

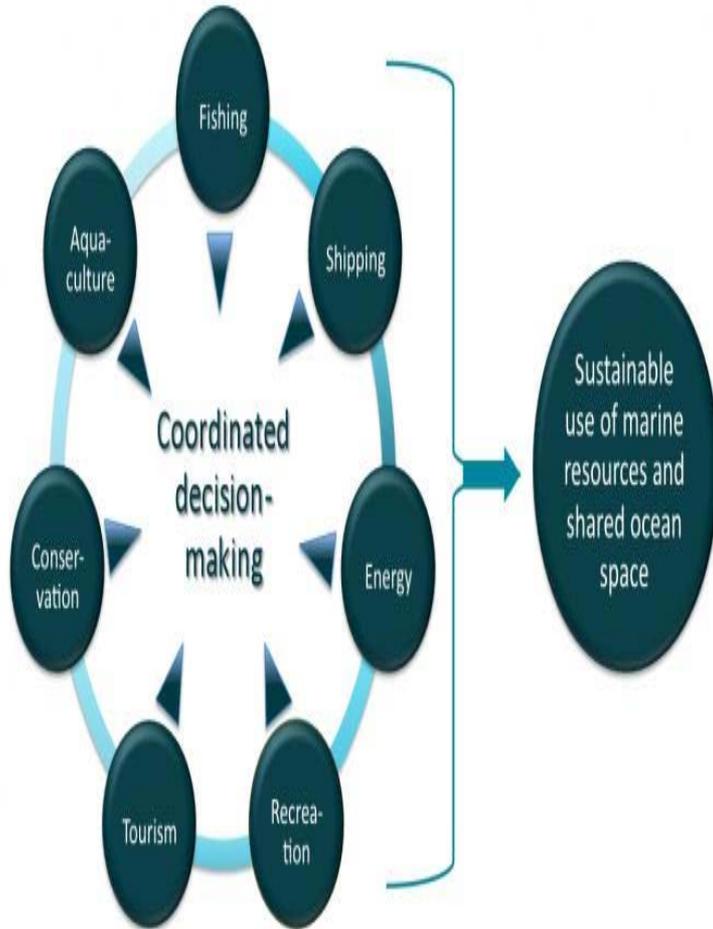
Towards an Integrated Oceans Management Policy for Fiji

Policy and Law Scoping Paper

An aerial photograph showing a tropical coastline. The land is brown and hilly, with a few small blue streams. A large, irregularly shaped bay is filled with clear, light blue water. The bay is surrounded by a white sandy beach and a shallow reef flat. The outer edge of the reef is marked by a white line of coral, which transitions into a deep blue ocean. The sky is a clear, bright blue.

BeomJin (BJ) Kim, International Program Manager EDO NSW
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What is an Integrated Oceans Management (IOM) policy?



- An IOM policy is a national strategic policy document that provides for a 'planned system-wide approach to ocean management' (Tsamenyi, 2000)
- Applies across all levels of government: central, provincial, local and village levels

Image from PNCIMA



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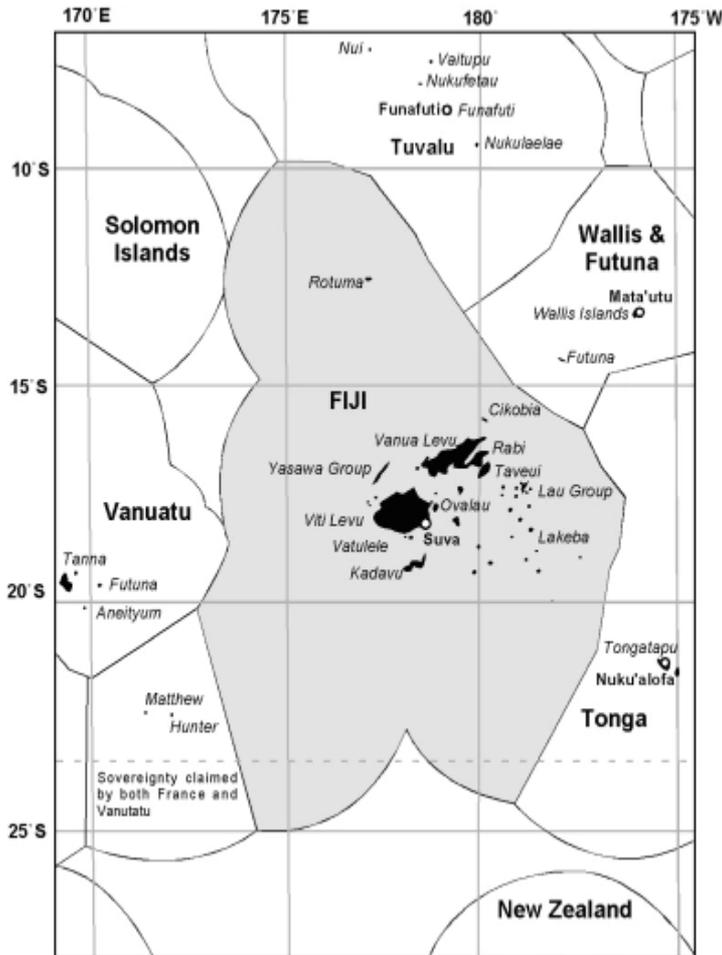


Image from SPC

- ▶ Scope: oceans, coastal resources and catchment areas.
- ▶ Recognise the importance of oceans through protective measures whilst also balancing and regulating other human uses of the ocean



Key concepts

- Sustainable use
- Ecosystem –based management (EBM)
- The precautionary approach
- Marine spatial planning (MSP)
- Integrated coastal management
- Marine protected areas (MPAs)
- Adaptive management
- Multiple use management
- Community-based resource management
- Protecting customary use of resources



Image by Caitlin Wolfard
(<https://www.panoramio.com/photo/18687838>)

Origins and adoption of IOM policy internationally

International Law

- UN Convention on the Law of the Sea 1982 – Article 192
- Convention on Biological Diversity 1992 (CBD) – Article 1
 - Jakarta Mandate on Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity
- UN Framework on Climate Change 1992 (UNFCCC)
- Agenda 21 – 1992 United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development in Rio (UNCED)
- Plan of Implementation of the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development
- 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) - The Future We Want
- UN Fish Stocks Agreements
- FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries
- UN Sustainable Goal 14 → ‘Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development’.

International Practice

- Examples of national and regional ocean policies



Fijian legislation relating to oceans resources

Jurisdictional boundaries

- *Marine Spaces Act 1978* – jurisdictional boundaries
- *Continental Shelf Act 1970*
- Authority and power to make laws for the State
 - Constitution s 46
 - *iTaukei Land Trust Act*
 - *iTaukei Affairs Act*



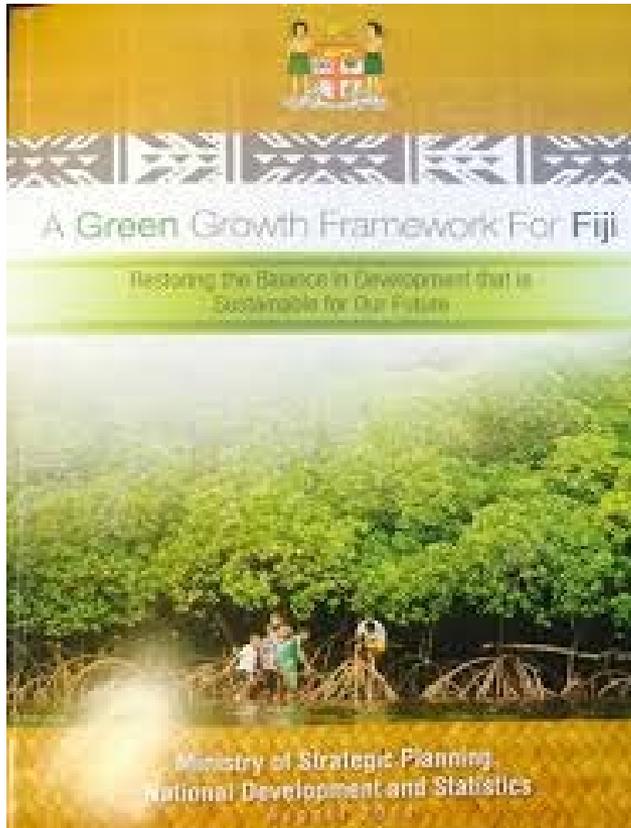
Legislation

- *Environment Management Act 2005* (EMA)
- Legislation relating to IOM policy including coastal areas
- Legislation relating to ocean area including EEZ



Image from:
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Coral_fiji_moturiki.jpg

Fijian policies relating to oceans management



- Green Growth Framework for Fiji – Restoring the Balance in Development that is Sustainable for Our Future
 - Eight Guiding Principles
 - Ten Thematic Areas
- Integrated Coastal Management Framework of the Republic of Fiji, 2011
 - Six recommendations for future action
- Implementation Framework for the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2007
 - Seven thematic areas

Major issues and gaps related to an integrated approach

- Gaps in policy-making for marine areas
- Lack of focus on environmental protection within the marine environment
- Ongoing fragmentation in law and policy
- Lack of detail on approaches to achieve integration
- Lack of elaboration regarding the ecosystem-based approach
- Less than systematic approach in identifying goals, priorities and actions
- Failure to identify patterns in use of coastal resources that extend to marine areas more broadly
- Coordination of institutional responsibility
- Institutional arrangements
- Lack of zoning in coastal zones seaward from the high water mark
- Marine Protected Areas



Benefits of a Fiji IOM policy

- Leadership, networking and focusing on the wider marine environment
- A democratic approach to improving oceans governance
- A principled approach to improving oceans governance
- A system-oriented approach
- Practical benefits



Image by Caitlin Wolfard

(<https://www.panoramio.com/photo/9436044>)



Risks and costs of IOM policy-making in Fiji

RISKS

- Inability to complete an effective IOM policy or failure to implement IOM policy
- IOM Policy remains 'just another policy document'
- Consultation is not sufficiently inclusive
- The IOM policy-making process is not completed
- The goals of IOM policy-making are not understood by stakeholders
- Attention is distracted away from implementing current programs
- Consensus between stakeholders is not achieved
- Difficulties arise in completing written content
- New zoning approaches are seen as unrealistic
- Lack of funding for government commitments
- Lack of agreement between levels of government

COSTS

- Costs of policy preparation
- Costs of policy implementation



IOM policy case studies

	Australia	Canada	United Kingdom
Issues/ Drivers	<p>Expanding use of ocean resources – fisheries, oil and gas</p> <p>Conflict between users</p> <p>Wealth generation – marine industries aquaculture, tourism</p> <p>Security for marine – based industries and access to resources</p> <p>Ecological sustainability – marine species protection</p>	<p>Managing impact of expanding industries – aquaculture, oil and gas</p> <p>Decline of wild fish stocks Protecting the seas as tourist attraction</p> <p>‘Boom and Bust’ cycles that have depleted valuable resources</p>	<p>Loss of marine biodiversity</p> <p>Need for responsible and sustainable fisheries</p> <p>Protecting environment from oil and gas industry</p> <p>Pollution from land based sources</p>

Lessons learned

- Policy formulation process
- Policy content
- Implementation

Possible ways forward to achieve greater integration

Recommendations

- Continued development of the National Ocean's Policy Framework
- Preparation of IOM policy
- Implementation of Integrated Coastal Management Policy and other relevant policies

Potential next steps

- Development of a discussion paper
- Formation of ministerial advisory group
- Appropriate consultation with all relevant stakeholders



Image by Paul D'Ambr

(<https://www.flickr.com/photos/behindthesteeringwheel/9352243638>)