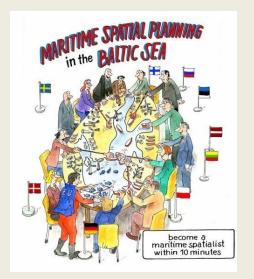


# Some lessons from MSP planning processes in German waters

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### My topics

- The Baltic Sea ecosystem
- Major drivers for MSP in Germany/Baltic Sea
- The Processes in Germany (EEZ and Mecklenburg-Vorpommern)
- EU projects paving the way for MSP in Europe
- The environment as a factor
- The Fisheries case
- Lessons from the German caseson
- Conclusions



### Major Problems of our sea

- Eutrophication
- Overfishing
- Hazardous substances
- Overuse



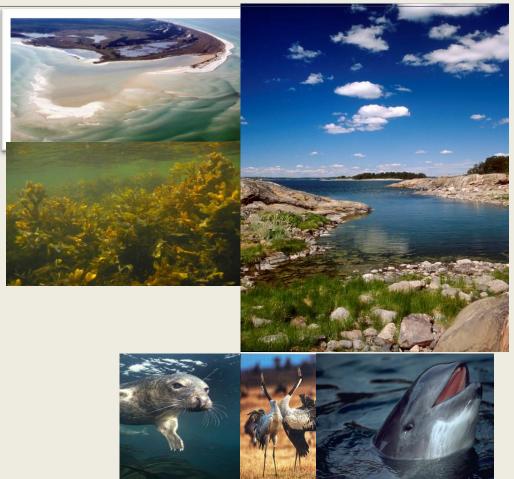






### The ecosystem as basis of resilience

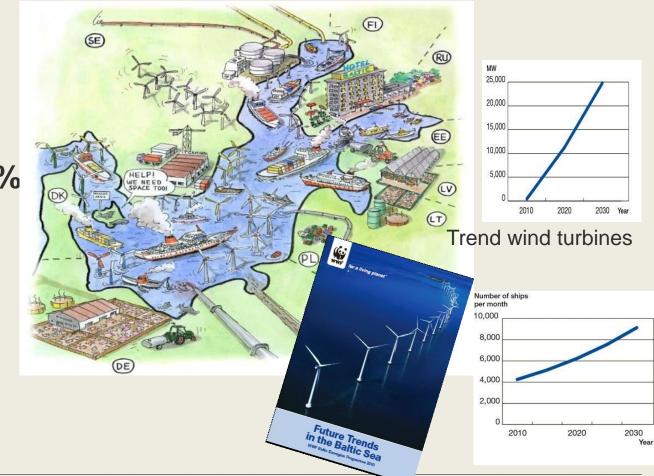
- Healthy habitats and species
- Ecosystem services for clean water and stabilizing climate effects
- No fishing without abundant fish stocks
- Good Environmental Status





### Our Sea is limited

Trends show increases between 200 % and 6.000 % until 2030



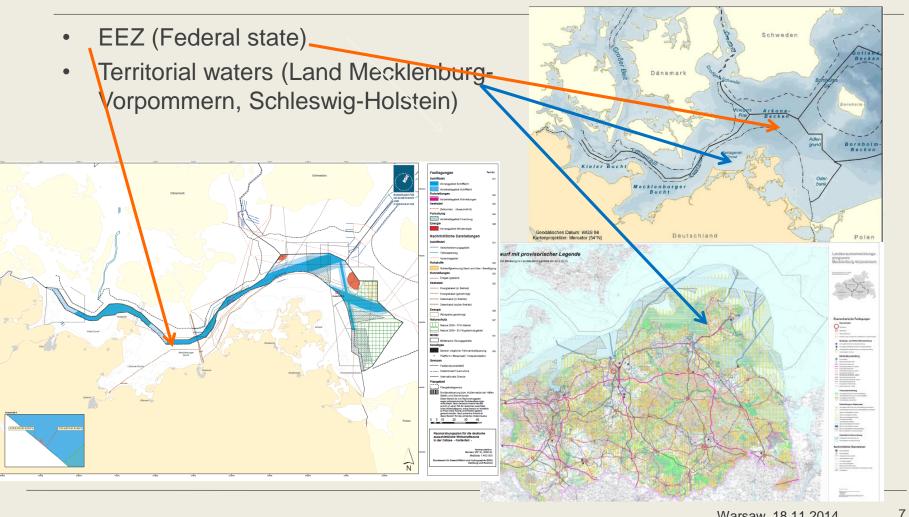


### MSP in Germany some facts

- One joint water body , two planning schemes
  - Länder level (e.g.Mecklenburg-Vorpommern)
  - Federal level (EEZ)
- Mecklenburg-Vorpommern: first MSP process 2005, second cycle ongoing (due in 2016)
- EEZ Baltic (2009)
- No real cohesion between State and federal systems
- Lead: Min Transport (BSH Federal, Ministry Land)



### Sea areas of the German Baltic Sea





### The German cases – general features

- General function: MSP functions as spatial Master Plan, binding for authorities, framework for individual applications, sector-management plans are done in the respective sector;
- Legal frame (Planning laws, Plan with an ordinance)
- **Legislation:** binding framework for sectoral planning, federal: only EEZ, specific legislation ; Länderlevel: included into Landuse Planning, but direct responsibility in the coastal waters
- **Zones:** priority areas (only one use, others only if priority use is not affected), areas with high importance for one or more uses, multiple use areas



### The German cases – step by step I

- After securing the legal basis and responsibilities
- Formulating guiding principles and goals (Government)
- Announcing the Planning process and concerned area
- Start stocktaking within the sectorial authorities
- Scoping to define the scope and research programme
- Further stocktaking within the authority and across sectors and input from stakeholders



### The German cases – step by step II

- Incorporating inputs from Scoping and suitability check
- SEA (Strategic Environmental Assessment)
- Trans-boundary consultation
- Environmental report by Environmental Ministry
- Preparation of the first draft
- Involvement of stakeholders in the preparation phase (non formal)
- Inter-ministerial consultations of the draft
- Stakeholder consultation (at least one public hearing), evt. More consultation rounds including hearings



### The German cases – step by step III

- Presentation of the draft plan (round tables, )
- Written consultations
- 2-3 consultation draft versions
- Land use planning advisory council (Members of Parliament, stakeholder, incl. NGO, give advice
- Final draft
- Plan decision after Ministerial consensus
- Public announcement in the public journal of laws



### Sectors concerned (with priority status)

- **Shipping:** shipping lanes, port entries, berths, traffic security
- Wind energy offshore: production sites, cables, new sea use
- Oil & Gas: pipelines, mining drilling
  license areas
- Sand and gravel mining: flood prevention, beach nourishment
- **Tourism:** boating, view protection





### Sectors concerned (no priority status)

- Nature conservation: Marine protected areas, priority species, NATURA 2000 (Mecklenburg-Vorpommern: only National parks and Nature reserves, no automatic N2000)
- Fisheries: So far not covered, new plan Mecklenburg-Vorpommern: integration of spawning areas
- **Others:** military uses, archeological heritage







### Major conflicting issues

	Shipping	Ports	Tourism and Re- creation	Oil and Gas extrac- tion	Pipe- lines and Cables	Military activity	Physical exploita- tion	Sand and Gravel extrac- tion	Fishing	Aqua- culture	MPA:s
Wind energy					1						
Shipping											
Ports											
Tourism/ Recreation											
Oil/Gas extraction											
Pipelines and Cables											
Military activity											
Physical exploitation											
Sand and Gravel extraction											
Fishing											
Aquaculture											
MPA:s											

#### **Conflict matrix**



### Is fishery spatially relevant?

- Spatial claim with the longest tradition comparable with shipping
- Occupies all sea areas
- Strong impact on other sea users and functions
- Variety of gear types and specific sea uses (fixed gear to temporal, surface to bottom)







Abbildung 36: Standorte von Reusen im Greifswalder Bodden aus Seekarte der Ausgabe 1984 (braun – Jahresreuse, grün – Frühjahrs- und Herbstreuse)



# Latest developments: Example Mecklenburg-Vorpommern

#### Draft MSP Plan in ministerial Consultations

Essential fish habitats concept included





Matries Vorranggebiet Rohstoffe Matries Vorbehaltsgebiet Rohstoffe Vorranggebiet Sichtfibhrt \* Vorbehaltsgebiet Sichtfibhrt \* Matries Vorbehaltsgebiet für Fischerei



### Stakeholder involvement in the German processes

## **EEZ Process:** formal (scoping, written consultations, hearings

## Mecklenburg-Vorpommern: formal and informal

- Detailed input, co-presentation to minister in regional conferences,
- data.-input directly, membership in consultative council,



### Good environmental Status – the quality check for MSP

- EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive is not made for MSP, however it sets the environmental standards
- Covers essential features (fish, habitats, noise, eutrophication, litter, chemicals,...)
- Can be used to Monitor and track performance
- Has also to be respected for the implementation of the European MSP Directive

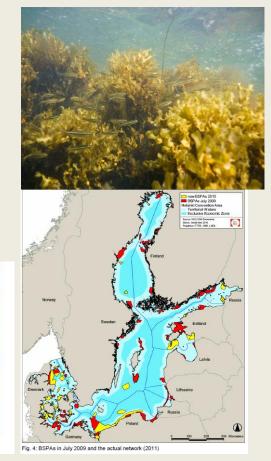


### Marine Protected Areas – natural candidates for priority areas

- Natura 2000 offers a baseline information of the most valuable European habitats
- The obligation to protect them should be reflected in a MSP Plan from the beginning
- The national networks of Marine Protected Areas are obvious candidates for priority areas for nature conservation



Fig. 3: Natura 2000 sites and BSPAs in the German Baltic Sea Area





### EU Projects helped shaping MSP

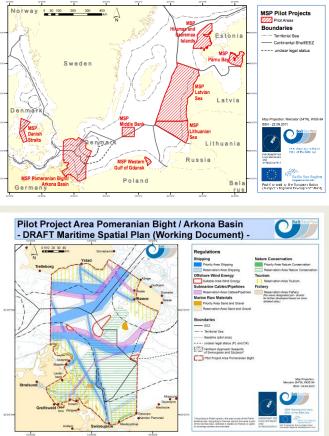
- Plancoast
- BALANCE
- BALTSEAPLAN
- PARTISEAPATE
- Shaping tools,
- Building joint knowledge and mutual understanding
- Creating a network of colleagues around the Baltic Sea
- Working together in HELCOM, VASAB and MSP EU



### The BaltSeaPlan Project set standards

- Multi-disciplinary
- Trans-boundary
- Joint vision
- Pilot areas
- Testing tools
- Expert network





**Pilot Projects** 

Maritime Spatial

Planning (MSP)



### Lessons from the Process in Germany I

- Plan should be comprehensive involve all sectors
- There should be a continuum from coast to offshore in one system
- The Ecosystem based approach needs to be implemented -
- Planning systematic needs clarity (what do restrictions mean for whom , clear definitions,
- Fisheries and Nature conservation need to be part of priority area systems



### Stakeholder involvement is key

- Regional presentations are beneficial
- Take enough time for the process but do not lose momentum
- Give stakeholders opportunity to feed in their data







### Final remarks

- In the German processes a lot of experience was gathered and tested
- Both processes are neither perfect nor comprehensive
- Tools how to do it are still to be developed (Fisheries)
- The ecosystem approach needs interpretation and implementation and cannot be negotiated
- Planners and politicions still have problems to accept the limits of the sea space
- Even with a good planning process the battle for good decisions on how to use our sea areas have to be fought in the political arenas





### **Environmental law sets limits**

European and national conservation law gives nature weight.

- Natura 2000 directives (Birds and Habitats)
- Water framework Directive (good status by 2015)
- Maritime Strategy Directive (GES by 2020)
- Ballast water convention
- Immission standards (SECA).



### So – is fisheries a special case?

#### integration is needed!

- For a balanced holistic planning of sea Uses and functions
- Fish species are important elements of marine ecosystems, information about them are necessary prerequisites for planning
- To secure important fishing grounds the essential areas must be known.

