BSR MSP Data Expert Sub-Group
8th meeting

DECISIONS

Venue: Estonian Maritime Academy

14-15/12/2017

General:

1. The ongoing Flagship "**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 for cross-border MSP by delivering a MSDI prototype, so called BASEMAPS. The first version of the prototype is currently being developed and will allow users to have access via web services to the most update datasets hosted by the countries. With the support of the BSR MSP Data expert sub-group, the WP3 identified 27 datasets that are considered to be the most relevant for MSP. These datasets are a priority for the development of the maritime spatial data infrastructure (MSDI) prototype. During this meeting, Data group was invited to add information about available web services (including layer names, attributes etc.) for the project needs. It was noted that MSP Data group has compiled information about the responsible institutions which should be approached when particular information or data set is needed.
2. Data group introduced with latest developments concerning the data issues in the BSR countries and pan-Baltic organizations ("tour de table"):
    a. DK – The Danish Maritime Authority (DMA) is responsible for MSP in Denmark. DMA has now established a MSP Steering committee and a MSP Working Group. At the moment a MSP data inventory is being carried out in discussion with planners. The MSP WG has now focus on the MSP "as is" data and a list is expected to be finalized in the beginning of 2018 and afterwards there will be focus on MSP "to be" data. The Danish Geodata Agency (DGA) will establish a MSP/MSDI platform as a part of its MSDI.
    b. EE – the national tender for MSP has been suspended. Estonian Ministry of Interior which is the responsible institution for MSP, will re-launch the tender in 2018.
    c. GE – Germany is currently starting preparatory work on reviewing and updating their MSPs for the EEZ of the North and Baltic Sea, with compilation of an evaluation report for the MSPs 2009 and a context analysis 2018, as well as compiling updated and current data for baseline definition. First rough sketches with alternative solutions shall be developed on that basis, to be consulted broadly nationally and internationally in the second half of 2018. A first full version with SEA is being expected in the first half of 2019. The BSH CONTIS database on activities focused on offshore energy, grid connections, interconnectors and telecom cables as well as pipelines – all linked to licencing procedures run by BSH, and situated or running through the German EEZ - is currently being set up anew, and the launch of CONTIS v2 is to be expected in the first half of 2018. Data that is not being held originally by BSH is not being migrated into the new version, and will in future be retrieved from the data owners, such as mining agencies, nature agency, coastal authorities and agencies. Also these days the final version of the Spatial Offshore Grid Plan (BFO) is being finalised and will be set into force by the end of 2017. The follow-up plan will be the Site Development Plan for new Offshore Energy Windfarms to be operational from 2026 and their grid connections, the first version to be elaborated until Mid-2019.
    d. FI – In Finland the planning mandate has been given to regional level - eight costal regional councils are in charge of drafting three maritime spatial plans while the Finnish Ministry of the Environment develops and guides MSP and is in charge of cooperation with neighbouring countries (cross-border cooperation). Some regional councils have taken decisions of starting

the MSP plan but no drafts are yet available. Finland has established a national maritime spatial planning coordination group where all the costal regional councils are represented. The group has discussed, for example, the need of a common GIS platform and solutions for data exchange.

e. LT – According to the Territorial Planning Law of Lithuania national comprehensive planning covers terrestrial and maritime territories of the country. Lithuanian Comprehensive Plan for the terrestrial part was approved in 2002. The "Maritime territories" part of the Comprehensive Plan was approved in 2015. As the terrestrial part of the Plan is valid till 2020 it was necessity to start the preparation of the new Comprehensive Plan for all the territory of Lithuania. In this regard a public procurement for the analytical part for the new plan, which will cover terrestrial and maritime territories, has been launched. It is planned to prepare the whole document till the end of 2020.

f. LV – In Latvia, concerning the MSP Input and Output data, the work on data specification of the final version of MSP has been launched recently. The specification will provide solutions for data visualization both for WMS and printed materials of Maritime Spatial Plan, as well as data sharing in a smart way (by creating OGC WMS, OGC WFS, INSPIRE view service, INSPIRE download service). In this regard the data sets which needs to be converted according to INSPIRE specifications have been identified.

g. PL - Full version of GIS database structure for The Draft Maritime Spatial Plan of Polish Sea Areas at a scale of 1:200,000 should be ready until 22 January 2018. Then it will be reviewed by 3 maritime offices. On 2nd November 2017 financial agreement for the project "Spatial Information System for Maritime Administration" was signed. ~1,4 mlj euro woth project is led by Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation, in cooperation with Maritime Offices in Gdynia, Słupsk, Szczecin. Aim of the project is to provide INSPIRE compliant services regarding datasets managed by project partners. Most of the data is relevant for maritime spatial planning (INPUT data).

h. RU – There are no legal basis for MSP and responsible institution appointed in Russia yet. At the moment, there is a project discussing and preparing the methodology for the MSP process in Russia and the first mapping of Russian maritime areas in the Baltic Sea. The project is conducted by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and the results are expected by the end of 2018.

i. HELCOM has published in the HELCOM Map and Data service new versions of Fisheries intensity maps prepared by ICES WG SFD for the years 2009-2016 with updated and more detailed gear type grouping as in previous version. The data contains also commercial value of the total catch.

j. VASAB – in order to represent the work of BSR MSP Data group to wider fora, VASAB has submitted a workshop proposal to EC DG REGIO for the next European Maritime Day 2018. The workshop "*Data availability for MSP – from jungle to structure*" would represent the BSR achievements along with the experiences from other sea basins. The assessment of the workshop proposals will be carried out and results announced in January 2018.

3. **PanBaltic SCOPE** project officially starts in January 2018 with its kick-off meeting on 27-28 February in Stockholm. Latvian Ministry of Environment and Regional Development is leading the project part for data sharing. In April the meeting concerning data activities could be organized back-to back and upon the needs of Data group.
4. Seed money project "Pathways and Needs towards a Baltic Regional Spatial Data Infrastructure for MSP" (**MSPDAT**) task force was held on 28 November 2017 in Gdansk to discuss the scope of the future project. It came to conclusion that the output data should be in the centre of main project idea. In Data group discussions it was noted that the solutions for the coherent output data structure will be explored in the PanBaltic SCOPE project therefore the proposed project scope of the MSPDAT would overlap. It was suggested to MSPDAT team to reconsider the orientation of the future project, and look for the data

areas where the clear data structure is not in the place yet, for example, environmental data or metadata mapping of the Input data for the whole region as extension of the MSP Data group`s Input data etc.

Outcomes:

5. In order to provide the general overview of the MSP process in the Baltic Sea Region countries, the layer "**spatial plan area**" with additional input from DK, DE, RU and SE is published in the HELCOM Map and Data Service (http://maps.helcom.fi/website/mapservice/?datasetID=aa96bca9-23f5-4e24-bc92-be24cf101d59). Data group is invited to suggest visualization proposals for the topological issues how to visualize the "grey zones" - areas where no official borders are agreed or planning areas are overlapping between countries.
6. Concerning the possible sea-use data structure, the data structure model from the previous Data group meeting was upgraded. The two test cases were further elaborated from German-Polish and Estonian-Latvian perspective. Main conclusions:
    a. The 2nd approach shows the capacity to visualize the maritime spatial plans in more comprehensive way by taking into account the different planning approaches in the BSR; the proposed model allows to exchange data just by adding attributes to the existing MSP output data without intervene to particular planning proposal;
    b. The data should be structured and displayed thematically by using the sea-use code list as the starting point.
    c. The data structure allows to display the data coherently however the structure also outlines the flaws of insufficient cooperation and consultations;
    d. When structuring the output data, strong team work between planners and data experts should be ensured to link the background information with planning designations (visualization itself is not always self- explanatory or all-encompassing);
    e. Further recommendations should be discussed how to describe the data precisely concerning the limits of the description fields (up to 250 signs per field).
7. Concerning the visualization aspects of the MSP data, it was noted that each country prepares its own colour scheme for MSP. In this regard the cartographic representation of MSP can be split in two parts:
    a. When having bilateral/international MSP consultations, countries are using their own colour schemes. In order to avoid intervention with national MSP processes, the BSR MSP Data group will not provide any recommendation for national MSP visualization. However, countries should aim to provide such colour scheme that can be easily understandable/readable;
    b. When considering the visualization of all BSR maritime spatial plans into Baltic MSP Map, BSR MSP Data group should discuss the most common approach by analysing current examples from maritime spatial plans (or draft plans). Due to the complexity and variety of sea-uses, the representation of the plans (Baltic MSP Map) might be compiled into separate thematic maps (e.g., maritime transport, fisheries, energy production etc.).

Tasks:

8. Taking into account the recommendation nature of the outcomes of the BSR MSP Data group, it was agreed to rename the "Minimum requirements for transboundary MSP output data" to "Recommendations for transboundary MSP output data" (available online for comments and adjustments: https://goo.gl/68bdAV). In particularly:
    a. The Recommendations should be adjusted accordingly to the comments by the end of January (by Elina with help from Armīns, Jakub, Kamil and other volunteers);
    b. The comments for the final version of the Recommendations should be provided by mid-February and discussed in the next online meeting (input from **all**).
9. In order to facilitate proposals for the Baltic MSP Map visualization, it was agreed:
    a. To prepare a compilation of the colour (and/or pattern) schemes of existing or draft maritime spatial plans in the BSR (**input from all** – fill in the template here: https://goo.gl/CzKZZV), in

case of absence of maritime spatial plan or drafts, group members can provide their own suggestions;

b. Kamil will provide a description for the Recommendation document for Output data concerning the visualization issues;

c. In the next meeting Armīns will present some visualization examples from Latvian MSP.

10. The current work on Recommendations will feed into the Guidance document which will encompass the work of the Data group and will be submitted to the joint HELCOM-VASAB MSP Working Group for consideration by 2019. The Guidance document will include:

    a. the information of Input data availability (discussed in the First Report from April 2017);

    b. the Recommendations for transboundary MSP output data;

    c. cartographic visualization and technical tools for the BSR MSP Map (further tested and elaborated within PanBaltic SCOPE project);

    d. the implementation of the Guidance document (suggested in the meeting as an additional chapter).

Future meetings

11. In 2018 approximately 2 or 3 meetings could be held. If possible, for more effective work the online meetings (via skype etc.) should be facilitated.

12. Next online meeting will be held in the mid-February 2018 (in the week of 12-16 Feb) to discuss the main tasks within PanBaltic SCOPE project. The particular date and teleconference options will be considered in a due time.

13. Next face-to-face meeting will be held in 2nd week of April in Vilnius (LT) as back-to-back meeting with PanBaltic SCOPE Data event dedicated to the technical solutions for data exchange and Baltic MSP Map visualization tool. The meeting will be hosted by the Lithuanian Ministry of Environment. In the meeting the particular visualization proposals for the common Baltic MSP Map will be discussed.