



LOCALLY-MANAGED MARINE AREA
(LMMA) NETWORK INTERNATIONAL

SOCIAL CONTRACT



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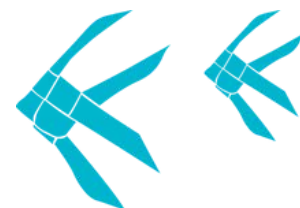
OUR PROMISES TO EACH OTHER: OUR COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITIES

This statement of Our Promises to Each Other presents the mutually agreed principles and commitments fundamental to achieving the LMMA vision. This is not a legal document but participation in the network is conditional on compliance.

The LMMA Vision

**Vibrant, resilient and
empowered communities who
inherit and maintain healthy,
well-managed and sustainable
marine resources and
ecosystems**





COMMUNITY HEART

The fundamental value of LMMA is “Community Heart” meaning that communities’ interests, aspirations and well-being are central to all our work:

"Communities drive LMMAs, have true ownership and commitment which external agencies must respect"

Network participants must have ‘community heart’ and strive to empower communities and also adhere to the other foundational principles of the LMMA Network which are considered key to success:



Our commitment to these values and how we work together is detailed in Our Promises to Each Other which applies to all who work with the network.



PRINCIPLES

Sharing ideas, experiences and information, often through local, national or international networks, is at the core of our work. This relies on trust and respect relating to the rights to, and ownership of, information. It is expected that partners and communities commit to the following principles:

Rights

Communities have the rights to information about themselves which they possess or help generate.

Telling their own story

The top priority is providing communities with the skills and opportunities to tell their own stories whenever possible.

Permission

To use information not previously in the public domain from any site or other partner Prior Informed Consent must be obtained from the project site communities or other rights-holder, in consultation with the relevant project organisation.

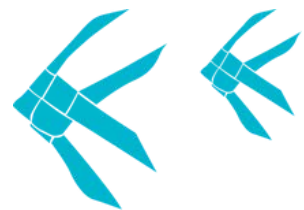
Return of information

Results and communication products arising directly from the use of community information will be shared with the participating communities and other relevant stakeholders in a timely and appropriate manner at no cost.

Acknowledgements

Publications must ensure appropriate co-authorship and acknowledgements (see “Acknowledging communities, acknowledging LMMA and co-authorship rules” policies in the Addendum).

**We Support and Endorse
Our Promises to Each Other**





ADDENDA

1. Participating in the Network

The LMMA Network is made up of communities and their support partners managing their resources. We are the organised body protecting interest of the community at different levels.

Communities, individuals, organisations, governments and others are welcomed to participate in the network sharing and learning as Affiliates or Partners, the application procedures are detailed in the Addendum. All must apply and adhere to Our Promises to Each Other.

The Council

The Network is governed by a Council with which final decision-making authority lies. The Council is comprised of elected representatives from each Country Network.

Network Support Team

The Council governs the Network Support Team which provides and facilitates assistance within the Network.

Country Networks

Country Networks are groups of Affiliates that meet relevant criteria and are endorsed by Council. The Network prioritises delivery of core services through Country Networks. LMMA sites are members of the organisation, but the country networks are the mechanism of delivering services.

Affiliates

Affiliates are sites and projects applying Community-Based Adaptive Management (CBAM) in establishing LMMAs. Affiliates may be associated with LMMA through an existing Country Network or, where such does not exist, directly with LMMA.

Partners

Organisations or people that wish to work with the LMMA Network (including researchers, advisers, donors etc.) which aside from endorsing Our Promises to Each Other may need to meet other specific requirements as the case may be. Partners at the Country Network level are subject to the individual Country Network policies and procedures.

Common understanding of LMMA terms

CommunityBased Adaptive Management (CBAM)

Our approach is based on Community Based Adaptive Management which focuses on “learning by doing” rather than “getting it right” at the outset. This means that communities can start with available information rather than have to rely on external expertise and go through a cycle of planning, implementation, monitoring and reflection.

Locally-Managed Marine Area (LMMA)

An LMMA is an area of near-shore waters, land and coastal resources that is largely or wholly managed at a local level by the coastal communities, land-owning groups, partner organisations, and/or collaborative government representatives who reside or are based in the immediate area

2. Application procedure for new LMMA Network Affiliates and Partners

1.0. BACKGROUND

1.1. The application process was reviewed during the LMMA Network Policies Review meeting April 30th 2014 in Suva.

1.2. This policy is supported by the 'Our Promises to Each Other' policy which outlines requirements and binding obligations.

2.0. DEFINITIONS

2.1. Affiliates: Sites and projects that are working with CBAM and establishing LMMAs must apply either directly to the LMMA Network or through a Country Network and must endorse the Our Promises to Each Other

2.2. Partners: Organisations or people that wish to work with the Network (including researchers, advisers, donors etc.) must endorse the Our Promises to Each Other and meet any relevant specific requirements

2.3. Country Networks: Groups of Affiliates that meet relevant criteria and are endorsed by the Council. The Network prioritises delivery of core services through Country Networks. Members of the Country Networks are considered as members, in turn, of the LMMA Network.

Sites are members of the organisation, but the country networks are the mechanism of delivering services. We are the organised body protecting interest of the community at different levels. The LMMA Network is made up of communities and their support partners managing their resources.

3.0. APPLICATION POLICY FOR NEW AFFILIATES AND PARTNERS

3.1. Potential or new affiliates and partners need to be nominated: Nominators should be a Country Network member, member of Council or Network Support Team. The application is through submitting a letter of interest (scanned/emailed) to the Manager (indicating applicant is implementing CBAM).

3.2. The letter of interest should state the expected contributions to the Network and the applicant's expected benefits from participation in the Network.

3.3. The letter of interest should provide two contactable referees for due diligence purposes and ensure active communication during application process.

3.4. The application must demonstrate the support of the relevant governing body of the community, project or other stakeholder. Signatories of the governing members should be in application document.

3.5. The application should explicitly acknowledge and commit to the Our Promises to Each Other. Applications will be reviewed and assessed, before recommendations presented at the next Council (either face-to-face or online) meeting. A face-to-face meeting and/or site visit may be requested if feasible, appropriate and/or required by Council.

Applicant will be informed of the outcome via formal letter from LMMA. If the outcome is successful, participation will be contingent upon the signing of Our Promises to Each Other.

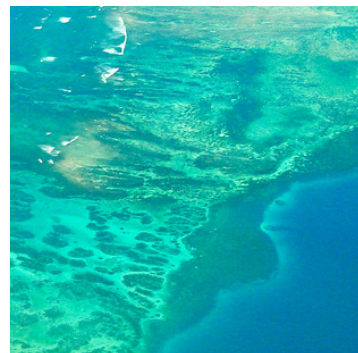
4.0. BENEFITS

- 4.1. Access to information on LMMA issues, through emails and inclusion in LMMA email list.
- 4.2. Included in e-copy dissemination of LMMA communications materials (e.g. posters, info kits).
- 4.3. Will be consulted and can contribute input/perspectives to new material development.
- 4.4. Inclusion in potential learning, sharing and partnership opportunities as feasible (events, workshops, trainings, etc.).
- 4.5. Potential for joint new activities development (e.g. proposals, trainings, event, etc.).
- 4.6. Opportunity to make useful connections.

5.0 OBLIGATIONS

- 5.1. Sign and abide by Our Promises to each Other.
- 5.2. Regular communications.
- 5.3. Share relevant information (lessons learned) and publications with the LMMA network.
- 5.4. Committed to practice of CBAM.
- 5.5. Share relevant data for learning as part of CBAM.
- 5.6. Provide basic data such as sites, communities, maps, management plans.
- 5.7. Will not represent or contract obligations on behalf of the LMMA Network or use LMMA branding (e.g. name, logo) without permission from the Management Unit and/or the Council.
- 5.8. Publications must ensure appropriate co-authorship and acknowledgements (see “Co-authorship” and “Intellectual Property Rights” policies in the Addendum).

From: LMMA Network Council Meeting 5th May 2014, Suva, Fiji and updated October 2017



3. Acknowledging communities, acknowledging LMMA and co-authorship rules

Acknowledging communities

Appropriate acknowledgement must be made of community contributions. The form of this acknowledgement should be agreed with the community partners.

Acknowledging LMMA

Work carried out as affiliate or partners to the network should ensure:

- That the LMMA Network or appropriate Country Network is informed of the proposed presentation or publication and is provided with a draft and final copy for their records.
- Opportunity is provided for feedback and addressing any concerns that may arise.
- The LMMA Network or appropriate Country Network is acknowledged up front with using the logo or in another appropriate form as mutually agreed.

Co-authorship rules

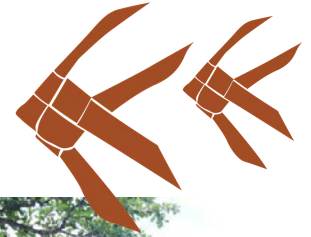
The “2/6” Rule is proposed to guide the co-authorship rules. If anyone has contributed to at least two of the following six steps, then they should be considered eligible for co-authorship:

1. Initial/original idea
2. Obtaining funding
3. Provision of resources, manpower or person time
4. Collecting data or contributing information
5. Analysing data
6. Writing and publishing the paper

Other contributions should be appropriately acknowledged.



4. Are you an LMMA?



Core Principles of LMMA Phases

Agree to Core Values

Community Engagement

- a. Commonality of purpose between community and organisation engaging
- b. Agreed expectations, including long-term sustainability
- c. Assessment that enabling factors (see below) are in place (or if not, help develop)
- d. Build trust



Community empowerment

- a. Nature and duration will depend on site
- b. Facilitate community site assessment and participatory rapid action planning
- c. Community feels they have knowledge and skills to manage resources (PRA tools)



Community-based Adaptive Management (CBAM)

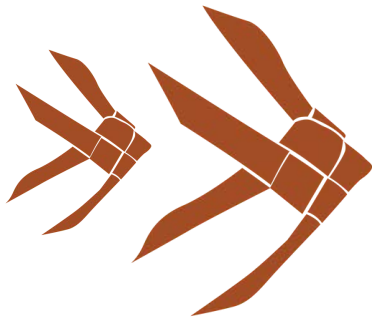
- a. Plan
- b. Implement
- c. Monitor
- d. Reflect
- e. Agree on the importance of learning and not always getting it right at the outset



Ongoing communication and skills development

- a. Apply at all levels
- b. Develop community champions and fund their participation at local and international for a
- c. Ask permission to use data





Enabling Factors

1. Community aware that it has problems
2. A defined community
3. "Sense" of resource rights by community and government (even if legal tenure does not exist)
4. Support for community leadership
5. Communities feel that their actions can make a difference
6. Co-manager with long-term commitment to community site
7. Community goals are cohesive with co-manager goals
8. Strong community cohesion (lack of conflict or factions)
9. Co-manager has set of guiding principles that respects communities
10. Government is at least neutral if not supportive
11. There is an effective change agent in community (doesn't have to be a long-term manager)

Notes

1. Sustainability starts with clear explanation of co-manager's role and is detailed through time
2. Partnerships for implementation need to develop ASAP (e.g. during action planning or as soon as draft action plan developed)
3. Issues of compliance need to be considered from the outset. Involve all resource users, neighbours. Set protocol for how you declare and demarcate tabu areas.
4. Having a working LMMA is the foundation/infrastructure on which to build:
 - a. Larger conservation areas
 - b. Climate change adaptation projects
 - c. ICM/watershed management
 - d. Building blocks to national protected area networks





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