

1. Why and where Marine Spatial Planning is implemented in Namibia?

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.

Various activities within Namibian ocean space:

Fisheries:



Defence:



Environmental Protection:



Geological Resource Mapping and Exploitation:



Mariculture:



Marine and Cultural Heritage:



Maritime Transport and Ports:



Marine and Coastal Tourism:



Sea Water Abstraction:



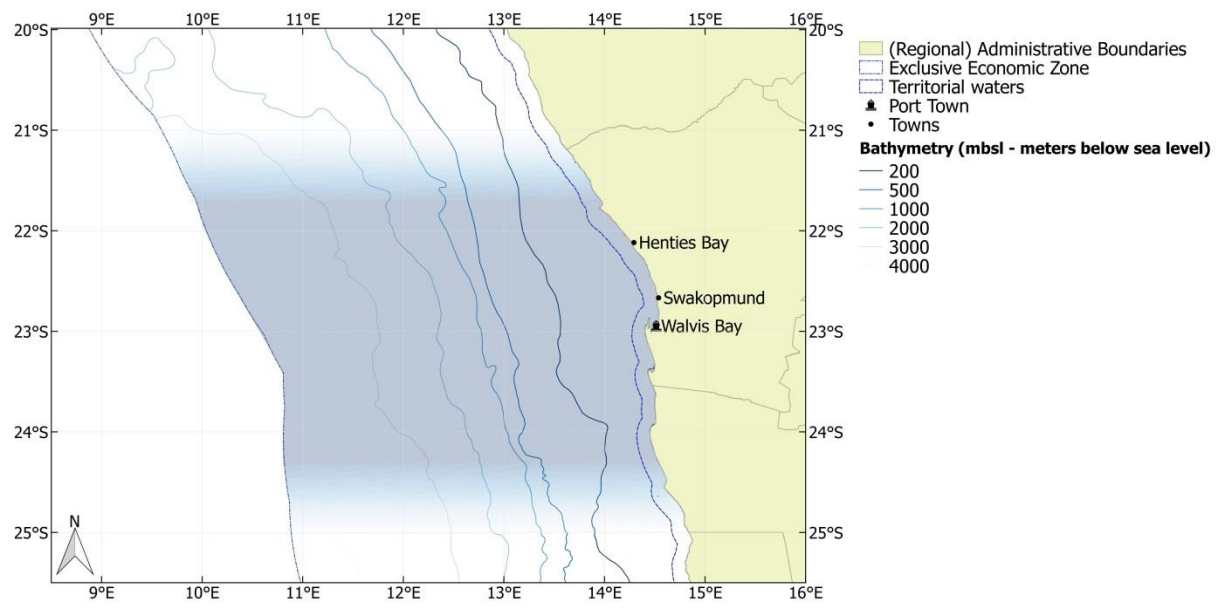
Marine spatial planning seeks to contribute the following towards Namibian ocean development:

- a) To balance socio-economic benefits and ecological sustainability, and to do so in the short and long term;
- b) To support the ability of sectors to make use of opportunities – in other words, make provisions for their sustainable expansion if and when such opportunities arise; and
- c) To plan for those ocean uses that are only beginning to emerge, or may play a more significant role in the future (for example renewable energy generation).

Namibia is a maritime nation with a rich ocean wealth and an ocean area that is about 540,000 km², which is approximately 2/3 the size of its terrestrial area. The core planning area for the development of the first Marine Spatial Plan has been defined. The core planning area is bordered around Cape Cross in the north and Conception Bay in the south; the EEZ is the seaward boundary and the landward limit is the high-water mark. Subsequent plans with transboundary character will consult South Africa and Angola.

The ultimate goal is to have marine spatial plans covering the entire ocean space of the country.

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



The first Namibian MSP core planning area