



SEMINAR SERIES

1400 HOURS MONDAY 8TH NOVEMBER 2010

THE COURT ROOM, UNIVERSITY OFFICES

We would like to welcome

Dr Tavis Potts

Principal Investigator: Oceans Governance Theme Leader: Prosperity
from Marine Ecosystems

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Eco-labelling in seafood: panacea or muddying the waters?

Seafood is one of the largest natural resource commodities that provide employment, income and food for developing and developed nations. Ocean fisheries and aquaculture, either directly or indirectly, are an important source of work and income for millions of people - the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has estimated that 43 million people depend on fisheries and aquaculture for employment (FAO 2009). The socio-economic importance of the seafood sector, coupled with the ecological value of marine life, highlight the need for effective management to ensure healthy marine environments and coastal communities.

But something is wrong. Globally, nationally and regionally marine environments are increasingly at risk. In Scotland we have decades of overfishing the resource and cycles of 'boom and bust'. This pattern is repeated, and entrenched, by ineffective systems of centralised control and management. Enter Eco-labelling: a flexible system of using markets and consumer pressure to drive positive changes in fishing and aquaculture practices. Eco-labelling, now 10 years old, is reportedly a new force in turning around the self destructive tendency of the industry by creating incentives for sustainable harvesting. How does it work? Who are the players? How does it mesh with existing management? Is it effective? These issues will be discussed in this seminar that touches on the challenge of ensuring sustainable seafood for society and restoring healthy marine ecosystems.

Everyone Welcome!!!

Should anyone wish to meet with Tavis, please contact Cristina Pita on
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