



Panel Discussion; A social scientist's perspective

Mitsutaku MAKINO
Fisheries Research Agency, Japan

What I found in this symposium is

- “Conventional academic discipline” in both social- and natural-sciences is something like “conventional single-species approach” or “conventional single-sector approach”.
- Just as one of the most important ecological aspects is “Species-interactions”, scientific “disciplines-interactions” is important for EBM research .

Conventional Social Science disciplines related to EBM

- Anthropology/Ethnology,
- Economics (bioeconomics, decision theory, non-market valuation, commons, accounting, etc.),
- Geography/area studies,
- Law/Political science,
- Sociology,
- Psychology,

etc.

From the presentation by T. Charles (yesterday)

4. People-oriented Methods & Tools

Information acquisition/dissemination

- Asset mapping
- Communication strategy
- Institutional analysis
- Participatory monitoring
- Rapid/participatory appraisals
- Risk & vulnerability assessment
- Stakeholder analysis

Process methodologies

- Conflict management and negotiation
- Consensus building
- Delphi method
- Facilitation
- Visioning
- Values mapping



Possible contributions from Social Sciences to EBM

- 1) how to define/select the goals, objectives, Indicators, targets;
- 2) how to judge/asses the performances of specific EBM measures;
- 3) improve the value of bio-physical information for better public, managers' and fishers' understanding;
- 4) spatial/temporal/organizational scales coordinating with existing institutional scale (stake holders) and natural scientific knowledge.

- *Shiretoko* WNH case shows that, repeated meetings are the key to build mutual understandings and mutual trusts among sectors.
- *I.E., Repeated inter-disciplinary symposiums like this are the Key for better EBM research!*

Also

- Japan has a very very sad experience of seafood contamination (methyl mercury) and health damage in the 1960s (*Minamata disease*).
- **Quality/safety of seafood** is also an important Dimension of EBFM.

Let's work together!