

Exploring Legal Aspects for Marine Spatial Planning In Namibia

Master of Laws (LLM) Degree: Marine and Environmental Law University of Cape Town

Research aim

The aim of the study is to critically review laws and legal frameworks relevant to marine spatial planning in Namibia.

Research objectives

- 1) Describe the concept of Marine Spatial Planning and its applicability in Namibia.
- 2) Analyze current policy and legal frameworks related to Marine Spatial Planning

Why is Marine Spatial Planning Important?

Marine spatial planning (MSP) is increasingly being introduced as a tool to improve decision making for those marine areas where competing human activities occur and to manage the effects on the marine environment.

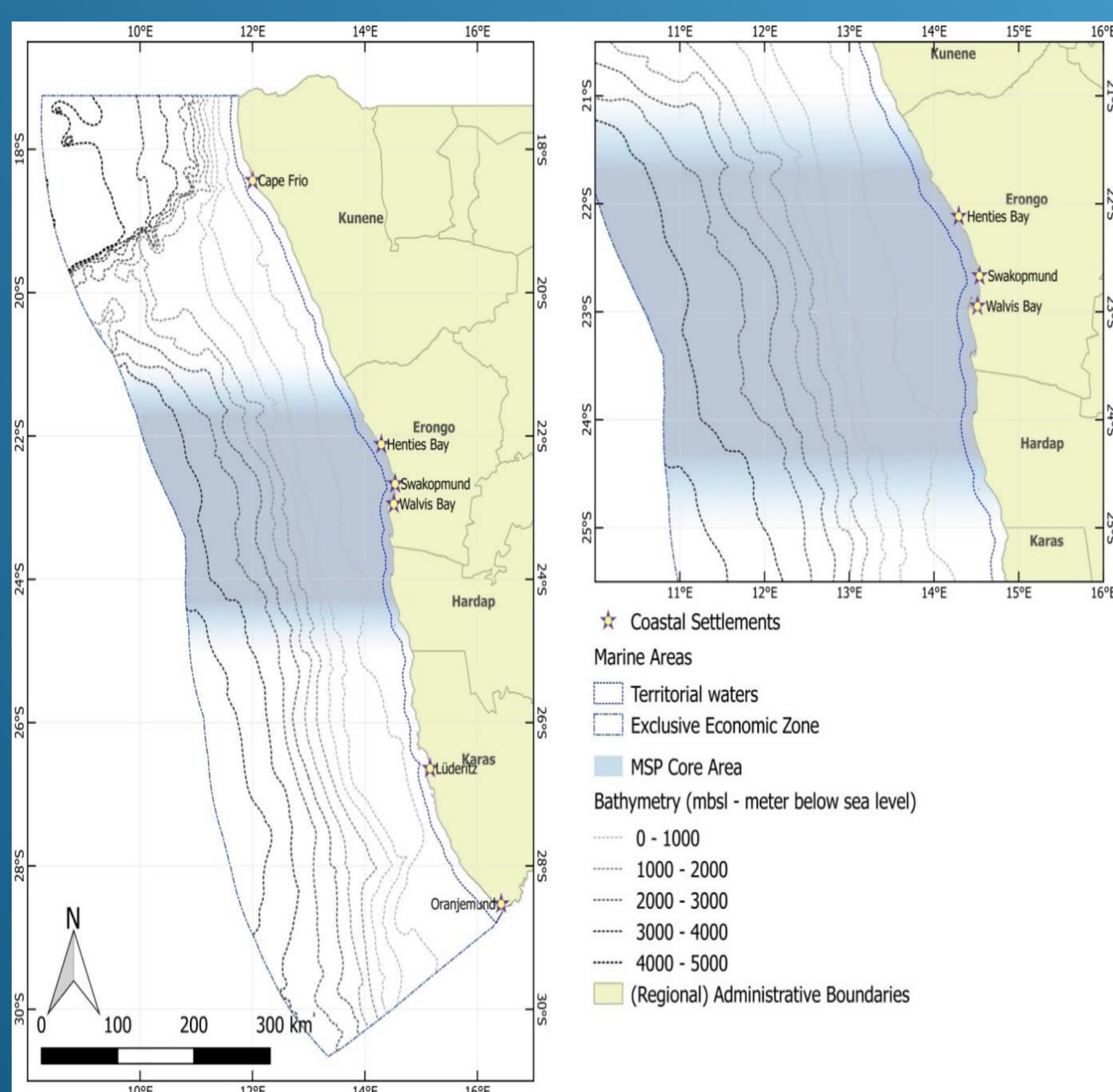


Namibia is a maritime nation with a coastline approximately 2/3 of its land area with a coastline of 1570 km extending seawards to the 200 nautical miles of the Exclusive Economic Zone.

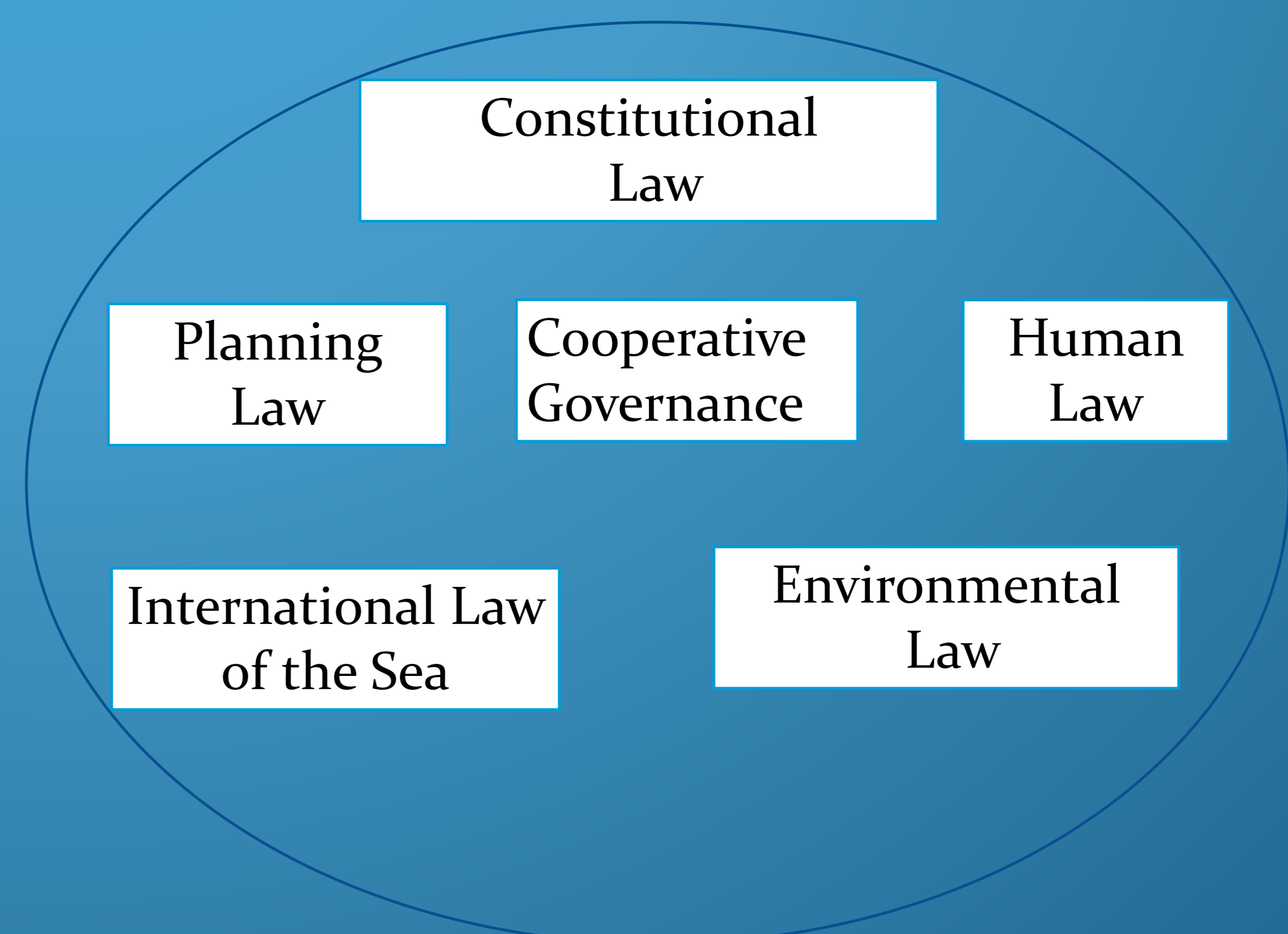
Namibia is exploring the implementation of MSP to facilitate the co-existence of all ocean users for the integrated planning, management and governance of human uses in the Namibian ocean space.

MSP has been adapted in Namibia as a long term and strategic decision making process that guides human activities in the ocean. MSP ultimately facilitates the development of a sustainable blue economy as recognized in the National Development Plan 5 (NDP5), benefiting Namibians and the environment.

Study site



Legal Framework



Research Design:

A desktop study of laws and frameworks related to Marine Spatial Planning that are in effect in Namibia.

Expected Outcomes from this Research:

- Improve understanding of the MSP.
- Make a meaningful contribution to growing literature concerning MSP.
- Contribute towards the implementation of the MSP in Namibia.