



# Promoting transnational MSP: results from the Seanergy 2020 project

Lachlan Cameron, Karina Veum & Michiel Hekkenberg *Energy  
research Centre of the Netherlands (ECN)*

1. ECN
2. Project overview
3. Barriers to transnational MSP
4. Demand for space and sea use interactions
5. Transnational MSP benefits
6. Fostering transnational MSP – key findings
7. Recommendations

- Largest energy research centre in the Netherlands
- Policy Studies unit centred in Amsterdam with a multi-disciplinary staff of 73
- Technical units (Wind, Solar, Biomass and Efficiency) with approximately 600 further employees



Petten  
(technical)



Amsterdam  
(policy studies)

# 1. Project highlights

Time line: May 2010 – April 2012

Partners: 8



UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM



# 1. Project objectives

**WP2: National MSP good practices**

**WP3: Adapting international MSP instruments**

**WP4: Recommendations for transnational approaches to MSP**

**Largely from the perspective of offshore renewable energy**

# 1. Project structure – WP4

- Focuses on:
  - improving coordination of and cooperation on MSP between Member States
- 4 deliverables
  - Barriers to cooperation
  - Future spatial demand
  - Case study showing the benefits of cross-border coordination
  - Recommendations to promote transnational MSP approaches

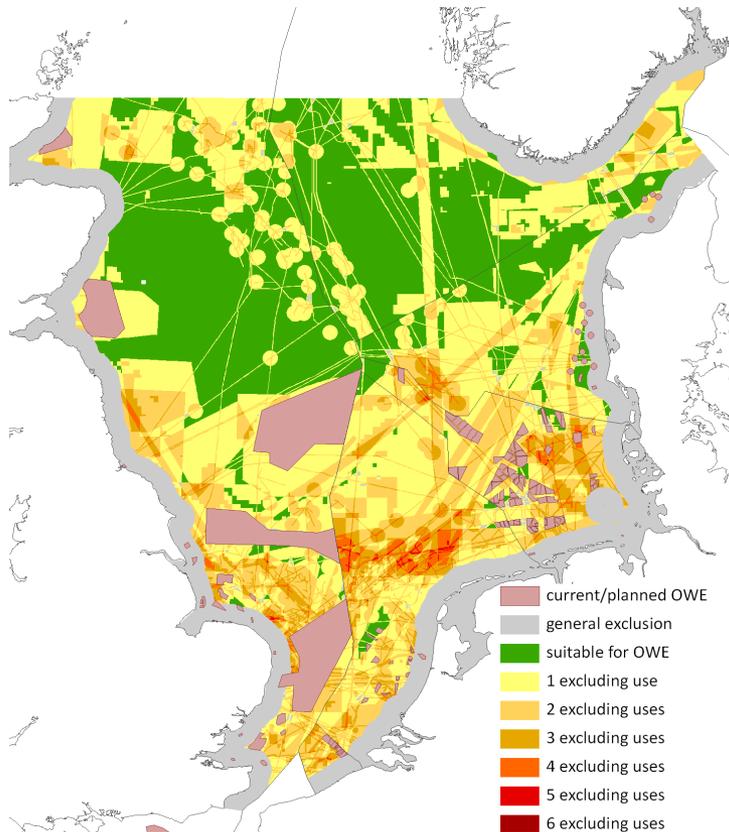
# 1. Why transnational MSP approaches?

- Minimise spatial conflicts
- Efficient coordination → improved decision making;
- Reduced transaction costs;
- Certainty on potentials → improved investment climate;
- Ecosystem approach to nature conservation; and
- Cross-border infrastructure, e.g. onshore/offshore grid.

## 2. Barriers to a transnational approach

Authority	Interests	Capacity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sovereignty</li><li>• Challenge to EU community</li><li>• External states</li><li>• Stakeholder representation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Criteria and weighting</li><li>• Benefits</li><li>• Approach</li><li>• Flexibility</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Need / urgency</li><li>• Timing</li><li>• Monitoring</li><li>• Readiness / data</li></ul>

# 3. Demand for space and sea use interactions (example: North Sea)



	OWE	Sand extraction	Nature conservation	Cables & pipelines	Fisheries	Military	Oil & gas	Shipping
Shipping	▲	■	■	■	■	■	▲	■
Oil & gas	▲	▲	▲	■	▲	▲	■	
Military	■	■	■	■	■	■		
Fisheries	▲	■	▲	▲	■			
Cables & pipelines	▲	▲	■	■				
Nature conservation	■	■	■					
Sand extraction	▲	■						
OWE	■							

■ Generally compatible  
■ No/limited possibility of co-existence  
■ Co-existence possible under certain conditions  
■ Little possibility of co-existence. First come, first served  
**Note: arrow indicates use that typically takes precedence**

Source: IEE-funded project WINDSPEED

# 3. Demand for space

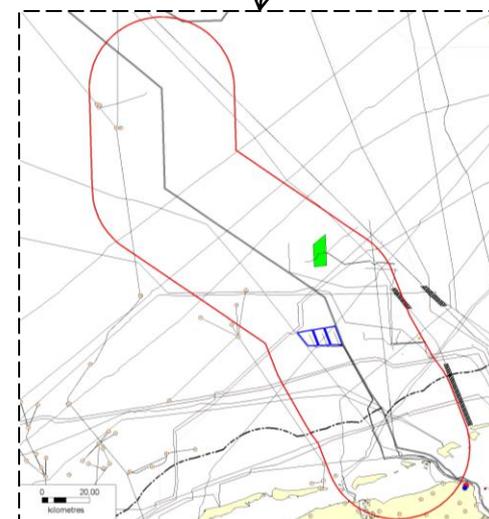
	North Sea	Baltic Sea	Med. Sea	Atlantic Coast	Irish Sea
<b>Water depths</b>	Extensive shallows	Extensive shallows	Steep gradient	Steep gradient	Moderate shallows
<b>National MSP</b>	+++	++	+	++	++
<b>Data availability</b>	++	+++	+	++	++
<b>Demand for space</b>	+++	+++	++	++	+++
<b>Growth Trend</b>	+++ ORE, cables, shipping	+++ ORE, oil & gas, cables, pipelines shipping	++ cables, shipping	++ ORE, shipping	++ ORE, cables, shipping

### 3. Demand for space

- Moderate to high demand for space
- Demand is higher closer to shore
- Space versus generation requirements
- Demand for space will increase in the future
- Few instances of long term MSP approaches

# 4. Case study on benefits of transnational MSP

- Evaluate the added value of cross border coordination for MSP
- Impacts on offshore wind energy
- Cost and capacity – quantitative
- Planning and risk – qualitative
- Dutch – German study area chosen



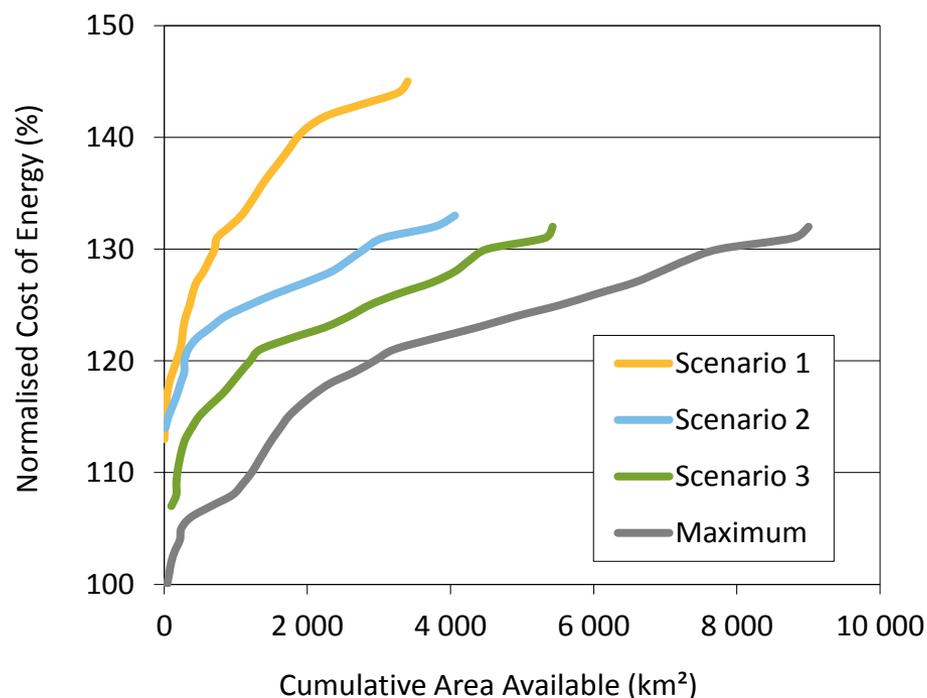
Plan Bothnia stakeholder meeting - February 2012

# 4. Case study scenarios

	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3	Scenario 4: Hypothetical
<b>Example cooperation aspects</b>	Business as usual – MSP is national / fragmented	Initial stage of cross border cooperation	Aggressive cooperation on cross border MSP	Theoretical maximum – only physical constraints
Parks can connect to onshore grid points across borders	✗	✓	✓	✓
Clusters of parks with common 'plug-at-sea' and maintenance hub	✗	✗	✓	✓
National/informal shipping lanes are optimised	✗	✓	✓	n/a
IMO shipping lanes are optimised	✗	✗	✓	n/a
Natura 2000 areas are optimised between countries and for clusters	✗	✗	✓	n/a
Military areas are optimised to support clusters	✗	✗	✓	n/a

## 4. Case study on benefits of transnational MSP

- Cooperation on MSP could identify additional capacity at lower costs
- Additional benefits that are not quantified
  - More certainty for developers (and other sectors)
  - Synergies in construction
  - Streamlining of permitting procedures
  - Ability to consider whole ecosystem impacts



# 5. Fostering transnational MSP – way forward

## Key project findings:

- Currently, no formalised EU framework or legislation for MSP
- More effective ways of promoting MSP cooperation are needed
- Regional approach appears to be most effective
- National MSP is a prerequisite
- EU can play a key role - require MS to implement MSP but form and substance should be left to MS to decide
- Clear and concise guidance needed – today there are multiple sources of requirements, advice and principles

# 5. Fostering transnational MSP – way forward

Options for EU intervention:

- i. voluntary guidelines encouraging cross-border cooperation,
- ii. support of individual regional projects and cooperation initiatives,
- iii. MSP expert working groups,
- iv. using regional sea conventions (OSPAR, HELCOM, Barcelona) as coordinating platforms,
- v. **introducing an MSP Directive that creates a framework for cooperation.**

## 6. Fostering transnational MSP – recommendations

- Focus on encouraging cooperation, rather than prescriptive approaches to national practices,
- National MSP is a pre-condition of successful transnational cooperation and should be promoted,
- The EU should ideally seek to draft an MSP Directive (or if this cannot be achieved, guidelines or approaches based on regional sea conventions or working groups) that focuses on two aspects:
  - requiring Member States to adopt national MSP legislation over an agreed time-frame - the content and form of this should be decided by each Member State,
  - promoting cross-border cooperation and coordination on MSP and maritime development.
- Regional action is the most appropriate starting point for successfully and usefully employing transnational MSP practices,
- The Water Framework Directive should be used as a template for promoting cooperation. An MSP Directive would similarly create regional sea basins to serve as a forum for planning and cross-border coordination,

# 6. Fostering transnational MSP – recommendations

- Regional sea basin forums should have a long term perspective in relation to the objectives they seek to attain
- These forums should be actively used to align national objectives and plans near border areas with broader regional objectives and neighbouring Member State plans.
- Regional sea basin forums offer the opportunity to improve coordination of a number aspects related to MSP including:
  - planning time-frames,
  - onshore and offshore grid infrastructure,
  - data formats and availability,
  - research methodologies and efforts, and
  - management measures including elements of permitting.

