

SCALING UP FROM MPAS TO MPA NETWORKS: HOW ARE WE DOING IN ESTABLISHING RESILIENT MPA NETWORKS?

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Regardless of where we live, all people depend upon healthy ocean ecosystems. We can no longer allow these ecosystems to remain “out of sight, out of mind.” We must work together to protect our oceans and coastal zones, to develop effective networks of marine protected areas, to help nations that depend heavily on sustainable coasts, seas and oceans to survive and prosper, and to ensure that all people who use and enjoy our coasts, seas and oceans, do so sustainably. We have a common responsibility to ensure that future generations enjoy the benefits of healthy marine ecosystems and abundant ocean life.

A new era in marine protected area management and network building is emerging. Governments, NGO’s, regional and international organization are all contributing to the progress being made to scale up from single sites to MPA networks. This Café will provide a forum for discussing advances being made to establish MPA networks. The café will provide an opportunity for participants to provide insights on how to develop resilient MPA networks and what are the current best practices to develop MPA networks. The following examples of focus questions are provided to guide the discussion:

- How is resilience addressed in your management and/or scientific research?
- What are the best practices that you employ to develop resilient MPA Networks?
- What was the major change that has occurred in your work to build MPA Networks?
- What is your success story? Is this occurring at the local, national, regional or international level?
- Who are your champion(s) and what did they contribute?

The results from this Café will be summarized and made available on the IUCN Marine website.

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