

Marine Protected Areas Networks: State of the Art

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Current MPA Coverage

- 0.8% of ocean
- 1.9% of waters within EEZs
- 4.1% of total continental shelf
- 12.1% of coastal belt
- 50% of all ecoregions <1% of shelf protected; only 18% >10%
- 10 largest sites = >50% of total shelf protected
- Rate of increase consistent at <5%/year

Growing Recognition of Need for MPA Networks

- 1982 World Conservation Congress
- 1995 Global Representative System
- Early 2000s :
 - 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development
 - 2003 World Parks Congress
 - 2004 Convention on Biological Diversity COP-7
- More visibility, attention by NGOs and donors
 - WCPA-Marine
 - ProtectPlanetOcean.org & Google Earth

MPA Network Definition

Ecological and social networks

A collection of individual MPAs or reserves operating cooperatively and synergistically, at various spatial scales, and with a range of protection levels that are designed to meet objectives that a single reserve cannot achieve.

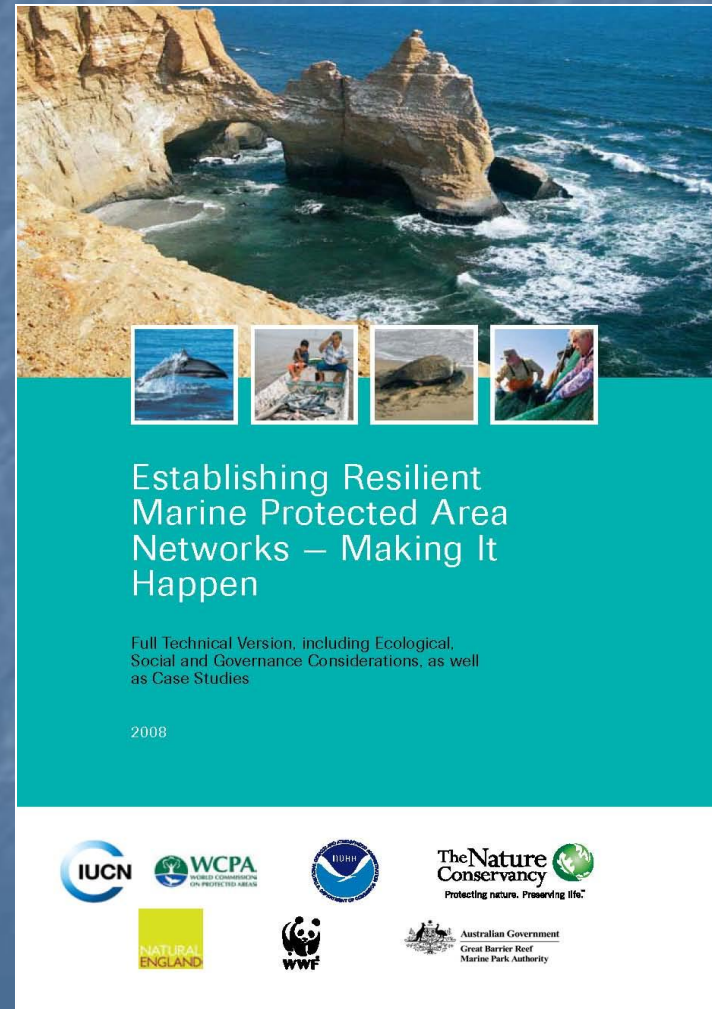
Also a network of people managing the components of individual MPAs and promoting the network's viability and longevity.

MPA Network Components

- Effective management
- Full protection of critical areas
- Connectivity
- Risk spreading

MPA Networks Tools & Guidelines

IUCN-WCPA Guidelines for Establishing Resilient MPA Networks



GCP and MPA Networks

- GCP II provided early support for scaling up MPAs to networks:
 - Indonesia (Raja Ampat, Wakatobi)
 - Papua New Guinea (Kimbe Bay)
 - Meso-American Reef
 - East Africa
 - Sulu-Sulawesi Marine Ecosystem (SSME)

GCP and MPA Networks

MPA

Networks

Learning

Partnership

State of the Art and Emerging Themes

- MPA networks in mainstream
- Tools and guidelines
- Gap analyses for national systems
- Political leadership & commitment – regional “Challenges”:
 - Micronesia
 - Coral Triangle
 - Caribbean

State of the Art and Emerging Themes

- MPAs within broader seascapes: ecosystem-based management
 - Fisheries management
 - Multi-objective marine spatial planning, ocean zoning incorporating MPA networks
- Social and economic factors are key to success of MPA networks; greater attention to integrating the “human element” into design, management, & evaluation
- Recognition of the values and benefits of MPAs and MPA networks but continuing challenges from ineffective management and lack of sustainable, long term financing
- Climate change – Role of MPA networks in ecosystem-based adaptation

Thank You