



Maritime Spatial Planning: Achieving Common Principles in the EU



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Content of presentation:

- General information on the integrated maritime policy
- Maritime Spatial planning
 - ★ Process and outcome of the workshops
- Future steps on Maritime Spatial planning



The EU Integrated Maritime Policy

The “Blue Paper” priorities:

- Maximising the sustainable use of the oceans and seas
- Building a knowledge and innovation base
- Delivering the highest quality of life in coastal regions
- Promoting Europe’s leadership in international affairs
- Raising visibility for Maritime Europe



The Action Plan

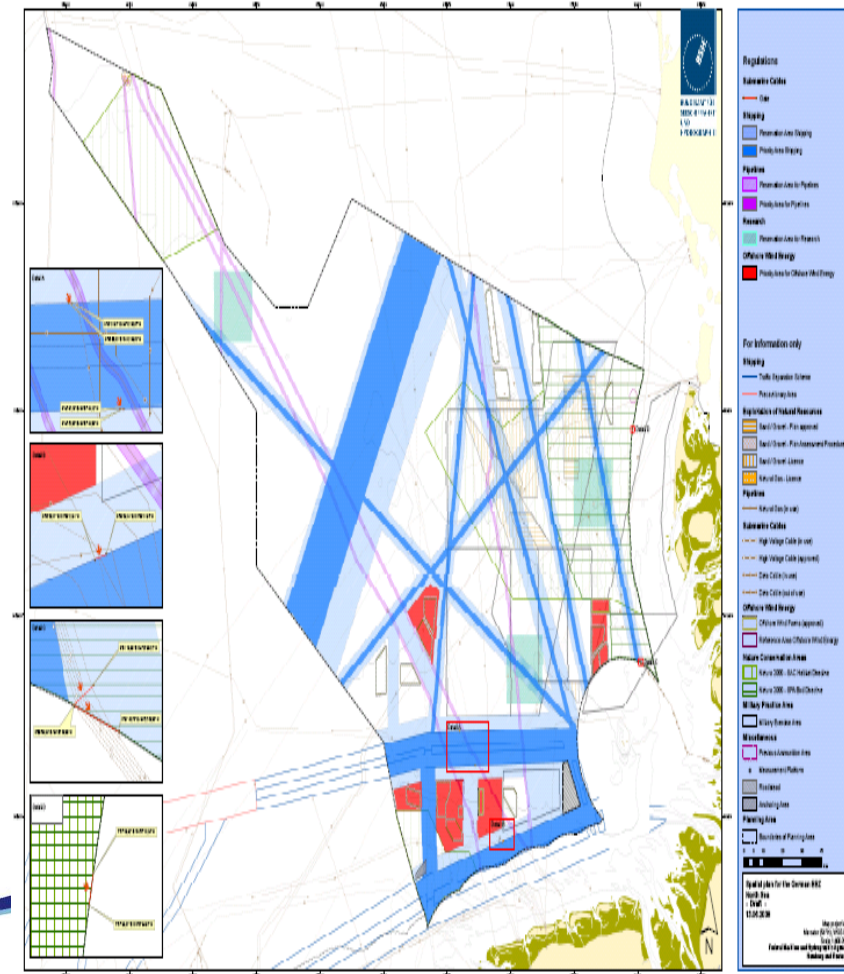
Covers different issues and activities – tools for integrated policy:

- Maritime Spatial Planning
- European network for maritime surveillance
- Maritime Data collection



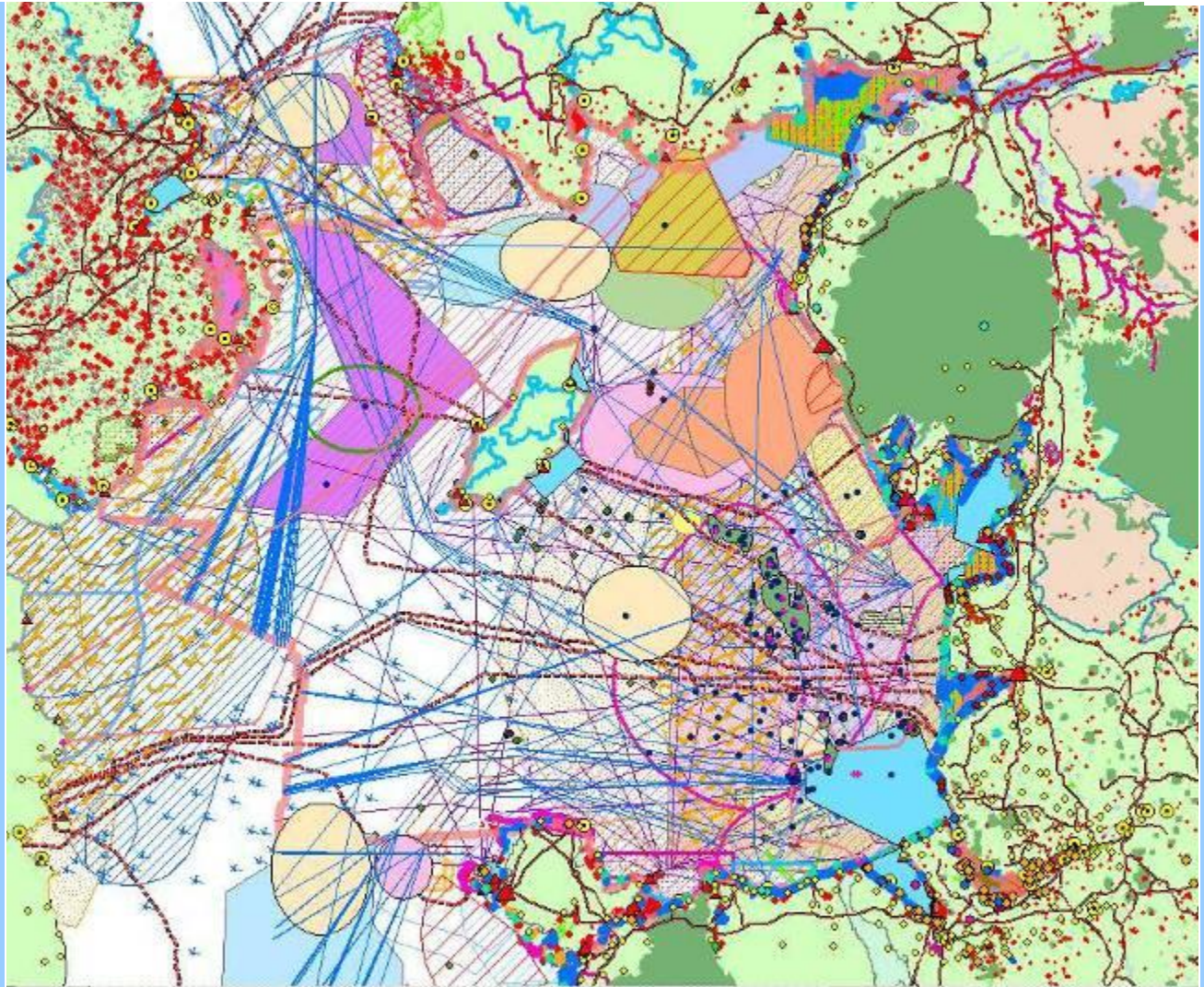
What is Maritime Spatial Planning?

- MSP is a **process**
- Builds on the **ecosystem** approach
- **Forward** looking
- The process should be **open and transparent** involving all stakeholders
- It covers all maritime sectors – **integrated approach**



COMPETING CLAIMS Maritime Policy

- Land use
- Tourism
- Oil & Gas
- Mariculture
- Coastal Defence
- Ports & Navigation
- Military Activities
- Culture
- Conservation
- Dredging & Disposal
- Submarine Cables



▪ Fishing

▪ Renewable
Energy

▪ Marine
Recreation

▪ Mineral
Extraction



Arguments for a European approach to MSP

- Increasing number of EU Member States use MSP
- Strengthen the competitiveness of EU's maritime economy
- Provide reliable planning framework for the Internal Market
- Build on the ecosystem-based approach – useful tool for implementing the Marine Strategy Framework Directive
- Encourage cross-border cooperation
- Coordinate sectoral approaches and reducing the costs of non-coordination
- Facilitate common understanding of MSP



Policy process: The Roadmap on MSP

- Roadmap Communication adopted on 25th November 2008
- Identifies 10 key principles for MSP in the EU
- Stimulate a wide debate on development of a common approach to MSP in Europe
- Important delivery of the Integrated EU Maritime Policy





Policy process: Workshops

Series of 4 workshops to discuss the key principles of the Roadmap:

1. Kick-off conference in Brussels 26 February - more than 130 participants from Member States and maritime sectors
2. Workshop in Ispra (Italy) 23-24 April
3. Workshop in the Azores 2-3 July
4. Final workshop and concluding conference in Stockholm 2 October





The 10 key-principles on MSP

Overarching principle: ecosystem approach

- Using MSP according to area and type of activity
- Defining objectives to guide MSP
- Developing MSP in a transparent manner
- Stakeholder participation
- Coordination within Member States – simplifying decision processes
- Ensuring the legal effect of national MSP
- Cross-border cooperation and consultation
- Incorporating monitoring and evaluation in the planning process
- Achieving coherence between terrestrial and maritime spatial planning
- Strong data and knowledge base





Messages from the workshops on 4 of the 10 key-principles

- Defining objectives to guide MSP
- Using MSP according to type of activity
- Coherence between MSP and terrestrial planning
- Stakeholder participation



Defining Objectives to Guide MSP

- To start with broad visions and general objectives have the benefit that they allow more space for negotiations, but eventually they must be specified in order to be useful for drafting and implementing a plan.
- Setting objectives for MSP, like MSP itself, should be seen as a process beginning with an agreement on overall strategic objectives which are defined in a later stage by operational, i.e. clearly measurable and quantitative, objectives/targets.
- Objectives should be based on a long term perspective and be future oriented.



Using MSP according to area and type of activity

- The ecosystem and its capacity are not negotiable and have to form the basis for MSP. The ecosystem defines the overall framework and it is important to ensure within MSP that the different scales of maritime activities fit into the overall picture.
- An open debate among different maritime sectors active in the area has to be established in order to identify conflicts and means of coexistence between the sectors.



Coherence between MSP and terrestrial planning

- It is crucial that there is continuity of activities on land and sea. Knowledge is an important element for successful continuity. Continuity also requires complementary between marine and terrestrial strategies and plans as well as coherence in implementation.
- As there is no land-ownership at sea. Sea is more flexible, less boundary restrictions.
- Land is planned by urbanisation laws with the sea area as a visual asset only. Sea specialists see the land as the enemy. The sea area needs a vision with outputs devised in a sensible manner.



Stakeholder participation

- Involve all stakeholders at an early stage and look for synergies and innovation
- Goals and benefits of the process must be clear
- Understand the motives of the participants and have clarity of roles and responsibilities.
- For the process to be workable, stakeholders should bring their interests into the discussions but not firm positions in order to find common grounds
- Foresee enough time for stakeholder involvement (process will be longer)
- Encourage interaction between different stakeholders, and not just between policy-makers and stakeholders



ISPRA workshop; example of the relevance of the Pelagos Sanctuary to MSP

- Using MSP to area and type of activity
 - ★ Area of high environmental value and used by fishing, military, traffic.
- Defining objectives to guide MSP
 - ★ Environmental protection.
- Ensuring legal effect of MSP
 - ★ As EEZ's are not established it will be an ABNJ, importance of Barcelona Convention Protocol on MPA's.
- Achieving coherence between terrestrial and MSP
 - ★ Land-based activities that affect the quality of Pelagos, such as agriculture, industry, coastal construction.



More information on the messages from the workshop on the key –principles on the DG Mare Website.

http://ec.europa.eu//maritimeaffairs/spatial_planning



EU Policy process: other general studies on MSP

- Legal aspects of MSP – concluded (is available on the Commission website)
- Economic benefits of MSP – ongoing
- Potential of MSP in the Mediterranean.
- Two preparatory actions are foreseen for the Baltic and the North Sea / North East Atlantic
- Further studies under consideration





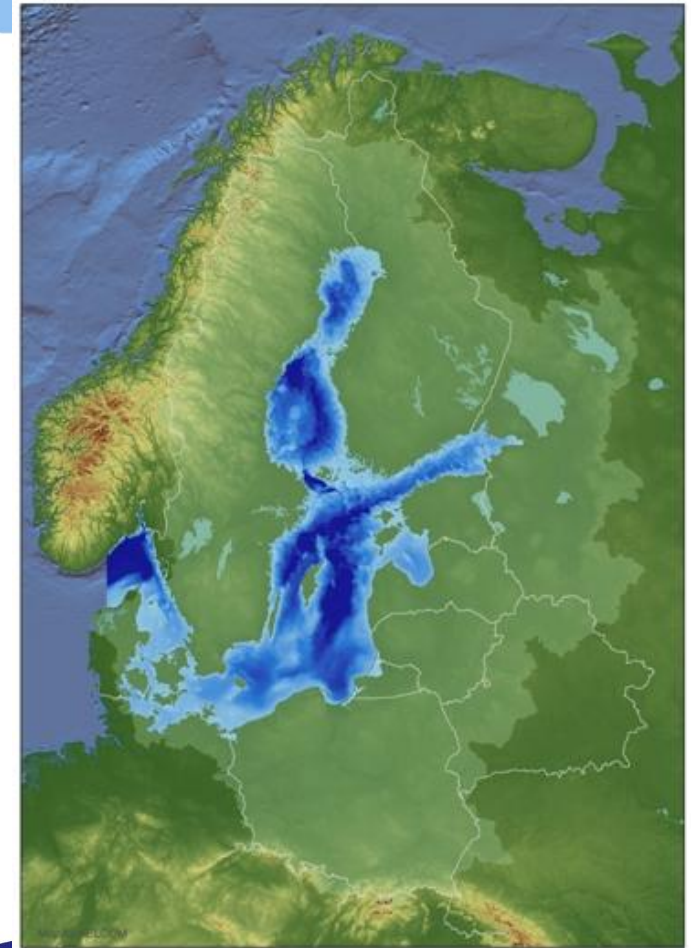
Other activities related to MSP, interreg III; PlanCoast (duration April 2006 – April 2008)

- PlanCoast was an INTERREG IIIB NP CADSES Project with the aim to develop the tools and capacities for an effective integrated planning in coastal zones and maritime areas in the Baltic, Adriatic and Black Sea regions.
- PlanCoast had 16 partners representing the spatial planning departments or responsible regional authorities from Albania, Bosnia–Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Germany, Italy, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Slovenia and Ukraine
- Introduced the completely new spatial planning instrument



Policy process: Preparatory actions

- Two preparatory actions are foreseen for the Baltic and the North Sea / North East Atlantic.
 - ★ Calls for proposal launched – deadline 30 April. At the moment evaluated
 - ★ Aim at fostering the development of cross-border cooperation aspects of MSP
 - ★ Encourage the identification of a shared sea area and develop MSP objectives





Policy process: Studies on MSP

- Legal aspects of MSP – concluded (is available on the Commission website).
- Economic benefits of MSP- finalised, will be on the website shortly.
- Potential of MSP in the Mediterranean Sea – finalised autumn 2010.
- Further studies under consideration.





Exploring the Potential of MSP in the Mediterranean Sea

- Main goals to be achieved:
 - ★ Identify potential areas in the Mediterranean Sea for the application of MSP
 - ★ Analyse obstacles to application of MSP
 - ★ Suggest possible response for concrete application of MSP in specific sub-regions or sea areas



Four areas with potential for MSP

- The four areas that are currently under extensive investigation are: the Adriatic Sea, the Alboran Sea, the area surrounding Malta and the Western Mediterranean
- Each of the four areas is characterised by:
 - The involvement of multiple countries;
 - Intensive human activity, providing vital economic impact for its coastal and inland communities;
 - Marine environmental heritage and related environmental issues;
 - Adequately set up ICZM and/or cross-border initiatives;
 - A lack of a proper coordination system on the transnational region;
 - A lack of **consistent** knowledge bases.

MSP might be the solution in these areas if it enforces/stimulates:

- (1) **proper coordination** of areas, not just national parts (2) the creation of a **consistent knowledge** base and (3) regular **monitoring** and **evaluation** of (policy) actions taken



Expected Outcomes

- **Support the ongoing debate** on Maritime Spatial Planning launched by the EC Roadmap
- Form the **basis for the launch of a test project in the Mediterranean**, encouraging concrete cross-border practices as announced in the Commission's Communication 'Towards an Integrated Maritime Policy for better governance in the Mediterranean'



Policy process: Next steps

- Progress report from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament (mid 2010)
- Impact Assessment on options for how to proceed with MSP in an EU context. Legislative action foreseen.
- Timing: Foreseen for 1st quarter 2011
- Will build on the debate in the workshops, the experience gained through the preparatory actions and the results of the studies conducted so far, as well as other MSP experiences.



Thank you for your attention!

http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/spatial_planning_en.html

