



PEUMP

Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership Programme

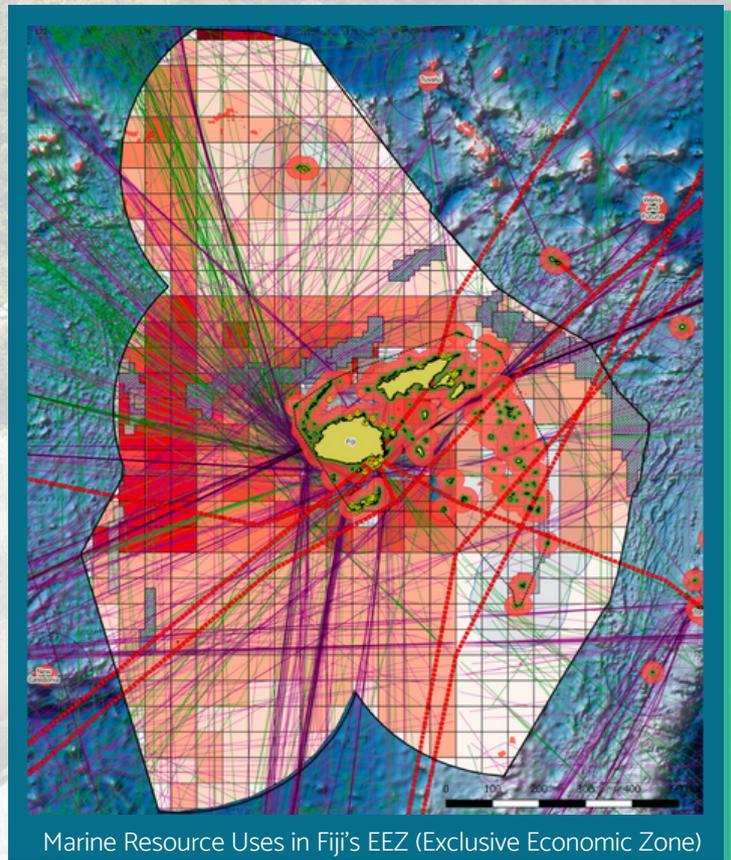


By-catch and Integrated Ecosystem Management Initiative: Marine Spatial Planning and Marine Protected Area designation

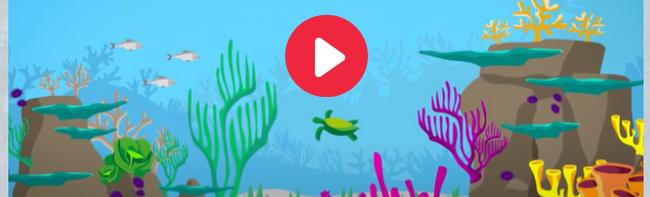
Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) is an approach that promotes integrated ecosystem-based management and improved decision-making about the use of coastal and ocean environments. This is achieved by working with coastal and marine users, traditional owners and interest groups to agree the distribution of human activities within spatially and/or temporally defined zones to minimise user-conflict and achieve ecological, economic, cultural and social objectives.

MSP is especially important in the Pacific as nearly 98% of the total area is the ocean, and where livelihoods, food security, cultural wellbeing and economic dependencies are so closely intertwined with the marine environment. The MSP component of the BIEM Initiative is providing technical support to the Republic of Fiji and the Solomon Islands Governments to assist them achieve their specific priorities in relation to integrated ocean governance.

In Fiji, the Government's MSP process is currently focused on the identification and designation of a network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) within a national ocean policy framework. The Government of the Solomon Islands has published its National Ocean Policy and they wish to implement a nation-wide marine spatial plan by 2020.



An animation explaining MSP is available here:
<https://youtu.be/v1yOS8SqLEk>



By-catch and Integrated Ecosystem Management Initiative

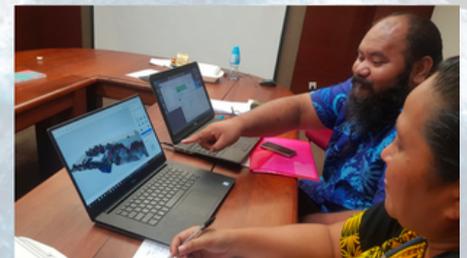
SPREP is pleased to have appointed the International Union for the Conservation of Nature Oceania Regional Office (IUCN-ORO) to provide technical assistance to both countries which will:

- Support the development of integrated national ocean policies within and across relevant government departments.
- Gather, consolidate, analyse and prepare spatial data on marine and coastal biodiversity values and uses as basis for developing MSP and identifying MPAs.
- Identify potential marine zones including MPAs within their respective EEZs.
- Undertake assessment, analysis, mapping and planning activities using participatory cross-sectoral approaches that bring together all governance levels to achieve common objectives (including for mangroves) to ensure that ecosystem-based management (EBM) and ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) approaches are adopted and can be integrated within a multi-sectoral marine spatial plan.
- Undertake national scale cross-sectoral marine spatial planning to deliver a national network of MPAs and associated governance structures based upon EBM and EbA approaches.
- Provide recommendations on policy and planning at local, sub-national and national levels.

Participatory approach to Marine Spatial Planning

To achieve broad support for the ecological, economic, cultural and social objectives of MSP it is important to implement a participatory approach that engages with the full range of marine users and interest groups in the identification of spatial and temporal zones. IUCN-ORO is supporting the Governments of Fiji and the Solomon Islands to design and implement gender sensitive and human-rights based consultation approaches that empower traditional owners to participate in the planning process, paying particular attention to the knowledge and practices of coastal communities, including women, youth and vulnerable groups.

Further information about the BIEM Initiative is available on the PEUMP programme website <https://peump.dev/KRA/marine-biodiversity>.



SPREP Vision: A resilient Pacific environment sustaining our livelihoods in harmony with our cultures
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