

Blue Economy, conservation and marine planning in Seychelles

UN-GGIM

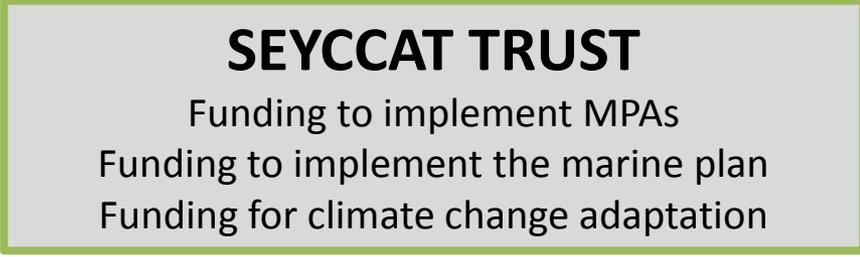
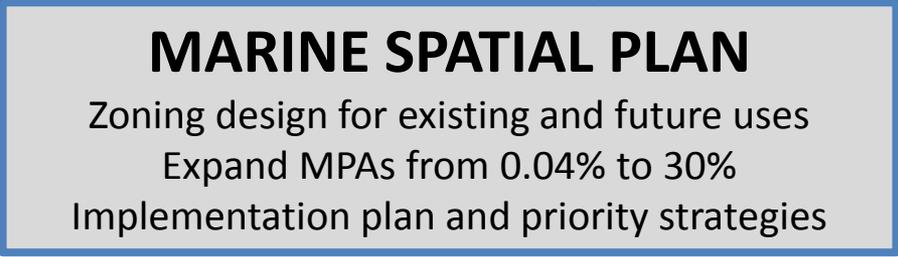
July 2017

Ambassador Ronny Jumeau

Seychelles Permanent Representative to the United Nations



Seychelles Debt Swap, Trust, and Marine Spatial Plan



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)

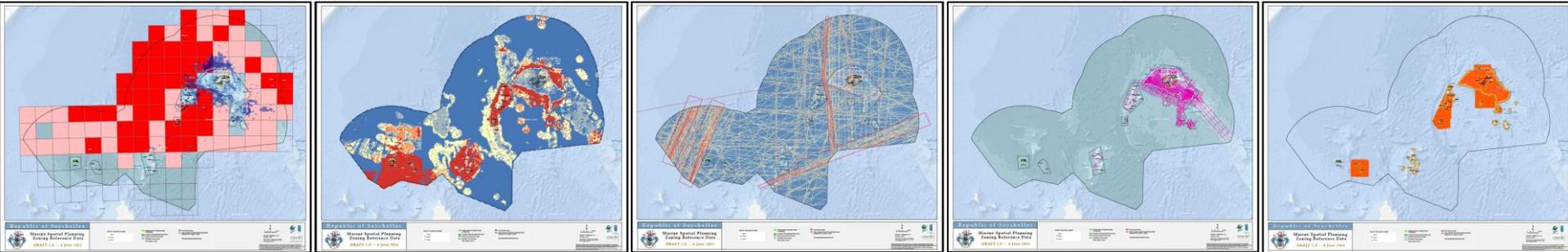
The President of Seychelles made a commitment to declare 50% of the terrestrial area and commit 30% of Seychelles' marine area as protected, half of which will be declared as no-take zones (as a pledge conditional to raising USD\$2.5 million/year for a conservation and adaptation fund)

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 SPORT FISHING

Domestic Fishing
Industrial Fishing
Sport Fishing
Mariculture
Participatory Mapping

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. 2001; 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.

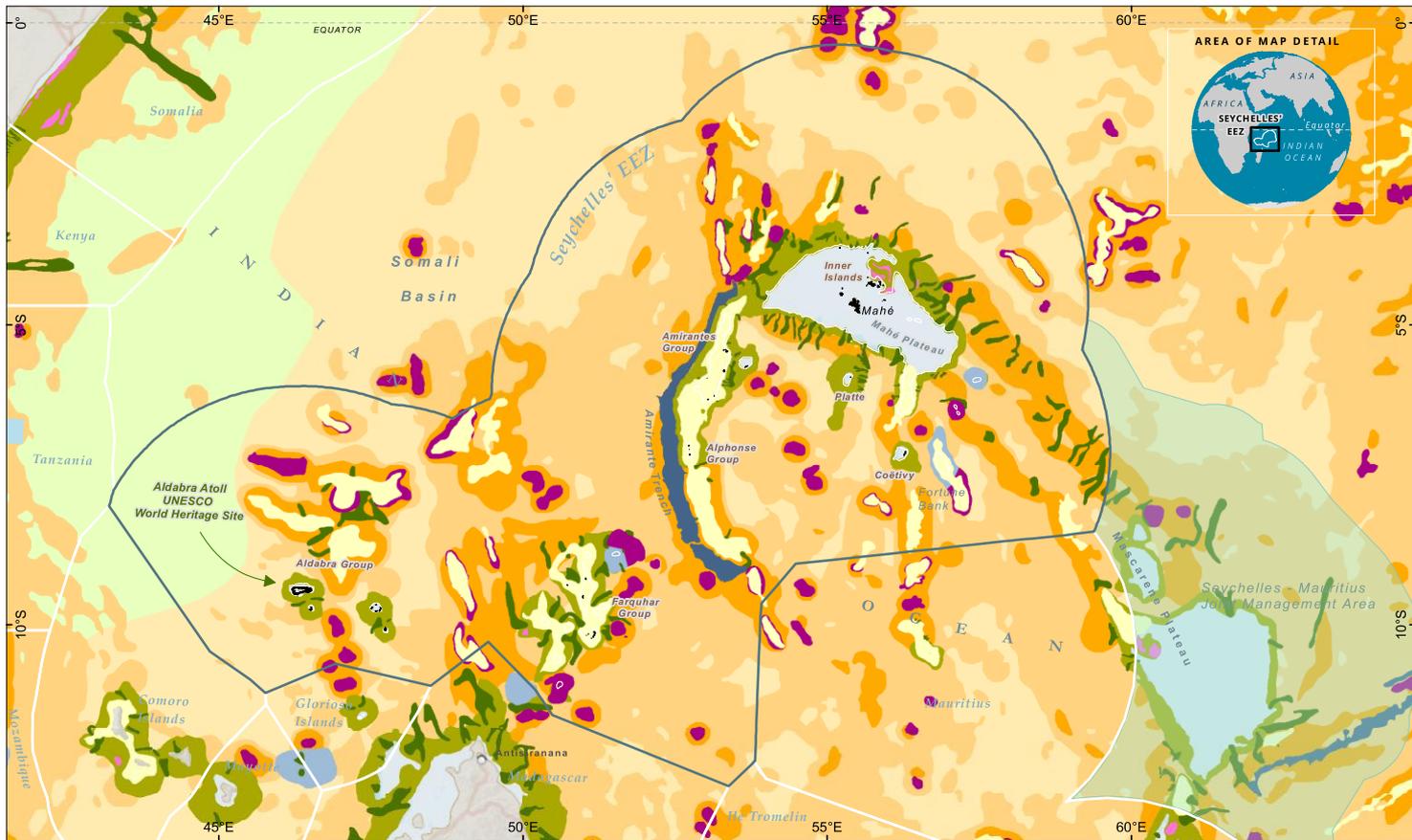
Sources: PetroSeychelles 2014, 2015. TNC 2014.

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

Source: MEECC database

Over 100 layers in data catalogue Analyse Data and Represent Uses

Deep water seafloor geomorphology



0 125 250 Km

FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY
 Prepared for: Seychelles MSP
 Prepared on: 16 Nov 2016
 Prepared by: Spatial Support Systems, LLC
 Scale: 1:9,100,000
 Map projection: Cylindrical Equal Area
 Datum: WGS84
 Data Sources: Seychelles Government, MEEC Geodatabase,
 The Nature Conservancy, ESRI

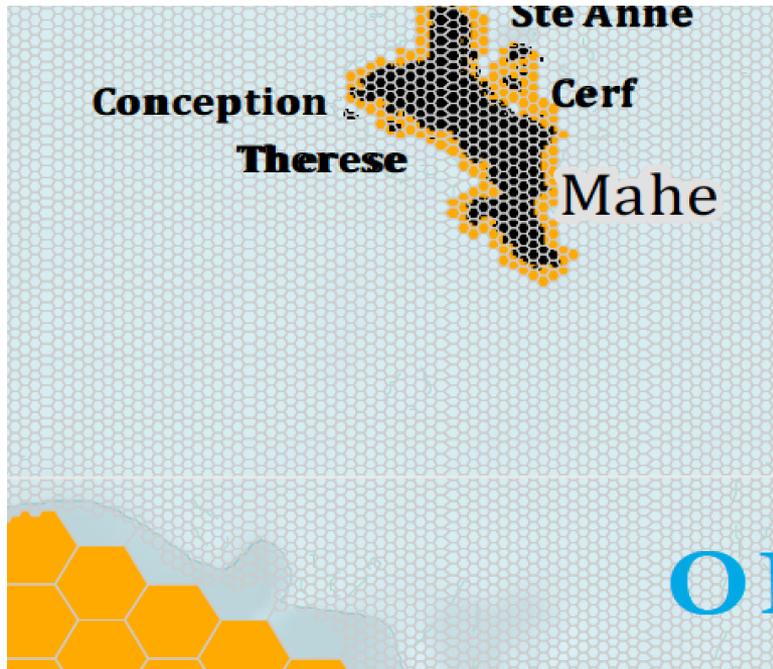
- Seychelles' Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)
- Other Exclusive Economic Zone
- 200m Depth Contour

Seafloor Geomorphology (Harris et al. 2014)

- Ridge
- Seamount
- Mountains
- Hills
- Slope
- Plains
- Rise
- Canyon
- Trench
- Guyot
- Terrace

Deep Seafloor Geomorphology

Seychelles MSP: Planning Unit Approach



SHALLOW

< 200 M depth
1 km²

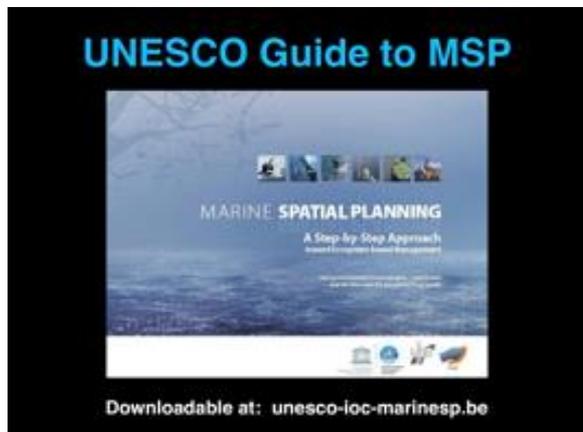


DEEP

> 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**.



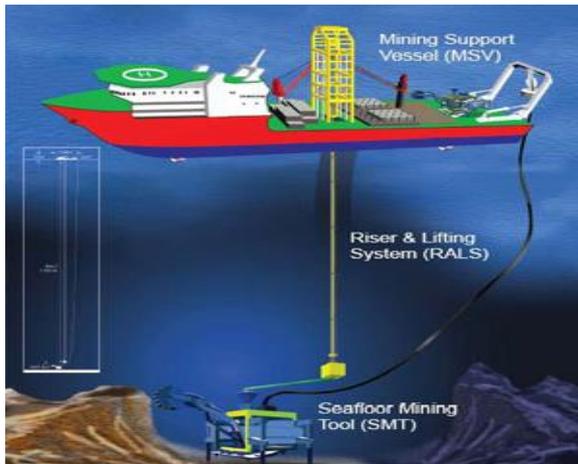
Ehler, C. and F. Douvère. 2009. Marine spatial planning: a step-by-step approach toward ecosystem-based management. UNESCO.

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?



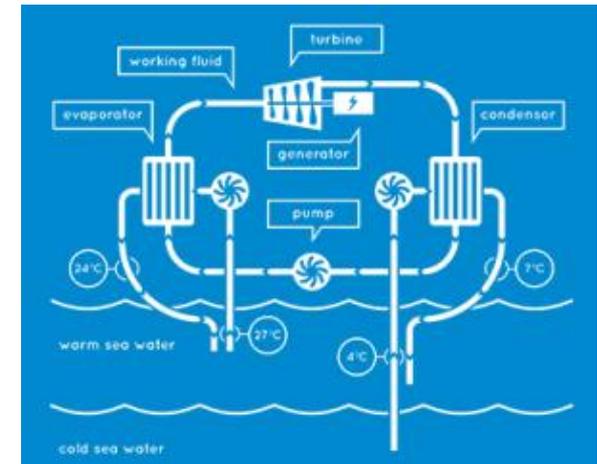
DEEP-SEA MINING

Minerals
Aggregates



LUXURY TOURISM

Marinas
Floating Hotels



ENERGY

Thermal Energy Conversion
Other Innovations

Seychelles MSP: Principles for Guiding

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

GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

- National laws, regulations, acts
- International agreements
- Policy, management plans, strategies, action plans
- Transparency, inclusivity, participation
- Integration, co-management
- Environmental stewardship
- Equity, sustainable development

APPROACH & PRACTICE

- Ecosystem-based management
- Precautionary principle
- Balance ecological, economic, social and cultural objectives
- Feasible, practical, implementable,
- Financially sustainable
- Adaptable, dynamic
- Relevant temporal and spatial scales

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.

Aldabra Atoll
UNESCO
World Heritage Site

Aldabra Group

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.

Annebonie Group

Alphonse Group

Farquhar Group

Zone 3

Multiple Use

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

Coëtivy

Fortune Bank

Mauritius

DRAFT High Biodiversity – Zone 1

- 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

DRAFT Medium Biodiversity and Sustainable Use – Zone 2

- 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

MSP Website



The screenshot shows the SMSP website homepage. At the top left is the SMSP logo, which includes icons for a boat, a fish, a shell, and a coral reef. To the right of the logo is the text "Seychelles Marine Spatial Planning" and the tagline "Supporting healthy oceans, communities, and the Blue Economy." Below this is a navigation menu with links for HOME, THE INITIATIVE, INFORMATION & REPORTS, ATLAS, NEWS, EVENTS, STAKEHOLDERS, and CONTACT. The main content area features a large photograph of a man on a beach handling fish in a basket. Below the photo is a caption: "Photo by Manu San Felix/National Geographic, shot during the Pristine Seas expedition to Seychelles, March 2015." To the right of the photo are logos for The Nature Conservancy, UNDP, and GEF. Below these logos is a "LATEST NEWS" section with three links: "Seychelles and 100% renewable energy", "Seychelles and World Bank discuss Blue Economy", and "Seychelles promotes MSP at 'Our Oceans' conference". At the bottom right of the page is a search bar with a "Search" button.

www.seymsp.com

Contact for more information:

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