

## Seychelles MSP Zoning Framework

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Table 1. Seychelles MSP zoning framework with zone categories, name, objectives and description, version 4.3. The categories were developed with stakeholders using local knowledge, experts, and scientific information to meet the objectives of the marine spatial plan.

Zone Category	Zone Name	Objectives of the Zone	Zone Description
<b>Zone 1</b>	High Biodiversity Protection Zone	To allocate 15% of the EEZ and Territorial Sea <sup>1</sup> for high marine conservation and biodiversity goals, for representative habitats and species.	High biodiversity protection zones conserve and protect the top priority areas for marine and coastal biodiversity in Seychelles. These zones are designated for habitats and species that may be rare, endangered, unique or with narrow distribution ranges. This zone includes breeding or spawning areas, key foraging habitat, fragile or sensitive species and habitats, and internationally significant areas. When combined, these zones provide habitats and species with long-term protection, and are sufficiently large to ensure ecological resilience and climate change adaptation. This zone category is not suitable for extraction or sea bed alteration.
<b>Zone 2</b>	Medium Biodiversity Protection and Sustainable Use Zone	To allocate 15% of the EEZ and Territorial Waters for medium marine conservation and biodiversity goals, for representative habitats and species. Sustainable uses are compatible with the biodiversity objectives in these areas.	Medium biodiversity protection and sustainable use zones are proposed to conserve areas that are suitable for medium levels of biodiversity protection and are also compatible with some sustainable uses. These zones include habitats and species that have some tolerance to disturbance and human activities. These zones also include regionally and nationally significant areas. This zone category is suitable for some level of extraction and sea bed alteration, with appropriate management and direction, depending on the objective of each designated area.
<b>Zone 3</b>	Multiple Use Zone	To allocate 70% of the EEZ and Territorial Waters to maximise uses and activities in Seychelles, with development aligned with long-term sustainability of the natural resources.	Areas are identified for multiple uses and economic activity. These include high value and/or high priority areas for the marine sectors that use Seychelles waters for economic, social and cultural benefits.

<sup>1</sup> Territorial Sea is baseline to 12 nautical miles. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) is 12-200 NM.