

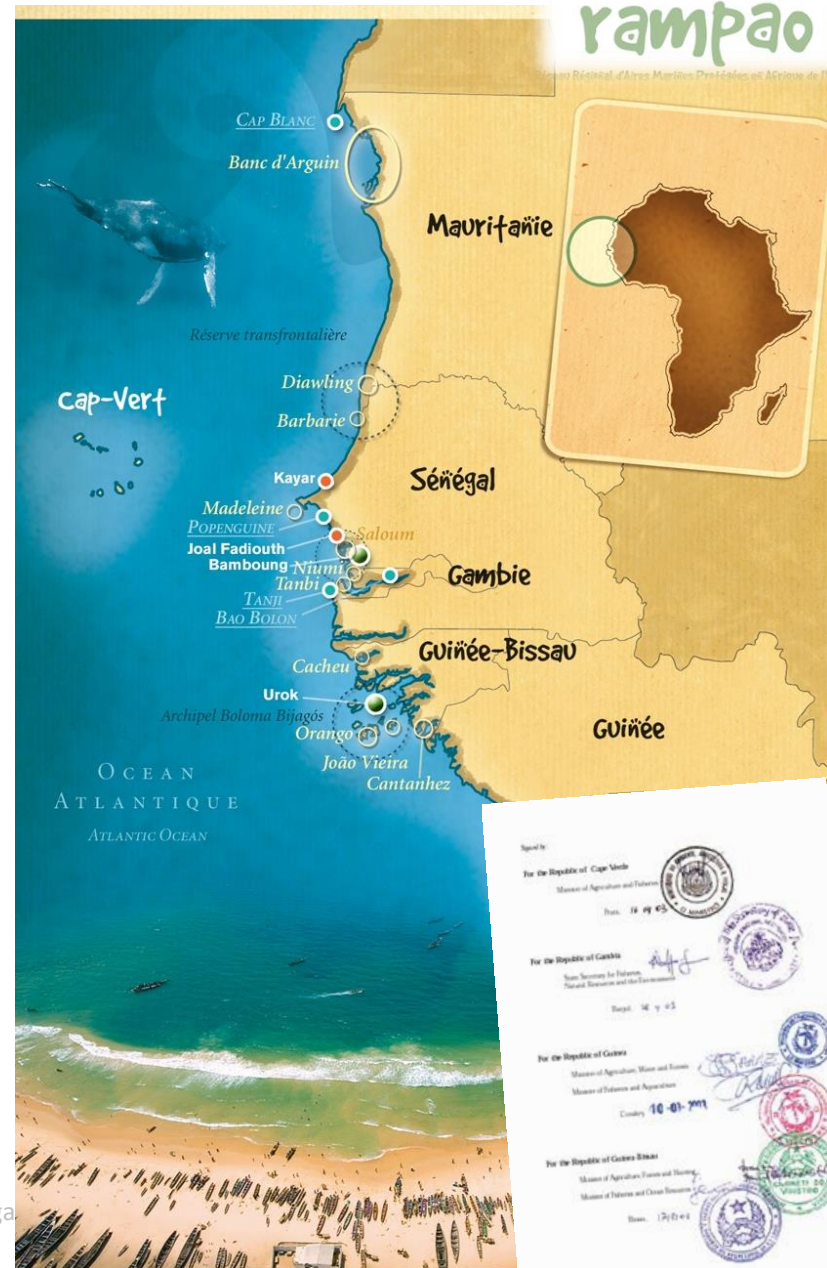
# Sharing governance in Marine Protected Areas – The West African experience



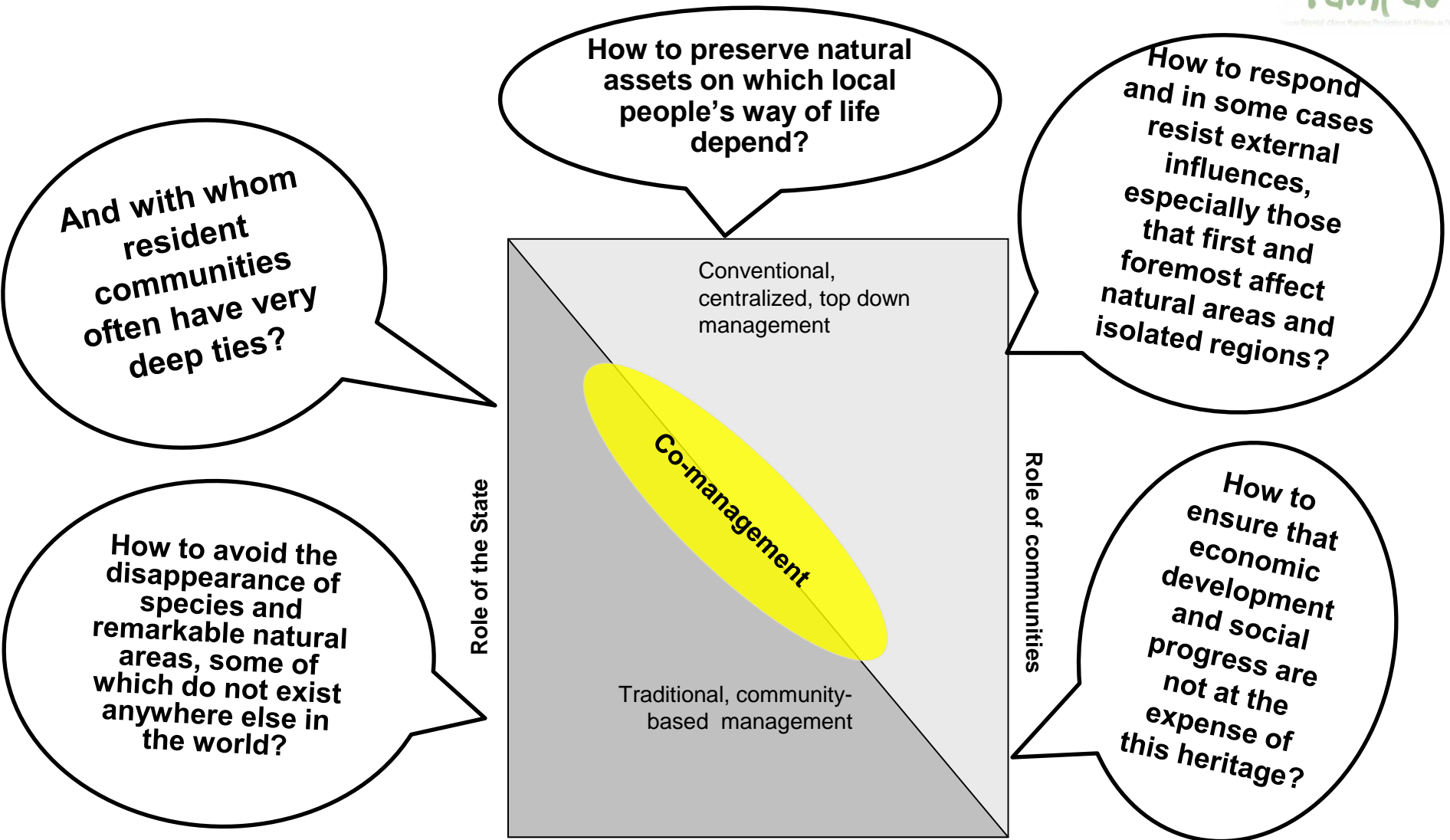
**Marie-Suzanne Traoré**  
**Secretary General**  
**West Africa MPA Network**  
**(RAMPAAO)**

# Presentation of RAMPAO

- ≈ 32 MPAs from Mauritania to Sierra Leone  
( 11 National Parks, 1 Natural Park, 12 Marine Protected Areas, 3 Community Managed MPAs, 2 Areas of community heritage, 3 biosphere reserves);
- A variety of landscapes:  
Sahara coastal dunes, beaches and mudflats; mangrove forests; archipelagos; estuaries, deltas, bolongs; and coastal forests, animal species and are of great importance for the economy;
- high presence of human populations inside their boundaries. Far from being an impediment to conservation, this has has a positive impact.



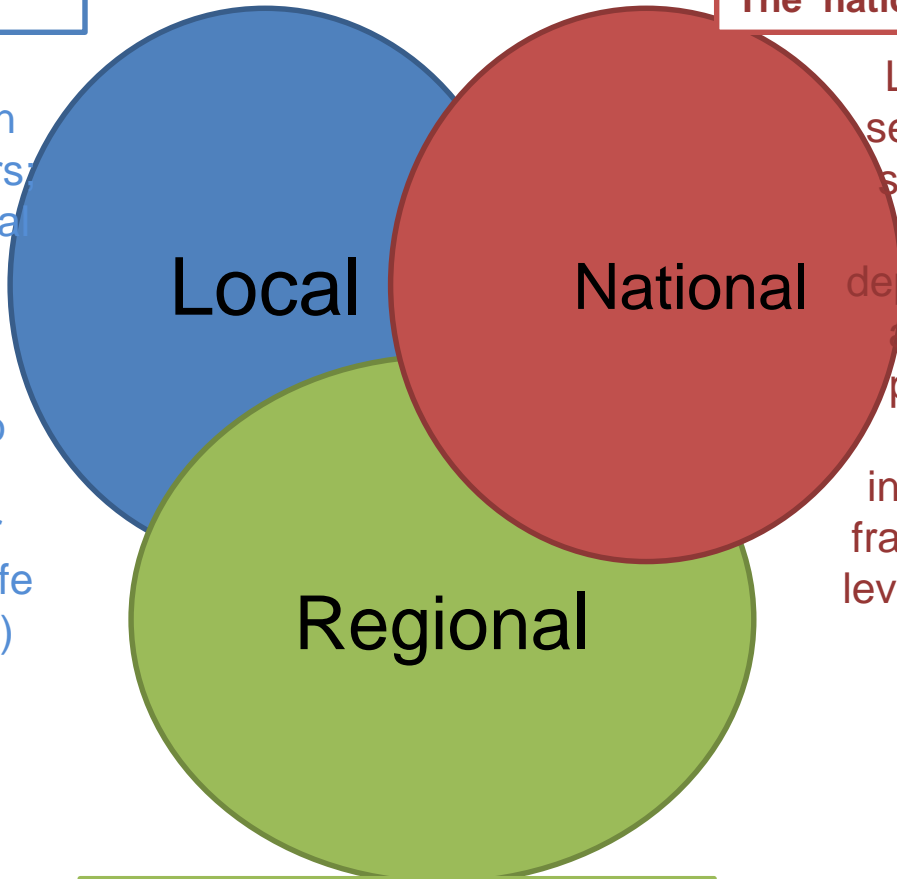
# Moving from top-down to shared governance



# Barriers to overcome & Lessons learned

## The community dimension

appropriation of the creation process by local stakeholders; enabling knowledge and local resources to be mobilized while respecting and strengthening cultural expression; contributing to democracy, local development, respect their rights and support ways of life (Joal-Fadiouth, Kayar MPA)



## The national dimension

Legal framework to setting up systems of shared governance; MPA governance depends on quality and adequacy of public policies, regulatory instruments, and institutional and legal frameworks at national level (Framework-Act in GB)

## The regional dimension

MPA creation process linked to diversified and robust, innovative regional approach/ Development of common policies and vision; regional data sharing; harmonization of national planning (PRCM, IUCN, WWF, FIBA)



Réseau Régional d'aires Marines Protégées en Afrique de l'Ouest

**Thank you - Merci**

# **West Africa Marine Protected Areas Network (RAMPAO)**

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