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Las Palmas de Gran Canaria Spain



# MSP and National Planning Strategy

Ester Anna Ármannsdóttir



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# National Planning Agency

- Main role of the National Planning Agency is to give advice on planning issues, assist local authorities in preparing spatial plans and to review and approve spatial plans produced by local authorities.
- **Responsible for preparing the National Planning Strategy on behalf of the Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources and preparing a MSP for coastal areas on behalf of Regional councils.**
- Oversees the implementation of the EIA and SEA Acts and provides guidelines in accordance with them.



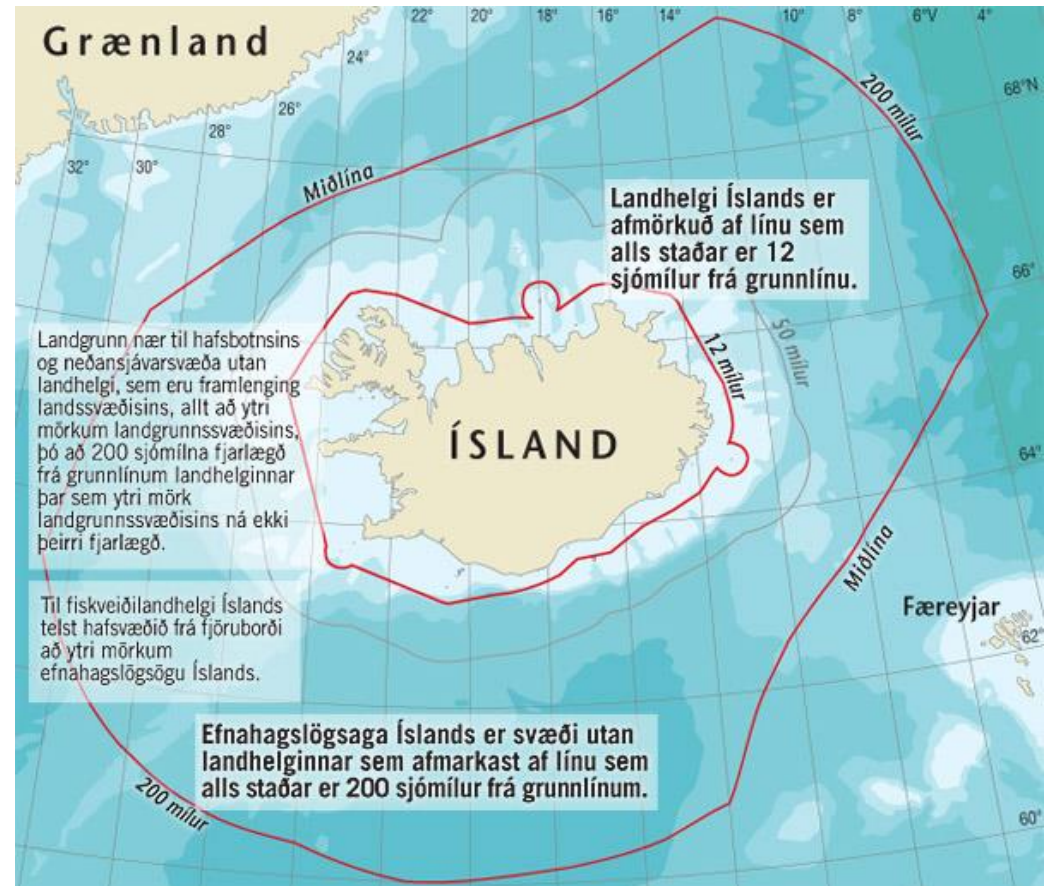
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# The marine and coastal zone around Iceland

- The Icelandic exclusive economic zone (EEZ) extends up to 200 nm
- Geographical conditions are different around the coast and some areas are better suited for activities near the coast than others.
- Vital natural resource and specially for the small municipalities by the coast.



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# Utilization of marine and coastal areas

- Increased demand for marine and coastal space
  - Conflicts between stakeholders.
- Various uses
  - Aquaculture
  - Fishing
  - Tourism and recreation
  - Maritime traffic, e.g. ferries
  - Extraction
  - Nature protection areas



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# Governance of coastal and marine areas

- The Icelandic national government has jurisdiction from 115 m from mean low water spring tides to the end of the EEZ.
  - Different agencies authorize utilization of marine areas.
- Municipalities jurisdiction extent to 115 m from spring tides.
- Lack of overview of marine and coastal use
  - Several ministries and agencies have responsibility for marine and coastal use



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# New legislation on MSP

- Legislation on MSP was passed at the Icelandic Parliament, Alþingi in June.
- MSP shall provide basis for **diverse utilization** of marine and coastal resources **based on a comprehensive view** of marine issues, **ecosystems** and the **protection** of nature and cultural heritage, with **sustainable development** as a guiding principle. Furthermore it should consider the effects of **climate change**
- MSP shall not consider **utilization and protection of fish stock** or other living resources of the ocean



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# New legislation on MSP

- **Marine planning strategy**
- **Regional marine plans**
  - Strategy and provisions on offshore power generation, construction, aquaculture or cultivation of commercial stock, extraction, protection areas, water protection, traffic and transportation, natural hazards, outdoor activities and tourism, etc.
  - Regional councils are responsible for development of regional marine plans.



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# New legislation on MSP cont.

- The National Planning Agency will prepare the regional marine plans.
- Two regional marine plans are in preparation, in the Westfjords and the Eastfjords

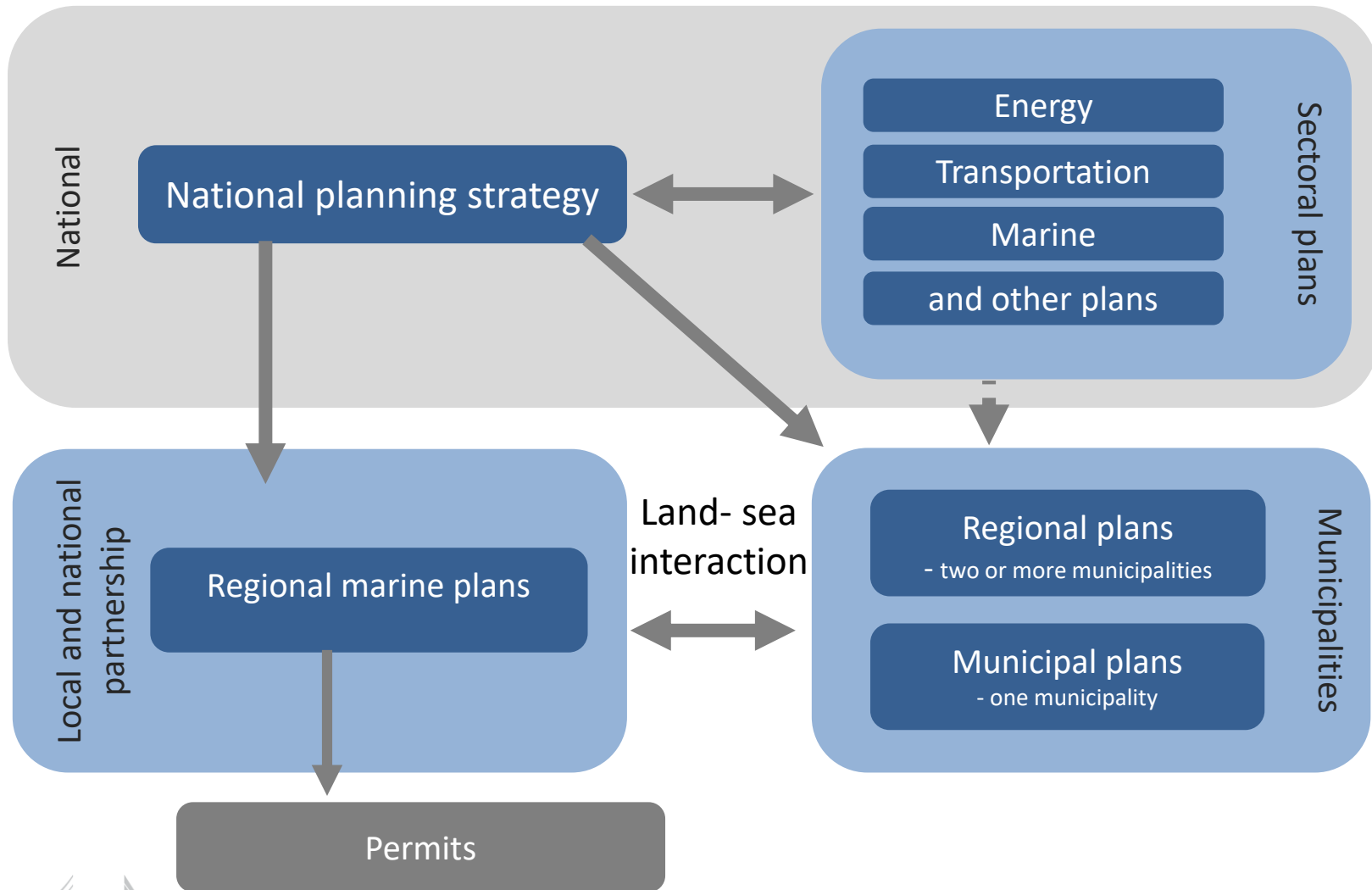


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# National Planning Strategy



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# Current status

- Increasing demand for marine space in certain areas.
- New tools, strategic marine planning and regional marine planning
- With cooperation of local and national governments and integration of plans and policies we expect that MSP can encourage investment, reduce conflicts and protect the environment.



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