



**BARBADOS**  
MARINE SPATIAL PLAN

**OUR OCEAN, OUR DECISION.**

*Get in on de plan!*



**EVERY VOICE MATTERS!  
DISCOVER MORE**



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BarbadosMSP



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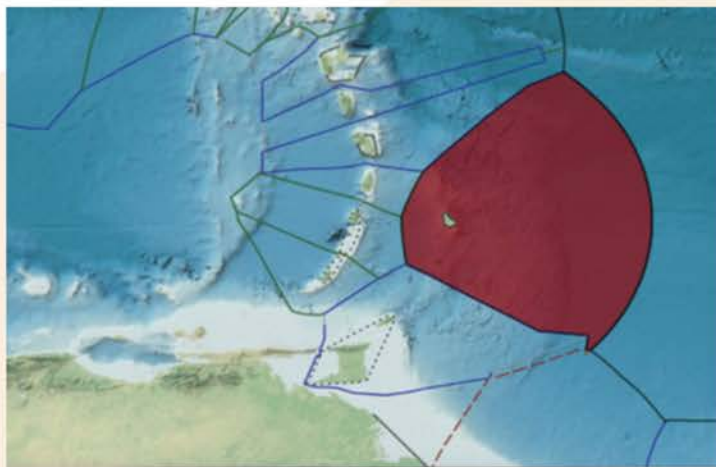






## What is the Barbados Marine Spatial Plan?

The Barbados Marine Spatial Plan (BMSP) is **a people-centered and science-based process** being undertaken **to determine the most sustainable way of managing Barbados' territorial waters across its Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)**, in a way that reduces user conflicts, sustains livelihoods, supports a thriving blue economy and safeguards our marine resources. Similar to the land planning process already adopted in Barbados, the marine spatial plan (MSP) will outline the regulations to ensure the sustainable use of the island's surrounding ocean space.



Map showing Barbados' Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

The plan will be developed based on the information provided by all Barbadians, outlining which areas are most important for their various uses, combined with scientific data on the distribution of our valuable marine resources, and projections about future ocean use activities.

The Barbados Marine Spatial Plan is lead by the Government of Barbados, through the Coastal Zone Management Unit, and is supported technically and financially by The InterAmerican Development Bank and The Nature Conservancy.



# Is it really people-centered?

We are mandated and committed to facilitate consultations with the public in order to draft, review and finalize the proposed BMSP. As such, we have integrated community involvement in every phase of the process so that the input from Barbadians can be combined with the best available science to ensure that the plan benefits present and future generations. Every voice matters!



# Are we following science?

We are integrating ecological, economic, and social data into the development of the plan. Through scientific research and data collection, we are seeking to identify critical habitats, biodiversity hotspots, and key ecosystem services. Throughout the process, we are employing modeling and geographic information systems (GIS) to visualize our current and potential future ocean use.



# When will it be completed?

The MSP process is a long term one, but our journey has begun! The first draft of the plan is due in September 2025, which will then be publicly reviewed before the final version is presented in 2027. After this, we will have 15 years to implement the plan.



The stages of the MSP process.



## Is it just about conservation zones?

Conservation is only one priority and the plan will indeed consider zoning. However, this will not solely be focused on nearshore areas. It will analyze the entire EEZ, which is 430 times the size of Barbados. Our aspirational goal is to designate 30% of that large space as conservation areas with varying levels of protection.

The possible areas identified for conservation will be based on current and potential ocean use across sectors and communities, as well as scientific information on where our valuable marine resources are located. These proposed conservation areas, will then be shared for public feedback. There will still be ample areas for diving, recreation, fishing and more.

## Have your say!

### **Attend public forums**

We will be hosting a series of public sessions where you can share your thoughts as we begin to prepare the first draft of the plan for public review.

### **Take our surveys**

They're easy and accessible ways to provide feedback online, or even through face to face sessions where we will facilitate the survey.

### **Engage on social**

Send us your queries or comments, and get in on the plan!







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