
MSP Steering Committee

Meeting #11

Friday 01 June 2018

0900-1200 hrs

Location: Savoy Hotel, Beau Vallon, Mahe

Minutes

Meeting Objectives:

1. To present updates following completion of Phase 1 and inception for Phase 2 of MSP
2. To discuss priority areas for Phase 2 and identify data availability and gaps
3. To identify topics for discussion by Technical Working Groups

Attendance:

Mr. Wallace Cosgrow- Minister for Environment, Energy and Climate Change
Mr. Wills Agricole, PS Energy & Climate change, MSP SC Co-Chair
Mrs. Marie-May Muzungaile– DG Biodiversity Conservation and Management, MEECC, MSP SC
Ms. Michelle Murray- ICS CEO
Dr. David Rowat – Chairperson, Marine Ecology TWG, MCSS
Mr. Pierre-Andre Adam - Vice-Chair, Marine Ecology TWG, ICS
Ms. Aaishah Molle. rep. Captain Joachim Valmont – SMSA
Dr. Jan Robinson – SWIOFISH3
Mr. Andy Rylance – GoS-UNDP-GEF PA Finance Project
Mr. Daig Romain- PCU GoS-UNDP-GEF PA Finance Project- MSP SC Observer
Mrs. Daniella Payet-Allis- SHTA- SC member Tourism Rep
Mr. Amit Wasseberg- SHTA- SC member Tourism Rep
Mr. Patrick Samson, PetroSeychelles, MSP Member Representing & Co-Chair Socio-economic TWG
Mr. Martin Callow- CEO SeyCCAT
Mr. Peter Purvis- Industrial Tuna Fisheries (Purse Seine)
Ms. Vania Robert- SeyCCAT/MSP Executive Admin Assistant
Dr. Joanna Smith, MSP Science Manager, TNC Canada
Ms. Helena Sims, MSP Project Manager, TNC Africa
Mr. Richard Tingey- GIS Consultant for the Seychelles MSP

Absent:

Mr. Alain de Comarmond – Co-Chair PS Environment, MEECC
Mrs. Joanna Prosper – GoS-UNDP-GEF Outer Island Project Manager
Mr. Justin Prosper – MSP Data Custodian, MEECC
Mr. Vincent Lucas – Seychelles Fishing Authority
Mrs. Veronica Uzice rep. Mr. Aubrey Lesperance - Seychelles Fishing Authority (Mariculture)
Dr. Frauke Fleischer-Dogley – Chairperson, Terrestrial Ecology TWG, SIF
Dr. Jeanne Mortimer – Vice Chair, Terrestrial Ecology TWG, ICS
Mr. Keith Andre, FBOA- MSP SC Member & Co-Chair Socio-economic TWG
Ms. Virginie Lagarde, FBOA- MSP SC alternate member representing Fisheries Sector

Mr. Glenny Savy, IDC- MSP Member, representing tourism
 Mr. Denis Matatiken, Special Advisor to Minister
 Ms. Bernice Senaratne, Dept. of Tourism- MSP SC member representing tourism sector
 Mr. Selby Remy, SNPA- MSP SC Member representing tourism and marine ecology sector
 Mr. Cynthia Adrienne, MLUH- MSP Member, representing coastal development

Minutes

Agenda Item #	Agenda Item	Comment/Advice	Action_Response (with initials)
1.0	Opening	The chair of the MSP SC opened the meeting and welcomed all participants to the meeting	
1.1	Agenda Review	The agenda was reviewed and adopted.	
1.2	Approval of Steering Committee #10 minutes	The minutes of SC meeting #10 was reviewed and adopted without changes. The following comments were made during the minutes review;	
		3.2 of Minutes of SC10; It was pointed out that the JNCC guidelines do not apply to tropical waters.	
		3.2. of minutes of SC10. It was pointed out that floating structures have been approved in the Marine National Park (Ste Anne).	
1.3	Confirm Steering Committee member list	A review of the change in steering committee members ensued. Members were also reminded that 7 technical working groups will meet on Tuesday 5 th June and a chair and vice chair from each TWG will have a seat on the MSP SC. Hence further changes in the composition of the MSP SC are to be expected.	
1.4	Roundtable updates from members and observers	ICS through the GoS-UNDP-GEF outer islands project is developing conservation management plans for 4 outer islands and the plans will be reviewed in the coming weeks.	
		MCSS has been involved in the GEF6 Ridge to reef project and integration with the MSP is being considered.	
		Introductions were made by the new CEO of ICS who will endeavour to integrate projects of ICS with the MSP.	
		SWIOFISH3 – funds are now flowing and the procurement plan has been approved. Activities in component 1 (MSP Sustainable use zone) will commence. These include;	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A study on ecosystem goods and services from Seychelles' PA network to the economy, - Defining what sustainable use is (in the context of fisheries and fisheries management and MSP), - Support fishery management plans for sustainable use areas, - Harmonising of legislation for MSP e.g. Fisheries Act, - Support for the renewal/negotiation of the fisheries agreements, - Socio-economic study of sports fishery, - Technical assistance to support MEECC to implement the SWIOFISH3 activities. 	
		<p>SeyCCAT advised that some of the first Blue Grants Fund (BGF) project proposals have been announced recently and that the second open call for proposals is to be announced shortly. Strategic commissions will be enacted in addition to the BGF projects.</p>	
		<p>The GoS-UNDP-GEF Protected Areas finance project is supporting the development of management plans for Curieuse, Baie Ternay, Port Launay and Ste Anne.</p>	
		<p>The GoS-UNDP-GEF PA finance is also going through a mid-term review and there is an opportunity to align activities further with the MSP.</p>	
		<p>MSP SC members were advised by SMSA that the discussions on Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) are ongoing and SMSA is to liaise with MEECC for further discussions.</p>	
		<p>SHTA established that it supports sustainable tourism and working towards Education and Awareness of tourism in this aspect.</p>	
		<p>MEECC reiterated that it is supporting the MSP and providing assistance to MSP team. DoE is working on the Recife Special Reserve Management Plan (funded by the PA Finance Project) and a draft should be provided in mid June 2018.</p>	

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		SHTA members (new) were welcomed to the MSP SC and one member is keen to provide input on tourism and charters.	
		The PetroSeychelles representative advised that 2 new agreements have been signed and a survey company is also now on board to carry out seismic surveys from Madagascar, Farquhar and the Amirantes ridge. They are also processing an application for one more company. This process is ongoing.	
		The GIS consultant to the MSP gave a brief overview to the MSP SC of his work and responsibilities in providing GIS and analytics support for the MSP team.	
		The MSP Project manager welcomed all new MSP SC members, provided updates on new MSP TWGs for the MSP Phase 2 and an overview of the process where the Chair and Vice chair of each TWG will sit on the MSP SC.	Dropbox link to MSP SC folder to be shared again to all MSP SC members. H.S.
		As national focal point for CC in Seychelles, the PS for Climate Change and Energy updated the SC that the Paris Agreement 'rule book' is being developed and will be finalised in September 2018 and will be adopted in Poland in Dec 2018.	
		The representative of the Industrial Tuna Fisheries Purse Seine companies (Seychelles Flagged) advised that a teleconference is scheduled for next week with the MSP Team.	
2.0	Process updates- Areas gazetted, allowable activities and management considerations	Phase 1 completion – An overview was provided to the MSP SC on the areas gazetted in February 2018, the allowable activities and management considerations. All documentation is online on the MSP Website (www.seymsp.com). MPS SC members were reminded that implementation starts from 2021 onwards.	
		A question was raised as to how are the new areas going to be funded and who will implement them. The MSP core team was advised that this is a question that is being raised often by the general public.	This is in the MSP FAQ document that is being developed. Costing of the MSP is an exercise under a SeyCCAT strategic commission that will be undertaken this year.

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			Implementation starts 2021. J.S.
		There were expressed concern regarding the lack of representation from the artisanal fisheries (FBOA). The MSP team was advised by the SC to look at other representatives from the fisheries sector for Phase 2.	The fisheries TWG will have more representatives from fisheries and the MSP team will look at helping FBOA with capacity to allow for more representation on the MSP SC.
2.2	MSP Phase 2 timelines and milestones	The SC was reminded that the next MSP milestone is to find +2.5% in zone 2 and +5% in zone 1 by December 2018. The MSP team is working from the areas that had good agreement in MSP Phase 1 and the priority list from the MSP Phase 2 Inception workshop in March 2018.	Milestone table to be added to MSP SC dropbox folder. J.S.
2.3	MSP Phase 2 inception workshop draft outputs- SMART Objectives for Blue economy and climate change adaptation	The SC was reminded that the SMSP Goals are to (i) increase MPA to 30% EEZ, (ii) Support the Blue economy and (iii) address climate change adaptation. The draft SMART Objectives from the MSP Phase 2 inception workshop was presented to the SC members. Respective sectors to provide specific objectives (MSP EC members).	MSP SC members were invited to send comments, draft SMART objectives by the end of June 2018.
Coffee Break			
3.1	MSP Phase 2 Areas discussion	An overview of the MSP zoning framework was provided to the SC members (Zone 1, 2 and 3), the MSP Spatial Data Catalogue, data thematic layers, stakeholder preferences mapping, Marxan with zones and multiple scenarios. The MSP SC was advised that Geo Pdfs have been developed for MSP SC members to view the data layers for each areas being discussed. There was a query as to the year of the Fisheries data layer used in the Marxan with zones analysis. It was pointed out that the IOTC reports are showing shifts in strategies following the IOTC yellowfin restrictions.	It was confirmed that this was 2013 data. J.S. The MSP SC was advised that new data is available for Purse Seine Fisheries (2003-2016) and that the MSP team is waiting for the longline data before updates are made. R.T.

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		<p>It was pointed out that consideration of a dynamic environment (resilience) are not included in the (MSP) MPA best practices list and that the MSP areas need to be adaptable in response to climate change. E.g. fishery priority areas may change.</p>	<p>The MSP team to update the Best practices for ecological criteria for the MSP (Annex III). J.S. The SC was advised that the MSP team is looking at fishery catch data temporally (Space time data mining of VMS data) R.T.</p>
		<p>It was re-iterated that it is important to look at ecological responses to climate change over time.</p>	<p>It was proposed that the MSP team can use the same temporal and spatial analysis and apply to ecological layers but would need to work with ecological experts to run the models. R.T. This can also be applied to tourism activities but need access to spatial data for tourism. J.S.</p>
		<p>The SC was reminded that tourism effort often is determined by the weather and monsoons and that this needs to be taken into consideration.</p>	
		<p>It was mentioned that it would be best to have a Climate Change scenario included in the MSP.</p>	<p>For now, only the Maina <i>et al</i> 2008 model is used in the Marxan model. J.S.</p>
3.2	New data available	<p>GIS consultant to work with PetroSeychelles to update the Petroleum Exploration and interest layer.</p>	<p>R.T., J.L.M.</p>
3.3	Discuss priority areas to reach next milestone	<p>The priority areas suggested from the Phase 2 inception workshop (March 2018) was presented to the MSP SC. The priority areas proposed during the inception workshop were; Zone 1; Area 10 Farquhar (2.4%), Area 2 Bird and Denis (0.36%), Area 1 Inner Islands (0.42%) and Area 11 Aldabra East (1.7%). Zone 2; Area 14 Aldabra North (2.9%). It was proposed to change Area 10 from a zone 2 to a zone 1.</p>	<p>See annex IV for notes on changes to the priority areas for phase 2.</p>
		<p>It was pointed out that changing Area 10 Farquhar to a zone 1 would be a concern for PetroSeychelles as the area is of interest for Petroleum exploration.</p>	

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		A query was raised as to why some areas are not included in the priority list and whether they will not be included for consideration (reference to area 9 was made).	These areas will be discussed at a later date. The priority areas for the next milestone to Dec 2018 is what will be discussed in this meeting. J.S.
		There were ongoing discussions on the zone of area 10 (Farquhar) and where the z1 areas would be in area 10.	It was pointed out that it may be advisable to consider Farquhar in the next milestone.
		It was proposed that it would be advisable to pick areas that already have a management plan developed or being developed. Farquhar, Bird, Denis and North, Alphonse, Cosmoledo & Astove as a way forward.	
		There was an alternative proposal to address complex discussions now rather than later in order to allocate resources accordingly to the process.	The Importance of the passing of the new Protected Areas Act to allow for co-management agreements for protection of private islands.
		The Importance of the passing of the new Protected Areas Act to allow for co-management agreements for protection of private islands was re-iterated.	
		The SC was advised that the PA Act will go to white paper stage by Aug 2018.	MEECC was advised that funds for the drafting of regulations for the PA Act are available from SWIOFISH3. J.R.
3.4	Refine objectives for priority areas and draft allowable activities	Clarity was requested as to the allowable activities in Z1 and the definition of the zones which will be important to consider to determine the priority areas.	J.S.
		It was pointed out that the definition of the conditions in the allowable activities table is an important consideration for determining the zones of proposed areas in Phase 2.	
3.5	Topics for discussion by TWG- roundtable opinion of SC members	There was a proposal for not putting areas into zones, but discussing what allowable activities are in the area which will then determine the corresponding zone of that area.	
		It was pointed out that the concerns are more about restrictions in the zones. Determining	

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		which areas have management plans and nomination files are a good start. May be good to consider area 16 and area 5 as Zone 1. Implementation is also key.	
		It was re-iterated that the PA Act is important to the process as will guide some key decisions to help the MSP move forward particularly with respect to private islands and co-management.	
		Further recommendations were made to focus on areas where existing management planning processes are in place and to address more contentious areas with a fall back plan in order to 'add value' to the end product.	
		A suggestion that there should be a parallel planning process for the next MSP milestones to be considered in addition to the next 7.5% for 2020 was made.	
		Stakeholder engagement is key and picking easier areas may not be best in terms of meeting stakeholder expectations for the MSP to address areas of conflict. It was advised to focus on areas with an existing management plans.	
		A proposal was made to submit the PA Act to the MSP SC for comments before it goes to white paper stage. It was advised that the MSP team should provide the Allowable activities table to the MSP TWG and the value of each areas for protection for decision making process in the TWG.	J.S., H.S., R.T.
		It was re-iterated that the definition of allowable activities would be important to determine which areas would be discussed.	
		It was pointed out that the area 9 is the most contentious area for the Industrial Tuna Fisheries (ITF) Group. Discussions on other areas would be brought to the table to ITF group.	
		Further expressions of concern regarding the fishing community representation on the MSP. It was pointed out that there is support under SWIOFISH3 for helping the fisheries communities.	SeyCCAT to host meetings with fisheries to determine representation on the SeyCCAT Board and MSP welcome to participate. M.C.

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		It was mentioned that following the TWG meeting, it may be advisable to call for Ministry for Fisheries and SFA to engage all fisheries stakeholders to the MSP.	
		It was re-iterated that it is critical to engage with the fisheries associations as the MSP will impact on the fisheries stakeholders and they need to be consulted.	
4.0	Wrap up and Next steps	The co-chair, PS Climate Change and Energy, thanked all members for participating and summarised the list of meetings for the first week of June. He re-iterated on the importance of engagement with all stakeholders and committed that the Ministry will follow up on the PA Act.	
Meeting adjourned at 1220 hrs.			

Minutes submitted by: Helena Sims on 2nd June 2018

Annex I: Meeting Agenda

MSP Steering Committee

Meeting #11

Friday 01 June 2018

0900-1300 hrs

Location: Savoy Hotel, Beau Vallon, Mahe

DRAFT Agenda

Meeting Objectives:

4. To present updates following completion of Phase 1 and inception for Phase 2 of MSP
5. To discuss priority areas for Phase 2 and identify data availability and gaps
6. To identify topics for discussion by Technical Working Groups

#	Time	Topic
1	9:00	Opening – PS Wills Agricole and Ms Helena Sims <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agenda review • Approval of Steering Committee #10 minutes • Confirm Steering Committee member list update and welcome new members • Roundtable updates from members and observers
2	9:15	MSP Process Updates – Dr. Joanna Smith and Ms Helena Sims

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSP Phase 1 completion - Areas gazetted, allowable activities and management considerations • MSP Phase 2 Timeline and Milestones • MSP Phase 2 inception workshop draft outputs - Blue Economy and Climate Change Adaptation objectives • MSP Phase 2 inception workshop draft outputs – identifying priority areas
	10:00	Coffee Break
3	10:15	<p>MSP Phase 2 areas discussion – Dr. Joanna Smith</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zoning Design 4.0 areas and % representation • Discuss new data available for Phase 2 areas and identification of gaps • Discuss priority areas to reach next milestone • Refine objectives for priority areas and draft allowable activities • Identify topics for discussion by Technical Working Groups
4	11:45	Wrap up and next steps – PS Wills Agricole
	12:00	Adjourn (lunch provided)

Annex II: List of documents provided for the meeting.

- SEYMSP_Phase1_Zoning_Design_V40_26March2018
- SeyMSP_Phase2_SmartObjectives_2018029
- SEYMSP_SC10_Minutes_03Oct2017_Final
- SEYMSP_SC11_Agenda_Draft_20180511
- SEYMSP_Zone_x_Biodiversity_summary_20180531
- SEYMSP_ZoneFramework_v4_20171012
- SEYMSP_ZoneStatsSummaryTables_v4.0_Map4.0_201800530
- MSP Steering Committee Members_20180531_HS
- SEYMSP_Biodiversity_Representation_x_feature_20180531

Annex III: Best Practices for the MSP – notes from the MSP SC 11

Best Practices

MPA Network Design & Implementation Principles

Ecological Criteria

- Representation – across species, habitats, genetics
- Characteristic or Unique Areas – life history, diversity, productivity
- Replication – safeguard catastrophe, redundancy
- Size, Spacing, Connectivity – Integrity and viability
- Mitigating human impacts - resilience, long-term protection
- Network – as a whole, broader functioning
- **Dynamic – responses to climate change, species changes over time**

Social, Economic and Governance Criteria

- Transparent decision-making
- Enforcement and compliance
- Benefit and Impact to community
- **Adaptable design – responding to changes in species**



Source: Solomon et al. 2001, Gaines et al. 2010, Ben et al. 2013, Burt et al 2014

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Annex IV: Milestone 2 Priority Areas Suggestions from Steering Committee

Milestone 2 Priority Areas Suggestions from Steering Committee

ZONE 1 (5%)
 10 – Farquhar **** [OIP]
 - Where is the 15% for Zone 1 here?
 2 – Bird + Denis *** [GEF project]
 - nomination file; management plans
 1 – Inner Island [N. I] **
 11 – Aldabra E ** (PSSA)
 5 – Mascarene *
 7 – Amirantes *
 8 – Alphonse * [OIP]
 12 – Cosmoledo & Astove * [ICS]
 15 – WIOMER *
 16 – Coco de mer *

9 - Central Pelagic (next Milestone)
 10 - Farquhar

- Allowable activities
- Conditions for each activity
- Regulations to support the nomination
- Status of passing the new PA Act
- Funding from SWIOFish for drafting regulations

ZONE 2 (2.5%)
 14 - Aldabra N **
 1 – Inner Islands *
 5 – Mascarene *
 7 – Amirantes *
 10 – Farquhar (ocean)*
 11 – Aldabra E *
 12 – Cosmoledo & Astove *
 16 – Coco de mer *

Red indicates suggestion to change zone category

* Indicates how many groups recommended this area

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Annex V: Signed attendance form MSP SC11 Meeting