



MSFD & MSP Data Management

TEG sub-group

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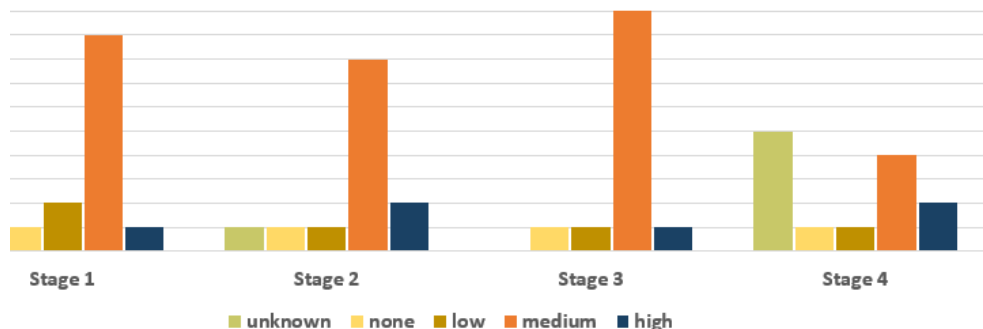
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Subgroup activity

- **December-March 2022**
Initial review on MSP experiences
- **March-June 2022**
Survey design and online implementation
- **June–December 2022**
Responses from 13 MSP experts
Spain, Finland, Sweden, The Netherlands, Italy, Denmark, Poland, Estonia, Ireland, France, Latvia, Croatia, and Romania.
- **December 2022**
Analysis & Draft report
- **January-February 2023**
Review and consolidated report

Results - brief report

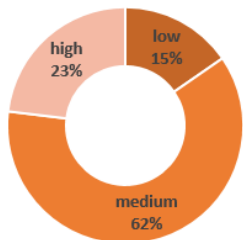
MSFD data supporting MSP planning stages



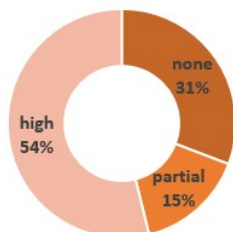
Key messages

- **Medium level of data integration.** Consider that Stage 4 (monitoring) is not yet reached for the majority of countries
- **Spatial elements and scale mismatch:** MSP is more spatially explicit instead MSFD is primarily perceived as a strategic tool
- **Background coherence is important** to facilitate coherence of data
- **Data sharing** is important in all Stages of the MSP plans
- Respondents recognised potential to create better correlated shared data infrastructures

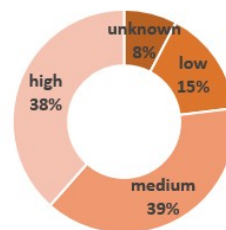
Coherence - Policy objectives



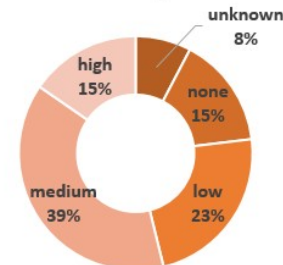
Coherence - competent authority



Coherence - spatial scales



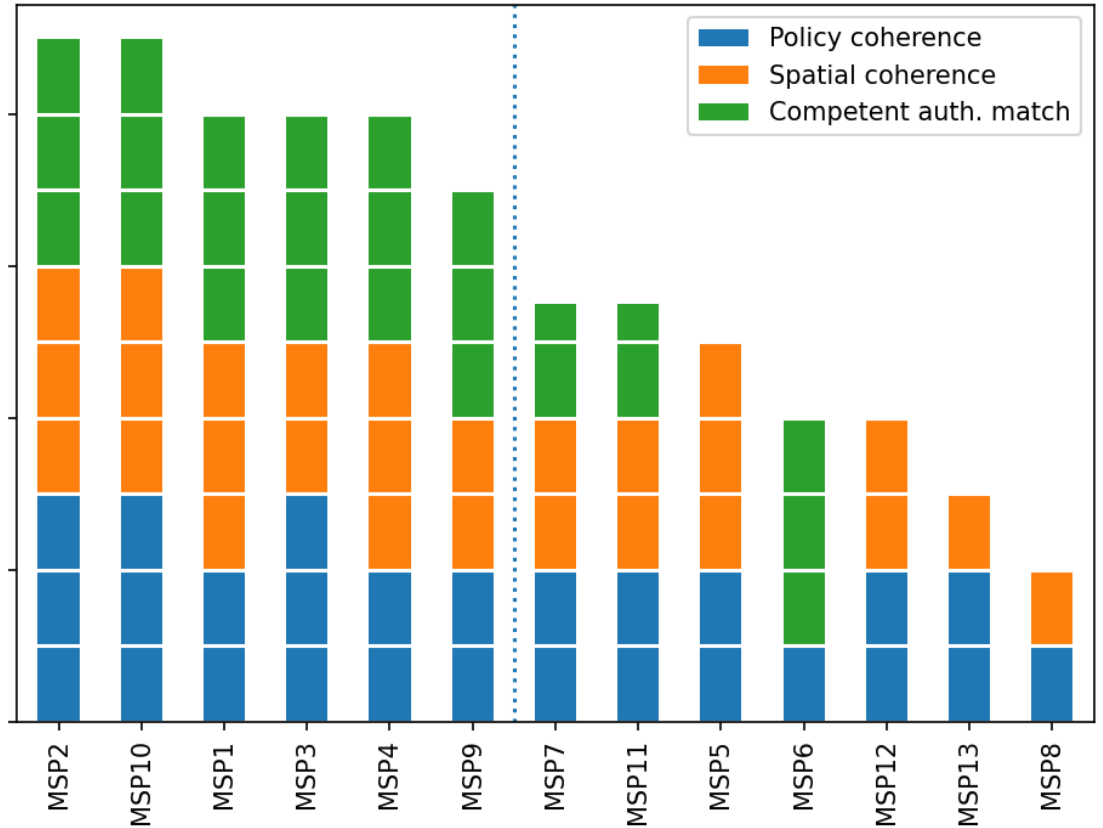
Coherence - temporal scales



Results - brief report

Classification of national MSPs based on 3 analyzed indicators:

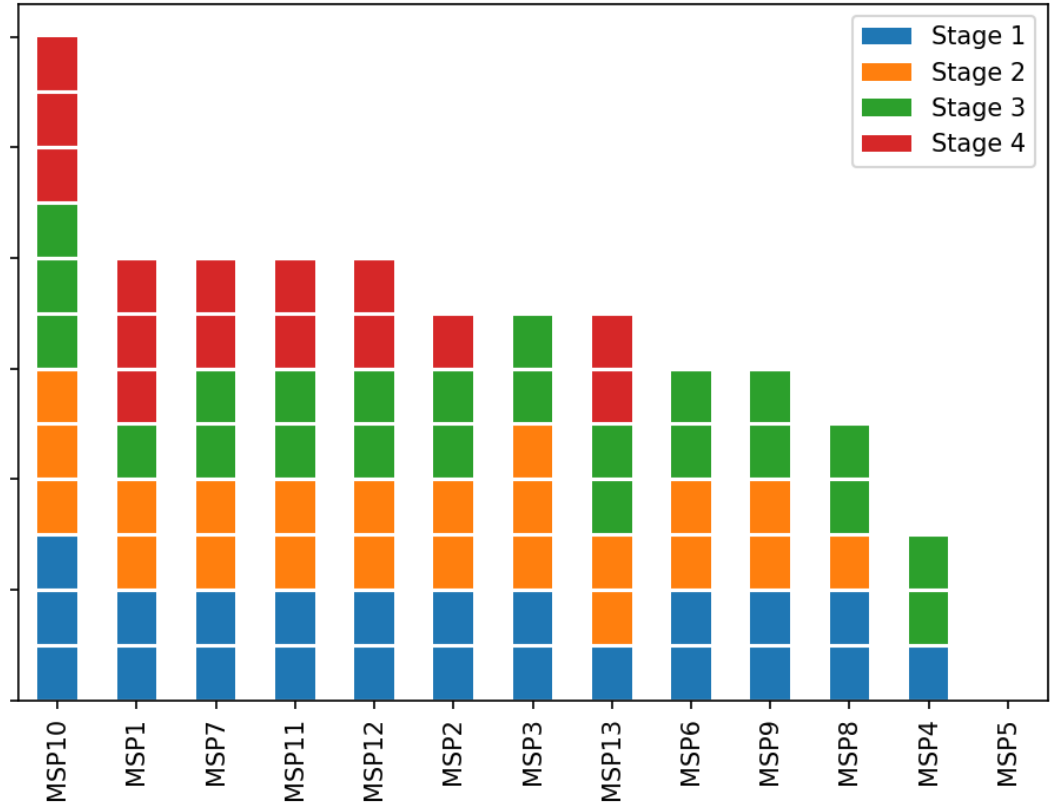
- policy objectives
- competent authority
- spatial scales



Results - brief report

Level of integration of MSFD data in the MSP plans, for the 4 stages of MSP:

- initial/preparation
- analysis
- planning
- monitoring/evaluation



Report concluding remarks

- **Lesson learnt**
- **Further suggestions**
- **Further suggestions to improve the analysis**

Report concluding remarks

Lesson learnt:

- the common policy objectives and the cooperation between the competent authorities are essential to facilitate the integration of data between the 2 processes;
- currently, the spatial data (collection and exchange) overlaps between the two processes takes place in the initial stage (descriptors for the evaluation of the status-quo of the environment) and in the planning stage (towards achieving common policy objectives);
- there is a clear opportunity to align and integrate MSFD data collection and analysis in the last stage of the MSP plans evaluation (i.e. monitoring), through the MSFD monitoring and diagnosis indicators for the environmental status assessment;
- however, in cases of scale mismatch between the MSFD reporting units and the MSP planning elements, the integration of MSFD data into the plan processes is difficult and reduces the potential for future improvements;
- improving the data sharing strategies and practices will facilitate the data integration process for incorporating MFSD descriptors indicator raw data and aggregated results.

Report concluding remarks

Further suggestions

- Establish matching working protocols for institutions and technicians working in both areas, MSP and MSFD;
- Improve data sharing facilities: encourage sharing of all data and information (possibly in an open form) including qualitative (result) data as well as (quantitative) raw MSFD monitoring data;
- there is a need for the compliance to the Directive 2007/2/EC, further emphasized by Article 19.3 in the MSFD, which requires the Member States to provide the Commission with access and use rights for the data collected and information resulting from the initial assessments of the respective marine environment. This would foster the understanding of challenges and gaps in the data integration between the MSP and MSFD processes, as well as streamlining the data exchange and the formulation of a shared data strategy.

Report concluding remarks

Further suggestions

- MSFD Descriptors are represented at different spatial scales (Reporting units) depending on the descriptor (e.g. mammals and birds vs. benthic species). In such cases both the reported MSFD qualitative data (status of indicator per reporting unit) and underlying raw monitoring (quantitative) data can be useful for MSP planning and analysis processes. Therefore, sharing of data on both aggregation levels should be ensured as this can be useful input data for MSP plans.