National Webinar on Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) and the Sustainable Blue Economy Trinidad and Tobago

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Developing Marine Spatial Planning and the Blue Economy in Trinidad and Tobago

Thursday 5th November, 2020
Bio

- **IOC-UNESCO National Coordinator on Marine Spatial Planning and the Blue Economy in SIDS**
- **Profession:** Land Use and Maritime Spatial Planner
- **Experience:** Specialist Erasmus Mundus Masters in Maritime Spatial Planning; BSc Urban and Regional Planning; BSc Biology
Dr. Ryan Mohammed (IOC-UNESCO Consultant)

Bio

- IOC-UNESCO National Consultant on Marine Spatial Planning and the Blue Economy in SIDS
- **Profession:** Biologist
- **Experience:** PhD in Aquatic Biology
  - Course coordinator M.Sc. Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Development in the Caribbean, UWI, St. Augustine.
  - Cooperate Secretary for Environmental Research Institute Charlotteville (ERIC)
  - Vice President- Aquaculture Association of Trinidad and Tobago (aQua-TT)
Objectives

- Raise awareness on **marine spatial planning** and the role it can play in sustainable ocean management and **development of a blue economy**.
- Give the **status of the ICZM and MSP policies** and actions in Trinidad and Tobago.
- Feature a **good practice example of MSP** for a Blue Economy from the Eastern Caribbean.
- Showcase marine research and the development of **Tourism in Tobago**.
- Summarize the **recommendations of state agency representatives and academic experts** for the development of MSP and the Blue Economy in Trinidad and Tobago.
Agenda

9:30 Welcome and Introduction
9:40 Session 1: Marine Spatial Planning - A tool for delivering Good Ocean Governance
  Dr. Howard Nelson
  Sarah Mahadeo
  Dr. Rahana Juman
  Susanna DeBeauville-Scott

10:45 Session 2: The Sustainable Blue Economy
  Kishan Kumarsingh
  Aljoscha Wothke
  Dr. Ryan Mohammed

11:45 Conclusion
  Dr. Howard Nelson
    Lecturer
    University of Cambridge, UK

  Dr. Rahana Juman
    Acting Director
    Institute of Marine Affairs
    Trinidad and Tobago

  Susanna DeBeauville-Scott
    Project Manager
    OECS
    St. Lucia

  Aljoscha Wothke
    Director, CEO
    Environmental Research Institute
    Charlottesville, Tobago

  Kishan Kumarsingh
    Head, Multilateral Environmental Agreements
    Ministry of Planning and Development
    Trinidad and Tobago
Session 1

Marine Spatial Planning – A Tool for Delivering Good Ocean Governance
Bio

- Lecturer in Conservation Leadership, Fauna & Flora International (FFI) and Department of Geography, University of Cambridge, UK
  MPhil Zoology (1996)
- Researcher in Caribbean island ecology and conservation which focuses on understanding patterns of wildlife populations over time and space; socio-ecological dimensions of natural resource use; and the science-policy interface of protected areas and wildlife management.
The long view for Marine Protected Area in Trinidad and Tobago – charting the future.

Dr Howard P. Nelson
Lecturer in Conservation Leadership
Fauna and Flora International & Department of Geography – University of Cambridge
MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING - T&T FRAMEWORKS TODAY
MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING - FILLING THE GAPS

We have very limited knowledge of the diversity of ecological communities.

Understanding distributions of unique species, patterns and processes is a critical first step.

Cazabon-Mannette et al. 2016

Amon et al 2017

Marine Ecosystems of the World 2007
PLANNING FOR UNCERTAINTY & THE LONG VIEW

Key challenges for the future of conservation in marine systems in T&T require joined up thinking:

- Climate change
  - increased storm intensity & frequency
  - Coral bleaching events
- Alien invasive species (e.g. lionfish)
- Unsustainable harvesting of keystone species
- Stony coral tissue-loss disease
- Ecosystem perturbations (Sargassum blooms)
- Nearshore pollution (agricultural runoff, sewage, soil erosion, plastics)
- High levels of ship traffic (threats to marine cetaceans)
SECURING THE FUTURE -

Successful spatial planning for future marine conservation needs:

A mechanism for identification of important **data gaps & filling these gaps**

Full **engagement of all stakeholders** in decision making

**Sustainable financing** of MPA management

**Ecosystem based approaches** to management (integrated watershed and coastal management)

**Enabling legislative frameworks** & meeting international obligations
QUESTIONS?
Sarah Mahadeo

Bio

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- **Profession:** Land Use and Maritime Spatial Planner
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An Introduction to Marine Spatial Planning (MSP)

Sarah Mahadeo
IOC UNESCO National Consultant

Thursday 5th November, 2020
Why Marine Spatial Planning (MSP)?
Managing the Marine Space is Challenging

Ecosystem dynamics and maritime resources and activities are cross-border in nature

Climate Change

Changing Climate → Changes in ocean conditions → Changes in marine ecosystems structure and functioning → Changes in distribution and intensity of ocean-related human uses

IOC UNESCO (2009), OECS (2020)
What is MSP?
What is Marine Spatial Planning (MSP)?

“The **public process** of analyzing and allocating the **spatial and temporal distribution** of human activities to achieve **ecological, economic, and social objectives** that are usually specified through a **political process**.”

IOC-UNESCO (2006)
MSP: Building Sectoral Consensus
Methodology – the IOC UNESCO MSP Step by Step Approach

1. Identifying Need and Establishing Authority
2. Obtaining Financial Support
4. Organizing Stakeholder Participation

3. Organizing the Process through Pre-planning
- Forming the Team and Developing a Work Plan
- Defining Principles, Goals and Objectives
- Specifying Boundaries and Time Frames

5. Defining and Analyzing Existing Conditions
- Mapping Important Biological Ecological Areas
- Identifying Spatial Conflicts and Compatibilities
- Mapping Existing Areas of Human Activities

6. Defining and Analyzing Future Conditions
- Mapping Future Demands for Ocean Space
- Identifying Alternative Spatial Scenarios
- Selecting a Preferred Spatial Scenario

7. Preparing and Approving the Spatial Management Plan
- Identifying Alternative Spatial Management
- Developing & Evaluating the Spatial Management Plan
- Approving the Spatial Management Plan

8. Implementing & Enforcing the Spatial Management Plan Measures

9. Monitoring and Evaluating Performance

10. Adapting the Spatial Management Process

Indicates Stakeholder Participation in Step

 IOC-UNESCO, 2009
MSP in Practice: The Seychelles
Example: **Seychelles MSP**

**Why MSP for the Seychelles?**

- 115 islands
- EEZ encompasses 1,374,000 km² of ocean
- “Large Ocean State”

**GOALS**

- **Protected Area Expansion**: 30% of the Exclusive Economic Zone including 15% in ‘no take’ areas
- Improved management for uses and activities
- Address **climate change** adaptation
- Support the **Blue Economy**

*Photo Credit: Jason Houston, SMSP (2019)*
Example: Seychelles MSP Governance Framework and Funding

- Government-led process
- Planning and facilitation managed by The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and TNC Canada in partnership with Government of Seychelles – UNDP GEF Programme Coordinating Unit (PCU)

- Funding for planning through a grants to Government of Seychelles and TNC
- Funding for implementation of the MSP in part from the Seychelles Conservation & Climate Adaptation Trust (SeyCCAT)
Example: Seychelles MSP
Guiding Principles and Themes

- Integration and coordination
- Evidenced-based
- Transparency, inclusivity and participation
- Environmental stewardship, social and economic equity, ecological sustainable development
- Ecosystem-based approach
- Precautionary Approach

Practical Approach
- Global Best Practices
- Relevant spatial and temporal scales
- Adaptive

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**BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION**
- Habitats, species, ecological processes

**FISHERIES**
- artisanal, semi-industrial, industrial, sport, recreational, aquaculture

**TOURISM & RECREATION**
- marine charters, recreational activities

**NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCES**
- petroleum, mining

**INFRASTRUCTURE & PUBLIC UTILITIES**
- ports, renewable energy, maritime security, shipping

SMSP (2019)
Example: Seychelles MSP
MSP Outputs and Timeline

PHASE 1
2014-2017

• Milestone 1
  • Spatial Data Catalogue, MSP website, Brochure, Atlas, Decision support tools, Stakeholder Consultations, Policy and legislative review, Zoning Framework, Draft governance arrangements, Draft MSP policy

PHASE 2
2018

• Milestone 2
  • Updated planning tools as needed, Zoning Design, Socio-economic impact assessment, MSP Governance arrangements for implementation, Financing options for MPAs

PHASE 2
2019-2020

• Milestone 3
  • Updated planning tools as needed, Zoning design, Draft Management Plans, Seychelles MSP Report

PLANS DELAYED!!!
COVID 19 DISRUPTS STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION FOR MULTI USE ZONES

https://seymsp.com/
Example: Seychelles MSP
MSP in Developing the Blue Economy

The Transition to a Blue Economy starts with Good Ocean Governance

Seychelles Blue Economy Key Pillars

1. Economic diversification & resilience - to increase the % GDP derived from marine sectors
2. Creation of high value jobs and local investment opportunities
3. Food security and well-being
4. Integrity of habitats and ecosystem services, sustainable use, and climate resilience

- MSP is essential for effective coordination across Blue Economy sectors
- MSP will expand marine protection to 30%, address climate change adaptation
- Seychelles MSP and Strategic Land Use Plan and Development Plan (2040) are synchronized given land and sea connection

(STRATEGIC POLICY FRAMEWORK AND ROADMAP: CHARTING THE FUTURE 2018-2030)
Benefits of MSP

- Improved capacity to plan for new and changing human activities
- Greater certainty of access to desirable areas for new private sector investments
- Identification of compatible uses within the same area of development
- Promotion of the efficient use of resources and space
- Reduction of conflicts between incompatible uses and users
- Establish context for planning a network of marine protected areas
- Identification of biological and ecological important areas
- Biodiversity objectives incorporated into planned decision-making
- Allocation of space for biodiversity and nature conservation
- Identification and reduction of the cumulative effects of human activities on marine ecosystems
- Identification of impacts of decisions on the allocation of ocean space for communities and economies onshore
- Optimising the sustainable use of marine resources
- Better safety during operation of human activities
- Streamlining and transparency in permit and licensing procedures
- Identification and improved protection of cultural and historical heritage
- Improved opportunities for community and citizen participation
- Identification and preservation of social and spiritual values related to ocean use

Fig 3. Benefits of MSP
Thank You!

Sarah Mahadeo
Land Use Planning
Maritime Spatial Planning
sarah.mahadeo@gmail.com
Bio

- Acting Director of the Institute of Marine Affairs
- Deputy Chair, ICZM Committee
- PhD in Zoology (2004)
- Bachelor of Law (2015)
- Research on coastal ecosystems, specifically mangrove forests and seagrass beds in Trinidad and Tobago and the Caribbean region for the past 24 years
Ocean Governance in Trinidad and Tobago
Fostering a Blue Economy

Presentation
by
Rahanna Juman
Context

• For coastal developing states in the Caribbean, the oceans’ role as an important generator of subsistence and income is magnified.

• Trinidad and Tobago has always relied on its coastal and ocean resources for economic prosperity.

• In 2015, estimated GDP for T&T immediately on the coastline was US$2.14 billion and within the broader coastal zone (up to the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)) was US$22.5 billion; 81% of total GDP, and 89% of the total value of physical assets lies within the broader coastal zone inclusive of the EEZ.

• Collectively, T&T has 704 km of coastline and about 15 times more sea than land; which indicates the importance of the ocean sphere to the country.
ICZM in Trinidad and Tobago

Policy Goal:
‘facilitate an integrated approach to coastal zone management aimed at maintaining and where necessary, enhancing the functional integrity of the coastal resource systems while enabling **sustainable economic development** through rational, inclusive decision-making and planning’
Terrestrial Boundaries of Coastal Zone of Trinidad and Tobago

Sea Ward Boundary of Coastal Zone for Trinidad and Tobago
Policy Objectives

2: To design and manage developments in the coastal zone to be in harmony with the aesthetic, environmental, and cultural attributes of the islands.

   Strategy - Promote Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) in the coastal zone

7: To alleviate poverty in the coastal zone through pro-active development initiatives that generate sustainable livelihood options.

   Strategies:
   1. Integrate coastal zone planning efforts with existing national planning and economic development frameworks;
   2. Identify and promote opportunities for sustainable economic development in the coastal zone;
   3. Design and implement an awareness, education and training programme focused on sustainable coastal zone livelihoods.
Marine Spatial Planning Pilot Project, Northwest Peninsula, Trinidad
Land Cover (2015)

Map of reclaimed parcels and jetties
Some Priority Areas

• Anchoring and Mooring Areas for commercial and recreational use
• Reclamation
• Land-based and ocean based pollution – oil spills, fish kills
• Appropriate coastal development
• Fishing areas and landing sites
• Habitat protection and restoration- eg. seagrass beds
• Improved Access to area
• User conflicts
• Climate change adaptation
• Governance
Governance Issues

• Importance of political support and legal frameworks for MSP implementation

• Need to understand the governance context and mechanisms in place

• Identify which governmental institutions and stakeholders are anticipated to play significant roles

• Having a “champion” is a key factor of success

• Cross-sectoral coordination mechanism is key
UNDERSTANDING WHERE WE ARE...

- Examine power relationships and governance process
- Identify the strengths and weaknesses in past and current eras of governance
- Tracing how human activities and environmental conditions have changed
- Document how the governance system has responded, or not responded, to key changes

...AND WHERE WE WANT TO GO...

- Identify present and future competing interests
- Identify the issues to be addressed and desired outcomes/vision
- Select and involve key partners for MSP implementation
- Understand capacity needs throughout planning and implementation - Significant resources often allocated on the planning phase; resources left for implementation are sometimes insufficient
Questions to think about

VISION STATEMENT:

Coastal communities along the northwest peninsula of Trinidad are economically stable due to multiple, environmentally-sustainable, and harmonized economic activities.

Building a Vision

- What does the perfect world look like for the NW Peninsula in ~20 years?
- What would you like the condition of the coastal resources to be?
- What would you like the economic condition to be?
- What would you like the social and cultural condition to be?
- What would you like to leave for future generations?
THANK YOU

Rahanna Juman, Director (Ag.) Rajuman@ima.gov.tt;
868 634 4291-Ext 2531
Susanna DeBeauville-Scott

Bio

- Project Manager
Ocean Governance and Fisheries Programme
Environmental Sustainability Cluster
Organization of the Eastern Caribbean States
Castries, St. Lucia
- 20 years of experience in managing national and regional projects
- 25 years of experience working in the field of ocean governance and marine resource management
Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States

Caribbean Regional Oceanscape Project (CROP)

IOC UNESCO Marine Spatial Planning and the Blue Economy Webinar: Trinidad and Tobago
November 5, 2020
Art 4.2 ... Member States shall ... coordinate, harmonise and undertake joint actions and pursue joint policies particularly in ... (o) matters relating to the sea and its resources;

OECS SGD 2001, Rev, 2006, Rev. 2020. Foundation: An Islands Systems Management (ISM) Framework ... integrated planning and management is critical if the islands are to become economically, socially and ecologically resilient.

Action 3.2 - Adopt an integrated approach to development and management of the ocean (Policy Goals 4.1 & 4.2)

Action 4.2 - Review, strengthen and/or establish policy, legal and planning arrangements (Policy Goal 4.2)

Action 3.3 - Apply marine spatial planning for improving management to achieve economic development (Policy Goal 4.3)

Caribbean Region Oceanscape Project (CROP)
Caribbean Regional Oceanscape Project (CROP)

Project Development Objective (PDO):
To *strengthen capacity for ocean governance and coastal and marine geospatial planning* in the participating countries.

GEF Funded: **6.3USD million**
Implementing Agency: **World Bank**
Timeframe: *October 18, 2017 – December 31, 2021*

Supported by the ECROP Coordinating Mechanism:
- OECS Ocean Governance Team
- National Ocean Governance Committees
Championing Resilient Oceans for Prosperity (CROP) … strengthening capacity for ocean governance and marine spatial planning …

... in support of a BLUE ECONOMY
Coastal Master Plans

• Present a suite of priority interventions and investments to support a Blue Economy

• Developed through a participatory process

• Interventions reflect:
  o Economic Growth
  o Equitable Development
  o Environmental Protection
  o Climate Resilience
  o Strong Governance
**Marine Spatial Plans**

- Provide a spatial framework for nearshore and offshore marine areas.
- Serve as a management tool to mitigate conflicts between uses, manage land-water interactions, and mitigate risks associated with investment opportunities in the coastal and marine space.
Pandemic Impact

Stakeholder engagements are challenged due to travel restrictions, and social distancing.
Caribbean Region Oceanscape Project (CROP) is a funded project by the Global Environment Facility through the World Bank which aims to move the Caribbean towards a blue economy. Although the term ‘blue economy’ has been used in different ways, it is understood here as comprising the range of economic sectors and related policies that together determine whether the use of oceanic resources is sustainable. Interestingly, the concept of the Blue Economy focuses on the use of the ocean’s resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods and jobs, as well as maintenance of ocean ecosystem health to ensure continued benefits.

CROP E-Book Series

The CROP E-Book Series can be read as standalone documents or together as a complete series. The Series provides a briefing on five key topics essential for the delivery of integrated ocean governance within the OECS region:

1. The Marine Environment [E-Book 1]
2. Ocean Threats [E-Book 2]
3. A Blue Economy [E-Book 3]
4. Integrated Ocean Governance [E-Book 4]
5. Integrated Ocean Management and Marine Spatial Planning [E-Book 5]
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www.oecs.org
Questions and Discussion
Session 2

The Sustainable Blue Economy
Kishan Kumarsingh

Bio

- Head, Multilateral Environmental Agreements
  Ministry of Planning and Development
  Trinidad and Tobago
Blue Economy and Spatial Planning
The multi-use concept to achieving Sustainable Development

Kishan Kumarsingh
Head, Multilateral Environmental Agreements
Ministry of Planning and Development
Trinidad and Tobago
Ocean Space

Ratio of the Exclusive Economic Zone to land area:

• Trinidad and Tobago’s jurisdictional sovereignty extends beyond the land area into the territorial sea and Exclusive Economic Zone by many times the actual land area (77,502 sq. km to 704 sq. km land area or a ratio of 15:1) as is the case for SIDs

• Jurisdiction over significant marine-based resources and highly dependent on these resources for development and socio-economic well-being and prosperity

• Marine resources include living and non-living resources, transportation routes (shipping and trade) etc. and from which economic activity has arisen further resulting in multi-user competing for the common ocean space
http://www.iczm.gov.tt/2019/05/08/what-is-a-coastal-zone/
ESTABLISHED INDUSTRIES

- Capture fisheries
- Shipping/Ports
- Shipbuilding
- Offshore oil/gas
- Marine construction
- Marine and coastal tourism
- Marine Transport
- Marine business services
- Marine R & D
- Dredging

Extracted from "Financing the Blue Economy: a Caribbean Development Opportunity" Caribbean Development Bank, 2018
Ocean Space

Under threat including from:

• a rise in sea levels due to climate change;
• acidification of oceans resulting from increased emissions of carbon dioxide;
• Overexploitation and poor management of marine resources, including fisheries;
• wastewater runoff;
• deposit of pollutants into waterways;
• and the compromise of the seabed as a consequence of mineral resource prospecting and extraction.
Sustainable use of oceans is critical to poverty reduction, food security, livelihood sustainability and mitigating climate change. 

*In order to strike a balance between often competing ecological and economic imperatives to achieve a level of sustainability, the concept of the oceans economy (also referred to as the blue economy) was developed*

- comprises economic activities that directly take place in the ocean and seas, or use outputs from the sea for consumption or as a source of income, and emphasizes the sustainable use of natural resources in the world’s oceans, seas and coastal areas.
Blue Economy

Premised on:

- **Sustainable** and **inclusive** growth and development
- **Reducing** the **risk** of overexploitation and risky methods of extraction/usage of the ocean’s resources
- **Enhancing** the welfare of coastline communities in terms of **economic opportunities and social protection**
- Ensuring **resilience** of countries to natural disasters and the impact of climate change.

https://clmeplus.org/blue-economy-in-the-caribbean-region/
Blue Economy

Some key considerations:

- The **ocean influences the livelihoods** of about **40% of the world’s population** living at or near the coast, and its contribution to current and future economic growth is significant. [1]

- **Global ocean-based activities** are estimated to have generated **USD1.5 trillion (tn)** and directly provided **31 million (mn) jobs** in 2010, primarily in fisheries, maritime and coastal tourism, offshore oil and gas exploration, and port activities. [2]

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Blue Economy

Some key considerations:

• By 2030, it is estimated that based on current trajectories, the ocean’s value-added will rise by USD3 trillion, with employment rising to over 40 mn. [3]

• The total value of key ocean assets is estimated at approximately USD24 trillion based on the ocean’s earning capacity through “direct outputs (fishing, aquaculture), services (tourism, education) trade and transport (coastal and oceanic shipping) and adjacent benefits (carbon sequestration, biotechnology)”[4]

3. OECD. (2016). The ocean economy in 2030

EMERGING INDUSTRIES

- Marine aquaculture
- Offshore wind energy
- Ocean renewable energy
- Marine seabed mining
- Safety & surveillance
- Marine biotechnology
- High-tech marine services

Extracted from "Financing the Blue Economy: a Caribbean Development Opportunity" Caribbean Development Bank, 2018
Maximising Opportunities
Minimizing Threats

Challenges posed by existing characteristics (limited land space, competing land use, user conflicts, mixed land uses, environmental degradation) can be easily translated to the ocean space as opportunities are explored in the development of the blue economy.

*How can opportunities be maximized and threats minimized to address multi-user competition, minimize (potential) conflicts, maximize benefits from resources and emerging industries, and ensure sustainable management?*
Maximising Opportunities
Minimizing Threats

The need for Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) using a multi-user approach (MUA):

A governance and management structure aimed at:
- Fostering an integrated and holistic approach away from sectoral planning
- maximizing spatial efficiency and productivity
- Context for integrated coastal zone management
Maximising Opportunities
Minimizing Threats

Challenges:
- Lacking or underdeveloped policy and legislative framework
- Lack of quality data (spatial GIS, socio-economic, resource management, etc.)
- Monitoring and evaluation capacity
Thank You
Aljoscha Wothke

Bio

- MPhil.Bio.;
- PMP; PADI MSDT, Reef Check Eco Diver Trainer
- Director/CEO Environmental Research Institute Charlottesville
- Chair Green T&T
- Team Leader UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Nomination Writing Team for Tobago
Marine Spatial Planning and Sustainable Blue Economy in North East Tobago

In the context of

NE Tobago UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Reserve
and
Blue Flag Beach Pilot Status

Aljoscha Wothke, MPhil. Bio, PMP, SIDS Sustainability Expert
UNESCO NE Tobago Man and the Biosphere Reserve declared on 28 Oct 2020
Marine Space: 672.5 km$^2$
Congratulations

NORTH-EAST TOBAGO
ON THE AWARD OF THE PRESTIGIOUS
UNESCO MAN AND THE BIOSPHERE
DESIGNATION
Man and the Biosphere Programme

intergovernmental programme to:

• establish a scientific basis for enhancing the relationship between people and their environments.

• combine natural and social sciences to improve human livelihoods and safeguarding ecosystems

• promote innovative approaches to economic development that are socially and culturally appropriate and environmentally sustainable.
Three Functions

- Conservation
- Development
- Logistic support
Declaration is based on:

- outstanding conservation value
- connection between communities and their natural and cultural heritage
- existing policy and legal framework
- improved stakeholder collaboration
- existing capacity
Way forward

User-centred development and implementation of a Management Plan including:

- community based nature/eco/science/cultural tourism
- adapted shift towards sustainable fisheries and mariculture
- zonation regarding use and levels of protection
- co-management of marine spaces
- MaB BR objectives aligned research, networking and education
What does this practically mean for MSP

- unprecedented level of participatory marine spatial planning
- improved coordination and sustainability streamlining of development initiatives
- increased responsibility and authority redistributed to civil society/users
- new levels access to financial, technical and HR resources
Three Blue Flag Pilot Beaches declared on 13 Oct 2020

Kings Bay – Bloody Bay – Mt Irvine
in a nutshell

Globally renown, sought-after certification for beaches regarding:

- environmental management
- water quality
- safety
- environmental education
- UNESCO endorsed

Still just in pilot phase – award expected in 2021
blue economy / tourism in Tobago

• USP, providing strategic advantage over competitors
• high brand recognition in source markets
• perfect tool to align beach management stakeholders for product development
• improves environmental health and confidence to seaside attractions
• positive policy and management spill over aspects
and MSP in Tobago

• spread of Blue Flag Beaches island / nation wide
• spread across various user groups
• influences future beach development plans
• alignment with international best practice
Designations are tools for future usage not an award on past merits!
Bio

- IOC-UNESCO National Consultant on Marine Spatial Planning and the Blue Economy in SIDS
- Profession: Biologist
- Experience: PhD in Aquatic Biology
- Course coordinator M.Sc. Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Development in the Caribbean, UWI, St. Augustine.
- Cooperate Secretary for Environmental Research Institute Charlottesville (ERIC)
- Vice President- Aquaculture Association of Trinidad and Tobago (aQua-TT)
National Webinar: Trinidad and Tobago

Trinidad and Tobago IOC UNESCO
Project Activities

Dr. Ryan Mohammed
IOC UNESCO National Consultant

Thursday 5th November, 2020
The Context

Joint Roadmap to accelerate Maritime/Marine Spatial Planning processes worldwide, adopted by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE) and the IOC-UNESCO.

Joint Roadmap to accelerate Maritime/Marine Spatial Planning processes worldwide, adopted by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE) and the IOC-UNESCO.

MSPglobal is co-financed by the European Commission's European Maritime and Fisheries Fund.
≥33% of surface area of World’s EEZs covered by government-approved MSP plans
The Project
Project Activities

- An Inter-agency meeting with national public authorities - October 26th
- Consultation meetings with national experts - October 8th to 30th
- An Inter-institutional meeting with public authorities at local level - November 2nd
- An open day at the Institute of Marine Affairs (Modified event due to COVID 19 restrictions)
- Open day with maritime sectors representatives (port authorities, public authorities, fisheries/aquaculture, tourism, research centers) (Modified event due to COVID 19 restrictions)
- Visits to primary and secondary schools to promote ocean literacy and the importance of the maritime sectors in TT economy and prosperity (Modified event due to COVID 19 restrictions)
- A national webinar on marine spatial planning and sustainable blue economy - November 5th
Project Activities: Video Productions

Photo Credits: Dr. Ryan Mohammed (2020)
Recommendations from State Agency Representatives and Academic Experts

POLICY AND LEGISLATION

- Development of a state approved National Blue Economy Road Map or Strategy which clearly defines what the Blue Economy means for Trinidad and Tobago.
- The ICZM policy framework needs to be approved so that MSP can be implemented as a tool for ocean management.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

- Thorough stakeholder analysis and engagement plan. Setting up stakeholder committees to ensure widespread participatory planning is undertaken in the planning process.

DATA

- Data is needed. State of the art on everything that is out there....including ecology, oceanography, bathymetry.
- Development of a National Data Sharing Policy and National Spatial Data Infrastructure to facilitate the collation of the best available information.

FINANCING

- Financing for the operationalization of ICZM and MSP.

CRITICAL SECTORS

- Address the elephant in the room. More needs to be done for fisheries development.
Recommendations from State Agency Representatives and Academic Experts

WASTE MANAGEMENT

- Revisit waste management. If there is no proper waste management plan, there is no sense in talking about marine spatial planning. Proper land and sea waste management is needed as most watersheds have short catchments and land-based activities affect the sea.

PUBLIC EDUCATION

- Public education and awareness in the general public through the media.

CAPACITY BUILDING

- Develop human capacity in MSP so that development, implementation and monitoring of MSP is effective.

CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES

- Climate adaptation should be integrated into all forms of marine and coastal infrastructural development.

AUTOMATION AND DIGITALISATION

- Automation and Digitalization of Port Services.
- Digital mechanisms for monitoring non-compliance.
Thank You!
Questions and Discussion
Thank You!
Follow us on social networks!

mspglobal2030.org
@MSPglobal2030
#OceanAction15346