Geography, geology, geomorphology, sedimentology:

## Stakeholders, Technology And Mpas: Towards Integrated Management?

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Discussions on the need for public engagement in adaptive management and deliberative decision-making are progressively evolving. In particular, enabling stakeholder participation is critical for managing Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), which are considered a key component for protecting biodiversity and maintaining ecological processes. Today, innovative technologies, such as web portals and participatory mapping have a strong potential to improve the effectiveness of community engagement and collective deliberations in MPA management. Participation provides an opportunity to deepen mutual understanding, explore and integrate ideas together, generate new options and solutions, and support sustainable use of marine resources and long-term goals for marine conservation. In our research we are exploring stakeholders' opinion around current issues and approaches in MPA management, the use of web-based and mobile technology and the role of stakeholder in MPA integrated management. In doing this we conducted two surveys at different scales (Mediterranean region and Portofino MPA, in Italy) focusing on the use of web technology by managers and other stakeholders and, in Portofino, on the role of relationships between stakeholders in MPA management, using social network analysis techniques. This information will guide our next steps for creating a bridge between stakeholders and the use of technology for an effective integrated management of Mediterranean MPAs.