



W 2/5 Linking maritime spatial planning
with marine protected areas
(Baltic SCOPE)

Introduction to session and key findings from the Baltic SCOPE project on preconditions for building coherent MPA network in the Baltic Sea

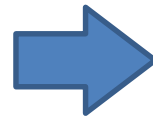
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Objectives for environment in MSP

Application of
ecosystem based
approach

Requirements of the sector

- maintenance of resilient marine ecosystem and services it provides
- achievement of good environmental status (GES) of marine waters;



Approaches for addressing environment in MSP

- **Assessing and improving coherence MPA network**
- Integration of the MSFD objectives in MSP
- Increasing knowledge and understanding of interactions between marine ecosystem and human activities

MPA network:

the core spatial measure for:

- **protection of marine biodiversity** through designating suitable areas of high nature value;
- maintenance of resilient marine ecosystem
 - **Contributes to MSFD objective for achievement of GES**

Coherence of the MPA network can be assessed by:

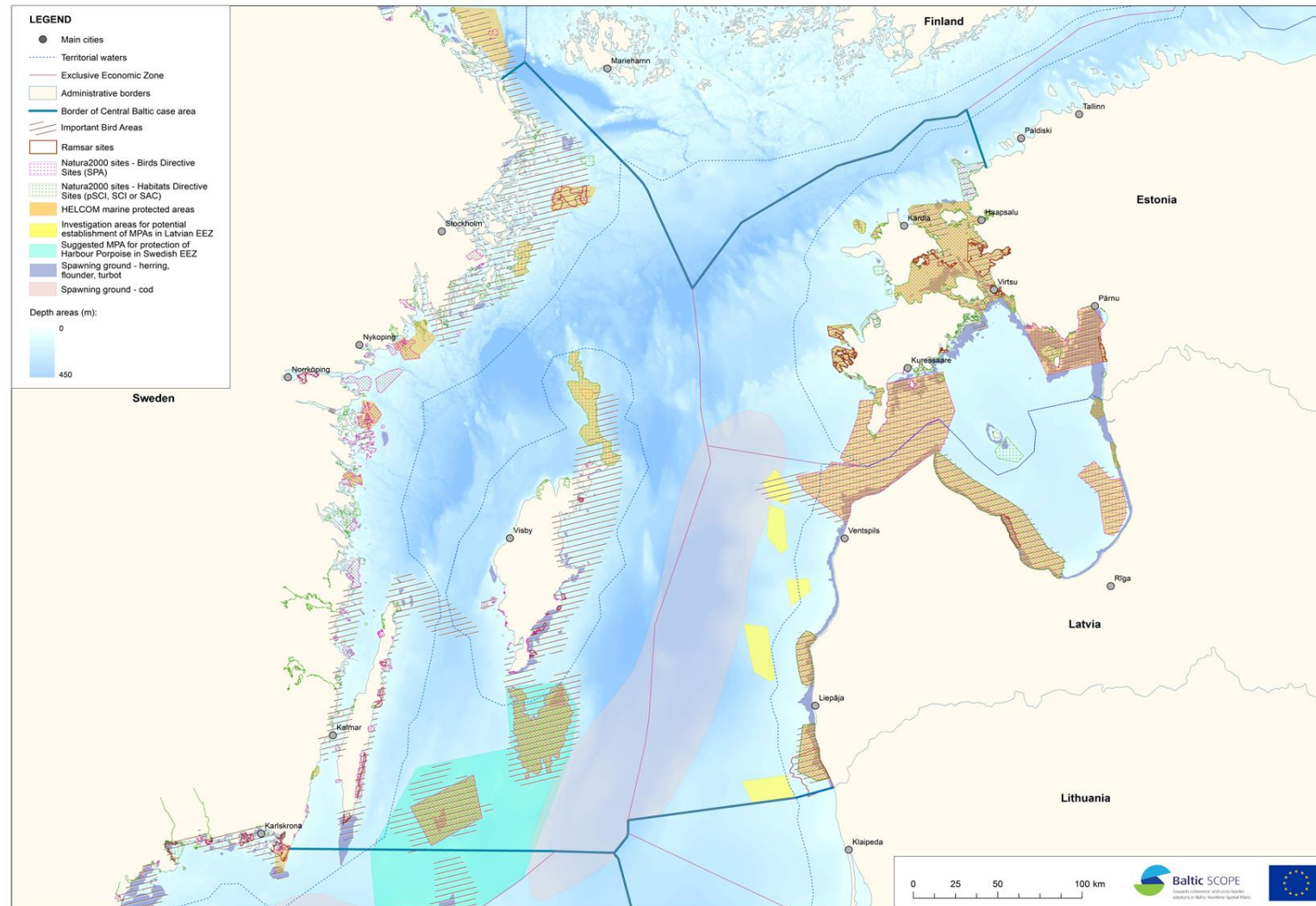
- **representativeness** of habitat and species coverage within the network
- **connectivity** of the network (concept of Blue corridors):
 - functional interconnection between the sites,
 - conditions for spreading of species.

Policy objectives for enlargement of the MPA network:

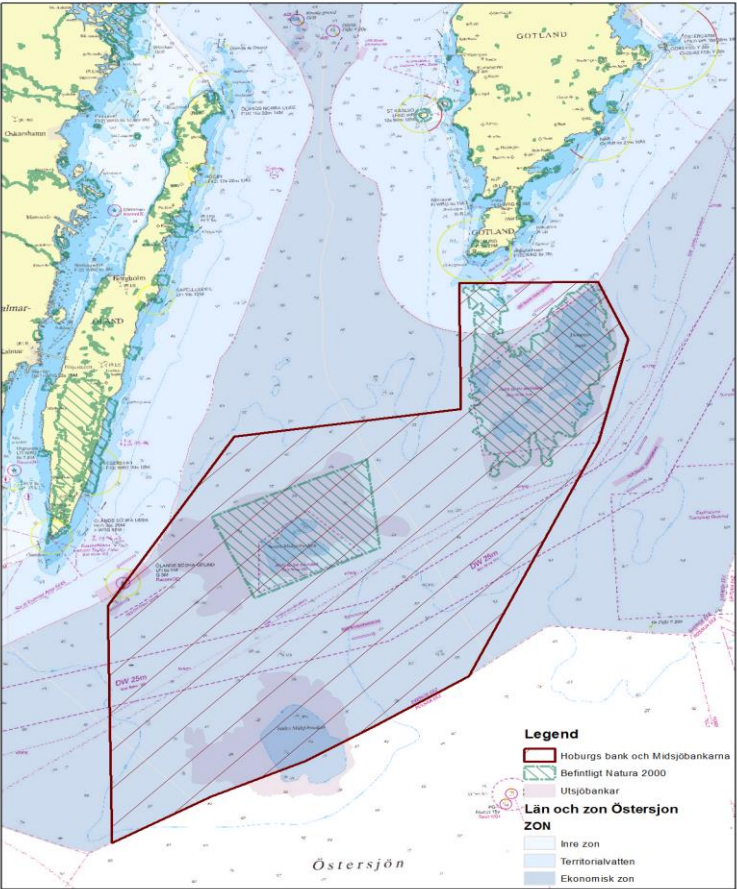
- **CBD objective:**
 - to protect **10 %** of every ecoregion by 2010
- **HELCOM assessment, 2010:**
 - **12.3% of the Baltic Sea** included in Natura 2000 & HELCOM MPA network,
 - still the ecological coherence of the network and sufficient management of MPAs is not achieved
- **HELCOM recommendation 35/1, 2014**
 - at least 10% of the marine area in all sub-basins of the Baltic Sea including the EEZ is covered by MPAs where scientifically justified
 - ensure, that the network of HELCOM MPAs is ecologically coherent and takes into account connectivity between sites including migration routes, species mobility and areas of special ecological significance such as spawning areas
- **Scientific recommendations:**
 - at least 20% of each habitat in a region shall be protected
 - 30 % of the entire Baltic Sea would have to be protected to ensure ecological coherence and 20% representations of each habitat (*BALANCE report, 2008*)
- **Plans for enlargement of the network in the Baltic Scope CBC countries:**
 - **LV, EE:** new MPAs to be established in EEZ, but no quantitative target set
 - **SE:** goal to increase MPA network from 6.6% to 10% of all marine areas

MPA network in the CBC:

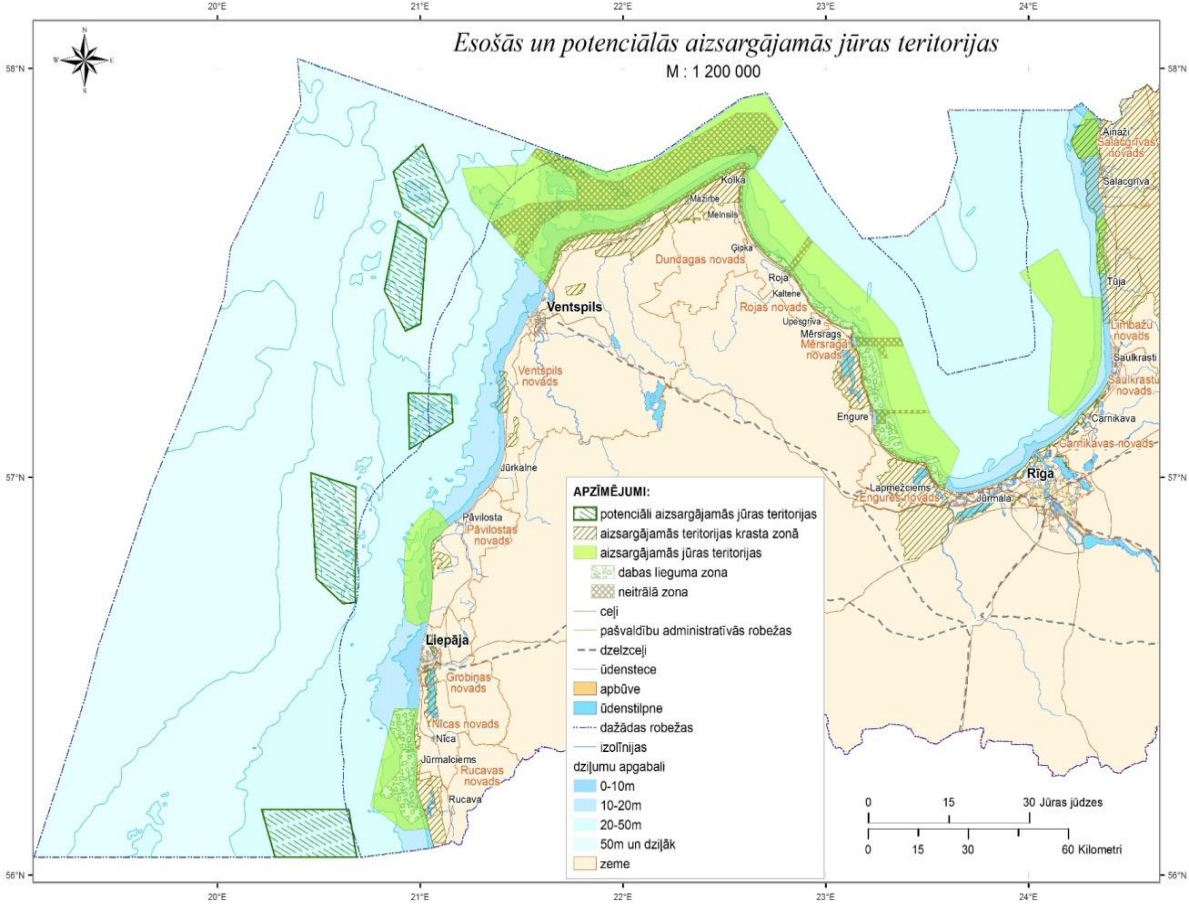
existing and potential protected areas



Areas proposed for enlargement of MPA network in Sweden and Latvia:



Proposed new MPA in Sweden



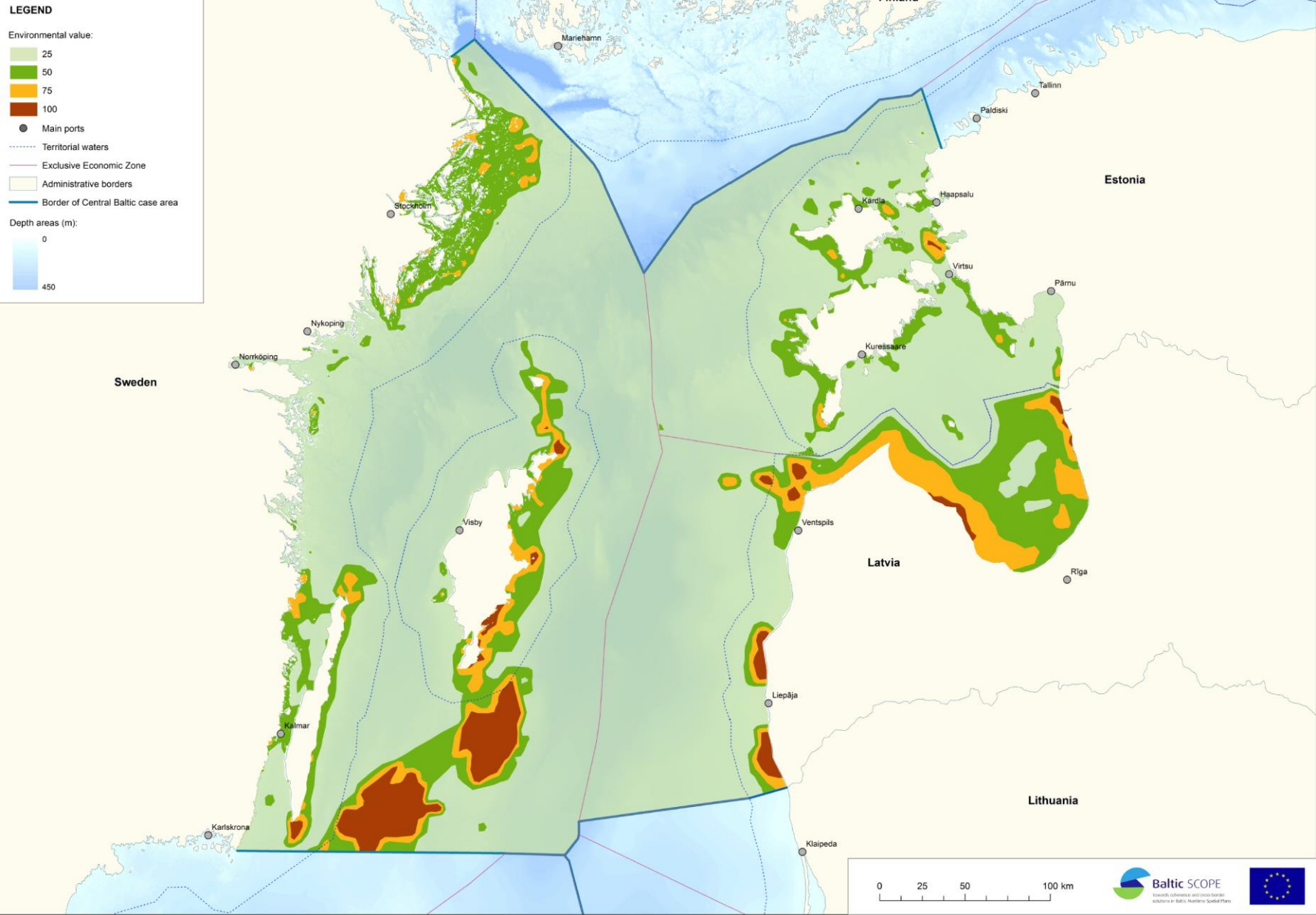
Existing MPA network and investigation areas for new MPA in Latvia

Future needs:

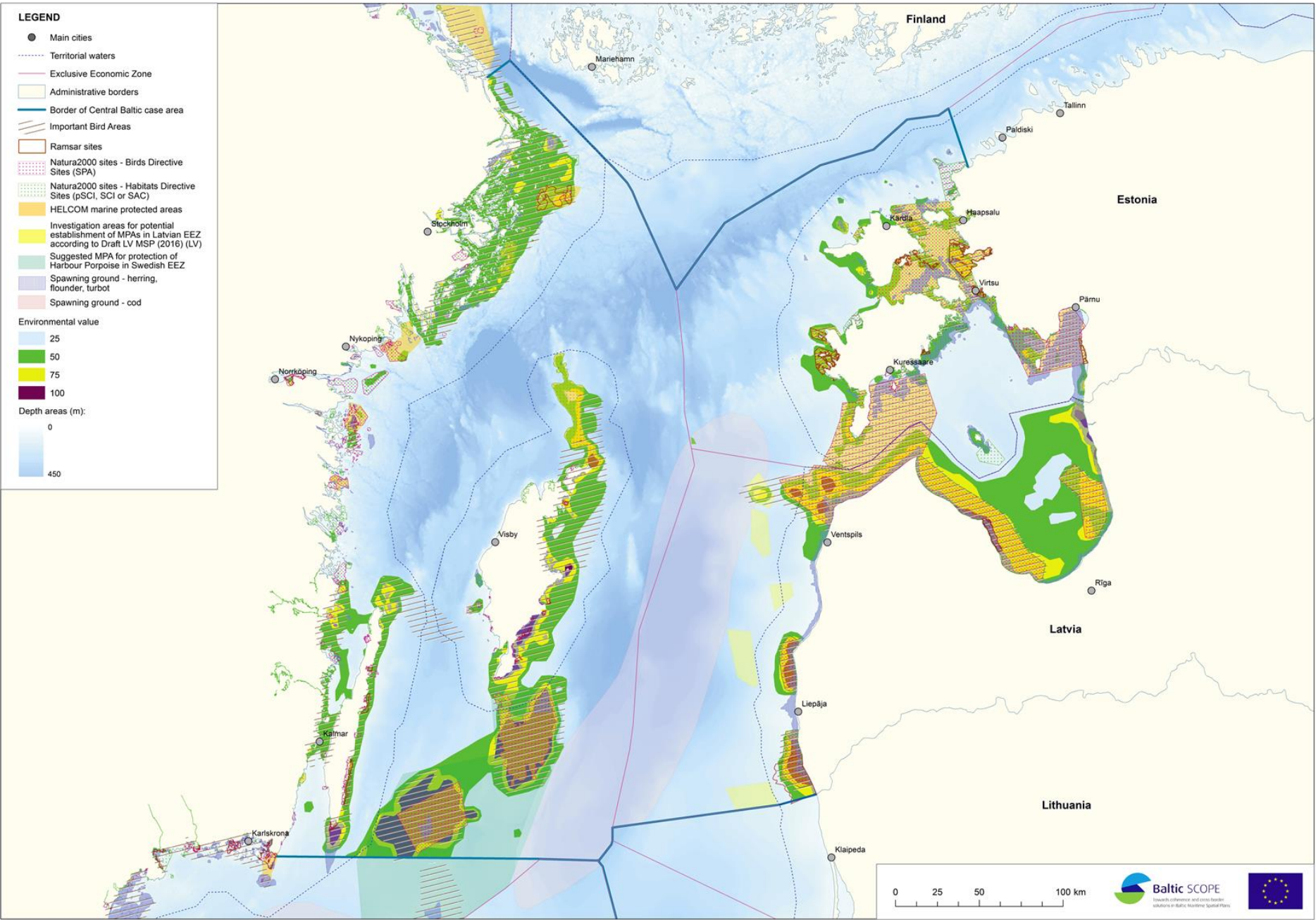
To ensure the coherence of MPA network in the CBC area:

- Mapping of areas of high ecological value – a need for common standardised map, based on harmonised data sets
- Assessing representativeness of habitat and species coverage within the existing MPA network
- Assessing connectivity of the existing MPA and potential areas for designation of MPAs:

Indicative map on environmental values



Environmental values and MPA network



Linking MSP and MPAs:

MSP as an instrument/ supporting tool:

- to improve connectivity of the MPA network by applying the concept of the “blue corridors”:
 - *MSP solutions: allocation of the space for different uses of the sea shall respect connectivity functional interconnections between the sites and conditions for spreading of species*
- to identify the potential areas for new MPAs:
 - *MSP solutions: including potential MPAs as a zoning category – to avoid destruction of the sites by other uses until the new MSP is formally designated*
- to assess the impacts from other maritime uses (including cumulative impacts) and to ensure appropriate management:
 - *MSP solutions: spatial and temporal regulations, conditions for the uses of the sea*





Topics for discussion:

- The role of MSP in development of a coherent MPA network
- Potentials for pan-Baltic co-operation on building common evidence base for extending of the MPA network and ensuring environmental interests within MSP
- Co-ordination of the management requirements between MPAs and MSP



Baltic SCOPE

Towards coherence and cross-border
solutions in Baltic Maritime Spatial Plans

Thank you!

Swedish Agency
for Marine and
Water Management



NORDREGIO
Nordic Centre for Spatial Development



Ministry of Environmental
Protection and Regional
Development
Republic of Latvia



Danish Ministry of the Environment
Nature Agency



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE



EUROPEAN UNION
European Maritime
and Fisheries Fund