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Fachgruppe Biologie
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“People and reefs: linking artisanal fisheries to coastal ecosystems in the tropical Asia-Pacific region“

Einladung: Prof. Dr. Heike Wägele (ZMFK)

Abstract:

Coral reefs constitute prime examples of linked social-ecological systems: they provide the livelihood basis for an estimated 500 hundred million people and at the same time are strongly affected by a multitude of human activities, such as fishing. Nearly 2/3 of all reefs nowadays are less than 30 minutes from the nearest human settlement. Yet, while an understanding of the drivers and ecological consequences of these activities is crucial for the development of management options that foster resilience of coral-dominated ecosystems and sustain the functions and services they supply, research into artisanal fisheries on coral reefs remains limited. Drawing on a decade of social-ecological research on coral reefs and artisanal fisheries in the Asia-Pacific region, I will discuss some of the characteristics, drivers, ecological consequences and management implications of coral reef artisanal fisheries and other human impacts.