

W 2/6 Is maritime spatial planning in the Baltic Sea Region up to the challenge of coordinating marine activities and policies?

Reflections on sectoral integration from Baltic Sea MSP cases

Riku Varjopuro

Finnish Environment Institute

Michael Gilek

Södertörn University







#BalticMSP

MSP is about integration and coordination between sectors

- The MSP directive:
 - "The high and rapidly increasing demand for maritime space for different purposes...require an integrated planning and management approach"
 - MSP: "a cross-cutting policy tool enabling public authorities and stakeholders to apply a coordinated, integrated and trans-boundary approach"
 - "aim to contribute to [sector] policies through the planning process"
 - "take into consideration relevant interactions of activities and uses"





Photos: Tuula Palaste



BONUS BALTSPACE identifies policy/sector & balance as key integration challenges





The BONUS BALTSPACE project was supported by BONUS (Art 185), funded jointly by the EU and Baltic Sea national funding institutions.



Case studies show that context matters for challenges/opportunities



Context-dependent MSP practices and social innovation



MSP Principles, Good governance, Precaution etc.





Is BSR MSP up to the challenge of coordinating policies/activities? Key questions

- Are MSP and governance principles and visions sufficiently detailed and commonly agreed?
- Are there sufficient forums and approaches for cross-sectoral & public-private deliberation and learning?
- Is the mix between top-down and bottom-up processes adequate?
- How can specific national and sectoral challenges be addressed without loosing sight of MSP visions and principles?

Examples of integration challenges 1/3





• Baltic SCOPE project

- Spatial planners from Sweden, Denmark,
 Germany, Poland, Latvia and Estonia to learn how
 to collaborate with each other
- Observations and meetings
 - 6 planners' meetings
 - Three group interviews and two individual interviews
 - Two groupworks for the project's planners.
- Produced a lot of material on sector integration, because MSP is about sector integration

Photos: Riku Lumiaro, Mats Westerbom, Feodor Gurvits

Examples of integration challenges 2/3



- Sectoral planning
 - Already going on in some sectors (e.g. shipping, energy, nature protection)
 - Already international collaboration and regulations
 - Some sectors are more strategic than others \rightarrow Ready (or too ready) to engage with MSP?
 - Different time scales of future planning between sectors
 - In sectors' planning cross-sectoral thinking is now developing
- Need of coordination
 - Sectors that are not represented in MSP processes (e.g. does not have clear spatial objectives) will end up in the areas that are not important for the sectors that are represented
 - Example: Ecologically representative network of MPAs
 - Competing interests: dredging, dumping, extraction, shipping, fishing, aquaculture. Conflict between renewable energy and protected marine areas
 - Possible synergies: interest that may benefit from protected areas: tourism, recreation and fishing
 - Have experienced initial difficulties for sector representatives to commit to MSP processes
 - Have worked to make them interested and succeeded, still need to show the value of cross-sectoral thinking
 - "We are a group of planners that do not have a mandate to decide for the sectors"

Examples of integration challenges 3/3

- General considerations
 - Sectors have naturally different spatial and temporal scales, have to take this into account when planning
 - Sectors have different sensibilities to changes in the use of the sea areas
 - Planners need to assess impacts on sectors to be able to discuss with sector representatives



Photographs: Riku Lumiaro/Image bank of the Environmental Administration

Group work



- Read the instruction sheet and form groups with your neighbors of 4-6 persons
- Choose one question you will focus in the group
- Please choose one person to take notes as that will facilitate the discussion
- Think about your answers individually for one or two minutes
- Talk intensively with the group (ca. 15 minutes)
- Share your key points with us all (you'll be asked to do so)