



Session 04

Ecosystem Indicators for the management of fisheries and the marine environment in West Africa waters: the indiAWA experience

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Abstract

This communication presents the current state of indiAWA work and experience. IndiAWA is an extending network of scientists working on West African marine ecosystem or fisheries, initiated from the Working package 4 of the AWA project. The long term objective of the IndiAWA consortium is to develop an Ecosystem Indicators Based approach for the management of fisheries and the marine environment in West Africa waters. One of the first goals for this group will be to put on (or contribute to) the theoretical and practical basis for evaluating the status of West Africa exploited marine ecosystems. In order to reach this goal indiAWA plans to develop and to test multi-institutional sets of indicators including climate, biodiversity dimension and human dimension, taking into account the local situation of data availability and information systems. IndiAWA will relies on regional expertise, developed in the AWA project, but will also benefit from the IndiSeas experience (www.indiseas.org), a project working since several years on a similar thematic at the worldwide scale. Close collaborations are indeed in progress between the two groups which are sharing some common experts and ecosystem case studies.

Keywords: Marine ecosystem, indicators, fisheries, West-Africa, scientists network.



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