



Rijkswaterstaat  
*Ministerie van Verkeer en Waterstaat*

# Marine Spatial Planning in the North Sea.

A spatial plan for the  
Dutch EEZ

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2003, the Netherlands**



# Outline

- Historical and international context, development of MSP in the Netherlands
- Spatial Plan for the Dutch EEZ, “the making of”
- Future developments
- Lessons learned, factors for success



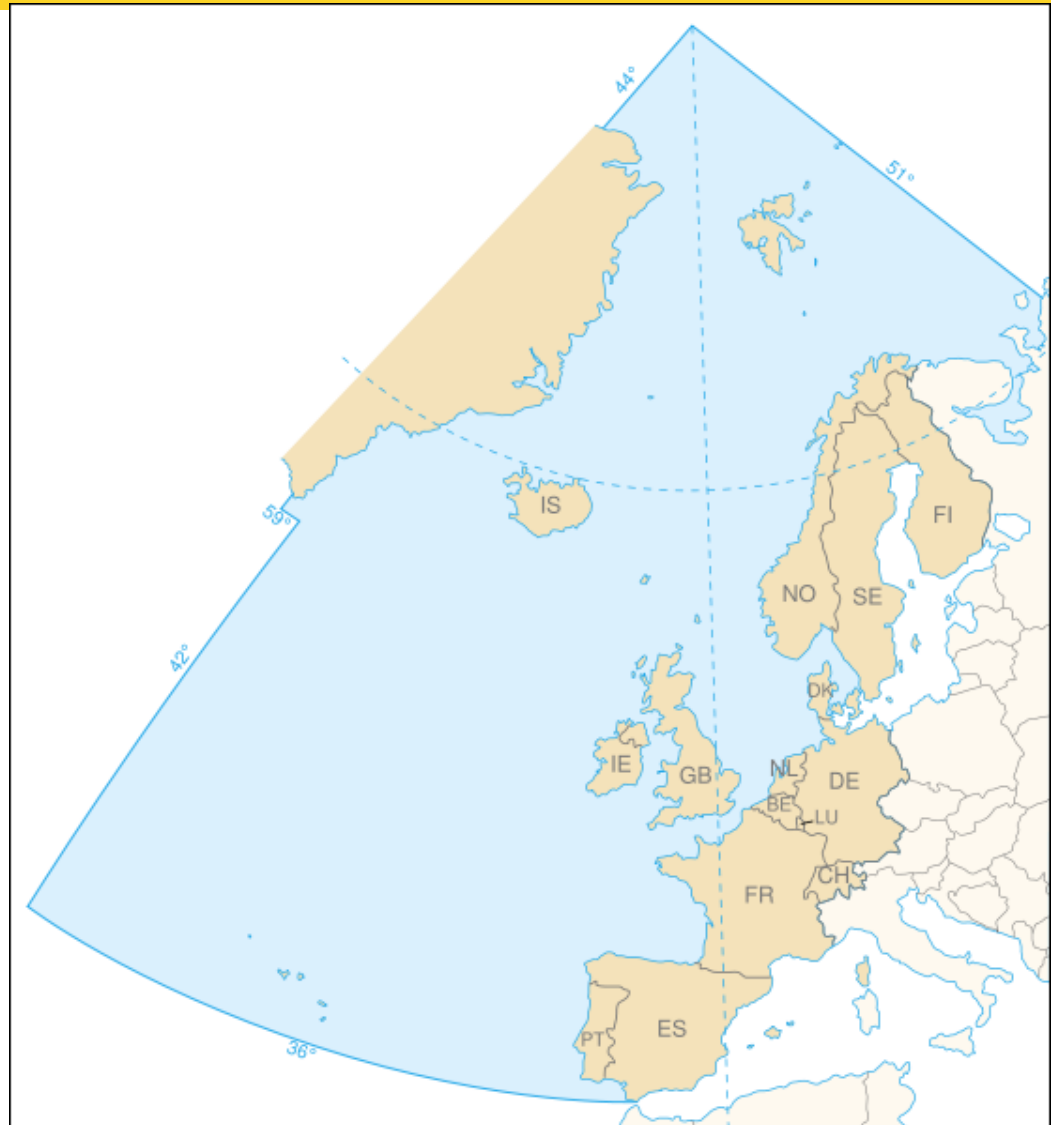


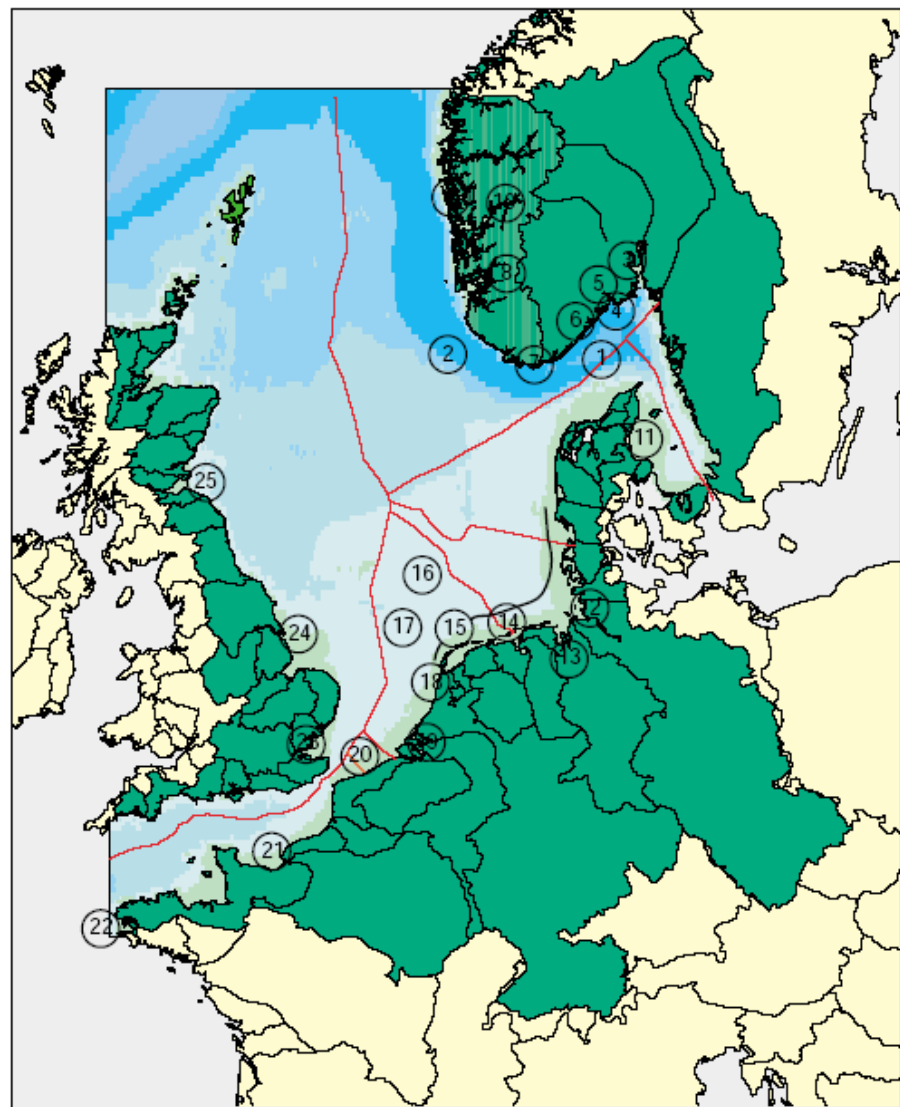
# North Sea





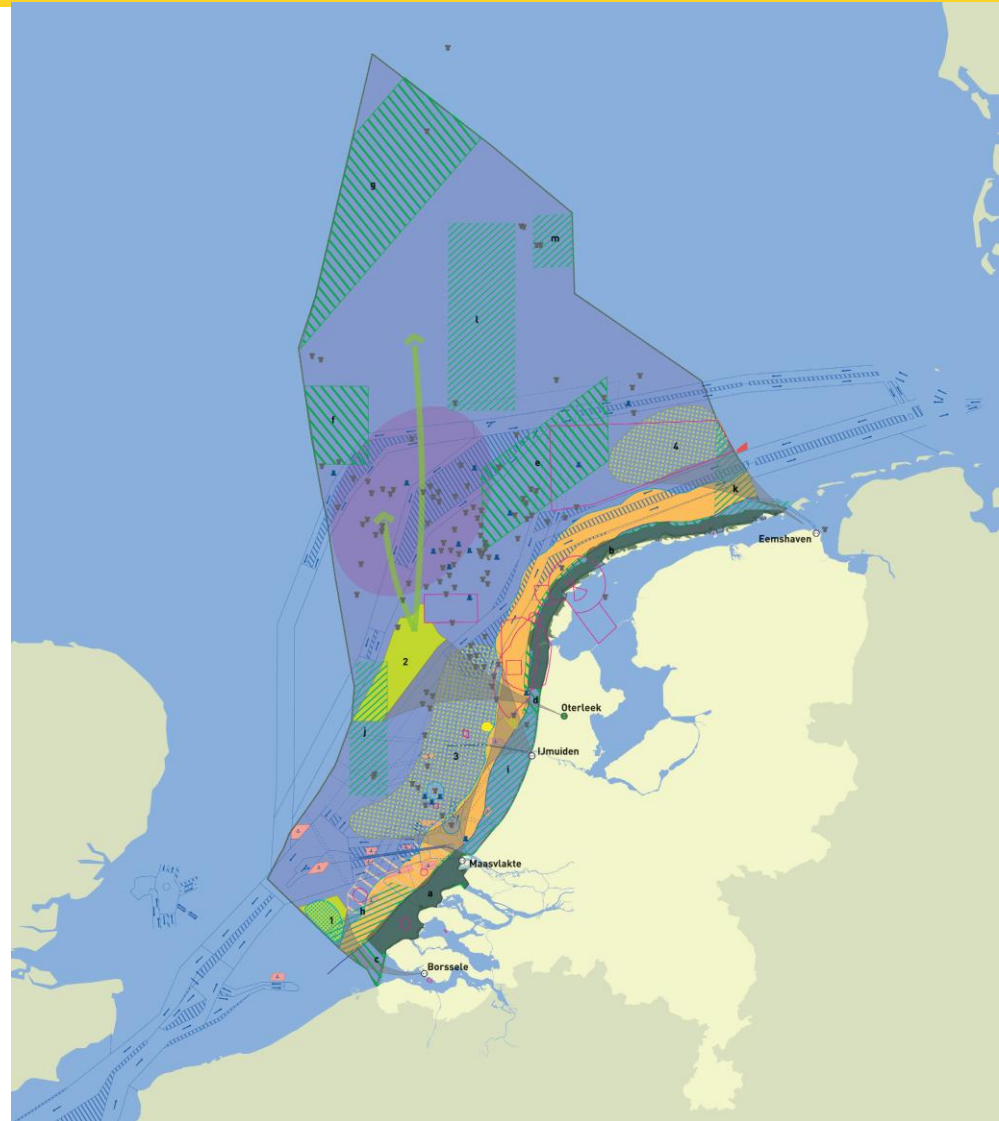
# OSPAR







# Dutch EEZ





# Historical and international context

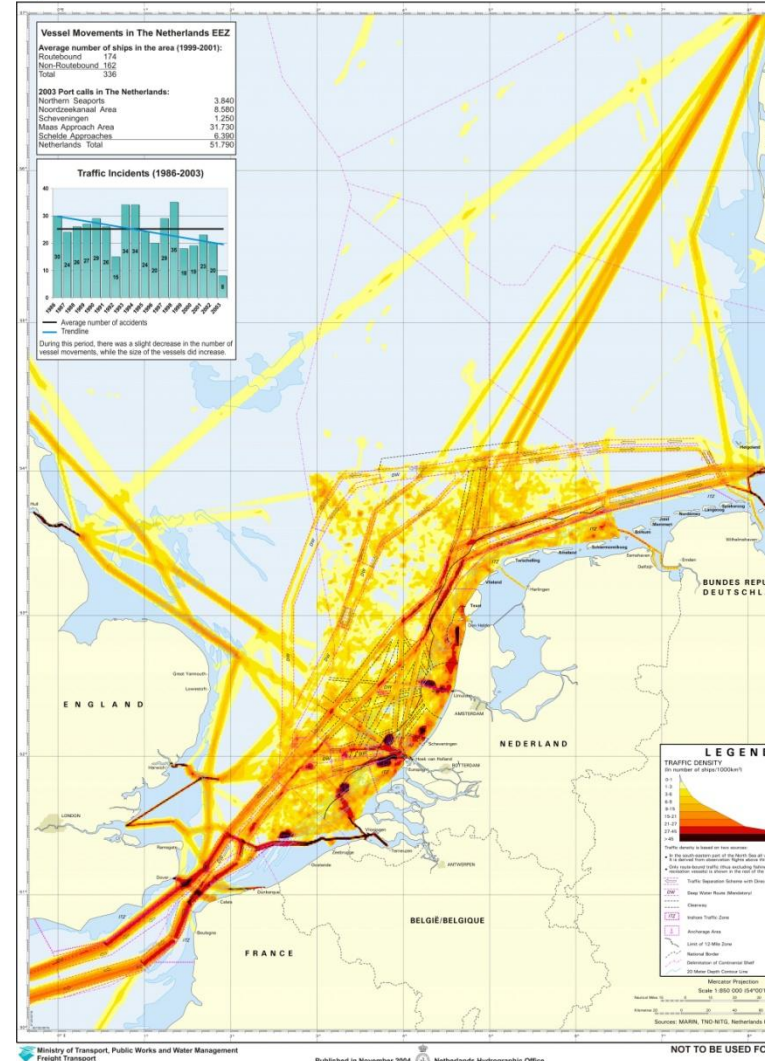
- Mare Librum
- First come first serve
  
- IMO
- UNCLOS
- Common Fisheries Policies
- Regional Sea Conventions
- Bird Directive, Habitat Directive, Natura 2000
  
- Maritime Policy and Marine Strategy  
→ Marine Spatial Planning





- Increasing pressure and complexity
- Sectoral policies not sufficient
- Urgency for integrated approach
- Need for planning and coordination

## VESSEL TRAFFIC ON THE NORTH SEA



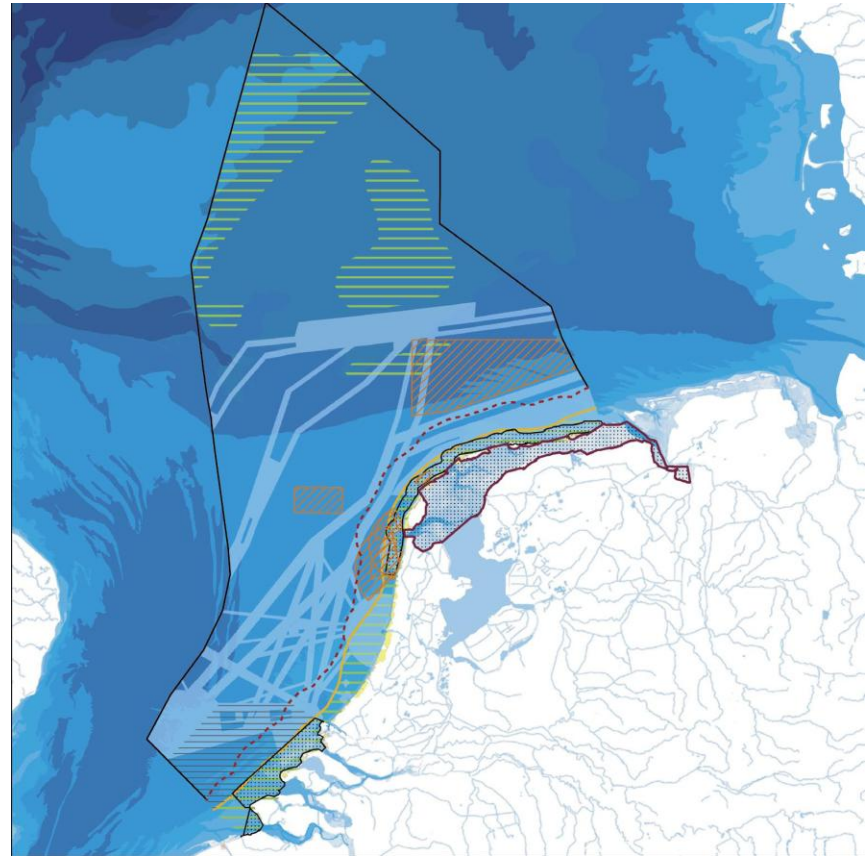






## MSP in the Netherlands (bi) sectoral → integrated

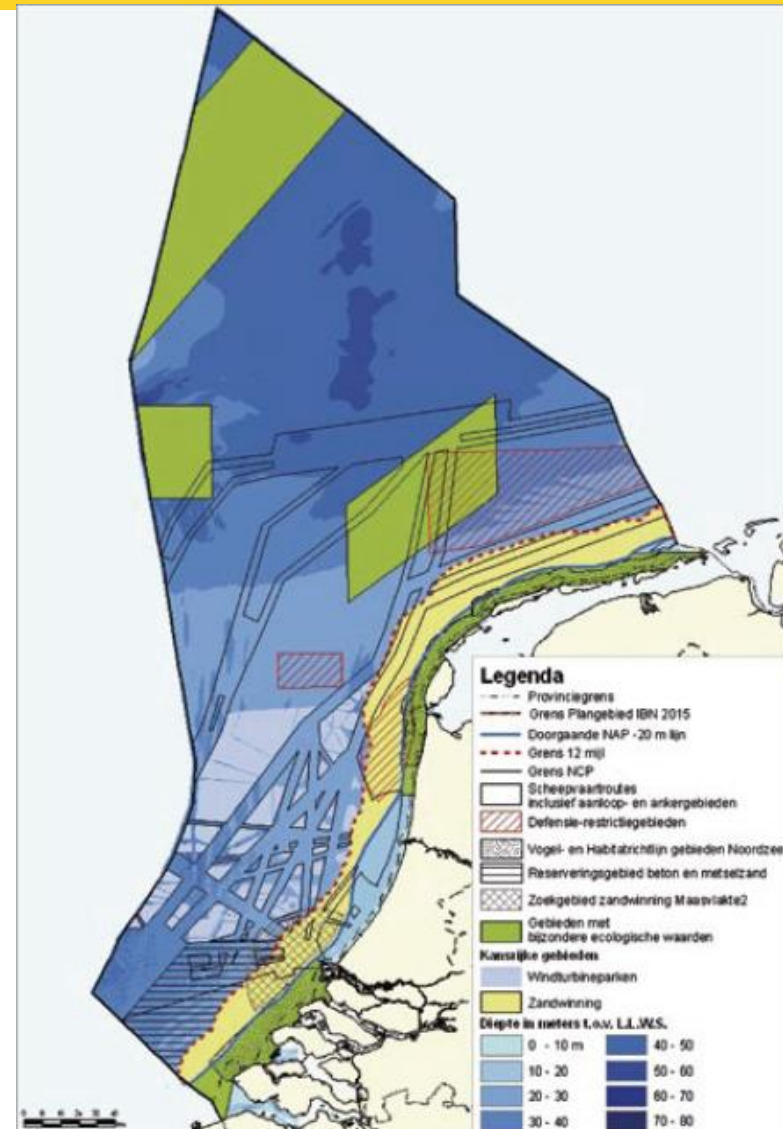
- 2000. Dutch EEZ
- 2003. Clearway system
- 2005. Spatial Policy Document
  - Spatial policy on a strategic level, as part of national spatial policy





# Integrated approach, also for implementation and management issues

- 2005. Integrated Management Plan North Sea
  - zoning, setting priorities
  - Shipping routes and clearways
  - Natura 2000
  - Assessment framework
- Consultation about issuing permits, management plans Natura 2000





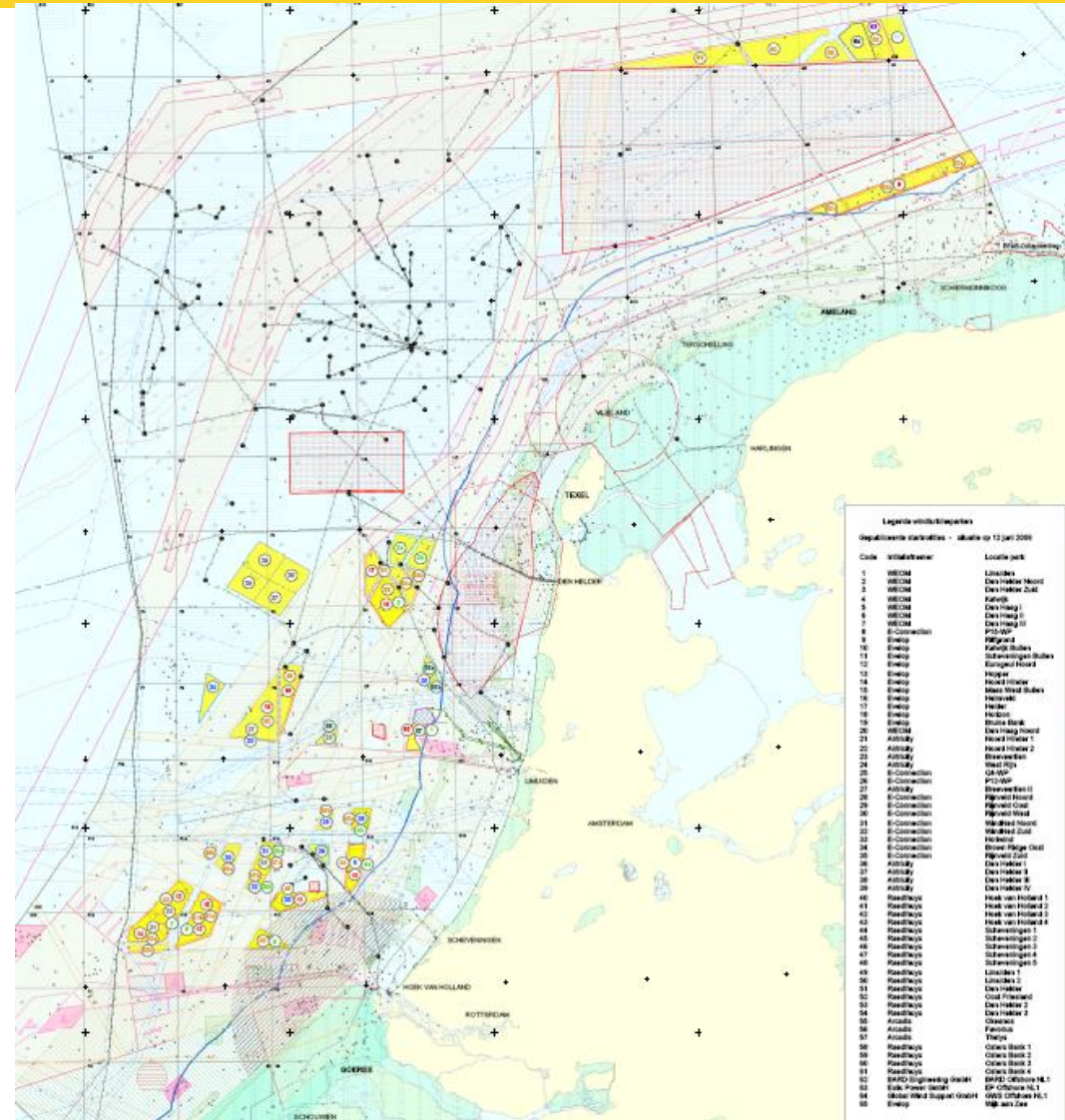
# Voordelta: management plan Natura 2000





# Wind energy sets urgency for forward looking MSP

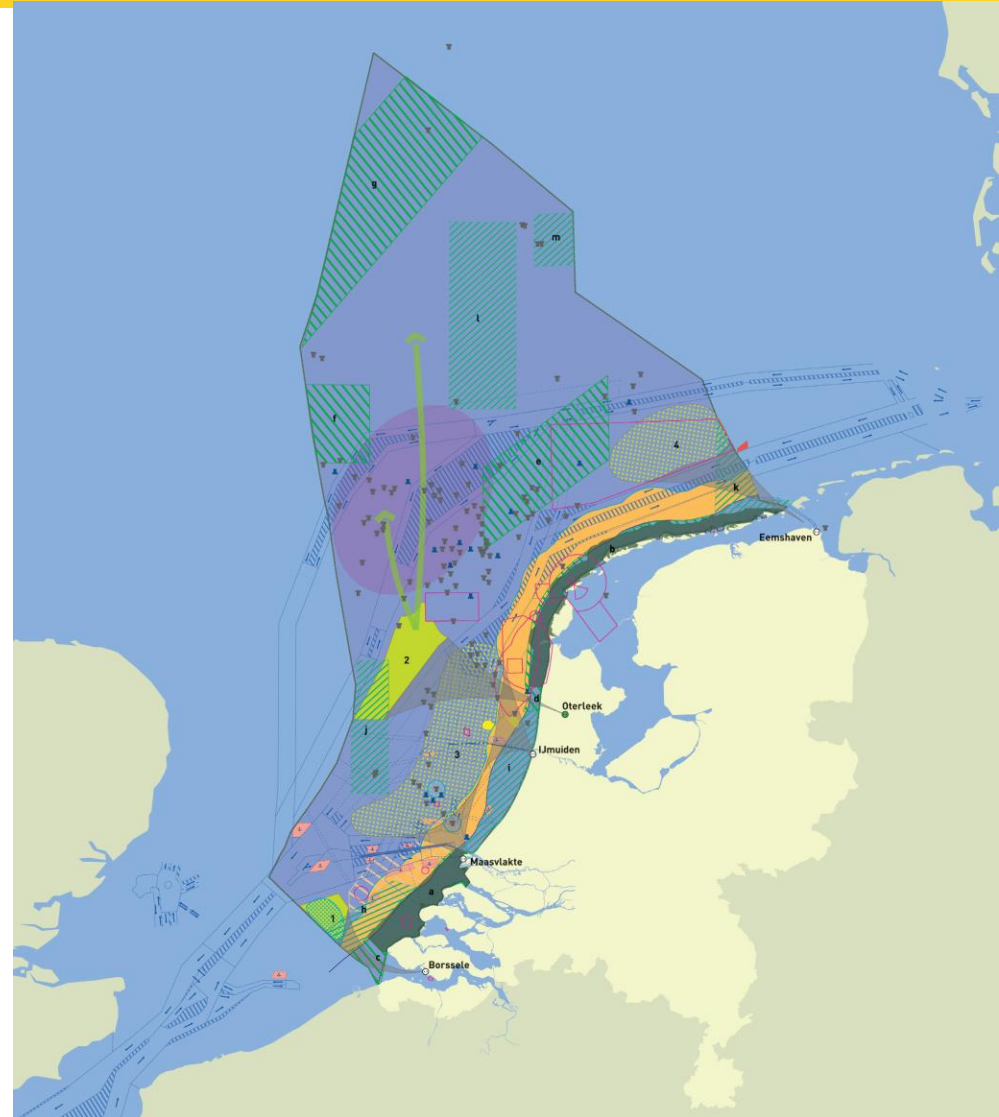
- Spatial claims for 77 initiatives
- Financial support for approximate 4 windfarms
- Uncertainty
- High administrative load
- Wind energy areas to be designated





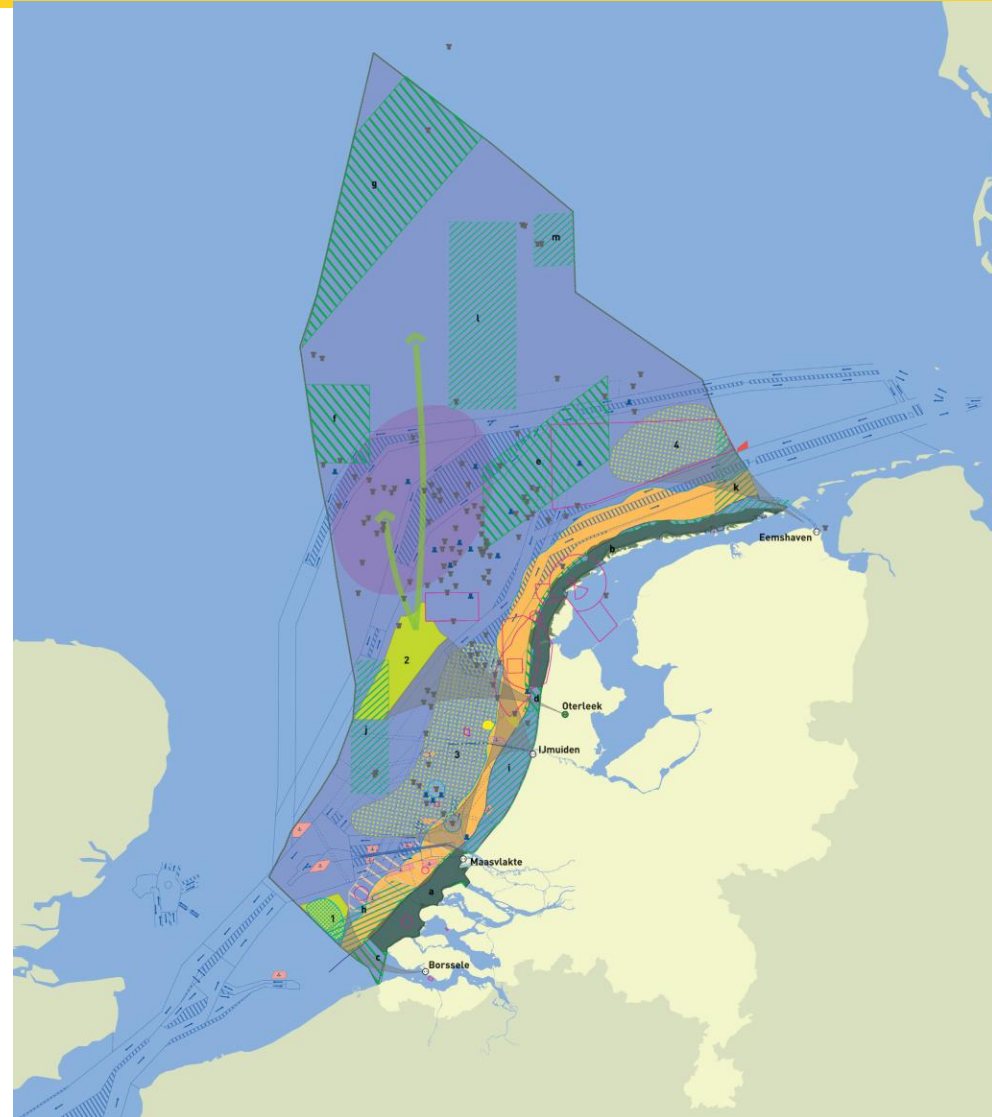
## MSP in the Netherlands reactive → proactive

- 2009 Spatial Plan for the North Sea in Dutch National Water Plan, approved by cabinet
- 2010: → parliament
- Wind energy driving force
- Integrated Spatial Plan
- No sectoral objectives but “dividing” space.



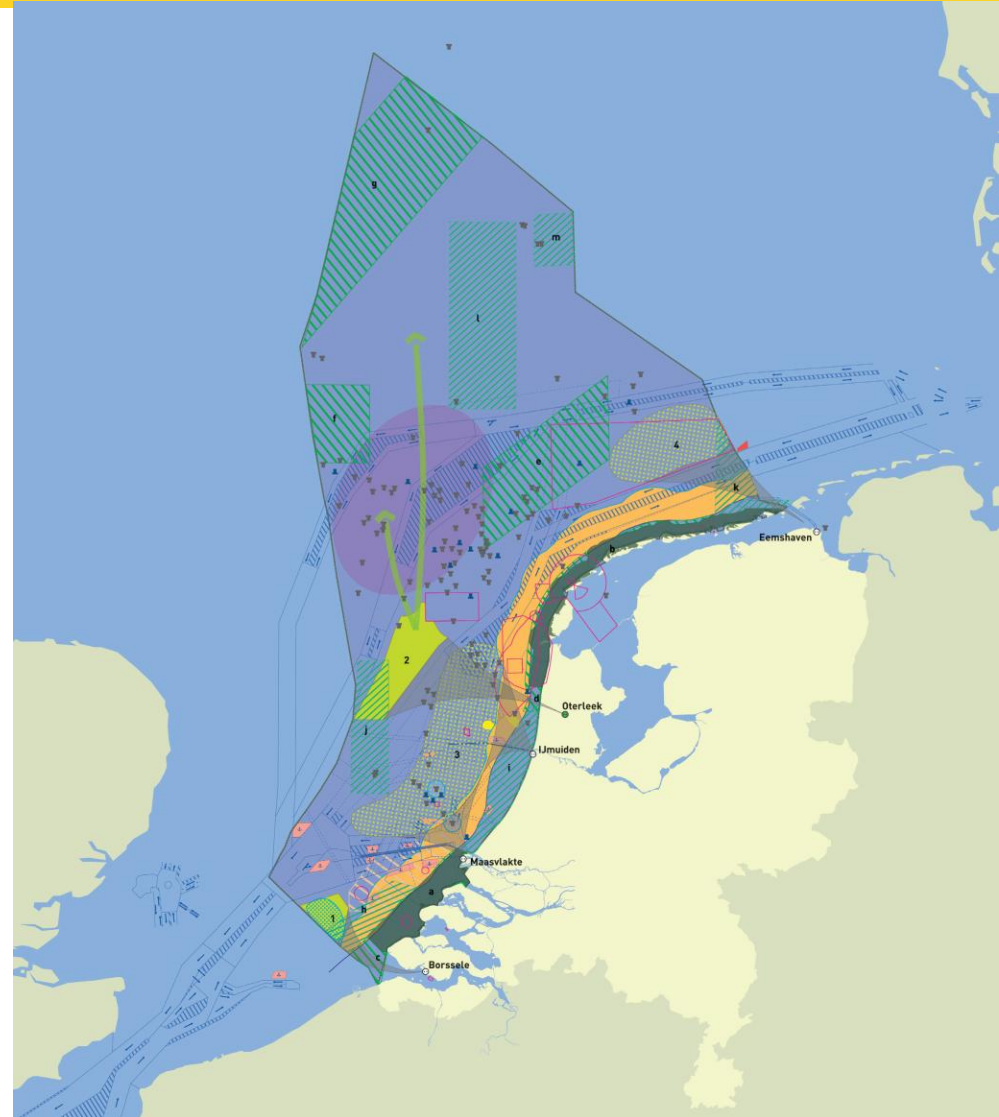
# Spatial Plan North Sea in Dutch National Water Plan

- Sustainable use in balance with the ecosystem
- Natura 2000 areas and areas with possible ecological values
- 12 miles zone: no constructions, reserved for sand extraction



# Spatial Plan North Sea in Dutch National Water Plan

- Designated and search areas for wind energy, 6000 MW, taking into account other users.
- Oil and gas extraction, military activities, shipping
- Future direction for CO2 storage and more wind energy

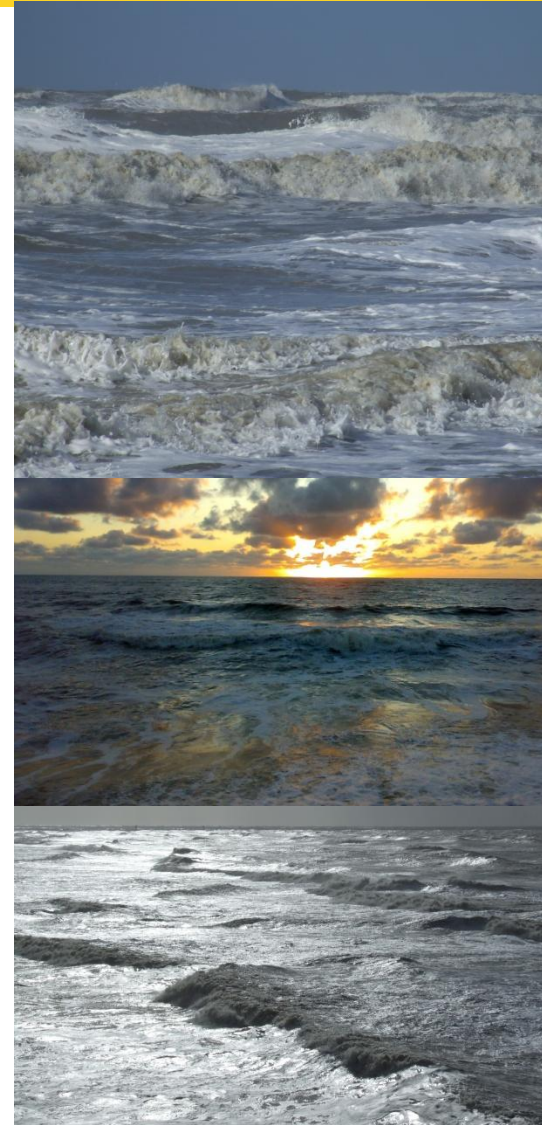






# Summary: Development of MSP

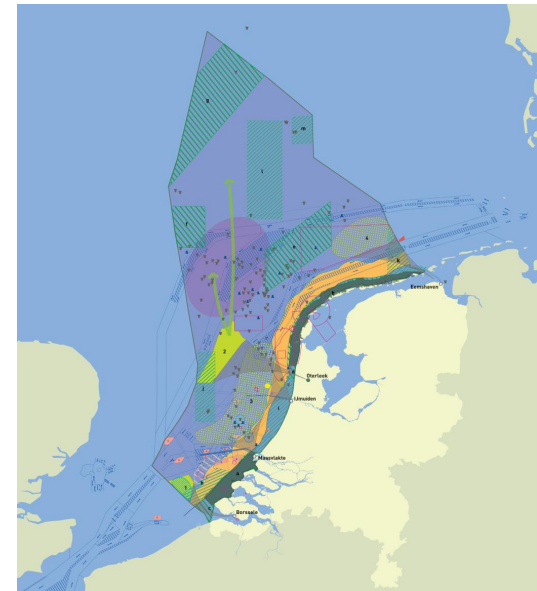
- Freedom
- Sectoral policies
- Bisectoral agreements
- Increasing pressure and complexity
- Need for integrated approach
- Reactive, based on permits
- Proactive, forward looking plans, based on
- Urgencies and practical issues





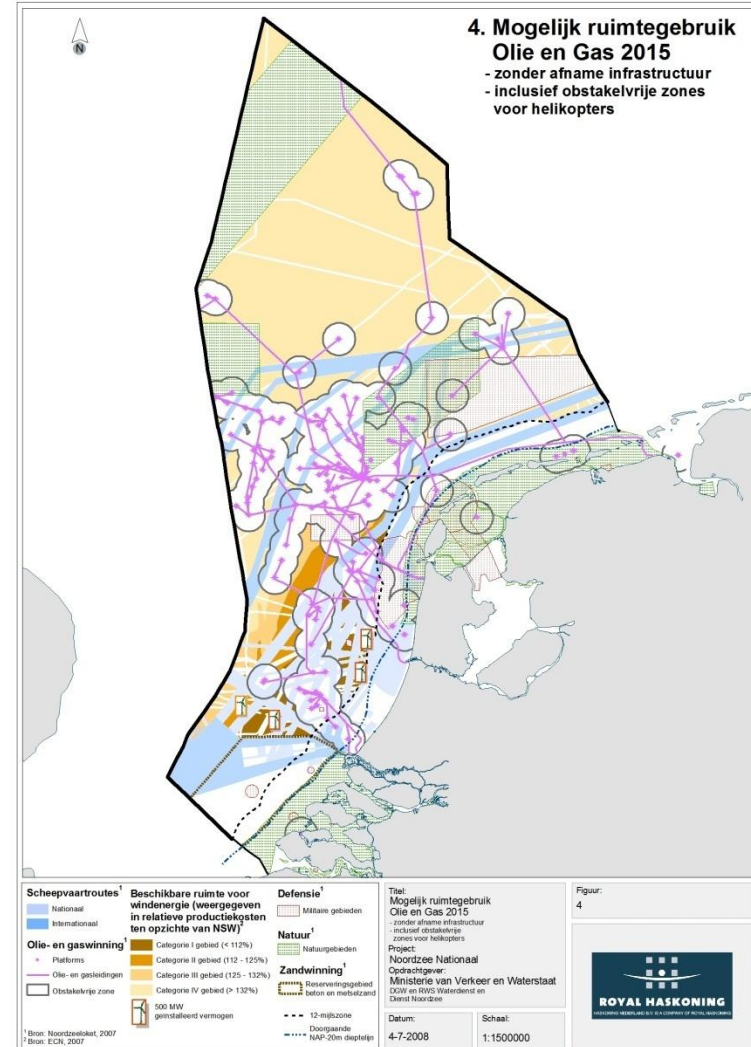
## “The making off”

- Investigate spatial pressures and conflicts
- Identify ambitions and aims
- Formulate principles and starting points
- Combine sectoral maps
- Organize sub processes in difficult areas
- Investigate alternatives, assesments on ecology, safety, costs and benefits
- Final decisions to be made by politicians.
  
- Cross border consultation
- Open negotiations between stakeholders





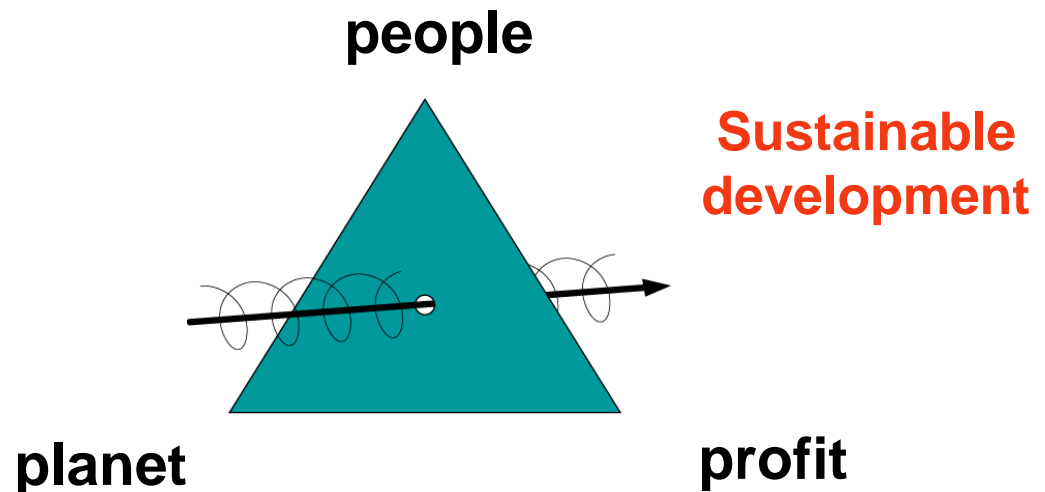
# Identifying spatial pressures and possible conflicts





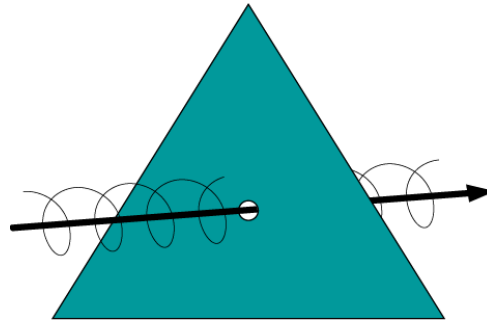
# Mutual gains approach: stakeholder participation and sustainable development

- Open negotiations lead to sustainable custom made solutions
- Interests instead of positions and fixed targets
- Joint Fact Finding
- More alternatives
- Decisions according to democratic principles





## Sustainable development





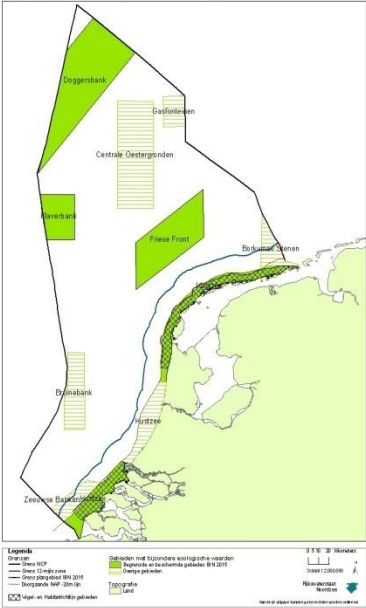
## Ambitions and aims

- Sustainable use in balance with ecosystem
- Wind energy, oil and gas, shipping, sand extraction, military activities are of national interest
- Designation of wind energy areas: space for 6000 MW
- Enough space for sand extraction (coastal defense)
- Respect Natura 2000 areas, no significant effects etc.
- Strive for:
  - No constructions within 12 miles zone
  - 2 NM between wind areas and shipping routes
  - No wind mills 5 NM around platforms

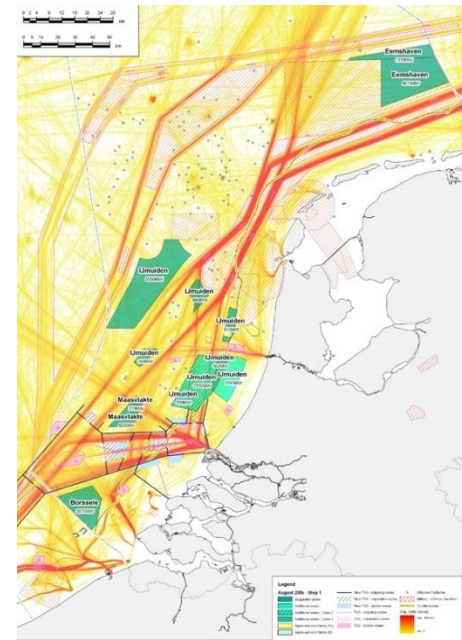
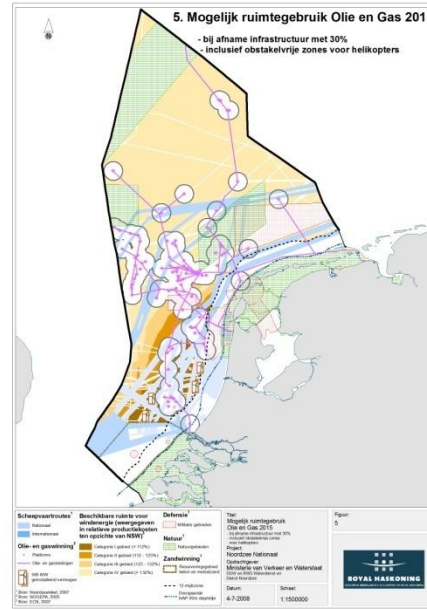
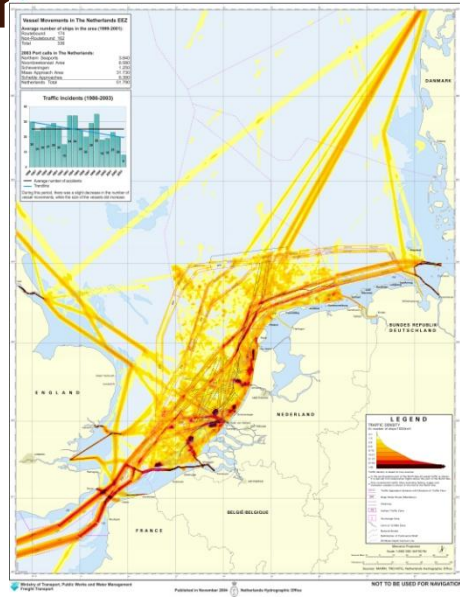




Alle gebieden met bijzondere ecologische waarden



VESSEL TRAFFIC ON THE NORTH SEA



# Combine maps

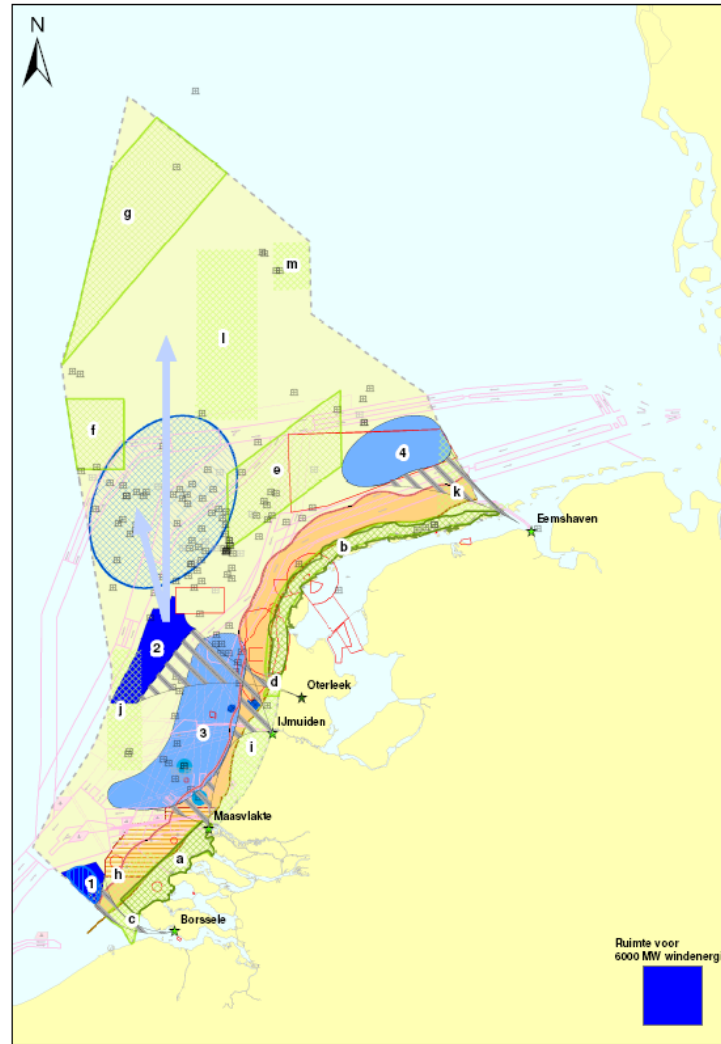
Identify 80 % that everybody agree upon and 20 % that is subject of discussion.



# New spatial map

## Sub processes in the areas with many spatial claims

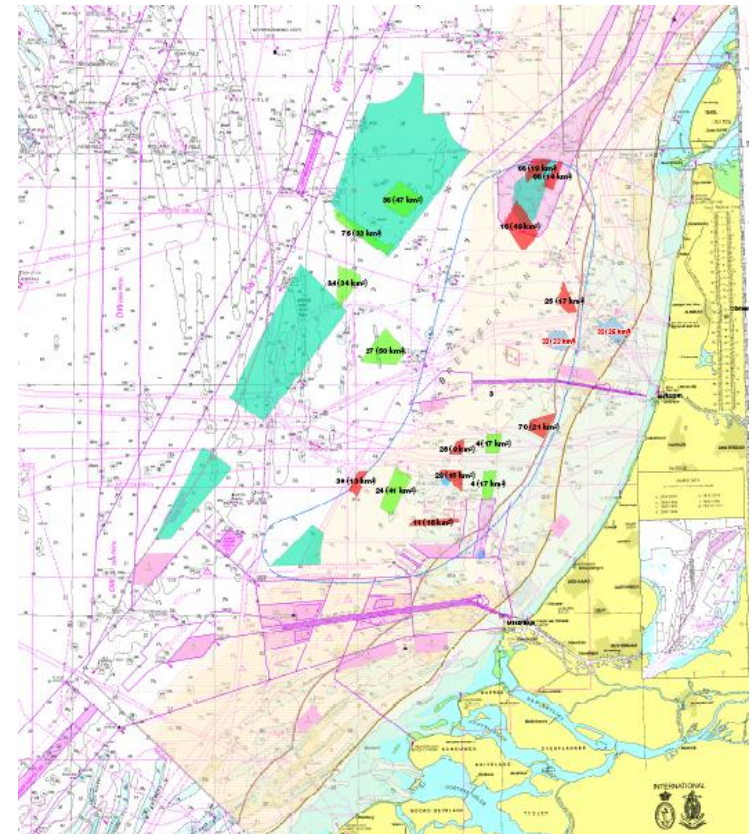
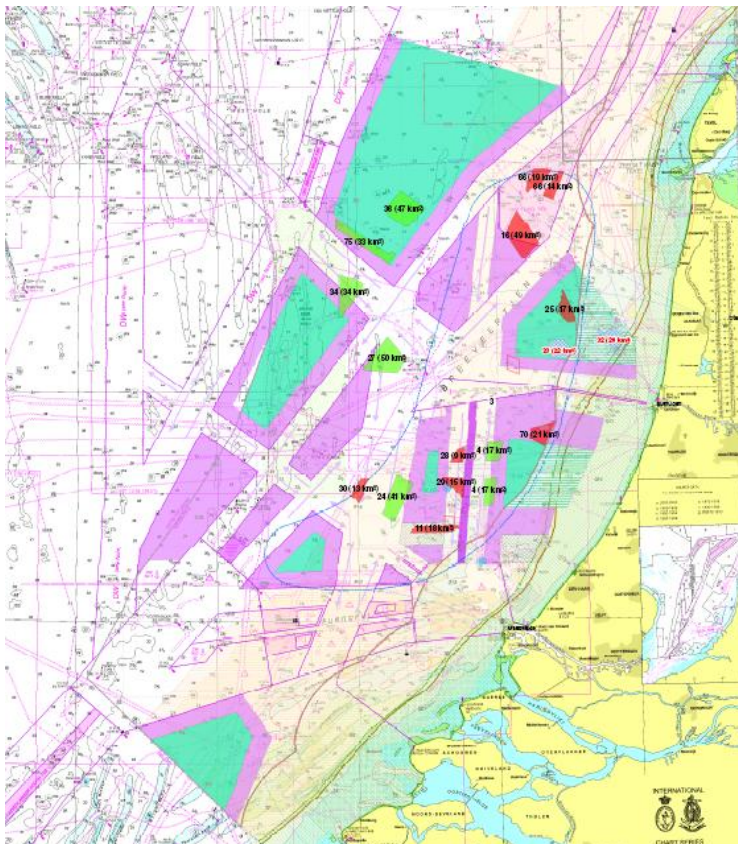
## Two search areas for windenergy



- Legenda**
- Basis**
    - Grens territoriale wateren (12 mijlsgrens)
    - Doorgaande NAP -20 m lijn
  - Scheepvaart infrastructuur**
    - Begrenzing verkeersscheidingsstelsels
    - Ankergebied
    - Verkeersscheidingsstelsels separatiezone
    - Cleanways
    - Zoekgebied ankergebieden voor Eemshaven (die in de Duitse EEZ liggen)
    - Geulen: aanpassing in studie
  - Platforms voor olie en gaswinning**
    - Platform
    - Onderwaterplatform
  - Zandwinning**
    - Reservingsgebied voor suppletie- en ophoozand
    - Reservingsgebied voor beton- en metselzand (verkleind)
  - Defensie**
    - Coefengebieden (inclusief munitiestortplaatsen)
  - Marien ecologisch systeem**
    - Ecologische hoofdstructuur
    - Aan te wijzen Natura 2000 gebieden
    - Aangewezen Natura 2000 gebieden
    - Andere mogelijk ecologisch waardevolle gebieden
  - Windenergiegebieden**
    - Gerealiseerde windparken
    - Windenergiegebied
    - Zoekgebied windenergiegebied, te concretiseren vóór 2010
  - Aanlandingspunt voor windenergie**
    - Borssele; Eemshaven; IJmuiden; Maasvlakte
    - Oterleek (mogelijk aanlandingspunt)
    - Zoekgebied windenergiekabels naar aanlandingspunt
  - Duurzame energie op langere termijn**
    - Kerngebied olie- en gaswinning, optie grootschalige CO2-opslag na 2020
    - Ontwikkelingsrichting duurzame energie na 2020
    - Zoekgebied eiland voor energie-opslag en -productie
    - Pilots CO2 opslag vóór 2015
  - Windenergiegebieden**
    - 1 - Borssele
    - 2 - IJmuiden
    - 3 - Zoekgebied Hollandse kust
    - 4 - Zoekgebied ten noorden van de Waddeneilanden
  - Marien ecologisch systeem**
    - a - Voordelta
    - b - Noordzeekustzone
    - c - Vlakte van de Raan
    - d - Uitbreiding Noordzeekustzone
    - e - Friese Fronten
    - f - Klaverbank
    - g - Doggersbank
    - h - Zeeuwse Banken
    - i - Kustzee
    - j - Bruine Bank
    - k - Borkumse Stenen
    - l - Centrale Oestergronden
    - m - Gasfonteinen
  - Ruimte voor 6000 MW windenergie**



# Investigating alternatives strategic EIA, costs and benefits, formal safety assesment



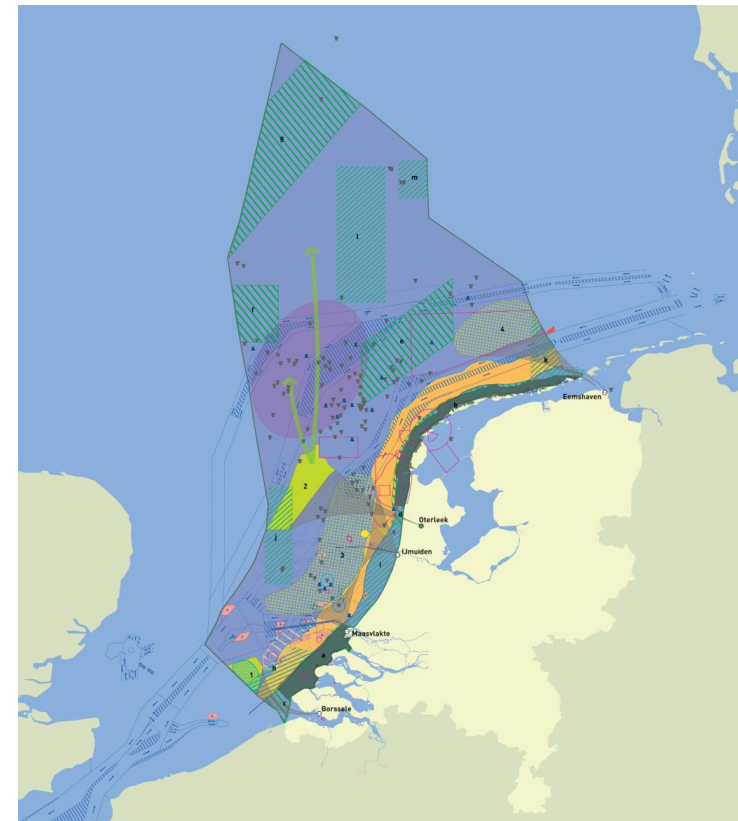


## Decision making

- Cabinet has agreed upon Draft National Waterplan, final decision after elections

### Future steps and developments:

- Final decision on search areas
- Actualization of Management Plan
- New system for issuing permits and subsidies for wind energy
- Relationship with Marine Strategy
- Long term strategies for coastal management
- Intensify cross border cooperation





## Future: new strategies for the coast

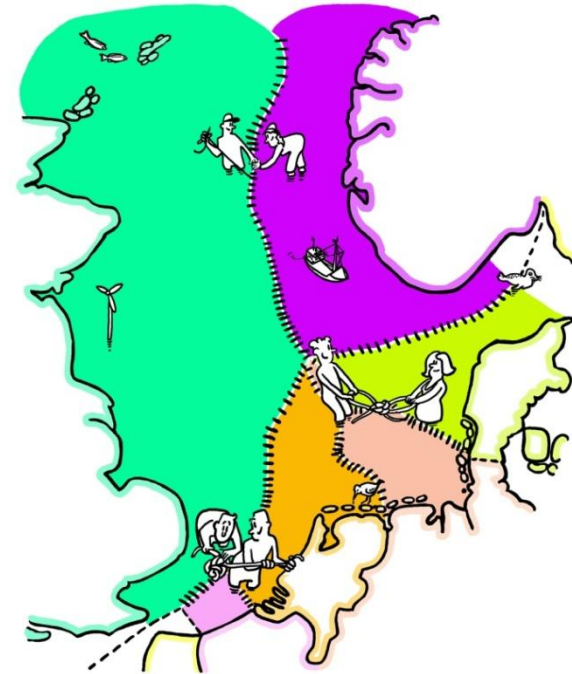
- Sea level rise, coastal safety priority 1
- Sand suppletion whenever possible, dikes when required
- Large suppletion volumes
- New techniques, “building with nature”
- Need for a more dynamic approach on nature conservation
- Combine coastal defense measures with spatial developments
- Delta programm



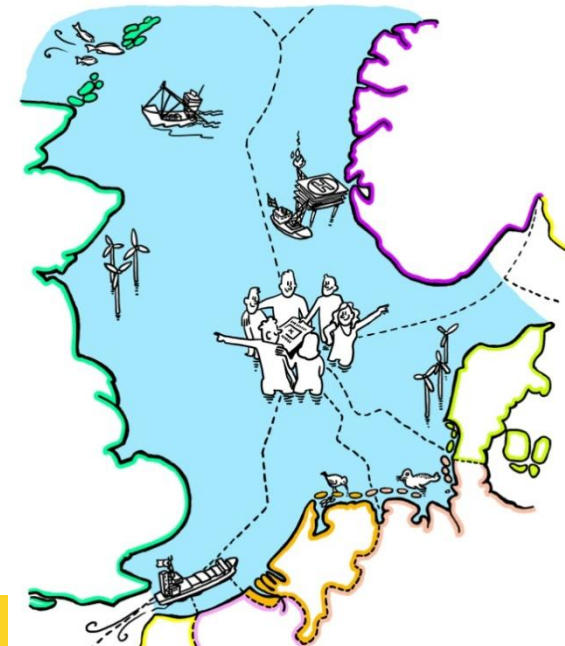


## Future: more cross border cooperation

- All Southern North Sea countries face similar issues
- Are using similar approaches on MSP, though in different settings and timeframes
- Cross border cooperation can be intensified and will probably develop in a more integrated and proactive way



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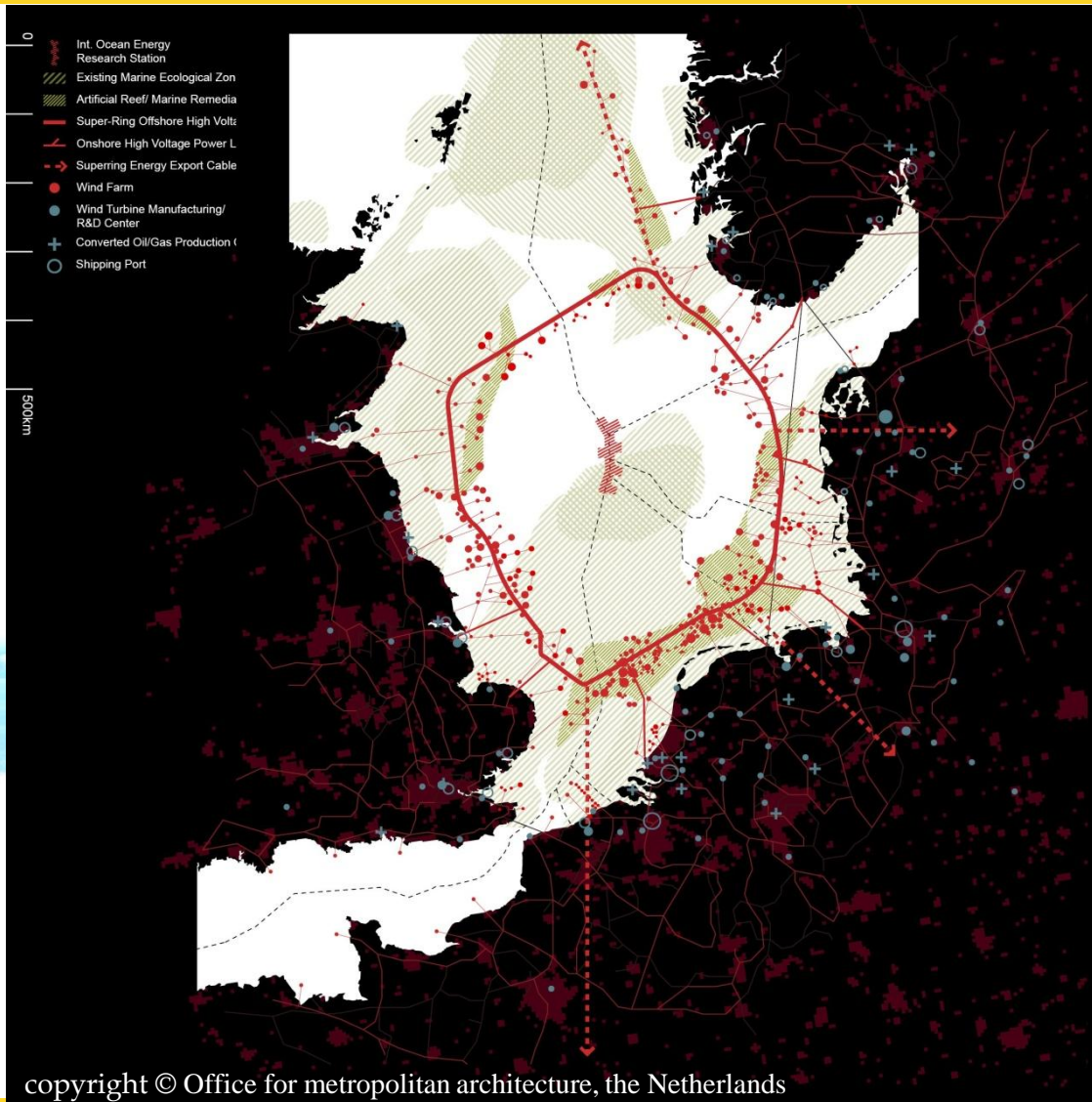


# Future?

Level of cooperation depends on future issues and developments .....



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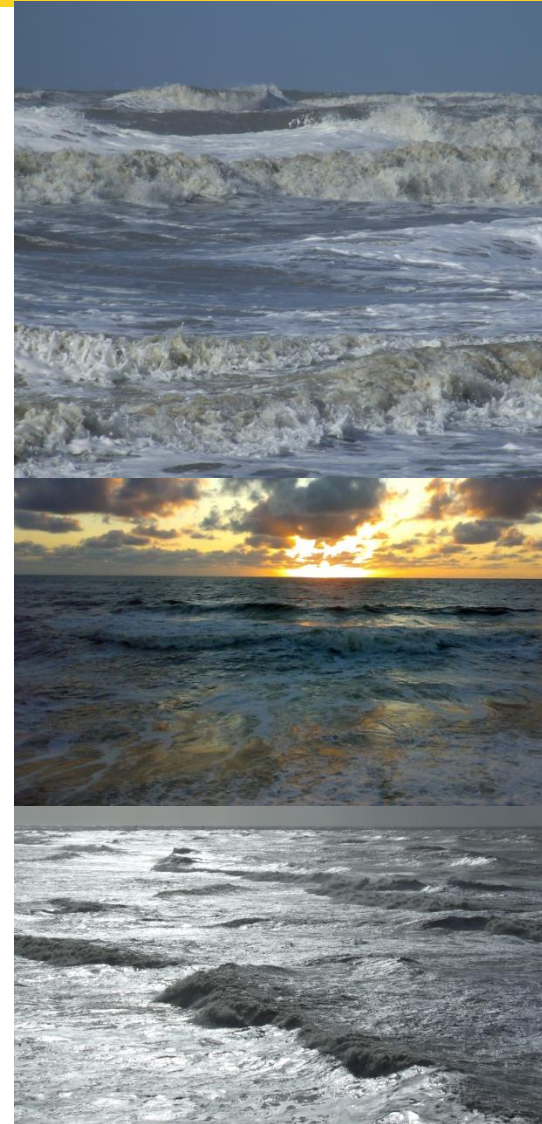


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## Lessons learned

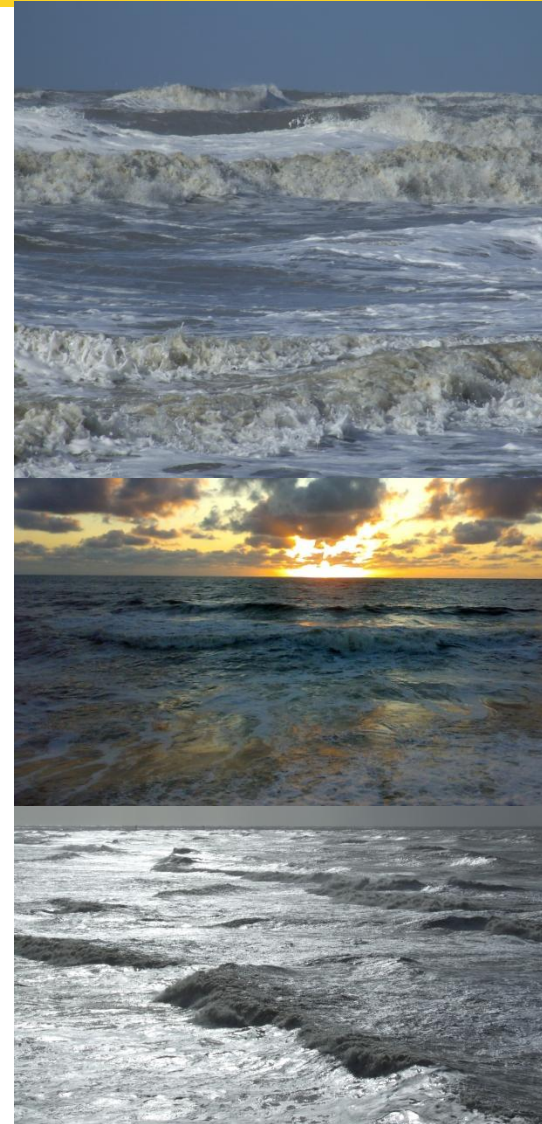
- sense of urgency
  - Felt by stakeholders and politicians
  - Wind energy was driving force
  - For an integrated and forward looking plan
  - Providing certainty for all users
- institutional aspects
- stakeholder participation





## Lessons learned

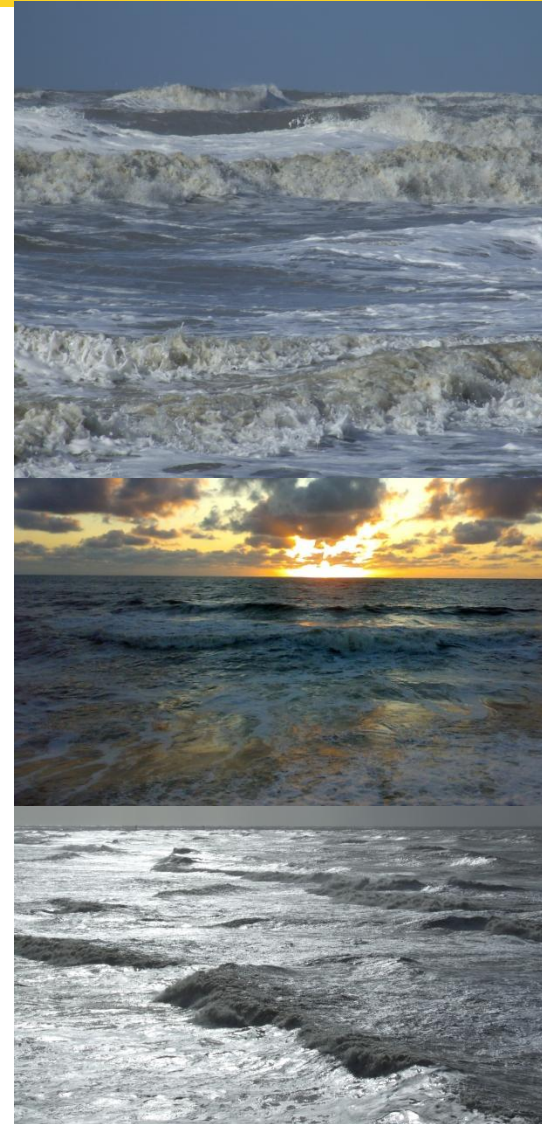
- sense of urgency
- institutional aspects
  - Government institutes work closely together
  - One department responsible for coordination
  - Of policy making and implementation
  - With legally binding instruments
- stakeholder participation





## Lessons learned

- sense of urgency
- institutional aspects
- stakeholder participation
  - Building up confidence
  - Government facilitates process
  - Gathering table for developing alternatives
  - Political decisions







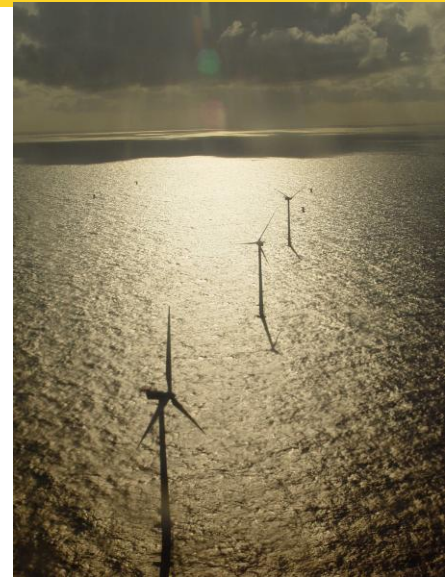
# Conclusions

Important steps forward on MSP:

- “first come first serve” → integrated planning
- From reactive towards proactive
- Based on urgencies and issues in the area
- Adoption of Mutual Gains Approach to reach for sustainable development

Future developments:

- Intensifying international cooperation
- Relationship with Marine Strategy
- Relationship with coastal development





# Finally

- **Marine Spatial Planning is pioneering in an international context**
- **“Best practices” do not exist - since institutional context and issues to deal with require tailor made processes**
- **Develop methods learning by doing and doing by learning**
- **Exchanging experiences!**



## Future: more cross border cooperation

- Operational level: joint monitoring activities, joint efforts realisation windfarms etc.
- Tactical level: coherent management plans, harmonisation of regulatory issues e.g. in nature protection areas or windfarms
- Strategical level: joint planning activities e.g. on energy production and balancing, network of marine protected areas

