

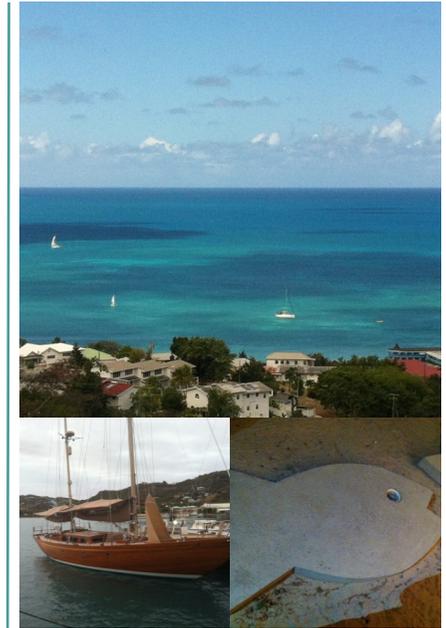


A Marine Policy for Antigua & Barbuda



Antigua and Barbuda has sovereign rights and responsibilities over around 108,000 square km of maritime space along with associated living and non-living marine resources such as fisheries and aggregates. Its waters support important and sensitive marine habitats that provide many valuable economic, social and cultural benefits.

The Commonwealth Secretariat is providing technical assistance to the Government of Antigua and Barbuda to develop a comprehensive ocean governance framework to support the sustainable development and utilization of the country's marine space and associated resources.



Why & Who

Planning of the maritime space is a high priority of Government. A **national maritime policy** will balance across all interests and international and domestic law.

All Government departments have a role to play and should be involved. This is critical to accommodate all the multiplicity of uses and users of the marine space, now and in the future.

The Oceans Governance Committee coordinates Government policy for the management of the maritime space.

Maritime policy

A maritime policy will take into account the inter-connectedness of industries and human activities centred on the sea. Whether the issue is shipping and ports, energy, fishing or tourism, a decision in one area can affect all the others. A Maritime policy for Antigua and Barbuda will set out the planning framework for decisions affecting the marine environment.

This newsletter provides information on the governance issues that inform the development of a maritime policy for Antigua and Barbuda.

UPDATE

WORKING TOGETHER

This monthly progress report will keep you up-to-date on the development of a national maritime policy, and is also an opportunity to share information, ideas and visions with all of those involved.

April 	May 	June
July 	August 	September
October 	November 	December



Where

Where to start? A maritime policy should complement and help to deliver National policy objectives. Through sustainable use of maritime space and resources now and in the future. It should support economic growth; help build a knowledge and innovation base; and contribute towards improving the quality of live for citizens of Antigua and Barbuda.



How

How to decide? A maritime policy should promote close cooperation between decision-makers in the different sectors at all levels of government. A coordinated maritime policy will save time and money by encouraging authorities to share data across policy fields and to cooperate rather than working separately on different aspects of the same problem.



What

What is happening? The Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping (ADOMS) and the Commonwealth Secretariat are developing a policy process to assist with planning when and where human activities take place at sea – to ensure these are as efficient and sustainable as possible. It provides a holistic approach to all sea-related activities.

Maritime policy

The maritime policy for Antigua and Barbuda is being formulated to support the implementation of the National Development plan by promoting a process of economic and social activity to support sustainable growth in all sectors as a whole whilst conserving the natural environment. A key feature of the policy will be to ensure multiple uses can be made from the marine space without them coming into conflict. This requires a policy that can be consistently applied by decision-makers across the whole of government, as well as by those using the marine environment. The maritime policy will not only fulfill National objectives but also ensure compliance with International obligations and responsibilities.

Policy to safeguard existing activities & develop new opportunities.



Contact Us

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All Departments and Agencies are *invited* to participate