



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Approach to testing a marine spatial planning methodology

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The issue

- * **Key challenge:** governance framework
 - * Evolution of governance framework in the future
 - * Increases in- and emergence of new- activities in ABNJ

We need to understand how the methodology will be affected by the evolving governance and usage landscapes.

To do this, we need to consider a hypothetical future...



In this future....

Increased activity has been noted in an area of the High Seas with important biodiversity features.

* Marine Spatial Planning is being developed to ensure biodiversity conservation and sustainable resource use, the continuation of activities, and avoiding incompatible uses.

* Current uses include:

Conservation

- Migrating whales
- Deep-sea coral and sponges exist
- EBSA and KBA descriptions

Fisheries

- Fishing footprint increasing
- RFMO management more sophisticated
- VME designation for deep-sea coral

Tourism

- Tourism revenue from whale watching
- Coastal tourism

Telecommunications

- Communications cable runs through mining exploration area
- Awareness of cable locations increasing
- Some cables still at risk of damage

Mining

- Designated mining exploration area in proximity to VME.
- REMP processes nearly finished for all ocean basins
- APEIs designated in associated with all mining concessions.

This information can be found in ANNEX 1

Testing the methodology

- * Imagine you are a marine planner living in this imaginary future.

We need to understand how the MSP will be affected by the evolving governance regimes.



To do this you will explore **one element** of the MSP methodology under **two different** governance options.



Testing the methodology

Tourism

- Tourism revenue from whale watching
- Coastal tourism

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Telecommunications

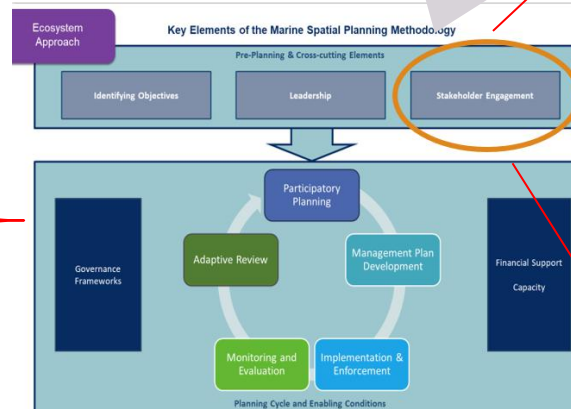
- Communications cable runs through mining exploration area
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Mining

- Designated mining exploration area in proximity to VME.
- REMP processes nearly finished for all ocean basins
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How does the governance option influence this element of MSP?

No International Legally Binding Instrument



International Legally Binding Instrument



Activity

* This is a group activity

- * You will be given a number
- * After coffee break, please join the group match
- * Groups will be separated into French and Eng
- * Please nominate a rapporteur
- * Groups will report back after lunch

* Each group will be given:

- * An instruction sheet
 - * Annex 1 = Hypothetical future
 - * Annex 2 = details on governance options
- * 2x worksheets
 - * Each worksheet corresponds to a different element
 - * Each group will look at a different element

Marine Spatial Planning methodology interactive session

Workshop session, Joint Workshop, June 11th 2019, Cape Town

Session Lead: UNEP-WCMC, ABNI Deep Seas Project

Work Session Focus and Objective

A marine spatial planning methodology for ABNI has been developed by UNEP-WCMC for the ABNI Deep Seas project. In this work session, you'll review specific elements of this methodology and consider how they might be applied in practice under different governance options.

UNEP-WCMC will use your feedback to improve the methodology and the guidance it contains – your expertise will help make it more robust and easier to use in the real world. The improved methodology will be published as a report at the end of the project.

Work Session Approach

Currently, there are not many activities occurring in ABNI. However, for this work session, we have developed a hypothetical future in which new scientific information about the environment in ABNI in your region has become available, and a range of human activities compete with each other and pose threats to the environment. Area based planning may be required. This future scenario is outlined in Annex 1.

Imagine you are a marine planner living in this imaginary future. Your job is to use marine spatial planning as a tool to reduce conflicts and manage environmental threats related to human activities in ABNI.

Activity instructions

Step 1: Understanding the context

- Please read through the scenario in Annex 1.
- Think about the conflict that might arise, and how spatial measures might reduce them.

Step 2: Understanding the governance options

- Please look at the two governance options in Annex 2.
- Governance option 1 shows a situation where there is no internally legally binding instrument (or the current business as usual situation); Governance option 2 shows a situation where there is a new internationally legally binding agreement.

Step 3: Testing

- The marine spatial planning methodology is made up of different elements. We would like you to explore at least one of these elements under the two governance options.
- Consider if this element of marine spatial planning can be undertaken under each governance option, and who could be involved or support the process. Think about the potential for cross-sectoral interaction, and the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Governance option 1: No internationally legally binding instrument
Governance option 2: Internationally legally binding agreement

Element/s: Identifying objectives

Is issue identification and prioritisation possible under the governance option?		
Agree	Disagree	Not sure

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Points for consideration	Notes	Challenges / opportunities
Institutional arrangement (leadership, proponent entity, mechanism for proposal, reaching an agreement e.g. objective, area, size, scope)		
Legal frameworks (what principles are enshrined in the legal framework which influence issue identification?)		
Data and information (what data and information may be required; who can collect data; how is it used / fed into decision-making?; scientific [optional])		
Stakeholder engagement (how are stakeholders identified and how do they communicate?)		
Cross-sectoral forum (can actors come together to discuss issues of concern; how could this occur?)		



What you will do

* In your groups

- * Read the materials provided
- * Consider the element of marine spatial planning on your worksheet
- * One worksheet is to be used for each governance option
- * Determine whether you agree with the statement at the top and comment using your experiences
- * Points to consider are provided to encourage discussion on how the element is influenced

Governance option 1: No internationally legally binding instrument
 Governance option 2: Internationally legally binding agreement

Element/s: Identifying objectives

Is issue identification and prioritisation possible under the governance option?		
Agree	Maybe	Disagree
Points for consideration	Notes	Challenges / opportunities
Institutional arrangement (leadership, proponent entity, mechanism for proposal, reaching an agreement e.g. objective, area, size, scope)		
Legal frameworks (what principles are enshrined in the legal framework which influence issue identification?)		
Data and information (what data and information may be required; who can collect data; how is it used / fed into decision-making?; scientific committee)		
Stakeholder engagement (how are stakeholders identified and how do they communicate?)		
Cross-sectoral forum (can actors come together to discuss issues of concern; how could this occur?)		



Worked example

- Element: stakeholder engagement

Governance Option:
No ILBI



- Stakeholders to engage include: ISA, IMO, RFMO, scientific research and academia, NGOs, cable laying company (and the country in which that country is based)
- A regional platform could coordinate consultation
- Wider involvement of sectoral stakeholders in regional platform required – potential for gaps
- Lack of recognition of regional platform at global level may be challenging. might hinder its support/ability to engage meaningfully

Points for co

Institutional

(entity responsible for undertaking stakeholder engagement, relevant stakeholders and how they will be engaged)

Legal framework

(obligation to ensure wider stakeholder engagement)

Stakeholder engagement

(what stakeholders should be involved and how, are there existing mechanisms for stakeholder engagement)

Worked example

- Element: stakeholder engagement

Governance Option:
No ILBI

Relevant stakeholders can be easily identified and engaged.

Agree

Maybe

Disagree

- In the fictional scenario stakeholders who would need to engage would include: ISA, IMO, RFMO, scientists studying deep seabed and whales, NGOs, the cable laying company (and the country in which that country is based)and others?*
- A regional platform provides a mechanism to coordinate consultation*
- There could be gaps from organisations who are not part of the platform*
- Lack of global recognition of the regional platform might hinder its support/ability to engage meaningfully*

Points for consideration	Notes	Challenges / opportunities
Institutional arrangement (entity responsible for undertaking stakeholder engagement, who determines relevant stakeholders and how they will be engaged)		
Legal obligations (stakeholder engagement)		
Stakeholder involvement (stakeholder engagement)		

- The regional platform could be made up of a Regional Seas Organisation and a Regional Fishery management organisation.
- Either of these could organise a consultation mechanism.
- There is no obligation for all actors to engage in that process
- Public participation would be challenging to include as there is no current mechanism to support this

- Engagement with the process would be optional as there is no formal mechanism
- An open process could be done to allow stakeholders to self select – but this would potentially miss some.
- Experts could be consulted to identify additional individuals to engage.
- X? might challenge the process

Worked example

Governance Option:
No ILBI

- Element: stakeholder engagement



Relevant stakeholders can be easily identified and engaged.

Agree

Maybe

Disagree

- In the fictional scenario stakeholders who would need to engage would include: ISA, IMO, RFMO, scientists studying deep seabed and whales, NGOs, the cable laying company (and the country in which that country is based)and others?*
- A regional platform provides a mechanism to coordinate consultation*
- There could be gaps from organisations who are not part of the platform*
- Lack of global recognition of the regional platform might hinder its support/ability to engage meaningfully*

Points for consideration	Notes	Challenges / opportunities
Institutional arrangement (entity responsible for undertaking stakeholder engagement, who determines relevant stakeholders and how they will be engaged)	<i>The regional platform could be made up of a Regional Seas Organisation and a Regional Fishery management organisation. Either of these could organise a consultation mechanism. There is no obligation for all actors to engage in that process Public participation would be challenging to include as there is no current mechanism to support this</i>	<i>Engagement with the process would be optional as there is no formal mechanism An open process could be done to allow stakeholders to self select – but this would potentially miss some. Experts could be consulted to identify additional individuals to engage. X? might challenge the process</i>
Legal frameworks (is there an obligation to ensure wider stakeholder obligation)	Continue adding notes in response to these points.....	
Stakeholder engagement (what stakeholders should be involved and how, are there existing mechanisms for		

When reporting back...

- * Please report on the following:
 - * Is your element applicable under each governance option?
 - * Why?
 - * What are the key challenges?



Thank you



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Marine spatial planning elements – ABNJ context

Identifying the Need

- Limited sectors operating in ABNJ
- Ecological conditions in ABNJ are not yet fully understood

Ecosystem Approach

- It will require data on the ecosystems, and an understanding of what benefits people are gaining from them. E.g. deep sea sponges may provide medicine now and in the future through scientific research, whales are important for eco-tourism and deep sea habitats can support aspects of fisheries.
- Can this information be accessed? Who holds it?
- Is there an obvious scientific committee, or working group, that could help with this aspect?

Leadership, Roles and Responsibilities

- Do any organisations currently have a mandate for cross-sectoral planning?
- Is it something being considered in the BBNJ process?
- Maybe they don't need a mandate but would need those participating to agree that org X could lead a planning process (similar to the national gov agreeing an NGO could lead one in a specific country).