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*Parks, people, planet:
inspiring solutions*

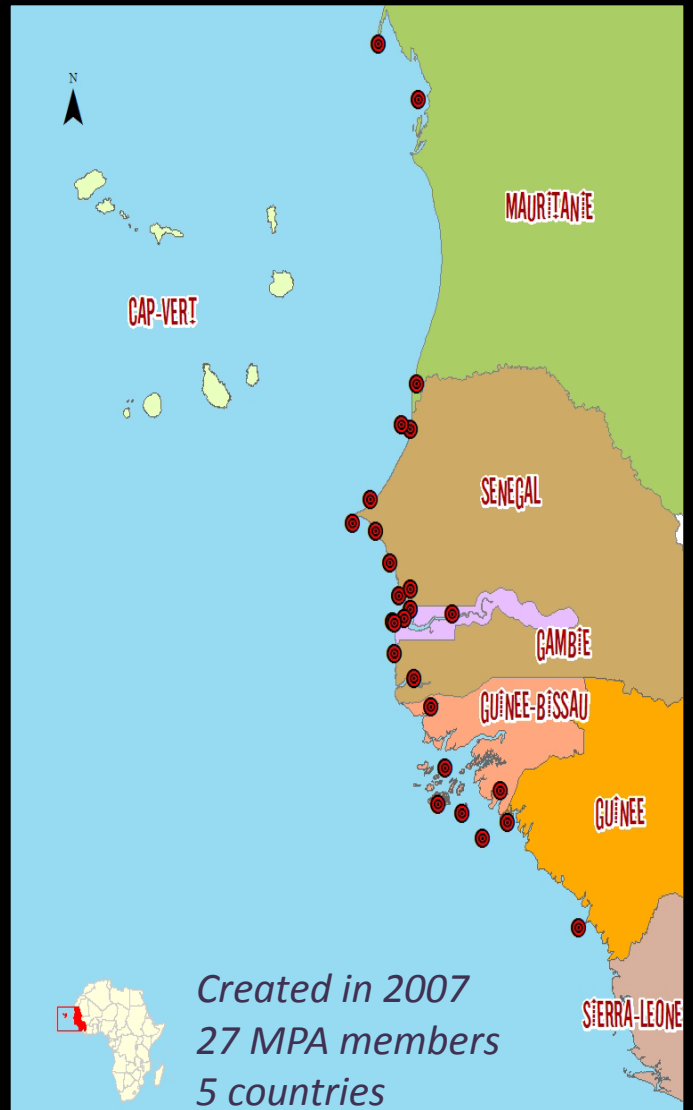
Equity in the governance of marine protected areas in West Africa: the case of fisheries

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Regional Network of MPAs in West Africa (RAMPAO)

Acknowledgements: Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission (SRFC);
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Oussouby Toure; The people of Joal-Fadiouth

Background – the RAMPAO network



Mission

Ensure at the scale of the West African marine eco-region, the maintenance of a consistent set of critical habitats necessary for the operation of dynamic ecological processes essential for the regeneration of natural resources and the conservation of biodiversity for the benefit of society.

Objectives

- To link a set of MPAs that are representative of critical ecosystems and habitats in the sub-region;
- To promote the exchange of experiences and mutual learning;
- To create synergies between MPAs on topics of common interest;
- To make MPAs in the region functional and operational;
- To strengthen MPAs capabilities in advocacy and representation at the international level

Socio-economic impact of MPAs

Motivations of society to invest in the conservation of its natural capital

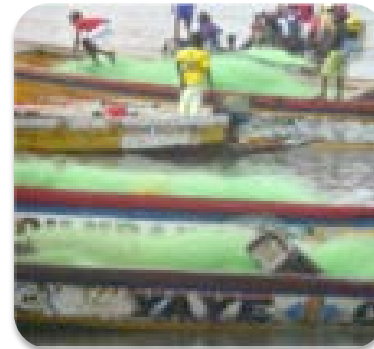
Conservation as an objective in and of itself...

Non-use value



...or as an intermediate objective intended to ensure :

The sustainability of ecosystem services (fishing...)



The development of new activities (ecotourism...)



Use values

Who?

Transformateurs



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Traditional fishermen

Local fishermen-farmers

Ecoguides

Merchants

Large commercial fishermen

Seasonal migrant fishermen

Farmers/users of other natural resources



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What economic activities?



MPA as a tool for fisheries management

Problems linked with fishing:

- Conflicts between different categories of fishermen (subsistence/commercial/recreational)
- Uncontrolled, illegal fishing
- Bad fishing practices
- Degradation of fish resource
- Accidental capture of endangered species



MPA as a tool for fisheries management

Zone authorized for small-scale commercial fishing of residents/non-residents in conformity with national rules – **Which fishermen frequent each area?**

Zone authorized for commercial small-scale fishing with certain restrictions – **What are the effects of zoning restrictions?**

Zone of fishing restricted to residents (subsistence, no motor) – **What are the costs of ensuring compliance?**

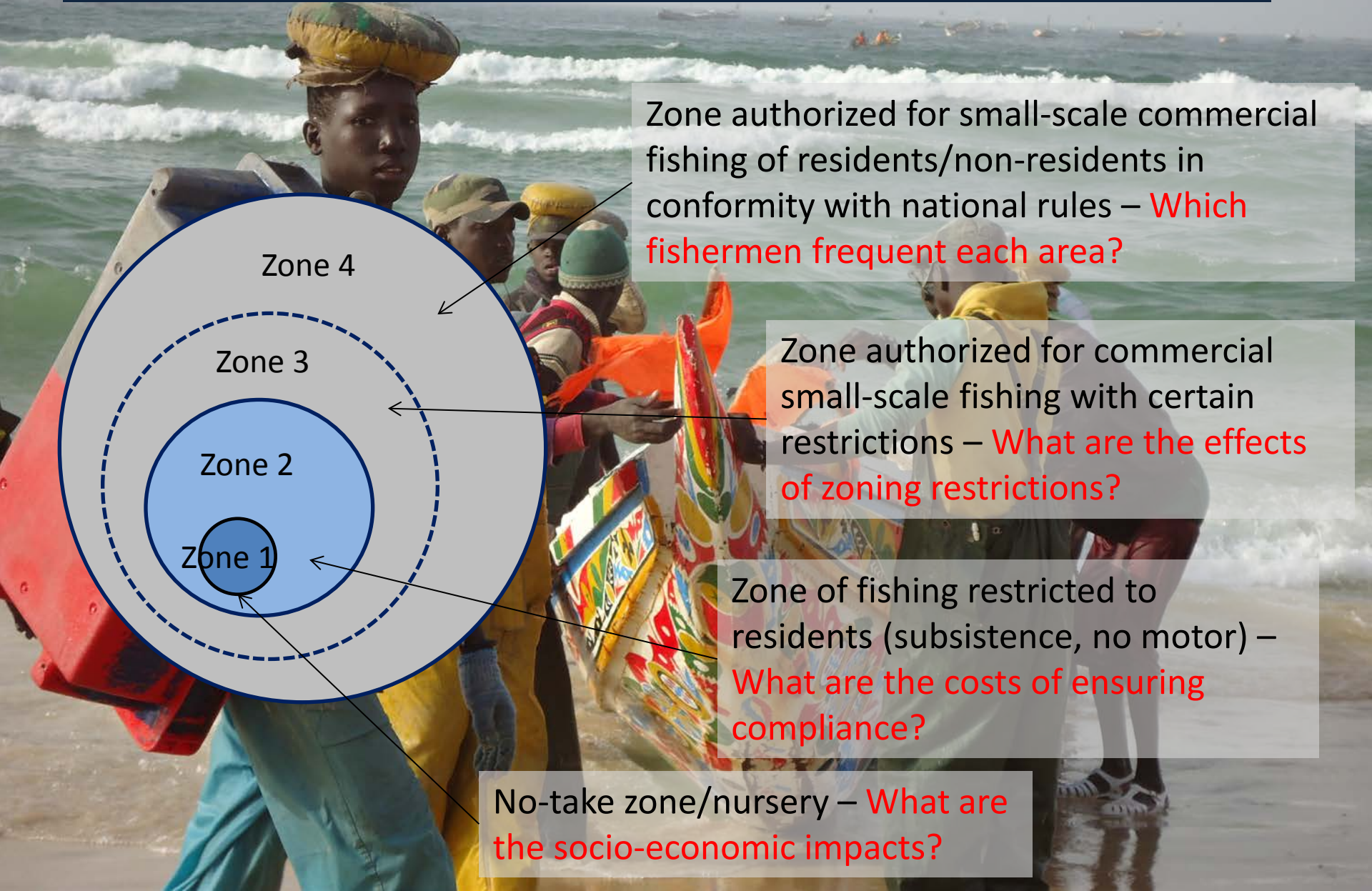
No-take zone/nursery – **What are the socio-economic impacts?**

Zone 4

Zone 3

Zone 2

Zone 1



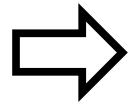
MPA as a tool for fisheries management

Costs: (-)

- MPA operational costs
- Costs linked to the restriction of use
- Costs linked to surveillance and application of rules

Benefits: (+)

- In an around MPA
- Short and long term
- Among categories of stakeholders



MPA creation raises two issues
(in the short & long term)

The problem of efficiency

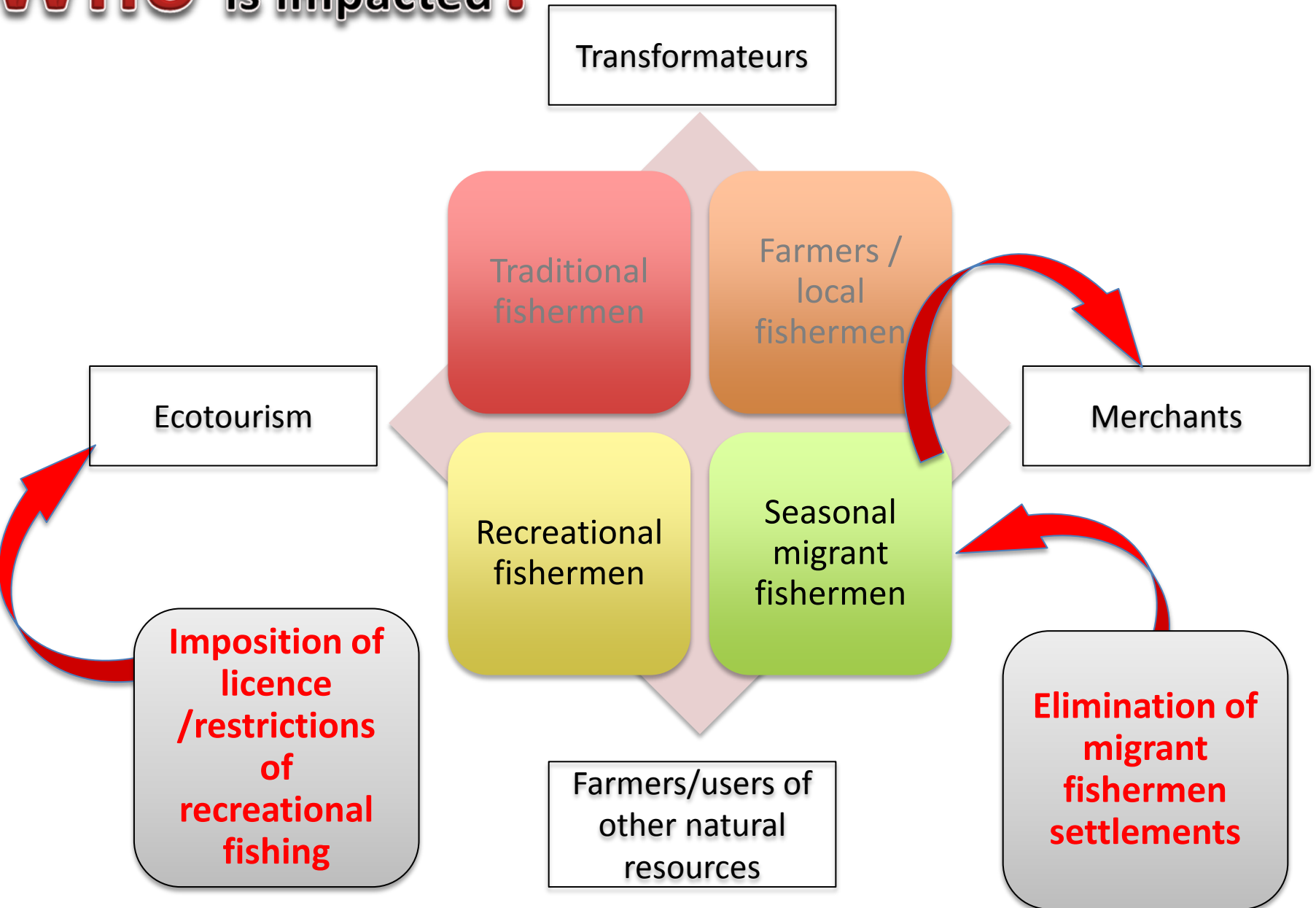
Is the overall balance of costs and benefits positive for society?

The issue of equity

Is the distribution of costs and benefits within society fair?

How does the governance structure influence who bears the burden of costs and the distribution of benefits?

Who is impacted?



Approaches to ensure equity

- Compensating the stakeholders who are negatively impacted by the creation of an MPA is critical in order to motivate them to abandon less sustainable practices
- Develop collective services that benefit local communities
- Diversify and improve the economic conditions of local populations, by helping them to develop new economic activities



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e.g. transportation ; infrastructure for rice production; microcredit

The case of the Joal-Fadiouth MPA

