



First SwAM Ocean Adaptive Management Seminar for MPAs: the network approach to Marine Protected Areas

Date: 24 th June 2021

Venue: Microsoft Teams

Meeting Minutes

Introduction

The Nairobi Convention in executing the WIOSAP project is organising a seminar on Adaptive Management: Design and effective management of MPA networks, in colaboration with the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (SwAM) and (Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association) WIOMSA. The seminar training is organized to implement the MPA Outlook recommendations and also as a curtain raiser to the launch of the Outlook planned for on 16th July 2021.

The objective of the training is to: i.) Increase awareness and understanding on adaptive management and its contribution to successful MPA management, ii.) provide insight into the framework for the design and effective management of MPA networks and its relevance in the WIO region and iii.) provide a forum for sharing knowledge and information around MPAs between government officials, MPA practitioners, actors working on topics of MPAs as well as other stakeholders

Min 01/21: Opening Remarks

- The meeting was called to order by Jared who welcomed everyone in attendance to the Workshop. He welcome Dr. Timothy Andrew to make short opening remarks.
- He mentioned that he was standing in for the head of the Nairobi convention and welcomed all the partners including the Swedish agency for marine and water management for co-organizing the training.
- He mentioned that it was great to see a great representation of most countries in the Western Indian Ocean in the region and that it would be great to get experiences from the countries on how they manage their marine Protected areas.
- He mentioned that developing of mechanism where MPAs professions would interact was not new and that there were challenges but these would be overcome.
- He mentioned that the partnership should address the challenges and ensure longevity of the partnership. He mentioned that there were opportunities for capacity building of the on MPAs on the region.
- He mentioned that around 100 professionals had been accredited by WIO-campus.
- He mentioned that the MPA capacity building is in line with the request from countries to support in management of marine environment including Marine spatial planning.
- He highlighted that there would be talks on lessons learnt that would be replicated elsewhere in the region.

Peter welcomed everyone for the seminar and thanked them for creating time for the training. He mentioned that he was looking forward to an interactive and successful session. He mentioned that the aim of the training was to increase the efficiency of the management of Marine protected areas.

and she welcomed every attendee present. She mentioned the network was registered on 18th March 2021 under the Laws of Zanzibar - The Societies Act No. 6 of 1995 and Business Entities and Registration Act No. 12 of 2012. She mentioned the meeting was for the official launch the WIO Mangrove Network and WIO Mangrove Restoration Book Project She highlighted that there would be an authors meeting for briefing and setting the road map for the production of the WIO Mangrove Restoration Book.
 She recognized the presence of the presiding guest: Ms. Sinikinesh Beyene Jimma who was the portfolio manager -International Water Unit at UNEP.
 She gave a summary of the agenda of the day then welcomed Dr. Jared to give his remarks.

Min 02/21: Overview of the main results of the Outlook report on MPAs in the WIO region: challenges and recommendations- NCS

Dr.Jared presented on the Overview of the main results of the Outlook report on MPAs in the WIO region: challenges and recommendations- NCS

- The presentation mentioned that the outlook would be launched on the 16th of July 2021 and that countries were providing last comments to be included in the outlook. He mentioned that the outlook was responding to the COP decisions.
- It mentioned that a number of products were expected from the process including; critical habitats outlook, a database of MPAs & critical habitats, a dashboard, contribution to the revision of the protocol on protected fauna and Flora of the Nairobi convention, adoption of the outcomes by countries and contribution to the next edition of the regional state of the Coast report.
- It highlighted those who have been involved in the process as; The Nairobi convention secretariate, WIOMSA, MPA specialists and marine biologist from each country and internationally, GIS/mapping specialist, editor, designers and proof-reader, Nairobi convention Focal Points, senior government officials and governments and scientists and the MPA personnel- who provided information and involvement in METT assessments.
- The presentation highlighted the structure of the outlook as; Foreword, executive summary, acknowledgement, list of contributors. Key terms and acronyms, part 1 structure, Purpose, methodology and limitations, part 2, context of the Outlook, part 3 marine and coastal areas under protection -country chapters, part 4 MPA management effectiveness and part 5 Meeting the targets.
- Key findings were mentioned as 144 marine and coastal areas as protected, an area covering 8,673,800 square kilometres, 8.51% of the total EEZ for the region. It was highlighted that 48% of the area had been brought under protection since the 2015 adoption of the SDGs. Legislative and institutional framework that support the establishment and management of the MPAs exist.
- Community participation key through LLMAs
- It highlighted that the key challenges were; weak enforcement and compliance, inadequate financial and personnel capacity, climate change and pollution and increased footprint of coastal developments.
- On recommendations, it highlighted need for sustainable financing to support equipment and infrastructure, skilled personnel and effective enforcement, effective law enforcement and compliance, education and awareness programmes among various stakeholders and establishment of regional framework form MPA capacity development.
- It concluded by highlighting the immediate support needed as capacity development, MPA management plans, a regional indicator monitoring programme and funding.

Min 03/21: Brief presentation of the SwAM Ocean program Jenny presented on the SwAM Ocean program.

The presentation;

Highlighted the Humans need nature to survive. Strong, resilient ecosystems is a must for social and economic development. We work to increase the opportunities for people to get richer lives (reduce poverty) by managing marine resources in a sustainable smart way.

Strong capacity to plan the future of the ocean, to take care of the ocean and to use the ocean – for the joy and benefit of all.

SwAM Ocean focuses on marine special planning, sustainable use of marine resources and conservation measures.

Mentioned the outcomes as; Strengthened capacity in marine management, Increased transparency and participation in marine protection and fisheries management processes and Enhanced cooperation between administrative areas, sectors and stakeholders that promote more efficient and harmonized marine management.

It highlighted that the Seminars aims to provide inspiration on how to address some of the main challenges around adaptive management of MPAs in the WIO region. With topics including; Framework: MPA Network Design & Management, Designating new MPAs: engaging stakeholders and including measures to adapt to and increase resilience in the face of climate change and Updating and operationalizing MPA management plans: how to turn them into action (work plans, monitoring plans) and their potential for adaptive management

Min 04/21: Introducing a framework for the design and effective management of MPA networks

The presentation;

Highlighted the theory of change and the framework components. It highlighted the steps needed in the application of the framework as; proposal and team creation, scope and vision, target, goals, protection objective, threats and sensitivity, threat reduction and regulation objectives, the evidence base, priority action and governance structure and adaptive management.

Min 05/21: Relevance of a framework for MPAs in the WIO region

Dr Ane Oosthuizen gave a presentation on designating new MPAs in South Africa.

- The presentation highlighted that;
 - South Africa declared 20 new MPAs in 2019
 - Separate spatial planning initiatives around the coast early–mid 2000s by different organisations
 - National Biodiversity Assessment 2011: First national marine habitat classification & threat mapping (Updated in 2018 NBA)
 - Prolonged stakeholder engagement
 - Government intervention & declaration

- o It mentioned that there was stakeholder engagement including;
 - Pre Operation Phakisa: Stakeholder participation was linked to the regional planning initiatives
 - During Phakisa national level with "Labs" of participation between sectors such as:
 - o Oil & Gas, Fisheries, Aquaculture and Ocean governance and Protection
 - Several iterations of MPA size and designs
 - Ministerial signoff from each sector: which gave support to MPAs on national level
 - Gazetting process through Minister of Environment which resulted in MPA based stakeholder engagement
 - More concession to stakeholder concerns
 - o More than 700 comments
 - Final gazetting

It mentioned that on financing

- Coastal MPAs to be managed by existing Conservation Agencies
- · Have existing marine budgets, with shortfalls for new areas
- Offshore MPAs by National Government
- · Currently no allocated budget or resources for management
- Significant shortfall in funds, particularly now in COVID times
- · Drafting of management plans only starting

It presented the lessons learnt as;

- Strong scientific foundation essential
 - Fine scale MPA maps
 - National ecosystem map
 - Pressure mapping
- Systematic conservation planning: balance biodiversity & social objectives
- Stakeholder analysis, with meaningful, tailored engagement processes
 - Building trust & constant communication
- Coordinated planning to avoid stakeholder confusion
- Slow process, and many economic developments move faster than conservation efforts

I need only the contacts with X (in red)

No adaptive management implemented in SA MPAs currently

 SANParks terrestrial National Park system - have found that regulatory restrictions inhibits true adaptive management

Min 7/21: Closing session

Xavi thanked all for their valuable participation and mentioned that there would be other trainings in September 2021. He also requested everyone to participate in the evaluation of the seminar session.

He thanked Annette for introducing SwAM and Dr. Ane for presenting on South Africa MPAs. Peter thanked everyone and said he was looking forward to the next session of such trainings.

Dr. Jared also thanked all those who attended the meeting and recognized those who bring in much experience in MPA management. He thanked the SwAM for the partnership and their experience they shared in the training.

Annex: List of Attendees

First SwAM Ocean Adaptive Management Seminar for MPAs: the network approach to Marine Protected Areas

Date: 24 th June 2021 Venue: Microsoft Teams Meeting Minutes

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9.	South African MPA Forum	Robin Adams	М	radams@wwf.org.za
	(SAMPAN):			
	Environmental			
	Protection: Marine			

	Program: WWF South Africa:			
10.	Reef Conservation	Francois	М	baguettefrancois@gmail.com
11.	UNDP-Joint Management Area (Seychelles Mauritius)	Baguette Allen Cedras	M	allen.cedras@undp.org
	Demonstration Project			
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