

Cumulative Impact Tools for MSP Expert Roundtable

18 January 2018, 9:30-17:30

THETIS SpA, Castello 2737/f, 30122 Venice, Italy

The idea of the round table is to facilitate an exchange between existing and emerging initiatives working on cumulative impact tools that can be used in maritime spatial planning and associated processes (e.g. strategic environmental assessments). Currently, there are several different initiatives in various European sea-basins investigating how cumulative impact (or effect) assessments can be conducted and then used during analytical steps in an MSP process. These initiatives are at various stages of development, with some more advanced than others. This roundtable serves as an opportunity for tool/assessment approach developers to learn from one another on methods and experiences, and discuss how the tools can be applied in Member State MSP processes.

The topic of cumulative impact assessments is of interest to Member State MSP authorities, and is particularly relevant for the development of strategic environmental assessments (SEAs) which accompany MSP plans. The next meeting of the Member State Expert Group on MSP (MSEG), to be held in March 2018, has a planned agenda item on SEAs. This roundtable will serve as the basis for collecting information on the 'state-of-the-art' of cumulative impact tools in Europe, and discussions on how the tools can be applied in MSP/SEA processes will help shape the MSEG discussions.

Agenda

9:00 Arrival

9:30 - 10:00 Introduction and short tour de table

10:00-11:00 Presentations on EXISTING cumulative impact tools / approaches

Objective: To share experiences from different approaches and learn from each other about existing cumulative impact tools and those are undergoing further refinement. The focus of each presentation should be on how the tool/approach can be or has been applied in an MSP process. Presentations on each tool should seek to address the following questions:

1. *What are the challenges the tool seeks to address?*
2. *What can the tool do / NOT do NOW?*
3. *What COULD it do in the future?*
4. *What are the limitations for developing the tool?*

Participants are requested to review the existing material on the tools (if available) via the links provided in the agenda.

Four 10 minute presentations followed by 20 minutes Q&A / discussion on:

- What are the similarities and differences between the tools / approaches?
- What are the enabling conditions for using these tools / approaches in real-world MSP/SEAs?
- What are the gaps/bottlenecks to be resolved to improve use of these tools in the real-world MSP/SEAs?

1. **Stefano Menegon, Alessandro Sarretta, Elena Gissi (CNR-ISMAR / IUAV Venice):** Cumulative Impact Assessment tool developed during Adriplan project.
 - [MSP Platform description](#)
 - [Tools4MSP description](#)
2. **Dania Abdul Malak (ETC-UMA, Malaga):** Cumulative Impact Assessment work from ESaTDOR, Med-IAMER, and planned in Panacea
 - [MSP Platform description](#)
 - [Med-IAMER factsheet on Cumulative Impacts](#)
3. **Jan Schmidbauer Crona, Duncan Hume (SWAM, Sweden):** SYMPHONY tool – existing work plus CEA work planned under Pan Baltic Scope
 - [MSP Platform description](#)
 - [SWAM Website description](#)
4. **Sue Kidd (University of Liverpool), Caitriona Nic Aonghusa (Marine Institute Ireland):** SIMCelt Cumulative Effects Assessment
 - [MSP Platform SIMCelt project description](#)
 - [SIMCelt Project Components](#)

11:00 - 11:30 Coffee break

11:30-13:00 Presentations on NEW cumulative impact tools / approaches under development - initial and planned work

Objective: To share work just starting on cumulative impact assessments as part of various projects from around Europe which are at an initial stage. The focus of each presentation should be on the relationship between the initial / planned work and its relevance to MSP. Presentations on each tool should seek to address the following questions:

1. *What are the challenges the tool seeks to address?*
2. *What can the tool do / NOT do NOW?*
3. *What COULD it do in the future?*
4. *What are the limitations for developing the tool?*

Participants are requested to review the existing material on the projects via the links provided in the agenda.

Six 10 minute presentations plus 30 minutes Q&A / panel discussion on:

- What can these “newer” initiatives learn from the existing initiatives presented in the morning e.g. lessons learned for applying cumulative impact assessments / tools in real-world MSP?
 - What are the enabling conditions for using these tools / approaches in real-world MSP/SEAs?
 - What are the gaps/bottlenecks to be resolved to improve use of these tools in the real-world MSP/SEAs?
1. **Henning Sten Hansen (Aalborg University):** [BONUS_BASMATI](#) project work on cumulative impacts
 2. **Robert Aps (University of Tartu, Estonia), Leena Laamanen (SYKE, Finland):** [Plan4Blue project](#) work on cumulative impacts
 3. **Jonne Kotta (University of Tartu, Estonia):** Assessing impacts of multiple human uses on nature values: separate and synergistic effects – Estonia MSP

4. **Andrej Abramic (University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria):** [PLASMAR project](#) work on cumulative impact assessments
5. **Marina Markovic (PAP-RAC):** [EcAp-Med II project](#) work on Indicators related to cumulative impact assessments
6. **Adriano Quintela (Universidade de Aveiro, Portugal):** [SIMNORAT project](#) work on cumulative impacts tools and Ecosystem based approach for Maritime Spatial Planning

13:00 - 14:15 Lunch

Lunch will include a visit to the Arsenale location

14:15 - 15:15 Institutional interest on cumulative impact assessments with relevance for MSP

Objective: Brief introductions by other participants on their work during this session will describe the interest / additional work from regional initiatives and the EEA in the subject of cumulative impact assessment and its relationship with MSP. This round will complete the sharing of individual backgrounds and interest in the topic as preparation for the interactive exercises and provide a broader scale perspective.

Four 10 minute presentations plus 5 minutes Q&A after each:

- **Rob Gerits (Ministry of Environment and Water Management, Department Rijkswaterstaat Sea and Delta) via WebEx:** JPI Oceans collective work on cumulative impact assessments and development of a common approach on CEA with North Sea Countries
- **Lena Bergström (HELCOM Secretariat):** Cumulative Impact Work for State of the Baltic Sea report and others
- **Maura Randone (WWF Med):** WWF work / interest in cumulative impact assessments for MSP
- **Michael Assouline (European Environmental Agency, Copenhagen):** EEA interest / work in cumulative impact assessments

15:15-16:15 Speed dating among participants

Participants will have the opportunity for one-on-one discussions with one another to gain further insights into ongoing and planned work on cumulative impact tools / approaches. The exchanges should also *brainstorm opportunities for future use and development of the tools for MSP / SEA processes.*

16:15-16:30 Coffee break

16:30-17:15 Plenary discussion

Objective: To discuss practical application for MSP/SEAs, messages to share with MSP Authorities at March MSEG meetings, and further collaborations. Guiding questions for the discussion are:

1. *What can the set of tools/initiatives presented actually do currently?*
2. *What could they do in the future?*
3. *What are the common limitations among further tool development?*
4. *What are the opportunities for future use /development for MSP / SEA processes?*

17:15-17:30 Evaluation and Wrap-Up