

Towards sustainable governance of Baltic marine space

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Reflections on issues of importance for MSP processes in the BSR – a university researcher perspective

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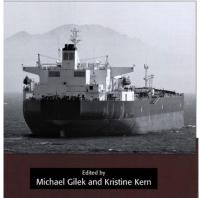




Assumptions based our research on marine governance & MSP



- 1) MSP is a form of marine governance
- 2) Fundamentally challenging ('wicked')
 - Complexity of levels, actors, sectors, policies
 - Incertitude and knowledge-base
 - Ambiguity and disagreement
- 3) In MSP: Integration challenges
- 4) Context matters
- 5) Evaluation and adaptation: central and contentious







Reflections on issues of importance for MSP processes in the BSR

- 1. 'Now it is time for critical review'
 - Continuous reflexivity, evaluation and learning are fundamentally important – actively initiate and strengthen such processes in the WG and beyond; learning from other planning contexts
- 2. 'How to facilitate coherent national implementation?'
 - Clearly stated ambitions and criteria/methodology for evaluation and follow-up are vital – <u>Development of</u> regional 'quidelines'
 - Coherence vs. context-adjustment? integrate in evaluation discussions
 - Institutional capacity-building <u>Identify capacity 'gaps',</u>
 promote education and learning among countries, sectors etc.
 - Ecosystem approach MSP vs. integrated use MSP: Need to clarify the practical differences in various contexts



- 3. 'Improvement in cooperation' 'Is ad hoc sufficient?'
 - Regional cooperation through deliberation and learning are vital – <u>Incremental</u>, <u>reflexive & adaptive institutional</u> <u>development ('muddling through')</u>
 - How to build engagement for regional MSP deliberation? –
 acknowledging the importance of stakeholder input and
 critique; focus on 'applications' and MSP challenges;
 combination of sectoral/issue-specific and cross-sectoral
 forums
- 4. 'Enhanced information exchange'
 - Over-focus on quantitative descriptions? More focus on understanding through inter-disciplinarity, social sciences etc.
 - Identification and coping with knowledge deficits
 - Relevance and applicability of knowledge and advice <u>new</u> <u>'post-normal science' processes for knowledge integration</u>



