

Global Socioeconomic Monitoring Initiative (SocMon)/
MPA Management Effectiveness
US Virgin Islands Training Workshop
July 16-20, 2008
St. Croix, US Virgin Islands

WORKSHOP REPORT

1. Workshop summary
2. Workshop participants- SocMon
3. Workshop output

1. WORKSHOP SUMMARY

On July 16-20, the Global SocMon Coordinator organized a two-part capacity building workshop on St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands in cooperation with The Ocean Conservancy, The Nature Conservancy, and the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI) Coastal Zone Management Program. One half of the workshop focused on marine protected area (MPA) effectiveness and was aimed at the East End Marine Park Advisory Board in St. Croix. The other half of the workshop focused on socioeconomic monitoring and was aimed at future practitioners throughout the USVI.

- **Outcomes:** This was one of the first domestic applications of the Global Socioeconomic Monitoring Initiative (SocMon), following a similar workshop held in Puerto Rico in April 2007.
- **Next steps:** Following the workshop, The Ocean Conservancy is coordinating socioeconomic monitoring at several sites throughout the USVI. The SocMon Global Coordinator is providing technical assistance for this effort.

USVI SOCMON TRAINING
JULY 16-18, 2007

PARTICIPANTS

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3. USVI SocMon training with Dr. Bob Pomeroy- workshop output

Developing Questionnaires

Step 1:

a) Secondary data on baseline socioeconomic data

- Virginia Tech
- TNC work on MPAs
- DPNR & Federal Division of Fish & Wildlife? (but not reliable & need releases)
- Google “USVI socioeconomic data”

b) Develop our baseline socioeconomic information (on stakeholders and communities)

- Resource Use Patterns and activities
 - Stakeholder characteristics/ demographics
 - Gender issues
 - Stakeholder perceptions and attitudes
 - Organization and governance
 - Traditional knowledge
 - Community services and infrastructure
 - Market attributes- extractive and non-extractive
 - Non-market and non-use of resource
- Questions in the survey need to be timeless so that they can be repeated over time in intervals
 - Start with simple questions at the beginning; end with the personal questions last!
 - Separate socioeconomic baseline survey (that includes knowledge/ attitude/ perceptions) for households & KAP for other stakeholders
 - Type of households to survey (random? directive?)
 - Who to survey? How accessible are they?
 - Direct users: Fishermen, Tour guides, Boaters, Recreational users, Campers,
 - Indirect users: Restaurants, Hotels/Resorts,
 - **Map & Matrix Idea** (checking off areas used and describing what you do at each site) with an addition of frequency of use

Matrix example of User Groups for each of the 14 USVI MPAs

MPA Name	Fishers	Guides	Boaters	Rec Users	Campers
East End Marine Park	X	X	X	X	X
Salt River Bay		X	X		
Red Hind Closure	X				
Buck Island National Monument		X	X	X	
etc. etc...					

Pilot Questionnaire (for East End Marine Park)-
INITIAL DRAFT- NOT FOR CIRCULATION

[Baseline Primary Informant Survey]

Date & Time_____

Interviewer_____

Location (where interview conducted)_____

Respondent # (keep anonymous!) _____

Demographics:

(I) Is the respondent male or female?_____

(I) How long have you lived on this island?_____

(I) Where is your family from?*

__ Virgin Islander

__ Mainlanders

__ Puerto Rico

__ Non-US Caribbean

__ Other (specify)_____

[end of survey]

(I) Age (stratify or “What year were you born?_____):

__ Under 18

__ 18-25 years

__ 26-35 years

__ 36-45 years

__ 46-55 years

__ 56+ years

(I) Education level (first grade = 1):

Number of years_____

(I) What is your primary occupation?_____

(I) Are you a member any organization, community group and/or church?

If yes, what organization/group?_____

what organization/group?_____

what organization/group?_____

(H) How many people live in this household?_____

(H) How long has this household been located in this community?_____

(H) What community does this household belong to?_____

(H) What is the primary language spoken in this household?_____

(H) What are the 3 most important occupations of household members in order of the amount of income generated?

1st _____ 2nd _____ 3rd _____

(H) What are the primary, secondary, and tertiary most important sources of income?

1ary _____ 2ary _____ 3ary _____

Would you want your children to follow in the same line of work?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Why or why not? _____

Resource Use Patterns:

Within the EEMP, what are the top 3 most important activities that you engage in?

1= most important, 2= 2nd most important, 3= 3rd most important

- Commercial fishing
- Recreational fishing
- Commercial boating or tour guides
- Recreational boating
- Recreational snorkeling or diving
- Overnight camping
- Beach use (daytime)
- Water sports (swimming, kite surfing, wind surfing, jet skiing, etc.)
- Other (describe) _____

How frequently do you engage in your #1 activity? _____

How frequently do you engage in your #2 activity? _____

How frequently do you engage in your #3 activity? _____

Where else do you engage in your #1 activity? _____

Where else do you engage in your #2 activity? _____

Where else do you engage in your #3 activity? _____

Specific area of EEMP?

--Grid or zone out a map of the USVI and have them check boxes of use.

*Idea: Overall activities inside vs. outside MPAs

Check if you partake in the following activities on your island?

	Outside MPAs	Inside MPAs
Commercial fishing		
Recreational fishing		

Commercial boating or tour guides		
Recreational boating		
Recreational snorkeling or diving		
Overnight camping		
Beach use (daytime)		
Water sports (swimming, kite surfing, wind surfing, jet skiing, etc.)		

*What percentage of your income is based on your activities within the EEMP? ___%

* What types of gear do you employ?

Attitudes and Perceptions

Do you know of any environmental or conservation groups? If yes, list:

What 2 things do you think that environmental or conservation groups have done well in the USVI?

1. _____
2. _____

What thing(s) could environmental or conservation groups improve on in the USVI?

To you, what is the purpose of a marine protected area? _____

Are you familiar with any marine protected areas in the USVI? (If yes, give example)

Answer true or false about the East End Marine Park

_____ The boundaries of the East End Marine Park are restricted to Cramer’s Park

_____ There is a fishing zones within the East End Marine Park

_____ There are

_____ Recreational boating within the East End Marine Park is allowed

_____ Anchoring is allowed within the East End Marine Park

How would you describe the conditions of the marine resources five years ago at East End Marine Park?

___ Very good

___ Good

___ Not good

___ Bad

___ Very bad

How would you describe the conditions of the marine resources today at East End Marine Park?

- Very good
- Good
- Not good
- Bad
- Very bad

What do you feel are the 3 biggest problems in the USVI?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

What are possible solutions to those problems?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Environmental Knowledge

Indicate your degree of agreement with the following statements:

4=Strongly agree/ 3=Agree/ 2=Disagree/ 1=Strongly Disagree

- Reefs are important for protecting land from storms and waves
- We should protect land to help maintain healthy seas
- I want future generations to be able to enjoy the mangroves & reefs

- Do you believe that healthy seas are dependent on fish & other marine creatures?
- Do you believe that healthy fish populations are dependent on healthy seas?

Governance

What two things do you think have worked well for coastal management in the USVI?

1. _____
2. _____

What two things can be improved on in coastal management in the USVI?

1. _____
2. _____

Who do you think should work to manage the East End Marine Park?

- Government only
- Community only
- Both

*Idea: Put some question(s) distinguishing between federal vs. local MPAs (in terms of management)

Potential Impacts

What are the economic impacts of the East End Marine Park on you?

- It helps my income
- It hurts my income
- No impact on my income

How does the East End Marine Park affect its marine resources and waters?

- It helps the resources and waters
- It hurts the resources and waters
- No impact on the resources and waters

Overall, how does the East End Marine Park affect your community?

- It is good for the community
- It is bad for the community
- It doesn't affect the community

Do you support the East End Marine Park?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Why or why not? _____

Idea: Past/Present/Future

What kind of employment do you think a marine protected area could offer?

Do you see any potential employment for yourself in a MPA?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Do you see any opportunities for economic advancement in the context of MPAs for members of the community?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Please rank your opinion about the following issues on a scale of 1 to 10.

	Before EEMP	Today	Future of EEMP

<i>Food security</i> 1= There is a great food shortage in the USVI 10=There is plenty of food for everyone in the USVI			
<i>Fish and marine resources</i> 1= The fish and marine resources are depleted and degraded 10= The fish and marine resources are abundant and healthy			
<i>Water health</i> 1=The waters are foul and unhealthy 10= The waters are pristine and healthy			
<i>Coastal management</i> 1=Coastal management does not function *10=Coastal management protects the waters and marine resources as well as the need of the people			
<i>*Economic well-being</i> 1=Worst possible existence, little or no food, inadequate furnishing/shelter, poor health 10=			

Other questions:

Level of stakeholder participation

Attitudes toward the process

Perception as to how EEMP was developed

Ability to influence the process (done “to” them or “with” them)

Is their input valued?

Awareness of the public meetings

Equity issues/ Conflicts (fishermen vs. recreators = locals vs. mainlanders)

Virgin Islanders in positions of authority

Who do you think should manage ocean resources? Federal/Local...

Profile of DPNR managers???