



SEYCHELLES MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING (MSP) INITIATIVE

MSP Steering Committee

Meeting 2

Monday 15th December 2014

1:00 PM-4:00 PM

CAAI Training Room, English River

Minutes

Members Present:

Mr. Didier Dogley MEE - Chairperson

Mr. Alain Decommarmond - MEE & Chairperson National Climate Change Committee

Ms. Amanda Padayachy - Ministry of Finance, Trade & Investment

Ms. Cynthia Adrienne – Ministry of Land Use & Habitat

Dr. Jude Bijoux – Ministry of Natural Resources & Seychelles Fishing Authority

Mr. Rodney Quatre – Seychelles National Parks Authority

Mr. John Nevill - Chair Marine Ecology TWG

Dr. Joanna Bluemel - Vice-Chair Marine Ecology TWG

Ms. Bernice Elizabeth – Dept. of Tourism

Mr. Patrick Samson – Representative of Petroleum Sector - Socio-Economic TWG

In attendance:

Mrs. Iris Carolus – MSP Coordinator/SC Secretary

Ms. Helena Sims - UNDP GEF Protected Areas Project Manager

Mrs. Joanna Prosper - UNDP GEF Outer Island Project Manager

Mr. Matt Brown – Africa Director Conservation TNC

Absent with apologies:

Mr. Denis Matatiken – Seychelles National Parks Authority

Dr. Frauke Dogley - Chairperson of Terrestrial TWG

Mr. Paul Hodoul - Representative of Tourism Sector - Socio-Economic TWG

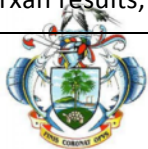
Mr. Keith Andre - Representative of Fisheries Sector - Socio – Economic TWG

The objectives of the meeting were as follows:

1. To discuss the integration Protected Areas project results with the MSP zoning design
2. To discuss Phase I Implementation and Phase II of MSP Initiative in Seychelles
3. To provide direction to the MSP Technical Team on questions related to the zoning design



<p>1. Welcome and Introductions</p> <p>The Chairperson, Mr. Dogley welcomed the members and introduced Mr. Matt Brown from the Nature Conservancy (TNC) as well as the new Steering Committee member, Miss Bernice Elizabeth, representing the Dept. of Tourism.</p>	
<p>2. Agenda Review</p> <p>The Chairperson reviewed the Agenda, which was adopted.</p>	
<p>3. Adoption of Minutes from Steering Committee #1</p> <p>The minutes from Steering Committee meeting # 1 were adopted with the following corrections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seychelles Marine Spatial Planning Initiative: Reference should be made to the Demersal Fishery Co-Management Plan. • Seychelles Draft Zoning Proposal: Zone C: ‘No harvesting or extraction” in Zone C will lead to conflicts as artisanal mackerel fishery is mainly based on the east coast of Mahe and major conflicts will arise if this is prohibited. It was suggested that this activity should be allowable in Zone C. • It was proposed to have an action column in the minutes. 	
<p>4. Integrating the MSP Initiative with the UNDP PA project</p> <p>4.1. Andrew Grieser Johns gave an update on the work currently being undertaken by the UNDP PCU.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under the Protected Areas project work has been undertaken by Dr. Rebecca Klaus on the Marxan analysis for the potential new protected areas. The hard results are expected this week. The validation workshop scheduled last week was cancelled due to Rebecca being sick and is now being rescheduled for either January 13th or 14th 2015. This date is yet to be confirmed. • The Outer Islands project was recently initiated and it has the capacity and funding to carry on next phase of the MSP work starting in 2015. Depending on outputs of the MSP, the OI project will look at gaps identified in the MSP or further iterations (depending on what is required at the time of presentation). • The PA Financing project, which will address the sustainable financing of PA areas, is currently in its design phase. Two further stakeholder consultations will be held at the end of January and February 2015 for further input into the design of the project. <p>These projects are being funded under GEF 5.</p> <p>Linkages between all these projects and MSP and Blue Economy initiatives must be ensured.</p> <p>4.2. Helena Sims, the PA Project Manager informed the meeting that an interim report from Dr. Klaus will be circulated to stakeholders prior to the validation workshop in January 2015. The workshop will either be a half-day session or a full day with input from the MSP team in the afternoon.</p> <p>Dr. Klaus has already handed over all the data that she has, with the exception of the Marxan results, to Justin Prosper, the data manager.</p>	



<p>Once Dr. Klaus' work has been validated the data layers will then be handed over to TNC for integration into the Marine Spatial Plan.</p> <p>The Chairperson highlighted that they were working towards being able to share Dr. Klaus' work prior to workshop in order to have meaningful discussions.</p> <p>4.3. Joanna Prosper, the Outer Island Project Manager, highlighted that Output 2.3 of her project will address data gaps from PA and MSP to start in 2016. The project is however, restricted to the following islands: Desroches, Alphonse, Farquhar, Poivre and D'Arros.</p> <p>It was pointed out that it is important to specify that this refers to the island groups.</p> <p>The Chairperson informed the meeting that the islands were chosen due to low risk of piracy, the costs of travelling there and access.</p> <p>4.4. The SFA representative informed the meeting that SFA will make a formal submission regarding concerns it has over the MSP Zoning definitions by next week.</p>	
<p>5. Seychelles MSP Initiative Phase I Implementation and Phase II</p> <p>Guidance was being sought from the Steering Committee on the way forward.</p> <p>Matt Brown from TNC indicated that the Marine Spatial Plan will be tested during the initial years as most likely errors will surface and further refinement will be required. A series of questions were put to the members in order to determine what process the Steering Committee envisages for rectifying this and how to address issues arising.</p> <p>5.1. Role of the SC as we move from the 1st iteration to implementation</p> <p>Members pointed out that as of yet this seems an artificial activity as members have not seen the map and cannot therefore visualize the conflicts that might occur within the zones. It was reiterated that conflicts will arise in the near shore 5-10 miles off the coast. The scale must be finer near shore compared to further out at sea.</p> <p>5.1. Role of TNC for the next 3-4- years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members agreed that there is the capacity locally to do the work but that it was equally important to have an impartial party involved and that it would be useful to have TNC in that role. TNC's role would be to have independent guidance in the process esp. for successful implementation and enforcement of the Plan. It was also felt that at the present time TNC's role is crucial in order to coordinate matters relating to the EEZ until another projects picks this up. It was also felt that TNC also needs to play a role in bridging the MSP and Blue Economy and ensuring coordination between the 2 initiatives. Matt Brown indicated that TNC 's input is demand driven and does not want to step on any ones toes, in particular the well-established ENGOS. A TOR and job description for the Project Manager with the relevant technical background will be formulated within the coming months. 	



<p>5.2. Members were informed of the following time plan for the MSP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 2015: PA input into the MSP • April 2015: initial MSP endorsement by Cabinet • April-June 2015: (SC, TWGs and workshops to refine plan • July 2015: Final approval by Cabinet <p>5.4. One member queried whether there had been agreement for mixed uses in the zones? This followed suggestions from the Blue Economy forum for mixed uses in zones. The example given was the plan for PUC to increase power generation from wind, which MLUH specifies needs to be located off shore. Mariculture was also being planned for that area. As it stands, Zone A does not have food security as one of its objectives. There is concern that if this happens then no other uses can occur in that zone.</p> <p>5.5. Members pointed out that the Compatibility Matrix, Table 3 and Recommended Uses Table, Table 4 (Zoning proposal v 3.1) need to take into account all proposals made so far that have been minuted.</p> <p>5.6. One member queried whether further MSP work does not depend on the establishment of a legal framework.</p> <p>It was clarified that the legal framework work will be required to support implementation especially enforcement but that this does not preclude work being done in the development of the plan.</p> <p>The Chairperson informed the meeting that government was planning to create an authority for marine issues similar to the one in Mauritius. The authority will be responsible for taking forward the MSP and other marine initiatives. Legislation will need to be developed in order to establish this body.</p> <p>5.7. It was agreed that more communication and awareness is required regarding the MSP. An MSP Communications Plan will be developed and will feature the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A FAQ about MSP needs to be developed detailing: how will it be enforced, by which body, the timeline. • A media pack • Targeted awareness for e.g. politicians and public. • It was suggested that the MSP should write its own press releases for adequate media coverage as is currently done by various organisations. • The SFA representative shared his experience of hosting a special media event, with a specially prepared special media kit. <p>5.8. An exercise on how the different projects are interlinked should be done in order to clear confusion arising from the various ongoing initiatives.</p> <p>5.9. Members noted that the recent Blue Economy focused primarily on fisheries and tourism with no mention of sustainability. It was felt that more should be done to make people understand the definition of the Blue Economy and what it entails</p> <p>5.10. Members felt that there was a need to analyse the current policies related to the MSP</p>	<p>Joanna Smith</p> <p>MSP team (Iris) with input from SC</p> <p>PCU</p> <p>Iris with input from SC</p>
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<p>6.0 Any Other Business</p> <p>6.1. One member, being chair of a TWG sought clarification as to what the agenda for the TWG was. It is still unclear what the TWG should be addressing and the questions they should be helping to answer. Clear technical guidance for the TWG input into the MSP was required.</p> <p>The Chairperson agreed that a proposal should be developed to that effect and requested members to forward any suggestions they may have to him.</p> <p>7.2. Another member sought clarification on the link between the PA financing project and the MSP. It was explained that the PA financing project aims to support existing PAs that are underperforming due to financial constraints. It is envisaged that these models can be replicated in the future.</p> <p>7.3. There was a request to start the meeting at 1.15 in order to allow all members to arrive on time.</p>	<p>All members</p>
<p>8.0 Wrap-up and Schedule for Next Meeting – Feb 2015</p> <p>The date for next meeting will be set at a later date depending on work undertaken. There being no future discussions, the meeting adjourned at 3.30 p.m.</p>	

