

Expert Group Meeting on Oceans, Seas and Sustainable Development: Implementation and follow-up to Rio+20

New York, 18-19 April 2013
United Nations - DESA

**HOW TO BUILD
THE GLOBAL MARINE PROTECTED AREAS NETWORK**
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The future we want

177. We reaffirm the importance of area-based conservation measures, **including marine protected areas**, consistent with international law and based on best available scientific information, **as a tool for conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components**.

We note decision X/2 of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Nagoya, Japan, from 18 to 29 October 2010, that, by 2020, **10 per cent of coastal and marine areas**, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are to be conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures.

Why we are late ?

1. **Knowledge gaps and lack of information/data**
2. **Lack of political commitment at all levels**
3. **Legal, policy and institutional weaknesses and poor sectoral coordination**
4. **Insufficient human resources and capacity for implementation**
5. **Low awareness and communication about importance of marine protected areas**
6. **Limited involvement of Indigenous and local communities, stakeholders and private sector**
7. **Lack of economic and other incentives**
8. **Limited financial resources and weakness of financial mechanism**

What we can do

Principles of action

- i. **Inform**
- ii. **Involve**
- iii. **Influence**

and cooperate !

1. Knowledge and information/data

- **IDENTIFY** areas that best safeguard ecosystem services and better link to delivering social, cultural and economic benefits to communities, in addition to the biological and ecological criteria.
- **ENCOURAGE** the use of the Ecologically or Biologically Significant Areas (EBSA) repository and other relevant sources of information, to inform the identification of potential MPAs within and beyond national jurisdiction.
- **DEVELOP** maps and databases which clearly show which protected areas have full protection and which areas are partly protected and what is and is not protected (WCMC –WDPA).

2. Political commitment at all levels

- **BUILD** on commitments and political will of recent national and regional initiatives such as the Coral triangle initiative, and **PROMOTE** MPAs Protocols and programmes under the Regional Seas Conventions;
- **ENCOURAGE States** to meet Aichi marine Targets by implementing marine protected areas strategy in the framework of National integrated maritime policy;
- **ENCOURAGE States** to establish national MPAs Agencies or dedicated national bodies implementing MPAs networks with appropriate technical and financial resources, and to join the MPA Agency Partnership.

3. Strengthen legal, policy and institutional and sectoral coordination

- **ENCOURAGE** cross sectoral approaches and collaborations at national regional and international levels and **SUPPORT** the Sustainable Ocean Initiative of the CBD (joining Aichi Targets 6 and 11);
- **DEVELOP** criteria for the “*other effective marine area-based conservation measures*”, including sectoral measure (such as sustainable fishing measures) and inter-sectoral marine conservation measures;
- **DEVELOP** guidance, disseminate information, and provide assistance regarding the legal tools, mechanisms and decision-support systems for achieving the integration of marine protected area systems into marine spatial planning.

4. Human resources and capacity for implementation

- **BUILD** programmes that provide targeted capacity development to MPA managers and local communities, particularly dedicated to SIDS;
- **DEVELOPING and TESTING** certification scheme for effective and equitable management of MPAs (score card,..);
- **ENCOURAGE** regional networking among the managers of MPAs to share their expertise and management skills (MEDPAN, CAMPAN,..);
- **DEVELOP and ENCOURAGE** specific curricula for enhancing the professionalism of MPA personnel and MPA management.

5. Awareness and communication about importance of MPAs

- **UNDERTAKE** a global communication campaign on the values and benefits of marine protected areas targeting not only the ocean users but all citizens even in non coastal areas;
- **DEVELOPING** communication tools to enhance cultural approaches to facilitate the involvement of stakeholders and marine users in MPA management actions;
- **USE** international cultural events such as the World Ocean Day, or as example Ocean films festivals, to promote marine protected areas.

6. Mobilizing Indigenous and local communities, and stakeholders

- **ENSURING** the establishment of MPAs and other effective area-based conservation measures involves indigenous and local communities and consider their rights and needs (food security,...);
- **PROPOSE** guidance and tools that support the engagement of fishing communities as key partners in the governance and management of marine protected areas;
- **BUILD** awareness and capacity of indigenous and local community for engaging in the management of larger seascapes beyond their marine areas; including through marine spatial planning.

7. Blue Growth and other economic incentives for MPAs

- **DEVELOP** incentives for the marine private sector to invest in conservation and management of MPAs resources accordingly to the growth of the ocean economy;
- **ENCOURAGE** the creation of national, local or sectoral marine fees and taxation systems, or incentives to finance sustainably the costs of MPAS management;
- **ENCOURAGE** ecotouristic initiatives within marine and coastal protected areas as a means to finance MPA management.

8. Financial resources and financial mechanism

- **PROMOTE** innovative financial mechanisms ; debt adaptation swap, payment for ecosystem services, blue lotteries and market, biodiversity and carbon offsets.

DEVELOP synergies :

- **USE** the plan of action of the Global Ocean Partnership of the World Bank to build the global MPAs network;
- **CALL** the Global Environment Facility (GEF6) to support developing countries for which it is a priority to increase the size of, and or create new MPAs, reaching the Aichi Target 11;
- **CALL UNEP** to contribute to strengthen the marine protected areas programme by its contribution to the realization of the commitments made by the parties to the Regional Seas Conventions.

Next Steps to assess progress

- **The third international marine protected areas Congress (IMPAC3) organized by IUCN and the French marine protected areas Agency, Marseille, 21-25 October 2013**



- **High Level Policy meeting, and second Summit of the MPAs Agency Partnership, Corsica, France, 26-29 October 2013**



- **The World Park Congress in Sydney, Australia, 2014**

- **SOI at COP 12 - CDB, South Korea, 2014**

