

# Analytical Framework of Regional Marine Spatial Planning and its Policy Implications

MSP is a public process of analyzing and allocating the spatial and temporal distribution of human activities in marine areas to achieve ecological, economic, and social objectives. It is also one of the most operational instruments to make ecosystem-based sea use management a reality. After a brief introduction of the background of MSP, this presentation is going to explore the opportunities and challenges for the US to embark on MSP, with more concentration on the latter one which triggers me to think about what criteria should be incorporated into MSP and what MSP could really help marine sustainable use not just from scientific perspective. Based on literature review, lessons could be learned from other international practices with special focus on the analytical approach to MSP, such as too general goals without being translated into concrete and measurable objectives, lack of human dimension in decision making, criterion which is theoretically useful but hard to realize, no well-recognized norm for designation of area for specific use, etc. Finally, the draft research design would be proposed with regard to the construction of an analytical framework for MSP at regional level to facilitate its effective implementation within the US.