

An Integrated Maritime Policy for the European Union
A sustainable future for the oceans and seas

The Integrated EU Maritime Policy and Maritime Spatial Planning

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Northern Ireland Coastal and Marine Forum, 10 April 2008, Londonderry

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Adopted in October 2007

- **Vision – The “Blue Book”**
- **Action Plan**
- **Commission Staff Working Papers**
 - Consultation report
 - Maritime Policy and Energy
 - Employment of Seafarers
 - Motorways of the Sea
 - Maritime Clusters
 - Agenda for sustainable and competitive tourism
- **Action Plan**

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Why an Integrated EU Maritime Policy ?

In its strategic objectives for 2005-2009 the Commission declared

“the particular need for an all-embracing maritime policy aimed at developing a thriving maritime economy, in an environmentally sustainable manner. Such a policy should be supported by excellence in marine scientific research, technology and innovation”

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The “Blue Book”

- Invite Member States to draw up national **integrated maritime policies**
- Act as **facilitator** and help Member States to set up networks for the **exchange of knowledge and experiences**
- Propose in **2008** a set of **guidelines** for these national integrated maritime policies – and develop a **road map** for maritime spatial planning
- Organise a **stakeholder consultation** structure

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Examples of EU Policies with a maritime dimension

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The Action Plan

- **Covers different issues and activities:**
 - ✓ Maritime Governance
 - ✓ Tools for integrated policy
 - ✓ Maximising the sustainable use of the oceans and seas
 - ✓ Building a knowledge and information base for the maritime policy
 - ✓ Delivering the highest quality of life in coastal regions
 - ✓ Promoting Europe's leadership in international maritime affairs
 - ✓ Raising the visibility of maritime Europe

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COMPETING CLAIMS Maritime Policy



- Land use
- Tourism
- Oil & Gas
- Mariculture
- Coastal Defence
- Ports & Navigation
- Military Activities
- Culture
- Conservation
- Dredging & Disposal
- Submarine Cables
- Fishing
- Renewable Energy
- Marine Recreation
- Mineral Extraction

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Definition of Maritime Spatial Planning

The process of analyzing and allocating parts of three-dimensional marine spaces (ecosystems) to specific uses, to achieve ecological, economic, and social objectives that are usually specified through a political process.

(by IOC, UNESCO)

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Consultation Report – maritime spatial planning

Guidelines and Good Practice

Sweden: "a lack of fora within the EU".

Denmark: "facilitate best practice" and "guidance for coordination of data collection" and a "one-stop shop for preparation of permission for large-scale projects at sea".

Greece: "EU guidelines ensuring the harmonized implementation of MSP between EU Member States" and "promotion of experience, exchange and best practice among EU Member States".

Netherlands: "the exchange of best practices primarily at regional level".

Spain: "a European framework of guidelines for the regulation of marine areas".

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Current Situation – Use without planning

<p>MARINE TRANSPORTATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vessel Traffic Routes Vessel Traffic Separation Zone & Precautionary Zone Areas To Be Avoided (by vessels) Particularly Sensible Sea Areas (PSSAs) Safety Zones: Around Vessels and Terminals Anchoring & No-Anchoring Areas Security Zones in Ports and Waterways <p>OFFSHORE ENERGY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oil & Gas Lease or Concession Area Wind Farm and Wave Park Lease or Concession Area Safety Zones: Around Oil & Gas Installations, Wind Farms, Wave Parks <p>MILITARY OPERATIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Military Operations or Exercise Zones 	<p>PIPELINES & CABLES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oil & Gas Pipelines Rights of Way Submarine Communications Cable Rights of Way Energy Transmission Line Rights of Way <p>MARINE MINING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sand & Gravel (Aggregate) Extraction Areas <p>FISHERIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishery Closure Areas, including seasonal closures No Trawl Areas Critical Habitat Designations <p>OFFSHORE AQUACULTURE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offshore Aquaculture Areas <p>MARINE PROTECTED AREAS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marine Sanctuaries, Reserves, Parks Protected Archaeological Areas, e.g. Ship Wrecks Cultural or Religious Areas
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Consultation Report – maritime spatial planning

Coordination with Neighbours

Finland: "cross-border cooperation in order to achieve common goals".

Netherlands: "larger, cross-border projects (pipelines, wind farms) often call for common criteria and/or planning measures".

Belgium: "different spatial plans have to be integrated with the plans of neighbouring countries".

Greece: "cooperation of EU Member States - particularly those sharing the same maritime area".

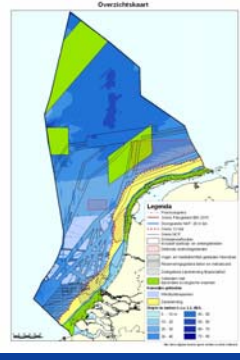
Sweden: "There is a need for increased cooperation between the Member States, especially around the same regional waters".

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Example – The Netherlands

- Integrated Management Plan North Sea 2015
- 3 themes: healthy, safe and profitable sea
- Co-production of 4 Ministries
- Stakeholder participation during the process
- Decision by council of Ministers and approved by Parliament




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Example – UK

- Pilot project Irish Sea and preparation Marine Bill
- Simulated regional plan
- Practical issues being examined:
 - Information and data availability / quality
 - Boundary and scale of the plan
 - Managing the land-sea interface
 - how to ensure that all sectors are involved
 - time horizon of the plan

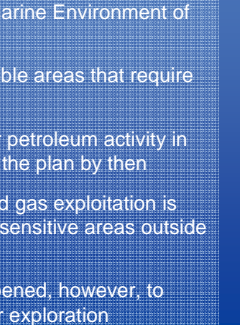


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Example – Norway

- Integrated Management of the Marine Environment of the Barents Sea - Lofoten
- Particularly valuable and vulnerable areas that require special attention
- Plan establishes a framework for petroleum activity in the area until 2010 – revision of the plan by then
- In practice this means that oil and gas exploitation is temporarily halted in particularly sensitive areas outside the fisheries-rich Lofoten islands
- But: enough areas have been opened, however, to absorb the industry's capacity for exploration

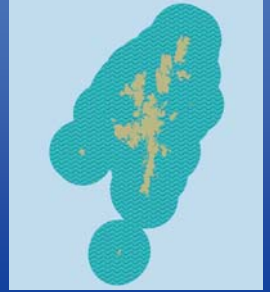


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Example – Shetland Islands

- Overarching policy framework
- Brings together authoritative spatial data on the marine and coastal environment and its various uses
- Guide the placement of activity from offshore renewable energy to aquaculture
- Plan links to many other Shetland Island's Council strategies and plans



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Example – Germany

- Extension of the German Regional Planning Act to the EEZ in 2004
- Spatial Plans for the German EEZ North Sea and Baltic Sea
- Plans cover the maritime uses: maritime transport and shipping routes, platforms, pipelines and cables, offshore wind farms, sediment extraction, dumping grounds, military practice areas, aquaculture and natural conservation
- Expected Consultation Period: Summer 2008



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Next Steps

- Continuation of stakeholder consultation – exchange of knowledge and best practice
- Study on legal aspects of data and surveillance as well as maritime spatial planning
- Development of road map to facilitate and encourage the further development of maritime spatial planning in 2008
- Examination of the needs and different options, including for zoning, in 2008



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