

Seychelles MSP - SMART OBJECTIVES

Date: 29 July 2022

BACKGROUND

Marine spatial planning is best achieved and most successful when conducted based on an “objective-based approach”. A SMART objective approach to MSP is organised around a hierarchy of goals, objectives, activities, and indicators that evaluate activities in achieving the goals and objectives. Ideally goals and objectives will be derived from problems or issues in the marine area and will reflect a set of MSP principles. Clearly identifying goals and objectives is thus a cornerstone of marine spatial planning and aligns with global best practices for organising a planning process (IOC-UNESCO 2009).

SMSP GOALS

The Seychelles Marine Spatial Plan began in 2014 with three goals that were communicated to the stakeholders and the public. The three goals of the SMSP are:

1. Increase Marine Protection Areas by 30%
2. Support the Blue Economy
3. Address Climate Change Adaptation

SMART OBJECTIVES

Final version of the SMART objectives were approved by the MSP Executive Committee on 29 July 2022.

Goal 1: Increase Marine Protection Areas by 30 percent.

Identify new marine protection areas for 30% of the Exclusive Economic Zone and Territorial Sea by 2020 by representation of species and habitats and by total area.

Goal 2: Support the Blue Economy Agenda

Develop Allowable Activities Tables with sustainability criteria for MSP Zones by 2022 to support the Blue Economy Agenda throughout the Seychelles’ coastal and marine environments.

Goal 3. Climate Change Adaptation

By 2020, develop climate change risk mapping for coral reefs and coastal protection to better understand the most important climate risks in Seychelles, and better understand options for adaptation measures and feasibility of implementing them.

ACTIVITIES AND INDICATORS TO SUPPORT SMSP SMART OBJECTIVES

Activities and indicators were identified or developed for the SMSP SMART objectives in consultation with the government agencies, SMSP stakeholders, and local experts. The activities support also the implementation of the Seychelles MSP Policy (2020). Activities were designed so that the outputs would have alignment and synergies with other projects or programmes on similar topics in Seychelles; the source of some specific activities are noted.

Table 1. Activities and Indicators for the Seychelles MSP SMART objectives.

Activity	Indicators
1. Map stakeholder priority areas for all marine sectors using participatory mapping in Adobe GeoPDF format by October 2014.	Participatory mapping of stakeholder priority areas. Stakeholder reference layer
2. Create an adaptive, integrated database in a Geographic Information System (GIS) using all best available spatial data for species and habitats, attributed to planning units for shallow and deep-water habitats by Dec 2014.	Integrated geodatabase with MSP themes and spatial data layers. MSP Atlas Map services and shapefiles Digital HUB with map layers
3. Develop an adaptive zoning framework for marine protection and sustainable uses using best practices for zoning and lessons learned from other geographies by Dec 2014.	Zoning Framework
4. Develop Allowable Activities Tables and Management Considerations for each zone area by 2022.	Allowable Activities Tables Management Considerations Area-based Management Considerations
5. Legally gazette new marine protections for biodiversity and sustainable uses totalling 15% of the EEZ in deep water by Feb 2018 with 5% in Zone 1 and 10% in Zone 2.	Cabinet approval and gazette of marine protection areas; official Gazette signed by Minister Milestone 1, Milestone 2, Milestone 3
6. Identify implementation options and costs for the marine spatial plan including characterizing the funding gap and funding sources by 2020.	GEF UNDP Costing and Financing report 2019
7. Identify and map the natural, cultural, social, and economic values of our coastal and marine environments, by the end of 2023. [BE Dept, 25 August 2021]	MSP Atlas Socio-economic Analysis for industrial fisheries
8. Develop and implement an integrated monitoring program to track and report the condition of natural, cultural, social, and economic values of our coastal and marine environments, by the end of 2024. [BE Dept, 25 August 2021]	MSP Implementation Plan and Monitoring Framework
9. Use marine spatial planning to support sustainable socio-economic development and the aspirations of the local community, by the end of 2024. [BE Dept, 25 August 2021]	MSP Zoning Design Allowable Activities Tables
10. Develop an inventory of knowledge gaps and priorities to support marine spatial planning and decision-making by the end of 2023. [BE Dept, 25 August 2021]	Marine Spatial Plan – Implementation Chapter: priorities, gaps, and recommendations for implementing and adapting the MSP
11. Support and develop initiatives in both education and community settings that promote cultural and social values of our marine space, by the end of 2023. [BE Dept, 25 August 2021]	Ecosystem Services mapping for cultural and provisioning services including recreation, fishing, beaches, and coastal protection. MSP Atlas, with 40 maps of ecological, economic, and social values.

Activity	Indicators
12. Protect areas of high biodiversity value and of critical importance for ecosystem services through the marine spatial planning process, by the end 2025. [BE Dept, 25 August 2021]	Marine Protection Areas and high biodiversity value areas. Ecosystem services mapping from Mapping Ocean Wealth (MACCE and SWIOFish3 programme)
13. Identify and map risks to coral reefs using long-term sea surface temperature data and identify anomalies and trends related to thermal stress conditions for corals to better understand the most important climate risks in Seychelles.	Technical Report Climate change risk maps at 1 km resolution across 1.35 million sq km EEZ; monthly average composites and April months, 2002-2019
14. Develop spatial geodatabase with high resolution ocean climate change data to support ongoing and future research in Seychelles to better understand the most important climate risks in Seychelles, and better understand options for adaptation measures and feasibility of implementing them.	High Resolution SST dataset from 2002-2022 (NASA) Degree Heating Weeks (DHW) from 1985-2022 (NOAA Coral Reef Watch)
15. Connect coral reef risk mapping to coastal protection ecosystem services and describe climate change risks in Seychelles	Technical Report: recommendations and suggested priorities for future projects

Annex

DEFINITIONS

Goal: a statement of general action or intent. Goals are high level statements of the desired outcomes that you hope to achieve. Goals provide the umbrella for development of all other objectives and reflect the principles upon which subsequent objectives are based.

Objective: a statement of desired outcomes or observable behavioural changes that represent achievement of a goal.

SMART: an acronym to quantify objectives: Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-bound