

Examples of community-developed indicators of the territory of life 'building blocks'	
Example indicator	Reflections on the quality of the indicator
Territory of life building block: Integrity and strength of the custodian community	
Sense of common identity, connection, solidarity to 'one another' and 'being part of a community'	Can be relatively easily assessed with focus groups, interviews, or discussions at normal community gatherings, though responses are subjective
Number of activities decided on and carried out collectively and successfully by the community in a given calendar year (e.g. refurbishing a local small dam, constructing the local school, replanting mangroves)	A valid indicator... but not very precise because such activities could be demanded or imposed by external circumstances
Capacity of the community to speak with one voice	A valid indicator... but difficult to assess
Frequency, attendance, and expressed enthusiasm for community cultural events and celebrations	Relatively easy to assess, but it is not very precise because people may participate for reasons not related to their sense of cohesion with the community
Number of people, from different families and groups, who help one another in times of need	May be a valid indicator if it is relevant to the community's norms, but may not be very precise and may be difficult to assess
Territory of life building block: Connection between the community and its territory	
Number of person-days worked as community volunteer for the territory of life in a given time period	A good indicator that can be followed on a monthly basis; it is also possible to disaggregate it by village, by season, etc.
Percentage of people in the community who can name and describe at least 10 different features or sub sites within the territory of life	A good indicator, and not too difficult to measure, but not clear how valid it may be – i.e. whether it is measuring what it is intended to measure
Number/percentage of people from across community groups who participate in efforts to 'defend' territory of life when it is under threat	A very valid indicator, and not too difficult to measure. It may not be particularly precise, however, as participation may vary based on various factors (severity of threat, accessibility of the response measures, etc.)
Frequency, attendance, and expressed enthusiasm for community cultural events and celebrations specific to the territory of life	Relatively easy to assess, but it is not precise as people may participate for many reasons
Frequency, attendance, and expressed enthusiasm for opportunities for inter-generational learning about the territory of life , e.g., meetings between elders and youth	Relatively easy to assess, possibly not precise as people may participate for many reasons

Sense of connection to the territory of life	Can be relatively easily assessed with focus groups, interviews, or discussions at normal community gatherings, though responses are subjective
Territory of life building block: Functioning of the governance institution	
Number and severity of infractions to the territory of life rules in a given year	Neither precise nor specific and can be difficult to interpret (e.g. are infractions going up because governance is weakening, or because surveillance is improving?).
Number of serious intra-community conflicts related to the use of natural resources in the territory of life	Valid result indicator, although not very precise or specific. It could be strengthened by coupling it with qualitative information about the nature of the conflicts. Are they arising because of efforts to improve governance? Or because governance is weakening?
Demonstrated capacity to take decisions under stress	Valid indicator, but not precise and at times impossible to measure
Degree to which or ease with which community members can get information (documentation, description) about the territory of life from its governing institution	Can be relatively easily assessed with focus groups, interviews, or discussions at normal community gatherings, though responses are subjective
Degree to which institution has been able to effectively respond to threats and problems arising for the territory of life over a given period of time	Valid indicator, relatively easily assessed with focus groups, interviews, or discussions at normal community gatherings, though responses are subjective
Expressed level of perceived legitimacy of the governing institution	Can be relatively easily assessed with focus groups, interviews, or discussions at normal community gatherings, though responses are subjective
Funding procured by the governing institution to support ongoing surveillance operations	Valid and easy to assess indicator, but highly dependent on circumstances outside community control
Number of people taking an active role in the function of the governance institution	Relatively easy to assess, especially if the monitoring protocol is clear
Territory of life building block: Ecological health and integrity of the territory	
Quality and quantity of fish catch assessed under careful conditions, in specific locations in the territory of life, at specific times in the fishing calendar and by using a standard gear dedicated to the purpose only	Excellent, complete set of indicators—reliable, exhaustive and specific... but not simple or inexpensive to set up. Monitoring this requires dedicated resources.
Quality and quantity of endemic plants important to the community	Valid indicator if the protocol is carefully developed and followed
Number of sights of an endangered animal species under controlled conditions	Valid indicator if the protocol is carefully developed and followed

Trends in soil quality, water quality, air quality and/or quality of forests, rangelands, coral reefs and other ecological indicators measured under controlled conditions	Valid indicator if the protocol is carefully developed and followed and interference by external factors is taken into account
Territory of life building block: Livelihoods and wellbeing of the community	
Average monthly frequency of eating good quality meals among all families in the village	Very meaningful but it can be laborious to determine if it is assessed by carrying out interviews with all households. A simpler option might be to hold focus groups or interview a smaller but representative cross-section of families to reveal meaningful trends.
Trends in local in-migration and out-migration of villagers/community members	Meaningful but difficult to determine without ambiguity, and often not precise because such movements can occur for a wide number of reasons, including both increasing <i>and</i> decreasing wealth and livelihood opportunities.
Community health indicators in general and child nutritional status in particular	Meaningful indicator but requires expert support to develop the measuring protocol. It may also be difficult to know how much the territory of life specifically is impacting any change in community health and/or child nutrition.
Percentage of people who feel largely or fully satisfied with their life	Valid indicator, but may be laborious to assess and biases can be easily introduced in the measuring protocol. It may also be difficult to know how much the territory of life specifically is impacting this sense of wellbeing.
Broader indicators to reveal main strengths and weaknesses of the territory of life	
Social awareness of the territory of life in the custodian community and beyond	Valid and crucially important, requires a dedicated effort to assess
Availability of human and financial resources to support surveillance operations	Valid, crucially important and relatively easy to assess
Recognition by government authorities (municipality, region, representatives of central government; judiciary)	Valid, crucially important and relatively easy to assess