



Aquaculture and Marine Protected Areas:

Exploring Potential Opportunities and Synergies



To meet the Convention on Biological Diversity’s Aichi Target 11 on marine biodiversity protection, Aichi Target 6 on sustainable fisheries by 2020, as well as the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 on food security and SDG 14 on oceans, by 2030, there is an urgent need to reconcile nature conservation and sustainable development.

It is also widely recognised that aquaculture significantly contributes to sustainable development in coastal communities and plays a vital role in ensuring food security, poverty alleviation, and economic resilience.

In the framework of integrated management, the time has therefore come to identify the potential opportunities and synergies that can enable aquaculture and conservation to work together more effectively.



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FOCUS:

MARINE NATURE PARK OF MAYOTTE, A CASE STUDY



Ifremer



A small scale Red Drum production began in 2001 in Mayotte and was supported by a nonprofit organization Aquamay until 2015. Aiming to continue Aquamay missions, a new organization will emerge to train and support new farmers at administrative, technical, economical and biological levels, and define local candidate species for aquaculture diversification.

Mayotte MPA is a marine Nature Park created in 2010 and covering all Mayotte's EEZ. The park pursues several objectives: knowledge of the marine environment, its protection and the sustainable development of marine activities. Within Mayotte's Marine Park management plan, a goal of sustainable aquaculture in Mayotte was recognised by stakeholders and local authorities. Therefore, detailed recommendations have been made for its development.

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Strengths

- MPA framework for the development of sustainable aquaculture/Marine Spatial Planning,
- Current production compatible with the specifications of organic farming (low density/no antibiotic),
- Sheltered lagoon cyclonic storms.

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Weaknesses

- Infrastructure development plan in progress (roads)
- Low local investment capacity,
- Low number of species produced, non-native selected species
- Insecurity (installations),
- Low efficient marketing strategy.

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Opportunities

- Stable political system,
- Growing demand for marine products
- Biodiversity: possibilities of diversification and IMTA.

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Threats

- Urbanization and demographic change,
- Climate change,
- Cost of labor,
- Availability of shore land and competition with other coastal uses.

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