

Marine Spatial Planning Process in Kenya

MSP FACT SHEET

Marine spatial planning is a process of analysing and allocating the spatial and temporal distribution of uses and human activities in marine areas to achieve ecological, economic, and social objectives that have been specified through

a political process.¹ MSP in Kenya is a catalyst for systematic marine knowledge generation, stakeholder engagement, and cross-sector integration. Therefore, MSP is a catalyst for accelerated growth of the Blue Economy.



By fostering a comprehensive understanding of marine ecosystems and their economic potential, MSP serves as a backbone for sustainable development and blue growth. MSP in Kenya is more than a tool for conflict resolution. It is a catalyst for systematic marine knowledge generation, stakeholder engagement, and cross-sector integration.

MSP will also enhance the following:

Systematic Knowledge Generation:

MSP encourages the collection, sharing, and utilization of marine data, enhancing the understanding of marine ecosystems and their services.

Stakeholder Communication: Through inclusive dialogue, MSP ensures that the voices of all stakeholders, including local communities, industry, and government, are heard, leading to more equitable and sustainable marine management decisions.

Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) as a balancing act involves:

Reconciling Approaches:

- Integrating top-down, large-scale planning with bottom-up, localized management.

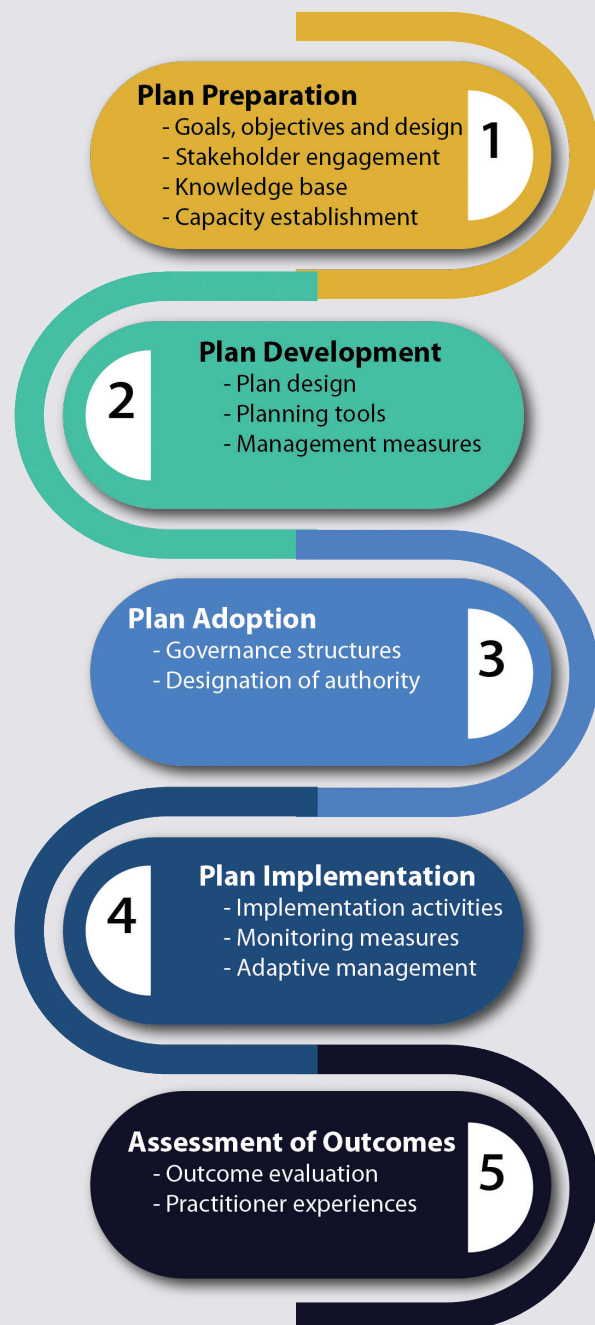
data-informed decision and stakeholder engagement:

- Guided by comprehensive data collection and analysis.
- Informed by extensive input from a diverse range of stakeholders.

Balancing Uses:

- Equilibrating current marine uses with the potential needs of future generations.

Clear Objectives with Integrated Elements:



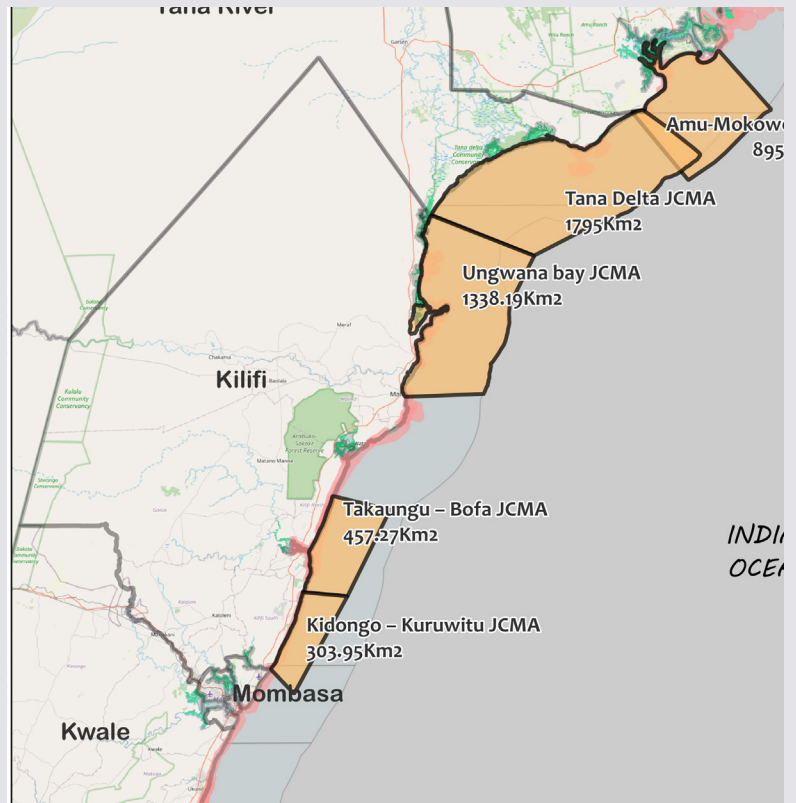
- ***Strong Stakeholder Engagement:*** Actively involving all interested parties, including local communities, businesses, and conservationists, to ensure broad-based support and equity.
- ***Best Available Data:*** Utilizing up-to-date ecological, economic, geospatial, and cultural data to inform decisions.
- ***Adaptability to Dynamics:*** Keeping abreast of and responding to the changing environmental conditions, socio-economic trends, and political landscapes.

Co-Managament Areas

- MSP will help enhance existing fisheries management measures such as Co-Management Areas
- JCMA is a Bottom-up approach of management of fisheries resources that ensures participation of all relevant stakeholders

Marine Protected Areas

Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) are key tools conservation being used in Kenya and will be supported and integrated within the MSP frameworks.



MSP is aligned to Physical Land Use Planning Act

The development process and delivery mode of the Marine Spatial Plan for Kenya is guided by the provisions of the Physical Land Use Planning Act (PLUPA), 2019. The process

involves four distinct phases: pre-planning, plan development, plan approval and implementation. The process is participatory, involving all relevant stakeholders to ensure long-term and coordinated support for planning,

The sustainable use of the ocean and its biodiversity depends on appropriate planning and management. MSP ensures optimum allocation of marine spaces for different uses and activities to guarantee the achievement of socio-economic development while safeguarding critical ecosystems.

How the MSP promote the Blue Economy

MSP will enhance blue economy by ensuring the sustainable use of limited marine resources amidst growing spatial competition. By providing a clear, stable, and transparent framework, MSP enhances the investment climate, attracting sustainable ventures in blue growth sectors.

Marine Tourism: Developing eco-friendly tourism that conserves marine biodiversity and supports local economies.

Maritime Transport and Ports: Enhancing the efficiency and sustainability of maritime transport routes and port operations.

Key Sector to benefit from Marine Spatial Plan

Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture: Ensuring the long-term viability of fish stocks and promoting sustainable aquaculture practices.

Renewable Marine Energy: Exploring wind, wave, and tidal energy potential within Kenya's EEZ to diversify the energy mix.

Conservation and Biodiversity: Protecting critical habitats and species to maintain ecosystem services and biodiversity.



Tel: 0207860430

Email: Info@msp.go.ke | Compliants@msp.go.ke

Website: www.msp.go.ke

Facebook: Kenya Marine Spatial Plan - MSP

X (Twitter): @KenyanMSP

Physical Contact:

Office of the National Project Coordinator,
KEMFSED

Maktaba Kuu Building, Ngong Road,
Upper Hill, Mezzanine Floor

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