



Ref.: SCBD/SAM/DC/JL/JA/JM/82140

19 February 2014

NOTIFICATION

Request for information on the experience and use of marine spatial planning

Dear Madam/Sir,

In response to decision XI/18, I am writing to request information on the experience and use of marine spatial planning practices, and existing guidance and toolkits for the implementation of marine spatial planning. This information is to support the work of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

In paragraph 2 of decision XI/18 C, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) requested the Executive Secretary to develop a web-based information-sharing system linking existing information sources on marine spatial planning on the web and collaborate with Parties, other Governments, United Nations specialized agencies, regional organizations, including Large Marine Ecosystem programmes, other relevant organizations, and indigenous and local communities to compile information on experience and use of marine spatial planning practices and make the compiled information available to Parties, other Governments and competent organizations to evaluate its usefulness and implications.

Pursuant to the above requests, I am pleased to invite Parties, other Governments, United Nations specialized agencies, regional organizations, including Large Marine Ecosystem programmes, other relevant organizations, and indigenous and local communities to submit information on their experience and use of marine spatial planning practices, and existing guidance and toolkits for the implementation of marine spatial planning. The submission may include relevant scientific and technical information, case studies, tools and guidance, and relevant management plans at sub-national, national or regional levels as well as specific information on sharing experiences and lessons learned. You may wish to use the attached information collection framework to submit relevant information on specific experiences in the application of marine spatial planning.

I am pleased to inform you that, pursuant to the above requests, the CBD Secretariat is collaborating with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Secretariat of the Science and Technical Advisory Panel to the Global Environment Facility (GEF STAP) and other relevant partner organizations.

Background information relevant to these requests can be found in the CBD Technical Series 68 (Marine Spatial Planning in the Context of the Convention on Biological Diversity), which is available at <http://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-68-en.pdf>.

To : CBD National Focal Points and SBSTTA Focal points; other Governments; United Nations specialized agencies, including UNEP, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission-UNESCO, FAO, and IMO; the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel of the Global Environment Facility (GEF-STAP); regional organizations, including Large Marine Ecosystem programmes and regional seas organizations; other relevant organizations; indigenous and local communities



Convention on
Biological Diversity

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
United Nations Environment Programme
413 Saint-Jacques Street, Suite 800, Montreal, QC, H2Y 1N9, Canada
Tel : +1 514 288 2220 Fax : +1 514 288 6588
secretariat@cbd.int www.cbd.int



Kindly provide your inputs as soon as possible but no later than **28 March 2014**, to allow sufficient time for the Secretariat to compile and collate submitted information. Contributions should be submitted to the CBD Secretariat via e-mail addressed to secretariat@cbd.int or faxed to +1 514 288-6588.

Thank you for your continued support of the work of the Convention.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias
Executive Secretary

Attachment: Marine Spatial Planning Information Collection Framework

Annex

Marine Spatial Planning Information Collection Framework¹

The following information collection framework may be used to support the submission of relevant information on the experience and use of marine spatial planning (MSP) practices, and existing guidance and toolkits for the implementation of marine spatial planning. The framework is intended to support the submission of relevant information from specific experiences and/or case studies in the use of marine spatial planning.

As described by CBD Technical Series 68 (Marine Spatial Planning in the Context of the Convention on Biological Diversity), marine spatial planning is an area-based management framework that addresses multiple management objectives relating to the use of marine resources and space.

Planning and implementation elements	Key Questions
1: Goals, engagement and information base	
A. Goals, objectives and design	A.1 What is the primary goal of the MSP process and how is success defined in the process?
	A.2 To what extent are operational objectives and targets clearly defined, quantitative and time-bound?
	A.3 Is the process steered by government (local, national, regional) and/or users and interest groups?
B. Stakeholder engagement	B.1 What has been done to help stakeholders engage and support the goals of the process?
	B.2 Do the relevant governance and management institutions endorse the process and have appropriate responsibility for taking it forward?
	B.3 To what extent is public support secured?
C. Knowledge base	C.1 What biological/ecological, socio-economic, activity and governance data are gathered to support the process?
	C.2 How is the spatial extent of the area defined and why?
	C.3 To what extent are environmental impacts individually and/or cumulatively addressed in the process?
	C.4 Are future or predicted environmental changes, activity pressures, or development needs investigated?
D. Capacity	D.1 Are sufficient human and financial resources and capacity committed throughout the process?
	D.2 To what extent is the MSP process nested in broader policy framework(s) at different levels?
2: Plan development	
E. Plan design	E.1 Which sectors, institutions and stakeholders were involved in the design of the plan and to what extent?

¹ This information collection framework is to be used on a voluntary basis.

Planning and implementation elements	Key Questions
F. Planning tools and decision support systems	F.1 To what extent are strategic tools (e.g. ecosystem-service valuation; cost-benefit analysis; trade-off analysis) applied to improve and optimise decision making?
	F.2 To what extent are strategic tools (SEA, EIA, risk assessment) applied to align appropriate management and policy?
G. Management measures	G.1 Are management measures clearly defined during the development of the plan?
	G.2 Is there a way to resolve conflicts arising during the development of the plan?
	G.3 Where activities may have an uncertain risk of damage, to what extent do management decisions follow the precautionary approach?
3: Plan Adoption	
H. Governance structures and designation of authority	H.1 Is a relevant legal framework or other governance mechanism in place to support implementation? If there was not one initially, how was this addressed?
	H.2 How has the authority(ies) for implementation been decided upon?
	H.3 Has the government provided the authority necessary to successfully implement the plan?
	H.4 Are management areas formally adopted by the necessary governance institutions?
4: Implementation	
I. Implementation	I.1 Are implementation responsibilities clear and how have then been decided upon?
	I.2 Are there structures to support effective institutional collaboration in implementation?
	I.3 Is the implementation process shaped by any stakeholder input?
	I.4 How has the management and regulatory process changed?
	I.5 Is there a clear and well-defined process for conflict resolution during implementation?
J. Monitoring and performance measures	J.1 Are zones/sites being monitored in a standardised way?
	J.2 Are mechanisms established for evaluating the effectiveness of plan?
5: Assessment of Outcomes and adaptive management	
K. Assessment of outcomes	K.1 Are progress outcomes assessed and documented?
	K.2 Has the programme met its objectives and have those objectives changed during the process?
	K.3 To what extent are management measures enforced and/or complied with?
	K.4 Are partnerships within and between implementing institutions and civil society functioning properly?
	K.5 Is there sufficient financial investment and revenue generation to sustain the plan?
	K.6 Have unsustainable forms of resource use been replaced by more sustainable forms?
	K.7 Have conflicts among user groups been reduced?

Planning and implementation elements	Key Questions
	K.8 How has the ecosystem been affected?
	K.9 How has the flow of benefits been affected?
L. Adaptive management	L.1 Does assessment feed back into an adaptive management system?
	L.2 Is a future re-planning process expected and planned?
General evaluation of the MSP process	
M. Evaluation of the MSP process and outcomes	M.1 In your case, which elements of the process would you consider to be the <i>most</i> successful, and why?
	M.2 In your case, which elements of the process would you consider to be the <i>least</i> successful, and why?
	M.3 Which elements or stages of the process were the most demanding, and why?
	M.4 In your case, how could the process have been improved?