District Level Committees
What is a District Level Committee?

To assist the SCZMA for enforcing and monitoring of this notification, the State Government and the Union territory shall constitute district level Committees.

The DLC must consist of at least three representatives of local traditional coastal communities including from fisher folk.

The DLC is constituted under the chairmanship of the District Collector.
Although DLCs have been added to the institutions for CRZ implementation, their role in improving compliance and enforcement still needs to ascertained.

Since many of the CZMPs are still in the process of being prepared and finalised, it is an opportune time to involve both DLCs and coastal communities in the planning exercise.
ROLE THAT CAN BE PLAYED BY THE DLCs

• All the orders, instructions, notifications, guidelines, minutes, standards, as and when prepared by MoEF can be distributed through DLCs.
• DLCs can aid the SCZMAs in the accurate preparation of the CZMPs.
• DLCs can play an active role in addressing grievances of the local coastal communities.
• DLCs must be given the power to identify, report and take action on violations.
• DLCs can perform ground verification at the time of project clearance.
• DLCs can aid in mapping and proactive conservation.
Presently, only the State of Karnataka has constituted DLCs.

There is an urgent need to constitute District Level Committees in every coastal state and UT.
District level Coastal Zone Management Committees (DCZMC) were constituted in 2002 under CRZ 1991.

Reconstituted under CRZ 2011 with three representatives from the fisher community.

No guidelines outlining the process to be followed to select the fisher representatives.

- Role limited to discussing and providing recommendations on various projects that come up for CRZ clearance and identifying violations.
- Helping community members fill out Form 1.
- No decision making powers.
Reactions to the DLC in Karnataka

• DLC fisher representatives
  – raised a range of concerns related to the CRZ 2011
  – were happy to be a part of such a committee though their role in it is unclear
  – realized the importance of their representation in such a committee but were not happy with the weight their opinions carried when the SCZMA’s made their final decisions
  – felt that representatives from the fisher community were required on the SCZMA as well
  – were unaware that the DLC was to be reconstituted in 2014
Reactions to the DLC in Karnataka

• Fisher community members
  – identified the representatives as popular leaders and socially active members of the community
  – were not aware of their presence on the DLC or of the existence of the DLC
  – were also unaware of their role in CRZ 2011 implementation
DLCs in Seemandhra

What is the way forward?
Thank you!