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NOAA/GCFI MPA Capacity Assessment Survey Tool

Background information about assessment process (to be completed by assessment facilitator)	
Date of assessment	
Place of assessment	
Name and affiliation of assessment facilitator(s)	
Name of MPA site, country	
Name and organization of MPA Manager	
Contact information for MPA Manager	

List the personnel representing the MPA site named above who are taking part in this 2017 MPA management capacity assessment		
Name	Organization	Contact

MPA management capacity assessment questionnaire:

Please note that this is not an evaluation of your performance or of the effectiveness of the MPA being assessed. This is simply a tool that seeks to clarify the areas in which additional support and investment may be needed to enhance management capacity at the MPA, thereby increasing the likelihood of effective MPA implementation.

1a. Is your site legally designated as an MPA at the local or national level?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	If yes, where is the legal status established?
<input type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure/ no answer	
1b. Based on the official designation of the site, what is the purpose of the MPA? (i.e. fisheries management, tourism, management of user conflicts, coral reef conservation, etc)	
2a. Are there other local or national agencies or organizations with authority/influence that impact your ability to achieve the goals and objectives of the MPA?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	If yes, please list them and explain their relationship with the MPA
Organization	Relationship
<input type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure/ no answer	
2b. Are there any regional or international organizations that currently support the site? i.e. funding, training, technical assistance	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	If yes, please list organizations that provide significant support to the MPA and explain how they support the site
Organization	Support (please tick)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Funding <input type="checkbox"/> Training <input type="checkbox"/> Tech. assistance <input type="checkbox"/> Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Funding <input type="checkbox"/> Training <input type="checkbox"/> Tech. assistance <input type="checkbox"/> Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Funding <input type="checkbox"/> Training <input type="checkbox"/> Tech. assistance <input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure/ no answer	
3a. Is the site associated with a network of MPAs or is it part of an ecological MPA network?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
<input type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure/ no answer	
3b. If yes, has it been designed to support network goals and management objectives?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
<input type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure/ no answer	
3c. If yes, is site management coordinated with other sites across the ecological network?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
<input type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure/ no answer	

We would like to ask you some questions about how **you** assess the **current capacity** for marine protected area management at the site(s) named on page one.

For each management capacity area included in the assessment, three levels or tiers of capacity are presented. Tier one represents the lowest level of capacity for each area and tier three represents the highest. Please select between the available options. If you need clarification about any questions or answer options, please ask the assessment facilitator for more information.

Please note that this is not an evaluation of your performance or of the effectiveness of the MPA being assessed. This is simply a tool that seeks to clarify the areas in which additional support and investment may be needed to enhance management capacity at the MPA, thereby increasing the likelihood of effective MPA implementation.

4a. Which of the following statements best describes the current management capacity at the MPA with respect to site management ? There is...	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 1	No management personnel assigned to site and/or little or no formalized community oversight
<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 2	Some management personnel assigned to site or some formalized community oversight
<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 3	A full-time site manager and programmatic personnel assigned to site or local community based management leader in place that has been formally designated and accepted and is able to dedicate sufficient time to the management of the site
4b. What is your reason(s) for selecting that tier?	
4c. What are your challenges or needs to increase management capacity and move to a higher tier? If funding is the main challenge, then what would you use the funds for?	
4d. Has capacity changed for this topic in past 5 years?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, increased	If yes, please explain how
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, decreased	If yes, please explain how
<input type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure/ no answer	
5a. Which of the following statements best describes the current management capacity at the MPA with respect to management planning ? There is...	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 1	Some management activity being implemented, but no management plan in place
<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 2	Some management activity being implemented and management plan developed
<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 3	Approved management plan that is being implemented
5b. What is your reason(s) for selecting that tier?	
5c. What are your challenges or needs to increase management capacity and move to a higher tier? If funding, for what would you use the funds?	
5d. If Tier 2 or Tier 3: Do the MPA management plan objectives reflect the site designation purpose?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	

<input type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure/ no answer	
5e. Has capacity changed for this topic in past 5 years?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, increased	If yes, please explain how
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, decreased	If yes, please explain how
<input type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure/ no answer	
6a. Which of the following statements best describes the current management capacity at the MPA with respect to the legal framework ? There are...	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 1	Few or no official rules and/or regulations in place governing the MPA
<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 2	Some laws or official rules and/or regulations in place governing some managed activities within the MPA
<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 3	Clearly defined laws, rules and regulations governing all managed activities included in the objectives of the site management plan
6b. What is your reason(s) for selecting that tier?	
6c. What are your challenges or needs to increase management capacity and move to a higher tier? If funding, for what would you use the funds?	
6d. Has capacity changed for this topic in past 5 years?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, increased	If yes, please explain how
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, decreased	If yes, please explain how
<input type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure/ no answer	
7a. Which of the following statements best describes the current management capacity at the MPA with respect to partnerships/coordination ? There is/are ...	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 1	One agency managing the site with little or no coordination with other agencies or organizations
<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 2	Informal partnerships with agencies or organizations who support MPA management activities (e.g. outreach, monitoring)
<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 3	Formal coordination with the relevant agencies and organizations
7b. What is your reason(s) for selecting that tier?	
7c. What are your challenges or needs to increase management capacity and move to a higher tier? If funding, for what would you use the funds?	
7d. Has capacity changed for this topic in past 5 years?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, increased	If yes, please explain how
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, decreased	If yes, please explain how
<input type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure/ no answer	
8a. Which of the following statements best describes the current management capacity at the MPA with respect to stakeholder engagement ? There is...	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 1	No community or stakeholder engagement

<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 2	Some community and stakeholder engagement in some but not in all aspects of MPA management
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<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 3	Community and stakeholder engagement in implementation of site management efforts
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8b. What is your reason(s) for selecting that tier?

8c. What are your challenges or needs to increase management capacity and move to a higher tier? If funding, for what would you use the funds?

8d. Has capacity changed for this topic in past 5 years?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, increased	If yes, please explain how
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<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, decreased	If yes, please explain how
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<input type="checkbox"/> No	
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<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure/ no answer	
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9a. Which of the following statements best describes the **current management capacity** at the MPA with respect to **enforcement**? There is...

<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 1	Little or no enforcement of existing rules and regulations
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<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 2	Inconsistent enforcement of rules and regulations
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<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 3	Active and consistent enforcement of rules and regulations
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9b. What is your reason(s) for selecting that tier?

9c. What are your challenges or needs to increase management capacity and move to a higher tier? If funding, for what would you use the funds?

9d. Has capacity changed for this topic in past 5 years?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, increased	If yes, please explain how
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<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, decreased	If yes, please explain how
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<input type="checkbox"/> No	
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<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure/ no answer	
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10a. Which of the following statements best describes the **current management capacity** at the MPA with respect to the **boundaries** of the MPA? There are...

<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 1	No clearly defined boundaries delineating the MPA nor clearly defined zones within the MPA
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<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 2	Clearly defined boundaries and/or zones but they are not readily visible nor explicitly communicated to the public and/or MPA stakeholders
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<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 3	Clearly defined boundaries and/or zones and information on boundary/zone locations is readily visible and explicitly communicated to the public and MPA stakeholders
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10b. What is your reason(s) for selecting that tier?

10c. What are your challenges or needs to increase management capacity and move to a higher tier? If funding, for what would you use the funds?

10d. Has capacity changed for this topic in past 5 years?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, increased	If yes, please explain how
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Yes, decreased If yes, please explain how

No

Not sure/ no answer

11a. Which of the following statements best describes the **current management capacity** at the MPA with respect to **bio-physical monitoring**? There is...

Tier 1 Little or no existing biophysical monitoring activity

Tier 2 Existing biophysical monitoring program but data not being used to inform management

Tier 3 Data produced from biophysical monitoring program being evaluated and used to inform management decisions

11b. What is your reason(s) for selecting that tier?

11c. What are your challenges or needs to increase management capacity and move to a higher tier? If funding, for what would you use the funds?

11d. If Tier 2 or Tier 3: Does your monitoring program measure progress towards meeting the MPAs management objectives?

Yes

No

Not sure/ no answer

11e. If Tier 2 or Tier 3: What do you monitor and what methodologies do you use?

What does the MPA monitor?	What is monitoring method?

11f. Has capacity changed for this topic in past 5 years?

Yes, increased If yes, please explain how

Yes, decreased If yes, please explain how

No

Not sure/ no answer

12a. Which of the following statements best describes the **current management capacity** at the MPA with respect to **socioeconomic monitoring**? There is...

Tier 1 Little or no existing socioeconomic monitoring activity

Tier 2 Existing socioeconomic monitoring program but data not being used to inform management

Tier 3 Data produced from socioeconomic monitoring program being evaluated and used to inform management decisions

12b. What is your reason(s) for selecting that tier?

12c. What are your challenges or needs to increase management capacity and move to a higher tier? If funding, for what would you use the funds?

12d. If Tier 2 or Tier 3: Does your monitoring program measure progress towards meeting the MPAs management objectives?

Yes

No

Not sure/ no answer

12e. If Tier 2 or Tier 3: What do you monitor and what methodologies/data sources do you use?

What does the MPA monitor?

What is monitoring method?

12f. Has capacity changed for this topic in past 5 years?

Yes, increased If yes, please explain how

Yes, decreased If yes, please explain how

No

Not sure/ no answer

13a. Which of the following statements best describes the **current management capacity** at the MPA with respect to **MPA effectiveness evaluation and adaptive management**? There is...

Tier 1 No evaluation of MPA effectiveness

Tier 2 MPA effectiveness has been evaluated but no ongoing effectiveness monitoring and evaluation program in place

Tier 3 MPA effectiveness monitoring and evaluation program in place with findings being applied to adapt management strategies

13b. What is your reason(s) for selecting that tier?

13c. What are your challenges or needs to increase management capacity and move to a higher tier? If funding, for what would you use the funds?

13d. If Tier 2 or Tier 3: Does your MPA use a standard effectiveness monitoring methodology?

Yes If yes, what methodology does your MPA use?

No

Not sure/ no answer

13e. Has capacity changed for this topic in past 5 years?

Yes, increased If yes, please explain how

Yes, decreased If yes, please explain how

No

Not sure/ no answer

14a. Which of the following statements best describes the **current management capacity** at the MPA with respect to **financing**? There is/are...

Tier 1 Few or no reliable sources of funding identified to support MPA management activities

Tier 2 Some sources of funding to support MPA management activities

Tier 3 A sustainable financing plan that is being implemented to provide long term MPA financing mechanisms

14b. What is your reason(s) for selecting that tier?

14c. What are your challenges or needs to increase management capacity and move to a higher tier? If funding, for what would you use the funds?

14d. Has capacity changed for this topic in past 5 years?

Yes, increased If yes, please explain how

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, decreased	If yes, please explain how
<input type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure/ no answer	
14e. If Tier 2 or Tier 3: What sustainable financing mechanisms does your MPA have?	
15a. Which of the following statements best describes the current management capacity at the MPA with respect to communicating its economic value ?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 1	Economic value of the MPA's natural resources not been assessed
<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 2	Economic value of the MPA's natural resources has been assessed but not used in targeted communications with decision makers
<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 3	Economic value of the MPA's natural resources has been assessed and is used in targeted communications with decision makers to build support for the MPA
15b. What is your reason(s) for selecting that tier?	
15c. What are your challenges or needs to increase management capacity and move to a higher tier? If funding, for what would you use the funds?	
15d. Has capacity changed for this topic in past 5 years?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, increased	If yes, please explain how
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, decreased	If yes, please explain how
<input type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure/ no answer	
16a. Which of the following statements best describes the current management capacity at the MPA with respect to outreach and education ? There is/are...	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 1	Few or no ongoing outreach and education activities
<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 2	Some ongoing outreach and education activities in support of the MPA
<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 3	An outreach and education program with various activities and strategies focused on the MPA that helps achieve the MPA's goals and objectives
16b. What is your reason(s) for selecting that tier?	
16c. What are your challenges or needs to increase management capacity and move to a higher tier? If funding, for what would you use the funds?	
16d. If Tier 2 or Tier 3: Does your outreach/education program focus on a specific audience?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	If yes, which audience(s)?
<input type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure/ no answer	
16e. Has capacity changed for this topic in past 5 years?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, increased	If yes, please explain how
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, decreased	If yes, please explain how
<input type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure/ no answer	

17a. Which of the following statements best describes the **current management capacity** at the MPA with respect to **planning for resilience to climate change**? There is/are...

- Tier 1 Little or no consideration of climate change in the management of the MPA
- Tier 2 Climate change considerations incorporated into management planning and/or monitoring
- Tier 3 Climate change adaptation plans or response plans implemented

17b. What is your reason(s) for selecting that tier?

17c. What are your challenges or needs to increase management capacity and move to a higher tier? If funding, for what would you use the funds?

17d. Has capacity changed for this topic in past 5 years?

- Yes, increased If yes, please explain how
- Yes, decreased If yes, please explain how
- No
- Not sure/ no answer

18a. Is the promotion of sustainable livelihoods options an objective of the MPA? If yes, which of the following statements best describes the **current management capacity** at the MPA with respect to **sustainable livelihood options**?

- Tier 1 No livelihood opportunities have been developed with stakeholders
- Tier 2 Some livelihood opportunities have been developed with stakeholders
- Tier 3 The social and economic impacts of the MPA on resource users have been assessed and livelihood opportunities have been developed with stakeholders

Not an objective

18b. What is your reason(s) for selecting that tier?

18c. What are your challenges or needs to increase management capacity and move to a higher tier? If funding, for what would you use the funds?

18d. Has capacity changed for this topic in past 5 years?

- Yes, increased If yes, please explain how
- Yes, decreased If yes, please explain how
- No
- Not sure/ no answer

19a. Is fisheries management an objective of the MPA? If yes, which of the following statements best describes the **current management capacity** at the MPA with respect to **fisheries management**?

- Tier 1 No site-specific fisheries assessment has been conducted
- Tier 2 Site-specific fisheries assessment has been conducted but no fisheries management actions are being implemented in the MPA
- Tier 3 A site-specific fisheries management program is being implemented

Not an objective

19b. What is your reason(s) for selecting that tier?

19c. What are your challenges or needs to increase management capacity and move to a higher tier?
If funding, for what would you use the funds?

19d. If Tier 2 or Tier 3: What fisheries do you assess and what methodologies do you use?

What fisheries does the MPA assess?

What is assessment method?

19e. Has capacity changed for this topic in past 5 years?

Yes, increased If yes, please explain how

Yes, decreased If yes, please explain how

No

Not sure/ no answer

20a. Is pollution control an objective of the MPA? If yes, with respect to the impact of **pollution (land based or marine)** on the MPA, which of the following statements best describes the **current management capacity** at the MPA?

Tier 1 Assessments of pollution affecting the MPA have not been conducted

Tier 2 Major sources of pollution have been identified but are not being addressed

Tier 3 Targeted actions for pollution control are being implemented

Not an objective

20b. What is your reason(s) for selecting that tier?

20c. What are your challenges or needs to increase management capacity and move to a higher tier?
If funding, for what would you use the funds?

20d. Has capacity changed for this topic in past 5 years?

Yes, increased If yes, please explain how

Yes, decreased If yes, please explain how

No

Not sure/ no answer

21a. Is sustainable tourism an objective of the MPA? If yes, which of the following statements best describes the **current management capacity** at the MPA with respect to **sustainable tourism**?

Tier 1 Tourism activities are not managed in the MPA

Tier 2 A sustainable tourism assessment and/or plan has been developed but is not being implemented

Tier 3 Tourism activities in the MPA are managed and conducted according to a sustainable tourism plan or the MPA management plan

Not an objective

21b. What is your reason(s) for selecting that tier?

21c. What are your challenges or needs to increase management capacity and move to a higher tier?
If funding, for what would you use the funds?

21d. Has capacity changed for this topic in past 5 years?

Yes, increased If yes, please explain how

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, decreased	If yes, please explain how
<input type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure/ no answer	
22a. Which of the following statements best describes the current management capacity at the MPA with respect to response to disturbance events (natural or human induced)? There is/are...	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 1	Little or no consideration of response to disturbance events in the management of the MPA
<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 2	Response plan(s) developed for the MPA
<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 3	Response plan(s) being implemented with resources, technical capacity and infrastructure available to respond
22b. What is your reason(s) for selecting that tier?	
22c. What are your challenges or needs to increase management capacity and move to a higher tier? If funding, for what would you use the funds?	
22d. Has capacity changed for this topic in past 5 years?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, increased	If yes, please explain how
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, decreased	If yes, please explain how
<input type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure/ no answer	
23a. Which of the following statements best describes the current management capacity at the MPA with respect to organizational management ?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 1	The MPA staff complement is very limited and/or staff has inadequate skills and knowledge to effectively carry out management
<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 2	The MPA staff complement is inconsistent in numbers, skills and/or knowledge to effectively carry out management
<input type="checkbox"/> Tier 3	The MPA staff complement is adequate and has proper skills and knowledge to effectively carry out management
23b. What is your reason(s) for selecting that tier?	
23c. What are your challenges or needs to increase management capacity and move to a higher tier? If funding, for what would you use the funds?	
23d. Are there training and/or professional development opportunities for the MPA staff?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	If yes, please specify
<input type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure/ no answer	
23e. Has capacity changed for this topic in past 5 years?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, increased	If yes, please explain how
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, decreased	If yes, please explain how
<input type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure/ no answer	

24. Based on the management capacity assessment areas, what are the **top three capacity building priorities for the MPA for the next 5 years?**

Please mark #1, #2 and #3 in order of priority where #1 is the highest priority

Site management
Management planning
Legal Framework
Partnerships/coordination
Stakeholder engagement
Enforcement
Boundaries
Biophysical monitoring
Socioeconomic monitoring
MPA effectiveness evaluation and adaptive management
Financing
Communicating economic value
Outreach and education
Planning for resilience to climate change
Sustainable livelihood options
Fisheries management
Pollution
Sustainable tourism
Response to disturbance events
Organizational management

25. Which **capacity building approaches** best address your top three capacity building priorities for the MPA **for the next 5 years?**

Please mark #1, #2 and #3 in order of importance where #1 is the most important

Training
Technical support
Learning exchanges
Higher education courses
More staff
Professional networking
Other, <i>please specify</i>

26. Beyond the scope of this capacity assessment, are there any **other challenges facing the MPA** for which you would like assistance?

Yes If yes, please explain

No

Not sure/ no answer

27. Where you stated that you are at Tier 3 in relation to MPA management capacity areas, are you able and/or willing to **become a mentor for other sites** on those topics, or to **help the network** in other ways?

(Assessment facilitator please read topics where Tier 3 selected between questions 4 and 23)

Yes

No

Not sure/ no answer

28. Are you in agreement with GCFI and NOAA including your results from this assessment in the larger report on MPA management capacity in the Caribbean that will be shared, for example, with our team members, with the other participating MPAs and with possible capacity building partners?

Yes

No

Please specify any conditions or special requests

Thank you very much for your time in working with GCFI and NOAA on this assessment!