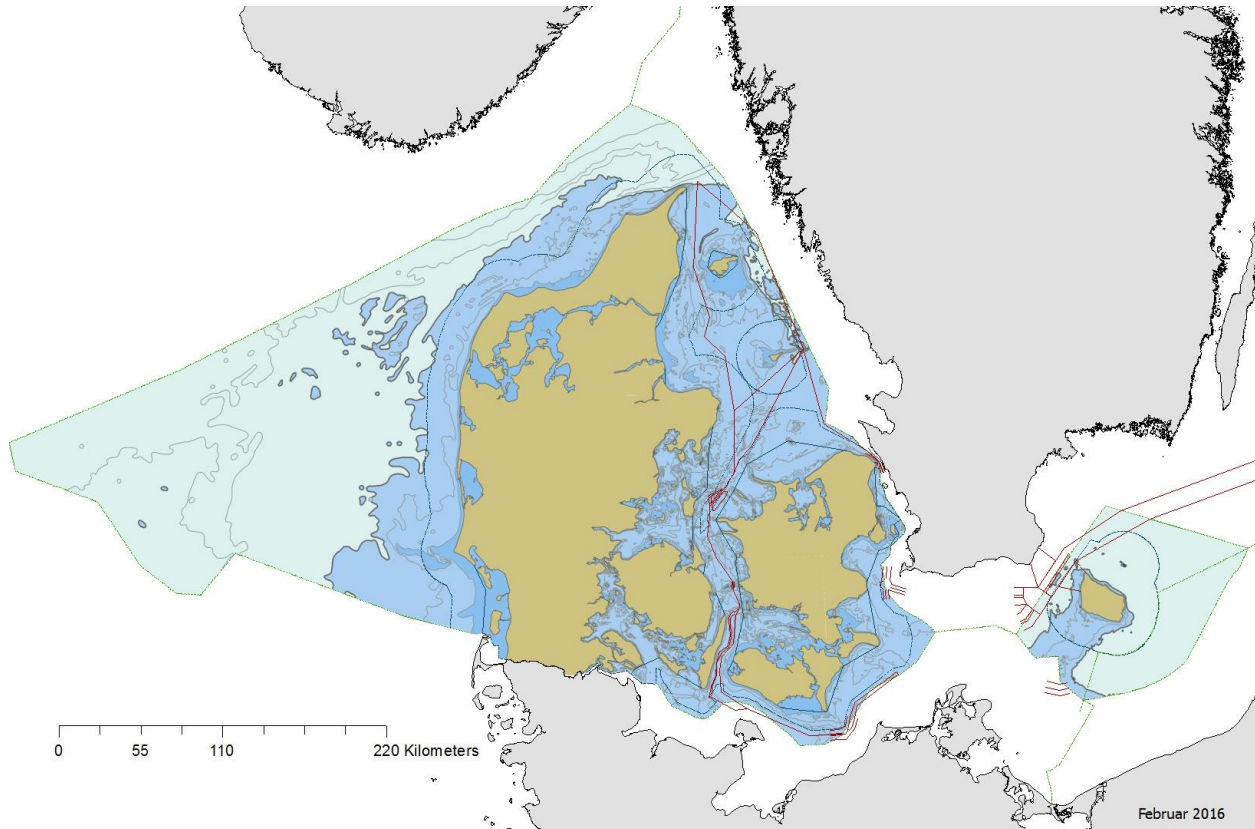




Country Fiche

Denmark

1. General information



- Total Danish Sea areal: 105.000 km²
- Marine internal waters: 3.500 km²
- Territorial sea (12 nm zone): 40.000 km²
- Exclusive Economic Zone: 61.500 km²

1.1. Governance

The Danish territorial water belongs to the public and is managed by the Government.

1.2. Contacts

MSP in general: Ministry of Business and Growth
Ms. Sine Olsson Heltberg
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MSP Data Focal point: Ministry of Businesses and Industry
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MSDI data point: Ministry of Energy, Utilities and Climate
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Espoo contact Point: The Danish Environmental Protection Agency
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5000 Odense C
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2. General information on legislation

The Danish Parliament has adopted the “Act on Maritime Spatial Planning”, which establishes the framework for spatial planning in the Danish marine areas. It is available in an English translation [here](#). On March 31st 2021 the Act was implemented through Denmark’s first maritime spatial plan, which was published as an executive order. The maritime spatial plan can be seen [here](#).

The purpose of the Act on Maritime Spatial Planning is to promote economic growth, the development of marine areas and the use of marine resources on a sustainable basis. The Act aims to contribute to achieving the goals of maritime spatial planning while taking account of land-sea interaction and strengthening cross-border cooperation.

With the Act on Maritime Spatial Planning, the Danish Government recognised the need for greater coordination between activities conducted in the Danish marine space and between the authorities that manage and regulate these activities. These authorities have worked together through formal channels to coordinate their work and to establish new joint initiatives. The implementation of the Act on Maritime Spatial Planning therefore draws and builds upon the established background of interagency collaboration.

Sectors included in the maritime spatial plan are: the energy sector, maritime transport, fishing, aquaculture, the extraction of raw materials, transport infrastructure and the preservation, protection and improvement of the environment, including resilience to the consequences of climate change. Military activities, cultural heritage, municipal plans for use of coastal waters, etc. are not regulated by the plan but they are taken into account. Economic growth is a strong focus for the maritime spatial planning of the Danish marine waters.

3. General applicability (e.g. territorial Sea, EEZ, other distinctions)

The maritime spatial plan applies to the marine internal waters, the territorial sea and the EEZ. The Danish sea, the EEZ as well as the territorial waters, belong to the public and are managed by the Government.

4. Spatial Plan

The maritime spatial plan went under consultation on March 31 2021 with immediate legal effect. The consultation period runs for six months until September 30th.

4.1 Designation categories

The Danish plan consists of four zone categories: general use zones, development zones, zones for nature conservation and environmental protection and zones for special purposes.

Using this model, Danish marine areas are covered by the general use zone, unless other is specified in the plan. This means the general use zone is the default zone-type, which can include any activities that does not require fixed installations/structures. The zone can therefore contain activities such as sailing, fishing, recreational activities and tourism.

The aquaculture- and extraction of raw materials sectors as well as parts of the energy and transport infrastructure sectors are covered by the development zone category. These activities can only take place within the designated zones. Meanwhile, the zones for special purposes, which include for example maritime transport and energy cables, functions as priority zones. This means that these uses are prioritized in the designated areas but that they can also exist outside the boundaries of the zones.

4.2 Information about where to access the MSP data (via pan-Baltic and/or national web services)

The plan is available on www.havplan.dk/en, where you will also find information on two INSPIRE web-services (WMS and WFS) containing the designated zones of the plan.

5. What countries want to share

You can find the background document with explanatory notes [here](#).

6. New developments / current status

On March 31 2021, the first Danish MSP was published with immediate legal effect. At the same time, the plan went under consultation, both national and Espoo, until September 30th. Since then, the plan is being revised based on consultation responses and the process awaits political negotiations in spring 2022. You can find the environmental reports for Espoo consultations [here](#).

7. How coastal and marine Baltic Sea protected areas (HELCOM MPAs) are taken into account in MSP

All current uses of marine space, including existing protected areas, was mapped and used as a foundation for developing the comprehensive plan.