



HELCOM-VASAB MSP Working Group

- Intergovernmental MSP cooperation in the Baltic
Sea region

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The HELCOM-VASAB Maritime Spatial Planning Working Group

- Body for intergovernmental MSP cooperation in the Baltic Sea region
- First meeting in October 2010
- 2-3 meetings per year
- All 9 Baltic Sea countries and the European Commission participate
- NGOs and industry can participate as Observers or Guests



A unique cross-breed

The HELCOM VASAB MSP WG was founded on earlier (1990s-) activities in Ship Routeing, GIS, ICZM, MPAs and other fields of the two founding organisations



- 9 Baltic Sea coastal countries and the EU
- Baltic Sea marine environment, maritime and land based sources of pollution (including shipping)
- International legal base: the 1992 Helsinki Convention (original 1974)

- 11 countries of the Baltic Sea Region
- Spatial planning and development

Results of the Group 2010-2014

- Regular intergovernmental MSP dialogue
- MSP Principles (adopted 2010)
- MSP roadmap (adopted 2013)
- Updated overviews of MSP in the Baltic Sea countries
- Paper on legal requirements for MSP
- Practical application of the ecosystem approach in MSP (work under process)



Baltic Sea Broad-scale MSP Principles

2 page document drafted by the Group and adopted 2010 by all countries in the region with following headlines:

1. Sustainable management
2. Ecosystem approach
3. Long term perspective and objectives
4. Precautionary Principle
5. Participation and Transparency
6. High quality data and information basis
7. Transnational coordination and consultation
8. Coherent terrestrial and maritime spatial planning
9. Planning adapted to characteristics and special conditions at different areas
10. Continuous planning

Baltic Sea MSP Roadmap 2013-2020 (adopted in 2013)

Baltic Coastal countries will make every effort to:

- draw up and apply maritime spatial plans throughout the Baltic Sea Region by 2020
- which are coherent across borders
- and apply the ecosystem approach.

Concrete activities and sub-deadlines i.a. for:

- Public participation and transboundary consultation in MSP (Guidelines)
- Ecosystem approach in MSP (Guidelines)
- Information and data for MSP (improving regional MSP data sharing)



Other dimensions of the Group

- Follow up of the EU MSP Directive process
- Horizontal Action Leader of MSP in the EU strategy of the Baltic Sea Region
- Testing of the adopted MSP principles in concrete projects
 - BaltSeaPlan
 - Plan Bothnia
 - PartiSEApate
 - GOF2014
- MSP data work

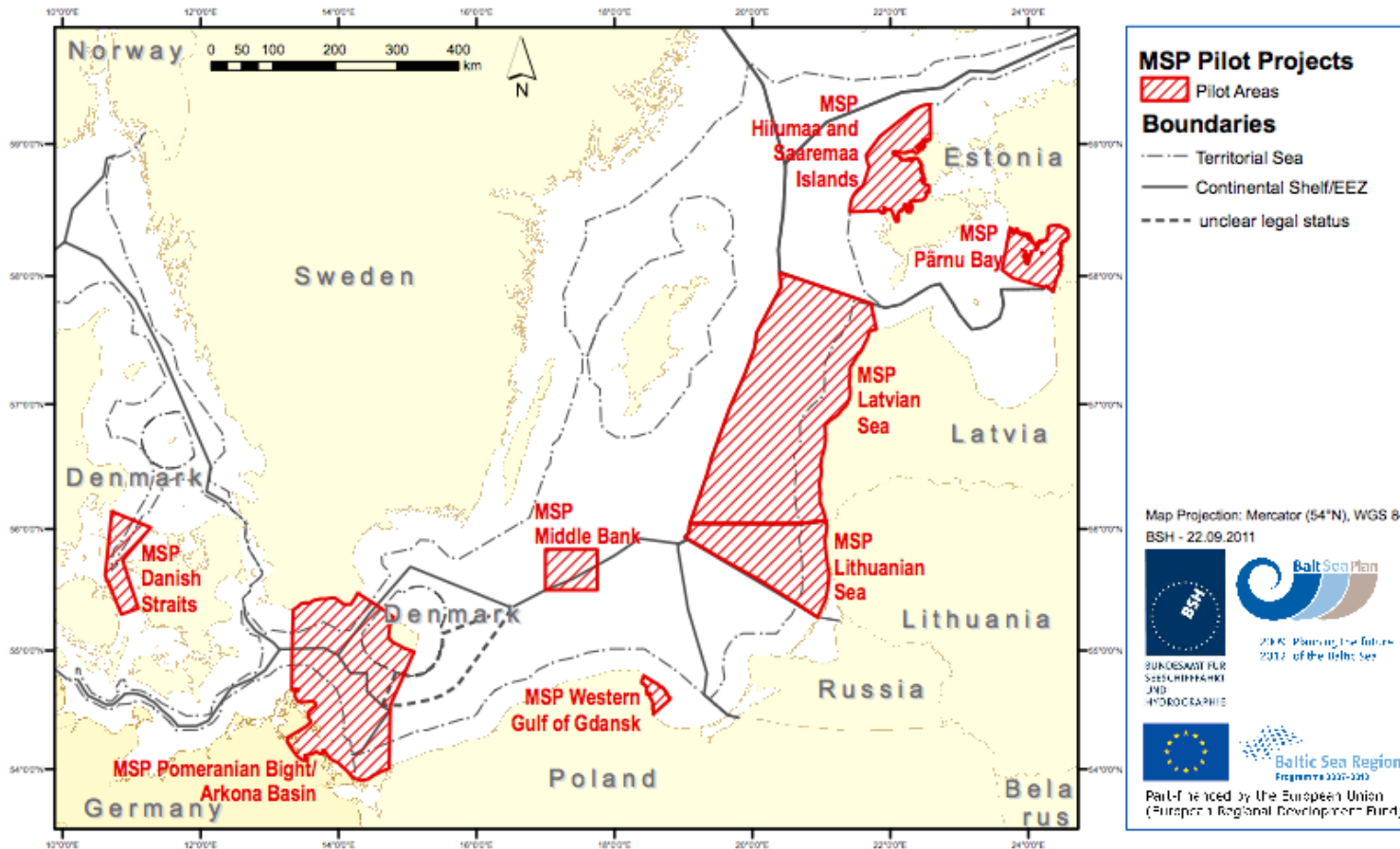


Completed transboundary Pilots: BaltSeaPlan (8)



Pilot Projects

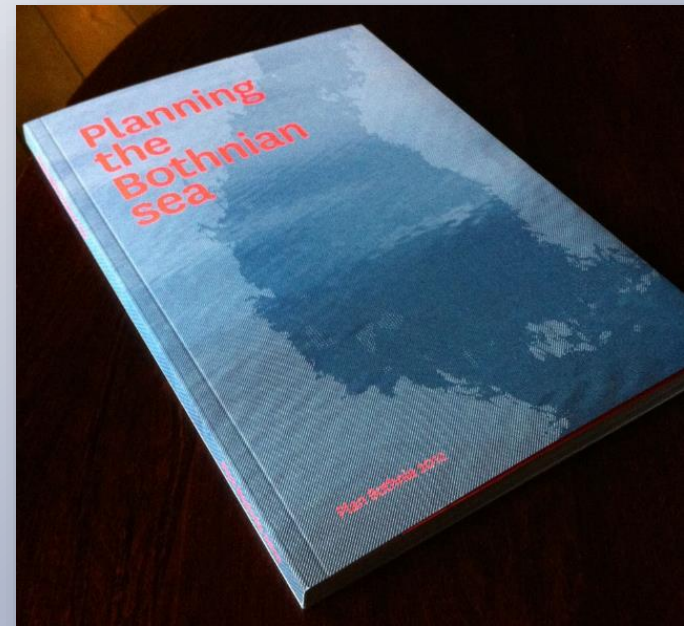
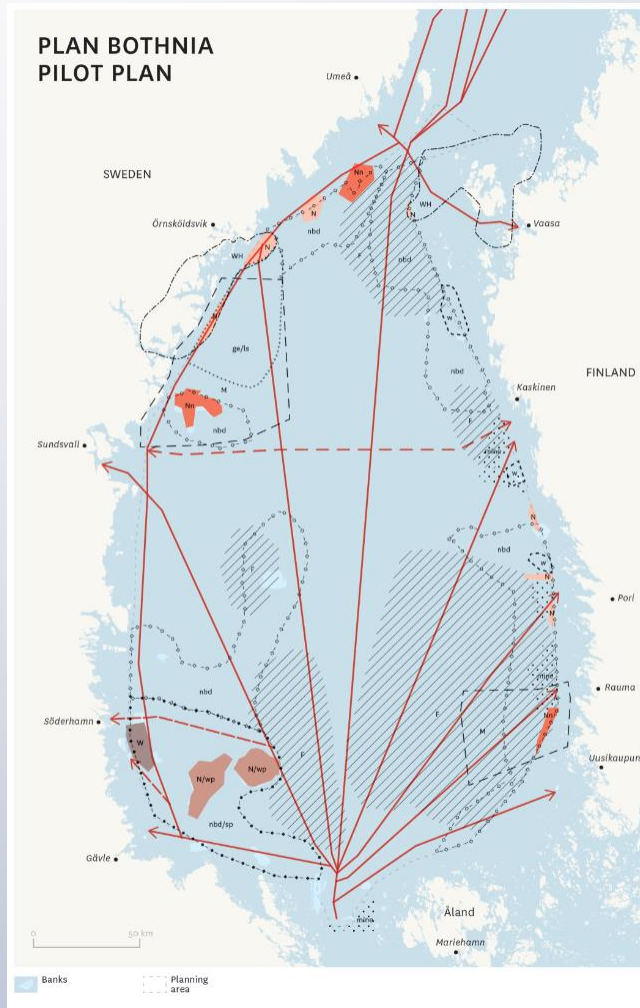
Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP)



Completed transboundary Pilots: Plan Bothnia (1)



PLAN BOTHNIA
MARE/2009/16



www.planbothnia.org

Baltic Sea MSP is in the air!

- There is momentum for Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) in the Baltic Sea:
 - European MSP framework directive
 - draft Concept for MSP Legislation in Russian Federation.
- Important that whole Baltic involved in the same process (Russia and EU members)
 - Baltic Sea Days 2012 & 2014: Roundtable discussions on MSP in St.Petersburg
- HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG will ensure such harmonized implementation

For further information visit:



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