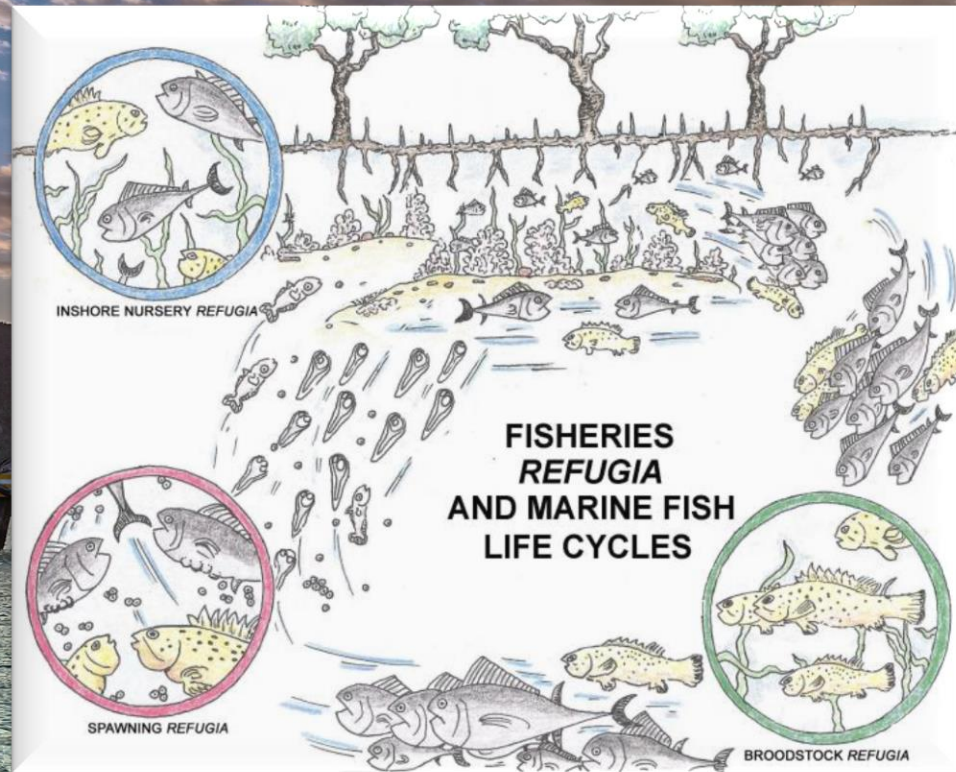


The background of the slide is a vibrant underwater photograph. In the foreground, a diverse coral reef is visible, featuring various types of coral in shades of brown, green, and white. Numerous small, bright orange fish are swimming around the reef. In the mid-ground and background, large schools of silvery fish are swimming in the clear blue water. The overall scene is a healthy and thriving marine ecosystem.

# What's Fisheries *Refugia* Concept ?



# Definition of Fisheries *Refugia*



Fisheries *Refugia* are  
***“Spatially and geographically defined, marine or coastal areas in which specific management measures are applied to sustain important species [fisheries resources] during critical phases of their life-cycle, for their sustainable use.”***



# Fisheries *Refugia* should

1. Not be simply “No Take Zones”







Fisheries *Refugia*  
should

2. Have the objective of sustainable use for the benefit of present and future generations





**Fisheries *Refugia*  
should**

- 3.** Provide for some areas within refugia to be closed due to their critical importance [essential contribution] to the life cycle of a species or group of species





Fisheries *Refugia*  
should

4.

Focus on areas of critical importance in the life cycle of fished species, including spawning and nursery grounds, or areas of habitat required for the maintenance of brood stock;





**Fisheries *Refugia*  
should**

**5.**

**Have different characteristics according to their purposes and the species or species groups for which they are established and within which different management measures will apply**



Fisheries *Refugia*  
should

6. Have management plans.





# Experiences in the Uptake of the Fisheries *Refugia* Concept

- ❖ Use of a concept relevant to stakeholders
- ❖ Emphasis on sustainable use rather than prohibition of fishing
- ❖ Focus on fish life-cycle critical habitat linkages







# Management Measures that may be Applied within Fisheries *Refugia*

- Exclusion of a fishing method (e.g. light luring, purse seine fishing);
- Restricted gears (e.g. mesh size);
- Prohibited gears (e.g. push nets, demersal trawls);
- Vessel size/engine capacity;





## Management Measures that may be Applied within Fisheries *Refugia*

- Seasonal closures during critical periods of fish life cycles;
- Seasonal restrictions (e.g. use of specific gear that may trap larvae); and
- Limited access and use of rights-based approaches in small-scale fisheries.



# 15 Priority Fisheries *Refugia* Sites and Target Species







# Source of Information and Reference

- <https://fisheries-refugia.org/>
- C.J. Paterson et al. Fisheries refugia: a novel approach to integrating fisheries and habitat management in the context of small-scale fishing pressure, *Ocean & Coastal Management* 85 (2013) 214-229
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