Balancing local coastal tourism and use of offshore wind energy



CASE STUDY FROM SOUTHWESTERN KURZEME

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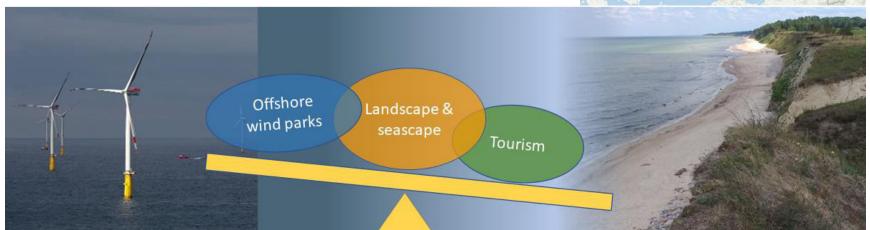
The Southwestern Kurzeme case study

Case study area: 120 km along the coastline, including terrestrial part up 10 km from coast and adjacent territorial waters and EEZ

Aim: To develop spatial solutions for balancing national interest in the offshore wind energy production with interests of local communities in preserving the landscape and boosting coastal tourism & recreation







The case study approach & workflow (2019-2021)

Stocktaking: interviews with municipalities; analysis of existing policy/planning documents; Study on coastal visitors, their impact on environment and coastal public infrastructure Biophysical mapping of landscape qualities & Stakeholder engagement in the case study ecosystem services (ES) identification of landscape/seascape units two stakeholder workshops in Liepājā: autumn 2019 & 2020 field work (visual assessment of landscape qualities) online surveys and tools for assessment of landscape & analysis of spatial data sets tourism resources and scenario building filling of assessment matrices public survey on importance of the case study area for mapping landscape qualities & ecosystem service supply human well-being **Land Sea Act map explorer Development of optimum** Stakeholder engagement in **Assessment of scenario impact** spatial solutions scenario building on landscape, ecosystem services for balanced use of land and sea on off-shore wind energy and and human well-being resources tourism development

Stakeholder engagement methods for exploring the values of local communities



Represented stakeholders:

Multi-level, including: local, regional, national

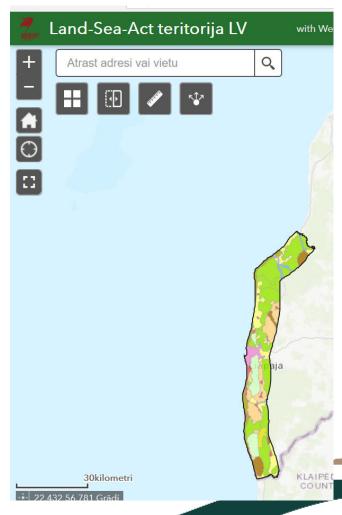
Multi-sector, including: in-land sectors marine sectors

Stakeholder involvement in landscape assessment

- Group work during stakeholder workshop, Liepāja 09.10.2019
- Using ArcGIS web app for:
 - assessment of landscape units with regard four landscape qualities (diversity, scenic views, attractive landscape elements, uniqueness)
 - learning process & verification of expert judgement

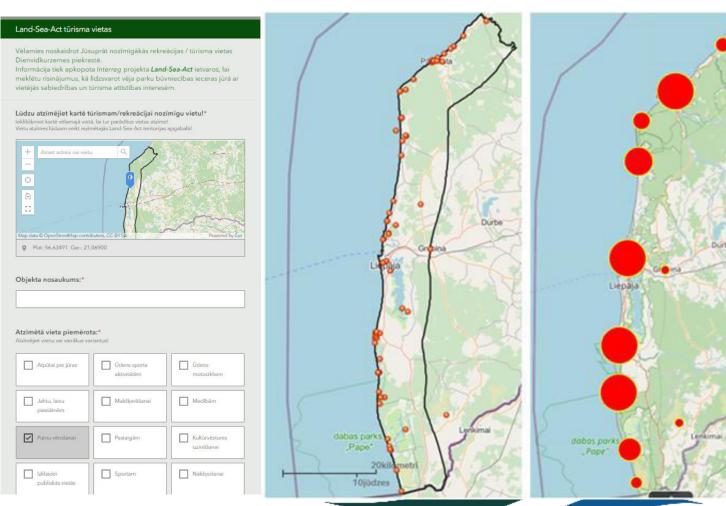






Stakeholder involvement in assessment of recreational value

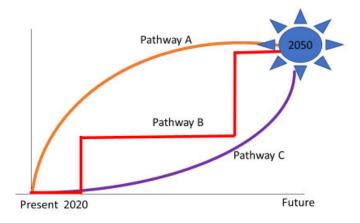
- Participatory GIS method, using ArcGIS Survey 123
 - tested at the stakeholder meeting in Liepāja, 9.10.2019
 - collected 80 sites significant for recreation and tourism
 - information provided on suitability of the sites for different recreational activities

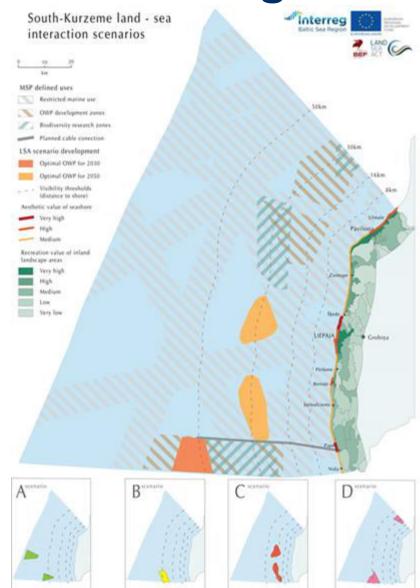


Stakeholder involvement in scenario building

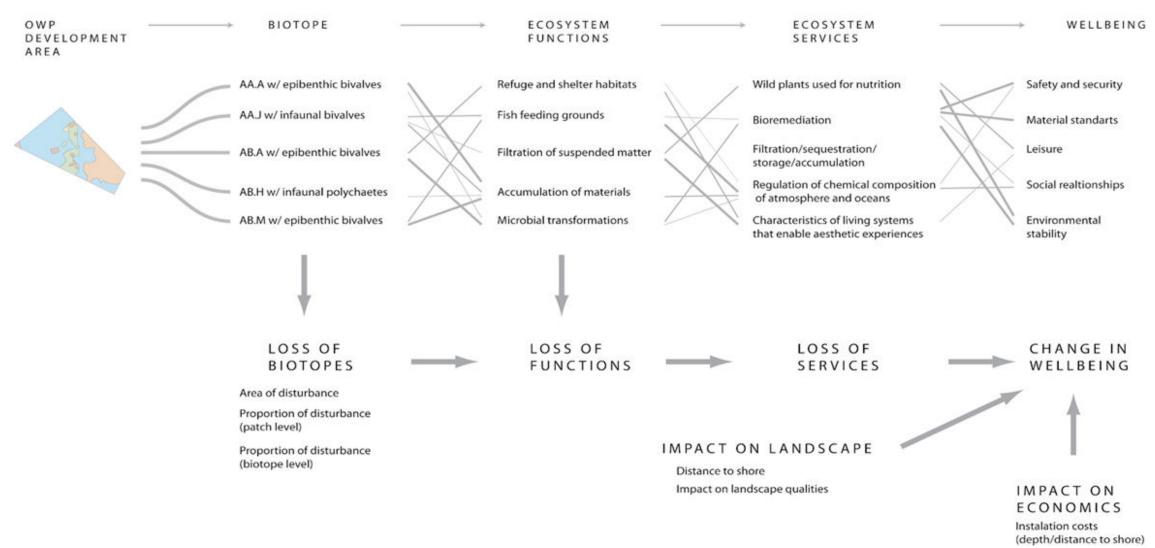
- Alternative pathways/scenarios developed for achievement offshore wind energy & tourism targets 2050 (stakeholder workshop in Liepāja, 25.09.2020)
 - Target-seeking scenario method
 - Land-Sea-Act map explorer applied for informing on spatial limitations and opportunities
 - Identified 4 spatial alternatives for OWP development
 - Possible solutions and targets for tourism development discussed







Impact assessment of proposed scenarios



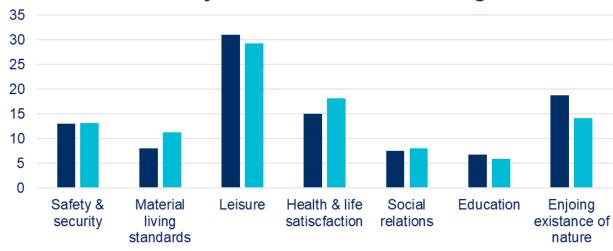
Public survey on contribution of the coastal ecosystems in the case study area to human well-being

- Nationally representative sample (n=1000)
- Implemented in May 2021
- Results will allow to weight the well-being categories in scenario impact assessment

Profile of respondents

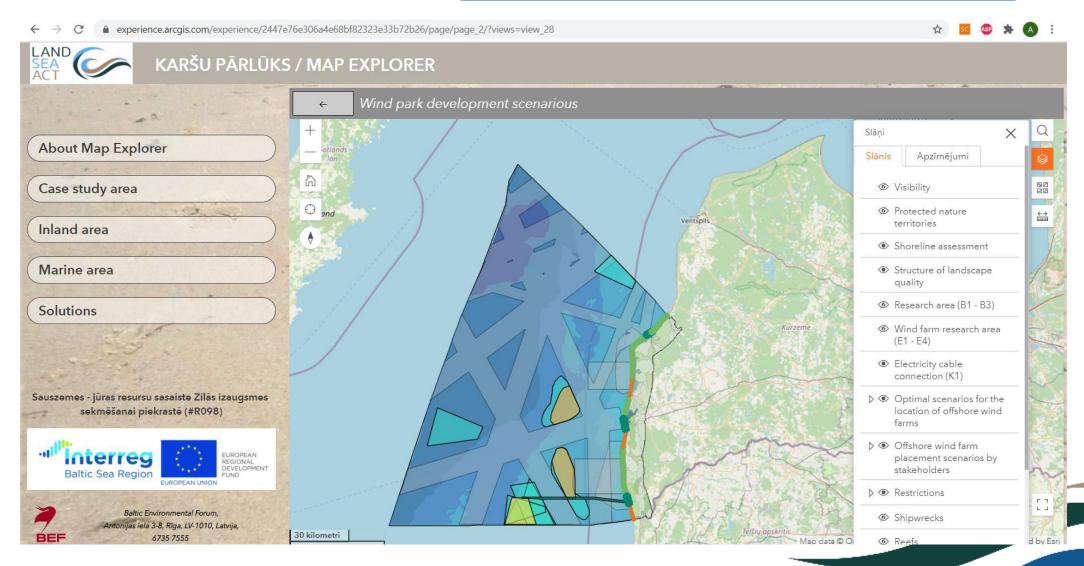


Imortance of the Southwester Kurzeme coastal ecosystems for human well-being



- Respondents which do not live in the case study area
- Local inhabitats

Results presented in Land-Sea-Act map explorer



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Thank you!

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