Blue Economy, conservation and marine planning in Seychelles

UN-GGIM
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Ambassador Ronny Jumeau
Seychelles Permanent Representative to the United Nations
Seychelles Debt Swap, Trust, and Marine Spatial Plan

**Biodiversity Protection Goal 30%**

**Develop Blue Economy**

**Address Climate Change**

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**$20M Debt Swap**

($15 M loan and $5 M grant Seychelles loan agreement)

Trust created to negotiate loan and debt buy back
Pay back foreign creditors: low interest, long term loan
Up to 65% of loan now payable in local currency

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**Marine Spatial Plan**

Zoning design for existing and future uses
Expand MPAs from 0.04% to 30%
Implementation plan and priority strategies

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**SEYCCAT Trust**

Funding to implement MPAs
Funding to implement the marine plan
Funding for climate change adaptation

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Goal: Develop a marine spatial plan by 2020 that

-_legislates marine protected areas that are 30% of Seychelles’ exclusive economic zone and territorial sea
- Promotes the Blue Economy and other national strategies to support ocean health, local economy, and economic growth
- Addresses climate change in coastal and offshore habitats
- Is monitored and adapted over time
Why is there a 30% goal?

The Seychelles Constitution Article 38 (1993)
‘the State recognises the right of every person to live in and enjoy a clean, healthy and ecologically balanced environment and with a view to ensuring the effective realisation of this right the State undertakes….to ensure a sustainable socio-economic development of Seychelles by a judicious use and management of the resources of Seychelles’.

Protected Areas Policy for Seychelles (2010)
The President of Seychelles made a commitment to declare 50% of the terrestrial area and commit 30% of Seychelles’ marine area as protected, half of which will be declared as no-take zones (as a pledge conditional to raising USD$2.5 million/year for a conservation and adaptation fund)

Protected Areas Policy for Seychelles (2013)
‘To have a Protected Areas System on land and in the sea that protects and conserves high quality, comprehensive and ecologically representative examples of Seychelles’ natural diversity and cultural heritage and that provides ample opportunities for the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the sustainable use of these resources’

International Agreements, Commitments and Conventions
# Seychelles MSP: Spatial Data Catalogue

## FISHERIES
- Domestic Fishing
- Industrial Fishing
- Sport Fishing
- Mariculture
- Participatory Mapping

## SPORT FISHING

## BIODIVERSITY
- **FEATURES**
  - Benthic geology
  - 174 “features”
  - WIOMER Areas of Importance
  - BirdLife Important Areas
  - Participatory Mapping

## INDUSTRIAL & PUBLIC UTILITIES
- Ferries & Shipping
- IMO Marine Highways
- Ports & Marinas
- Renewable Energy
- Participatory Mapping

## NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCES
- Licensed Blocks
- Low Gravity Areas
- Seismic Surveys
- Sand Mining
- Participatory Mapping

## TOURISM & RECREATION
- Marine Charters
- Diving, Snorkeling
- Viewpoints
- Accommodation
- Participatory Mapping

Sources: Seychelles Fishing Authority 2014; Fishing Boat Owners Association 2014, TNC 2014.

Sources: Harris et al. 2014; Klaus 2015; IMaRS-USF 2005; IMaRS-USF and IRD 2005; Spalding, Ravilious and Green. 2003; UNEP-WCMC, WorldFish Centre, WRI and TNC. 2010; Seychelles Fishing Authority 2014; Seychelles National Park Authority 2014; Seychelles Port Authority 2014. See UNDP 2015 for full citations.

Sources: Halpern et al. 2006; British Admiralty Charts; Seychelles Port Authority 2014; Ministry Land Use and Housing 2014, TNC 2014.


Sources: Seychelles Sport Fishing Club 2014; Ministry of Tourism and Culture 2014; Seychelles Hoteliers Association 2014.

Sources: Harris et al. 2014; Klaus 2015; IMaRS-USF 2005; IMaRS-USF and IRD 2005; Spalding, Ravilious and Green. 2003; UNEP-WCMC, WorldFish Centre, WRI and TNC. 2010; Seychelles Fishing Authority 2014; Seychelles National Park Authority 2014; Seychelles Port Authority 2014. See UNDP 2015 for full citations.

Over 100 layers in data catalogue

Analyse Data and Represent Uses
Deep water seafloor geomorphology

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Seychelles MSP: Planning Unit Approach

SHALLOW

< 200 M depth
1 km²

DEEP

> 200 M depth
50 km²
What is Marine Spatial Planning (MSP)?

A **public** process of **analysing** and **allocating** the spatial and temporal **distribution of human activities** in marine areas to achieve **ecological, economic, and social objectives** that are usually specified through a **political process**.

Marine Sectors in Seychelles

- TOURISM: High value tourism, sports fishing, fly fishing, charters
- FISHERIES: Industrial, semi-industrial, artisanal, sports, recreational
- AQUACULTURE: Mariculture Master Plan, cultivate native species
- INFRASTRUCTURE: Ports, shipping, transportation, public utilities, marinas and yacht services
- RENEWABLE ENERGY: Offshore wind, solar, ocean energy
- PETROLEUM: Geophysical surveys, licensed blocks, areas of interest
- ENFORCEMENT & MONITORING: Coast Guard, maritime security
- RECREATION: Boating, diving, snorkeling, swimming
Possible Future Developments?

DEEP-SEA MINING
- Minerals
- Aggregates

LUXURY TOURISM
- Marinas
- Floating Hotels

ENERGY
- Thermal Energy Conversion
- Other Innovations

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## Seychelles MSP: Principles for Guiding

*Decisions developed in 2014-2015 by technical working groups. Reviewed and endorsed by Steering Committee and stakeholder workshops*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOVERNANCE &amp; MANAGEMENT</th>
<th>APPROACH &amp; PRACTICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• National laws, regulations, acts</td>
<td>• Ecosystem-based management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• International agreements</td>
<td>• Precautionary principle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Policy, management plans, strategies, action plans</td>
<td>• Balance ecological, economic, social and cultural objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Transparency, inclusivity, participation</td>
<td>• Feasible, practical, implementable,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Integration, co-management</td>
<td>• Financially sustainable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Environmental stewardship</td>
<td>• Adaptable, dynamic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Equity, sustainable development</td>
<td>• Relevant temporal and spatial scales</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Seychelles Stakeholder Workshops 2014-2015

Seychelles MSP Technical Working Group 2015

Photo by Manu San Félix/National Geographic, shot during the Pristine Seas expedition to Seychelles, March 2015.

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Seychelles MSP: Zoning Framework

**Zone 1**
High Biodiversity Protection

To allocate 15% of the EEZ to provide high protection for marine biodiversity goals, by representative habitats and species.

**Zone 2**
Medium Biodiversity Protection

To allocate 15% of the EEZ to provide medium protection for biodiversity goals, by representative species and habitats, and allow economic opportunities for sustainable uses.

**Zone 3**
Multiple Use

To allocate 70% of the EEZ to maximise economic opportunities and Blue Economy in Seychelles.

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The highest protection in Seychelles for key species, habitats, ecosystems

Implemented using the Protected Areas Policy, Fisheries Act, other legislation; multiple levels of protections within Zone 1

Objective is to conserve biodiversity features (habitats, species, ecological processes) from disturbance or anthropogenic changes

Provide reference sites to monitor climate change, species populations, coral bleaching, etc.

Restrict or limit extraction and seabed alteration

Compatible uses do not alter the biodiversity objective
• Objectives for biodiversity and sustainable uses
• Multiple levels of protection within Zone 2
• Species and habitats within this zone can be managed with some harvest or extraction levels
• Ecosystem services - the benefit to humans
• Some restrictions for extraction and seabed alteration
• Compatible uses align with the objective for each area
Seychelles Marine Spatial Planning Initiative

Overview

The Seychelles Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) Initiative is a process focused on planning for and management of the sustainable and long-term use and health of the Seychelles Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). The EEZ encompasses 1,374,000 km² of ocean and 115 islands. The MSP Initiative is a Government-led process, with planning and facilitation managed by The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and TNC Canada in partnership with Government of Seychelles – UNDP GEF Programme Coordinating Unit (PCU). Funding for the Initiative is being provided through a number of grants to Government of Seychelles and an Oceans S

www.seymsp.com

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