Maritime Spatial Planning in the EU

Achievements and future developments

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Maritime Spatial Planning in the EU

EU MSP Directive
All EU countries must set plans by 2021

EU MSP Platform
Technical support, studies and workshops

Funding
MSP cross-border projects
Producing data, tools, methodologies

MSP Expert Group
Exchanges of best practices in the EU

International MSP
Best international practices, transboundary pilot projects, international workshops
EU MSP Directive
All EU countries must set plans by 2021
Timeline of major European policy initiatives addressing maritime spatial planning (MSP)

- **2006**: Green Paper
  - Identifies opportunity to apply sustainable development to the oceans
  - Recognizes need for a maritime spatial planning system, built on EBM approach

- **2007**: Integrated Maritime Policy
  - Aims to create optimal conditions for sustainable maritime use through a new integrated/holistic approach
  - MSP is a key tool for sustainable development of marine areas and coastal regions

- **2008**: MSP Roadmap
  - Recognizes EBM as an overarching principle for MSP
  - MSP's objective is to balance sectoral interests and achieve sustainable use of marine resources

- **2010**: Decision 2010/477/EU
  - Acknowledges MSP as a mechanism to support EBM and, consequently, to achieve GES and the MSFD goals
  - Achieving a coherent framework for MSP at EU level will enhance sustainable growth in maritime sectors

- **2011**: MSP Achievements & Future Develop.
  - Implementing EBM is one of five main challenges and opportunities facing the Atlantic Ocean
  - MSP promoted as a tool to implement EBM

- **2013**: Atlantic Strategy
  - Contributing to MSP processes encourages proper protection and development of marine/coastal environments

- **2014**: Atlantic Strategy Action Plan
  - Aims to ensure sustainable economic growth of marine/coastal economies while enabling sustainable use of resources in line with EBM

- **2015**: MSP Directive Proposal
  - MSP focused in blue growth
DIRECTIVES

DIRECTIVE 2014/89/EU OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL
of 23 July 2014
establishing a framework for maritime spatial planning

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Articles 43(2), 100(2), 192(1), and 194(2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee (1),

Having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions (2),

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure (3),

Entered into force September 2014
Geographical coverage

MSP: Marine waters cover coastal waters, territorial sea and EEZ.

Timing

- Sep 2014: Entered into Force
- Sep 2016: Deadline for Transposition/Designation of Competent Authorities
- 31 March 2021: Establishment of plans in all marine waters of MS

Exclusive Economic Zone (200 nautical miles)
Territorial waters (12 nautical miles)
Baseline (mean low water mark)
Land
Key requirements of the MSPD

1. Involve stakeholders
2. Develop cross-border cooperation
3. Apply an ecosystem-based approach
4. Use the best available data and share information
5. Take into account land-sea interaction
6. Promote the coexistence of activities
7. Review plans at least every 10 years
MSPD/MSFD/WFD Areas of joint interest

- More efficient & sustainable management of marine resources
  - Ecosystem based approach
  - "Land/sea interactions"
  - Sound data for decision making
  - Data exchange & management
  - Engagement of stakeholders
  - Cross-border cooperation

MSPD = Maritime Spatial Planning Directive
WFD = Water Framework Directive
MSP example: Latvia
• Good environmental status, nature conservation
• Energy, cables, pipelines
• Shipping, port development, dredging
• Fisheries, marine aquaculture
• Sand and gravel extraction
• Coastal defence
• Military use
• Tourism and recreation
• Cultural heritage, seascape

MSP example: Belgium
MSP Directive
Implementation Support - tools

- **Priorities**:  
  *capacity building*  
  *cross-border cooperation*

- **Tools**:  
  a. expert group  
  b. assistance mechanism  
  c. funding projects
MSP Expert Group
Exchanges of best practices in the EU
Member State Expert Group on MSP

- Direct exchanges between experts
- Identifying common challenges
EU MSP Platform
Technical support, studies and workshops
"EU MSP Platform"

- Technical support for Member States
  - Focal Points
  - Website Platform
- Studies on key requirements
- Conferences
- Website: [http://msp-platform.eu/](http://msp-platform.eu/)
Studies in 2017

- **MSP Data Study** – Evaluation of data and knowledge gaps to implement MSP
- MSP and Blue Growth (under development)

Workshops and Conferences

- June 2017 (**Land-Sea Interactions**)
- October 2017 (**MSP and Blue Growth**)
Funding MSP cross-border projects
Producing data, tools, methodologies
Cross-border or transboundary?
1. As part of the planning and management process, Member States bordering marine waters shall cooperate with the aim of ensuring that maritime spatial plans are coherent and coordinated across the marine region concerned. Such cooperation shall take into account, in particular, issues of a transnational nature.

2. The cooperation referred to in paragraph 1 shall be pursued through:

(a) existing regional institutional cooperation structures such as Regional Sea Conventions; and/or

(b) networks or structures of Member States’ competent authorities; and/or

(c) any other method that meets the requirements of paragraph 1, for example in the context of sea-basin strategies.
Tool: Funding MSP projects through the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF)

- **Support the work of competent authorities** in launching their planning and putting into place structures for cross-border planning

- **Develop a vision for a sea basin**: use a scenario based method identifying and evaluating future potential uses, needs and maritime spatial development options

- **Ensure an effective engagement with and participation of stakeholders** in the design and implementation of MSP processes

Up to date: 25 Million EUR for MSP cross border projects
Grants covering all sea-basins on a rotating basis to continue until 2020.
MSP Directive
Implementation Support - projects

MSP Plans established at the latest 31 March 2021
EU is leading on MSP

46% of all MSP initiatives worldwide take place in EU waters + a common legislation for 23 countries
INTERNATIONAL MSP CONFERENCE: outcome

Conference Conclusions: adoption of a joint roadmap

Joint Roadmap
to accelerate Maritime/Marine Spatial Planning processes worldwide
(MSP)

Introduction

Oceans have an essential role for life on earth, sustainable development, employment and innovation. However, there are increasing pressures facing oceans: climate change, acidification, eutrophication, biodiversity loss, pollution, over-exploitation and illegal activities. Many countries have undertaken the transition to move towards a more integrated and ecosystem-based management of the marine environment, in the pursuit of sustainable development of the ocean and seas.

The Joint Communication on International Ocean Governance by the High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and the European Commission identifies priority areas for EU action; in particular action 10 on maritime spatial planning.
### Joint roadmap EU Commission (DG MARE) / IOC-UNESCO

24 March 2017: Adoption of a Joint Roadmap on MSP (DG MARE/IOC UNESCO)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority area 1: Transboundary MSP</th>
<th>• Actions 1-3: guidance, pilot projects, international conference</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priority area 2: Blue economy</td>
<td>• Actions 4-5: indicators, study, MSP and BG Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority area 3: Ecosystem-based MSP</td>
<td>• Key action 6: develop knowledge on EBA, GES, ecosystems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority area 4: Capacity building</td>
<td>• Key actions 7-8: training, pilot project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Priority area 5: Building Mutual understanding</td>
<td>• Key actions 9-10: International MSP Forum, communication tools</td>
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International cross-border projects

Adhoc EU grant to IOC UNESCO

IOC-UNESCO ad hoc grant: 1.4 million € to develop a set of international guidelines on trans-boundary cooperation on MSP.

2 international cross-border MSP pilot projects in 2018 – in the Western Mediterranean and in the South Pacific.

Creation of an International Platform with its 1st joint DG MARE-IOC-UNESCO workshop held on 24-25 May 2018 in Brussels.
Looking ahead...

2018

• 8-9 October: Meeting of the Member States Expert (MSEG) Group on MSP in Brussels.
• MUSES final conference - back to back MSEG begining of October (Brussels).
• November: EU - IOC/UNESCO 2nd workshop on International MSP in La Réunion.
• End 2018: release of EMSA’s eLearning MSP course.
• Launch of DG MARE study on Economic Impacts of MSP.
• Release of MSP Platform studies:
  • Conflict resolutions between stakeholders
  • Cross-border consultation
Looking ahead…

2018 and further…

• SUPREME & SIMWESTMED: joint final conference.
• SIMNORAT: Final conference.
• NorthSEE and Balt LINes final conferences - End 2018 or beginning 2019
• IOC/UNESCO international guidelines for transboundary MSP
• Launch of the EC study on the Ecosystems Based Approach and MSP
Percent of Surface Area of World’s Exclusive Economic Zones Covered by Approved Marine Spatial Plans

The way ahead… for the EU

Note: Surface Area of the World’s EEZs is ≈140 million km²

From C. Ehler’s presentation at MSP2017 (Paris, March 2017)
Thank you for your attention

More background information at: