

Analyzing initiatives with transformative potential for the oceans and people

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References

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T1-1-Plurality of value and knowledge systems, including indigenous and local

Seijo, J., & García-Allut, A. (2025). Analysing the epistemic consensus of fisheries co-management systems as a formula for democratic innovation and open government. *Marine Policy*, 176, 106651.

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Villasante, S., y Seijo, J. (2023). Marco analítico para identificar el potencial transformador del conocimiento en el medio marino de Galicia



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Introduction

The potential for transformative change and its monitoring implies rethinking, investigating, systematising, evaluating, monitoring and raising awareness that our model of civilisation is situated in a situation of degradation and decline of marine ecosystems with no return. Moreover, this idea implies tackling the problems of polycrisis situations.

That is, the term polycrisis underlines not only the fact that these crises intersect and influence each other, but also that they share the same underlying causes. Addressing these common underlying causes offers opportunities for synergistic positive effects on the social, economic and environmental system.

Methods and Materials

- **Analysis based on three core dimensions:**
 1. Practices | 2. Structures | 3. Values
- Holistic assessment via expert group workshops.
- **Tools used:**
 - o Dialogue tables with marine science stakeholders in Galicia.
 - o Participatory measurement tool.

Case of the Marine Protected Area of Os Miñarzos (Lira, Carnota)

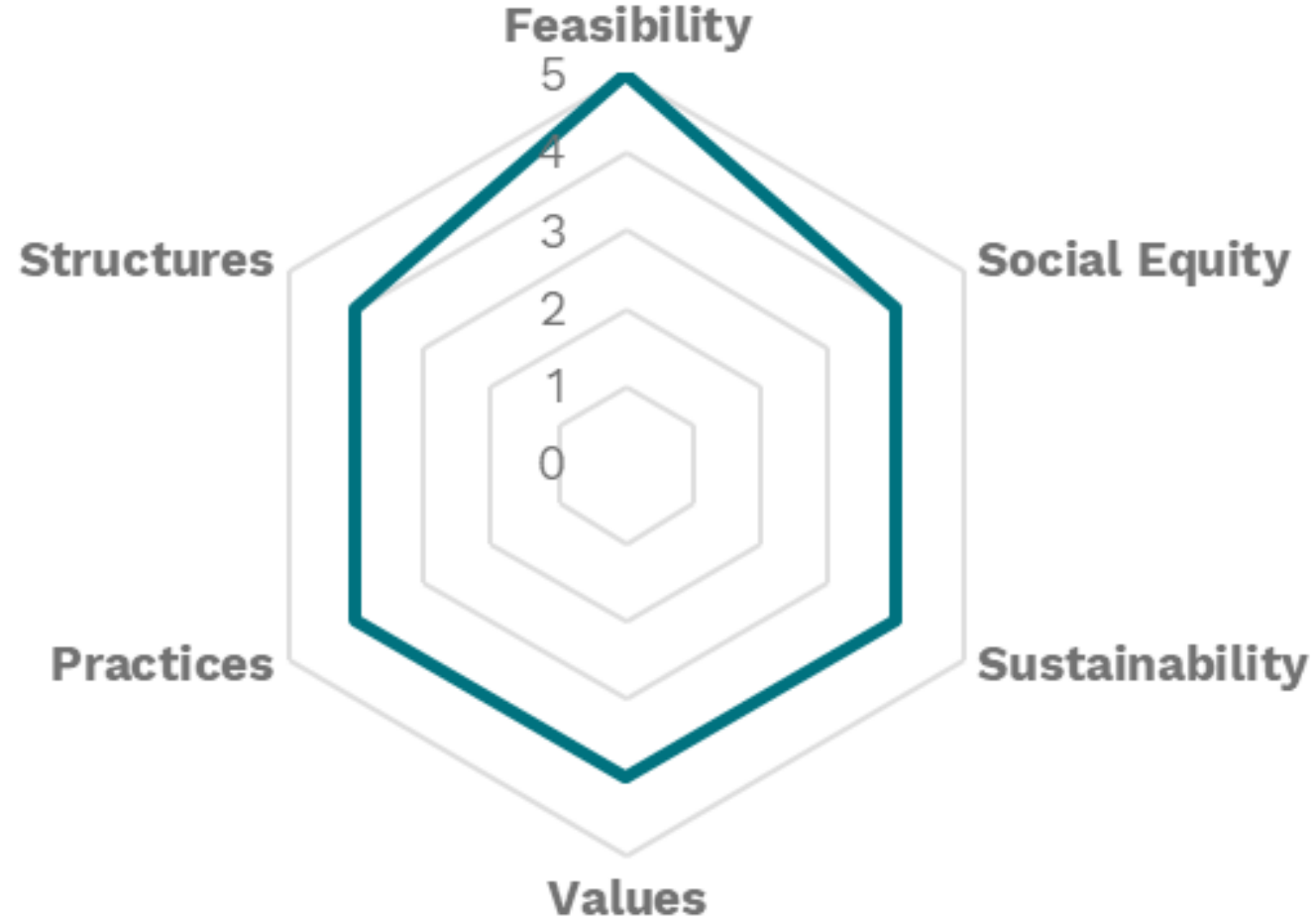
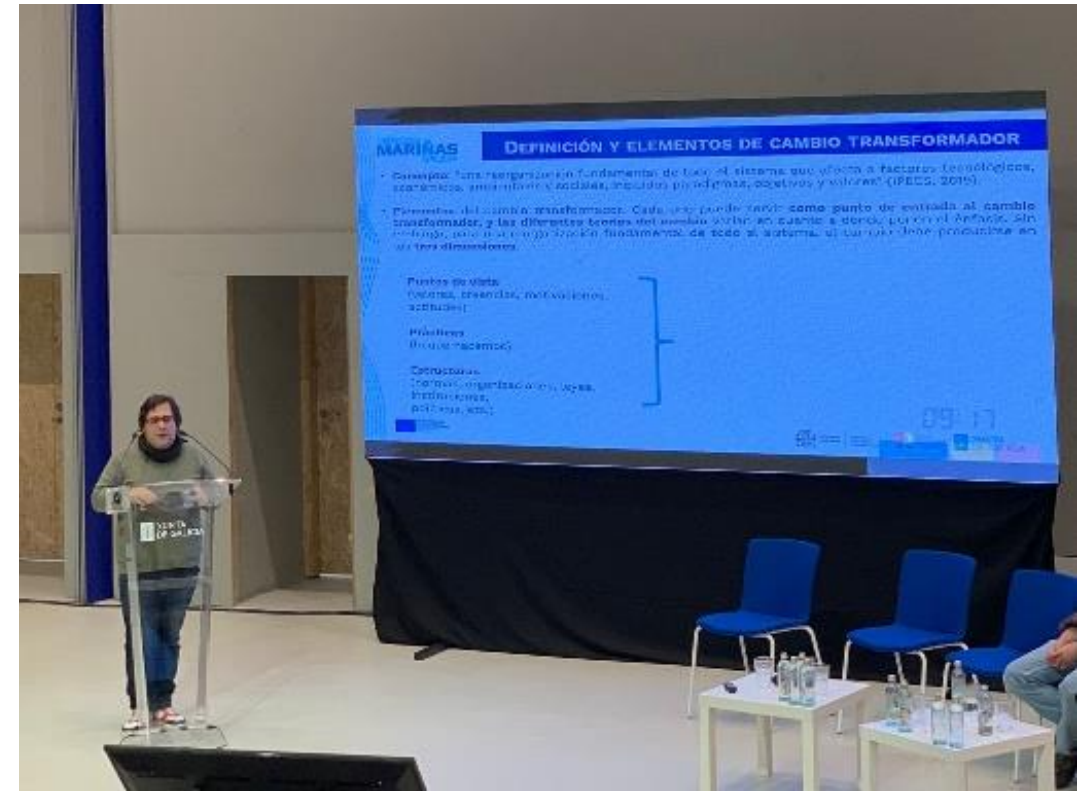


Figure 1. Example of potential transformative change dimensions of knowledge.

Figure 3. Dialogue table and Webinar on knowledge transfer for the operationalization of a tool for potential transformative change in the marine environment of Galicia. Place: EqualSeaLab. CRETUS-USC



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EXAMPLES OF FACILITATING ECOSYSTEM TRANSFORMATIONS

What strategies?

PROBLEMS TO BE SOLVED	YEAR	SOLUTIONS (THE COMMUNITY CREATES)
Absence of a social and scientific organisation for the defence of small-scale fishing in Galicia.	2001- present	Lonxanet Foundation for Sustainable Fisheries
Break with deficient direct commercialisation	2002-2015	Lonxanet Directo, S.L. (fish trading company)
Low self-esteem as small-scale fishermen.	2002- present	Fishing tourism
Low knowledge of small-scale fishing	2002- present	Fishing Workshop School
Atomisation of the fishing sector	2002-2015	RECOPADES NETWORK OF FISHING COMMUNITIES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
Scarce and limited aquatic resources subject to the law of diminishing returns (competitiveness-scarcity).	2002-2007 2007-present	MARINE PROTECTED AREA OF FISHERIES INTEREST "OS MIÑARZOS" (DECREE OF THE AUTONOMY OF GALICIA OF 2007)
integrated marine governance	2007-present	Annual participatory Integrated Management Plans (co-management) co-management administrative structure



Results

The research represents an instrument and framework of knowledge with potential for pioneering transformational change in Galicia, recently approved in the international scientific organisation IPBES.

Dialogue tables are achieved with members representing research groups in transfer, training and scientific culture for Galicia and the different work packages of the Galician Marine Sciences programme.

In this way, a protocol for the operationalisation of knowledge with transformative potential in the marine environment of Galicia is positioned both in a large group - Assemblies of the Galician Marine Sciences programme - and through a working group, at a micro level.

As well as establishing a database of pioneering initiatives with the degree of potential transformation in three dimensions - Scientific Culture, Capacity Building and Transfer - as well as in its transforming dimension: Values, Practices and Structures.

Conclusions

Analysed the entry points to transformative change in the most valued initiatives in Galicia's knowledge communities. In examining cases and attributes, it is clear that, although the frameworks differ in the way they conceptualise change processes and the relative emphasis they place on them, there is a common understanding that transformative change requires working for change in three different dimensions.

The three dimensions of transformative change are: 1) Views 2) Practices 3) Structures

Each of these dimensions can serve as an entry point to transformative change, and different theories of change vary in where they place the emphasis.

However, for a fundamental reorganization of the whole system, the transformative change must take place in all three dimensions.

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