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Stakeholder Involvement in fisheries management: Through interactive governance perspective

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Stakeholder involvement is seen as a way of:

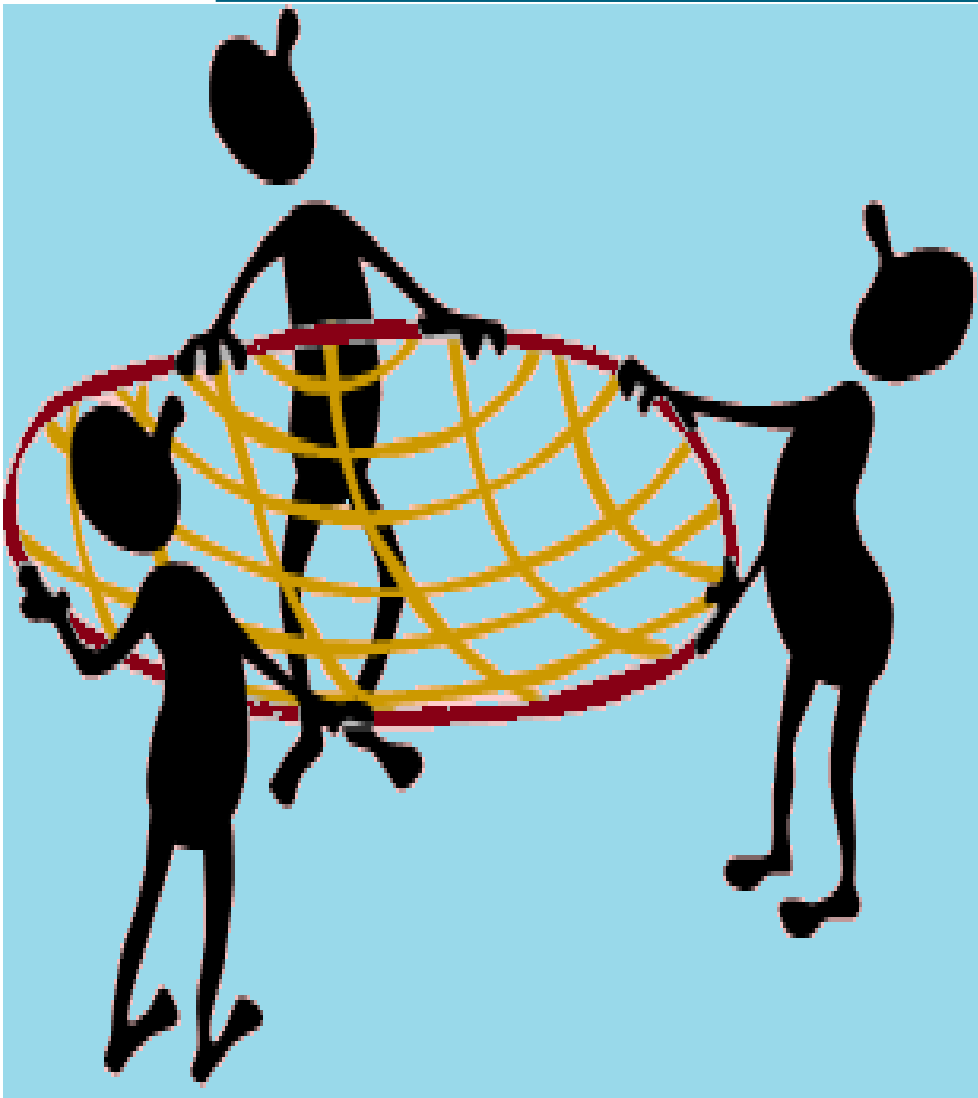
- filling a 'democratic deficit' in fisheries governance
- empowering stakeholders
- enhancing the legitimacy of fisheries management
- broadening the knowledgebase on which fisheries management are built
- enhancing the degree of compliance

These are global challenges; they exist everywhere, also within EU's Common Fisheries Policy, at both industrial and small-scale level.

The power of genuine Stakeholder involvement:

- Power sharing
- Institution building
- Trust building
- Process (e.g. Result-based management or Co-management)
- Social learning
- Problem solving,

Fisheries management with interactive governance is participatory democracy

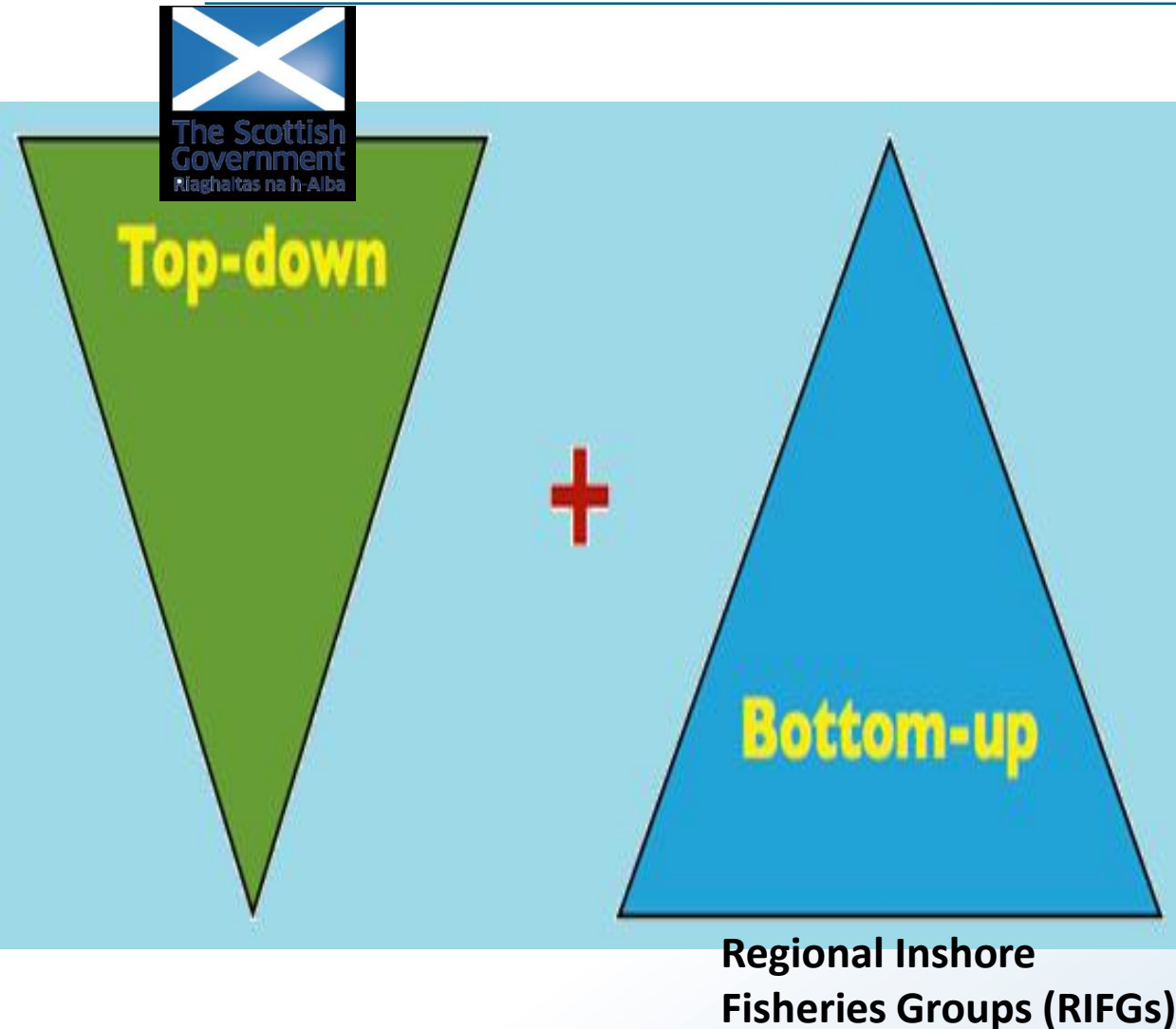


It implements subsidiarity principle of social organisation.

The central authority should:

- Have the subsidiary function, performing only those tasks, which cannot be performed at a local level;
- Address the problems beyond communities' scope, coordinate at various levels, financial and provide technical assistances.

Participatory democracy



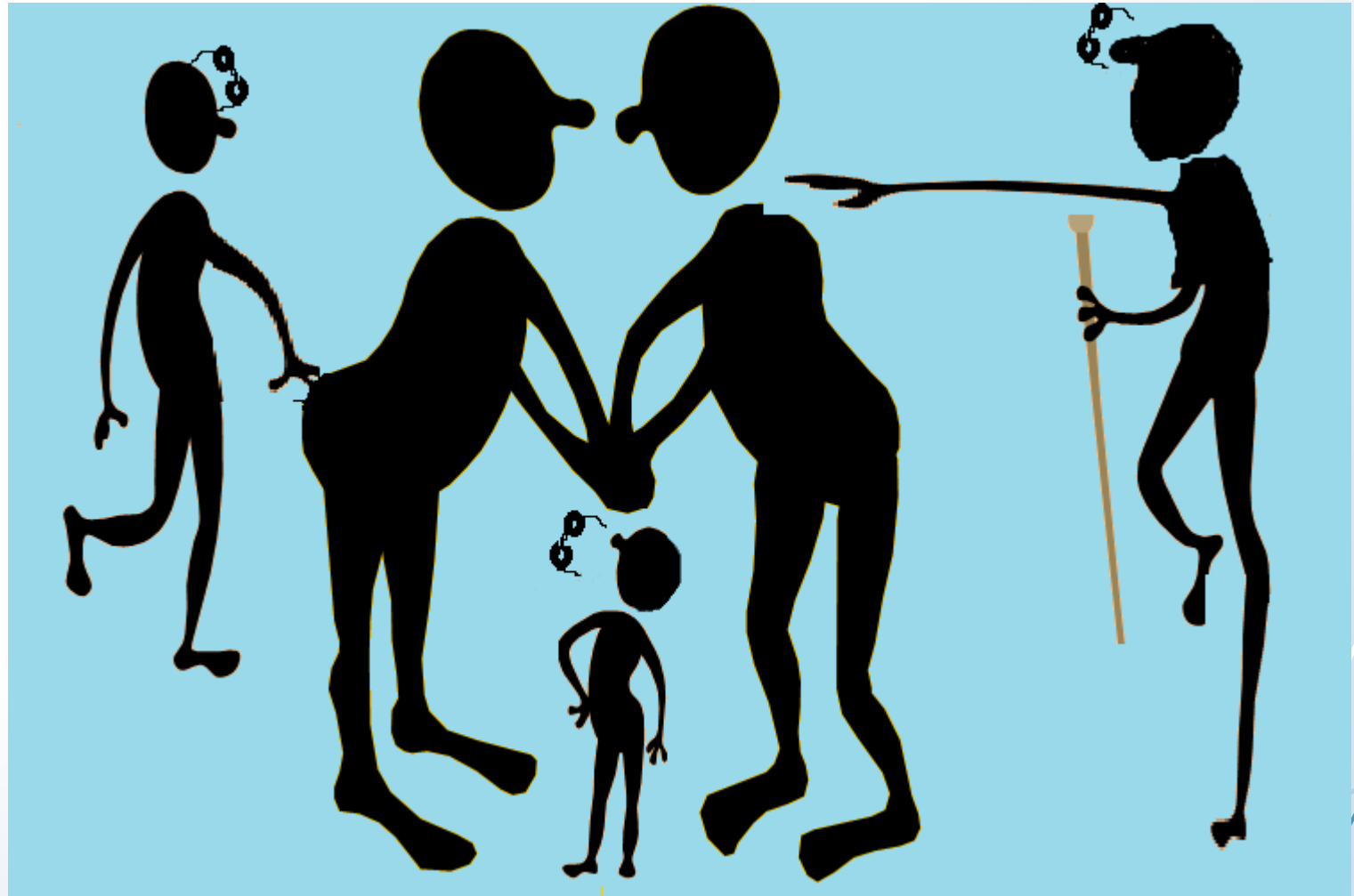
For example:

- Scottish government make standards/regulations
- RIFGs propose and implementation
 - ✓ Mobilises participatory

Management institutional design must:

Adhere to democratic principles of accountability and transparency.

It should be sensitive to, and representative of, all affected interests.



Why interactive governance in fisheries?

In addition to be 'right thing' from a normative perspective, interactive governance also has functional merits:

- **IMPROVES PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY,**
- **BROADER KNOWLEDGE,**
- **MORE ADEQUATE RULES,**
- **INCREASED LEGITIMACY,**
- **INCREASED ADHERENCE,**
- **INCREASED PROFICIENCY**

✓ **It searches for better fisheries management approaches.**

There by solve the problems of:

- Collaboration,
 - Conflict resolution
- and**
- Knowledge mobilisation in regulatory decision making.

(Pomeroy and Berkes, 1997; Msomphora 2016)

Practical knowledge from Scottish RIFGs

There is positive relationship between stakeholder's level of participation and satisfaction (Strongly correlated).

However, OHRIFG stakeholders had different perceptions from NWIFG (now part of WCRIFG) towards the decision process, except for their views towards government support.

For instance:

| Stakeholder perception of | Likert-scale items | RIFG (IFG) area | % Responses | | | Wilcoxon's rank sum z-test | |
|---------------------------|---|-----------------|-------------|---------|-----------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| | | | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Mean rank | Z score |
| | Government value and supports our views | OHRIFG | 26 | 13 | 61 | 28.85 | Z = -1.64, p=0.102 |
| | | NWIFG | 44 | 19 | 37 | 22.65 | |
| Participation | Involved in decision-making process | OHRIFG | 26 | 17 | 57 | 31.24 | Z = -2.77, p=0.006 |
| | | NWIFG | 59 | 22 | 19 | 20.61 | |
| Satisfaction | The RIFG/IFG leadership is good | OHRIFG | 4 | 22 | 74 | 33.37 | Z = -3.82, p<0.001 |
| | | NWIFG | 52 | 22 | 26 | 18.80 | |

Results of backward linear regression analysis of stakeholder participation perception.

| Variable | Estimate | SE (estimate) | P |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------|
| Constant | 6.961 | 1.633 | 0.000 |
| Satisfaction index | 0.590 | 0.106 | 0.000 |
| Fishing gear ^a | 1.451 | 0.611 | 0.022 |
| Fisheries dependence ^b | -2.685 | 0.712 | 0.001 |

Adjusted R squared = 0.607.

^aStatic gear = 1, Mobile gear = 0.

^bHigh dependence = 1, if not = 0.

(Msomphora 2015)

Odds ratios (OR) calculated from ordinal logistic regression models 'estimates for stakeholders' perceptions in the NWIFG compared to those in OHRIFG

| Outcome variable ^a | Unadjusted analysis | | Age adjusted analysis | | Multiple factor adjusted analysis ^b | |
|--|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| | OR | 95% Confidence interval | OR | 95% Confidence interval | OR | 95% Confidence interval |
| Government support | 0.402 | (0.136, 1.188) | 0.350 | (0.114, 1.079) | 0.213 | (0.063, 1.004) |
| Informed | 0.102 | (0.024, 0.431)** | 0.088 | (0.020, 0.399)** | 0.033 | (0.005, 0.227)*** |
| Consulted | 0.177 | (0.048, 0.655)* | 0.160 | (0.041, 0.619)** | 0.113 | (0.025, 0.525)** |
| Involved | 0.208 | (0.068, 0.632)** | 0.199 | (0.064, 0.616)* | 0.156 | (0.041, 0.586)** |
| Happy | 0.081 | (0.023, 0.282)*** | 0.076 | (0.021, 0.272)*** | 0.044 | (0.010, 0.199)*** |
| Local interests taken into consideration | 0.237 | (0.079, 0.708)* | 0.233 | (0.077, 0.704)* | 0.175 | (0.046, 0.668)* |
| RIFGMP will make a difference | 0.053 | (0.013, 0.213)*** | 0.053 | (0.013, 0.216)*** | 0.037 | (0.007, 0.186)*** |
| Good leadership | 0.097 | (0.028, 0.336)*** | 0.095 | (0.027, 0.335)*** | 0.038 | (0.008, 0.191)*** |

Dummy variable for X is 1 for OHRIFG and 0 for NWIFG. *P<0.05; **P<0.01; ***P<0.0001.

^a Agree vs. Neutral vs. Disagree.

^b Adjusted for age, education, dependency on fisheries, experience, fishing gear and if the stakeholders belong to Pos.

Why degree of participation higher in OHRIFG?

13 conditions are deemed necessary for stakeholder participation

In OHRIFG **all necessary conditions exist**, except for a formal conflict resolution and the right to manage.

The **collaborative spirit** among OHRIFG stakeholders is high.

Despite stakeholder conflicts and lack of a formal conflict resolution arrangement,

OHRIFG stakeholders successfully developed the MP

This suggest that:

Stakeholder participation can still work under less than ideal conditions for success.

Concluding remarks

Conflicts from a wider spectrum of stakeholders can be beneficial.

Formal conflict resolution and legislative power are not strictly necessary.

Hence, one should not wait until all the conditions are optimal at step zero before introducing stakeholder participation.

Rather, some necessary conditions can be introduced at some later stage

Concluding remarks (continues...)

Nature of participation measures can influence satisfaction towards stakeholders' engagement in the decision-making process.

Broader array of stakeholder participation and good leadership increases stakeholder satisfaction for their participation.

Stakeholder consultation and informed choices regarding the decision-making process also plays an important role.

Other important determinants of stakeholder participation include:

- 1. type of fishing gear** and
- 2. the degree of fisheries dependence**

However,

Demographic and business characteristics can influence stakeholders' participation in the decision making process, **independent** of their satisfaction perceptions towards the process.

But, in general,

Increasing stakeholders' satisfaction plays a key role on the success of increasing stakeholders' participation

Interactive governance between national authorities and stakeholder groups: the future of fisheries management!

