

Progress of the implementation of the VASAB Long-Term Perspective for the Territorial Development of the Baltic Sea Region

Talis Linkaits
Head of VASAB Secretariat

26 September 2014
VASAB Ministerial Conference

VASAB Vilnius Declaration

- **Ministers encourage all members to implement the LTP by allocating adequate resources and establishing appropriate structures**
- **Instruct the Committee to monitor territorial development of the Region**
- **A progress report to be prepared for the next Ministerial Conference**



7TH CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS
FOR SPATIAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
VILNIUS, LITHUANIA, 2009

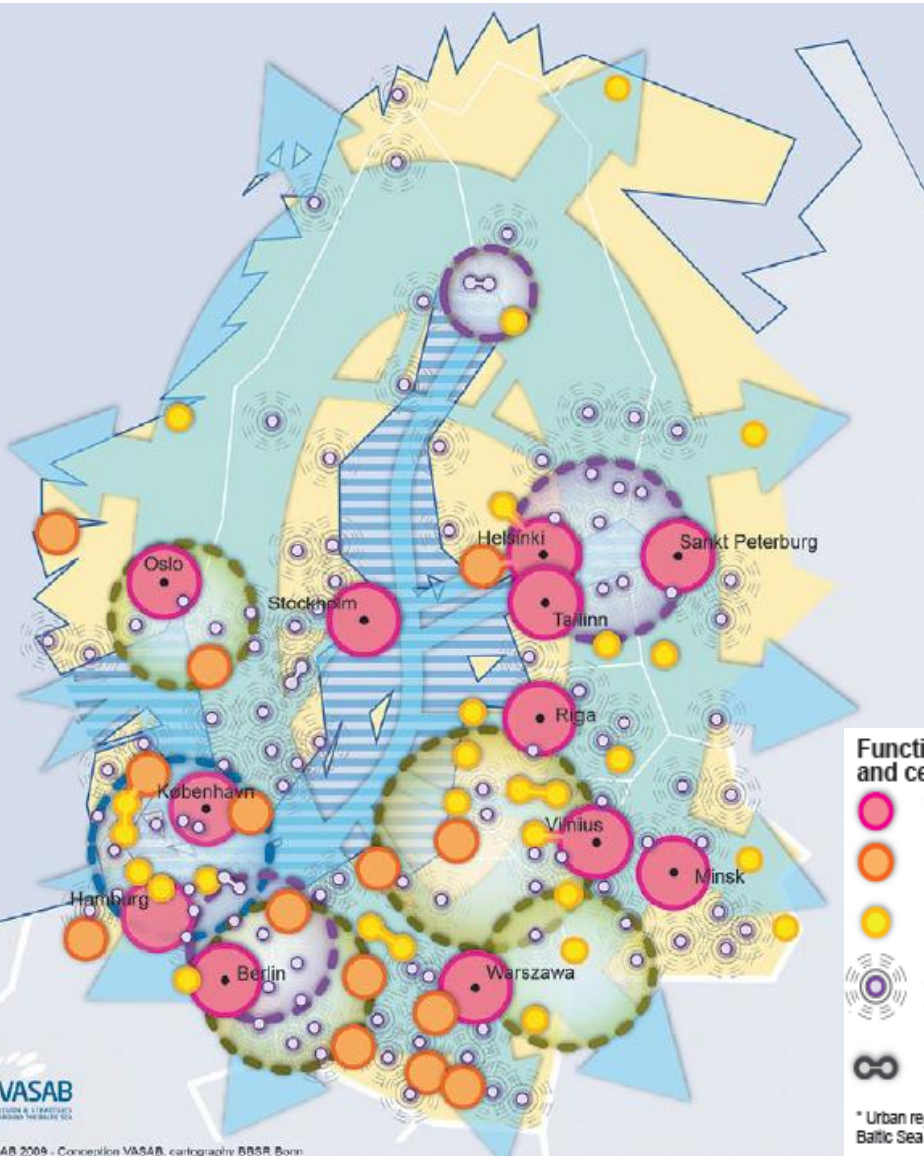


Territorial cohesion perspective of the Baltic Sea Region in 2030



- Well integrated and coherent macro-region with overcome divides
- Well balanced setup of metropolitan centres, small and medium size cities and towns
- Fast, reliable and environmentally efficient technologies of transport, information and communication
- Integrated energy production and supply system with well diversified sources of energy
- Integrated land and sea space planning and management
- Maritime spatial planning principles alleviating potential sea use conflicts for the present and future generations

Territorial development perspective of the Baltic Sea Region in 2030



Functional profile of urban regions and centres *

-  Global gateway with prominent R&D and knowledge intensive business services
-  BSR gateway with well developed R&D and knowledge intensive business services
-  Urban region in process of metropolisation with growing globally linked R&D and knowledge intensive services
-  Regional development centre providing high quality services to residents in the surrounding area
-  Bi-polar and multipolar urban development

Cross-border cluster cooperation areas

-  Existing
-  Potential
-  Cross border global integration zone
-  Integrated transport system and international links
-  Integrated maritime spatial planning

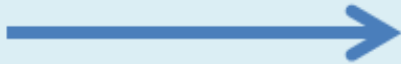
* Urban regions as defined in the report 'Towards an Integrated Baltic Sea Region', Nordregio, Stockholm 2006

Long Term Perspective

- LTP concentrates on policy themes, where **transnational cooperation in spatial planning** provides a clear added value: **(1)** urban networking and urban-rural relations, **(2)** accessibility, and **(3)** sea space planning and management
- LTP particularly addresses **territorial disparities** in the field of socio-economic development (east-west, north-south, urban-rural divides)
- LTP is **complementary** to transnational actions of other organisations (no duplication of efforts)
- LTP a combination of **policy** and **22 actions** (involving stakeholders)

How far/ambitious?

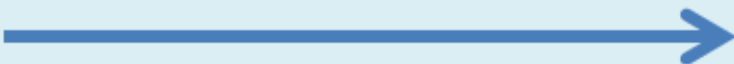
- **urban networks and urban-rural relations:** discuss, disseminate, develop new forms of urban-rural partnership



- **external and internal accessibility:** enter into dialogue with relevant bodies

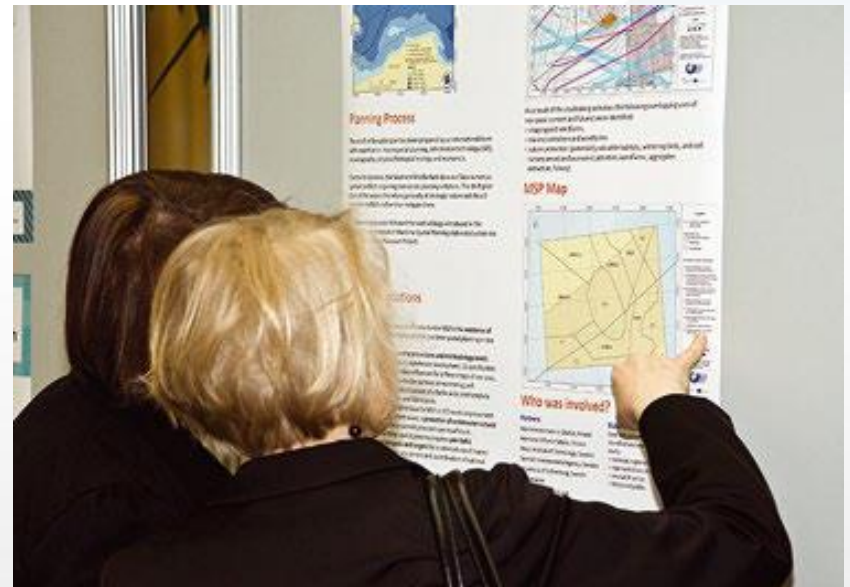


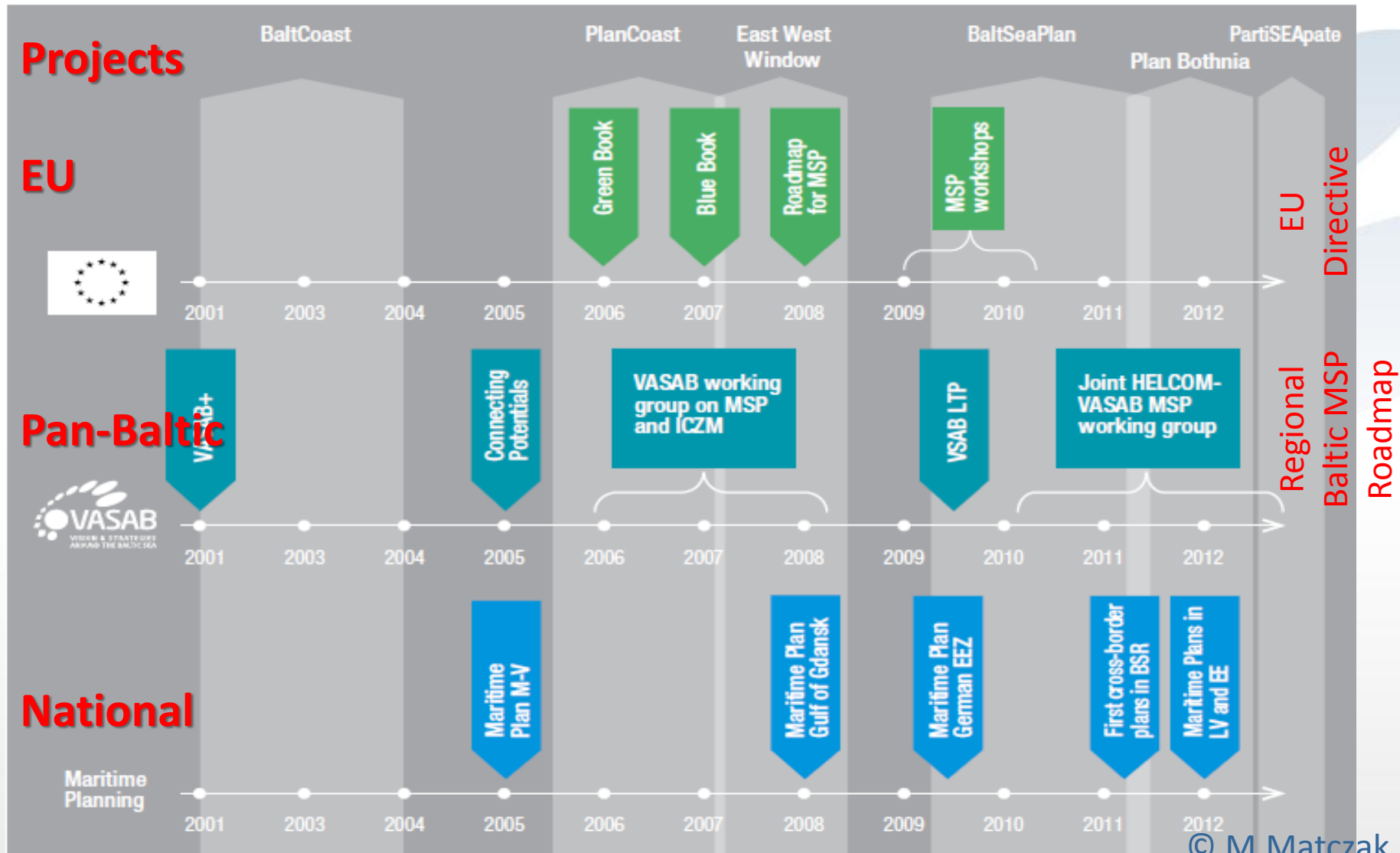
- **maritime spatial planning:** promote, develop and introduce



Key achievements

1. Recognised frontrunner in maritime spatial planning





Joint Efforts in MSP

- **Joint HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG established in October 2010**
- **Baltic Sea Broad-Scale MSP principles adopted in 2010**
- **Knowledge exchange on good practices in MSP**
- **Minimum requirements for MSP in the Region**
- **Regional Baltic MSP Roadmap 2013-2020**



Education in MSP

- **VASAB teamed up with the Baltic University Programme to develop capacity building activities for MSP professionals**
- **A fast track course on MSP for professionals was organized in September-October 2013, aiming to convey basic information on MSP and the 'state of the art' to the MSP planners**



The course is organised in cooperation with the following organisations:



The preparatory phase of the course was financed by:





MSP Projects



BaltSeaPlan: January 2009 – January 2012



Plan Bothnia: December 2010 – June 2012



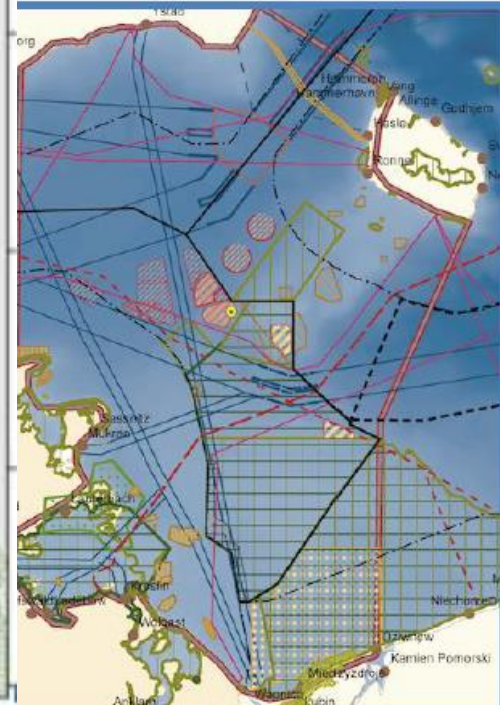
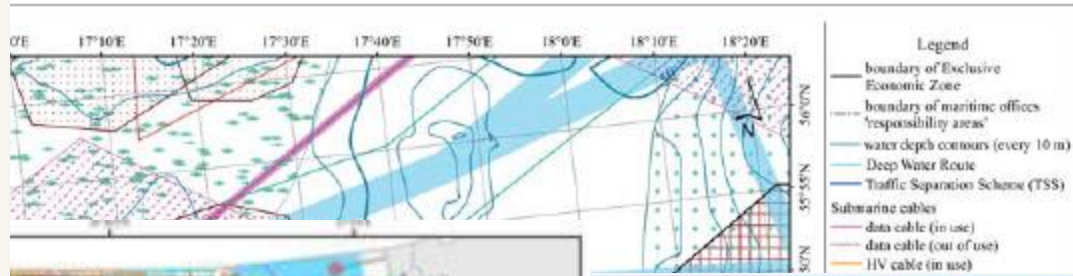
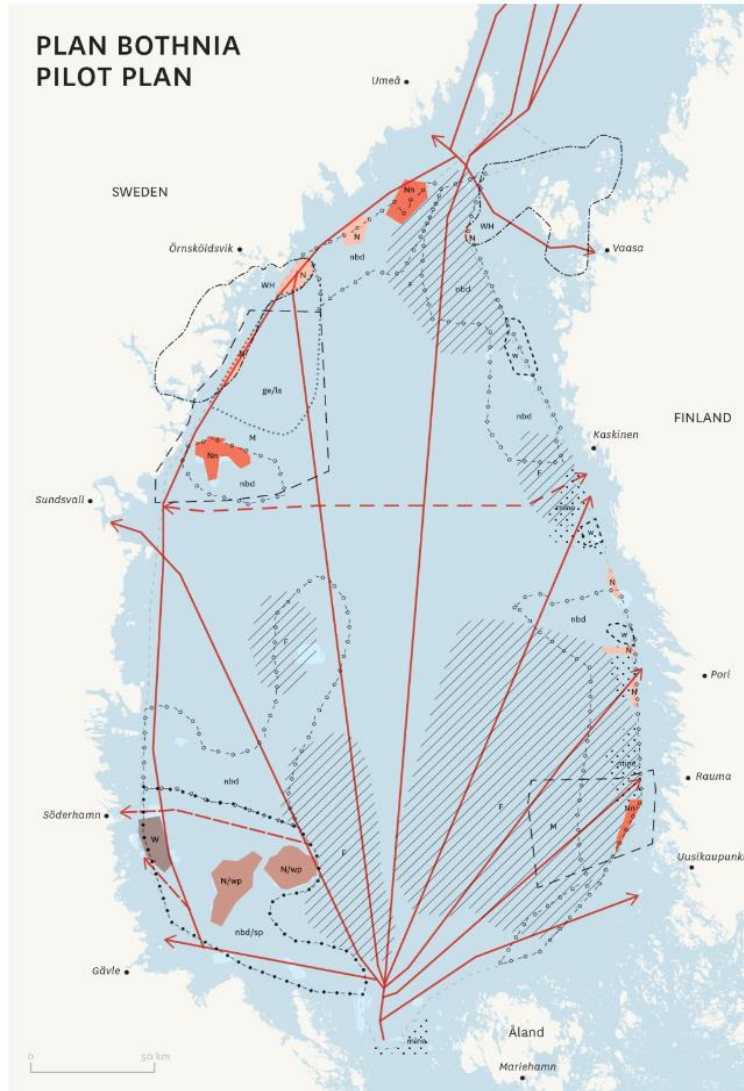
PartiSEApate: September 2012 – September 2014

Pilot maritime spatial zoning plan of Latvian territorial waters and Exclusive economic zone in the Baltic Sea.



Pilot plans

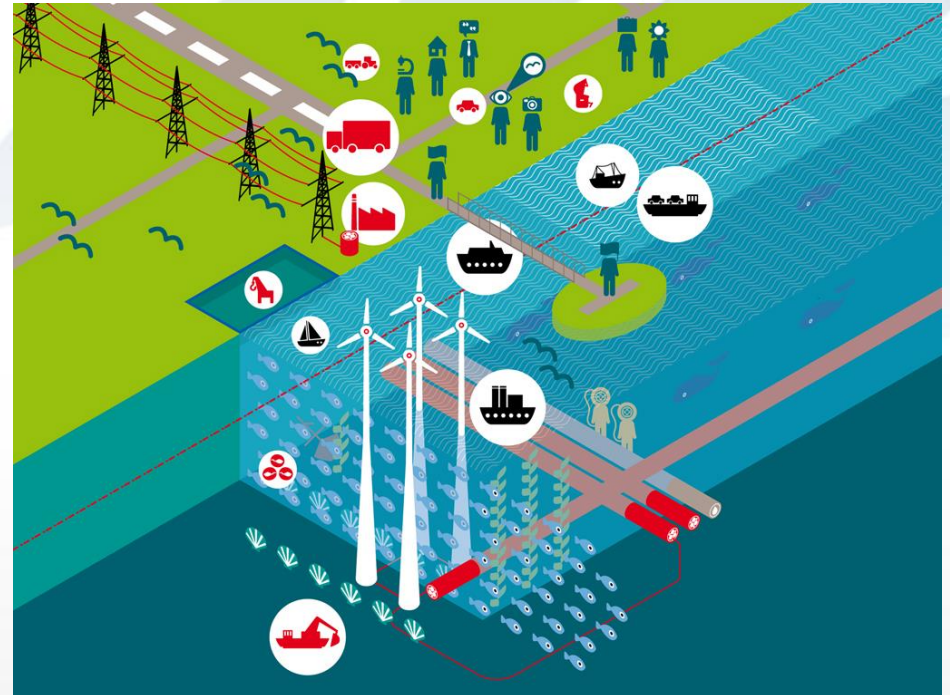
PLAN BOTHNIA PILOT PLAN



BaltSeaPlan Spatial Vision 2030



- **A healthy marine environment**
- **A coherent pan-Baltic energy policy**
- **Safe, clean & efficient maritime transport**
- **Sustainable fisheries & aquaculture**



Pan-Baltic Dialogues

Sea Use Sectors

1. Shipping/ports
2. Fisheries
3. Offshore wind energy
4. Aquaculture

Traditional Users

New Users

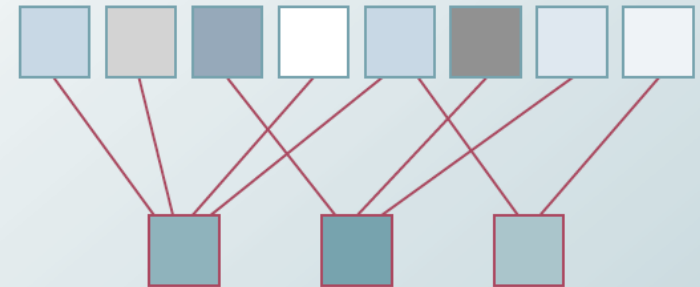
Sectors setting conditions for MSP

5. Underwater Cultural Heritage
6. Nature/ Environment

Sectors supporting MSP process

7. Climate change
8. Research
9. Data network building

Single-stakeholder workshops



Follow-up cross-sectoral workshops

BALTIC MSP FORUM

17-18 JUNE 2014 RIGA, LATVIA

Baltic Maritime Spatial Planning Forum
PartiSEApate Conference

Creating Common Understanding



- **Data Network**
- **Research needs**
- **Stakeholder Perspectives on MSP**
- **Pan-Baltic cooperation and consultation on MSP**
- **MSP case studies in the Region and in other sea basins**
- **Multi-level public participation and stakeholder involvement**
- **MSP in the Baltic Sea Region until 2020 – Expectations and challenges, national versus transnational MSP**



Swedish Agency
for Marine and
Water Management



Key achievements

2. Prominent role in the framework of the European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region



VASAB and HELCOM are Horizontal Action Leaders



Intergovernmental multilateral co-operation of 11 countries of the Baltic Sea Region in **spatial planning** and development



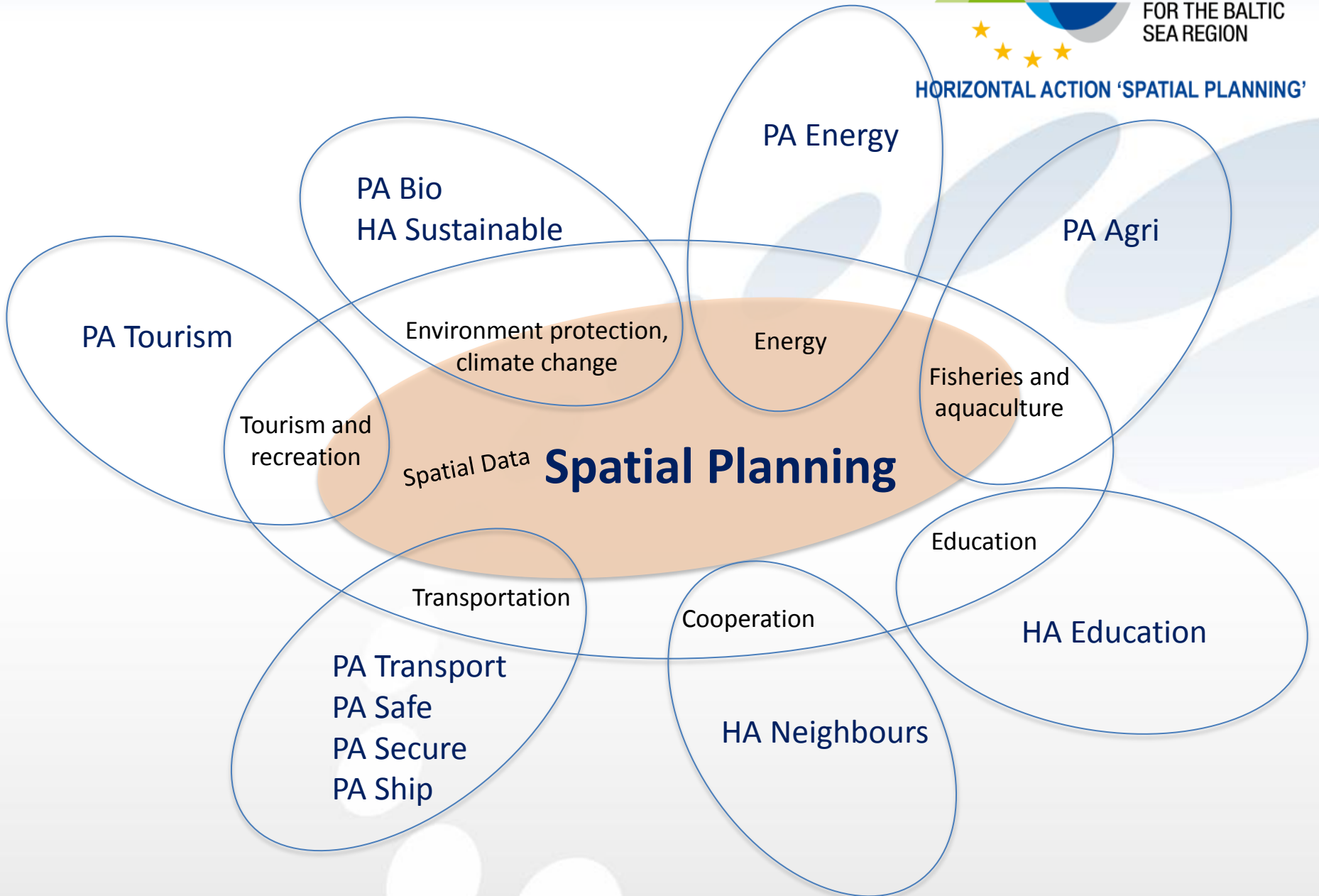
Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission - intergovernmental organisation of the 9 Baltic Sea coastal countries and the EU working to protect the **marine environment** of the Baltic Sea from all sources of pollution and to ensure safety of navigation in the region

Links to EUSBSR PAs and HAs



EUSBSR
EU STRATEGY
FOR THE BALTIC
SEA REGION

HORIZONTAL ACTION 'SPATIAL PLANNING'

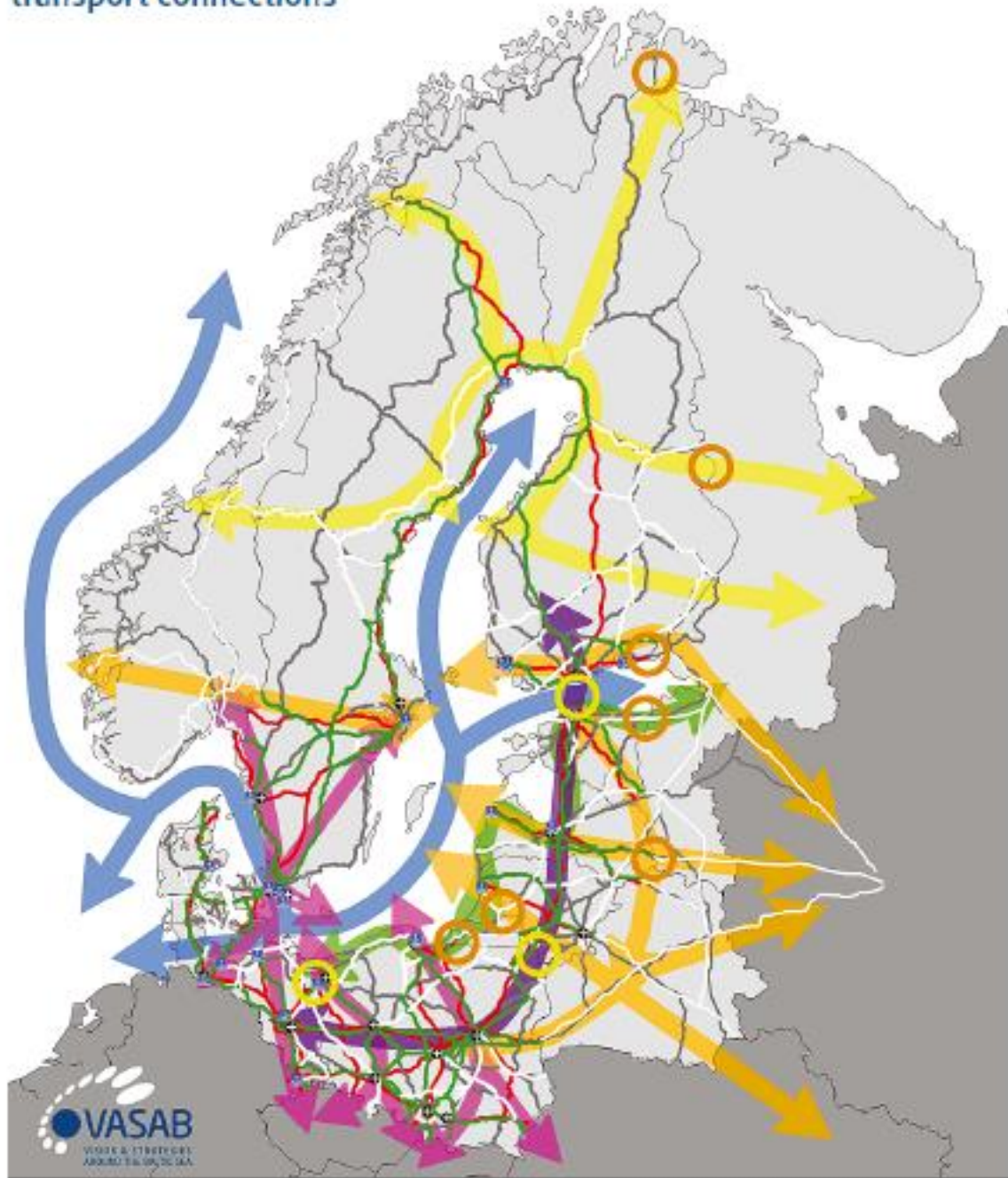


Key achievements

3. Pushed forward macro-regional transport development perspective and implementation of crucial transport infrastructure projects



Comparison of TEN-T core network and VASAB LTP transnational transport connections



TEN-T Core Network Corridors





Promoted internal and external accessibility



Key achievements

4. Activated commitment to solving important territorial development issues

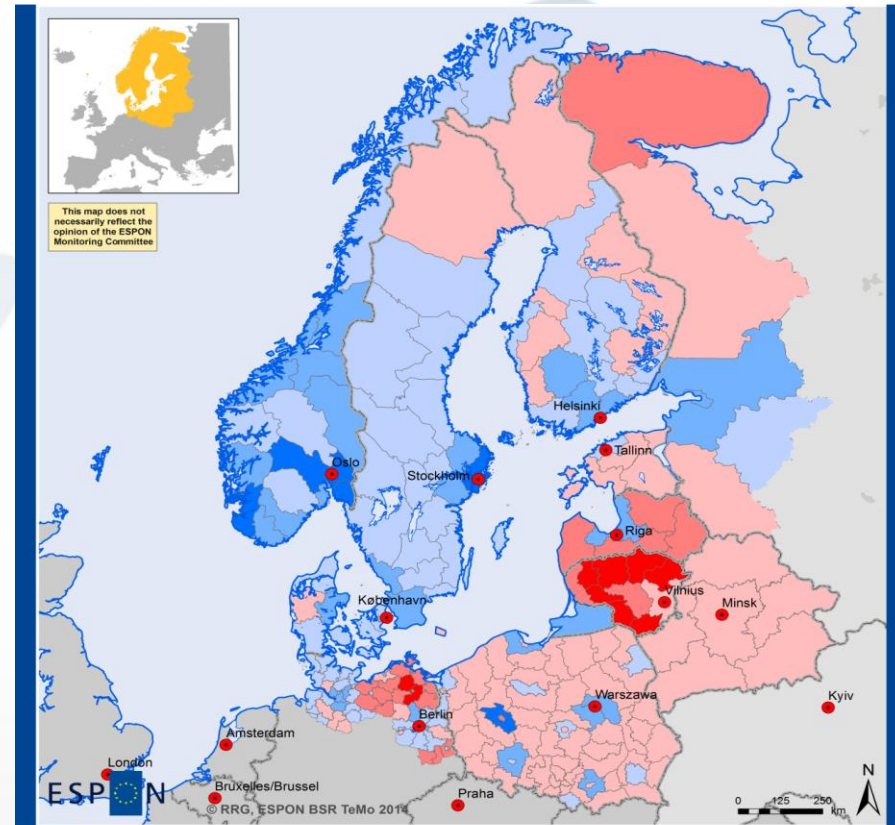


ESPON project

Territorial Monitoring for the BSR

Objective:

to support evidence informed territorial development and cohesion in the BSR by developing a territorial monitoring system based on territorial indicators



EUROPEAN UNION
Part-financed by the European Regional Development Fund
INVESTING IN YOUR FUTURE

Regional level: NUTS-3, RU & BY: oblasts
Data source: Eurostat

© RRG GIS Database, 2013
© EuroGeographics Association for administrative boundaries

Net migration 2007-2012 Average annual rate (%)

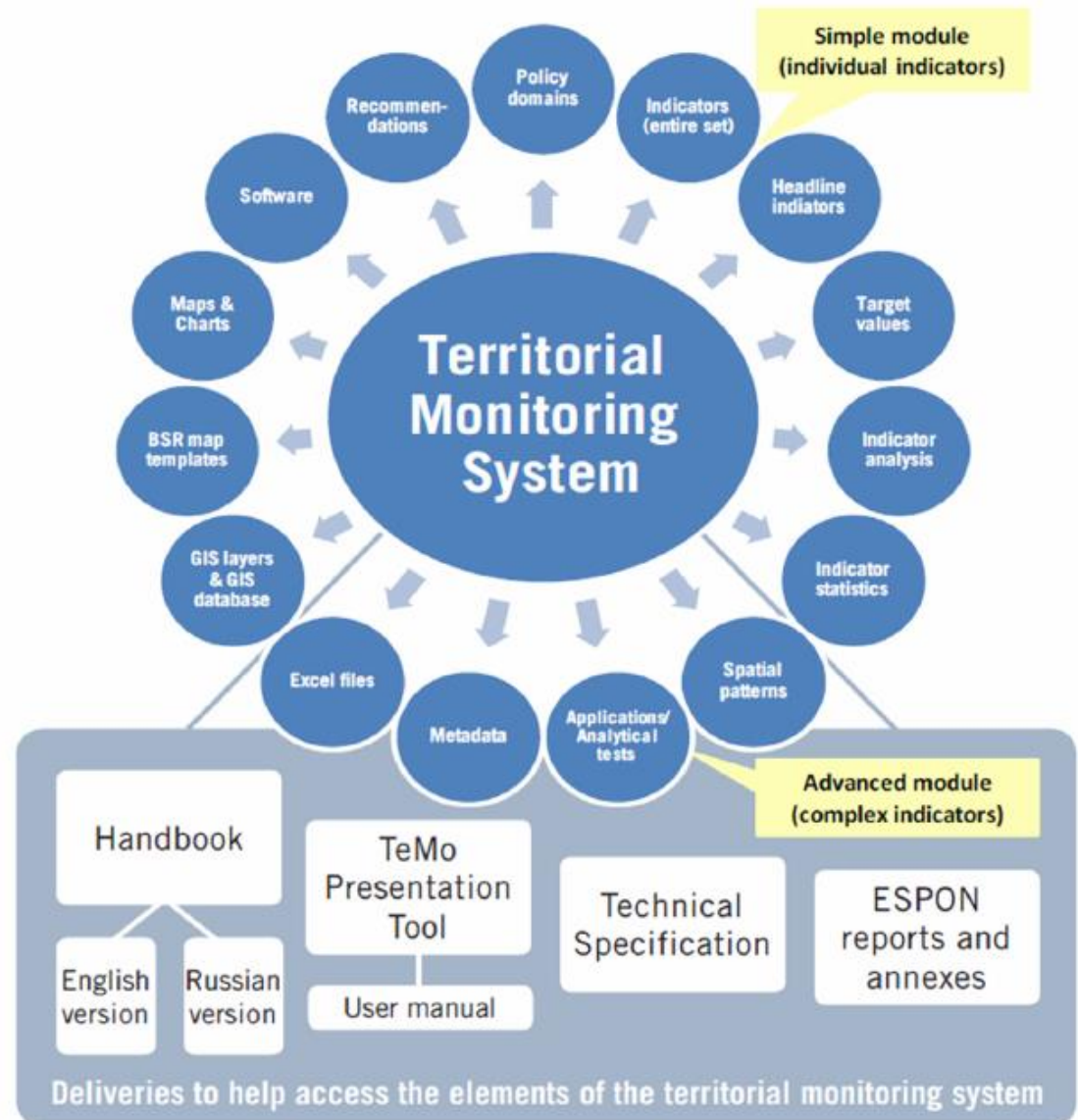
Negative rate



Positive rate

Data n.a. Mecklenburg-Vorpommern: 2007-2010

BSR TeMo Monitoring System



<http://bsr.espon.eu>

Urban-rural partnerships

VASAB Expert and Stakeholder meeting on Demographic Trends and Labour Market Development 8 June 2010, Kaunas, Lithuania



VASAB Expert Workshop “Urban-Rural Partnerships in the Baltic Sea Region” 21 September 2010, Minsk, Belarus



Close cooperation with pan-Baltic organizations

17 November 2010: VASAB given the
status of the CBSS intergovernmental network

15-16 November 2011: BSLN final
conference "Working Together for Sustainable
Labor Market" Hamburg, Germany

12 December 2013: VASAB Stakeholder
Meeting "Creating Synergies for Well-
Integrated and Coherent Baltic Sea Region",
Helsinki, Finland



Progress Report 2009-2014



**Thank you for your
attention!**

www.vasab.org

