



**Seminar Series on Improving Impact of MPAs in the WIO Region**  
**Seminar 2:**  
**Designating MPAs - engaging stakeholders**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> September 2021**

**9:30 AM – 12:00 PM East Africa Time**

**Seminar Minutes**

**Background**

Following the challenges and recommendations that were included in the Western Indian Ocean Marine Protected Areas Outlook report presented in July 2021, it was clear that Western Indian Ocean (WIO) countries face challenges of how to ensure the engagement of local stakeholders and get their buy-in and contributions related to the designation of new Marine Protected Areas which help them deliver on international commitments such as SDG 14.5.

This topic was covered in the seminar through sharing of case studies and a discussion session.

The seminar was part of a Seminar Series developed and hosted by the Nairobi Convention Secretariat, the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (SwAM) and Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA).

The general objective of the Seminars was to introduce key aspects of adaptive management of MPAs and approaches to solving key challenges in the WIO region following recommendations from the MPA Outlook report, and to provide a platform for participants to discuss the main challenges and possible solutions around MPAs management. Expected outcomes from the seminars were that participants would gain better understanding of the key components of effective and successful adaptive management of MPA which would enable uptake and use of those approaches, and that participants would get inspired by the sharing of experiences and discussions on adaptive management of MPAs between government officials, MPA practitioners and other stakeholders from across the region.

**Min 1: Welcome, opening remarks and context**

- Peter Ferguson opened the meeting at 09:30Hrs (EAT) by welcoming all in attendance. He mentioned that Sweden had a long coast line and that they had developed management plans that would be great to be shared across other regions. He mentioned that we were looking forward to sharing challenges across to WIO region in managing marine and coastal ecosystems. He added that it was the right time to exchange knowledge to help achieve Sustainable development goals targets especially 14.5. He mentioned that he was looking forward to participation of all in attendance in the seminar.

Dr. Bosire made a [presentation](#) on the marine protected areas outlook that was launched on 16<sup>th</sup> July. The presentation;

- Highlighted that the contacting parties requested the secretariate on decision CP.9/11 (2018) to develop marine protected areas and critical habitat outlook.
- noted that the key findings of the outlook included; 143 marine and coastal areas as protected, an area covering 552,793 square kilometers representing 7% of the total EEZ for the region, 63% of the area brought under protection since the 2015 adoption of SDGs – enhanced momentum, Legislative and institutional frameworks that support the establishment and management of MPAs exist in all countries of the region – political will and community participation key through LLMA: More support needed.
- noted that the key challenges were; Weak enforcement and compliance, inadequate financial and personnel capacity, climate change and pollution as key threats and increased footprint of coastal developments.
- Highlighted the key recommendations as; Sustainable financing to support equipment and infrastructure, skilled personnel, and effective enforcement, effective law enforcement and compliance, education and awareness programmes among various stakeholders, Establishment of a regional framework for MPA capacity development: NC, WIOMSA in collaboration with SwAM already established and 1st workshop took place on the 24<sup>th</sup> of June 2021; More trainings planned for under the Programme. WIO MPA Network: Established on 8th June 2021 (WOD) in partnership with WIOMSA. It highlighted the interactive dashboard that was developed for the MPA outlook that can be accessed here.

## Min 2: The case of the Locally managed marine areas (LMMA) in Madagascar

Vatosoa [presented](#) the case of the locally managed marine areas in Madagascar using the Mhari network. She made a presentation that;

- There were different types of LLMA in Madagascar's e.g MPAs and locally managed marine areas. The scope of LLMA included 200 communities, 500,000 small scale fishers, covering 17,000Km<sup>2</sup> of Madagascar's continental shelf and they presented 11 of 13 coastal regions of Madagascar. The management plans include fisheries closures, mangrove management and restoration, alternative livelihood and creation of local regulations.
- The impacts of LMMAs included; social economic well-being, ecology and biology on improved on marine ecosystems, improvement fisheries management and production governance.
- The challenges facing LMMAs included; conflicts in resource use and allocation, lack of a legal framework to secure and recognize rights, lack of product valuation, limited access to the market, harmful practices lined to poverty and isolation and located in remote areas.
- The Mharian network was addressing the challenges through; advocacy for small scale fishers' rights, capacity building for LMMA leaders and peer to peer learning exchanges.

- The impacts of MIHARI included; 1000+ LMMA leaders and chnagemekers, a joint voice and partner to the government, recognition of small-scale fishers' contribution in Madagascar's fisheries governance, improved exchange and information access within LMMA managers, replication of best practices between LMMA sites and behavior change of fishers.
- The opportunities included; formalization and implementation of dina in natural resource management, regulation of fishing gear and creation of a reserved area for small-scale fishers on the coastal strip.

### Min 3: Seychelles' marine spatial planning approach to designation of new MPAs.

Helena Sims made [a presentation](#) on Seychelles marine Spatial Plan in designating new MPAs. The presentation highlighted that;

- Marine spatial Planning was a public process of analyzing and allocating the spatial and temporal distribution of human activities in marine areas to achieve ecological, economic, and social objectives that are usually specified through a political process.
- Seychelles had a 1.35 million Km<sup>2</sup> of ocean area with 90,000 people and were on a biodiversity hotspot of 735 species on IUCN Red list.
- The ocean is the foundation of the economy in Seychelles that provides blue economy, fisheries and Tourism.
- The benefits of marine Spatial planning included; Protect habitats and species for ecosystem resilience, services and climate change adaptation, addressing spatial conflicts amongst existing and future uses, Decision guidance for future activities, Improve decision making and buy in with stakeholders.
- The expected outcomes by 2025 included; Comprehensive, multi-sector marine spatial plan implemented 2021+, Actively managed marine protections– 400,000 km<sup>2</sup>, Governance mechanism to implement MSP across 1.35 million km<sup>2</sup>, Long-term monitoring for indicators climate threats underway and Decision-making framework for all future sustainable economic development

### Min 4: The case of Kosterhavet National Park (Sweden)

Anita Tullrot made a [presentation](#) on Kosterhavet stakeholder involvement towards status as National Park and management today. The presentation highlighted that:

- The aim of the park was to conserve the distinctive and species rich marine environment and archipelago area, as well as adjacent land areas in an essentially unchanged condition.

- The steps of management plan included; preparation of core team, first reference meeting, workshop, compilation, second reference meeting, proposal writing, public hearing and decision by SEPA.
- The invited stakeholders to reference group meeting included; Authorities (Swedish and Norwegian), local fishermen org, local aquaculture, tourism org, local hunting org, several NGOs, boating org. (Swedish and Norwegian) and inhabitants.
- The adaptive management included; setting up of goal and objectives, actions and regulations, monitoring, evaluation and the decision to either keep or change the management plan.
- The key conclusions from Kosterhavet included; having transparent & shared goals was crucial, thorough knowledge about uses & protection values was necessary, mutual accepted information, trust, involving users, the public and local politicians in the process and adaptive management.

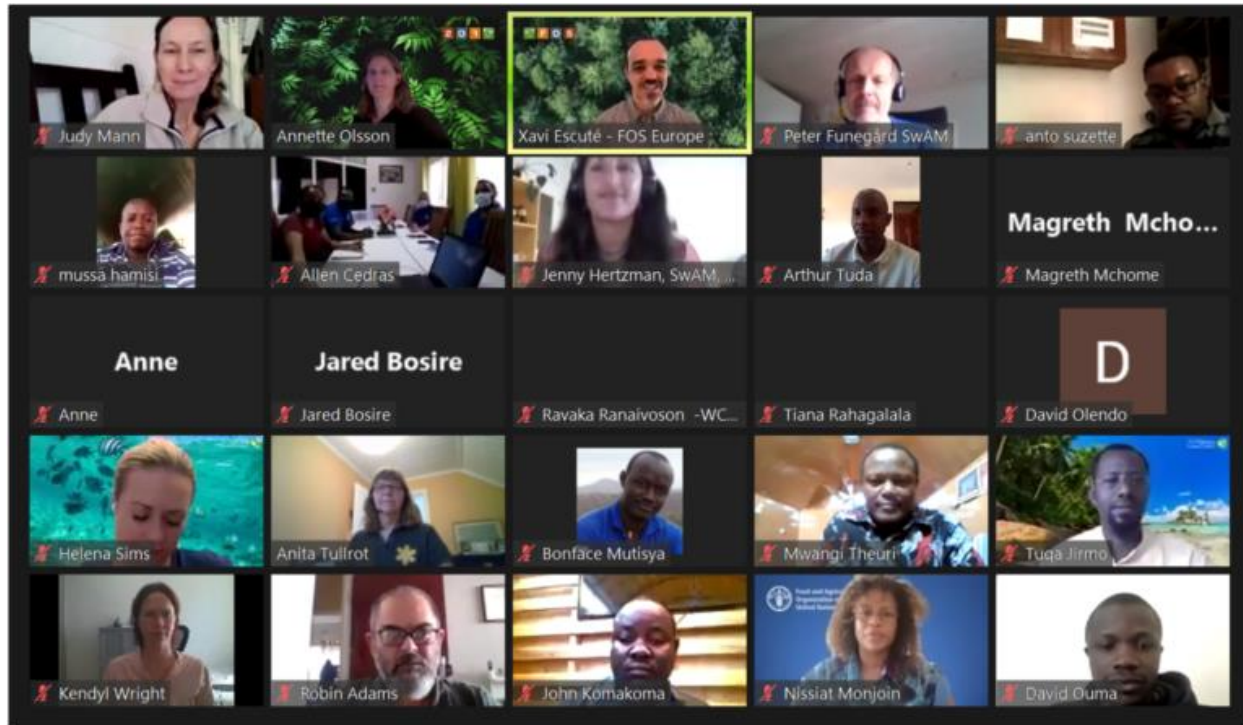
#### **Min 5: Discussion session**

The participants contributed with their own views on an interesting and enriching discussion session around three main questions: what are the key elements to ensure a solid participatory approach and buy-in by relevant stakeholders when designating MPAs? Which approaches from the case studies could be adapted to the reality in your country/site to enable or improve stakeholder engagement? and How to bring stakeholders in previously established MPAs on board to create collaboration/buy-in and ensure good and effective management? The summary of the group discussions can be found [here](#)

#### **Min 6: Closing**

The seminar ended at 12:00Hrs (EAT) with Xavi thanking the participants for creating time to attend the virtual meeting and requesting them to take polls that would rate the seminar.

Screenshot of participants



In attendance;

	Name	Organisation	Country	E-mail	Gender
1.	Ravaka Ranaivoson	Marine program director, WCS Madagascar	Madagascar	ranaivoson@wcs.org	F
2.	Luciano Andriamaro	Marine director, Conservation International	Madagascar	landriamaro@conservation.org	F
3.	RANDRIANANTOANDR O Mihaly Domoinatiana	Responsable de la gestion Aires Marines Protégées Projet AMP-GEF6	Madagascar	<a href="mailto:mihalydo@yahoo.fr">mihalydo@yahoo.fr</a>	F
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5.	Tiana Rahagalala	Marine capacity development specilaist	Madagascar	<a href="mailto:trahagalala@haytao.crcuri.org">trahagalala@haytao.crcuri.org</a>	F
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40	Remie Asman	Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority	Seychelles		M
41	Roland Quatre,	Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority	Seychelles		M
42	Shazelle Julie	Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority	Seychelles		F
43	Bernard Bijoux	Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority	Seychelles		M
44	Paul Lavigne	Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority	Seychelles		M
45	Anto Suzette	Assistant Park Officers with the Seychelles National Parks Authority	Seychelles		M



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68	Jenny Hertzman	SwAM	Sweden		F
69	Peter Funegard	SwAM	Sweden		M
70	Annette Olsson	FOS Europe	Denmark		F
71	Anne	FOS Europe	The Netherlands		F
72	Xavier Escuté	FOS Europe	Spain		M