



Session 10: Thursday 18th April

SUZUETTE SOOMAI

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT: THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

Key lecture topics

- What constitutes information/ evidence? How is it defined by creators and users? What does it mean to use information?
- What characterizes the science-policy interface?
- The role(s) of research-based information in policy and decision-making contexts.
- Enablers and barriers to use of research-based information in policy and decision-making.
- The complexity of measuring use and influence of information.

Preparatory material

Soomai, S. S., & MacDonald, B. H. (2018). [Information matters: Global perspectives about communication at the science-policy interface](#). In D. Werle, P. R. Boudreau, M. R. Brooks, M. J. A. Butler, A. Charles, S. Coffen-Smout, ... P. G. Wells (Eds.), *The Future of Ocean Governance and Capacity Development: Essays in Honor of Elisabeth Mann Borgese (1918-2002)*, pp. 271–276. (available open access).

Optional extra readings and relevant material for broader concepts

MacDonald, B. H., Soomai, S. S., De Santo, E. M., & Wells, P. G. (Eds.). (2016). [Science, information, and policy interface for effective coastal and ocean management](#). Boca Raton, Florida: CRC Press, Taylor & Francis Group. <https://doi.org/10.1201/b21483> (available open access).

Soomai, S. S. (2017). The science-policy interface in fisheries management: Insights about the influence of organizational structure and culture on information pathways. *Marine Policy*, 81, 53-63.

Soomai, S. S. (2017). Understanding the science-policy interface: Case studies on the role of information in fisheries management. *Environmental Science & Policy*, 72, 65–75.

International Network for Governmental Science Advice: [website](#).

Sir Peter Gluckman (Nov. 2020), [Part I – Science Advice and Policymaking](#), (video: c. 16 mins)

Questions (for reflection only, not written response)

What has been your experience in creating and/or communicating information (e.g., scientific, social, local knowledge) to decision-makers?

How have you used information in environmental decision-making?