



Marine Protected Area Agency Partnership

Marine Protected Area Agency Partnership (MPAAP)

What is MPAAP?

MPAAP is an informal, high-level venue for national Marine Protected Area (MPA) agency senior government officials to discuss and address common MPA-related issues and explore opportunities for cooperation as well as reporting on MPA accomplishments by country members. Membership is open to all countries who have MPAs and a MPA-related managing agency. There are no fees or binding commitments. MPAAP exists for its members to collaborate and share information and best practices related to the management of MPAs, including science and socio-economic benefits.

Membership Benefits:

- Sharing our experiences is an important tool to strengthen our bilateral and multilateral relationships in MPA management and supporting science and socio-economics. MPAAP also enables members to share information and best practices, as well as establishing a network for communication on common challenges for marine ecosystem conservation and natural and cultural resource protection.
- Exchanging technical information, experiences, and expertise not only leverages our combined knowledge, it can also help us build consistent and strong messages on the importance and benefits of effectively managed MPAs, and a common approaches to MPA management.
- Convening to discuss and collaborate on joint solution-based projects enhances the ability of each agency to meet its domestic and/or international MPA mandates and commitments, and make a collective contribution to marine conservation on a global scale.
- Identifying new opportunities to expand the scope and leadership role of this collective group can influence and create innovative approaches and results-based tools to help protect marine resources.

Possible areas for collaboration:

- Sharing of best practices for tracking the emergence of new pressures, the evolution of responses to existing pressures and successful mitigation efforts.
- Collaboration and information sharing on common threats like coral disease, climate change, ocean

acidification, invasive species, ship strikes, or migratory species.

- Developing common approaches to issues where appropriate (e.g. control of marine debris).
- Sharing of scientific information.
- Promote the development of MPA networks.
- Developing common messages regarding benefits of MPAs and management approaches.
- Sharing approaches to working with indigenous peoples.
- Pooling agency capacities through co-financing of research programs for faster and more robust results.
- Enhancing ecological and institutional connectivity through interagency coordination and intergovernmental cooperation for ecosystem-based planning.

MPAAP members currently include: Argentina, Australia, Canada, Chile, Finland, France, Indonesia, Italy, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, South Africa, Spain, the United Kingdom, the United States and IUCN Marine Program (observer).

MPAAP members meet on the sidelines of other multilateral events. Secretariat responsibilities rotate annually or biannually among the members.

MPAAP members' activities support their states in their national policies, especially in the context of growing international commitments regarding the marine environment protection. MPAAP's collective voice delivers a powerful, science-based message on the need to invest in MPAs to protect and promote a healthy ocean – and all the benefits it provides -- for current and future generations.

For further information or to request to join please contact:

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