



# **BaltSeaPlan Vision 2030**

**Towards a smart stewardship of  
Baltic Sea space**

1. Why the vision?
2. A mindset for thinking about BS space
3. Key transnational topics
4. General rules for allocating space
5. Implementing the vision
  - MSP as a tool
  - MSP processes
  - Other governance issues
6. Key messages

## Why the vision for 2030?

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- Sustainable use of the Baltic Sea and BS space requires **forward thinking** rather than just reacting to external trends.
- Planning for BS space needs to **think beyond national borders**.
- **BaltSeaPlan sets out a vision for dealing with BS space in a pro-active, integrated, transnational and co-operative way.**

### The vision:

- an integrated perspective of sea uses and the Baltic Sea ecosystem.
- a vision for **how to deal with space**. It tries to anticipate future developments and changes.
- there to provide **more coherence and certainty** to all users of BS space.
- transnational, but linked to national MSP – it is seen as part of a **holistic approach** to MSP across scales.

### **A view of BS space as a setting for the vision**

1. The Baltic Sea is a highly complex and vulnerable ecosystem
2. The integrity and quality of the ecosystem must be maintained and improved
3. At the same time, humans are part of the ecosystem and depend on marine goods and services for economic and social well-being.
4. The Baltic Sea is too small to be dealt with on national level only.

5.Planning for BS space therefore always has to bear in mind:

- a) the **whole ecosystem**, getting away from sectoral decision to an integrated approach (regarding cumulative impacts)
- b) wider **economic and social concerns** (e.g. fairness, equity, territorial cohesion).
- c) The imperative of finding **transnational solutions**, where necessary.

**This mindset, plus existing targets and trends in BS space with transnational relevance imply:**

- **A coherent approach to key transnational topics** (environment, energy, transport, fisheries)
- **Pan-Baltic, connective thinking as a key mindset:** “Think Baltic, act regionally/nationally”

### **Vision 2030 for a healthy marine environment**

- MSP contributes to protecting habitat, species, biodiversity, and ecological and cultural assets inside and outside protected areas.
- In protected areas, and in other ecologically important areas (e.g. spawning grounds), MSP excludes those uses that constitute a threat to protection goals.
- MSP thinks connectively by taking into consideration blue corridors or coherence between valuable environmental areas when allocating space to uses.
- For this, MSP relies on spatially relevant ecological information.



### **Vision 2030 for a coherent pan-Baltic energy network**

- A pan-Baltic energy infrastructure has been put in place.
- Land- and sea-based grid infrastructure is well integrated.
- Cable connections are bundled in corridors,
- Offshore wind farms and marine grid infrastructure are located outside reserved areas for other key uses
- Co-use of offshore wind farms is promoted.

### **Vision 2030 for safe, clean and efficient marine transport**

- Intelligent corridors have been established for the most intensively used navigation areas.
- IMO has taken associative protective measures to ensure shipping avoids sensitive areas.
- High-risk areas have been identified, and pilotage schemes are in place in these.
- Where necessary, shipping lanes have been re-arranged.

### **Vision 2030 for sustainable fisheries and aquaculture**

- Blue corridors are guaranteed that ensure connectivity of important areas for fish species
- Sea ranching is carried out for particular species
- Spawning and nursery areas are adequately protected by means of permanent or temporary zoning.
- Areas for marine aquaculture have been carefully selected to avoid negative impacts on water quality
  - Co-use is expanded (e.g. with offshore wind farms)

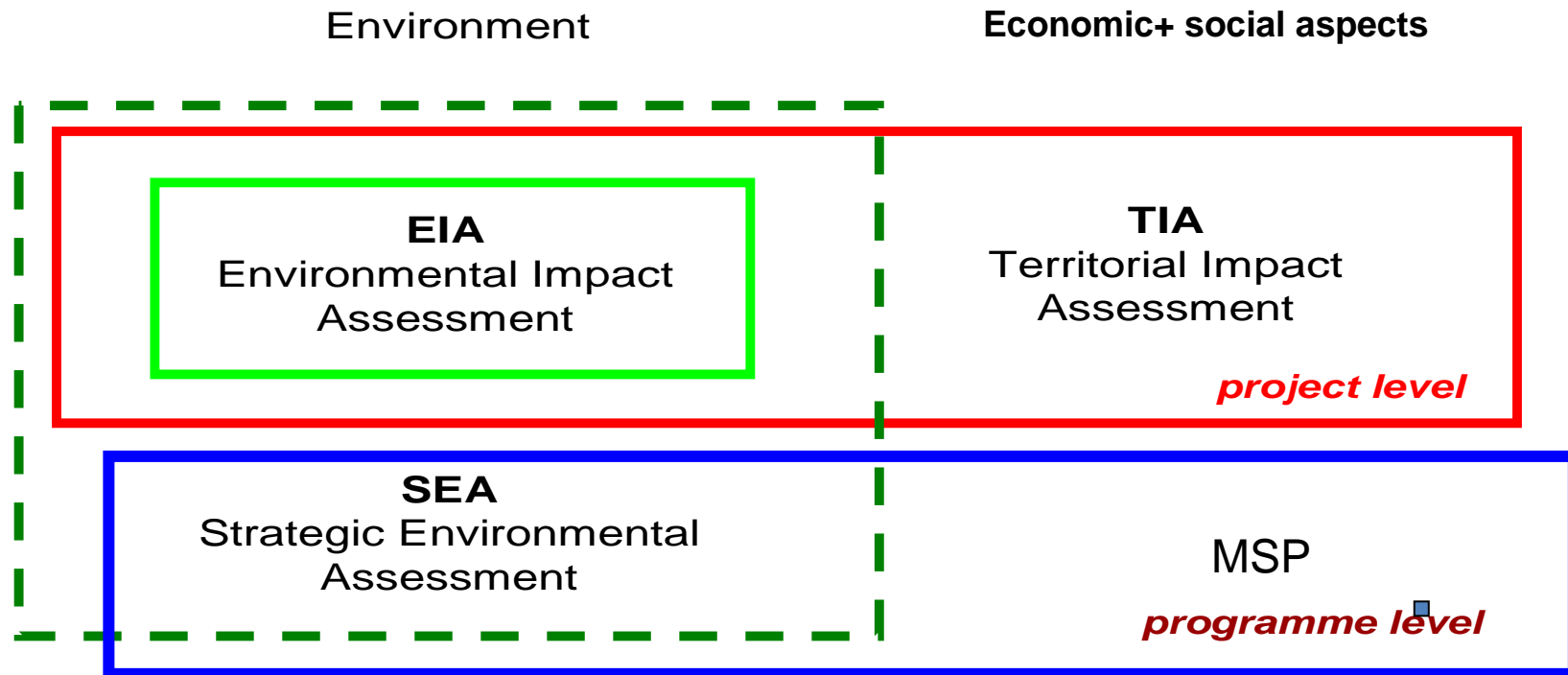


## General rules for allocating space are applied

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- The allocation of space is guided by **connective thinking** for linear structures and patches
- Planning and management of sea space is harmonised with planning and management of adjoining land areas
- The **spatial efficiency** principle (e.g. bundling infrastructure , promoting co-use) is applied.
- The sea is no repository for problematic land uses.
- enough space is allocated to achieve sectoral targets whilst bearing in mind **cumulative impacts**.

- a maritime spatial plan (MSP) needs a strategic environmental assessment (SEA)
- projects are subject to a Territorial Impact Assessment (TIA) including an environmental impact assessment (EIA).





## Implementing the vision: Structures and processes

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1. In 2030 all BS states have **implemented** necessary **national structures for using MSP** as a tool.

2. National maritime spatial plans are in place based on **transnational thinking**:

- Transnational issues have been identified and translated into transnational MSP solutions.
- A pan-Baltic approach guides transnational uses/functions such as nature conservation, energy, shipping and fisheries.
- But: Spatial problems are solved at the best suitable level (subsidiarity).

## Implementing the vision: **Structures and processes**

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3. Transnational linear infrastructure is planned as a whole, and the necessary joint procedures are in place.
4. All BS states introduce complementary management approaches where needed (e.g. the management of natural assets).
5. The legal basis for effective cross-border and transnational concertation procedures have been created.

6. An effective transnational network and/or co-ordinating body for transnational MSP has been created.

This body is responsible for the transnational part of MSP in the Baltic, including regular **updates of the vision**, agreeing on **common targets** for BS space, and agreeing on **common principles** for dealing with BS space.



## Summary of key messages:

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1. This vision has the aim *to facilitate future-oriented planning for the Baltic Sea and to provide a pan-Baltic spatial framework.*
2. 4 Key transnational topics are identified, a coherent transnational approach has been found.
3. The allocation of space is guided by thinking in terms of connectivity using a holistic approach.
4. An effective international co-ordinating body has been established.



## Summary of key messages:

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In 2030 transnational and cross-border cooperation is working at all levels:

- at the **categorical/methodological level**:  
agreeing joint principles for MSP and common methods,
- at the **strategic level**:  
joint cross sectoral spatial planning,
- at the **operational/implementation level**:  
e.g. common key infrastructure project planning.



**Thank you!**