

18th

SESSION IOCARIBE



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Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission

Sub-Commission for the Caribbean
and Adjacent Regions

Subcomisión para el Caribe y
Regiones Adyacentes

MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING IN THE CARIBBEAN REGION

ALEJANDRO ROJAS

Brasilia, Brazil
April 23–25, 2025

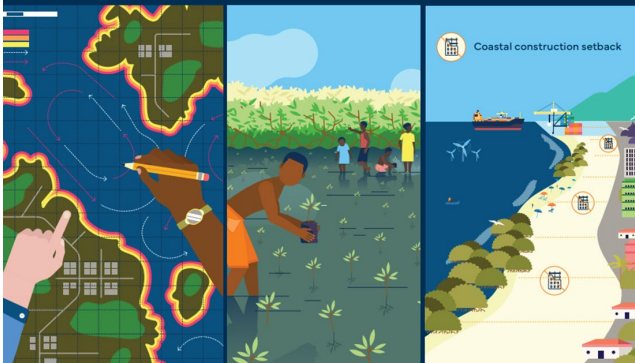
UNDP/GEF/UNOPS PROCARIBE+ PROJECT

“Protecting and Restoring the Ocean’s natural Capital, building Resilience and supporting region-wide Investments for sustainable Blue socio-Economic development” (PROCARIBE+) 5-year project (2023-2028):

Scaling up actions on marine spatial planning,
marine conservation, blue carbon and
strengthening regional ocean governance.

UN to UN
Transfer
Agreement
Signature 13
February 2025.
(2025-2027)

Marine Spatial Planning (MSP)



Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) is a process that guides where and when human activities occur in the ocean. It aims to balance ecological, economic, and social objectives by organizing the use of marine spaces in a sustainable way.

In Marine Spatial Planning we are looking at reducing conflicts between different marine users, such as fishing, shipping, and tourism.

As well as protecting marine ecosystems and biodiversity.

Colombia



- Develop MSP process and the enabling environment to deliver a concrete MSP for the Bay of Cartagena and adjacent areas (~274km²)

Dominican Republic



- Develop MSP processes and enabling environment to deliver coarse-scale MSP covering a substantial part of the EEZ (min. 150,000 km²)
- (at least 1 additional), Finer-scale MSP process and product, covering a “high-priority” marine-coastal area, of no less than 1,400 km²

Capacity Building (Trainings)

- Upcoming training material on Biodiversity & Climate and Data, to be delivered in 2026 by MSP Global 2.0 Project.
- Delivery of OTGA trainings.



Regional Advocacy on MSP

- Exchange visits between MSP sites supported by the Procaribe+ Project.
- Promote further increase in MSP efforts in the region (target of 10% of the CLME under MSP).



Social and Environmental Safeguards

- Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP).
- Stakeholder Mapping/Assessment of each site.
- Gender Equality Activities Identification.

PRE-INCEPTION PHASE MEETING WITH COLOMBIA

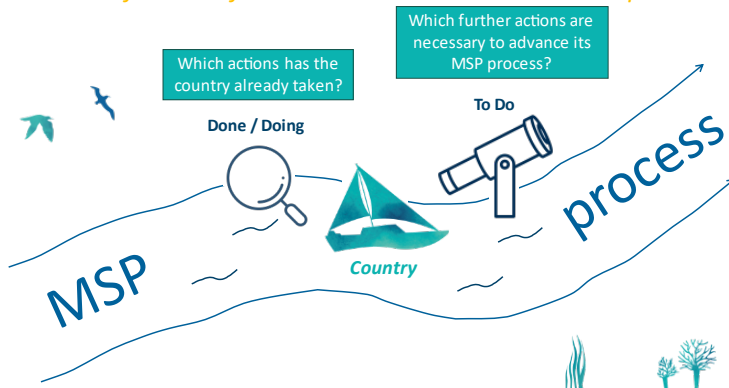
- Negotiations for IPA Agreement with Colombia, 2-3 April 2025, Cartagena, Colombia.
- Presented RAM
- Alignment of Technical Proposal with UNESCO IOC ToRs.
- Budget alignment.



Development of Work Plan and Budget – Inception Phase

Rapid Assessment Methodology (RAM)

Supporting Member States to navigate through the phases of MSP towards the identification of concrete actions to advance their processes.

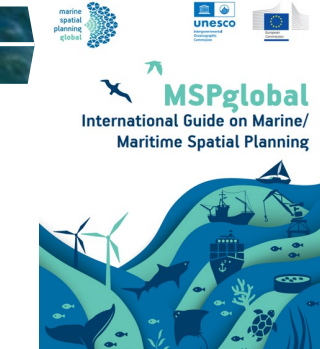


OUTPUT USE

Support the development of workplans and roadmaps.

Guide the use of human, technical and financial resources available.

Inform the development of technical and financial proposals.



Create an MSP Working Group, incl. identification of legal/institutional frameworks and stakeholders

Design the MSP Process, incl. stakeholder strategy, vision, objectives

Assessment of present and future conditions for MSP

First Draft Marine Spatial Plan

Step 2: Understanding the status of MSP Phases



1
SETTING THE
SCENE



2
DESIGNING THE
PLANNING PROCESS



3
ASSESSMENT FOR
PLANNING



4
DEVELOPING THE
PLAN



5
ENABLING
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
PLAN



6
MONITORING, EVALUATION &
ADAPTATION OF THE PROCESS
PLAN

Hosted by:



Organised by:



Regional Training on Marine Spatial Planning for Latin America and the Caribbean

Panama City, 18 and 19 February 2025

Languages: English and Spanish

With the support of:



In partnership with:



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Organised by:



2nd MSPforum for Latin America and the Caribbean

Panama City, 20 and 21 February 2025

Languages: English and Spanish

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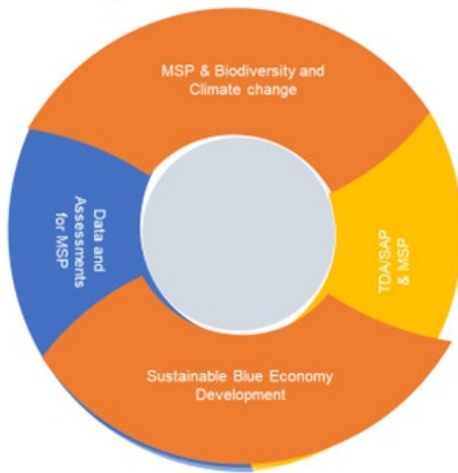
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2nd LAC MSP Forum

Sustainable blue economy

- Policy Coherence
- Sustainable blue financing
- Gender
- MSP Sectors, e.g. fishing

Transboundary MSP

- Caribbean TDA/SAP and Ocean Coordination Mechanism.
- OECS MSP Framework / ECROP
- Cross-boundary Case Study: South America and the Caribbean.

Biodiversity & Climate and Ocean Nexus for MSP

- Regional Seas and the implementation of area-based managements tools: Caribbean and pacific.
- 30x30
- Marine Corridors.

Recommendations

- Establish the MSP Task Team under the IOCARIBE CD-WG
- Have a Agreement of Cooperation with One Ocean Hub.
- Encourage Member States to actively participate in national and regional MSP activities being carried out as part of the PROCARIBE+ Project.
- Recognizing the importance of incorporating climate change adaptation strategies in the development of MSP National Plans.
- Continue to seek training opportunities for MSP processes in Member States, including the applications of global toolboxes.



Next Steps

- Signature of Implementing Partnership Agreement with Colombian and Dominican Republic Partners.
- Workplan and Budget Consultation (RAM)





Upcoming MSP Capacity Building Products



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- **Complementary Guides UNESCO-IOC & European Commission:** Biodiversity inclusive MSP (w/UNEP; reviewed by CBD Secretariat & OBIS)
 - Climate-smart MSP (reviewed by UNFCCC and IOC/OSS)
- **Data Toolboxes:** How to develop a Spatial Data Infrastructure for MSP (w/IODE)
 - How to integrate ocean observation into MSP (w/GOOS & OBIS)
- Engaging **Offshore Wind Sector** (w/UNGC)
 - Sector overview
 - Good practices



**JUNE
2025!**

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**THANK YOU
MUCHAS GRACIAS
MERCI BEAUCOUP**

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