

**Status of Marine Spatial Planning**  
**in**  
**Union of Comoros**



# Current Status

- Is MSP being implemented?

The MSP is a new concept for the Comoros, Currently it is in an embryonic state.

- From which year did implementation begin?

In November 2021, we held the first workshop on the preparation of the action plan on the MSP under the funded by UNESCO-IOC

# Workshop objectives

- Introduce MSP into the legal and technical framework, while linking it to Integrated Coastal Zone Management.
- Provide participants with a common context for implementing MSP/PSM in the Union of Comoros including tools to leverage

## Specific objectives

- Start the process of preparing the MSP in the Comoros
- Media awareness on the MSP process
- Introduce MSP to participants
- Discuss the technical and legal aspects of MSP
- Map stakeholders and assign roles
- Conceptualize the MSP process
- Define a road map for the initial MSP activities in 2022 as an Action Plan.

# Key Authorities/ Institutional Framework

## **National Competent Authority :**

- The workshop participants agreed that: The General Planning Commission (CGP) is the authority that will be responsible for coordinating, supervising and monitoring all the phases of preparation and implementation of the MSP.
- Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and the Environment

## **key governmental authorities involved :**

Ministries of foreign affairs, education, maritime transport, regional planning, economy and finance, justice, interior, University of the Comoros

## **stakeholders involved :**

National Office of Tourism, National Agency for Maritime Affairs (ANAM), DGPSN (General Directorate of Police and National Security), General Directorate of Fisheries Resources, National Directorate of Infrastructure, Comoros National Parks ( PNC) .....ect

# Supporting Legal and Policy Framework

- No strategic plan is being developed at this time
- No working group or national committee has been set up
- The policy exists but not for the MSP context, rather on blue economy and conservation

# Practical Application in the countries

The MSP will be applied in marine protected areas in the context of conservation and the blue economy

## Conclusion

- The Union of the Comoros will be able to launch its process of preparing the MSP
- There are sufficient skills among the sectors
- We will have to organize ourselves around an Expert /Consultant (as coordinator) to start the proper process of implementing the MSP
- The process will take into account 3 areas Environment, Social, Economy together with a group in charge of GIS and all information related to the process



# Next Steps

## **major interventions planned for uptake/implementation of MSP**

Needs analysis ;

planning of priorities actions ;

mobilization of skills , communities and partners;

Financial resources mobilization

## **gaps**

Lack of effective engagement from the national government on the establishment of basis of the MSP

- Marahaba Mengui !

