Marine Spatial Planning to support sustainable ocean and coastal management for Pacific Islands

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Background: The Pacific Ocean, covering one-third of the world's surface, is not only the Earth's largest ocean but also hosts the greatest marine biodiversity on our planet, and is globally significant for ecosystem resources, providing approximately 60% of the global tuna catch. As a result of this biological diversity and high productivity, not only commercial fisheries, but other valuable natural resources such as oil, deep sea mineral deposits and pharmaceutical constituents are abundant offshore, and ecosystem services such as coastal protection, artisanal fisheries, aquaculture, and tourism are supported inshore. These resources are therefore essential to human livelihoods of Pacific island peoples as well as the global community;however, human pressure on the Pacific Ocean and its resources is increasing.

Developing a cohesive framework for using available data in the sustainable development, management and assessment of ecosystem condition, is an ongoing goal and challenge for countries and territories of the South West Pacific Ocean. One key element of this challenge is the process of Marine Spatial Planning at multiple scales, specifically a national scale to support national decision making in relation to multiple resource use, and at a regional scale, to inform and provide an integrated (cross sectoral) framework for sub-national, national and regional processes.

Context and guidance: The Pacific Oceanscape Framework is a leader endorsed plan for implementing marine management in the Pacific Ocean, as outlined in the Pacific Islands Regional Ocean Policy, many aspects of a process of marine spatial planning support the goals and aims of the Framework. Specifically:

Strategic Priority 1- Jurisdictional Rights and Responsibilities
*Action 1A:*PICs formalize maritime boundaries and secure rights over their resources.

Strategic Priority 3 – Sustainable development, management and conservation
*Action 3B:*PICTs explore and build on marine spatial planning mechanisms for improved EEZ management to achieve economic development and environmental objectives.

Strategic Priority 4 – Listening, Learning, Liaising and Leading
Action 4A: Facilitate processes that utilize existing knowledge and results to drive information acquisition and targeted capacity building for achieving policy and management objectives.

Desired outcomes of Marine Spatial Planning in the Pacific:
- Resulting from Pacific regional workshop on MSP in February, 2013, Brisbane, Australia

- ***National*** scale Marine Spatial Planning supporting integrated and sustainable resource management.
- ***Sub-national*** scale capacity support to local spatial planning to assist community decision making where sites for sustainable resource management have already been determined.
- ***Regional*** scale support, presenting and synthesizing key information, to support targeted management decision making for sustainable and integrated ocean management.
- ***Developed*** framework for Marine Spatial Planning at regional, national and subnational scales – to address generic regional questions based on public data layers, and more specific questions at a national level including national specific coastal and potentially sensitive information.

Broad Schedule of Days:

Day	Attending	Focus and Outcomes
Tuesday 26th Nov:	Collaborative partnership; PICT representatives; broader regional agencies	• Pacific islands regional Marine Spatial Planning Workshop – implementing the Oceanscape Framework
Wednesday 27th Nov:	Collaborative partnership; PICT representatives; broader regional agencies	• Pacific islands regional Marine Spatial Planning Workshop – implementing the OceanscapeFramework
		• Initiation of the PACIOCEA Project • PACIOCEA official launch
Thursday 28th Nov:	Collaborative partnership; PICT representatives; broader regional agencies	Joint Day with Convention on Biological Diversity Program of Work on Protected Areas and Access and Benefit Sharing workshops

Objectives:

To share and capitaliseon experiences for co-defining marine spatial planning methodologies appropriate to tropical South Pacific, at local, national and regional scales.

1. Develop core input to an outline for guidelines for MSP approaches applicable at sub-national, national and regional scalesin thePacific.
2. Develop mechanism for aligning efforts to support MSP for Pacific islands.
3. Initiation of the PACIOCEA and MACBIO projects [and Australia tbc]
4. Sharing experiences on MSP methodologies, implementation and challenges at sub-national, national and regional scales.
5. Developing approaches for linkages and crossover between scales of MSP.
6. Coordinate with closely aligned efforts and broader participants through joint meeting with Access and Benefits Sharing and Convention of Biological Diversity Programme of Work for Protected Areas workshops

Tuesday 26th November		Pacific islands regional Marine Spatial Planning Workshop – implementing the Oceanscape Framework	
	Time	**Activity**	**Output**
	8:00 – 8:30	Registration – coffee available	
	8:30 – 9:30	Welcome Opening remarks	Relevance of Marine Spatial Planning to supporting the vision of the Oceanscape Framework.
	9:30 – 10:30	Challenges in the Pacific, need for an integrated approach. Climate change in the Pacific – the long term context for marine management.	Needs and strategic value of an integrated approach, and importance of marine planning, for intact ecosystems to support sustainable development in the Pacific.
	10:30 – 11:00	Morning Tea	
	11:00 – 12:30	Global context to Marine Spatial Planning (20mins + 10 mins discussion) EEZ Boundaries – the building blocks of MSP in the Pacific (20mins + 10 mins discussion) Approaches to Pacific Regional Fisheries – Management planning at multiple scales (20mins + 10 mins discussion)	Broader considerations and experience Primary challenges in the Pacific Management approaches currently ongoing, potential for engagement with MSP
	12:30 – 1:30	Lunch	
	1:30 – 3:30	Coral Triangle Initiative (15 mins + 5mins questions) Micronesia Challenge (15 mins + 5 mins questions) Kiribati (15 mins + 5 mins questions) New Caledonia (15 mins + 5 mins questions) Australia (15 mins + 5 mins questions)	Examples of Marine Spatial Planning as the basis to marine and coastal management in the Pacific. 1. Approaches 2. Successes 3. Lessons learnt
	3:40 – 4:00	Afternoon Tea	
	4:00 – 5:00	Programme Introductions (10 minutes each) 20 minutes discussion	Specifically covering: Summarising timescale, partners etc Outputs Scales/PICTs engaged Broad approach
	5:00 – 5:30	Synthesis of day and lead on for next day	
	5:30	End of Day	

Wednesday 27th November		Pacific islands regional Marine Spatial Planning Workshop – implementing the Oceanscape Framework	
	Time	**Activity**	**Output**
	8:30 – 10:30	Data availability and gaps at a regional scale (20 mins + 10 mins questions) Data availability and gaps at a national scale (20 mins + 10 mins questions) Working activity – data needs for MSP at sub-national, national and regional scales,	Identify what data is needed for spatial planning in Pacific. Summarize available data at regional and national scales, working group activity to identify key desired layers and possible places that these data sets may be available. Identify key data gaps critical for MSP at sub-national, national and regional scales
	10:30 – 11:00	Morning Tea	
	11:00 – 12:30	Data storage, analysis and collation for MSP needs. Panel discussion (5 minutes for each presenter, plenary facilitated discussion and then 2 minute final comment from presenters).	Making data available and usable – there have been some good examples, are these applicable to the Pacific? Formatting data for use in decision support tools Can datasets be developed for multiple purposes (e.g. country reporting to CBD)
	12:30 – 1:30	Lunch	
		Initiation of the PACIOCEA Project	
	1:30 – 2:00	Welcome	Background and context of this programme
	2:00 – 3:30	Prospective exercices (plenary : presentation) & activity in groups	Initial vision Priority and drivers
	3:30 – 4:00	Afternoon Tea	
	4:00 – 5:30	PACIOCEA presentation Steps, participative process, method, schedule Benefit of a global picture	
	5:30	PACIOCEA launch cocktail	

Thursday 28th November		Joint workshop day with CBD PoWPA and ABSWorkshops	
	Time	**Activity**	**Output**
	8:30 – 9:00	Joint Agenda Being Developed	
	9:00 – 10:00		
	10:00 – 10:30		
	10:30 – 11:00	Morning Tea	
	11:00 – 11:45		
	11:45 – 12:30		
	12:30 – 1:30	Lunch	
	1:30 – 2:15		
	2:15 – 3:30		
	3:30 – 4:00	Afternoon Tea	
	4:00 – 5:30		
	6:00 – 8:00	Cocktail and mixer	