

# MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING IN NAMIBIA: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

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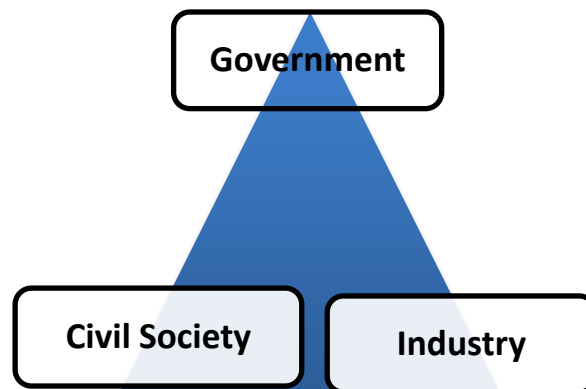
## 1. The Stakeholder Engagement Strategy

### 2. Purpose of the strategy

This strategy sets out how and when the Namibian Marine Spatial Planning National Working Group (MSP-NWG) will engage with government, industry and civil society stakeholders during the Namibian MSP process. It helps to ensure that the MSP process is transparent, coordinated and that stakeholders understand how they can be involved, contribute and influence the plan's development. To ensure adaptability to the process, this strategy will be updated regularly.

Stakeholders represent three broad categories as illustrated in the figure below:

- Government decision-makers: government stakeholders including ministries and state agencies
- Private sector: stakeholders representing the key marine sectors operating in the area
- Civil society: Stakeholders representing non-governmental and public interests



Three broad categories of stakeholders involved in MSP

## MSP Background

### a) What is Marine Spatial Planning?

Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) is a participative decision-making process that guides where and when human activities occur in marine spaces, providing for comprehensive, integrated and complementary planning and management across all sectors and for all ocean uses in order to enable sustainable ocean development”.

### b) Marine Spatial Planning in Namibia

Namibia is a maritime nation with a rich ocean wealth and an ocean area that is about 540,000 km<sup>2</sup>, which is approximately 2/3 the size of its terrestrial area. There is a growing range of industries in the Namibian ocean space. These need to be managed in a coordinated way, to avoid conflicts between marine uses and conflicts with the environment. Namibia is therefore implementing MSP to facilitate integrated management of human uses in the ocean.

The Namibian Marine Spatial Plan(s) will contain text and maps that set out which activities are encouraged in the planning area.

### **c) Who is responsible for Marine Spatial Planning in Namibia?**

Cabinet, through the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2 and the National Development Plan 5, has tasked the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources (MFMR) to coordinate the MSP process in Namibia through an inter-ministerial working group. This National MSP Working Group (MSP-NWG) consists of representatives from the following ministries and institutions:

- Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources
- Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME)
- Ministry of Works and Transport (MWT)
- Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET)
- National Planning Commission (NPC)
- Ministry of Defence (MoD)
- Ministry of Urban and Rural Development (MURD)
- Ministry of Land Reform (MLR)
- Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry (MAWF)
- National Commission on Research Science and Technology (NCRST)
- University of Namibia (UNAM)
- Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST)
- Ministry of Industrialization, Trade and SME Development (MITSMED)

### **d) The planning area**

The central Namibian sea has been chosen as the planning area for the country's first Marine Spatial Plan. The core planning area is bound northwards by Cape Cross and southwards by Conception Bay. The inward boundary of the planning area is the high-water mark. The outward boundary of the area is the outer limit of Namibia's marine area, as determined by the limit of its Exclusive Economic Zone (200 nautical miles) (EEZ).



## **b) Principles of stakeholder engagement**

We will:

- Involve relevant stakeholders early on and encourage as much participation as possible throughout the planning process;
- Be flexible in the means of communication and engagement to suit different stakeholder needs (e.g. different languages where needed, plain non-technical language, link with other engagement processes);
- Be transparent in how we engage stakeholders and communicate with them throughout the MSP process (information sharing);
- Encourage dialogue across stakeholders/sectors to help come to joint solutions; and
- Commit to implementing the strategy and revising it as needed.

## **c) Stakeholder analysis to-date (identified interests and uses relevant for MSP)**

We are committed to communicating and engaging with a range of users as far as practically possible. These interests include but are not necessarily restricted to:

- Fisheries
- Defence
- Environmental Protection
- Geological Resource mapping and exploitation
- Mariculture
- Maritime Transport and ports
- Marine and coastal tourism
- Infrastructure
- Sea water abstraction
- Wastewater treatment and disposal
- Environmental monitoring and scientific

As the MSP process evolves, new stakeholders will be identified and their interests and views will be taken into account.

## **d) Whom will we engage?**

Within the interests identified, the following relevant stakeholders will be engaged in the MSP process:

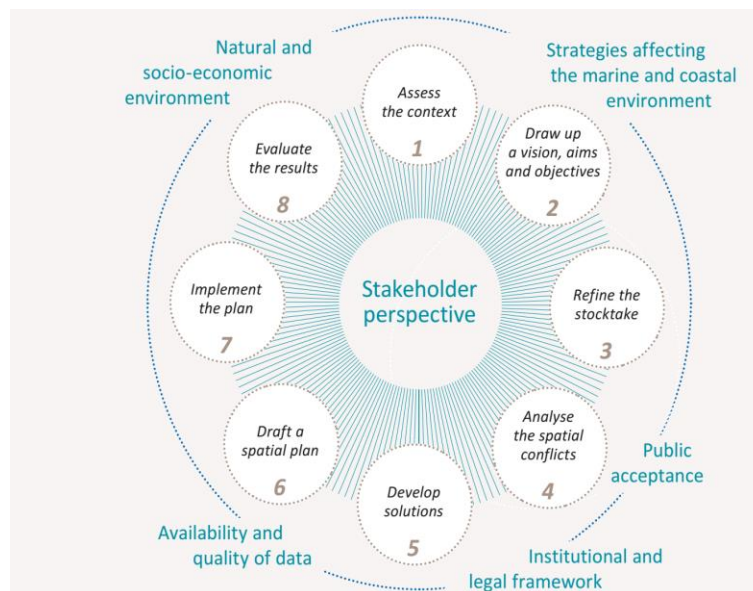
- Government
  - Central government
  - Regional councils
  - Local authorities
  - State owned enterprises

- Private sector: Stakeholders representing the key marine sectors operating in the area
  - Industry associations
  - Enterprises
- Civil society: Stakeholders representing non-governmental and public interests
  - Non-governmental organisations (NGOs)
  - Research and educational institutions
  - Local community groups and traditional authorities
  - Traditional authorities
  - Unions
  - Citizen and other community-based organisations

### e) How and when will we engage?

Methods of communication and engagement:

Throughout each stage of the MSP planning cycle (figure 3), the MSP-NWG will be communicating with stakeholders by text message, post, fax, apps, email, a dedicated website, social media (e.g. Facebook, Twitter), newspaper articles, radio and TV broadcasts as appropriate and suitable. The MSP-NWG will be also actively engage with stakeholders through a series of meetings, workshops and conferences.



The phases of the MSP planning cycle

The MSP-NWG has identified the activities to be carried out in the various phases of the MSP process phases (see table below).

*The timetable of stakeholder engagement activities*

MSP PHASE	YEAR	ACTIVITY	WHO	HOW AND WHERE	ESTIMATED TIMING
Preparatory phase	2017	Current status report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Describing the context for MSP in Namibia</li> <li>– Establish human uses of the planning area</li> <li>– Drawing up strategic and specific objectives for MSP</li> </ul>	Government, industry and civil society	Focused stakeholder meetings in Windhoek and at the coast	April – November 2017
		Receive feedback on draft current status report		Multi-sector stakeholder workshop	19 April 2018
		Public launch event of current status report		Public event	To be decided
Drafting phase	2018	Develop and agree objectives and preferred spatial option Develop the draft plan	Government, industry and civil society	To be decided	December 2018
	2019	Finalise and adopt the plan	Government, industry and civil society	To be decided	To be decided
Implementation phase	From 2020 onwards	Implement, monitor and evaluate the plan	Government, industry and civil society	To be decided	To be decided

**f) Implementation and revision**

MSP is a dynamic process. It is possible that changes will be made to this strategy to reflect the views of stakeholders and ensure their full participation in achieving the overall aims of MSP in Namibia. The MSP-NWG will therefore ensure that this strategy caters for the adaptive nature of the MSP process.



### g) Point of contact

Please contact the NWG for further information:

Chairperson	Vice-Chairperson
Dr. Anja Kreiner, Senior Fisheries Biologist Tel: 064 410 1158 Email: <a href="mailto:Anja.Kreiner@mfmr.gov.na">Anja.Kreiner@mfmr.gov.na</a>	Mr. Sylvester Kamwi, Chief National Development Advisor Tel: 061 2834058 Email: <a href="mailto:skamwi@npc.gov.na">skamwi@npc.gov.na</a>

The MSP-NWG will develop a webpage to communicate and engage stakeholders and the link to the website will be provided to the stakeholders.

### GLOSSARY OF TERMS

<b>Relevant stakeholder</b>	A stakeholder that has an interest in the ocean and that is identified to be engaged in specified activities related to the MSP process.
<b>Exclusive Economic Zone</b>	An area of the ocean extending to 200 nautical miles prescribed by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea over which Namibia as a state has special user rights.
<b>Stakeholder engagement</b>	The process through which relevant stakeholders are engaged directly in a dialogue with government throughout the MSP to ensure that their concerns and aspirations are understood and considered in decision-making and plan implementation.
<b>Stakeholder consultation</b>	The process through which relevant stakeholders provide comments and feedback to government decision-makers on potential decisions and alternatives in relation to MSP.
<b>Blue Economy</b>	Marine-based economic development that leads to improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and contributing to a healthy ocean.