



SEYCHELLES MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING (MSP) INITIATIVE

MSP Steering Committee

Meeting 4

Wednesday 25 March 2015

9:00 AM – 12:30 PM

SFA Conference Room

Minutes

Members Present:

Mr. Wills Agricole PS ECC – Chairperson

Mr. Alain Decommarmond – PS Environment

Ms. Bernice Elizabeth - Dept. of Tourism

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

Dr. Frauke Dogley - Chairperson of Terrestrial Technical Working Group

Ms. Amanda Padayachy - Ministry of Finance, Trade & Blue Economy

Ms. Cynthia Adrienne - Ministry of Land Use & Habitat

Dr. Jeanne Mortimer - Vice Chair Terrestrial Technical Working Group

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

Dr. David Rowat – Representing Marine Ecology Technical Working Group

Mr. Chris Mason Parker - Representing Marine Ecology Technical Working Group

Miss Elyn Albert - Representing Justin Prosper - MSP Data Manager, MEE

Mrs. Virginie Lagarde and Mr. Jean Claude Hoareau FBOA on behalf of Mr. Keith Andre - Representative of Fisheries Sector - Socio – Economic TWG

In attendance:

Mrs. Iris Carolus – MSP Coordinator/SC Secretary

Ms. Helena Sims - UNDP GEF Protected Areas Project Manager (observer)

Mrs. Joanna Prosper - UNDP GEF Outer Island Project Manager (observer)

Dr. Joanna Smith - MSP Science Manager Global Marine Team TNC Canada

Mr. Jan Robinson – SFA

Absent with apologies:

Mr. Denis Matatiken - Seychelles National Parks Authority

Meeting Objectives:

1. To discuss Seychelles Fishing Authority's proposal for Fisheries Replenishment Areas
2. To review the draft Table of Contents for the document that will be presented to Cabinet.
3. To review draft Zoning Design scenarios and management considerations and approve for presentation to Stakeholder Workshop # 4 in April.



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Agenda Item	Follow Up/Action
<p>1. Welcome and Introductions</p> <p>Mr. Wills Agricole, Principal Secretary for Energy and Climate Change, was introduced as the new Steering Committee Chair replacing Mr. Didier Dogley.</p>	
<p>2. Agenda Review</p> <p>The Chairperson reviewed the Agenda, which was adopted by all members present.</p>	
<p>3. Adoption Of Minutes From Steering Committee # 3</p> <p>3.1 The minutes from Steering Committee meeting # 3 were adopted with 2 comments from Jude.</p> <p>3.2 Dr. Joanna Smith presented an update on action items from the minutes (PPT1). Discussions were held on what constitutes economic value for fisheries, whether it was the current value or the potential value (Virginie, Jan)</p>	
<p>4. Timeline and Work plan</p> <p>4.1 An update on the Timeline and Outputs was given by Dr. Joanna Smith.</p> <p>4.2 Concerns raised by SFA regarding consultations with the representatives of industrial fishing. It was proposed that they will be invited to the April 14th workshop. Failing their attendance, Joanna from the MSP team could travel to meet with them. Should this be the case, it was recommended that a high official from SFA should be present at that meeting. Alternatively as separate meeting will be held with them here in Seychelles.</p> <p>It was also pointed out that procedures from the existing agreements need to be followed for such meetings and this will be further discussed with the Chair and Mr. Michaud.</p> <p>4.3 It was notes that the zones are draft and that there will be ongoing consultations after the Cabinet meeting in Apri. The Chair agreed that we need to find ways for consultations despite the tight timeline we have to work within.</p>	<p>Joanna Smith</p> <p>Jan Robinson</p>
<p>5. Roundtable Discussions</p> <p>Members provided an update on their respective sectors.</p> <p>5.1 Petroseychelles: negotiations are ongoing for 2 more blocks on the Mascarene ridge with finalisation possibly by the end of March/ beginning of April 2015. Surveys may be conducted in the Farquhar area - not yet been confirmed.</p> <p>5.2 MLUH: The delimitation of the EEZ maritime boundary will now fall under the portfolio of the Blue Economy Dept.</p> <p>5.3 UNDP PA Project: The PA final workshop for biodiversity conservation zones was held on March 19th 2015. The consultant, Dr. Klaus is finalising the comments from the workshop this week. Andrew Grieser Johns will be able to provide further details.</p> <p>5.4 UNDP Outer Islands Project: Land use plans are being developed under the project. The new proposal for Mariculture could be included under Zone A of the MSP.</p> <p>5.5 FBOA: The joint SFA/FBOA zoning proposal as well as comments received from John Nevill have been discussed by both parties.</p> <p>5.6 Olivier Bodéré was introduced as the new member on the MSP team, representing Minister EECC's office.</p> <p>5.7 Tourism: Regarding tourism Zone E, is it getting smaller?</p> <p>5.8 Update on Marine TWG David Rowat and Chris Mason Parker were invited to represent the Marine Ecology TWG at the meeting in the absence of the group's Chair and Vice Chair who have stepped down. There were no objections from members in them attending.</p> <p>5.9 SFA: invited to the meeting to present the SFA/FBOA joint proposal.</p> <p>5.10 MEECC: discussions with John Nevill regarding the SFA/FBOA to ensure that his environmental and biodiversity considerations are taken into account.</p>	

<p>5.11 SFA: The last consultative meeting on the Management Plan for Demersal Fishery on the Mahe Plateau has been held. The deadline for submission of the final draft has been extended and is now expected at the end of April. The Monitoring and Surveillance Plan is also expected by end of April. This will be circulated for comments. The Plan has a phase-in approach over 18 months. SFA is working with the Prince of Wales Charity in order to establish a grant for sustainable open fishery. The stock assessment undertaken for key species is available for circulation to members.</p>	
<p>6. SFA/ FBOA joint submission on the MSP Zoning proposal.</p> <p>6.1 Presentation by Jan Robinson - Seychelles Fishing Authority.</p> <p>6.2 Discussions and Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Align the proposed PA legislation and the Fisheries Act 2014. • In relation to governance, this can be made under both pieces of legislation. Designation of 'Sustainable Use' areas can be under the PA legislation and its management can be delegated to SFA. • The definition of Sustainable Use area in the PA policy is very broad and this can be reworked upon with input from the SC members. • Proposed to designate Zone B for stricter protection? • Under the PA policy, a management plan is required together with the nomination file for a proposed Sustainable Use area. • A definition of Sustainable Use is required. • Need to clarify the objective of a Fisheries Replenishment area. This should form part of an area where fisheries is an objective and should therefore be moved to that zone. ; there is a difference between fisheries replenishment and replenishment in general. • There must be clarity on the issue of replenishment zones bearing in mind the international norm and biodiversity conservation obligations regarding no take zones and replenishment areas. • Internationally, "Sustainable Use" areas that have been included have not performed to expectation. Need a clear definition and clearly defined objectives as to Sustainable Use traced out between conservation and fisheries. • Need to see proposed zone B to be able to come to a decision. • The MSP must be governed by all international commitments and not only conservation; will need to find a compromise. • "Sustainable Use" can be defined according to the Fisheries Act. However, further to stakeholder consultation, the team was instructed to refrain from using the term "sustainable". A definition will need to be given if this is now going to be used and this depends on each sector and for which model it is being used. The MSP team awaits new directions to that effect. • Fisheries replenishment areas have not been defined spatially in the MSP process, further to instructions received from SFA last year. • Boundaries could be defined according to a Management Plan. Fisheries Replenishment and population (biodiversity) replenishment by larval dispersal are not the same thing and should be separated. The objectives need to be clearly separated. • The SFA proposal includes another change: including Sports and Recreation Fishing in Zone A. It was clarified that any form of fishing is compatible in Zone A. • Consensus will be required from all parties and all interests must be taken on Board. As implementation will be an issue, it must be acknowledged which authority will have more backing and international leverage to ensure proper enforcement. • Biodiversity replenishment should be in Zone B and Fisheries Replenishment in Zone A. If Sustainable Use is for Fisheries then this must be under Fisheries Zone. There is the need to define exactly what Sustainable Use is for and the appropriate authority will manage the area. Sports and Recreational Fisheries are included in Zone E but they are controlled by the Fisheries Act. If the Fisheries Management Plan does not have the relevant 	<p>All members</p>



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<p>provisions to allow for this then the PA legislation will need to provide for it. If Sustainable Use is used for other uses than fisheries (e.g. petroleum or tourism), then a governing mechanism for that sector needs to be established. Regulations will need to be drafted for each of the categories falling under the PA policy, as the proposed Act is merely framework legislation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was proposed to have the proposal discussed jointly by the TWGs, with the need for clear documentation in order to proceed. It was decided to meet in April when Joanna is back in the country. It was finally decided that this was more of a language issue, which could be addressed by SFA and Joanna Smith working together. 	
<p>7. Table of Contents for Marine Plan</p> <p>7.1 Presentation and Discussion of the format for the document that will be presented to Cabinet in April and July 2015 by Dr. Joanna Smith. Members were asked to send their comments and suggestions on the document to the MSP team.</p> <p>7.2 It was decided that the Executive Summary will be in all 3 national languages (Chair). It was proposed to have smaller digestible versions for different groups e.g. fisherman, which could be worked upon after July.</p> <p>7.3 All the planning tools used throughout the process will be in annexes.</p> <p>7.4 The aim is to have one design to be present to Cabinet; to be discussed with the Minister.</p> <p>7.5 Further information was requested on SeyCATT and its functions and whether the FMP can tap into the funds. The Chair confirmed that yes the funds would be available but the details were not yet available. Jo Smith will be meeting with the deb swap team after her trip to Seychelles in March for an update on the debt swap and its conditions.</p>	<p>All members</p> <p>Jo Smith</p>
<p>8. Draft Zoning Design Scenarios for the EEZ and Management Considerations for the Zones</p> <p>8.1 The draft zoning scenarios for the EEZ was presented by Dr. Joanna Smith.</p> <p>8.2 Discussions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The EEZ coordinates are now being confirmed as these were previously estimated. This will be communicated to the MSP team Include the Marine highway in the MSP. PetroSeychelles work is ongoing to determine low gravity areas where there is sedimentation. It was queried why there was no planning units selected for habitat along the perimeter of the EEZ. Probably it was because it was not deemed a priority or it was due to a model artifact. It was explained that Marxan requires expert review. The results of Dr. Klaus' work are being discussed with UNDP as the work moves forward. What about areas that are not being considered due to remoteness related to biodiversity areas. Is Seychelles promoting a protected area for a massive trench for the EEZ (what % of the goal will be covered by the 30%?) It was clarified that the trench was selected from stakeholder input which one member thought didn't make sense. <p>8.3 The draft Management Considerations for the zones were presented by Dr. Joanna Smith, which will accompany a zoning map. All members were requested to review their respective part to ensure consistency with respective policies and regulations. Deadline 1st April.</p> <p>8.4 Discussions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was suggested to remove "future" from oil and gas as the work is ongoing <p>8.5 Three zoning scenarios were presented. Members were requested to provide their feedback and recommendations for revision of the scenarios to the MSP team</p> <p>8.6 Discussions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scenario 1: The biodiversity is too scattered from a management perspective. There seems to be conflicts between fisheries and conservation. Scenario 3: is there still possibility to have 30 % protected? Further data on species and habitat were awaited from Dr. Klaus. (Jo) 	<p>Cynthia</p> <p>Jo Smith</p> <p>All members</p> <p>All members</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scenario 3: looked flawed as a whole zone has been designated for petroleum when in actual fact only a dot with a buffer zones forms the petroleum zone. A much bigger area that will be impacted than the 1 km buffer zone around that area. This scenario did not seem fair as other uses exist there but petroleum has exclusivity. It was explained that this will not be an exclusion zone for petroleum. Show priorities for all sectors; PetroSeychelles may choose one will least impact Regarding petroleum, it was recommended to seek further clarification from the Petroseychelles rep for further refinement since this sector is the main concern. Scenario 1: There is the need to look realistically at which areas will form Zone B as this cannot be small areas. Integrate habitat and species data results from Dr. Klaus work. This will then be further refined under the MSP process. Darros has not received approval to be designated as a PA as the procedure for designation has not been followed. This will be resubmitted for approval. Cetecean aggregation area on east coast of Mahe; a bigger group NE of Mahe Plateau (sperm whales). A GeoPDF link will be available via Dropbox. Members are requested not to distribute it at this point but to however discuss it with colleagues working through the 3 scenarios highlighting the areas of concern to you. Deadline for feedback within 1 week. Scenario will not be shown to stakeholders as it has insufficient support. Zone D: zone for a different activities with which Petroleum will be a compatible activity. Extraction of petroleum will trigger off a consultation process. 	<p>All Member</p> <p>All Members</p>
<p>9.0 Wrap-up and Schedule for Next Meeting – April 2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The date for next meeting will be according to the timeline proposed. Meeting adjourned at 12.30 p.m. 	

Minutes adopted and approved:

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 Mr Wills Agricole
 Principal Secretary Energy and Climate Change
 Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change
 Chairman of the Steering Committee

Date:



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