NOAA/GCFI MPA Capacity Assessment Survey Tool

Background information about assessment process *(to be completed by assessment facilitator)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of assessment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Place of assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name and affiliation of assessment facilitator(s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name of MPA site, country</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name and organization of MPA Manager</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Contact information for MPA Manager</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Contact</th>
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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?
- Yes
- No
- 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?
- Yes
- No
- Not sure/ no answer

2b. Are there any **regional or international organizations** that currently support the site? i.e. funding, training, technical assistance
- Yes
- No
- Not sure/ no answer

3a. Is the site associated with a **network of MPAs** or is it part of an ecological MPA network?
- Yes
- No
- Not sure/ no answer

3b. If yes, has it been designed to support network goals and management objectives?
- Yes
- No
- Not sure/ no answer

3c. If yes, is site management coordinated with other sites across the ecological network?
- Yes
- No
- 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...

- Tier 1: No management personnel assigned to site and/or little or no formalized community oversight
- Tier 2: Some management personnel assigned to site or some formalized community oversight
- 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?
- Yes, increased
- Yes, decreased
- No
- 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...

- Tier 1: Some management activity being implemented, but no management plan in place
- Tier 2: Some management activity being implemented and management plan developed
- 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?
- Yes
5e. 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

6a. Which of the following statements best describes the current management capacity at the MPA with respect to the legal framework? There are...
- Tier 1  Few or no official rules and/or regulations in place governing the MPA
- Tier 2  Some laws or official rules and/or regulations in place governing some managed activities within the MPA
- 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?
- Yes, increased  If yes, please explain how
- Yes, decreased  If yes, please explain how
- No
- 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 ...
- Tier 1  One agency managing the site with little or no coordination with other agencies or organizations
- Tier 2  Informal partnerships with agencies or organizations who support MPA management activities (e.g. outreach, monitoring)
- 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?
- Yes, increased  If yes, please explain how
- Yes, decreased  If yes, please explain how
- No
- 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...
- Tier 1  No community or stakeholder engagement
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tier 2</th>
<th>Some community and stakeholder engagement in some but not in all aspects of MPA management</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tier 3</td>
<td>Community and stakeholder engagement in implementation of site management efforts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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?

- Yes, increased
- Yes, decreased
- No
- Not sure/ no answer

9a. Which of the following statements best describes the **current management capacity** at the MPA with respect to **enforcement**? There is...

- Tier 1 Little or no enforcement of existing rules and regulations
- Tier 2 Inconsistent enforcement of rules and regulations
- Tier 3 Active and consistent enforcement of rules and regulations

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?

- Yes, increased
- Yes, decreased
- No
- Not sure/ no answer

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...

- Tier 1 No clearly defined boundaries delineating the MPA nor clearly defined zones within the MPA
- Tier 2 Clearly defined boundaries and/or zones but they are not readily visible nor explicitly communicated to the public and/or MPA stakeholders
- 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

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?

- Yes, increased
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?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What does the MPA monitor?</th>
<th>What is monitoring method?</th>
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<tbody>
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</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What does the MPA monitor?</th>
<th>What is monitoring method?</th>
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<tbody>
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</table>

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...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tier 1</th>
<th>No evaluation of MPA effectiveness</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tier 2</td>
<td>MPA effectiveness has been evaluated but no ongoing effectiveness monitoring and evaluation program in place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tier 3</td>
<td>MPA effectiveness monitoring and evaluation program in place with findings being applied to adapt management strategies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tier 1</th>
<th>Few or no reliable sources of funding identified to support MPA management activities</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tier 2</td>
<td>Some sources of funding to support MPA management activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tier 3</td>
<td>A sustainable financing plan that is being implemented to provide long term MPA financing mechanisms</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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
14e. If Tier 2 or Tier 3: What sustainable financing mechanisms does your MPA have?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes, decreased</td>
<td>If yes, please explain how</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Not sure/no answer</td>
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</table>

15a. Which of the following statements best describes the current management capacity at the MPA with respect to communicating its economic value?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tier 1</th>
<th>Economic value of the MPA’s natural resources not been assessed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tier 2</td>
<td>Economic value of the MPA’s natural resources has been assessed but not used in targeted communications with decision makers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tier 3</td>
<td>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</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes, increased</td>
<td>If yes, please explain how</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yes, decreased</td>
<td>If yes, please explain how</td>
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<tr>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not sure/no answer</td>
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</table>

16a. Which of the following statements best describes the current management capacity at the MPA with respect to outreach and education? There is/are...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tier 1</th>
<th>Few or no ongoing outreach and education activities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tier 2</td>
<td>Some ongoing outreach and education activities in support of the MPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tier 3</td>
<td>An outreach and education program with various activities and strategies focused on the MPA that helps achieve the MPA’s goals and objectives</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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?

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<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>If yes, which audience(s)?</td>
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<tr>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not sure/no answer</td>
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16e. Has capacity changed for this topic in past 5 years?

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<th>Option</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes, increased</td>
<td>If yes, please explain how</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes, decreased</td>
<td>If yes, please explain how</td>
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<tr>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not sure/no answer</td>
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</table>
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?

<table>
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<tr>
<th>What fisheries does the MPA assess?</th>
<th>What is assessment method?</th>
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19e. Has capacity changed for this topic in past 5 years?

- Yes, increased  
- Yes, decreased  
- 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  
- Tier 2  
- Tier 3  
- 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  
- Yes, decreased  
- 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  
- Tier 2  
- Tier 3  
- 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  
- No  
- 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...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tier 1</th>
<th>Little or no consideration of response to disturbance events in the management of the MPA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tier 2</td>
<td>Response plan(s) developed for the MPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tier 3</td>
<td>Response plan(s) being implemented with resources, technical capacity and infrastructure available to respond</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes, increased</th>
<th>If yes, please explain how</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes, decreased</td>
<td>If yes, please explain how</td>
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<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Not sure/ no answer</td>
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23a. Which of the following statements best describes the **current management capacity** at the MPA with respect to **organizational management**?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tier 1</th>
<th>The MPA staff complement is very limited and/or staff has inadequate skills and knowledge to effectively carry out management</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tier 2</td>
<td>The MPA staff complement is inconsistent in numbers, skills and/or knowledge to effectively carry out management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tier 3</td>
<td>The MPA staff complement is adequate and has proper skills and knowledge to effectively carry out management</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>If yes, please specify</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not sure/ no answer</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

23e. Has capacity changed for this topic in past 5 years?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes, increased</th>
<th>If yes, please explain how</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes, decreased</td>
<td>If yes, please explain how</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not sure/ no answer</td>
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</table>
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, please specify

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!