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Comoros

AND MARINE PROTECTED AREAS (MPAs)

CURRENT STATUS:

Comoros has proclaimed 1
MPA covering 449.22 sq km.

MPA benefits

Economic: An estimated 30% of Comorian people are dependent on the fisheries sector. MPAs can prevent overexploitation of fish stocks, helping to maintain food and job security and reduce poverty. MPAs can also create and protect jobs linked to the tourism industry.

Social: MPAs can help keep alive cultural and heritage practices intricately linked to the ocean.

Environmental:

MPAs help protect species, habitats, and ecosystems. They also help build resilience to climate change events, like cyclones (a perennial risk in Comoros), floods, tsunamis, or sea-level rise—thereby reducing impacts on crops, infrastructure, and public health.

Future opportunities

- Continue its efforts to designate the three proposed MPAs (i.e. the Coelacanth, Mitsamiouli-Ndroudé, and Shisiwani National Parks) to help Comoros achieve its vision of protecting 25% of its territory by 2021
- Further expand MPA coverage to meet future targets under the Global Biodiversity Framework
- Deepen cooperation with research institutions and other stakeholders to ensure MPA biodiversity, threats, and protection progress are fully documented

