

The PLAN BOTHNIA Final Conference & Future Collaboration on MSP in Europe

23 May 2012 (9:00-16:30 plus reception thereafter)

Museum of World Culture (Världskulturmuseet), Södra vägen 54, Gothenburg, Sweden.

Many coastal countries around the European seas are engaged in the new field of Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP). This is due not least to increasing competition for maritime space, new uses like wind power, and the concern for the marine environment and awareness for limited natural resources.

The PLAN BOTHNIA project (2. Dec 2010-1. June 2012) has concretely tested joint transboundary MSP in a larger area covering the Bothnian Sea, a part of the Baltic Sea between Finland and Sweden. The project has created and analyzed background material on activities and natural values, and developed a pilot plan for the offshore areas of the Bothnian Sea. The project's final conference on May 23rd gives an opportunity to reflect on achievements so far and provides a platform to discuss future collaboration on MSP.

The morning session will take a closer look on the pilot plan as well as the process of drafting it. This will be the starting point for a wider, interactive discussion in the afternoon on the future of European MSP. For this purpose, Plan Bothnia cooperates with the Swedish Institute for the Marine Environment and a newly formed European MSP research network.

The aim is to identify important challenges for MSP and appropriate forms of collaboration to address them. Thus the discussions of the MSP related sessions of the European Maritime Day 2012 (stakeholder day on 22. May) can continue towards concrete results, e.g. an action program or working groups for coming research calls.

The working language of the event will be English.

Programme:

8:30-9:00	Registration
9:00-9:10	Opening words by Lead Partner & Dr Wilfried Gormar, VASAB Chairman
9:10-10:30	Session 1: Plan Bothnia
9:10-10:00	Presentation of the Plan Bothnia outcomes
10:00-10:30	Reviewers' perspectives on Plan Bothnia and taking MSP forward (Stephen Jay)
10:30-11:00	Coffee & networking break
11:00-12:00	Session 2: European Maritime Day 2012 - conclusions on MSP
11:00-11:30	Presentations of key conclusions from EMD 2012
11:30-11:45	Open discussion with moderator (Jacek Zaucha) on MSP in Europe & listing of key challenges, including Ecosystem Based Management.

11:45-12:00	Introduction to afternoon sessions on addressing the identified challenges to MSP (Andrea Morf)
12:00-13:00	<i>Lunch & networking break</i>
13:00-14:45	Session 3: Setting the agenda for future MSP initiatives Interactive session led by Andrea Morf & Stephen Jay
14:45-15:00	<i>Coffee & networking break</i>
15:00-16:15	Session 4: Results and final reflection
15:00-15:45	Presentations of group work and discussion
15:45-16:15	Final discussion summing up the results of the day and defining next steps for developing collaboration on MSP
16:15-16:30	Final words and closing Anders Flanking (State Secretary to Minister for the Environment, Sweden)
16:30-18:00	<i>Standing reception/mingling</i>

Sincerely yours,

Talis Linkaits
Head of VASAB Secretariat
Event Organizer

Monika Stankiewicz
Executive Secretary, HELCOM
Plan Bothnia Lead Partner

Berit Petterson
Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (SvAM)

Manuel Frias
PLAN BOTHNIA Project Manager

Andrea Morf
Swedish Institute for the Marine Environment, Gothenburg

Stephen Jay
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