



Maritime Spatial Planning for Blue Growth

How to plan for a Sustainable Blue Economy?

Conference Programme

11-12 October 2017
Brussels, Belgium
#MSP4BG



1. Background and Aim

Blue Growth has become a major policy objective for the European Commission, Member States and a broad range of maritime actors. It has contributed to jobs and economic growth, supported innovation and research, and promoted a collaborative and inclusive approach to the maritime economy. However, there are still many challenges facing the development of maritime economies:

- Anticipating future trends and demands - How to plan and accommodate for the Blue Economy?
- Synergies versus tensions - How to foster synergies between maritime economic activities rather than tensions?
- Stakeholder engagement - how to ensure that maritime economic development is transparent and inclusive?

Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) can help to accommodate tomorrow's Blue Economy by creating a framework for evidence-based and inclusive maritime spatial plans from national authorities. MSP reconciles economic needs with other dimensions and demands, including the protection of the environment, the supply of ecosystem services, the interactions between activities and processes occurring at sea and onshore, and cross-border cooperation.

This conference aims to provide a forum for discussion and exchange, offering concrete examples and guidelines on how to apply MSP as a tool to accommodate sustainable maritime economic development. It will build on a Technical Study which aims to:

- Assess future spatial needs of a wide range of maritime sectors;
- Discuss how the MSP process can facilitate a better understanding of the needs across maritime sectors stakeholders and ecosystems;
- Share best practices on how MSP can really support the Blue Economy;
- Discuss approaches and experiences.

2. Target audience

The conference is targeting:

- Policy makers and practitioners engaged in Maritime Spatial Planning;
- Sectoral ministries and authorities responsible for sectoral planning and licenses;
- Maritime industry sectors including maritime business community and intermediaries;
- Local and regional authorities, engaged in the planning and management of the marine environment and the sea-land interface;
- NGOs addressing marine environmental or social concerns such as marine conservation;
- Academics and researchers engaged in MSP and or the Blue Economy;
- Funding organisations;
- All other interested parties.

3. Speakers and contributors

The conference will benefit from a range of speakers and contributors, including European Commission officials, sector policy representatives, MSP practitioners, NGOs and academics. The conference will be highly interactive, which means that participants themselves will act as contributors.

4. Conference format

Each of the suggested sessions will have a tailor-made format, including a mix of impact presentations, panels, case study examples, and small group discussions ('Mini conversations').

5. Programme

Moderator of the conference - *Peter Woodward*

Wednesday 11 October

12.30-14.00 Registration and buffet lunch

14.00-15.10 Session 1: Setting the scene

Welcome words

Opening speech

Karmenu Vella, Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries;

Opening words - Video message

Jaak Aab, Minister of Public Administration, Estonia;

Political perspective

Gesine Meissner, Member of the European Parliament;

Keynote speech

Philippe de Backer, State Secretary for the Fight against Social Fraud, Privacy and North Sea (Belgium).

15.10-18.00 Session 2: How to plan today to accommodate tomorrow's Blue Economy?

What tools and practices are being used for developing maritime strategies and visions for the shared space? What is necessary to get industry more involved in such processes? What are the factors of success? What is the role of visions (including scenarios and forecasts) in the MSP process? Why have some visions helped the MSP process?

15.10-15.30 Technical study EU MSP Platform: What is the role of visions in supporting MSP and Blue Growth?

Angela Schultz-Zehden & Ivana Lukic, European MSP Platform

15.30-16.10 Case studies will be presented, focusing on elements of forward-looking approaches.

Case study 1

Celtic Seas Partnership, *Lyndsey Dodds*, Head of Marine Policy, World Wide Fund for Nature;

Case study 2

Belgium Vision Process 2050, *Frank Maes*,

Director, Ghent University Maritime Institute;

Case study 3

BLUEMED initiative, *Gauci Borda*, Core member, BLUEMED strategic board;

Case study 4

Baltic LINes, *Kai Trümpler*, Head of Unit Maritime Spatial Planning, Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency in Germany;

Case study 5

'Sea change project New Zealand', *Raewyn Peart*, Policy Director, Environmental Defence Society.

16.10-16.35 Coffee/tea break

16.35-16.50 Questions and answers

16.50-17.20 Experiences and success factors

Table groups reflect on the case studies and address key questions.

17.20-18.00 Commenting by the sector panel

The results from the above experiences will be commented by a panel consisting of representatives from maritime sectors, and business interest groups. How to find common ground between all actors involved?

Sector Panel

Paul Holthus, Founding President and CEO, World Ocean Council;

David J. Patraiko, Director of Projects, The Nautical Institute;

Ulrik Stridbaek, Head of Regulatory Affairs, DONG Energy;

Nikolaos Anagnopoulous, President and CEO, APC Advanced Planning-Consulting SA.

18.00-20.00 Cocktail and standing dinner

9.20-12.40 Session 3 : Assessing Future Spatial Demands of the Blue Economy

What are the actual current and future spatial demands from sectors as varied as shipping, offshore wind energy, tidal and wave energy, offshore oil and gas, pipelines and cables, fisheries, aquaculture, tourism and marine aggregates? What are the most dynamic and spatially demanding sectors? Where are the key spatial 'conflicts' between sectors? And what are the key differences between sea-basins?

8.30-9.15 Registration and coffee

9.15 Welcome to Day 2

9.20-9.40 Technical Study: Assessing future demands of Blue Economy

Javier Fernandez Lopez & Jan Maarten de Vet, European MSP Platform

9.40-11.40 'Mini conversations' per sector

Participants will take actively part in 'mini conversations' in groups of 8-10 persons, and exchange on the basis of sector factsheets provided. As the conversations will be held 2 times, participants will have the opportunity to take part in 2 mini conversations on the future spatial demands of shipping, offshore wind energy, tidal and wave energy, offshore oil and gas, pipelines and cables, fisheries, aquaculture, tourism and marine aggregates. Each conversation will focus on one sector and include both sector and MSP experts. The conversation will be moderated by an expert on the topic. The aim of the mini conversations is to gain key insights on the future spatial demands of this sector.

09.50-10.30 Round 1 (13-15 parallel conversations)

Moderators

Offshore wind: *Mihaela Dragan*, Wind Europe and *Tom Remy*, Wind Europe;

Ocean energy: *Rémi Gruet*, Ocean Energy Europe and *Phil Gilmour*, Scottish Government;

Tourism: *Andrea Barbanti*, ISMAR-CNR and *Matteo Bocci*, Senior Associate Consultant on Coastal Tourism, Ecorys;

Marine aggregates: *Mark Russell*, Planning, Mineral Resources & British Marine Aggregates Producers' Association (BMAPA);

Shipping: *David J. Patraiko*, The Nautical Institute;

Offshore oil & gas: *Bernard Vanheule*, International Association of Oil and Gas Producers;

Pipelines & cables: *Peter Jamieson*, European Subsea Cables Association (ESCA);

Fisheries: *Brian O'Riordan*, LIFE - The Low Impact Fishers of Europe;

Aquaculture: *Courtney Hough*, European Federation of National Aquaculture Associations and *Alistair Lane*, European Aquaculture society.

10.30-11.00 Coffee/tea break

11.00-11.40 Round 2 (13-15 parallel conversations)

11.40-12.30 Key insights from the 'Mini conversations'

Rapporteurs feedback and commenting

12.30 - 13.30 Buffet lunch

13.30 -15.30 Session 4: How can synergies between maritime sectors be promoted through MSP?

What experiences can be shared on creating synergies between maritime sectors? How can MSP help to promote an integrated approach, and contribute to synergies when allocating space? What are the enabling factors for delivering such synergies through MSP?

13.30-14.00 Testimonies and demonstrations

3 presentations on synergies and the role of MSP.

Speakers

Chris McConville, Project Manager, Floating Power Plant's UK subsidiary;

Michelle Borg, Unit Manager, Malta Planning Authority;

Andrea Barbanti, Research Manager, ISMAR-CNR.

14.00-14.35 Experiences and success factors

Exchange in small groups on the experiences gained by participants about synergies that have been created through MSP processes. Conversations will include representatives from various sectors as well as MSP practitioners. What success factors and conditions are required to generate such synergies?

14.35-14.50 Coffee/tea break



14.50-15.30 Panel discussion

The exchanges will be reported back and commented by a panel consisting of MSP planners, relevant authorities and experts. What are the success factors?

Expert Panel

Phil Gilmour, Head of Marine/Offshore Renewable Energy in Marine Scotland, Scottish Government;

Jacek Zaucha, MSP Platform Expert, Maritime Institute in Gdansk;

Leo de Vrees, Senior Advisor, North Sea Energy Initiative, Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure & the Environment.

15.30-16.45 Session 5: Wrap-up session: Implications for MSP in Europe and beyond

15.30-15.45 Science-based approaches and decision support tools: their role in MSP implementation and Blue Growth:

Vladimir Ryabinin, Executive Secretary, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO.

15.45-16.30 Conclusions by the panel

What are the lessons learned? What new insights have been obtained? What is needed to make MSP an effective tool for Blue Growth? What are the implications beyond Europe? And what are next steps?

Panel

Paula Abreu Marques, Head of Unit, European Commission, DG ENER;

Daniela Rosca, Head of Unit, European Commission, DG MOVE;

Matjaž Malgaj, Head of Unit, European Commission, DG ENV;

Katarzyna Krzywda, Director of Department of Maritime Economy, Polish Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation;

Paulo Machado, Head of Unit, Monitoring Unit, Directorate General for Maritime Policy, Portugal.

16.30-16.45 Closing words

Bernhard Friess, Director for Maritime Policy and Blue Economy, European Commission, DG MARE.

16.45 End of conference



