

Ocean Country Partnership Programme (OCPP) in numbers

Senegal

September 2026

The OCPP programme provided tailored support in Senegal to help manage the marine environment more sustainably. This included strengthening marine science expertise, developing science-based policy and management tools, and creating educational resources for coastal communities.

Seeking long-term change to Senegal's marine environment

The overarching intended impact for OCPP was to deliver activities which supported partner countries to effectively manage human activities that put pressure on the marine environment and ensure that all of their citizens can benefit from its long-term sustainable use.

The OCPP identified the following areas in which the programme could deliver change in the way these issues are addressed in Senegal through the generation and use of scientific knowledge to better inform policymaking and action:

- **Marine knowledge and capacity:** providing expertise towards sustainable marine ecosystem science and better marine environment monitoring.
- **Policies and guidelines:** supporting the creation of evidence-informed policies, frameworks and plans for sustainable marine ecosystem management, governance and budgeting.
- **Education and awareness:** piloting models and approaches towards community engagement and raising awareness on marine-related topics.
- **Networks and partnerships:** supporting cross-learning and innovation through networks and partnerships.

The programme supported a number of stakeholders to achieve these objectives. These included:

- Government ministries and departments responsible for marine, environmental, and agricultural governance.
- Science and higher education institutions focused on fragile marine ecosystems
- Civil society organisations involved in policy advocacy related to the marine environment
- Communities directly connected to coastal ecosystem
- Traditional fishing communities whose livelihoods depend on marine resources
- Private sector and local market actors engaged in marine and coastal economies

OCPP in Senegal demonstrated consideration of **Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)** in 2025 with the completion of a National GESI analysis and in delivery of their work in the following areas:

- Marine spatial planning
- Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) emergency response

Funding for OCPP was provided through the overarching Blue Planet Fund (BPF) by the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). OCPP was delivered by three British government Arm's Length Bodies (ALBs): the Centre for the Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas), the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC), and the Marine Management Organisation (MMO).

More information on OCPP can be found at:

[DevTracker Programme GB-GOV-7-BPFOCPP Documents](#)

The data shown covers OCPP activities between 2023–2026 only.



Key achievements in delivery

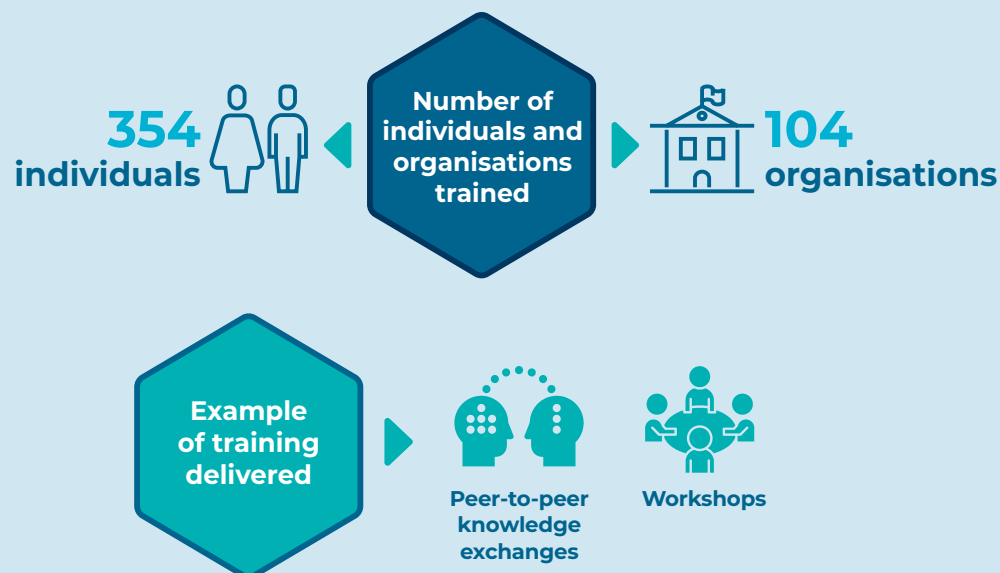
Progress towards outcomes

OCP supported stakeholders to spearhead a call for evidence to inform Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) legislation in Senegal. The programme provided training on gathering data and evidence relevant to MSP, including the review and quality assurance process. This was delivered to members of the MSP Working Group leading the development and implementation of MSP in Senegal.

OCP also supported the formulation of the MPA policy framework pending the approval of the Interministerial Committee. In the meantime, the policy is already being used for activity planning, alongside the MPA database, by the Direction des Aires Marines Communautaires Protégées (DAMCP).

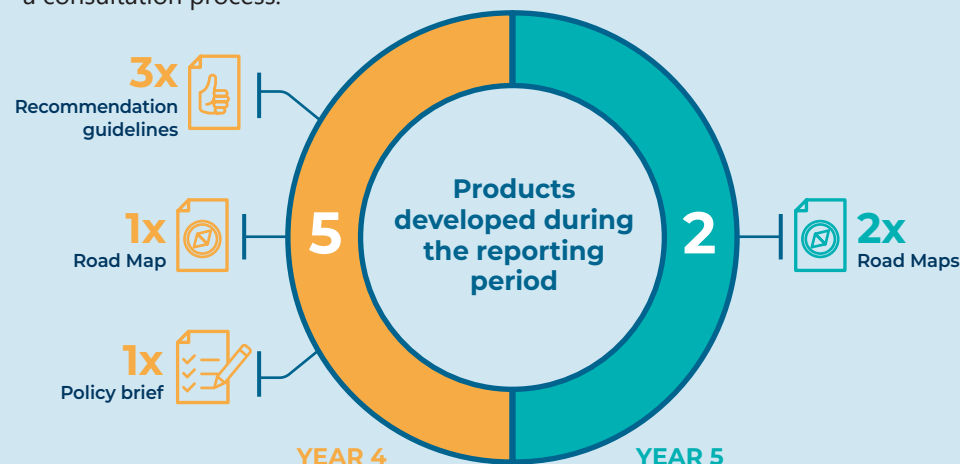
Marine knowledge and capacity

The programme worked to strengthen the capacity and capability of Senegalese stakeholders in marine science, management and governance. Of those surveyed, 83% of participants reported increased knowledge and capacity.



Policies and guidelines

In Senegal, the programme proposed or developed policy and regulatory recommendations. 83% of the products developed were reported to have included a consultation process.



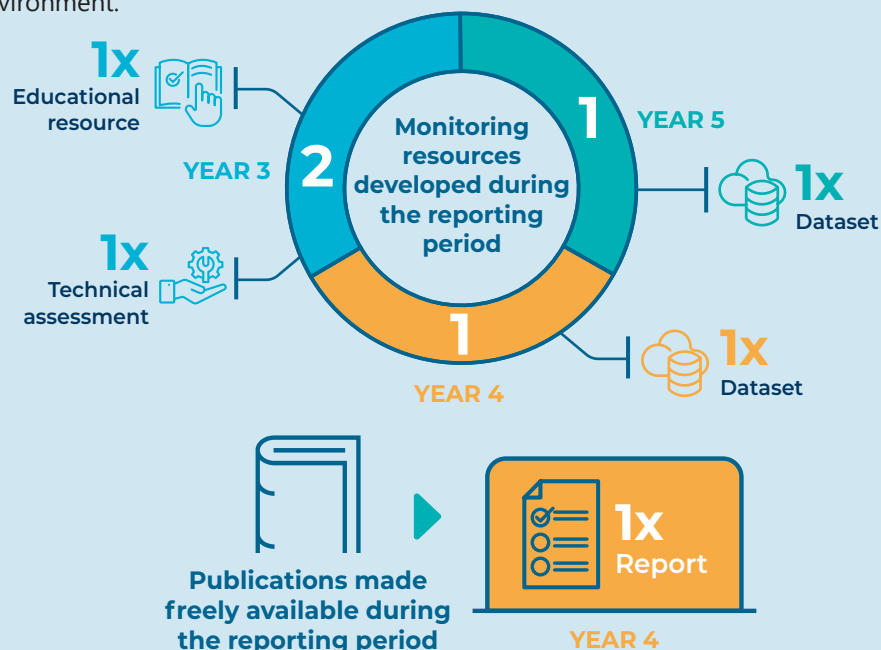
CASE STUDY

At the request of the Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) Working Group for the Senegalese Government, the OCP, in collaboration with the Marine Management Organisation, provided advice on the preparation of legislation to underpin the MSP. They also shared lessons learned from experiences delivering MSP under the [UK's Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009](#).

The MSP Working Group for Senegal emphasised the importance of MSP to support sustainable development of Senegal's marine area and the aim of legally binding MSP to ensure enforceability. The report was initially developed from the ideas provided by stakeholders on what they would find useful and shared with key government stakeholders for review and input ahead of finalisation.

Education and awareness

The OCPP took steps to enhance education, awareness and the exchange of scientific, technical knowledge and data in Senegal on a variety of topics concerning the marine environment.

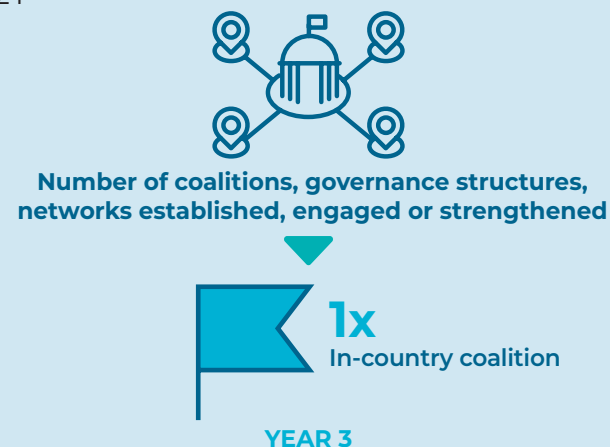


Networks and partnerships

The OCPP worked with the Government of Senegal to develop and support active ocean-science related knowledge networks and partnerships – either as UK-partner country or in-country coalitions.

The following agreements have been signed:

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government of Senegal in October 2023
- An agreement with HASSAR in May 2024, followed by a frameworks for collaboration in October 2024
- A Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Senegal Marine Spatial Planning working group in August 2024



CASE STUDY

In April 2024, the OCPP conducted a Senegal Satellite Imagery Review. The aim of the assessment was to gather intelligence and identify potential instances of Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing activity within Senegal's 12 nautical-mile littoral zone and within Senegal's coastal marine protected area (MPA) network. This was achieved through the analysis of satellite imagery and vessel transmissions via the Automatic Identification System. The review provided recommendations on how to strengthen approaches based on the intelligence gathered.



CASE STUDY

The OCPP supported the re-establishment of Senegal's Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) Working Group to guide and steer the development of MSP in the country. Although the group was originally formed under a previous initiative, it had not convened since 2021. The OCPP reconvened the group in April 2024 and worked closely with members to define the Terms of Reference. In June 2024, the OCPP also led in-country technical sessions to help the group articulate a clear ambition and scope for MSP in Senegal.