

# Marine Spatial Planning

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# What is Marine Spatial Planning?

- A public process of analysing and allocating the spatial and temporal distribution of human activities in marine areas to achieve ecological, economic, and social objectives that are usually specified through a political process.

# Status of Marine Planning

- New MSP interest: Vietnam, South Africa, Costa Rica, Israel
- New MSP initiatives: Sweden, Seychelles, Indonesia, Europe
- Policy directives in the Europe (2013), USA (2009), Canada (1997) and other countries

# Global Context

## **Countries That Have Implemented MSP and Are Currently Revising First Plans**

- Belgium
- The Netherlands
- Norway (Barents & Norwegian Seas)

## **Countries That Have Approved Marine Spatial Plans**

- Australia (5 Bioregional Plans)
- Germany (2 EEZ and 3 state plans)
- USA (3 states)
- China (9 Territorial Sea Plans)
- Canada (Beaufort Sea)

## **Countries That Have Completed Marine Spatial Plans**

- Portugal (Continental EEZ and Azores)

## **Countries That Will Develop Marine Spatial Plans by 2025**

- USA (Mainland, Hawaii, Alaska)
- Canada (East & West Areas)
- United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales, N Ireland)
- Sweden
- Poland
- France (Continental EEZ)
- Spain
- Italy
- Greece
- Ireland
- Cyprus
- Finland
- Croatia
- Malta
- Estonia
- Bulgaria
- Latvia
- Romania
- Lithuania
- Slovenia
- New Zealand
- Brazil
- Mexico
- Costa Rica
- Kiribati
- Bermuda
- St Kitts/Nevis

## **Countries That Might Also Develop Marine Spatial Plans by 2025**

- Russia (Arctic Ocean)
- Greenland (Arctic Ocean)
- Canada (Arctic Ocean)
- Indonesia
- Japan
- Philippines
- Chile
- Argentina
- South Africa
  
- Madagascar
- Solomon Islands
- Seychelles
- Palau
- Bahamas

# Where Are We Today?



**2000-2013**

**9 countries**

**12,721,400 km<sup>2</sup>**

**9.0%**

**of EEZs**

Charles (Bud) Ehler, 2013

# Benefits of MSP

- Provide vision and consistent direction
- Protect marine ecosystems
- Set priorities for existing and future uses
- Efficient use of marine areas
- Address climate change adaptation and risk
- Implement an ecosystem-based management approach to marine uses
- Avoid duplication of effort in public agencies

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\*Seychelles Debt for Adaptation Swap

# Lessons learned

- Clearly articulate what planning is for – measureable objectives
- Comprehensive marine planning is challenging – simplify where possible
- Design process for participatory input
- Develop capacity - process and implementation
- Communicate with a broad audience
- Governance structures - key for implementation

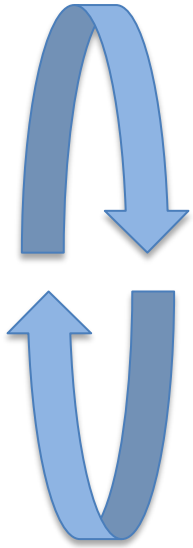


# “Best Practices”

- Develop clear planning objectives and list of data types needed for each objective
- Develop forward-looking scenarios
- Consider information at local and regional scales
- Be aware of scale and resolution of data used in analyses
- Evaluate human impacts on ecosystems
- Evaluate economic impacts

# UNESCO Marine Spatial Planning Steps

1. Identify need and establish authority
2. Financial support
3. Organise the planning process
4. Organise stakeholder participation
5. Define and analyse current conditions
6. Define and analyse future conditions
7. Prepare and approve a spatial management plan
8. Implement and enforce the spatial plan
9. Monitor and evaluate performance
10. Adapt the marine spatial management plan



# St Kitts and Nevis, Caribbean Steps

1. Engage stakeholders
2. Establish clear objectives
3. Build a multi-objective database
4. Develop decision-support tools
5. Generate draft zones

# MSP tools

- Guidebooks and best practices
- Decision-support tools for trade-off analyses, models and scenarios (e.g., Marxan)
- Web tools for data viewing



# Questions



Photo: Lacadives.com