What is Marine Spatial Planning and what is its role in the Pacific?

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Multiple resource uses require an integrated solution

- Shipping
- Tourism
- Biodiversity Conservation

Coastal Development

Fishing

Deep Sea Minerals
Marine Spatial Planning is:

- A process to support *informed and coordinated decision making* for marine resources
- *Inclusive of multiple sectors, government departments and resource users*
- A mechanism for integrated decision making *identifying potential non compatible desirable resource uses*
- A *participatory* and iterative process over time
- A planning process to deliver a *balance of economic, social and ecological sustainability*
Marine Spatial Planning is based within Ecosystem Based Management - there are many other management strategies.

Least integrated:

- Species management
- Marine Protected Areas
- Watershed management
- Marine Spatial Planning

Most integrated:

- Integrated Coastal Zone Management
- Ecosystem Based Management
Ecosystem Based Management
“Ridge to Reef” or “Ridge to Deep Sea”

The geographic scope of EBM can collectively cover all five of the main management strategies:
1) the coastal lands and nearshore environment of ICZM;
2) the marine environment of MSP;
3) the rivers and drainage basins in watersheds that drain into the sea;
4) the waters supporting exploited fish stocks; and
5) the coastal and marine environments encompassed by MPAs.
EBM can be implemented to different extents

**No EBM or Low EBM**

- Individual species management
- Single sector management — fisheries, for example
- Restricted scale management — local only, for example
- Short-term perspective: what do we need from the ecosystem this year?
- Managing commodities
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**Comprehensive EBM**
- Managing whole ecosystems
- Integrating all sectors that impact, or are impacted by, the ecosystem
- Coordinated management at all levels relevant to the ecosystem
- Long-term perspective: what will the ecosystem look like in 20 years with climate change?
- Managing activities with system functioning in mind

SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
EBM recognizes the connections within and across ecosystems.
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Habitat destruction

Increased sediments and pollutants

Loss of seagrass habitat

Loss of coral reef habitat
EBM recognizes the connections within and across ecosystems
EBM recognizes the connections within and across ecosystems.
**Aim:** To reduce ship (economic, social) and whale (environmental) risk.

**Action:** Used spatial data and MSP to proposed new route.

**Result:** Increased travel time 10-22 minutes. Collisions with Baleen whales reduced by 81%.
Example from LMMA

- Marine Spatial Planning involves participation and discussion
- Marine Spatial Planning involves maps, identifying both resources and resources users
Marine Spatial Planning includes Zoning use: Example from Great Barrier Reef, Australia
A vision for Marine Spatial Planning: communicating the process is essential for successful engagement
Take home messages – Marine Spatial Planning is...:

• 1. ...an integrated and cross sectoral planning process
• 2. ... mechanism for engagement and discussion across agencies, resource owners and users
• 3. ... long term process of refinement and revision
Thankyou
Large Scale marine management

- Phoenix Islands Protected Area
  Location: Kiribati
  Area: 408 thousand square kilometers
  Established: 2008
  Marine spatial planning: Phase 1 implemented

- Cook Islands Marine Park
  Location: Cook Islands
  Area: 1 million square kilometers
  Established: 2012
  Marine spatial planning: underway
Elements of regional policy framework for marine management support in the Pacific

- Pacific Plan
  - Primary regional policy

- Pacific Regional Sea Programme
  - Global linking mechanism

- Pacific Oceanscape
  - Visionary framework

- Noumea Convention
  - Legal instrument

- SPREP strategic plan 2011-2015
Inshore fisheries, community approaches and marine planning

- LMMAs are established with a participatory approach, prioritizing areas for spatial and temporal closures.

- Identification of marine and terrestrial Key Biodiversity Areas (Samoa, Kiribati, regional).

- PROCFish: baseline data and climate change monitoring - effectiveness of Marine Protected Areas for managing inshore fisheries.
Throughout the Pacific, a key current challenge is to look for commonalities in approaches to marine management:

- All ecosystem services, including climate change resilience, sustainable fisheries, and maintained biodiversity, require intact and functioning ecosystems.

- Linking areas under different marine management approaches into a network, can assist in achieving these goals.
Seeking guidance on needs for linking managed area resources amongst Pacific islands

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Pacific Policies promote maintaining intact ecosystems

- **Pacific Plan:** *sustainable development* requires balanced resource use and maintenance of *intact ecosystems*.

- **Pacific Island Regional Ocean Policy:** *sustainably develop, manage and maintain health* of the Pacific Ocean (Principles 2&3).
Oceanscape Vision for integrated management of Pacific resources

- **2009**: proposed by President of Kiribati
- **2010**: endorsed by PI leaders
- **2012**: Ocean Commissioner established
- **2012**: countries make significant commitments under the Oceanscape
Key Priorities of the Pacific Oceanscape

- **Strategic Priority 3** – ‘Sustainable development, management and conservation’,

**Action 3B** – ‘explore and build marine spatial planning mechanisms for improved EEZ management to achieve economic development and environmental outcomes’.

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**Goal 1.1:** Establish and strengthen national, regional and global MPA networks
SPREP – Secretariat Pacific Regional Sea

- Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
- 26 Member countries and territories (UK joined in 2012)
- Four Divisions:
  - Biodiversity and Ecosystem Management
  - Climate Change
  - Waste Management and Pollution
  - Environmental Monitoring and Governance
- Currently 76 staff, based in Apia, Samoa

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