would you be ready to do MSP for a whole Baltic Sea Region?

that's quite a question 😂 — and a very "Baltic-scale" one!

technically, yes — I could absolutely *support* a Baltic Sea Region–wide MSP process, but of course, I wouldn't **replace** planners, institutions, or political processes. instead, my role would be as a **thinking partner**, **analyst**, **and integrator**.

What we learned / What shifted / What's still open

What we learned

- Integrated land—sea planning and cooperation across Baltic institutions is essential.
- MSP must balance ecological, economic, and security interests.
- Strong communities and people with time and expertise make plans work.
- Nature is the core and foundation of resilience and well-being.

What shifted

- Mindset moving from planning documents to active cooperation and delivery.
- Land-sea-community connections seen as one living system, not separate domains.
- Science–policy interface gaining importance need for translators between data and decision.
- Greater openness to flexibility, creativity, and new partnerships across the Baltic and North Seas.
- Security, safety, and defense now recognised as integral parts of MSP.
- Local voices and communities becoming equal partners in planning processes.
- From top-down control toward bottom-up ownership and co-creation.
- Shared belief that MSP can deliver "the power of a plan."

What's still open

- Defining what resilience truly means in MSP process, plan, or outcome?
- Embedding ecological limits and biodiversity protection in all spatial decisions.
- Keeping MSP relevant amid shifting geopolitics and budget pressures.
- Turning foresight and scenarios into concrete national and local actions.
- Achieving real policy coherence between MSP, EUSBSR, and BSAP objectives.
- Making planning flexible yet accountable dynamic without chaos.
- Ensuring data sharing, institutional capacity, and next-generation skills to sustain the work.



From Reflections to Directions:

A Human–Al Collective <u>Roadmap</u> for Navigating Planning Through Changes and Building a Resilient Future

Directions (5–7 verb-led)

Integrate land, sea, and coastal systems into one adaptive planning framework.

Empower communities and local leaders as equal actors in resilience building.

Embed ecosystem-based approach (EBA) and blue-green infrastructure in every plan.

Connect science and policy through dedicated translation platforms and open data.

Mainstream climate adaptation and security into MSP governance and funding.

Co-create Pan-Baltic solutions that link MSP with coastal development and EU initiatives.

Innovate with tools like the Sea2Land Navigator to turn insight into action.

Tensions to watch

- Energy expansion vs. biodiversity and fisheries.
- National priorities vs. Baltic solidarity.
- Data openness vs. security concerns.
- Short-term funding vs. long-term commitment.

Immediate next steps

- Hold a hand of EBA for peace apply ecosystem thinking to foster cooperation and stability.
- Launch a Baltic Sea Navigator user network for cross-border learning and maintenance.
- Establish a regional "Resilience & Ecosystem Indicators Task Force" under VASAB/HELCOM.
- Initiate multi-use and restoration pilots linking climate adaptation and community benefit.
- Build capacity for young planners and ensure knowledge transfer between generations