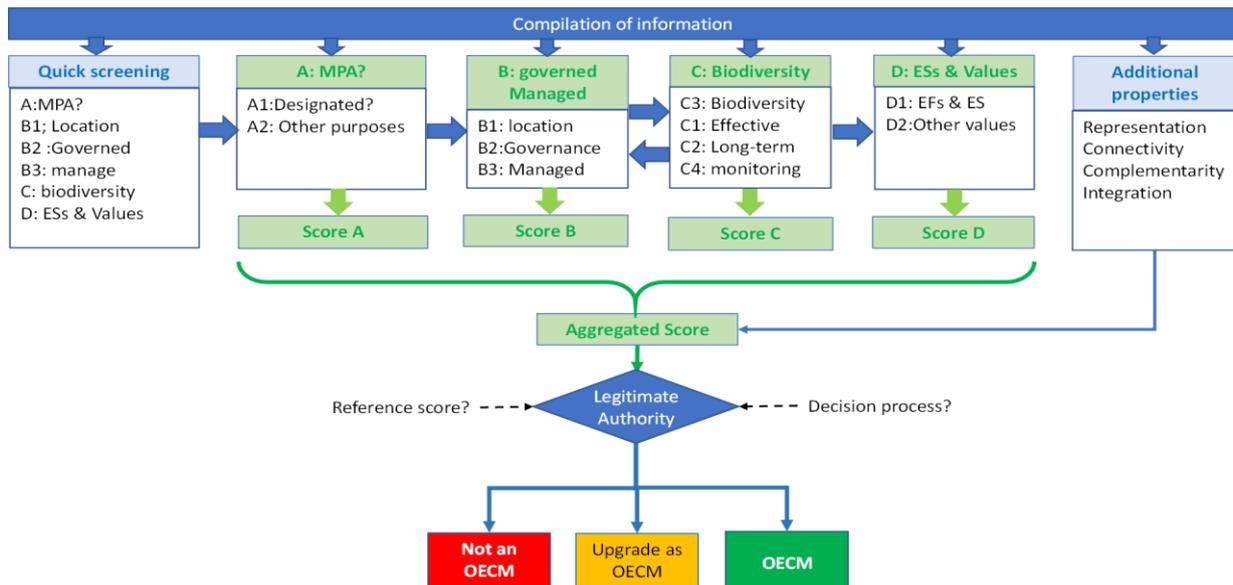


GUIDE FOR DISCUSSION ON THE CASE STUDIES



The quick-screening process

The full identification process is described in the above figure. The break-out groups will only go through a simulation of the quick-screening step of this process, for the purpose of discussions and clarifications of the steps. The quick-screening process:

- Is intended to prepare and optimize the efficiency of the full identification process.
- does not replace the full assessment
- goes through the same steps but faster and in less detail
- ought to be participative, to ensure consent and mobilize local knowledge
- provides a quick appraisal of the likelihood that an area may pass the full assessment test
- advises on assessment priorities (low hanging fruits), based on the likelihood
- identifies potential gaps in assessment competences and information

In many instances, the questions raised may not be answered simply by YES or NO, but fall within a range between these two extremes, requiring a fuzzy logic approach (yes, no, perhaps and a scoring range).

Important notes:

The identification requires a series of responses to questions corresponding to specific criteria, which may be seen as a continuum. However, for convenience, these questions have been grouped in “steps”, corresponding to questions belonging to the same category. In a real national or regional application of the process, steps may be defined in any other way deemed convenient, as long as all criteria are covered.

The questions Q1, Q2, etc. are only indicative of the sort of evidence to be considered for the specific criteria or sub-criteria. They are not mandatory, and may not be exhaustive. The States have the flexibility to determine such questions according to the specific contexts.

Step 1: Area definition

Is the area currently recognized as a protected area (criteria A)

Q1: Is the area listed as MPA in the WDPA? Is it already accounted for in the global MPA coverage? Is it a part of an MPA (e.g., as a buffer area)? YES: the area is eliminated from the OECM screening; NO: Proceed to Q2

Q2: Is the area overlapping with a formal MPA? Or is there an MPA included inside the area. YES: Only the non-MPA area may be considered for screening and global coverage; NO: Proceed to Q3

Q3: Was the area created (or to be created) for fisheries management? NO: The area will not be considered in this fishery-OECM process; YES: Move to step 2

Is the area a geographically defined space (criteria B1)

Q1: Are geographical coordinates available? Are boundaries defined in any other way? On a map? Is Depth defined (when relevant)? YES: Proceed to step 3; NO: The area cannot be calculated. Delineate better or consider elimination from the screening.

Step 2: Governance and management

Does the area have a legitimate governance authority (ies) (Criteria B2)

Q1: Is the area under the agreed responsibility of one or more Legitimate Authorities with the powers to act such as a State Agency; municipality; traditional community or IPLC; fishery association; private owner? Is the area jointly governed or co-managed? Is it established for the long term? YES: See Q2; NO: Need to formalize / Stabilize the governance responsibilities

Q2: Has the Legitimate Authority consented to the identification process? YES: Proceed to Q3; NO: The identification cannot proceed

Q3: Is the governance participative? Are the stakeholders known and participating equitably in the identification and management process? YES: Go to Q4; No: It is advisable to improve the process

Q4: Are costs and benefits equitably distributed? YES: Go to B3.

The area is managed (criteria B3)

Q1: Is there a sustained management system in place (formal or informal) to take and enforce management decisions? YES: Proceed to Q2 ; NO: A key criteria is not met. Long-term outcomes may not be ensured.

Q2: Are there specific measures in place to achieve positive and long-term biodiversity outcomes? Are they consistent with the ecosystem approach? YES: Proceed to Q3; NO: Without measures, long-term outcomes may not be ensured

Q3: Is management participative? Do stakeholders and local knowledge contribute? YES: Proceed to Q4; NO: This is an area requiring upgrading

Q4: Is management adaptive, with the ability to detect and manage new threats (see also next step). YES: Go to Q5; NO: This is an area requiring upgrading in that respect.

Step 3: The outcomes are a sustained and effective contribution to in situ conservation of biodiversity (Criteria C)

The area/measure is effective (Criteria C1)

Q2: Does the area (with the current or planned measures) achieve or can be reasonably expected to achieve positive long-term biodiversity outcomes? **Note that the response to this question requires responding first to Q1 under C3, below.**

Q3: Are policy frameworks and regulations in place to recognize and respond to new threats.

Q4: Are current threats identified? Are there measures in place to reduce, mitigate or eliminate them or restore the system

Q5: Have future threats been anticipated? Are there contingency measures in place?

Q6: Are management measures applied inside and outside the area as integrated as possible?

Governance and management are sustained over the long-term (Criteria C2)

Q7: Is the area likely to be under control for the long term? Enshrined in a Fisheries Act? With a duration of say 25 years? Assumed to be tacitly renewed unless deemed unnecessary anymore?

Is the area contributing in situ conservation of biological diversity (Criteria C3)

Q1: Are the important biodiversity attributes of the area well identified, e.g. vulnerable species, communities, habitats, provision of ecosystem services and functions; connectivity

Q2: have the positive benefits been identified, assessed? Are they considered significant enough?

Information and monitoring (Criteria C4)

Q1: Is there a monitoring system in place to inform management on the effectiveness of measures with regard to biodiversity and ecosystems health?

Q2: Is the information safely archived? This may include: governance and management structures and processes; area boundaries; biodiversity attributes of concern; relevant local values; related objectives and targets; Performance assessments;

Q3: Baselines and processes are put in place to evaluate effectiveness, including wrt biodiversity, ecosystem health, equity;

Ecosystem functions and services and other locally relevant values (Criteria D)

Q1: Ecosystem functions & services are supported, accounting for interactions, trade-offs, positive biodiversity outcomes and equity, and ensuring that their management does not impact negatively on the site's overall biological diversity.

Q2: Governance & management identify, respect and uphold the other locally relevant values and the local knowledge, practices and institutions that are fundamental for the *in situ* conservation of biodiversity.