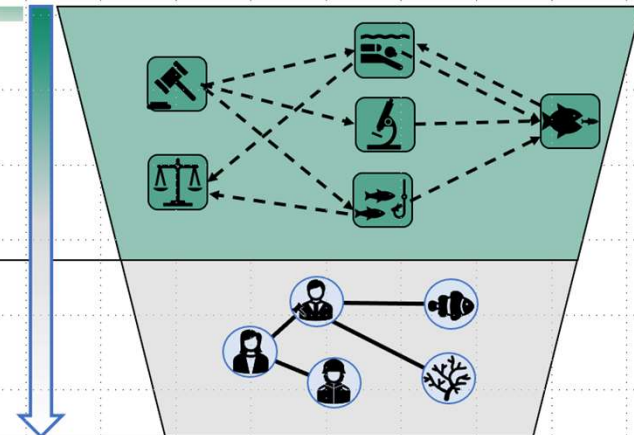
Understand how ensure effective area-based conservation for the entire coral reef social-ecological system.

#### 1. **Process:** linked between **actions**

Which synergetic actions ensured social-ecological outcomes in coral reef systems ?

#### 2. **Factor:** governance

What are **governance characteristics** that fit for coral reef social ecological systems ?



# RECENT RESEARCH CONFIRM A SYSTEMIC APPROACH FOR AR SUCCESS



Journal of  
**Coastal Research**  
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Article | [Open access](#) | Published: 17 August 2021

## Successful artificial reefs depend on getting the context right due to complex socio-bio-economic interactions

[Timothée Brochier](#) , [Patrice Brehmer](#), [Adama Mbaye](#), [Mamadou Diop](#), [Naohiko Watanuki](#), [Hiroaki Terashima](#), [David Kaplan](#) & [Pierre Auger](#)



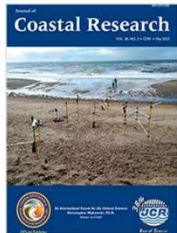
ORIGINAL ARTICLE | [Open Access](#) |  

## Global synthesis of effects and feedbacks from artificial reefs on socioecological systems in recreational fisheries

[Lisa Chong](#) , [Zachary A. Siders](#), [Kai Lorenzen](#), [Robert N. M. Ahrens](#), [Edward V. Camp](#)

First published: 22 December 2023 | <https://doi.org/10.1111/faf.12809> 

Volume 38, Issue 3  
May 2022



RESEARCH ARTICLES | MAY 02 2022

### Socio-Ecological Analysis to Assess the Success of Artificial Reef Projects



[Jessica Salaün](#) ; [Sylvain Pioch](#); [Jean-Claude Dauvin](#)

*Journal of Coastal Research* (2022) 38 (3): 624–638.

<https://doi.org/10.2112/JCOASTRES-D-21-00072.1> [Article history](#) 

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 Tools ▾

### ABSTRACT

Salaün, J.; Pioch, S., and Dauvin, J.-C., 2022. Socio-ecological analysis to assess the success of artificial reef projects. *Journal of Coastal Research*, 38(3), 624–638. Coconut Creek (Florida), ISSN 0749-0208.

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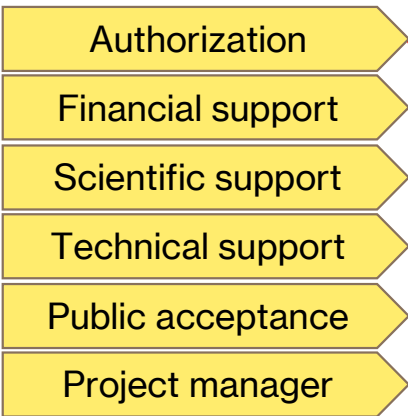
— I/ THE SOCIAL AND ECOLOGICAL GOALS OF ARTIFICIAL REEFS

© sylvain blouet

# The requirements for building AR projects lead to the identification of social and ecological interests

## 1-Requirements for the project

Social requirements:



Ecological requirements:



## 2-Stakeholders involved

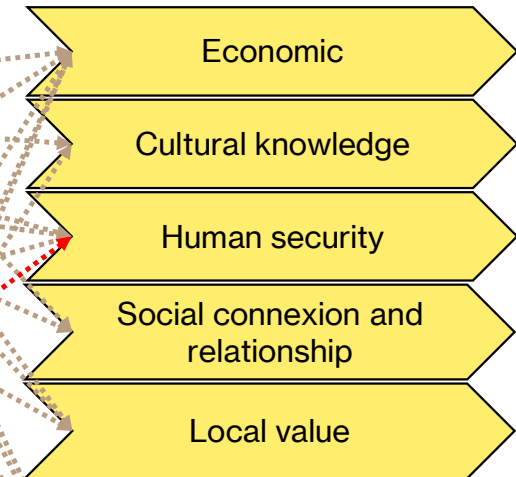
Category of stakeholder	Type of stakeholder
Civil society	Commercial businesses
	Environmental organizations
	Leisure organizations
	Fishermen's organizations
	Non-profit organizations
	Unorganized individuals
Local authorities	Municipality
	Interlinked municipalities
	County
	Region
National authorities	Decentralized service
	Public institutions (Laboratories, research institutes, water agencies, chambers of commerce, marine parks)
	Agencies (Environment and marine)
International	European institutions
	Other countries
Marine Fauna and flora	Marine mammals, seabirds, fishs, benthic fauna, etc.



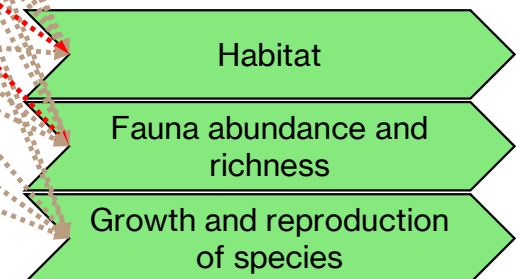
Ramos et al., Braz. Journ. Oce., 2011; Salaün et al., JCR, 2021

## 3-Human and non-human interests

Social interest:

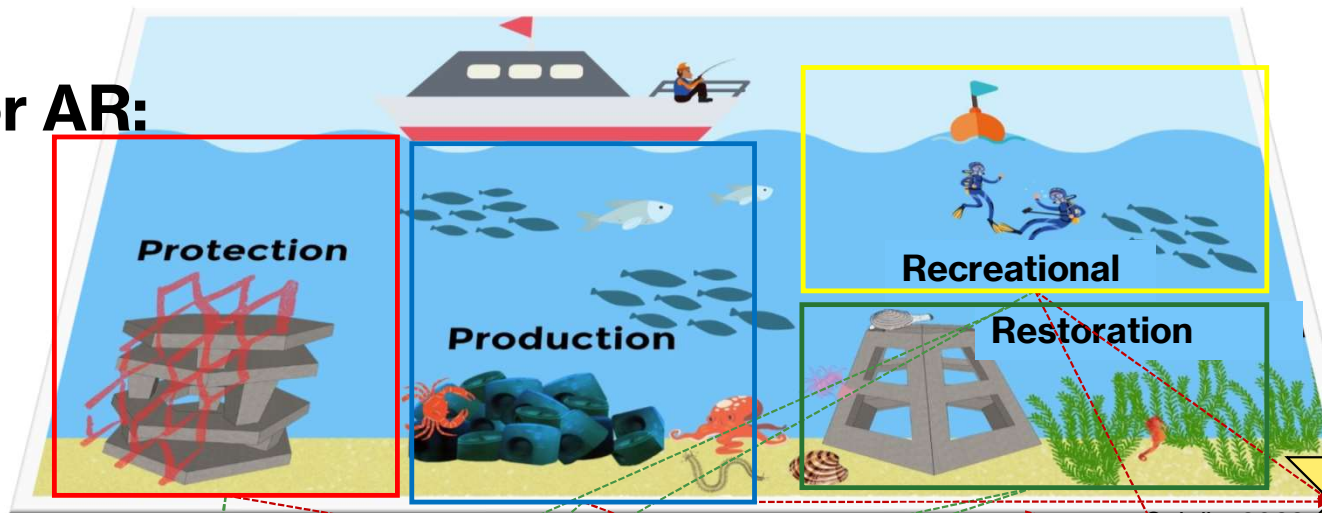


Ecological interest:

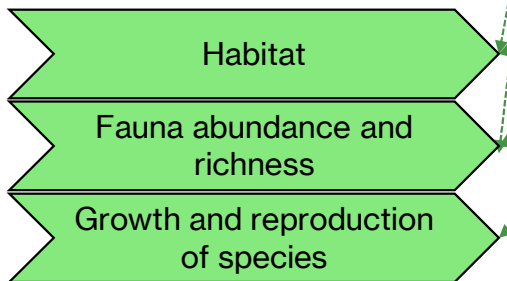


# The social and ecological interests under the main goals of ARs

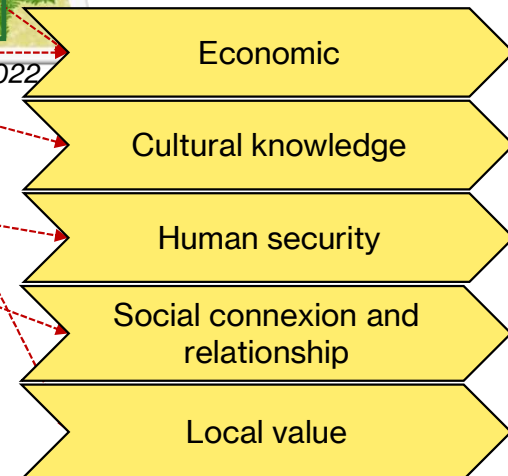
4 goals for AR:



Ecological interest:



Social interest:





II/ ASSESSMENT:  
A KEY CORE POINT FOR MANAGERS



# Why do an AR assessment and for whom?

## Aims of assessment:

Determine whether or not the ARs fulfilled their “intentional” goals.

Assess the efficiency and impact of artificial reefs:

- Social & ecological
- Cost/effectiveness.

## Targeted stakeholders:

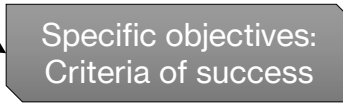
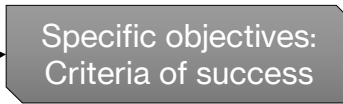
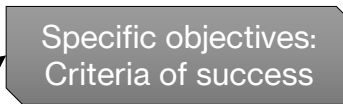
- Decision makers,
- Environmental Agencies,
- Local Governments,
- users (fishing communities, tourism operators, etc.),
- marine biologists.



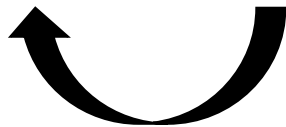
# Assessment Framework: principles

## 1. Need to specify general goals:

Which species (commercial or non comm.) ?  
 Which social and ecological interest (economic, tourism, habitat)?  
 How many? What threshold for success or failure?



## 2. Choose indicators adapted to specific objectives: 3. Monitor and record the data: objectives:



Global assessment of ARs results



Compare the indicator value to the criteria of success



Analyze the results and calculate the indicators

## 4. Assess and validate success or failure:

# Specific objectives

(depend of each stakeholders and their interests)

## Specific objectives:

- ❑ **Example of ecological impact:** invasive species, pollution, topographic perturbation
- ❑ **Management decision:** conflict, compliance, etc.

## Indicators:

- ❑ **Example of ecological indicators:** species diversity, abundance, and biomass around the artificial reef, etc.
- ❑ **Example of social indicators:** income, number of users, scientific insights, communication, etc.

# Monitoring tools

## **Examples of existing guideline:**

-FAO, 2015: « *Practical guidelines for the use of artificial reefs in the mediterranean and the black sea* » (Fabi et al., 2015)

-Southeast Florida Coral Reef Initiative, 2011: « *Guidelines and Management Practices for Artificial Reef Siting* », Use, Construction, and Anchoring in Southeast Florida (Lindberg, W.J. and W. Seaman (editors) 2011)

## **Ecological monitoring:**

Fishing survey, Underwater Visual Census (diving), video survey, acoustic survey, etc.

## **Social monitoring:**

Questionnaire, interviews, perception of stakeholders, economical monitoring, spatial identification (AIS), etc.



# « Typical » assessments

---

- **Verifying Colonization and Development:**

Focus on fish community development and benthic fauna **colonization** (Folpp et al., 2011).

- **Comparing Habitat Quality:**

Assess if ARs offer habitat quality **comparable to natural reefs** (Page et al., 2007; Hallier and Gaertner, 2008).

- **Comparing Different AR:**

Determine which ARs **design characteristics** are most effective and provide the greatest environmental benefit (Dafforn et al., 2015; Firth et al., 2016).

# Lack of holistic assessment: French example

## What is done in the field ? e.g. for French Artificial Reefs

Monitoring	English Channel	Atlantic Ocean	Méditerrananean sea
Structural integrity	100%	55%	59%
Hydrodynamic conditions	0%	22%	NA
Fish fauna (Abundance/Richness)	100%	55%	59%
Benthic invertebrates fauna (A/R)	66%	44%	NA
Commercial fauna (size, weight, number of species)	0%	33%	NA
Human activities	0%	22%	NA


NA : non sufficient available information  
Salaün, PhD thesis, 2022


- ▶ **Average monitoring lasts 3 to 5 yrs**
- ▶ **30% of ARs** had not been monitored for the last 5 yrs (in 2022)
- ▶ The most frequent monitoring focuses on **fish communities and the structural integrity of ARs**

# Assessment issues provide barriers to ARs social and ecological success

## Assessment issues:

 **Lack of social data**  
(Milon et al., 2000; Ramos et al., 2007; Lee et al., 2018)

 **Lack of clear and quantitative goal**  
(Becker et al., 2018)

 **Complexity of habitats**  
(Vivier et al., 2021; Lee et al., 2018; Lima et al., 2020)

Social assessment

Ecological assessment

## Social interest:



Not measured

Economic

Cultural knowledge

Human security

Social connexion and relationship

Local value

## Ecological interest:



Partially measured

Habitat

Fauna abundance and richness

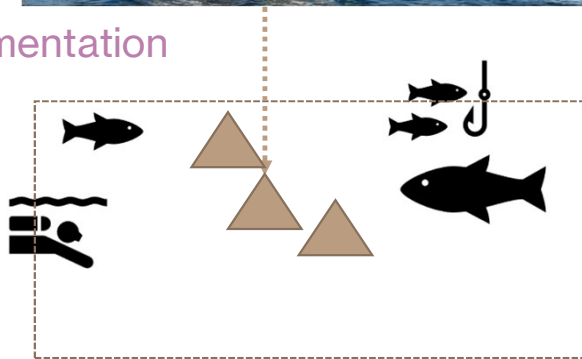
Growth and reproduction of species

# Why social and ecological assessments matter?

Interlinked dependencies:



ARs Implementation

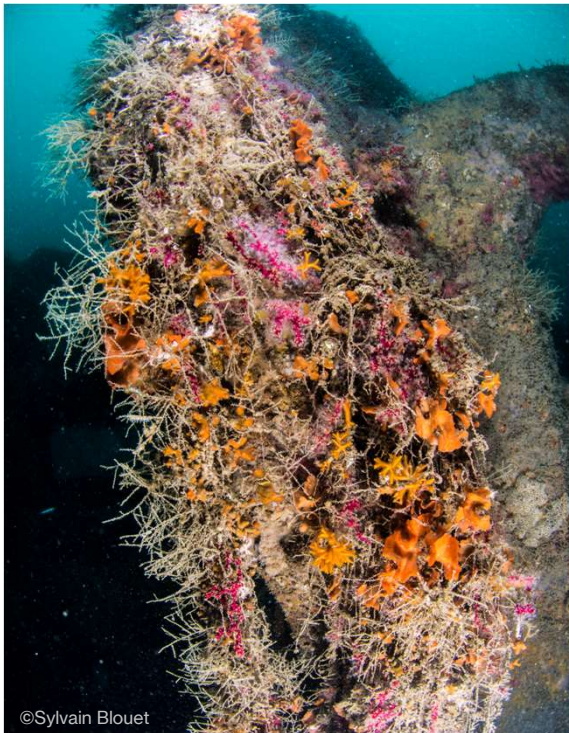




# Why social and ecological assessments matter?

Interlinked dependencies:

ARs  
implementation



Support

Ecological interest  
(outcomes expected):

Habitat

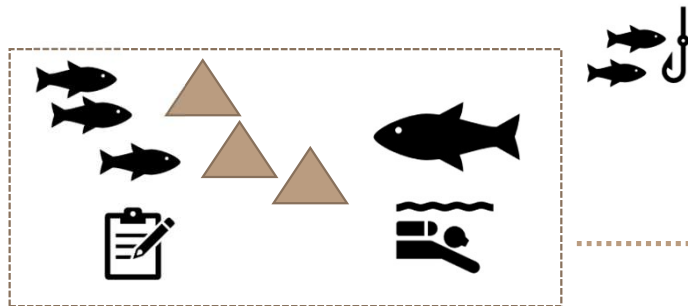
Fauna abundance and  
richness

Growth and reproduction  
of species

# Why social and ecological assessments matter?

Interlinked dependencies: a balanced between social and ecological benefit

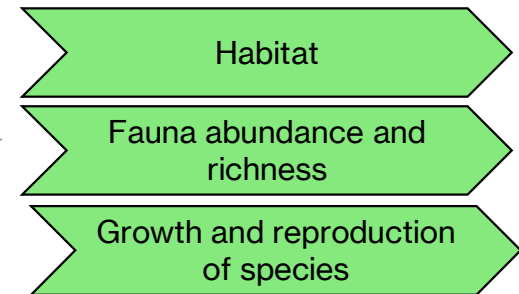
ARs with no management



Increase



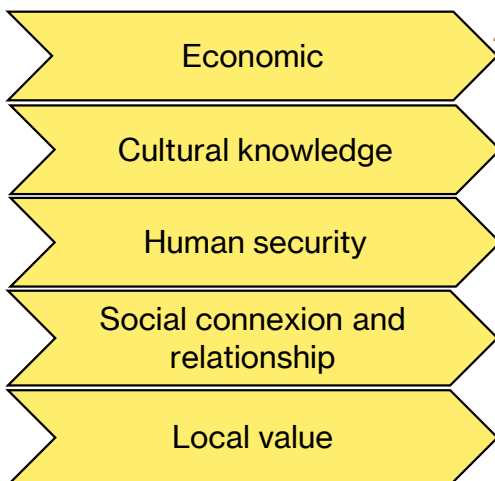
Ecological interest:



Social interest:

Affect

- Fisheries activities
- understanding of ecological functioning



Lead to



Social-ecological interactions:

- Economic activity
- Enhance Knowledge
- Ecological value

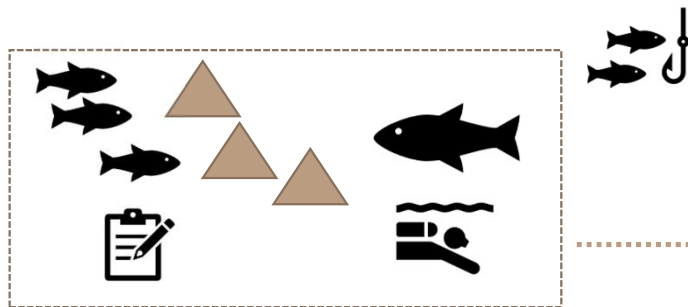
Support

Berkes et al., Cambridge University press, 1998; Ostrom, Cambridge University press 1990; Ostrom, Science, 2009

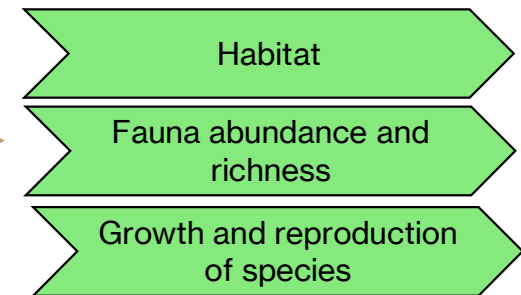
# Why social and ecological assessments matter?

## Interlinked dependencies:

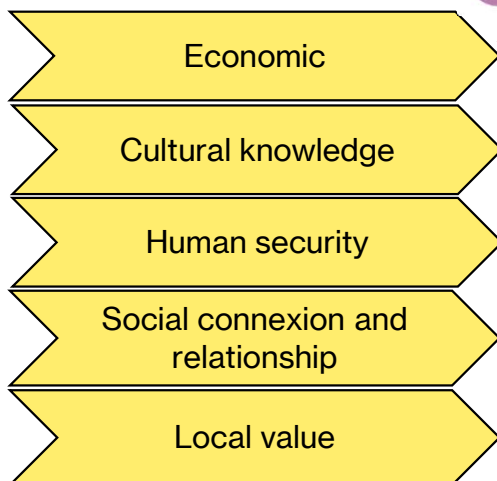
ARs with no management



## Ecological interest:



## Social interest:



Affect



- **Illegal fisheries**
- **Less understanding of ecological functioning**

Lead to

Not measure or negative



## Social-ecological interactions:

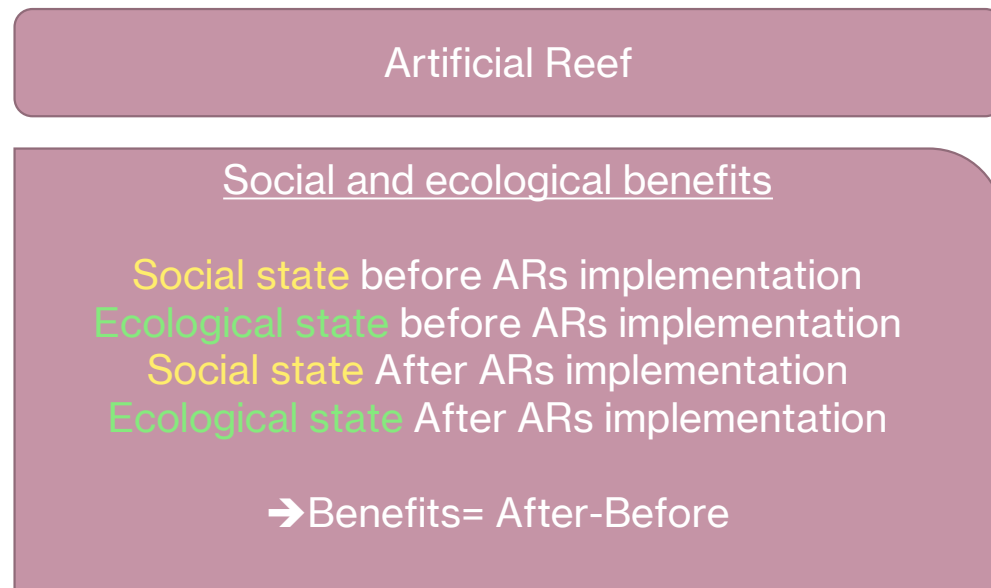
- Economic activity
- Enhance Knowledge
- Ecological value

Provide



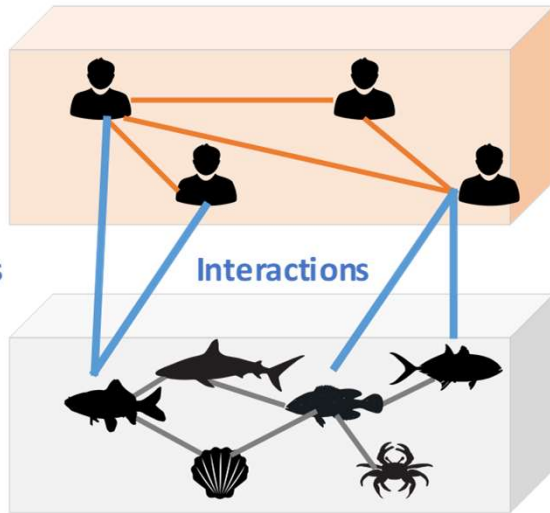
# Using before/after comparison in assessment process

Inspired from « Rapid assessment Method » notation:  
Score indicator, assessed before and after (MERCIE; Pioch et al., 2018)



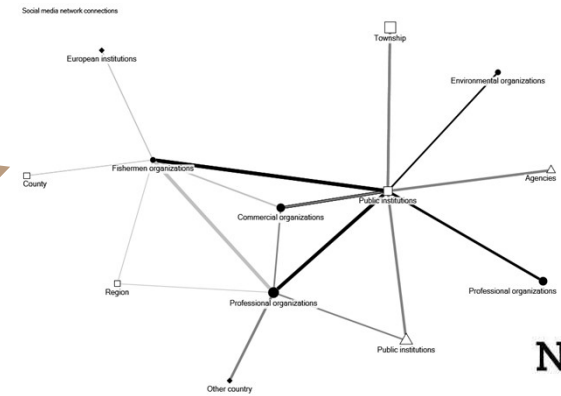
# Assessing symetrically the social and ecological system with network analysis

ARs social-ecological system:



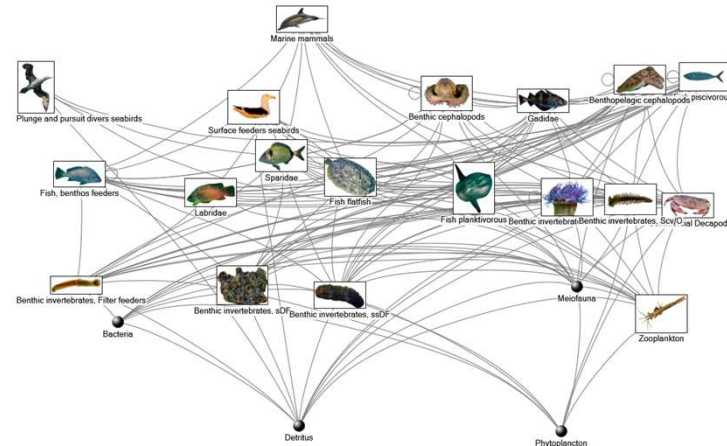
Example of networks:

## Social Network Analysis (Wasserman and Faust, 1994)



Created with NodeXL Basic (http://nodexl.codeplex.com) from the Social Media Research Foundation (http://www.smarfoundation.org)

## Ecological Network Analysis (Polovina, 1984; Christensen et Pauly, 1992)



Created with NodeXL (http://nodexl.codeplex.com)

Ecopath with Ecosim



Salaün et al., Vie et milieu, 2020

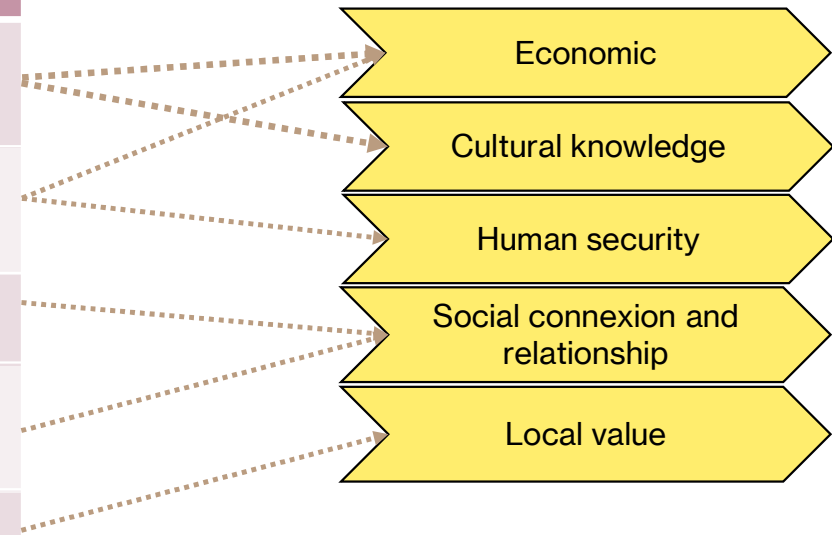
# Provide useful metrics related to social stakeholders interests

Example of indicators providing by social network analysis:

Social indicator	Description
Flux Density	Measure the number of interactions (monetary, information, technical, involvement, skills)
Node Density	Measure the number of stakeholders (civil society, Local authorities, National authorities, International)
Density	Measure of the connectivity of a global network
Degree centrality	Represents the interconnection of network nodes, corresponding to the nodes' relation activities
Betweenness centrality	Identify the key node of the system

Potential uses for assessment

Social interest:



*Burt, Oxf. Univ. Press, 2005; Salaün et al., IGI 2022*

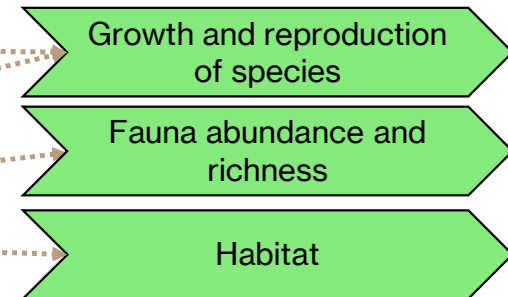
# Provide useful metrics related to ecological stakeholders interests

Example of indicators providing by ecological network analysis:

Potential uses for assessment

Ecological interest:

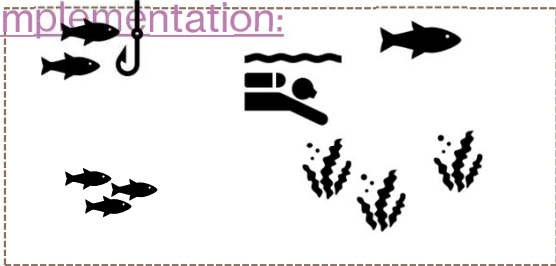
Trophic network	Description
Total System Throughput	Sum of all the flows in the system
Ascendency	Growth of the system
System Omnivory	Trophic interaction among different Trophic Level
Recycling index	Fraction of energy recycled in the system



*Nogues et al., Ecological Indicators, 2021; Raoux et al., Regional studies in Marine Science, 2024*

# Example of assessment process

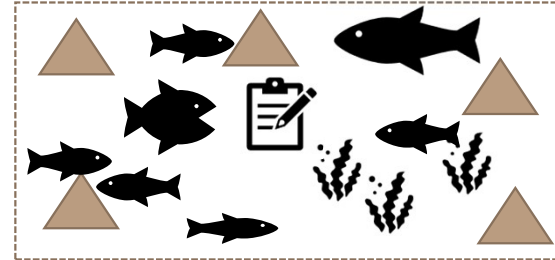
Area before AR implementation:



Management choices:



Area after AR implementation:



Outside the area



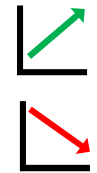
Scores before AR implementation (0 to 1)

Score after AR implementation (0 to 1)

Trend

Social	score
Information density	0,1
Number of fishermen (inside the area)	0,43

Social	score
Information density	0,2
Number of fishermen (inside the area)	0,1



Ecological	score
Total System Throughput	0,34
System Omnivory	0,51

Ecological	score
Total System Throughput	0,41
System Omnivory	0,51

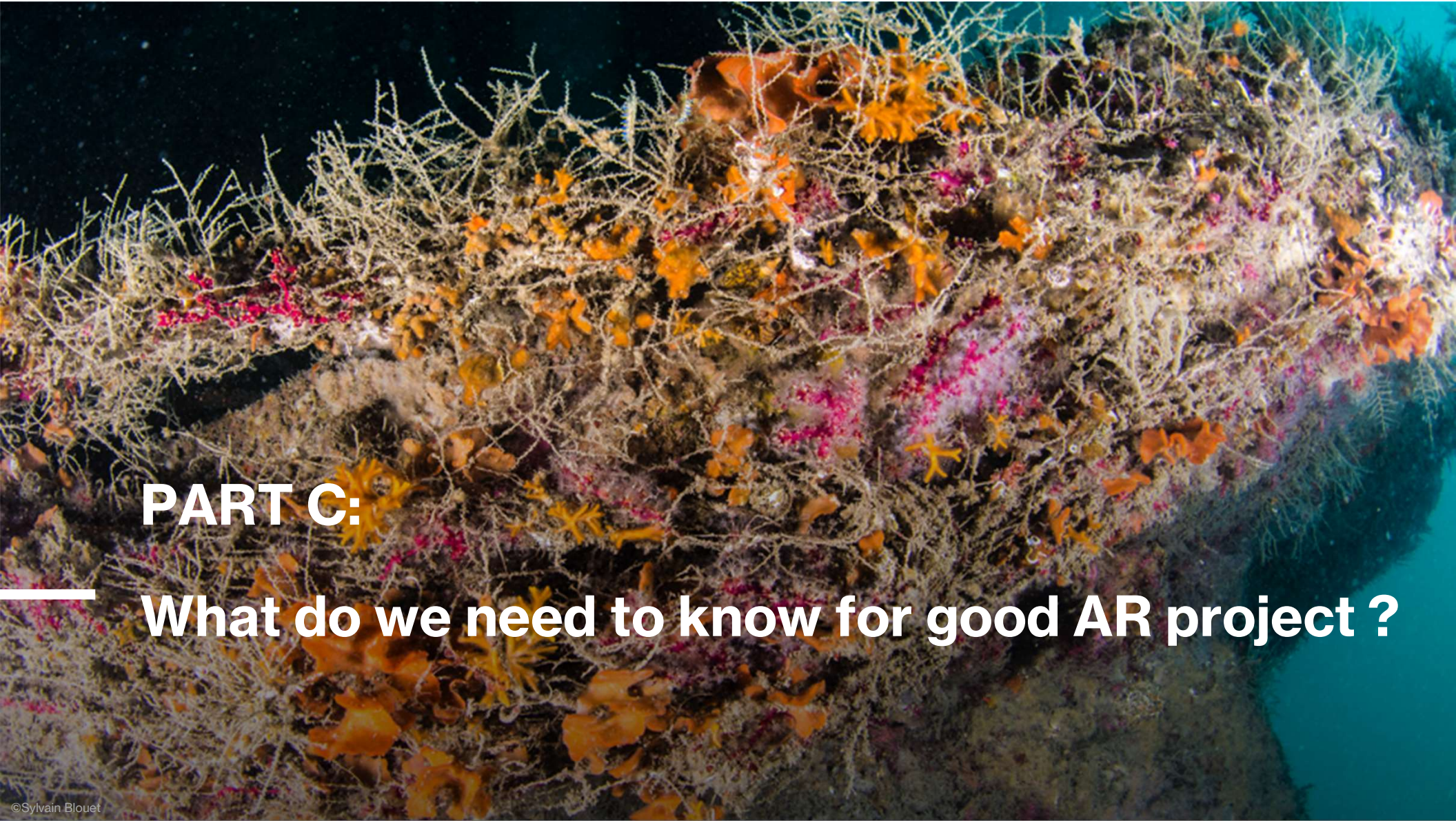




# **Further research to improve the assessment process**

To apply this kind of social-ecological process, there is a need to select rapid indicator (RAM):

- 1/2 day to fulfill
- Costless / rapid to obtain
- Easy to score for trained people (not level of PhD/expert+++)



**PART C:**

**What do we need to know for good AR project ?**

# Assessment of 10 french ARs projects

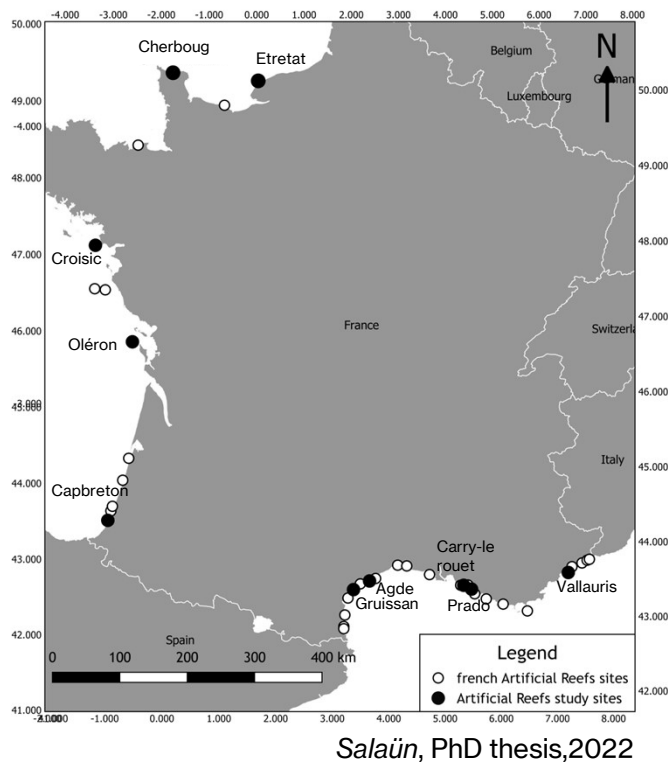
All **ecological scores** are **positive** showing the ARs capacity to provide functional habitat.

Example of indicators used:

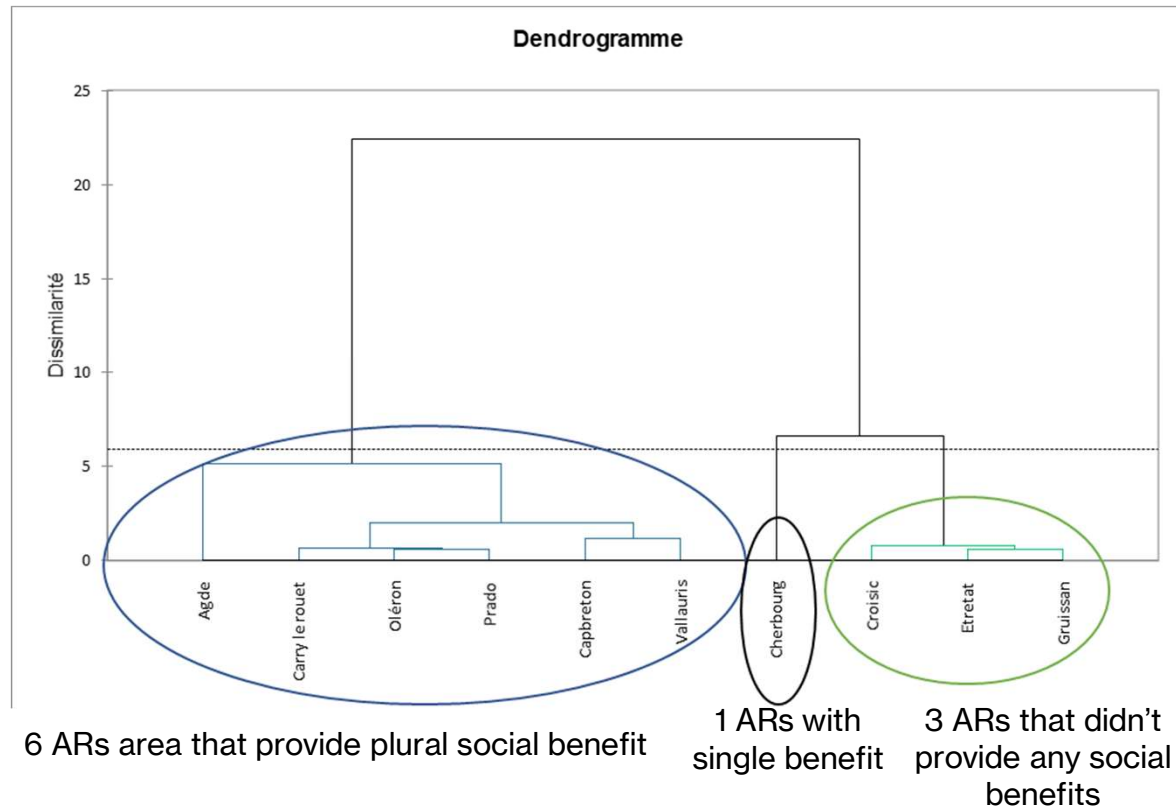
- **Biomass** (score:0 for a decrease; 0.5 if it's stable; 1 for an increase)
- **Ecological function** such as feeding area (score:0 absence; 0.5 presence but not specific to study area; 1: presence in the area)
- **Scientific monitoring** (score: 0 no data; 0.5 if data >5yr; 1 if data <5yr).

Results for 3 sites:

AR Sites	Ecological Score before ARs	Ecological Score after ARs	Ecological Benefit score	Trend
Etretat	0.50	0.68	0.18	↗
Cherbourg	0.62	0.90	0.28	↗
Capbreton	0.72	0.77	0.05	→



# Using social score to differentiate 10 ARs area efficiency



Salaün, PhD thesis, 2022

# Blind side of a single ecological assessment

- ▶ With only ecological indicators: all AR seem to be successful
- ▶ Using **social scores to differentiate** ARs efficiency make it clear that 3 failed and 1 ensured just one social outcome

Example of risks if ARs project failed socially:

- Conflict between users
- Decrease of fundings
- Negative influence on other projects

The analysis of which social indicator are low before/after, can help to shift management trajectories to **enhance holistic efficiency**.

# Factors identified in AR projects

## Social efficiency

VS

## No social efficiency



High number of stakeholders involved in artificial reef projects



High number of interactions between stakeholders and with resources



Governance ensures restriction of users



Governance planning integrated into territorial planning



Few stakeholders involved



Lack of control (monitoring and surveillance)



Weak interactions between stakeholders and the resource system

# Step by step to a highly efficient « Dream » Project



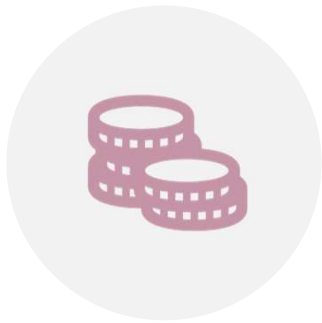
1. CO-CONSTRUCTION WITH  
EXPERTS FOR SOCIAL  
ACCEPTANCE



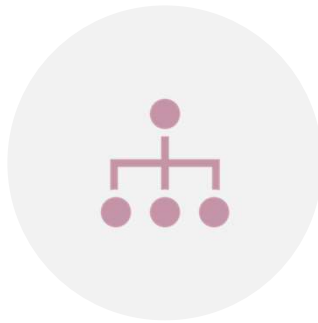
2. AGREEMENT ON SPECIFIC  
SOCIAL AND ECOLOGICAL  
OBJECTIVES

Initiation stage

# Step by step to a highly efficient « Dream » Project



3.PLANNING AND  
BUDGETING FOR  
MANAGEMENT



4.SELECTION OF A  
MANAGER AND THEIR  
RESPONSIBILITIES

Implementation stage



# Step by step to a highly efficient « Dream » Project



5. LONG-TERM SOCIO-  
ECOLOGICAL MONITORING



6. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION  
AND EDUCATION

Management stage

# Thank you for your attention

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