



Marine Spatial Planning

Pacific BioScapes Programme - Kiribati

The Pacific BioScapes Programme aims to strengthen the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources in Kiribati through the use of **Marine Spatial Planning (MSP)** to achieve key ecological, economic, cultural and social objectives.

The **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)** will work closely with the **Environment and Conservation Division (ECD)** of the **Ministry of Environment, Lands and Agriculture Development (MELAD)** to focus on coastal, marine and atoll spatial planning.

This approach acknowledges the integration of atoll ecosystems with those offshore and will assist the government of Kiribati to develop atoll-level bioregional maps. These maps will support the management of both terrestrial and marine species habitats. Areas of traditional importance will also be included to ensure the conservation of local i-Kiribati culture and heritage.

KEY LOCAL ISSUES:

- Limited local resources, appropriate tools and technical capacity to utilise Marine Spatial Planning (MSP)
- Climate change risks including sea level rise and ocean acidification
- Depleted marine fisheries and coastal resources

MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING (MSP):

- Brings together multiple users of the ocean in a participatory manner
- Promotes Gender Equality and Socially Inclusive processes (GESI)
- Balances ecological, economic, and social objectives
- Aims for sustainable marine resource utilisation and management

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Example of atoll marine managed areas:



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