Maritime Spatial Planning as a key instrument for the EU’s Integrated Maritime Policy

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An Ocean of Opportunity:
An Integrated Maritime Policy for the EU

The vision of the EU’s Integrated Maritime Policy

• IMP – a coordinating policy
• **Change** of policy and decision making towards a more cross-sector approach
• Invite MS to draw up **national** integrated maritime policies
• Act as **facilitator** and help Member States to set up networks for the **exchange of knowledge and experiences**
• Develop in 2008 a roadmap for **maritime spatial planning**
• Organise a **stakeholder consultation** structure

http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs
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

* Sustainable use can only be achieved by applying the Ecosystem Based Approach to Planning and Management
Heading towards a mess

Map 1: areas with specific sea use, at the Belgian coast

Map 2: AIS Data from the HELCO website 2007
Examples of future challenges: super-grids

DEFINITION: “an electricity transmission system, mainly based on direct current, designed to facilitate large-scale sustainable power generation in remote areas for transmission to centres of consumption, one of whose fundamental attributes will be the enhancement of the market in electricity.”

Source: Lithuanian Electricity Association
Examples of future challenges: cross-basin constructions (Information from E-On LtD)

- Lithuania is facing a shutdown of major power generating capacities by 2013
- NordBalt Link is a 350km power cable planned to connect SWE with LIT by 2016
- Estimated lifetime 30 years
- The cable runs south of Öland (Sweden) to Klaipeda (Lithuania)
- Södra Midsjöbanken (SMB) wind energy project is close to the NordBalt link
- SMB Sited 100 km to Swedish mainland
- Plans to build as deep as 30m but techniques to build down to 40m exist

Source: Lithuanian Electricity Association
Risks of not planning the sea-use at all

The best way to avoid conflicts is to plan so that the conflicts never occur!

- Competition for sea-space
- Lost business opportunities
- Uncertainty (nature & business)
- Maritime security risks & accidents
- Environmental degradation
- Loss of biodiversity
- Inefficient use of data
- Governance problems
- Loss of culture values
What is Maritime Spatial Planning?

UNESCO-IOC MSP Guidelines: Marine spatial planning (MSP) is 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.

A planning process where the various uses of marine space, resources, and ecosystem services are allocated so that it:
- ensures economical, ecological, and social sustainability/benefits,
- avoids conflicts,
- ensures effective governance and
- use the best possible planning resources

Maritime Spatial Planning = Marine Spatial Planning, Oceans Planning, Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning
Global Marine Policy & MSP trends

- IMP & MSP is accepted and anticipated by a large number of maritime stakeholders, e.g. fisheries, wind energy companies…but also governments!

- Australia is a forerunner (Great Barrier Reef MSP)
- USA will launch their Oceans Policy and MSP roadmap in 2010 (interim reports published 2009)
  - NOAA’s MSP Website
- Canada applies MSP, e.g. in Eastern Nova Scotia
- Global actions also through the Marine Ecosystems and Management (MEAM) publication: http://depts.washington.edu/meam/
European Maritime Policy & MSP trends

- Maritime Policy legislation is now being developed in many EU Member States, e.g.:
  - UK (Marine Bill, MSP Guidelines)
  - Scottish Marine Bill
  - Denmark’s and Sweden’s IMP are on the way
  - Similar activities in many other EU MS
- Several EU Member States are making progress in MSP (Germany, Belgium, UK, the Netherlands, Sweden, France)
- MSFD will fuel into MSP
- EU’s MSP development will focus on cross-border cooperation, economic benefits, marine data

- Scotland expects its offshore production of renewable energy - wind, tidal, and wave - to grow significantly in the next decade.
- The new law aims to facilitate that growth through a streamlined planning and licensing process that reduces bureaucracy.
- Scotland holds 25% of Europe's tidal and offshore wind resource
- The Scottish government estimates that, by 2020, offshore renewables will supply nearly 50% of Scotland's electricity needs
- This development will attract investment of £30 billion to the Scottish economy.
EU’s MSP activities since November 2008

Photos: Jan Nicolaisen, Denmark (Left), EWEA/Dervaux (Mid), DG MARE Photopool (Right)
Desires - EU’s 10 Key principles for MSP (MSP Roadmap 28.11.2008)

- 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
Policy process: Studies on MSP

- Legal aspects of MSP – concluded
- Economic benefits of MSP – ongoing
- Potential of MSP in the Mediterranean Sea
- Further preparatory actions and studies under consideration
Policy process: Preparatory actions

- Two preparatory actions have been launched for the Baltic and the North Sea / North East Atlantic – application deadline 30 April 2010
- DG MARE aim to foster cross-border cooperation aspects of MSP and to encourage the involved Member States to identify a shared sea area and develop MSP objectives and a management plan for this area
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
- Encourage cross-border cooperation
- Coordinated approaches across sectors
- Reducing the costs of non-coordination
- Facilitate common understanding of MSP
The regulative core of MSP

THE MSP “ONION”
- The MSP core is about regulating the use of sea-space
- The next layer is presenting the ways by which the regulation can take place
- The outermost layer includes the benefits of the MSP process
We eliminate the risks presented earlier, ensuring:

- Competitiveness & good use of opportunities
- Improved safety & security
- Best use, analysis and accumulation of marine data
- Good environmental health
- Sustainable but efficient use of the maritime space, resources and ecosystem services
- Ensuring the quality of life in coastal regions (jobs)
- Promoting EU’s maritime leadership
- Good governance
- Visibility of maritime affairs & excellence
Policy process: Next steps

- Progress report from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament
- Impact Assessment on options for how to move on with MSP in an EU context
- Timing: Foreseen last quarter 2010
- 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 global MSP experiences
EU’s Marine data and knowledge activities since November 2008

Photos: Jan Nicolaisen, Denmark (All)
European Atlas of the Seas


European Atlas of the Seas

- **Science**: geology, chemistry, biology, physics...
- **Governance**: jurisdictions, law, spatial planning...
- **Economy**: fishery, energy, transport, extraction, tourism...
- **Population**: settlement, employment, demography...
- **Nature**: protected areas, endangered and alien species
- **Environment**: Dumping & deposition, pollution, accidents...
- **Culture**: lighthouses, coastal archaeology, wrecks,

http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/atlas/index_en.htm
European Marine Observation and Data Network: EMODNET

http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/consultation_emodnet_en.html
In MSP one of the keys to success is to make sure everybody understands each other!

Thank you!

Cartoon: Mutts, By Donnell
What is MSP (2/2)? Example from the BALANCE proj.