



## Baltic Sea Region MSP Data Expert Sub-Group 6<sup>th</sup> meeting

### AGENDA

#### Venue: Latvian Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development

Peldu iela 25, Riga, Latvia;  
Room No.101, 1st (ground) floor

11-12/04/2017

### 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 1<sup>st</sup> Call. Seed money project idea supports MSP Data group's work towards a regional spatial data infrastructure. MSP Data group would act as a reference group to the project involving 8 partners. The decision by Interreg Monitoring Committee will be available in the middle of May 2017.
2. A new Pan-Baltic SCOPE project application has been prepared to submit to DG MARE under EUMFF call of proposals. The new project will build on previous flagship projects - "Baltic SCOPE – Towards Coherence and Cross-border Solutions in Baltic Sea Maritime Spatial Plans" and "Baltic LINES – Coherent Linear Infrastructures in Baltic Maritime Spatial Plans" and among other activities will support the MSP data group by testing an output data platform. The "Data Sharing activity" will be led by Latvia in close co-operation with HELCOM and will provide a practical help to this group by testing various data and solving technicalities.
3. The ongoing flagship project "**Baltic LINES – Coherent Linear Infrastructures in Baltic Maritime Spatial Plans**" within its **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 is now building a pilot for marine spatial data infrastructure for linear infrastructure and testing a user interface that will enable to get the information and data from countries. This process will be reported including information of encountered problems and challenges (languages, titles, input data etc.). Taking into account the various developments on Data issues in the BSR countries the project will provide a hybrid system as compromise between centralized (current) and decentralized data approaches. The hybrid system would work as temporary solution (at least for next two years) based on current HELCOM centralized data platform and will allow to link with few existing SDI's in the BSR. Baltic LINES project has built on MSP Data group's work, particularly the outcome of Input data.
4. Another project in North Sea area – "A North Sea Perspective on Shipping, Energy and Environmental Aspects in Maritime Spatial Planning" (**NorthSEE**) considered as sister's project to the Baltic LINES, attempts to align approaches in sorting data so they can be comparable, although the marine SDI is not the topic within the project right now.
5. Germany has been involved in another project development for the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and EU Integrated Maritime Policy Call for coordinated actions from Member States on maritime spatial planning in North Sea together with the Netherlands (lead partner), Scotland and Denmark. The current work of BSR MSP Data group can bring an input to this project, for example, in preparing a common map of existing MSP plans.
6. MSP Data group outcomes were presented to the Benguela Current Commission (BCC) MSP Working Group in March 2017. The outcomes were highly appreciated and considered to be taken into account into BCC work.
7. Permanent Committee on Cadastre in the European Union (PCC) has intended a new initiative towards a Marine cadastral system in EU (report is available here: <https://goo.gl/St2R34>). It was agreed to invite respective representatives to introduce with the initiative and its interlinkage to the MSP Data group's work.

**Presentation:**

8. Latvia presented its national data approach – “TAPIS” geospatial data infrastructure for spatial planning, created and updated by Latvian Ministry of Environment and Regional Development. Although the TAPIS system is built for land-based spatial planning documents, it is planned to have an extension for MSP. In order to publish Latvian maritime spatial plan in TAPIS online, the output data of Latvian MSP are grouped in three groups 1) planned sea uses (“zoning”) 2) spatial conditions or restrictions deriving from legislation 3) existing uses and objects (also the result of implementation of MSP). Firstly, Latvian MSP will be available via national geoportal as WMS, the WFS might be considered on later stage.

**Outcomes:**

9. Group discussed the draft of “Minimum requirements for transboundary MSP Output data” prepared by Jakub Szostak:
  - a. In order to ensure the MSP Output data compliance with INSPIRE Directive, draft Minimum requirements are based on INSPIRE Land Use Data Specification which is giving the exact spatial dimension of all the elements of maritime spatial plans.
  - b. According to INSPIRE Specification on Coordinate Reference Systems, the European Terrestrial Reference System 1989 (ETRS89) should be used as preferred coordinate reference system for MSP purposes. Although BSR countries mainly are using WGS84 system (as used by national maritime authorities), it was noted that both systems are compatible and easy transferable to each other.
  - c. The UTF-8 encoding should be preferred for MSP purposes. In order to avoid collisions with national languages (specific letters), Jakub will supplement the text with short instructions how to export the shape files from GIS data base.
  - d. Minimum requirements will focus on two types of MSP Output data: the area of the maritime spatial plan (layer “spatial plan area”) and planned sea uses (layer “sea use”).
10. The layer “spatial plan area”:
  - a. Should represent the extent of maritime spatial plan.
  - b. The layer can be supplemented by attributes describing: type of the plan, level of the plan, step of the planning process, scale, map of the plan, thematic background maps, responsible institution, timeframe of the plan validity. .
  - c. Due to the current legislation (MSP Directive) and planning approaches, it was agreed to set attribute of the type of spatial plan with value “MSP” as a single option. This attribute might be revised in the future if other type of planning approach would be indicated.
  - d. Concerning the visualisation of the layer, there should be solution/agreement how to display multi-level MSP plans within one country, as well as indicate the difference of development stages.
11. The layer “Sea Use”:
  - a. Countries are different, they have own views of MSP and also specific types of sea uses are applied. However countries should consider extending their MSP data structures by adding attributes of sea use (seaUse), type of sea use (useType) and description of sea use (useDsc) to their datasets for facilitation of transboundary consultations and cooperation.
  - b. Every single sea use should have a separate layer, illustrated as polygon when possible.
  - c. The title of the sea use layers should indicate at least a general theme of sea use and, if possible, also sub-theme; any more detailed information should be provided in “sea use description”.
  - d. Group will provide a Glossary of most important sea uses from planners’ perspective (“sea use code list”). The sea use code list is built on the Output data table.
12. The layer of maritime spatial plan area could be maintained within the HELCOM Map and Data Service as temporal centralised solution. While the layer of “spatial plan area” could be maintained in centralised way, the layers about sea uses should be maintained in decentralised way by each BSR country. Permanent solution for de-centralized data approach and data ingestion into web services should be investigated and prototyped in the next projects (Baltic SCOPE 2, MSPDAT etc.).
13. First findings of the MSP data group outcomes are now compiled into the Report to be submitted to the joint HELCOM-VASAB MSP Working Group next meeting in May 2017 for consideration.

## Tasks:

### Minimum requirements

14. The draft of Minimum requirements for transboundary MSP output data is available online: <https://goo.gl/68bdAV>. **Group** is welcomed to provide comments and adjustments.

### Layer “spatial plan area”

15. In order to test further an output data layer concerning maritime spatial plan area and also put together current information in practice, group agreed on following tasks:
- All members** send to Jakub relevant geometry (shapefile) and description (attributes) about maritime spatial plan (or plans) within the country accordingly to the template – **by 28 April 2017**;
  - Jakub** compiles all received information (overall map is available here: <https://goo.gl/FEbsZM>) and forwards it to **Joni (HELCOM)**;
  - All members** check (and adjust if needed) the attributes of the layer here: <https://goo.gl/WY8QD7>.
  - HELCOM** prepares a platform for data layer “spatial plan area” storage and visualization – **by beginning of May**.

### Layers of planned sea uses

16. Sea use code list is available for online editing and adjustments: <https://goo.gl/VROrls>. **All group members** should:

- look through the list and if necessary, add more types according to the defined sea uses within national maritime spatial plans (especially LV, DE, EE) - **by the end of May 2017**;
- provide the translation of listed sea use codes into national languages (so called, glossary) – **by the end of May 2017**.

17. In order to test the proposed approach for layers of planned sea uses:

- Three test-cases will be established to update the current data layers in the proposed approach and to test how it could be understood by neighbouring countries in the cross-border cooperation:
  - LV & EE (Kristīne, Armīns & Maili);
  - PL & DE (Kamil, Jakub & Bettina);
  - LV & LT (Kristīne, Armīns & Rasa).
- By the next meeting** representatives of the 3 test-cases (mentioned above) should provide bilateral presentation about the outcomes of the test, indicating:
  - What were the strengths of particular data approach from other country’s perspective;
  - What was challenging from perspective of both countries, including updating of layers on one side and understanding data on other;
  - If and how the data approach ensures the coherence between the plans;
  - If there is a need for additional attributes in current MSP Data structure;
  - If there were any issues on visualization.

18. Next – 7<sup>th</sup> meeting will be held in Helsinki (Finland), hosted by HELCOM, in the beginning of September 2017 as lunch-to-lunch meeting. Particular date will be considered via emails according to availability of MSP Data group members.

19. Main topics for the meeting:

- Invited presentations from Baltic LINES project and representatives of Marine Cadastre initiative;
- Updated draft of Minimum Requirements for transboundary MSP output data;
- Results of the bilateral test-cases of planned sea uses;
- Structure and contents for guidance document;
- Work plan 2017-2019.