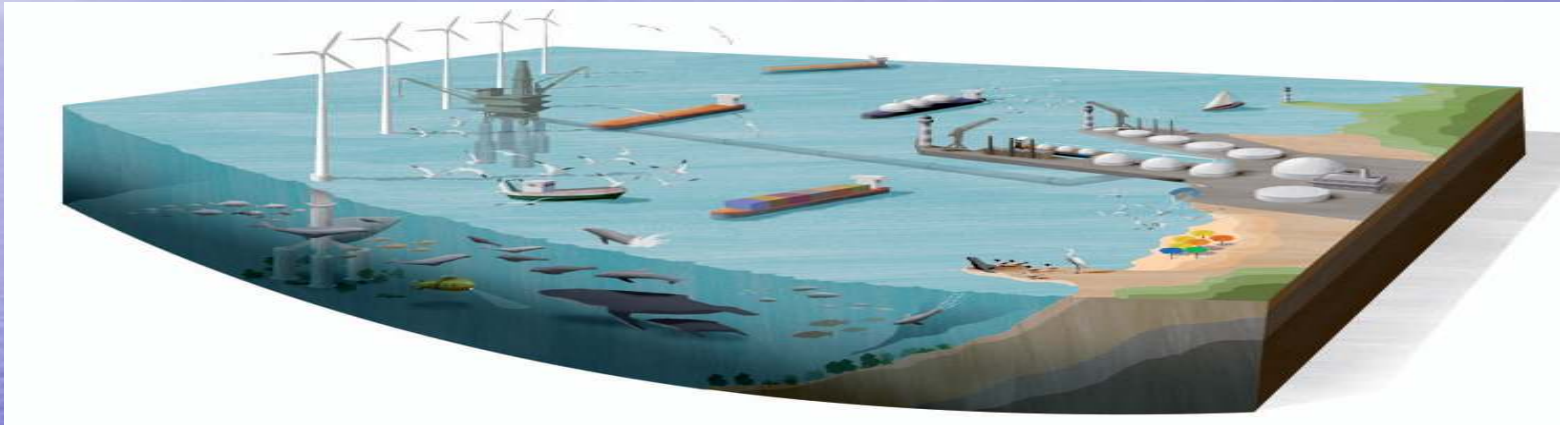


Maritime Spatial Planning in the EU

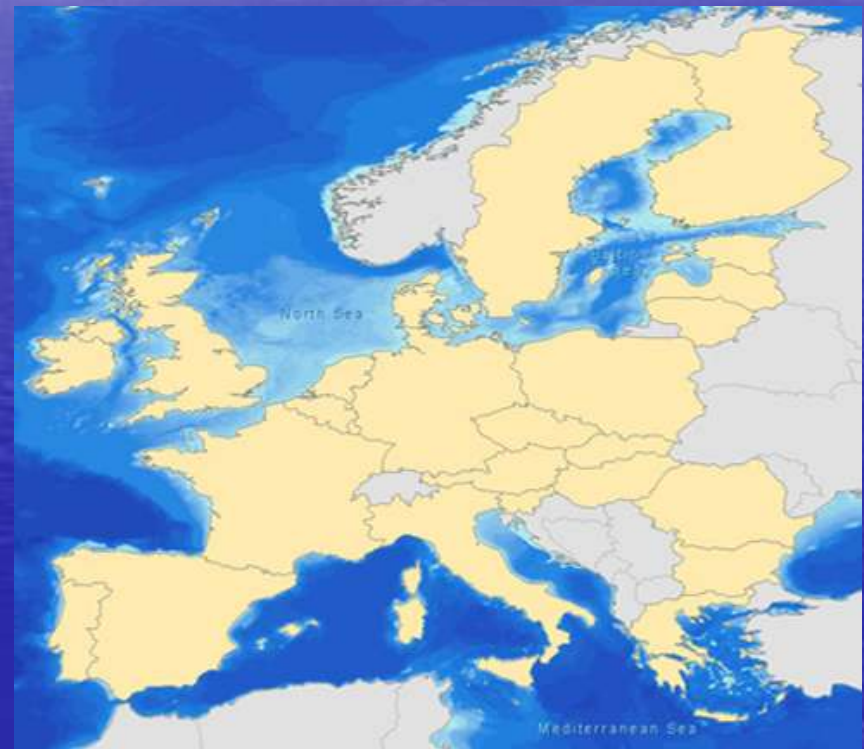


Hermien Busschbach

**European Commission – Director Directorate-
General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
NWWRAC, Bilbao 14 April 2011**

Content of presentation:

- Background Maritime Spatial planning
- Achievements on MSP
- Future steps on Maritime Spatial planning and relevance to fisheries



EU Communications on Maritime Spatial planning.

- EU communication “an integrated Maritime Policy for the EU” (COM 2007)575
- Communication “Roadmap for Maritime Spatial Planning” (COM (2008)791
- Communication “maritime Spatial Planning in the EU- Achievements and future development COM (2010) 771

EU 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
- Link to MSFD and Natura 2000

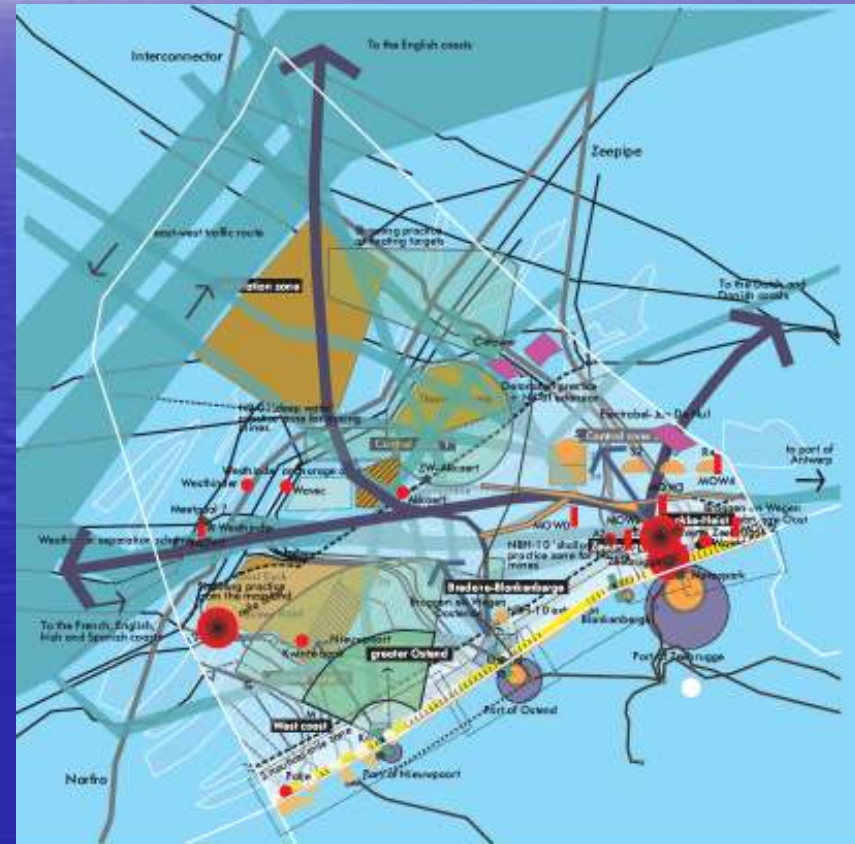
The 10 key-principles on MSP

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

Developments on MSP in EU and other sea areas.

- Significant developments in many MS on MSP. E.g. Germany, Netherlands have already spatial plans on a legal basis.
- MSP is being developed e.g. in Portugal, UK, Sweden, Norway and Belgium.
- A joint VASAB & HELCOM MSP platform has been set up and Joint principles and ToR is agreed.
- In third countries like: US, Canada and Australia.
- UNESCO-IOC MSP Guidelines 2009

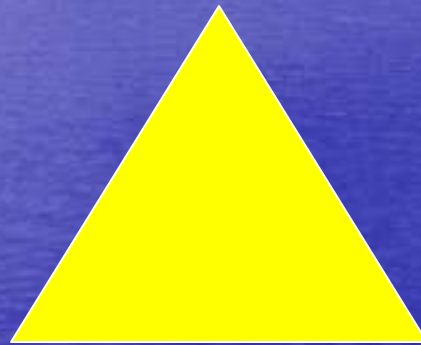


Ecosystem based management

(UNESCO/IOC Guidelines)

- Emphasizes the protection of ecosystem structure, functioning and key processes
- Explicitly accounts for interconnectedness within systems
- Acknowledges interconnectedness among systems (land, sea, air)
- Integrates ecological, social, economic and institutional perspectives
- Is place-based, focussing on a certain ecosystem and the human activities affecting it

**Ecosystem
approach**



MSP

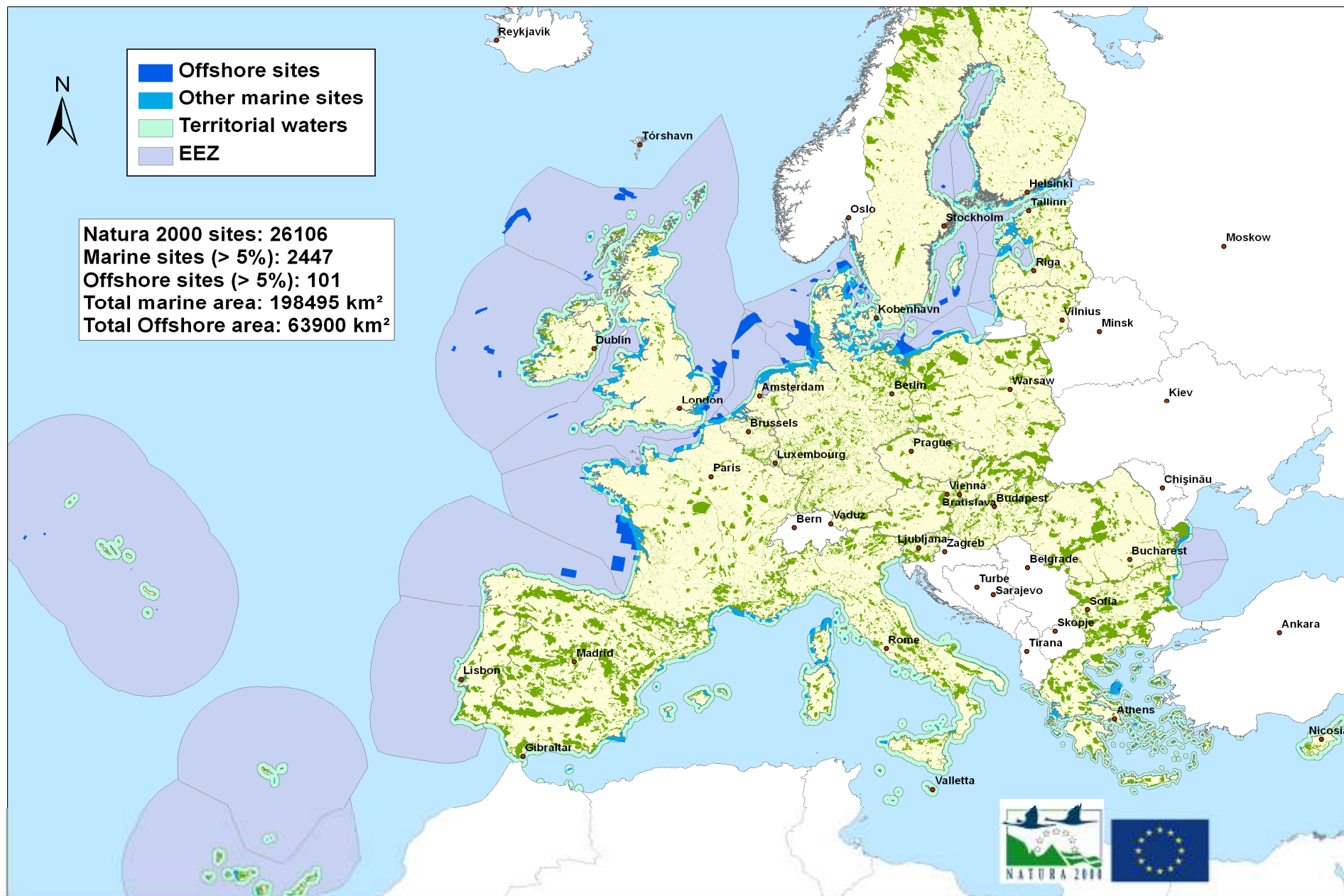
MSFD

- MSP is one of the tools that helps MSFD to use the ecosystem approach to reach GES

Ecological/environmental benefits of MSP

- Ecological important areas identified
- Allocation of space for nature conservation and planning of a network of MPA's
- Biodiversity objectives (MSFD) incorporated
- Reduction of conflicts between human uses and nature
- Insight in cumulative effects of human activities

The marine Natura 2000 network

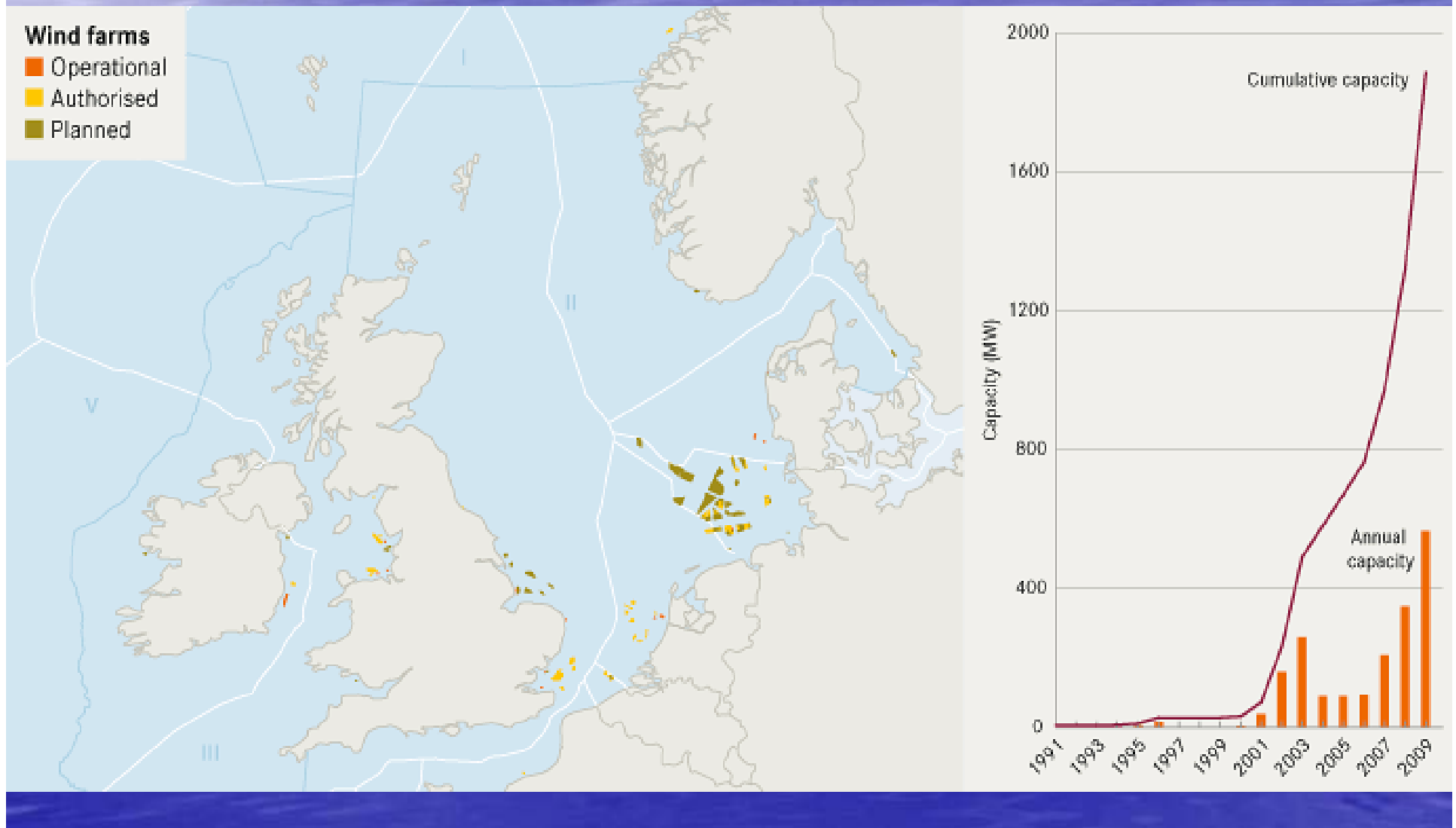


Economic benefits of MSP

- Lower coordination cost; governmental coordination mechanisms more efficient and effective.
- Lower transaction costs: lowering:
 - search costs,
 - legal costs,
 - Administrative costs
 - Fewer conflicts
 - Enhanced investment climate: economic growth and acceleration of economic activities

The estimated effects of MSP in 2030 range from more than 400 € million- €1,8 billion due to reduction of transaction costs and from 155 € million- €1.6 billion due to acceleration of activities (e.g. wind energy and aquafarming)

Wind farms in OSPAR area



Social benefits of MSP

- Stakeholder participation
- Identification of interests.
- Impacts (ecological, sociological and economic) of decisions on the allocation of space
- Safety of human activities at sea and on land (e.g. flood protection)
- Protection of cultural heritage
- Conservation of certain values for well being (e.g. open horizon)

Clean and safe beach, open horizon



MSP: expectations and purposes

A neutral tool in order to:

- Divide space in a proactive manner
- Prevent user-user and user-ecosystem conflicts

A way of working to:

- Facilitate sustainable development
- Find tailor made solutions in open negotiations with stakeholders
- Mutual Gains
- Management plans are needed for implementation.

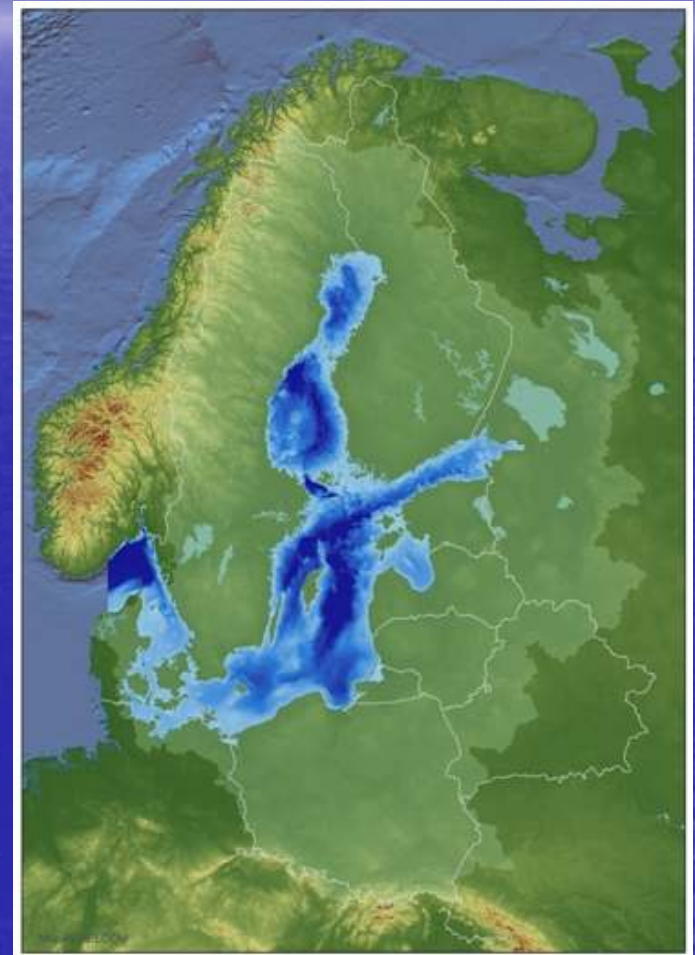
Policy process: Studies on MSP

- Legal aspects of MSP – concluded
- Potential of MSP in the Mediterranean Sea
- Economic benefits of MSP
- are available on the Commission website



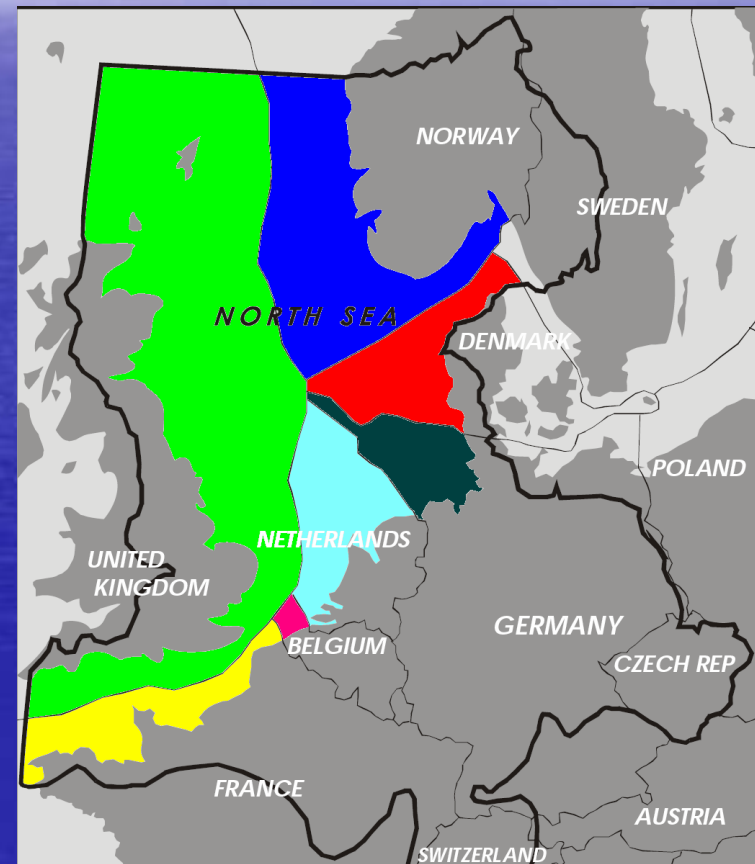
Policy process: Preparatory actions

- Two preparatory actions for the Baltic and the North Sea / North East Atlantic have started the end of 2010.
 - Plan Bothnia (Baltic Sea)
 - Maspnose (North Sea)
- Aim at fostering the development of cross-border cooperation aspects of MSP
- Encourage the identification of a shared sea area and develop MSP objectives
- Contributions from several MS in Sea area.



Maspnose

- Preparatory action on Maritime Spatial planning in the North Sea
- Aims to facilitate concrete, cross-border cooperation among European countries on ecosystem-based MSP.
- Participants from Netherlands, Germany, Belgium and Denmark



Policy progress next steps.

- The Progress report MSP identifies options for future steps like:
 - Non-binding options, such as exchange of best practices, cross-border projects, studies and research, guidelines and/or recommendations.
 - Legislative options for setting the common approach and cross-border cooperation.
- An Impact Assessment (on MSP is been carried out at the moment in conjunction with options to further develop ICZM)
 - This includes a public consultation, which is now online.
- Further studies under consideration (e.g. cross-border MSP In Celtic Seas and in Mediterranean Sea)
- EC will propose further action on MSP end of 2011.

How and why should NWWRAC be engaged in MSP

- Bring interest to the table when MSP is applied (stakeholder involvement)
 - Conflicting uses e.g.: wind energy, cables/pipelines, platforms, shipping, etc.
- In case of cross-border MPA's (Natura 2000) and joint fisheries measures will be proposed (e.g. Doggersbank)
- MSFD – GES, annex VI includes also spatial and temporal distribution controls.

Thank you for your attention!

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

