IMPLEMENTING EFFECTIVE MARITIME SPATIAL PLANNING REGULATION FRAMEWORK IN THE BALTIC SEA REGION

Dr. iur. Leila Neimane June 15, 2023









Faculty of Law, Institute of Legal Science



Acknowledgement

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EGULDĪJUMS TAVĀ NĀKOTNĒ



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Scope of presentation

- 1. Introduction to the presenter (10 min.)
- Focus on MSP (50 min.)
 A. Background of MSP
 B. Practical user's manual
- Questions and discussion (30 min.)

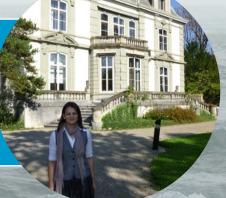


• Switzerland (September 2014 – October 2015)

Project **«Effectiveness of the environmental impact assessment in the Baltic States and Switzerland**», Prof. Christa Tobler



Swiss Government-funded New Professional Internship and Scientific Exchange Program Sciex-NMSch (Swiss Universities Scientific Exchange Program) in the Institute for European Global Studies of the University of Basel



South Africa (December 2015 – June 2017)





NIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA NIVERSITY OF PRETORIA UNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA

European Commission cooperation and mobility program in the field of higher education Erasmus Mundus AESOP+ at the Faculty of Law, University of Pretoria Project «Comparison of the legal framework of environmental impact assessment in the Baltic States and South Africa», Prof. Dire Tladi

• Defence of doctoral dissertation on June 26, 2019



• Postdoctoral research I (2020 – 2023)

«Effective Maritime Spatial Planning Regulation Framework and Implementation Challenges and Best Practice Examples for the Context of the Baltic Sea», University of Latvia, Faculty of Law



Apsveicu Leilu ar ievēlēšanu Juridiskās zinātnes institūta pētnieces amatā. Prieks, ka Leila būs jaunā kolēģe un Institūtā tiek īstenoti arvien jauni projekti tehnoloģiju un tiesību mijiedarbības, un tagad arī vides aizsardzības jomā. Kamēr Latvijas Universitātes Juridiskā fakultāte ir slēgta studentiem, neviens neliedz pie ieejas taisīt skaistas bildes 🍟

2.A. Background of MSP: Aim of research

- Providing transparency in the legal environment and facilitating the implementation and application of effective maritime spatial planning (MSP) in the Baltic Sea
- Target audiences: implementers of the legal norms, industry representatives and spatial planning specialists in daily practice



2.A. Background of MSP: What is MSP (1)?

 «a process by which the relevant Member State's authorities analyse and organise human activities in marine areas to achieve ecological, economic and social objectives»,

> Directive 2014/89/EU establishing a framework for maritime spatial planning (MSP Directive), Art. 3(2)

 «a public process of analyzing and allocating the spatial and temporal distribution of human activities in marine areas to achieve ecological, economic, and social objectives that are usually specified through a political process»,



Source: Bas Kohler, www.baskohler.nl

2.A. Background of MSP: Topicality

Transport and port development

Fisheries

Aquaculture

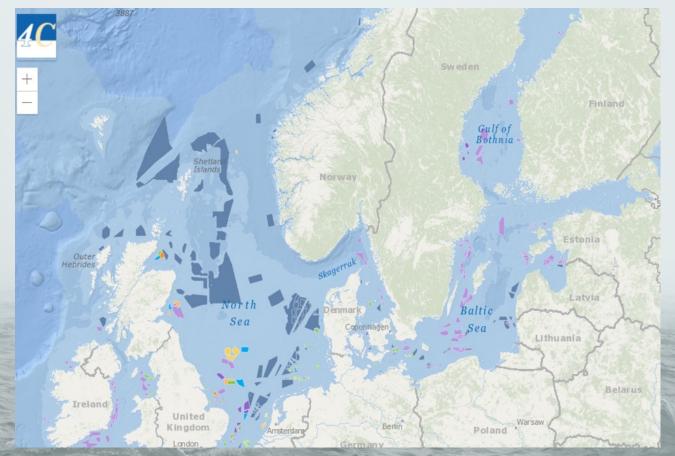
Tourism

Exploration and exploitation of marine energy

Marine biotechnology

New underwater technologies

Conservation of ecosystems and biodiversity



Source: https://map.4coffshore.com/offshorewind/

2.A. Background of MSP: What is MSP (2)?

eof,

- Directive 2014/89/EU (23 July 2014) establishing a framework for marine spatial planning (MSP Directive)
 - Covers 22 coastal EU Member States
 - Plans are due by March 31, 2021
- The MSP is also associated with:
 - Integrated Maritime Policy (2007)
 - Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC)

Official Journal of the European Union DIRECTIVE 2014/89/EU OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF '1 of 23 July 2014 establishing a framework for maritime spatial planning EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION, ing regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Articles 43(2), 100 ring regard to the proposal from the European Commission, r transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments, ng regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee (¹),

regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions $\binom{2}{3}$,

accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure $(^3)$,

d rapidly increasing demand for maritime space for different purposes, such vable sources, oil and gas exploration and exploitation, maritime shi the extraction of raw materials, tourism, aquacultur

2.A. Background of MSP: Adopted plans



Source: https://maritime-spatial-planning.ec.europa.eu/msp-practice/countries/

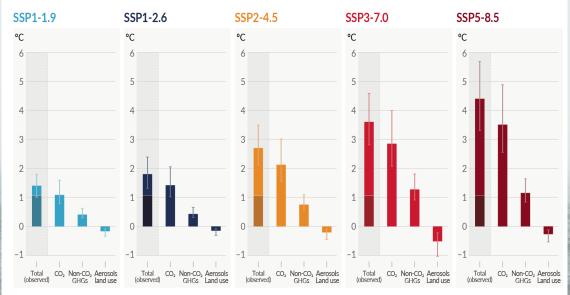
2.A. Background of MSP: Climate change

- According to all Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) emissions scenarios, global warming is inevitable
- However, if (effective) additional climate policies are implemented, this can be limited to 1.5-2 degrees in accordance with the Paris Agreement¹

¹VASAB, 2021b (Meyer)

Total warming (observed warming so far), warming from CO₂, warming from non-CO₂, GHGs and cooling from changes in aerosols and land use

(b) Contribution to global surface temperature increase from different emissions, with a dominant role of CO₂ emissions Change in global surface temperature in 2081–2100 relative to 1850–1900 (°C)



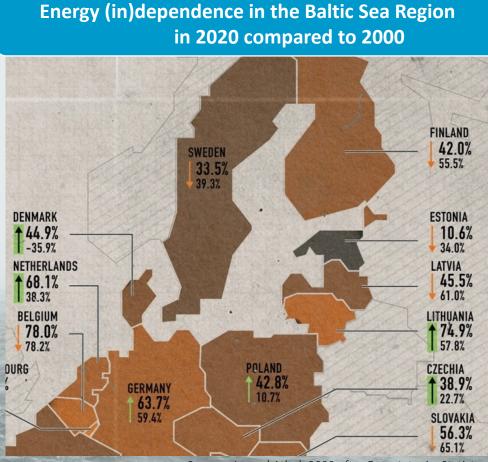
otal warming (observed warming to date in darker shade), warming from CO2, warming from non-CO2 GHGs and cooling from changes in aerosols and land use

Source: IPCC, 2021

2.A. Background of MSP: Economics and politics

- Energy price increases (e.g. 170% for gas globally in 2021)¹
- Unstable geopolitical conditions
- Energy (in)dependence of the Baltic Sea Region and the EU
- For example, the reduction of Latvia's energy dependence (45.5% in 2020 compared to 61% in 2000)
- The EU average 57.5% in 2020 vs 56.3% in 2000

¹VASAB, 2021b (Meyer); ²Lu and Athul, 2022 after Eurostat, eia, Statista



Source: Lu and Athul, 2022 after Eurostat, eia, Statista

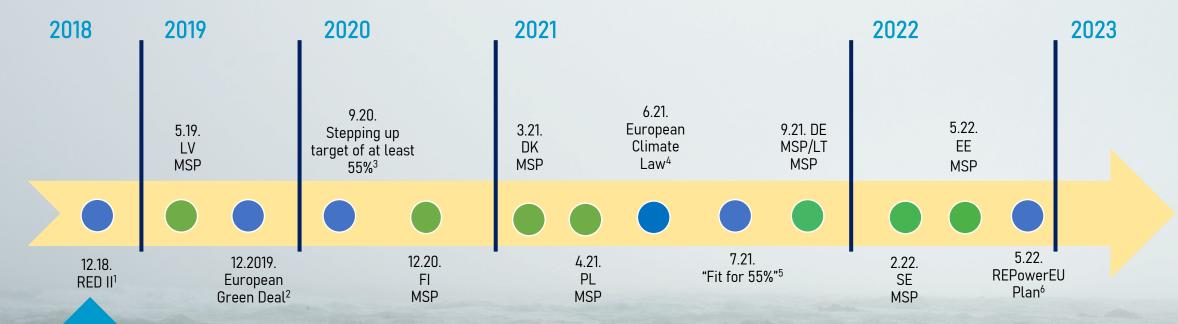
2.A. Background of MSP: The EU Green Deal

- Published in December 2019
- Reducing net greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to zero by 2050 and decoupling economic growth from consumption
- Development of a complete set of transformative policies and measures
- Areas affected: climate, energy, environment, agriculture and food, transport, industry and finance

¹EC, COM(2019) 640 final



2.A. Background of MSP: Timeline



1) GHG reduction of at least 40% to 55% in 2030; 2) The share of renewable energy from at least 32% to 45% in 2030⁷

¹Renewable Energy Directive 2018/2011; ²EC, COM(2019) 640 final; ³EC, COM(2020) 562 final; ⁴Regulation 2021/1119; ⁵EC, COM(2021) 550 final; ⁶EC, COM(2022) 230 final; ⁷European Parliament, 2023.

2.A. Background of MSP: Wind energy potential

Country

Sweden

Total

40

187

Number

of

farm

Identified

potential

capacity [GW]

19.5

7.0

8.0

8.0

14.5

4.5

12.0

20.0

93.5

Potential

Energy

[TWh]

70.7

24.0

26.0

29.1

49.2

15.5

43.2

68.2

325.9

Production

Net

		Offshore wind energy capacities				500 MW wind fa blocks		
							Denmark	39
		1991	2010"	Today	2030	2050	Estonia	14
							Finland	16
Average power capacity o	f offshore wind turbine	0,45 MW	3MW	7,8MW	1	1	Germany	16
							1	00
EU offshore wind energy of	capacity	5MW	3GW	12GW	≥60GW	300GW	Latvia	29
							Lithuania	9
Ocean energy capacity (e.	g. wave, tidal)		3,8MW	13MW	≥1GW	40GW)		-
		Sourc	e: EC, 2020a; E	K. COM(2020) 74	41 final		Poland	24

Source: EC, 2020a; EK, COM(2020) 741 final

2.A. Background of MSP: Biodiversity importance

The EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030

The new EU-wide Biodiversity Strategy will:

Establish protected areas for at least:



30% of land in Europe 30% of sea in Europe

With stricter protection of remaining EU primary and oldgrowth forests legally binding nature restoration targets in 2021.

Source: EC, 2020b; EC, COM(2020) 380 final

2.B. Practical user's manual

• Elaboration of the practical user's manual



Riga, 2023

Maritime Spatial Planning Practical User's Manual: BALTIC SEA REGION PERSPECTIVE How inappropriate to call this planet Earth, when it is quite clearly Ocean. Sir Arthur C. Clarke¹ *** My Ocean is your Ocean. My Ocean is #OurOcean. My Ocean is #OurOcean.

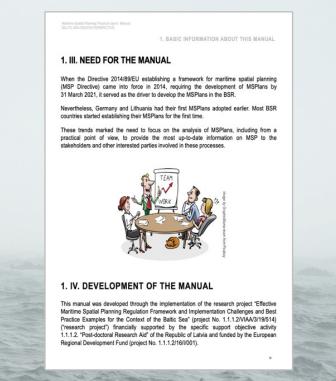
(armenu Vella, European Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affair and Fisheries (2014 – 2019)²

No water, no life; no blue, no green. Sylvia Earle, oceanographer³

There is no Green Deal without the oceans, no green recovery without the blue economy.

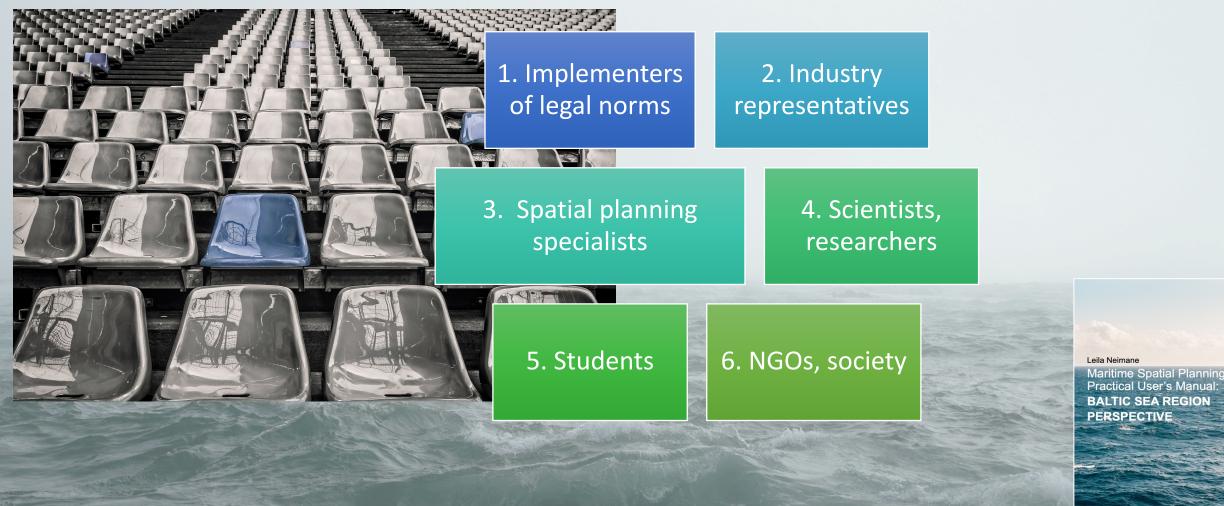
Virginijus Sinkevičius, European Commissioner for the Environment, Oceans and Fisheries (2019 – present)⁴

¹ CEC, 2008b; UNESCO-IOC, 2021g; ² EC, 2017b; Santoro et al., 2017; ³ EC, n.d.a; ⁴ EC, 2021e. Cover photo: Image by Kellie Churchman from Pexels (1001682)



 The manual is available here: https://www.jf.lu.lv/fileadmin/user_upload/LU.LV/Apaksvietnes/Fakultates/www.jf.lu.lv/zinas/ Manual_09062023.pdf

2.B. Practical user's manual: Target audience



Riga, 2023

2.B. Practical user's manual: Methodology

- Research results of the project
- Qualitative research methods
- The EU and national policy and planning documents, regulatory framework, MSP online information, interview material
- Synergy with other manuals and cross-border cooperation and transboundary projects' materials



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2.B. Practical user's manual: Interviews

- Interviews with experts representatives from:
 - National competent authorities,
 - Other states, regional and municipal institutions,
 - Companies, business associations,
 - Non-governmental organisations,
 - Research institutions universities and institutes
- 65 respondents in 8 countries, a total of 60 interviews

Country	Number of respondents
Denmark	6
Estonia	9
Latvia	9
Lithuania	6
Poland	7
Finland	6
Germany	8
Sweden	13
Total number of respondents	65

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Maritime Spatial Planning Practical User's Manual: BALTIC SEA REGION PERSPECTIVE

Riga, 2023

2.B. Practical user's manual: Contents

- 1) Basic information about the manual
- 2) Background of MSP: history, legislation, purpose and nature and stages of the process
- 3) Baltic Sea Region and profiles of coastal EU Member States
- 4) Blue economy sectors
- 5) The best MSP regional practices (examples)
- 6) MSP challenges
- 7) Effectiveness of MSP
- 8) Future vision



2. II. LEGISLATION

"The adoption of the Directive and its implementation has made the EU the grouping of countries that is most advanced in developing MSP, and an international point of reference in this field,"

EC COM/2022 185 feed no. 16 -

3. BALTIC SEA REGION AND COUNTRY PROFILES

'In the Batkic, I think, there's always been this sense: we're in this together, we must develop a common vision for the whole Batkic Sea. As a result, in the Batkic, they have man visions, many sorts of joint platforms, I would say, to bring people together around the sea,

> MSP researcher and practitioner, Germany or March 11, 2022

"The planning community in the Baltic Sea Region we are quite connected, and there is a very active exchange of experiences all the time. We have a kind of community where we inspire and learn from each other and also collaborate with HELCOM, VASAB, and MSP Working Group,"

informant #13 - spatial planner, Latvia, pc, January 20, 2022

4. BLUE ECONOMY SECTORS: CHARACTERISTICS AND FUTURE CHALLENGES

The driver of the Blue Economy is that land ecosystem is ovenued. I mean, we are on the carrying capacity, as you say in ecology, on land. About 50% of the primary production goes to humans and at the animals we eat; the rest is for all the other things that live on land. So, if we look in the future to leed another 5 billion people coming here in the next 50 years, the land will not cope with 'Los, we must go to the sea and help the land ecosystem. Therefore, we could see the blue farms growing and the blue fields and more food ornduction mu the sea."

> nant #2 – MSP researcher and practitioner, Sweden, pc, December 2, 2021

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2.B. Practical user's manual: Example

- Country profile: Germany
- 1) Basic information, including geographic data and key planning information
- 2) In aggregated form:
 - The MSP regulatory framework is provided
 - Outline about the preparation of the plan, its place in the planning system
 - Illustrations with expert commentary
 - Examples of good practice



14. MSP review period: 10 years

17. Integration level with other

Maritime strategy: Yes

Other MSPlans in force: **MSPlans of three federal**

states for the territorial sea

Digitisation of the plan in an accessible format:

plans: Existing with other

15. Action plan of MSP: No

MSPlans in force

Second

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3. V. GERMANY: THE GERMAN MSP SYSTEM



- MSP title: Maritime Spatial 11 Planning type: National and Plan for the German EEZ in regional the North Sea and Baltic Sea 12. Scale: Adjustable
- 2. Spatial MSP coverage 13. Perspective of the plan: 10 German EEZ vears
- Maritime bordering countries: DK, NL, PL, SE,
- 4. Sea area: ≈ 15 400 km² (Baltic 16. Nature of MSP: Binding Sea), ≈ 41 000 km² (North Seal
- Length of coastline: 3 700 km (North Sea [1 600 km) and 18. Adoption (generation): Baltic Sea [2 100 km]).
- **Competent authority: Federal** Ministry for Housing, Urban **Development and Building**
- MSP legislation in place: 2004, 2016/2017 Planning started: 2005 (first).
- 2019 (second)
- MSP adopted: 2021
- 10. Parts of the plan: Two

- An overarching development concept for the sea, which serves as the strategy for an integrated German maritime policy ("Entwicklungsplan Meer - Strategie für eine integrierte deutsche Meerespolitik"), was released by the Federal Government in 2011.1
- The territorial sea areas are under the jurisdiction of the three coastal federal states
- These three federal states are Lower Saxony, Schleswig-Holstein, and Mecklenburg-Vorpommern) which have the planning authority in these areas.²
- · As a result, there are three existing regional MSPlans in Germany. They cover both the land and the territorial sea and are integrated into that sense.3
- · Germany is the most experienced country in the BSR in adopting the MPSPlans at federal and regional levels.





1.2 European, MSP Platform, 2022d; ³ informant #42 – MSP researcher and practitioner, Germany, pc, March 11

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2.B. Practical user's manual: Examples

Blue economy sectors: Offshore wind energy and fisheries

Maritime Spatial Planning Practical User's

4. IV. OFFSHORE RENEWABLE ENERGY

"One subject really stands out and, of course, is the wind power, offshore wind parks, and areas found within MSP. This has raised a lot of questions. So, when we consider blue growth, like algae farms or mussel farms, these things are considered loss impactful, so they don't raise many questions. Neither do, let's say, protect the cultural hentage, the wrecks in the sea bottom or maybe other uses, like maritime transport. That doesn't raise that many questions, but the main focus has been on the areas that are found suitable for offshore wind energy production,"

informant #29 - spatial planner, pc, Estonia, February 17, 2022

When promoting wind, you can say that it

'20 years ago, we started with projects trying to find out how it works to have a monopile in the water to have a windmill on top of it. It was a general opinion that it would collapse and never work. And 15 years later, wind energy offshore is the thing to go,"

formant #40 - MSP researcher and practitioner, Germany, pc, March 10, 2022

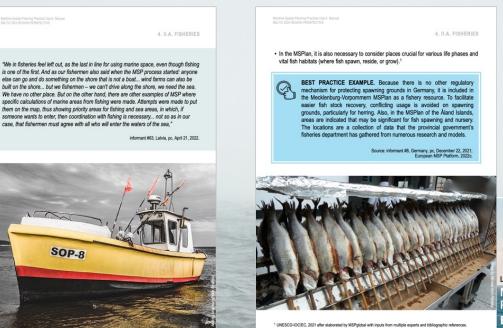


¹¹ think the main planning task is then the requirement from the society, how many windmills are needed to supply the society with energy. But then there will be conflicts – the fishere, environment, ecosystems, etc. And think the MSP process is a necessary process to combine all these different needs for sustainable marine planning in a way that everything needs to be considered, so the increase in offshore structures in a way that fishery is still possible, that still, the ecosystem is not suffering and so on,"

informant #59 - MSP researcher, Germany, pc, April 4, 2022

"When promoting wind, you can say that it is the cheapest form of energy production. It is the tereness form of energy production. It is necessary to develop as much of this wind energy capacity as possible in Latvia to reduce the price and promote local production and, thus, the reliability of this energy supply. However, it must be considered that the wind alone will not solve all electricity issues. The sun alone will not. These are not mutually exclusive. Likewise, any generative power cannot exist by Isself. It is theoretically possible, but considering the system we operate in, the system provides IL. Each production unit brings a certain contribution to energy superly. However, shows the development. . Please put it in this basket, and it only strengthents this industry. If the wind doesn't work, the sun will. If the sun doesn't work, there will be wind."

informant #16 - business representative, Latvia, pc, January 24, 2022



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2.B. Practical user's manual: Examples

 The best MSP regional practices: Stakeholder engagement and integrating climate change issues



5. III. EXAMPLE NO. 3: STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT



- Stakeholder involvement is listed as one of the MSP's minimum requirements (MSP Directive, Article 6.2(d)).
- According to Article 9.1 of the Directive, Member States must ensure mechanisms for public participation by providing information to all interested parties, consulting relevant stakeholders and agencies, and the general public early in preparing MSPlans.
- In the BSR practice, as regards stakeholder engagement, most countries have done more than the law requires. In this regard, various solutions were applied, starting from the "Call for ideas" web map in Estonia" and Cooperation Network in Finland² and ending with the scientific advisory board in Germany³ and the trans-disciplinary national MSP Working Group in Latvia⁴.

¹Lees et al., 2023; informant #37 – MSP researcher, Estonia, pc, March 7, 2022; ² European MSP Platform, 2022c; ³ European MSP Platform, 2022d; ⁴European MSP Platform, 2022h.

5.XII. EXAMPLE 12: INTEGRATING CLIMATE

CHANGE (CC) ISSUES

"I really think that climate change is a problem, and we must act on that. So, I try to develop the project because of that,"

informant #12 - business representative, Estonia, pc, January 19, 2022



 In the BSR, it is expected that climate change (CC) impacts at the end of the century will be on the same scale as all other environmental pressures combined, so this will undoubtedly have a significant effect on the marine environment.¹

VASAB Secretariat [Markus Meier], 2021g.

Maritime Spatial Planning Practical User's Manua

5.XII. EX.12: INTEGRATING CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES

- However, one of the most outstanding examples of the integration of olimate change issues into MSP in the BSR is the approach of the Swedish MSPlans, which introduced the concept of "climate refugia."
- The concept of "climate refugia" has been developed under the Pan Baltic Scope project. This concept, among other things, identifies areas important in the future for ecosystem values and services.
- Climate refugia include creating so-called "planning polygons" to organise conservation, mitigation, and enhancement (restoration).¹
- Using climate refugia, aggregate ecceystem service maps can be produced that show where to avoid certain maritime activities and ecceystem disturbance to facilitate future ecceystem services.²

"I think one of the good practices "Climate refugia is the ecosystem; the species will is how we addressed nature conservation and climate aspect change according to warme water conditions, for instance to some extent. It's a good their habitats. The idea is to example because we have build certain species of marine developed more than already protected areas so that they can protected areas. So, we also survive in future in a identified other areas where warmer world. It is a matter, not consideration has to be taken to the people. It is based on nature values. As a part of this, species dynamics, on the we have the climate refugia, ecosystem, so to build a networ which is like - ok, only one part of interconnected marine of addressing the climate issues, protected areas that protect the but still one way. I think that's a ecosystem also in a warmer good thing." world

informant #59 – MSP researcher, Inft Germany, pc, April 4, 2022 Leila Neimane

informant #51 – governmental official, Sweden, pc, March 24, 2022

2.B. Practical user's manual: Examples

 Challenges of MSP: risk of proceedings, co-existence with nature areas and transborder collaboration



6.

Now, that you think that it was the first planning round, and it might be so that they [politicians] were not sure what they were deciding, and we had to inform them. And then it might be so that during the second planning round, they will find out – Oh, now I know what the MSP means and what the aims of MSP are. Now I have something to say, and I want more local conditions and regional development ambitions to show through the plan. Trn quite sure it will be much harder during the second planning round

than it was during this first."

informant #34 – regional official, Finland, pc, February 24, 2022

6. IV. CHALLENGE NO. 4: RISK OF PROCEEDINGS

 The risk of proceedings should be emphasised more often in the field of MSP. Most likely, this is mainly because this topic has been less relevant in MSP until now. Except for the case in Estonia, when the part of the thiu plan concerning offshore wind energy extraction areas was challenged, there are no other cases where legal proceedings have been initiated. Therefore, the risk of legal proceedings is considered high in Estonia."

The risk of litigation exists purely objectively in the field of MSP, and it is very precisely
described in the opinion expressed by one respondent:

EXPERIENCE GAINED – ESTONIA. 'If we are on land, usually in the planning process, the next level is a detailed plan, and then after this detailed plan is coming to this building project process. Then we have this general planning where we choose the area. And then coming next step, the next planning stage. But on the sea, the next stage is a building project, with no next planning level. For building projects, there is also environmental impact analysis. Sill, the court says that in the planning. process, we must be sure when we don't have the next level of planning. It is why they say that we can't say that it's safe and must cancel it [Huu plan wind energy areas].'

informant #14 - spatial planner, Estonia, pc, January 21, 2022.

The main challenge is the implementation of specific objects and activities from the general level of MSP. In practice, it may turn out that the MSP is too general (highly open to interpretation), and specific projects (wind farms, cables, fish farms) get stuck in disputed details (for example, what type of wind turbins, cables, fish farms) get stuck in electric cable may pass through a Natura 2000 area). The danger is the further (yearslong) proceedings of the MSP (and/or marine projects) in the court system, which creates a situation where very urgent decisions and actions are delayed."

informant #12 - business representative, Estonia, pc, January 19, 2022

¹For example, informant #12 – business representative, Estonia, pc, January 19, 2022.

6. XI. CHALLENGE NO. 11: CO-EXISTENCE WITH NATURE AREAS

 The EU Biodiversity Strategy aims to stop biodiversity loss and reverse the downward trend in biodiversity by 2030. The Member States have committed to 17 critical goals to accomplish this goal.¹

"I think the main challenge is how do we balance, in fact, energy generation and biodiversity protection. So, the most difficult conflict is going to come between those things. So, climate change will put pressure on ecosystems and biodiversity. And there are calls for protection. So, you have the biodiversity 30% and 10% targets for protection, but, on the other hand, you have this enormous pressure to generate renewable energy. So, how do we bring that together? That's going to be the biggest challenge for MSP, I believe, by far,"

> informant #42 – MSP researcher and practitioner, Germany, pc, March 11, 2022

> > informant #18 - MSP resear Sweden, pc, January 25,

"The main challenge is actually to reach environmental and climate ambitions. Some of these challenges are trade-offs, I guess,"

1EC, COM(2020) 380 final.

e downward ritical goals

BALTIC SEA REGION PERSPECTIVE

6. XIX. CHALLENGE NO. 19: TRANSBORDER COLLABORATION



"I think there might be an opportunity to think about making it more coherent in the region. For example, Latvian and "I think we need to collaborate much better in the Baltic to have a living Baltic Estonian plans are binding, but Swedish and Finnish plans are only guiding. See in the future with something in it Therefore, they are very different in Because we all depend on the water, all the countries and we are quite a few some cases but we see in the region countries around that all have the also when discussing different themes that usually the problems are the same. borders towards the Baltic Sea." Consequently, we have to think more about how can we make it more coherent or how can we make it more understandable to different areas."

informant #20 - governmental official,

Estonia no Eebruary 1 202

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Maritime Spatial Planning Practical User's Manual: BALTIC SEA REGION PERSPECTIVE

informant #4 - MSP researcher and

practitioner, Sweden, pc December 7, 2021

2.B. Practical user's manual: The best practices

- The best regional practices and challenges of MSP:
 BRP
 - 20 best practice examples
 - 20 challenges
 - Cross-correlation
 - Use in an intuitive way

BRP	Example of the best MSP regional practice (BRP)	Challenge
1.	Ecosystem services (LV)	Implementation
2.	Cultural (value) mapping (EE)	General and abstract nature of MSP
3.	Stakeholder involvement (almost all countries)	Efficiency of the process
4.	Contributions to local community (SE)	Risk of proceedings
5.	Algae harvesting and processing (SE, EE)	Gaps in the involvement of certain groups of stakeholders
6.	Mussel farming (SE)	Consideration of social aspects
7.	Conditional reservation areas (DE, PL)	Power relationships and dynamics
8.	Approaches to multi-use (DE, SE)	Management of conflicts
9.	Social impact assessment (EE)	Cumulative impact at sea level
10.	Assessment of visual impacts (EE)	Space and multi-use (MU)

2.B. Practical user's manual: The best practices

The best MSP regional practices and challenges of MSP

	BRP	Example of the best MSP regional practice (BRP)	Challenge
1	1.	Cumulative impacts at the national level (DE, EE, SE)	Co-existence with nature areas
1	2.	Integrating climate change (CC) issues (SE)	Climate change (CC) considerations
1	.3.	MSP as the knowledge base (LT)	Land-sea interactions or interface (LSI)
1	.4.	Transboundary projects (all countries)	Data and knowledge availability
1	5.	Regional level perspective (FI)	Uncertainty
1	6.	Land-sea interactions or interface (LSI) (LT)	MSP budget
1	7.	Scenario work (FI)	Adaptiveness of plan
1	8.	Digitisation (DE, DK, FI)	Connection with other political documents and legislation
1	9.	Approaches to conflict management (LT)	Transborder collaboration (DE, PL)
2	0.	Detailed planning (PL)	Cross-basin comparisons

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2.B. Practical user's manual: Networks

HELCOM and VASAB

DEFINITION. The Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (Helsinki Commission) administers the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the BSR and, at the same time, acts as an environmental policy platform at the regional level since 1974 to protect the Baltic Sea environment **HELCOM includes Denmark**, **Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Finland, Germany and Sweden, the EU and Russia**, <u>https://helcom.fi</u>.





DEFINITION. Vision and Strategies around the Baltic Sea (VASAB) is an intergovernmental network founded in 1992 and includes the cooperation of ministers responsible for spatial planning and development in the countries of the Baltic Sea region. Its main strategic document is VASAB's Long-Term Perspective for Territorial Development in the Baltic Sea Region, https://wasab.org.

Leila Neimane

2.B. Practical user's manual: Collaboration

Transborder collaboration

«We discussed the common plan for the whole sea ten years ago. There was talk about whether that might be possible, and the consensus has always been. That's also the directive which is saying that MSP is a national competency, and it has to be up to the nations, to the countries, to anchor a plan legally. So, I think the next step might be to strengthen the common vision that we say: for the Baltic as a whole, where would be good sites for offshore wind to work from the perspective of suitability for particular activities and conservation? Habitats and changes are different, and climate change impacts different parts of the Baltic. So yes, of course, it would make perfect sense to take the whole Baltic and say: we'd like to do planning without any borders and decide where we would put things because it makes the best economic and the most ecological sense. But, of course, in practice, it isn't like that cause there are still national policies, national priorities, national governments... And that isn't likely to change. So, I think the best possible solution we can hope for is a stronger common vision; we have common targets or goals or a shared idea of where we want it all to head, right? That needs to be much more rigorously, I think, translated into our national plans so that there is that common vision than just translated for technical reasons into national documents. And when you put them together, these national documents still speak to one goal, one vision. That, I believe, is the best we can hope for now,»

informant #42 – MSP researcher and practitioner, Germany, pc, March 11, 2022



Leila Neimane

2.B. Practical user's manual: Summary

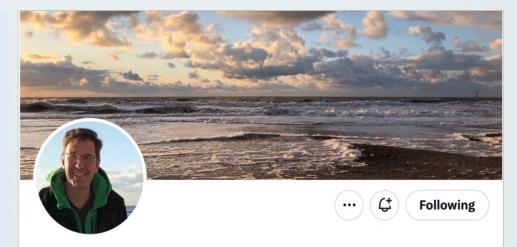
- The summary overview of MSP current affairs in the Baltic Sea region
- For the use in future planning cycles and awareness building
- The basis for evaluating the effectiveness of MSP processes, as well as ensuring effectiveness in terms of goals



2.B. Practical user's manual: Opinions

«What I would like to see over the next decade? I would like to see [MSP] evolve from a novelty concept to a standard approach to any activity at sea, be it traditional or emerging. By then... I think that currently emerging activities or activities that are only at the exploration stage like farming molluscs or seaweed between offshore wind farms should have become standard approaches. I would also like to see any economic activities at sea combined with the objective of nature restoration: artificial reefs, nursery or spawning grounds for fish, seafloor restoration, so, that we'll be able to reach the double objective of climate action and biodiversity conservation or even restoration. So, by 2030 we will see, or we will have seen the second generation of [MSPlans] by all coastal states in the [EU] and beyond probably in the UK as well. Ideally, I think that those will be plans with a purpose and a vision and not only drawing boards that are sketching up how to distribute current uses. And as that purpose MSP would have delivered the objective to have at least 60 [GWs] of offshore wind in EU waters and to protect 30% of maritime space as protected areas by 2030,»

Felix Leinemann, Head of Unit – Blue Economy Sectors, Aquaculture and Maritime Spatial Planning, European Commission (VASAB, 2021b)



Felix Leinemann @FelixLeinemann

Working for a sustainable maritime economy @EU_MARE, also tweeting about mobility. Formerly @EUintheUS, @Transport_EU. T=mine, but may RT differing views. ♥=★

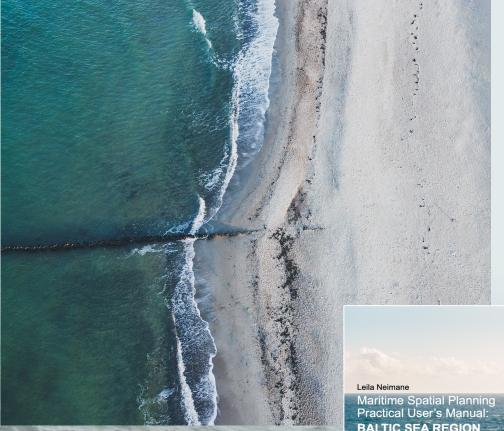
Source: VASAB Secretariat. 2021. How can MSP address many ambitions, challenges? Setting the scene. Policy Debate. 4th Baltic MSP Forum. [Video] YouTube. Available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VjUBUOhKCWg

Leila Neimane

2.B. Practical user's manual: Conclusions (1)

• The main results and conclusions:

- Transversal nature of MSP
- Logical, systematic and consistent development of MSP in the Baltic Sea Region
- Legally binding/guiding nature of MSP
- Ecosystem approach and related challenges
- Interaction between land and sea
- Public participation (broader public involvement)
- Data availability and sharing



PERSPECTIVE

2.B. Practical user's manual: Conclusions (2)

• The main results and conclusions:

- General and abstract nature of MSP
- Chronological shift
- Monitoring and evaluation of MSP implementation
- Balancing environmental, social and economic interests
- Cumulative impact at sea level
- Cross-border and transborder collaboration



Leila Neimane

2.B. Practical user's manual: Information sources

• Full list of information sources is included in Annex 1 (10 pages)

Maritime Spatial Planning Practical User's M BALTIC SEA RECION REPORTED

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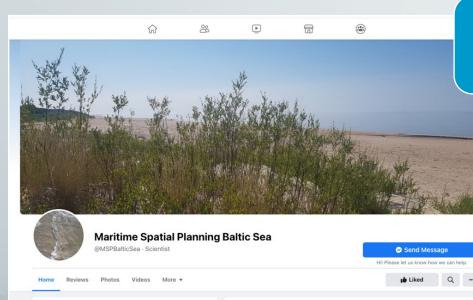
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Maritime Spatial Planning Practical User's Manual: BALTIC SEA REGION PERSPECTIVE

The manual is available here: https://www.jf.lu.lv/fileadmin/user_upload/LU.LV/Apaksvietnes/ Fakultates/www.jf.lu.lv/zinas/Manual_09062023.pdf

Riga, 2023



QUESTIONS and **DISCUSSION**

Thank You for Your Attention!









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