
Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and Man and the Biosphere Programme.

Abstract
In this guide, we use a clear, straightforward step-by-step approach to show you how you can set up and apply MSP. Most steps are illustrated with relevant examples from the real world. To make sure you have the information you need, throughout the text we refer you to more detailed sources, including the Unesco website on MSP (ioc3.unesco.org/marinesp) that can further support you in making good decisions in MSP.

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Taking Steps Toward Marine and Coastal Ecosystem-Based Management | 9. SECTION I. Ecosystem-based management, or EBM, is an approach that goes beyond examining single issues, species, or ecosystem functions in isolation. Instead it recognizes ecological systems for what they are: a rich mix of elements that interact with each other in important ways. This is particularly important for oceans and coasts. The problems affecting oceans and coasts are not new to managers and planning agencies — most managers address these challenges in their daily work. Successful steps within an EBM process include things that coastal and marine managers are often already doing, such as resource or stock assessment, environmental assessment, pollution. 1 Ehler, C. and Douvere, F., 2009, Marine Spatial Planning: a step-by-step approach toward ecosystem-based management, Inter-governmental Oceanographic Commission and Man and the Biosphere Programme, IOC Manual and Guides No. 53, ICAM Dossier No. 6. Paris: UNESCO. 8 Seanergy 2020. National MSP approaches.