
MSP Steering Committee Extraordinary Meeting

Meeting #15

Date: Thursday 18 July 2019

Time: 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Location: Care House, Victoria, Mahe

Minutes

Meeting Objectives:

- 1) To review zoning design options for Milestone 3
- 2) To provide input on allowable activities tables and management considerations for each zone area

Attendance:

Mr. Alain de Comarmond – Co-Chair PS Environment, MEECC
Mr. Amit Wasseberg- SHTA
Mr. Andy Rylance – GoS-UNDP-GEF PA Finance Project
Ms. Angélique Pouponneau- SEYCCAT CEO
Ms. Bernice Senaratne- Dept. of Tourism
Ms. Cynthia Adrienne- MHILT
Mr. Daig Romain- PCU GoS-UNDP-GEF PA Finance Project
Dr. David Rowat –MCSS
Ms. Elke Talma- PCU
Ms. Francesca Adrienne- Blue Economy Department
Mrs. Joanna Prosper – GoS-UNDP-GEF Outer Island Project Manager
Mr. Justin Prosper – MSP Data Custodian, MEECC
Ms. Kelly Hoareau- UniSey
Mrs. Marie-May Muzungailé– DG Biodiversity Conservation and Management, MEECC
Ms. Melissa Joseph- SFA
Ms. Michelle Murray- ICS CEO
Mr. Patrick Samson, PetroSeychelles
Mr. Peter Purvis- Industrial Tuna Fisheries (Purse Seine) Representative
Mr. Sindu Parekh- The Hire Craft Association of Seychelles

MSP Core Team:

Dr. Joanna Smith, MSP Science & Process Lead, TNC Canada
Ms. Helena Sims, MSP Project Manager, TNC Africa
Mr. Richard Tingey- GIS Consultant for the Seychelles MSP

Absent:

Mr. Wills Agricole, PS Energy & Climate change, MSP SC Co-Chair
Mr. Vincent Lucas – Seychelles Fishing Authority
Mr. Aubrey Lesperance - Seychelles Fishing Authority (Mariculture)
Dr. Frauke Fleischer-Dogley – SIF
Mr. Keith Andre, FBOA

Dr. Jan Robinson – SWIOFISH3
 Mr. Glenny Savy, IDC
 Mr. Peter Brinn- GCCA+ Project
 Mr. Denis Matatiken, Special Advisor to Minister, MEECC
 Mr. Brian Charlette- MFTEP
 Ms. Jennifer Jasmine- MFTEP
 Mr. Lindsay Chong-Seng- PCA
 Ms. Ashley Dias- MEECC
 Mr. Pierre-Andre Adam - ICS
 Ms. Vania Robert- SeyCCAT Admin Executive
 Mr. Selby Remy, SNPA
 Dr. Jeanne Mortimer – ICS
 Miss Elissa Socrate rep SFA

Minutes;

Agenda Item #	Agenda Item	Comment/Advice	Action_Response (with initials)
1.1	Welcome	The MSP core team welcomed all the participants to the meeting.	
1.2	Agenda Review	The agenda of the meeting was reviewed and adopted without any changes.	Annex 1
1.3	Review Minutes and Action Items from SC #14	The minutes of SC meeting #14 was reviewed and approved. Some follow up queries were made;	
	2.1	A query was made as to the alternative category to be used if the revised act does not pass in time.	The NPNC will be used until the new act is passed. AD.
		There were some discussions on the management plans and frameworks for implementation of the MSP. The MSP Core Team is working with the MEECC and SWIOFISH3 on this.	
		A query was raised as to the revisions to the revised act that were proposed during the public review stage and whether they were incorporated.	MEECC to provide the reviewed draft to MSP SC. MMM
1.4	Round table of introductions and updates from the sector	There was a roundtable of introductions of the steering committee members present. Members provided sector updates as per below;	
		PCU- The GEF 7 proposal is currently being developed and potential project sites are being selected.	
		MCSS- The GEF 6 implementation will start soon. -The SEYCCAT lobster project is just completed	
		ICS- Working on the business plans of the 4 island sites under the OIP. -The SEYCCAT project on giant trevally just completed. -Awarded a 2 nd project on the red footed booby on Farquhar.	

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		SNPA- Ste Anne marine national mark management plan is being developed this quarter	
		PCU- Outer islands project: Nomination files being developed for the sites in the OIP.	
		PCU- PA Finance Project- The MSP Costing analysis has been finalised and was presented to the MSP Executive committee this week.	
		Blue Economy Department – Interest in discussions pertaining to the area 5 adjacent to the JMA.	
		MEECC- MSP data custodian: SFA pointed out an error in one of the MSP layers but this did not affect the MSP work. Information from the MSP is being provided to other entities.	
		UniSEY- A large scale coral restoration project with MCSS currently being implemented. GEF 6 and ocean acidification and willingness to pay survey is currently being implemented.	
		MEECC- The official announcement of the 26% of the areas identified through the MSP was made. MEECC is working with the Ministry of Finance, Blue Economy department and the department of public administration on the governance framework (Ocean Authority). Approval by cabinet by the end of the year. The legislation for protected areas has passed white paper stage and is now at Attorney General's Office for finalisation before it goes to the national assembly. Support for implementation of the MSP is being discussed to be included in the GEF7 project formulation. Seychelles has signed the commonwealth blue charter (an ocean policy charter) and experience on the MSP and implementation will benefit from this partnership.	
		MHILT- working on a proposal on a national geospatial data infrastructure.	
		SEYCCAT- There as been good progress on projects related to the MSP. A scoping mission by PEW charitable trust looking at seagrass mapping was carried out this week. SeyCCAT is working with the World Bank on large scale coral reef restoration and willingness to pay survey. The Blue Grants Fund3 project evaluation is ongoing	
		SHTA- Silhouette cruises will be working with NOAA in the second half of October 2019. There are	

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		concerns on mass tourism in Seychelles and potential impact of this in the country.	
1.5	Update on MSP Activities	A review of the MSP activities since milestone 3 inception workshops was provided to the MSP SC. These included a summary of; -Activities since Milestone 3 Inception Workshops and Meetings -WIOMSA Conference presentation in Mauritius in July 2019. -Review of Milestone 2 Gazetted Areas - Review of suggestions from stakeholders for Milestone 3	See presentation
		There was a query as to whether the FAD management workshop would include the fleet?	Yes, this can be communicated to the fleet. JS.
		An update was requested on the NDC project with PEW charitable trust. The MSP SC was informed that the Blue Carbon component was taken out of GEF6 and GEF7 as there was no methodology for calculating blue carbon values at that time.	PEW is in the scoping phase. The MSP SC members were informed further that the project is scoping for the calculation of blue carbon and methodology to look at the potential of blue carbon inclusion in our NDCs. AD.
2.31	Presentation of zoning design options: versions 5.1 and 5.2	Two zoning design options were presented to the SC; V5.1 and V5.2. Zoning design summary statistics was presented to stakeholders including fishery statistics 2003-2017. Biodiversity representation in Z1 and Z2 (30% area) was presented.	
		Queries were made as to why Assumption was included as a Z1. A proposal had been made to change it to a Z2.	
		There were discussions on the coordinates that were published in the gazette in the paper.	RT.
		The MSP SC was informed that the costing analysis exercise received the same feedback on the higher cost of enforcement of the V5.1 with the Z1 coco de mer. This advice was received from the coast guard and RCOC.	
2.32	Amirantes Group	The proposed Z1 areas in the Amirantes Island Group was presented to the MSP SC members.	
2.33	African Banks to Remire (7a, 7j)	The area proposed are good sports fishing areas for tourism (7a, 7j). The area is small and will be a small percentage for the MSP. The effective management of the area was a point of concern. It was proposed that these areas would be ok as a Z2.	The areas are small but their biodiversity features are yet to be captured in a z1.

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		<p>It was proposed that the 7a areas are made a Z2 as these are primary sports fishing areas. One member reported that 150 days are spent in this area per year.</p> <p>The zoning of 7a depends on the coordinates. The sports fishing is on the drop off. First drop at 20m.</p>	Request for sense of scale for this area. BE.
		It was pointed out that the recent tourism plan proposes a marina on Poivre and hence would indicate a potential increase in marine charters in the Amirantes in the coming years.	
		A query was made as to the control on number of vessels in the Amirantes particularly with respect to Sports Fishing and Charter Vessels.	The capacity of fly and sports fishing is being requested from Min for Fisheries by MEEC. Implementation of the fisheries act by end of the year for sports fishing.
		A concern made was that if 7a and 7j are changed to a Z2, what other areas are proposed in the Amirantes as a Z1?	A proposal was made by the Sports fishing representatives as an alternative and proposes an extension from D'Arros South to Desnouefs. JS.
		A proposal was made to move African banks from a Z1 to a Z2. In exchange, to change the shape of 7k to move it South where there is good biodiversity but less overlap with tourism (sports fishing).	
2.34	D'Arros and St Joseph (7c)	The SC was advised that the proposal to make D'Arros and St Joseph a Z1 not agreeable as St Joseph is the best fly fishing destination in the Amirantes group.	Further discussions on D'Arros and St Joseph with SOSF and the owners was advised. AD., JS., HS.
		It was pointed out that D'Arros and St Joseph have very high biodiversity.	
2.35	Etoile to Boudeuse (7l) and Marie-Louise to Desnouefs (7m)	The drop-off of this area is important for tourism (sports fishing & Charters).	One to one meeting to be organised with sports fishing representatives for polygons in the Amirantes. HS.JS.
2.36	Mascarene (A5) vs. Coco-de-mer (A18)	There were concerns on the proposal of Mascarene (A5) as a Z1 and how this will affect the discussions on the MSP process in the JMA. Members also questioned what was the criteria used to allocate a Z1 for Area 5.	The biodiversity features are very high in A5. There is a high representation of plateau geomorphology. Currently all plateau is in Z2.

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			There is also a surveillance and enforcement justification for this proposed zone. JS.
		The MSP SC was advised by MEECC that the discussions on the MSP in the JMA was recently initiated and that it will be based on data. The scope of the MSP in the Seychelles is within the EEZ of Seychelles. The JMA MSP will need to consider what the Seychelles has decided but the two processes are separate.	
		Petroseychelles expressed no objection of Z1 at the Coco de mer. However, for A5 there is a committed seismic survey by a company (Spectrum) in the Mascarene area. The JMA area is important for acquisition of seismic data. The area proposed is referred to as the 'trouser of the leg of the Mascarene plateau' hence PetroSeychelles is not in favour of Z1 proposed here for A5. It was hence re-iterated that PetroSeychelles not in agreement to both the V5.1 and V5.2 A5 proposed. With acquisition of seismic data at JMA and A5 this is an area of great interest for seismic survey for the purpose of petroleum exploration.	
		A comment was made that Petroleum extraction could potentially provide funding for conservation and implementation of the MSP.	
		A reminder to the SC was that the MSP is GoS led as well as the Petroleum exploration policy. It was further elaborated that there are ongoing processes including the Seychelles MSP, JMA MSP and other pending exercises within the JMA for research. However, it was raised that the decision needs to be made on whether to wait for the JMA exercises to be completed or to move with decisions pertaining to within the Seychelles EEZ. The spatial plan is also to be reviewed every 5 years and it was proposed that it can be revised at the time if data informs otherwise.	
		A query was made as to which other users would be affected by zoning the Mascarene A5 as a Z1?	Industrial Longline would also prefer V5.1 option as Mascarene is high use. JS.
		The SC was advised that the Mascarene ridge is one area of interest for deep water exploration further to the Nekton Exploration.	
		A proposal was made to consider to keep the Coco de mer and only add the Mascarene Z1 once all data at JMA research has completed.	

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		It was re-iterated that the process of revision of the MSP needs to be considered carefully as once an area is gazetted and protected by law it will be difficult to remove/change it.	Effective management, IUCN guidelines and OECSMs. JS.
2.37	Bird island. (2a).	Comments pertaining to the proposed Bird Area included;	
		A concern was raised that the 2nm boundary proposed is far enough that when there is bad weather there is no sheltered fishing areas.	The safe haven within 2nm is still allowable but not extraction. JS.
		The MSP core team was informed that this area is important for sports & artisanal fishermen from Praslin and that they should be consulted.	The MSP team has invited them to the Praslin meeting. HS.
2.4	Review of changes made in the AAT	A review of the changes made in the AAT was provided to the SC members.	
3.0	AOB		
	Proposal to increase the Aldabra (A13) Z1	There was a proposal to increase the Aldabra gazetted area to the east to reach the Z1 percentage target.	
		There was a proposal to increase size of Z1 of Aldabra Group and that the financial displacement should be considered to make a decision.	
	Coral Reef representation	Members expressed concern over the 2.5% coral reef representation in the statistics summary and hence would like to see some proposals for inner island area as a Z1.	
Industrial tuna	The MSP core team was advised that the Industrial Tuna fishery representative would Communicate to the fleet and to revert.	Documents to be sent to ITF group. JS.	
4.0	Meetings schedule, and follow up action items	The list of stakeholder meetings for the round of consultations was presented to the SC. Mahe workshop – Sat 20 July Praslin workshop- Sat 27 July TWG – Tue 23 July SC placeholder – Tue 30 July EC – Thur 1 Aug	
4.1	Next steps	The SC was informed that there is a placeholder for an MSP SC on 30th July pending discussions in the TWG and workshops.	HS to confirm the meeting after the TWG.
Meeting adjourned at 1200hrs			

Minutes submitted by: Helena Sims on 26 July 2019

Annex I: Meeting Agenda

SEYCHELLES MARINE SPATIAL PLAN (MSP) INITIATIVE

MSP Steering Committee

Meeting #15

Date: Thursday 18 July 2019

Time: 9:00 AM - Noon

Location: Care House, Victoria, Mahe

Agenda

Meeting Objectives:

1. To review zoning design options for Milestone 3
2. To provide input on allowable activities tables and management considerations for each zone area

#	Time	Topic
1	09:00	Opening – Steering Committee co-Chair MEECC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome and Agenda review • Review Minutes and Action Items from SC #14
2	9:30	MSP Milestone 3 – Dr. Joanna Smith and Ms. Helena Sims, with Mr. Rick Tingey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of input from Milestone 3 inception workshops (Mar-Apr) for zoning design proposals and allowable activities • Action items from Inception Workshops • Presentation of zoning design options: versions 5.1 and 5.2 • Review and Discuss Allowable Activities Tables and area-management considerations • Implementation plans – update and next steps
3	11:50	Any Other Business – Dr. Joanna Smith, Ms. Helena Sims and Mr. Rick Tingey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and comments for MSP Atlas – “proof zero” • Climate change risk mapping for corals
4	12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings schedule, and follow up action items • Adjourn

Annex II: List of documents provided for the MSP SC15 meeting.

SEYMSP_SC15_Agenda_18Jul2019_FINAL
 SEYMSP_SC14_Minutes_2Nov2018_20181113
 SEYMSP_Draft_Zoning_Design_V51_6June2019
 SEYMSP_Draft_Zoning_Design_V52_6June2019
 Zoning_Design_V52_Amirantes_Group_Bathymetry_16July2019
 Zoning_Design_V52_Amirantes_Group_ShallowGeomor_16July2019
 SEYMSP_ActivitiesTable_Milestone3_Map5.2_Codes_20190716
 SEYMSP_ActivitiesTable_Milestone3_Map5.2_Zone1_20190716
 SEYMSP_ActivitiesTable_Milestone3_Map5.2_Zone2_20190716
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