

HELCOM-VASAB Maritime Spatial Planning Working Group 23rd Meeting Online Meeting, 16-17 November 2021



Document title Update on progress in MSP Global

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Agenda Item 6 - Coordination of Horizontal Action Spatial Planning and MSP related projects and

events

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Submitted by HELCOM Secretariat

Reference

Background

MSP Global is a joint initiative by UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC-UNESCO) and the European Commission's DG MARE to develop new international guidelines on marine/maritime spatial planning and to accelerate MSP processes worldwide. The project runs also two case studies: West Mediterranean and Southeast Pacific.

The following document contains information on the last developments of the initiative.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to <u>take note</u> of the information.

Update on progress in MSP Global

MSP Global 2030 was a joint initiative by UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC-UNESCO) and the European Commission's DG MARE to accelerate MSP processes worldwide. The initiative ran pilot cases and promoted good practices of MSP in events and developing new international guide on marine/maritime spatial planning and accompanying policy briefs.

Since its launch in November 2018 MSPglobal 2030 has implemented two pilot projects in the <u>Western Mediterranean</u> and <u>Southeast Pacific</u> which resulted in the formulation of recommendations on transboundary MSP and sustainable blue economy. It has also carried out capacity development activities at global scale to foster knowledge exchange and dialogue, in line with the <u>IOC-UNESCO/DG MARE Joint Roadmap</u> to accelerate MSP processes worldwide.

Other project documents, articles and publications such as policy briefs generated by the joint initiative are available <u>online</u> (e.g. Compendium of existing and emerging cross-border and transboundary MSP practices, Recommendations to promote knowledge exchange and transfer on MSP, etc.).

In order to share the key outcomes of the initiative as well as its contribution to MSP implementation in different regions, a final conference was held online on 5 October 2021. The event brought together diverse stakeholder groups including the government and the scientific community from around the world. One of the main highlights of the event was the presentation of the soon-to-be published International Guide on Marine/Maritime Spatial Planning, developed by IOC-UNESCO, EU DG MARE, MSPglobal Expert Group and Thematic Experts. The recordings and presentations held during the final conference are available here., and the Guidance document here.