

Sustainable Governance of Marine Resources and the Role of Trust

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Presentation Outline

■ Introduction:

- Background Dutch Fisheries Sector
- PhD research questions (2008-2011)
- Governance
- Trust

■ PhD Research:

- Problem definition
- Case studies: New Policy Arrangements
- Future activities



Issues within Dutch Fisheries Sector

- Sustainability issues
- Growing conflicts of interests between sector and society
- 'Outsiders' criticising the sector
- Internationalisation of trade; global context
- Stocks on Maximum Sustainable Yield-level (MSY)
- Protected Areas at Sea (MPAs, Natura 2000 network)
- Increasing interweaving of state, market and society
- Sector taking responsibility

Sense of urgency is there! -> Transition



PhD Research Questions (2008-2011):

- Various stakeholders working together in transition to a sustainable fisheries sector
- How does trust play part in this?
- Under what (trust) conditions are they willing to cooperate and share information?
- Are new forms of trust, institutions and governance required?



Governance

Governance is the whole of *public* as well as *private* interactions that are initiated to solve societal *problems* and to create societal *opportunities* (Bavinck *et al.* 2005)



Deciding whether or not to trust a person is like deciding whether or not to climb a tree, because you might get a wonderful view from the highest branch, or you might simply get covered in sap, and for this reason many people choose to spend their time alone and indoors, where it is harder to get a splinter. ~Lemony Snicket



Trust

“Trust is the belief concerning the action that is to be expected from others.” (Miztal 1994)

beliefs (expectations) and commitment

Norms of *reciprocity* that must be honoured

Personal - Institutional

Passive – Active



Why is Trust important in transitions?

- Transitions: situation of uncertainty, complexity
- Trust is a precondition for cooperation
- The product of successful cooperation
- It promotes the sharing of knowledge and information
- New forms of governance require new forms of trust (multi actor, multi level)



PhD Research: Problem definition

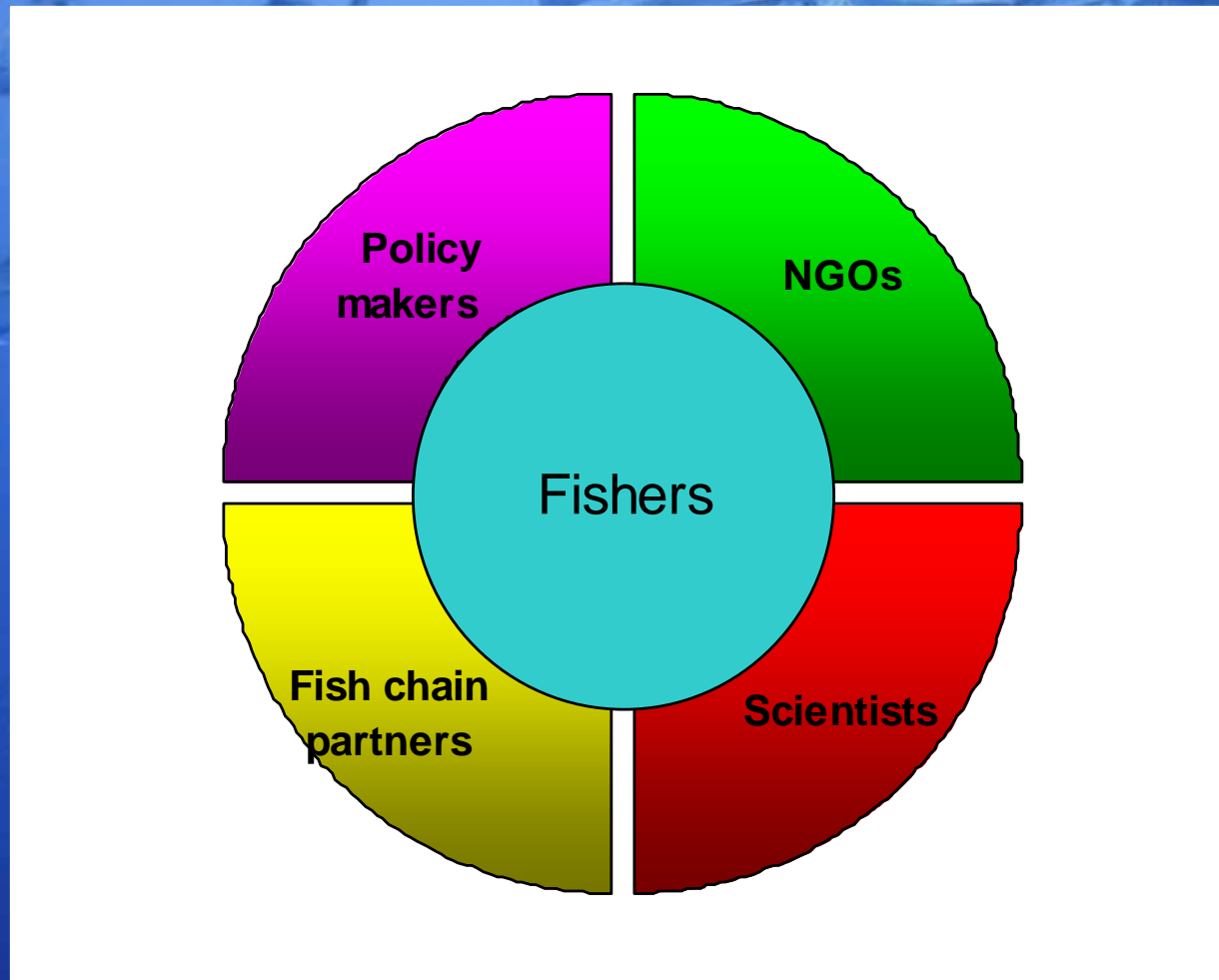


Four Case Studies/transition instruments

- The Development of the Co-Management System
- Knowledge Exchange Networks (KENs)
- Sustainable Labelling (MSC)
- Discard research



Various relationships of mutual trust



Discard research

Collaboration between marine scientists and fishermen

Creating transparency and openness

Political and economic incentives

Level of quota partly depends on amount of discards



The Development of the Co-Management System

- Set up to regain legitimacy of the fisheries policy
- Seek balance between ecology and economy
- Did it restore relationships of trust between fishermen and government and how did it influence a sustainable fishery?
- Institutional trust



Ten Knowledge

Exchange Networks

Cooperation between fishermen and researchers

Bottom up, fishermen as experts

Diversification in sector

From, for and by fishermen

Think and work together on the future of your fisheries!

Knowledge Circles are (study) groups of fishermen that have formulated challenges, questions or problems and together are looking for solutions.

The sector wants sustainability
In 'Vissen met Tegenwind' (sector policy paper) the sector pointed out that it wants to increase its sustainability and its economic future perspective. It wants to look for alternatives offering better fish products at a reduced cost price and meeting social demands. This is the triptych: cost reduction, increase of revenues and reduction of ecological impact.

Working on sustainability together!
Especially the fishery sector, but also research institutes have a lot of knowledge on fishing stocks, fishing techniques, fish quality, ecology, economy, marketing etc. This knowledge is essential to find the answers.



What results can be expected?
A Knowledge Circle is a project from, for and by fishermen looking for solutions. For instance, developing new fishing techniques, an alternative way to market the fish or a more efficient fuel consumption. Also knowledge of LEI and IMARES is available for this purpose. In addition, also other institutes or parties can play a supportive role.



Knowledge Circles to be started:

1. Twin-rig fisheries (Nephrops and Plaice)
2. Coastal fisheries (Grey mullet and Seabass)
3. Gill net fisheries (Sole)
4. Beam trawl fisheries (Flatfish)
5. Inshore fisheries (Eel)
6. Mussel culture and fisheries
7. Puls fisheries (Flatfish)
8. Lake IJssel fisheries (IJsselmeer)
9. Flyshoot fisheries
10. Shrimp fisheries

Knowledge Circles bundle knowledge

Knowledge Circles are (study) groups of fishermen that have formulated challenges, questions or problems and together are looking for solutions. With assistance of LEI and IMARES the Knowledge Circles are supported in organizing meetings, finding new contacts, answering (knowledge) questions and preparing proposals to submit to the Fishery Innovation Platform (VIP). However, the Knowledge Circles remain in control in finding the answers and the participants also contribute with their own knowledge.

Summary

- The aim of the Knowledge Circles fits the objectives of the triptych.
- The ownership of the question or problem is clearly with the Knowledge Circles themselves. The participants meet each other at least four times a year and cooperate to make the Knowledge Circle a success.
- Experiences and results of the Knowledge Circles are public and supportive to the whole fishery sector.



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Sustainable Labelling (MSC)

Relationships of trust within the supply chain, with NGOs and consumers

Does it change relationships of mutual trust

How does that work?

What is the influence on sustainable fisheries?



Output

- 2008
 - Mansholt research proposal
 - Two presentation at conferences
 - Two draft papers
- 2009
 - Submit two papers to scientific journals
 - Two presentations at conferences
 - Draft third paper
- 2010
 - Submit third paper
 - Start and finish fourth paper
- 2011
 - Dissertation
 - Presentation stakeholders



Questions?

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