



Baltic Sea Region MSP Data Expert Sub-Group 5th meeting

Warsaw, Poland

15/12/2016

DECISIONS

General

1. Project idea “Pathways and Needs towards a Baltic Regional Spatial Data Infrastructure for MSP” (MSPDAT – previously submitted to the BONUS call 2015 “Blue Baltic” but rejected) has been submitted for EUSBSR Seed Money 1st Call and has been pre-selected on 9 December 2016 for further elaboration of full project proposal.
2. Within the Baltic LINes project (“Coherent Linear Infrastructure in Baltic Maritime Spatial Plans”, financed by Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme 2014-2020) **Work Package 3 “BSR MSP data infrastructure for shipping routes and energy corridors”** aims to improve the access to relevant spatial data and information in cross-border MSP and has already adapted the INPUT data table (outcome made by BSR MSP Data group) for project needs. The project outcomes will provide the starting point for turning this vision into a reality by developing a system, which offers an interactive web-map user interface for discovering, accessing, analysing and displaying harmonised cross-border data and information based on a Baltic Sea Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) prototype. In practice, the project now tests the possibilities to combine actual data interfaces to the HELCOM Data and Map service and to define specification for project partners to be able to utilize data exchange in transboundary context. Taking into account that not all partners have web-map user interfaces in place, the provided solution will be a hybrid data exchange system by combining centralized and decentralized data approaches.
3. The Baltic 2nd MSP Forum was held in Riga on the 23-24 November 2016. The Forum is the largest regional event of the institutions responsible for MSP and brings together practitioners and researchers interested in MSP, as well as policy makers and stakeholders involved in marine and coastal activities. During the Forum the workshop “Towards joint understanding of data exchange” presented the first outcomes of BSR MSP Data group for wider audience and collected valuable feedback.
4. Baltic Sea / North Sea Maritime Spatial Data Infrastructure Working group (BS/NS MSDIWG) acts as a cooperation platform among the hydrographic offices (HO) around both seas with focus on spatial data. BS/NS MSDIWG invited VASAB and HELCOM to its meeting in Rostock on 7 December 2016 to establish a mutual cooperation between BS/NS MSDIWG and BSR MSP Data group to avoid duplication of work and find out what data is needed for MSP that can be provided by HO. From BS/NS MSDIWG perspective it is important to agree on keywords that are used commonly to enable to find the different datasets. In this regard small pilot project among the HO could be carried out to investigate how the relevant maritime datasets should be named. Currently on-going MSDI initiatives ensures the compliance with INSPIRE Directive, meanwhile Danish MSDI example shows that only 25% of all available datasets within the Danish MSDI are INSPIRE data.
5. INSPIRE REFIT evaluation process has been initiated by the European Commission and has produced a report recognizing much room for improvement in the INSPIRE implementation and guidance due to various reasons (see <http://inspire.ec.europa.eu/documents/executive-summary-refit-evaluation-swd20162432>) which can result in simplification of currently complex INSPIRE rules and data specifications. It was also noted that thematic INSPIRE maintenance and implementation groups are lacking thematic expertise and practical real use cases in the Marine domain.
6. The summary of the availability of the data that are needed for elaboration maritime spatial plans (INPUT data) is now published in VASAB webpage. Information about data availability in Russian Federation is gathered from scientific institutes (not from responsible ministries) therefore it should be considered as unofficial information.

Outcomes:

7. Two approaches in OUTPUT data table application were presented and discussed – German approach from planners' perspective and Estonian Hiiumaa region approach with emphasis on data layers:
 - a. although Estonian approach requires extra work for planners, it was agreed that this approach enables better understanding of data content from transboundary cooperation perspective;
 - b. the layer attributes could be as: layer/file name, theme, type, unique identifier in local database and description;
 - c. in order to ensure common language and understanding what particular data set is about, it is important to name the layers accordingly to the MSP themes (as provided by MSP Directive);
 - d. the title of data types may vary, nevertheless these titles should clearly represent the content of particular data set;
 - e. preferred geometry of data layers should be a "polygon";
 - f. in order to set minimum requirements for MSP OUTPUT data compliance with INSPIRE Directive, additional attributes in OUTPUT data table need to be added – seaUse (as Theme), useType (as status of area = priority, restricted, allowed, forbidden) and useDsc (Description). Full INSPIRE compliance could be investigated on later stage;
 - g. the layer "spatialPlan" (plan border – as a basic data layer) can be fully compatible with INSPIRE. In this regards the relevant template will be prepared and tested by BSR countries.
8. Latvia within its maritime spatial plan is sorting data sets in 3 groups with relevant attributes – 1) planning zones defined by plan; 2) territories/areas regulated by legislation; 3) existing objects in MSP area. LV volunteered to present in the next Data group meeting the Latvian MSP case and data approach for transboundary consultation.
9. Accordingly to the feedback from Data workshop in 2nd Baltic MSP Forum, the INPUT data table will be supplemented with additional dataset "fishing density" and filled out by countries accordingly.
10. Metadata usually is in local language therefore it is difficult to use metadata portals in transboundary cooperation. Data group outlined that metadata portals, as well as the user interfaces have to be also in English.
11. The draft Report summarizes the findings and work done by MSP Data group. It was agreed to continue on elaboration and to deliver the final version by April 2017 to be presented in next joint HELCOM-VASAB MSP Working group meeting.
12. Concerning further steps, MSP Data group agreed on following strategic bullet points for Data Vision in BSR:
 - a. To ensure the main task of MSP Directive - coherent plans across the borders – common data model specification should be elaborated;
 - b. To extend INSPIRE data model for MSP purposes;
 - c. national spatial data infrastructure (SDI) developed in the way that makes possible utilizing decentralized data approach;
 - d. INPUT data in shape that can be used for MPS purposes ("we get what we need") – improved data quality
 - e. BSR webmap of maritime spatial plans;
 - f. Development of cartographic visualization of MSP data? (for consideration)
 - g. Transboundary context – strong cooperation on data exchange
 - h. "one sea - one ecosystem" – utilizing ecosystem approach by using pan-Baltic environmental data products.
13. MSP Data group elected new chair – **Ms. Kristine Kedo** from Latvian Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development.

Tasks:

14. Workplan updates:

- a. Minimum requirements on INPUT data:
 - i. INPUT data table should be regularly updated – Elina asks 1 month before every meeting for updates if there are such.
 - ii. INPUT data table will be supplemented with additional dataset “fishing density” and filled out by countries accordingly by January 2017.
- b. Minimum requirements on OUTPUT data:
 - i. Jakub will develop a pilot on LV,LT,EE cases by applying the OUTPUT data table with three additional columns (seaUse, useType, useDsc);
 - ii. OUTPUT data table should be finalized by May 2017;
- c. Prepare layer on Spatial Plan area (“spatialPlan”):
 - i. Jakub will provide a template by 15 January 2017;
 - ii. countries will fill in the template by 15 February 2017;
 - iii. Jakub will contribute on GIS;
- d. Report on findings of BSR MSP Data group:
 - i. final draft should be delivered by May 2017 and presented in next joint HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG meeting;
 - ii. Comments on 1st draft should be provided by 30 January 2017;
 - iii. Kamil will contribute on compiling the comments and drafting final version;
- e. Guidance document:
 - i. aim to finalize the first draft by end of 2017;
 - ii. LV and EE volunteered to prepare 1st draft version including sections of guidance by 6th meeting;
 - iii. looking for also other countries support (Germany? Sweden?)
 - iv. sub-groups on IT & data technicalities & metadata could be considered;
 - v. For identification of technical topics for MSP, countries send their input on technical aspects of data by beginning of March 2017.
- f. Development of cartographic visualization of MSP data (for consideration):
 - i. cooperate with HELCOM regards the Baltic LINes project;
 - ii. Looking for stakeholders who can elaborate on the topic (as project?);
 - iii. LV – will present national spatial planning system “TAPIS” next meeting.

15. All updated outcomes (work plan, INPUT table, OUTPUT table, draft Report etc.) will be published in google forms for commenting and further elaboration.

16. Elina will update the Work plan and publish it in google forms by 15 January 2017. Comments on updated Work Plan 2017 should be provided by 30 January 2017.

17. Next – 6th meeting will be held in Riga (Latvia) on the first week of April 2017 as lunch-to-lunch meeting. Particular date will be considered via emails by 31 January 2017 according to availability of MSP Data group members. It was agreed that 3-4 meetings per year might be held.

18. Main topics for the meeting:

- a. LV volunteered to present LV MSP case and data approach for transboundary consultation in next Data group meeting.
- b. Updated draft Report on MSP Data group findings