

# TERRITORY AND LANDSCAPE IN COASTAL WETLANDS: LA ENCRUCIJADA BIOSPHERE RESERVE, CHIAPAS (1973-2018)

*José Manuel Mojica Vélez, PhD. Student*  
*PhD. Sara Barrasa García, Advisor*

## INTRODUCTION

Studying the territory and the landscape contribute to the assessment of policy impacts, because governmental interventions are carried out in spatial boundaries, and have effects on the landscape of coastal wetlands. The territory refers to the spatial boundaries established by power relations, while the landscape is a visible area that is configured by natural and human factors. The aim of this research is to assess territorial and landscape changes, considering policies in coastal wetlands. The question that we want to answer is: How policies impact the territory and change the landscape of coastal wetlands?

## STUDY AREA



## METHOD

Analysis of land use changes

Ethnography and participatory mapping

Review of scientific literature

Assessment of policy impacts

## ADVANCE OF RESULTS

Landscape changes of coastal wetlands

Aerial photos, 1973-1977

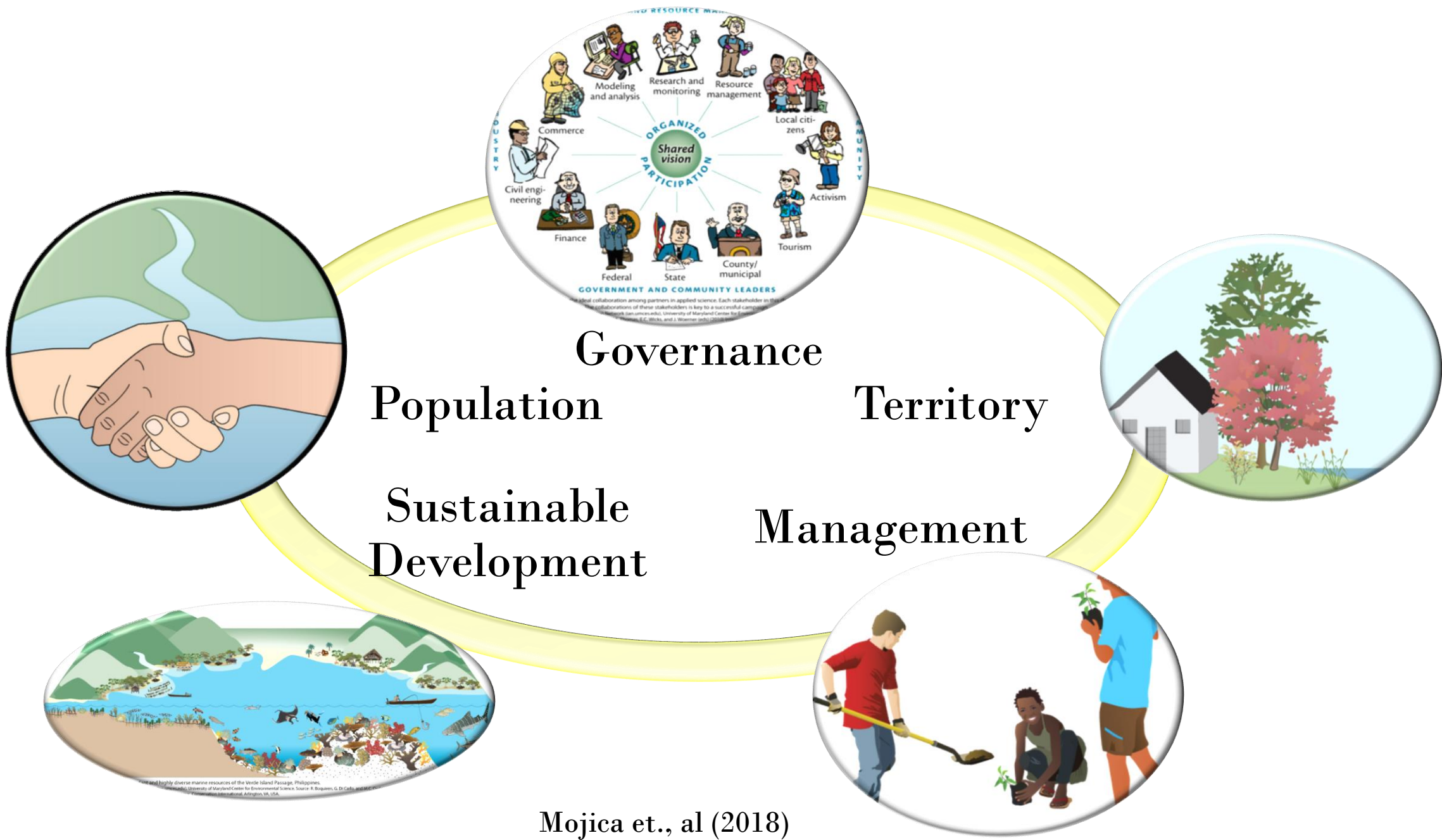
Satellite imagery, Sentinel 2017

Local Spatial Knowledge

### The loss of coastal wetlands

- Competition for space and resources
- Increase of population
- Transport for the accessibility
- Deforestation
- Expanding the agricultural frontier

### Policies in coastal wetlands: Key Challenges



## CONCLUSION

Conservation policies are not enough if they are mismatched with the scale of ecosystems. The loss of wetlands is related with policies implemented upstream. The policies for development and conservation are not congruent; the public agencies, the private sector and the social actors do not collaborate. The policies do not share objectives and are implemented separately, the structure of governance reduce the effectiveness to protect coastal wetlands.