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Tenth Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) of the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) in the Wider Caribbean Region

Virtual, 30 January – 1 February 2023

RATIONALE AND INFORMATION PAPER ON CAMPAM AND DEVELOPMENT OF AN ECOLOGICAL NETWORK OF SPAW-LISTED PROTECTED AREAS

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PROTECTED AREAS WORKING GROUP REPORT – TASK 2

PROCESS TO DEVELOP THE OPTION PAPERS ON "ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT AND EFFECTIVENESS OF CaMPAM" AND THE "EVALUATION OF CONNECTIVITY BETWEEN THE SPAW-LISTED PROTECTED AREAS TO GUIDE THE DEVELOPMENT OF A FUNCTIONAL ECOLOGICAL NETWORK OF PROTECTED AREAS IN THE WIDER CARIBBEAN"

Context and objective

In response to SPAW COP recommendations[1] and under the overall guidance of the STAC Ad Hoc Protected Areas Working Group (PA WG) in association with the Cartagena Convention Secretariat (UNEP-CEP) and the Regional Activity Centre for the SPAW Protocol (SPAW-RAC), the Options Papers are assessing the feasibility of implementing recommendations identified in two exhaustive effectiveness evaluations to guide future networking development, thus ensuring that associated activities are linked to the overall goals of the SPAW Protocol.

This task is referred to as Task 2 "In collaboration with the Secretariat and the SPAW-RAC, as appropriate, review the recommendations presented in the "Assessment of the Impact and Effectiveness of CaMPAM" (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/INF.41 Add.1) and the "Evaluation of Connectivity Between the SPAW-Listed Protected Areas to Guide the Development of a Functional Ecological Network of Protected Areas in the Wider Caribbean" (UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/INF.10) and present an option paper to STAC10 that assesses the feasibility of implementing the recommendations and suggests possible means of doing so in the short, medium and long term"

The first evaluation is related to the Caribbean Marine Protected Areas Managers (CaMPAM) network effectiveness evaluation conducted in 2016[2] and 2021[3]. The second one is related to the Wider Caribbean Region Marine Protected Area connectivity evaluation conducted in 2021[4].

For this purpose, Martha Prada, hereafter referred to as the "Consultant" was hired to conduct this evaluation with the technical support of the PA WG experts and the SPAW-RAC.

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[1] UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG 42/8, Recommendation 5-Protected Areas, Article 6. 12p

[2] Collado-Vides L. 2016. Evaluation of the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Management Network and Forum (CaMPAM), An analysis of the last 15 years of operation and recommendations to improve its services in the Wider Caribbean region. Florida International University. 25p.

[3] Brown N. and F. Fardin. 2021. Assessment of the Impact and Effectiveness of the Caribbean Marine Protected Area Network and Forum (CaMPAM). United Nations Environment Programme—Caribbean Environment Programme, Kingston, Jamaica. Ninth Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) in the Wider Caribbean Region. 17–19 March 2021. 76 p.p.

[4] Kiene, W.E. 2021. Developing an ecological network among the SPAW-listed MPAs of the Wider Caribbean. Technical Document UNEP(DEPI)/CAR WG.42/INF.10 submitted at Ninth Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) to the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) in the Wider Caribbean Region. 58p.

For each recommendation, at least three different actions have been identified in the short, medium, and long-term. Each alternative presents the desired target, the monitoring and evaluation indicators and the proposed responsible entity. Analysis and guidance gathered from this work is expected to be considered by the 10th STAC of the SPAW Protocol, and the 12th Conference of Parties to the SPAW Protocol.

By focusing on the improvement of connectivity and coordination, the two option papers are complementary and aimed to reinforce compliance and enforcement of initiatives towards better marine biodiversity, that could counteract the increasing threats and improve public awareness in a participative way, and as such fulfilling expectations under Activity 2.2 of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements in the African Caribbean and Pacific Countries - Phase III (ACP MEAs III) Programme[5].

Methods

The participative development of this work included the following steps:

a) A kick-off virtual meeting with UNEP-CEP Secretariat and the SPAW-RAC personnel was held online (6 July 2022). It was discussed and agreed to develop a concise document and construct it collectively. The participative approach shall focus on securing inputs mostly from the PA WG early in the process. Dates and outputs of the consultancy were also stipulated.

b) A set of relevant literature provided by key UNEP-CEP personnel and complemented with additional online searches were analyzed and became the basis for the proposed methods and the preliminary set of options for consideration of the PA WG (6-15 July 2022). An initial draft methodology was uploaded into a Google Drive platform and PA WG members were invited to comment and provide suggestions.

c) Relevant literature was complemented with information gathered through phone conversations and email exchanges with former SPAW Programme Officers (Ms. Alessandra Vanzella-Khouri, Ms. Monica Borobia, and Ms. Ileana Lopez), and the former CaMPAM coordinator (Ms. Georgina Bustamante) (6-27 July 2022). Comments received were integrated into the online document.

d) Four members of the PA WG provided comments directly to the online document (20 July – 2 August 2022). Several attempts to host a virtual meeting with PA WG members were inconclusive at that time.

e) Once attending the comments and recommendations received, the first draft of the CaMPAM option paper was uploaded into Google Drive (1 August 2022).

f) Through bilateral conversations arranged with three PA WG members it was possible to get further clarification on their comments on the CaMPAM option paper as well as insights to develop the connectivity option paper (2-3 August 2022). The consultation process continued thanks to the additional written comments on the CaMPAM first draft from two PA WG members and from the SPAW-RAC and UNEP-CEP personnel.

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[5] ACP MEAs III Programme : https://www.acpmeas.com/

g) While the CaMPAM first draft revision took place, the connectivity first draft was prepared and uploaded into Google Drive (22 August 2022). This draft was quickly updated with comments received from SPAW-RAC and complemented with information and comments provided by the author MPA connectivity assessment (Mr. William Kiene).

h) CaMPAM second draft option paper integrating all comments received was then uploaded into the Google Drive (31 August 2022).

i) A virtual meeting with the PA WG experts (3 experts) was agreed and held on 2 September 2022. Experts discussed the need to focus all efforts in those actions that can be done with the limited funding that is available, and highlighted the need to secure the bottom-up approach through this consultation process, thus expanding inputs gathered during the development of the assessments. A window for additional consultation processes may be opened in the event of a delay in the 10th STAC of the SPAW Protocol and the 12th Conference of Parties to the SPAW Protocol meetings. As such, possibilities for such an approach are being considered.

Results

CaMPAM option paper

A revised CaMPAM Option paper final draft is available to the PA WG on Google Drive. This 32 page document contains the complete set of options for implementing the recommendations stated through the 2016 and 2021 assessments on the CaMPAM network effectiveness[2]. It initially presented options for high level decision following a two-step process and complemented with a comprehensive set of detailed possibilities to progressively implement the recommendations in the short (2 years), medium (5 years), and long term (10 years) included in an annex

The first step of the high-level decision-making invites for agreements on the three summarised and re-structured recommendations, while the second step refers to three identified options to achieve desired outcomes along with short analysis of advantages and limitations for each option (Tables 1-3), as follows.

Recommendation 1: Improve CaMPAM's **governance structure** to ensure the network is driven from the bottom up and responds to the needs of MPA professionals and sites including: a) reactivation; b) rules of engagement; c) governance structure; and d) long-term partnerships.

Recommendation 2: Expand agreements aimed to securing the network **financial sustainability** including: a) estimations of basic / ideal operating budget; and b) diversifying funding mechanisms / strategies.

Recommendation 3: Built an **updated multiyear work plan** following a bottom-up approach. It needs to: a) re-evaluate MPA capacities at regional level; b) identify MPA unsatisfied needs; c) integrate new MPA commitments of SPAW Parties; d) diversify training & education; and e) improve public engagement, advocacy, and communications*.*

Table 1. Options for implementing desired outcomes for Recommendation 1, about improvements in the CaMPAM's governance structure.

Desired outcome	Options	Advantages	Limitations
1A. CaMPAM **reactivation** is formally decided in a participative way.	**1**. CaMPAM is reactivated with an informal structure and **individual membership** keeping flexibility while allowing some progress on priority areas.	Built on previous experiences, facilitate responses in complex contexts, allows participation of trained MPA practitioners.	Maintains limitations identified in assessments, demands additional efforts towards inclusiveness and funding.
	2. CaMPAM is reactivated with a formal structure as a **second level network** comprised of representatives of existing partnerships in support of SPAW Protocol objectives.	Represent an innovative strategy focused on coordination and collaboration for efficient use of resources. CaMPAM could become the centre of coordination for marine conservation at multiscale and multicultural levels.	Demands good strategies to secure effectiveness, representativeness, and equitability.
	3. CaMPAM **adhered to an existing and functional regional network** including SPAW-RAC or any other Regional Activity Network (RAN).	Facilitate integration with existing partnerships and construction of common goals.	Potential reduction in regional coverage and possible loss of visibility and branding of CAMPAM which is well respected and understood.
1B. CaMPAM improves its **governance structure** following a bottom-up approach. Initial work is developed through a **transitional Coordination Unit** (TCU).	**1**. Cartagena Convention Secretariat, SPAW-RAC, or any of the SPAW Working Groups act as CaMPAM TCU.	Enhance ownership, relies on existing structures, illustrates SPAW benefits.	It may place additional workload on Secretariat, SPAW RAC and WGs and likely require adjustments of work plan, priorities, and budgets.
	2. A separate CaMPAM CU is established in a consultative process.	Will enable dedicated focus and facilitate consultation process on different scales.	Requires new governance structure and new resources including staffing to coordinate.
	3. There is no need for a separated governance structure because CaMPAM has adhered to a partnership.	Will reduce potential overlap and duplication. Will support greater synergies and coordination.	Requires rules to secure inclusion of SPAW Protocol objectives over all its working areas, adequate representation, and clear identification Secretariat's, SPAW RAC and WGs role in support of the Cartagena Convention and SPAW Protocol.

Table 2. Options for implementing desired outcomes for Recommendation 2, about the network financial sustainability

Desired outcomes	Options	Advantages	Limitations
2A. Agreements on the **core operating budget** for CaMPAM basic / ideal levels of activity.	**1**. SPAW COP adopts core budget for CaMPAM reactivation and Cartagena Convention Secretariat and SPAW- RAC secured 100% of funding for the first two years of the network TCU. After that CaMPAM should generate ways to fulfill its financial needs.	Secures consistency and promotes efficient use of limited resources. Enhance linkages between CaMPAM and SPAW Protocol common goals.	It may cause a burden on the Secretariat and SPAW- RAC personnel, and most likely it would require an increase in the number of collaborators.
	2. SPAW COP adopts core budget for CaMPAM reactivation and Cartagena Convention Secretariat and SPAW- RAC and a selected group of SPAW Parties agreed on ways to jointly secured funding for the first two years of the network. After that CaMPAM should generate ways to fulfill its financial needs.	Maintains consistency while allowing for greater inclusiveness.	Administrative process may be delayed due to several administrative process. It requires political commitments from countries, funding availability, and special legal framework. Global economic instability may reduce funding allocation.
	3. CaMPAM is 100% funded through the partnership (s) to which it had adhered.	Minimum demand of funds for the Secretariat or SPW RAC.	Donor driven requirements may difficult investments in some areas and may result in departure from agreed priority needs.

Desired outcomes	Options	Advantages	Limitations
2B. Secured **diversified funding** for CaMPAM operation	**1**. Cartagena Convention Secretariat and SPAW- RAC in the first 2 years secured at least three different sources of funding (existing projects new projects, and other in-house sources). Sources of funding progressively diversify with time.	Cumulative experience could foster greater success in securing funding at different scales.	Securing new funding requires time, priority should also be given to enhance coordination with existing regional/global initiatives.
	2. A selected group of SPAW Parties supports Cartagena Convention Secretariat and SPAW- RAC efforts towards funding for CaMPAM. Sources of funding progressively diversify with time.	Enhanced coordination facilitates sharing of responsibilities and success. Combined efforts open doors for greater integration of MPA initiatives at national levels.	It could be difficult to secure equal participation across SPAW sites.
	3. CaMPAM supports the Partnership efforts in securing funding.	Speed-up collaborative work towards sharing responsibilities or finding funds to MPA management.	Depending on the source, funding may be limited to some countries / activities.

Table 3. Options for implementing desired outcomes for Recommendation 3, about the network multiyear programme.

Desired outcomes	Options	Advantages	Limitations
3A. Built an **updated multiyear work plan following a bottom-up approach**, using available MPA assessments and maximizing benefits of digital platforms.	**1.** Cartagena Convention Secretariat and SPAW RAC lead the process of drafting a multiyear work plan for CaMPAM, for further SPAW COP approval.	Provides strong institutional framework and context during the consultative processes, while facilitating its integration with regional/global visions.	Given current administrative constraints the process may take longer than expected and demand additional personnel and funding.
	2. A selected group of SPAW Parties lead the process of drafting a multiyear work plan for CaMPAM, for further SPAW COP approval.	Facilitate direct contact with a variety of stakeholders, can enhance ongoing national / subregional initiatives in support of CaMPAM work plan.	It requires political commitments from countries and funding availability. It may be difficult to secure equal participation across SPAW sites. It may take longer due to different legal regimes across countries.
	3. CaMPAM TCU lead the process of drafting a multiyear work plan for CaMPAM, for further SPAW COP approval.	Can work exclusively on CaMPAM needs, taking advantages of experience and built trust. it can facilitate administrative processes.	It requires a dedicated budget allocation.
3B. **Diversified training which include** incorporation of climate change, blue economy or	**1.** Cartagena Convention Secretariat and SPAW RAC acting as CaMPAM TCU lead all activities related to the training and education programme.	Can utilize strong educational tools and training platforms developed though the UN system in different languages. It would enhance cooperation among SPAW Parties.	It may place additional workload on Secretariat, SPAW RAC and WGs and likely require adjustments of work plan, priorities and budgets.

Desired outcomes	Options	Advantages	Limitations
topics requested by SPAW Parties, which can be included in an updated ToT course manual. A set of educational and training tools are integrated to better respond to the SPAW MPA site needs.	**2.** A selected group of SPAW Parties acting as CaMPAM TCU lead all activities related to the training and education programme.	Can utilize educational tools and training platforms developed within the selected group of countries, given continuity to national initiatives and could serve as a liaison at subregional level.	It could be difficult to secure equal participation across SPAW sites. Depending on the selected countries additional efforts may be needed to deal with different languages or cultures.
	3. CAMPAM TCU lead all activities related to the training and education programme.	Can further expand, update, and innovate training and education activities, and better gauge countries needs to be included in building capacities among MPA practitioners.	In the meantime, collaborations with other Partnerships are secured, it would require a dedicated budget allocation.
3C. Improve **public engagement, advocacy, and communications** supporting CaMPAM work plan. Main messages include, but not limited to, marine conservation, pollution, and climate change.	**1.** Cartagena Convention Secretariat, SPAW-RAC developed multiple collaborations focused on maximizing use of digital platforms and social media for disseminating in support of CaMPAM work plan.	It can utilize available expertise and digital platforms; I could further utilize existing mechanisms for creating needed applications in several languages. It can facilitate the linkages among the Cartagena Convention Protocols.	It may place additional workload on Secretariat, SPAW RAC and WGs and likely require adjustments of work plan, priorities, and budgets.
	2. A selected group of SPAW Parties acting as CaMPAM TCU developed collaborations focused on maximizing use of digital platforms and social media for disseminating in support of CaMPAM work plan.	It can expand national level initiatives to subregional / regional level promoting connectivity and ownership.	It could be difficult to secure equal participation across SPAW sites. Depending on the selected countries additional efforts may be needed to deal with different languages or cultures.

Desired outcomes	Options	Advantages	Limitations
Communications are clear, and respectful of cultural and gender issues. There are protocols ensuring transparency and efficiency.	**3.** CaMPAM TCU developed collaborations focused on maximizing use of digital platforms and social media for disseminating in support of CaMPAM work plan.	It can prioritise communication strategies while at the same time make linkages with several networks in an effectiveness way. Overall public engagement in marine conservation at the regional level could be enhanced through coordination and cooperation.	It requires a dedicated budget allocation.

Connectivity Option Paper

Similarly, the MPA connectivity option paper (53 pages long) has been also available to PA WG members on Google Drive. The entire document was based on four main recommendations stated in the Kiene (2021) assessment for high level decision. Tables 4-7 present three options for the desired outcomes and identifies advantages and limitation for each one.

Recommendation 1: Improve regional marine conservation efficiency by developing /expanding network relationships among marine protected areas across the Wider Caribbean Region and beyond while enhancing linkages at sub-regional level.

Recommendation 2: Facilitate the process of filling gaps for improved habitats and species inventories among SPAW listed sites and other marine managed areas across the WCR to better determine key ecosystems / key species status and trends.

Recommendation 3: Promote the effective use of scientific and monitoring information to better evaluate ecosystem / key species condition, trends, and connectivity patterns among WCR Marine Managed Areas towards consistent regional management responses to counteract increasing threats and to build resilience to climate change.

Recommendation 4: Reinforce regional communication and community outreach mechanisms in support for better connectivity and accomplishment of conservation targets and goals.

Table 4. Options for implementing desired outcomes for Recommendation 1, about developing /expanding network relationships among MPAs.

Outcome	Options	Advantages	Limitations
1A. Improved MPA management by increasing **coordination and linkages** with existing partnerships working at **subregional level.**	**1**. SPAW-RAC / CEP Secretariat is leading the coordination process starting with activities within SPAW listed sites.	Enhance ownership, relies on existing structures, illustrates SPAW benefits.	It may place additional workload on Secretariat, SPAW RAC and WGs and likely require adjustments of work plan, priorities, and budgets.
	2. CaMPAM Coordination Unit is leading the coordination process starting with activities within SPAW listed sites.	CaMPAM could become the centre of coordination for marine conservation at multiscale and multicultural levels.	Demands good strategies to secure effectiveness, representativeness, and equitability.
	3. An alternative Partnership is selected among SPAW Parties to lead the coordination process starting with activities within SPAW listed sites.	Facilitate integration with existing partnerships and construction of common goals.	Potential reduction in regional coverage and possible loss of visibility and branding of CAMPAM which is well respected and understood.
1B. Strengthen MPA management by **expanding coordination** across WCR **Sustainable Resource Use partnerships** in response to complex ecosystem connectivity and across management strategies.	**1**. SPAW-RAC / CEP Secretariat is authorised to sign [formal] / [informal] agreements between MPA and Sustainable Resource Use networks.	Enhance ownership, relies on existing structures, illustrates SPAW benefits, while need to progressively integrate other than conservation initiatives.	It may place additional workload on Secretariat, SPAW RAC and WGs and likely require adjustments of work plan, priorities, and budgets.
	2. CaMPAM is authorised to sign [formal] / [informal] agreements between MPA and Sustainable Resource Use networks.	Generate ownership and facilitate coordination with areas under a variety set of management regimes.	It may require special legal framework.
	3. An alternative Partnership is selected among SPAW Parties and authorised to sign [formal] / [informal] agreements between	Facilitate integration with existing partnerships and construction of common goals.	Potential reduction in regional coverage and possible loss of visibility and branding of CAMPAM which is

Outcome	Options	Advantages	Limitations
	MPA and Sustainable Resource Use networks.		well respected and understood. It may require special legal framework.
1C. Increased funding towards more effective regional MPA coordination and networking	**1**. SPAW-RAC / CEP Secretariat secured matching funds facilitating SPAW-listed sites executing MPA planning of activities	Enhance ownership, relies on existing structures, illustrates SPAW benefits.	It may place additional workload on Secretariat, SPAW RAC and WGs and likely require adjustments of work plan, priorities, and budgets.
	2. CaMPAM Coordination Unit secured matching funds facilitating SPAW-listed sites executing MPA planning of activities.	Will enable dedicated focus and facilitate consultation process on different scales.	Requires new governance structure and new resources including staffing to coordinate.
	3. An alternative Partnership secured matching funds facilitating SPAW-listed sites executing MPA planning of activities.	Speed-up collaborative work towards sharing responsibilities or finding funds to MPA management.	Depending on the source, funding may be limited to some countries / activities.

Table 5. Options for implementing desired outcomes for Recommendation 2, about Facilitating the process of filling gaps for improved habitats and species inventories.

Outcome	Options	Advantages	Limitations
2A. Build on existing ecosystems / species Marine Managed Areas **inventories / monitoring at national/**	**1**. SPAW focal points generated revised / updated national /subregional databases on ecosystem / key species inventories from SPAW MPA listed sites and facilitate sharing data.	Support existing initiatives at national levels while promote subregional cooperation and coordination.	It may demand additional human, technological or financial resources.

Outcome	Options	Advantages	Limitations
subregional level and generate protocols for sharing information.	**2**. SPAW-RAC / CEP Secretariat are coordinating with SPAW Focal Points to update national / subregional databases from SPAW MPA listed sites and facilitate sharing data.	Promote data integration for stronger evaluations, can facilitate elucidation of connectivity patterns and trends.	It may place additional workload on Secretariat, SPAW RAC and WGs and likely require adjustments of work plan, priorities, and budgets.
	3. SPAW Focal Points agreed to collaborate with CaMPAM or other Partnership to improve their databases from SPAW MPA listed sites and facilitate sharing data.	Strong initiative to better understand complex subregional / regional dynamics.	It may require political commitments and special legal framework, and it may demand additional human, technological or financial resources.
2B. Beginning subregional / regional evaluation of key ecosystems / species to determine status and trends using data from monitoring in place and following a participative approach.	**1**. SPAW-RAC / CEP Secretariat are coordinating with SPAW Focal Points to conduct necessary analysis and evaluations.	Strong initiative to better understand complex subregional / regional dynamics towards consistent management responses.	It may place additional workload on Secretariat, SPAW RAC and WGs and likely require adjustments of work plan, priorities, and budgets.
	2. SPAW Focal Points agreed to collaborate with CaMPAM or other Partnership to conduct necessary analysis and evaluations.	Allows for in depth analysis and better recommendations towards consistent management responses.	Requires new governance structure and new resources including staffing to coordinate.
	3. A group of consultants / partnerships are hired to conduct necessary analysis and evaluations.	Do not represent a direct work overload to MPA managers.	It may demand additional human, technological or financial resources.
2C. Updated / assembled subregional / regional **monitoring**	**1**. SPAW focal points are responsible to assemblage monitoring protocols & data portals.	Support existing initiatives at national levels while promote subregional cooperation and coordination.	It may demand additional human, technological or financial resources.

Outcome	Options	Advantages	Limitations
programmes and data portals on MPAs ecosystem / key species to facilitate evaluations. Data Portals remain free of access.	**2**. SPAW-RAC / CEP Secretariat are coordinating with SPAW Focal Points to assemblage monitoring protocols & data portals.	Promote data integration for stronger evaluations, can facilitate elucidation of connectivity patterns and trends.	It may place additional workload on Secretariat, SPAW RAC and WGs and likely require adjustments of work plan, priorities, and budgets.
	3. SPAW Focal Points agreed to collaborate with CaMPAM or other Partnership to assemblage monitoring protocols & data portals.	Strong initiative to better understand complex subregional / regional dynamics.	It may require political commitments and special legal framework, and it may demand additional human, technological or financial resources.

Table 6. Options for implementing desired outcomes for Recommendation 3, about Effective use of scientific and monitoring information to better evaluate ecosystem / key species.

Outcome	Options	Advantages	Limitations
3A. Progressive implementation of a strategy to assess the **functionality of corridors / barriers** across the WCR **using revised / updated monitoring and scientific information. Technical**	**1**. SPAW-RAC and SPAW Working Groups are responsible for progressively implementing MPA assessments within SPAW listed sites as expected.	Strong initiative to better understand complex subregional / regional dynamics. It would increase MPA governance in general.	It may require political commitments and special legal framework, and it may demand additional human, technological or financial resources.
	2. CaMPAM Coordination Unit supported by SPAW Working Groups are responsible for progressively implementing MPA assessments within SPAW listed sites as expected.	Support existing initiatives at national levels while promote subregional cooperation and coordination.	It may demand additional human, technological or financial resources.

Outcome	Options	Advantages	Limitations
recommendations are provided to SPAW Focal Points.	**3**. CaMPAM Coordination Unit in association with selected MPA practitioners are responsible for progressively implementing MPA assessments within SPAW listed sites as expected.	It would facilitate understanding of complex process at different levels, and perhaps facilitate the implementation of technical recommendations.	It may demand additional human, technological or financial resources.
3B. Increased coordination and functionality with existing pluricultural and multidisciplinary group of experts in data analysis/ evaluation and verifying the use of proper language in technical reports to policy makers.	**1**. SPAW-RAC / WGs has strengthened its work among existing group of experts in data analysis/ evaluation.	Support existing initiatives at national levels while promote subregional cooperation and coordination with experts.	It may require political commitments and special legal framework, and it may demand additional human, technological or financial resources.
	2. CaMPAM Coordination Unit has strengthened its work among existing group of experts in data analysis/ evaluation.	Allow integration of ongoing initiatives and the planning of consistent MPA management responses. It promotes ownership.	It may demand additional human, technological or financial resources.
	3. A selected partnership has agreed to strengthen its work among existing group of experts in data analysis/ evaluation.	Allow integration of ongoing initiatives and the planning of consistent MPA management responses. It could speed-up collaborative work towards sharing responsibilities or finding funds to MPA management.	Depending on the source, funding may be limited to some countries / activities.

Table 7. Options for implementing desired outcomes for Recommendation 4, Reinforce regional communication & community outreach to broaden support for better connectivity & accomplishment of conservation targets and goals.

Outcome	Options	Advantages	Limitations
4A. Promoted **community support** in regional conservation initiatives by **diversifying communication and outreach strategies** and disseminating **inclusive, respectful, and clear messages** about ecosystem / key species condition, connectivity patterns and the need for consistent management responses within SPAW listed Sites**.**	**1**. SPAW-RAC / CEP Secretariat / CETA are coordinating with subregional / regional partnerships the implementation of community outreach as expected.	Can utilize available expertise and digital platforms; It could further utilize existing mechanisms for creating needed applications in several languages. It can facilitate the linkages among the Cartagena Convention Protocols.	It may place additional workload on Secretariat, SPAW RAC and WGs and likely require adjustments of work plan, priorities, and budgets.
	2. CaMPAM Coordination Unit is coordinating with subregional / regional partnerships the implementation of community outreach as expected.	Can prioritise communication strategies while at the same time make linkages with several networks in an effectiveness way. Overall public engagement in marine conservation at the regional level could be enhanced through coordination and cooperation.	It requires a dedicated budget allocation.
	3. An alternative Partnership is selected to coordinate with subregional / regional partnerships the implementation of community outreach as expected.	Can integrate existing communication strategies in place.	Depending on the source, funding may be limited to some countries / activities.
4B. Promoted community groups **subregional / regional capacity building programmes aimed to understand natural**	**1**. SPAW-RAC/ CEP Secretariat / CETA are coordinating with subregional / regional partnerships to facilitate SPAW listed Sites community groups participation in capacity building programmes.	Can utilize strong educational tools and training platforms developed though the UN system in different languages. It would enhance cooperation among SPAW Parties.	It may place additional workload on Secretariat, SPAW RAC and WGs and likely require adjustments of work plan, priorities, and budgets.

Outcome	Options	Advantages	Limitations
dynamics and network connectivity.	**2**. CaMPAM Coordination Unit are coordinating with subregional / regional partnerships to facilitate SPAW listed Sites community groups participation in capacity building programmes.	Can develop special educational tools and training platforms aimed to train MPA practitioners. It can give continuity to expand national initiatives and could serve as a liaison at subregional level.	It could be difficult to secure equal participation across SPAW sites. Depending on the selected countries additional efforts may be needed to deal with different languages or cultures.
	3. A selected Partnership is coordinating to facilitate MPA community groups in capacity building programmes at subregional / regional level.	It could speed-up collaborative work towards regional / subregional capacity building programmes.	There are possible limitations to secure equal participation across MPA sites.

Final considerations

Overall, the consultant preferred options for the CaMPAM reactivation call for the consideration and support of the following options:

a. CaMPAM is reactivated as a second level network, with membership comprised of national / regional / subregional organisations / networks (option 1A-2).

b. A separate CaMPAM Transitional Coordination Unit is established in a consultative process and is responsible for leading the process to improve its governance structure following a bottom-up approach (option 1B-2).

c. SPAW Protocol support is key to reinforce CaMPAM's work & provide confidence to investors / donors. It provides 100% of its first two years of funding (option 2A-2). In conjunction with the Cartagena Convention Secretariat and SPAW-RAC, CaMPAM dedicate efforts towards securing funding which diversify with time (Option 2B-2).

d. CaMPAM transitional coordination unit lead the bottom-up approach for long-term planning process which includes multiyear work plan, diversifying training and improvement in public engagement, advocacy, and communication (options 3A-3, 3B-3 and 3C-3).

The invitation to support CaMPAM as a secondary level network, , meaning it would become a network composed of other networks incorporated at national, regional and sub-regional organisations and networks. This option recognises that currently there are enough networks and partnerships across the WCR working on protecting the coastal and marine ecosystems, and the fact that several of them cannot integrate in their planning all countries and overseas territories across the WRC. Therefore, there is a special place for CaMPAM to innovate and led the region towards a more coordinated and consistent responses needed for confronting the increasing threats we are all experiencing. Under that scenario, CaMPAM could become the centre of coordination at multiscale and multicultural levels. The much-needed institutional support from the SPAW Protocol bodies shall reinforce CaMPAM's work while at the same time provides confidence to a variate of investors / donors.

The need for securing a bottom-up approach implies a series of consultations at subregional and regional levels, as well bilateral ones with key partners and stakeholders (users' groups, resource managers, and scientists among others), thus the associated budget remains equal for both basic and ideal level of operation.

As for the connectivity option paper and given the variety of aspects to be considered, the region's complex characteristics and dynamics and the increasing impacts on the ecosystem health, the maintenance / recovery of coastal and marine resources under conservation regimes should be an urgent matter to MPA managers. To facilitate this process, again significant improvement in coordination and cooperation is highlighted, and a renovated CaMPAM Network can also have a role to play, leading efforts towards better MPA connectivity. To accomplish expected goals, CaMPAM definitively will require the active support and involvement from different partnerships and networks extending its work on MPA management to MMA management, conducing to the effective implementation of the EBM concepts.

Consistent responses need to be based on technical recommendations obtained from both bottom-up and top-down approaches, allowing proper data for integration.

The consultant preferred options can be summarized as follow:

a. CaMPAM Coordination Unit is leading the coordination process starting with activities within SPAW listed sites (Option1A-2), thus it is authorized to sign [formal] / [informal] agreements with MPA and Sustainable Resource Use networks (Option (1B-2); and can secure matching funds initially in support to effective management of SPAW-listed sites (Option 1C-2).

b. SPAW Focal Points agreed to collaborate with CaMPAM to initially improve databases from SPAW MPA listed sites and facilitate sharing data (Option 2A-3); to conduct monitoring analysis and evaluations (Option 2B-2); and to assemblage consistent monitoring protocols & data portals (Option 2C-3).

c. CaMPAM Coordination Unit supported by SPAW Working Groups are responsible for progressively implementing MPA assessments within SPAW listed sites as expected (Option 3A-2); and together can strengthen data analysis/ evaluation to guide MPA effective management (Option 3B-2).

d. Under CaMPAM leadership and improved connectivity among subregional / regional partnerships the public engagement and support for MPA implementation is increased as a result of successful communication and outreach programmes (Option 4A-2); and increased participation in capacity building activities (Option 4B-2).

Next steps would need to secure PA WG final endorsement through stronger consultation that would first focus first on high level decisions following adaptive planning process.