

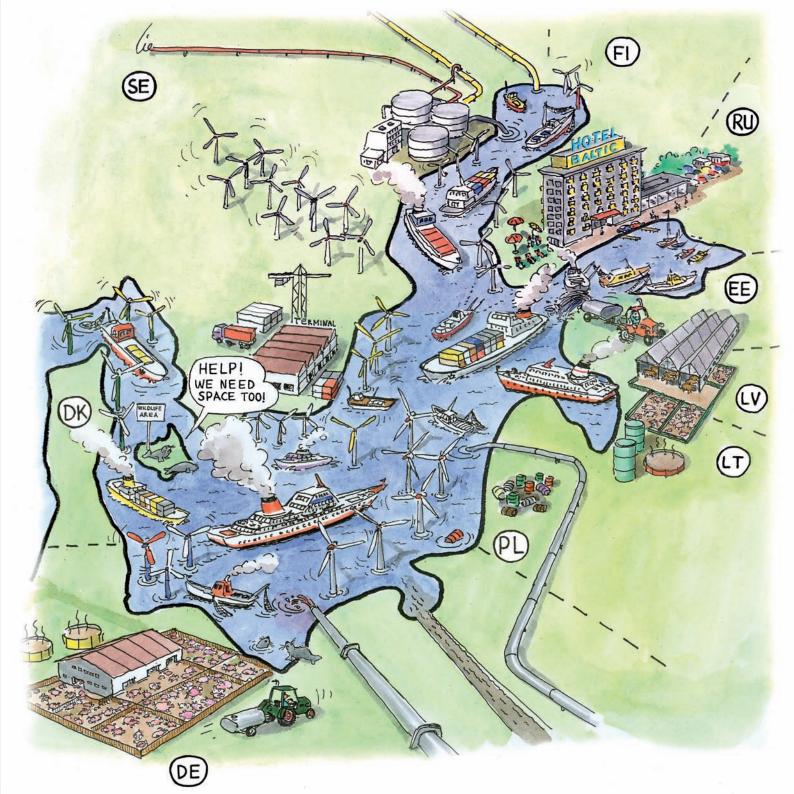
for a living planet®



SOMETIMES IT SEEMS AS IF NO ONE LOOKS AFTER

THE BALTIC SEA. IT IS OVERUSED AND POLLUTED.

WHO HAS RESPONSIBILITY
FOR MANAGING THESE COMPETING
USES AND PROTECTING ITS
NATURAL RESOURCES



SOMETIMES IT ALSO SEEMS
AS IF EVERYONE GOVERNS THE BALTIC SEA.
IT IS A LABYRINTH
OF RULES,
RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES,
WITH TOO MANY PARTIES
CHASING SECTORAL
AND NATIONAL INTERESTS.



A JUNGLE OF RIGHTS,

POWERS, RESPONSIBILITIES AND NATIONAL INTERESTS MAKE PROGRESS

REALLY SLOODOOOOW.

FORTUNATELY,

THERE IS A SOLUTION: IT'S CALLED

"MARITIME SPATIAL PLANNING" (MSP).

SOUNDS COMPLICATED AND TECHNICAL, BUT IN FACT, MSP HAS ALREADY BEEN USED FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS.



IF, FOR EXAMPLE, 1.000 YEARS AGO 9 TRIBAL CLANS WANTED TO USE

THE BALTIC SEA, WHAT DID THEY DO

OF COURSE, THE FIRST APPROACH MIGHT HAVE BEEN TO GO TO WAR WITH EVERYBODY ELSE TO TRY TO 'OWN' IT.



THE CLANS WOULD PROBABLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEY NEEDED TO SORT IT OUT MORE PEACEFULLY.

WOULD
EVERYBODY NEGOTIATE
WITH EVERYBODY?

HOW WOULD THEY GO ABOUT IT?

WOULD THERE BE A GIGANTIC AND ARDUOUS DEBATE BETWEEN THOUSANDS OF TRIBAL PEOPLE, DISCUSSING FISHING, GRAZING, IRRIGATION, HOUSING, TERRITORY, PROTECTED AREAS?

DOES THIS RING A BELL?

DOESN'T IT
LOOK A LITTLE
LIKE WHAT
HAPPENS IN
THE BALTIC
SEA REGION
TODAY?

THIS APPROACH OFTEN LEADS EVEN

TO GREATER CHAOS.



THE CLAN CHIEFS WOULD PROBABLY
TAKE CHARGE OF
NEGOTIATING AN AGREEMENT
ON BEHALF OF, BUT IN
CONSULTATION WITH THEIR CLANS.

BUT THERE ARE MANY
DIFFERENT WAYS IN WHICH THE SEA
CAN AND WILL BE USED.
CARE MUST ALSO BE TAKEN
TO PROTECT THE VULNERABLE SPECIES
AND BIODIVERSITY.



FIRSTLY, THE TRIBAL CHIEFS
WOULD DEFINE COMMON GROUND,
PRINCIPLES THAT ALL CAN AGREE TO,
TO AVOID TRIBES ACTING PURELY IN THEIR OWN INTERESTS.

THE HEALTH OF THE SEA MUST ALWAYS BE SECURED, SO DEMANDS HAVE TO BE ADJUSTED TO ENSURE THEY ARE MET WITHIN THE LIMITS OF THE ECOSYSTEM. TODAY, THIS IS REFERRED TO AS ADOPTING AN "ECOSYSTEM BASED APPROACH".

SECONDLY, THEY WOULD GIVE ALL USERS
AND TRIBES A VOICE IN THE DEBATE.
IN MARITIME SPATIAL PLANNING TODAY, THIS IS REFERRED

IN MARITIME SPATIAL PLANNING TODAY, THIS IS REFER TO AS ADOPTING "A PARTICIPATORY APPROACH".

ALL USES MUST BE CONSIDERED AND OPPORTUNITIES MUST BE PROVIDED FOR THESE VOICES TO BE HEARD.

THIRDLY, THEY WOULD DEFINE SEA USE RIGHTS, WHICH TODAY WOULD BE DONE BY "SPATIAL ZONING".



That's how smart leaders sorted it out, back when the problems were comparatively simple and understandable. Nowadays, the number of different uses and their intensity has grown enormously and continues to do so. The good news is that the same methodology applies as much today as it did back then:

- MSP must be a high priority issue (in this case, effective governance at a regional level)
- MSP requires guiding principles (mainly an ecosystem-based approach)
- MSP needs a participatory approach (all uses must be considered, all user groups must be heard and involved)
- A zoning approach is essential

Today's management of the Baltic Sea does not look so very different. However, today there are more people living around the sea and it has been regarded as a free resource to be used by everybody with few restrictions. This has meant that the Baltic Sea has become too small to meet all the demands for space.

On land, we use spatial planning to solve these problems. There are many restrictions on the use of land, which are no longer recognised as limitations because life on land would not be possible without them.

When we have a growing need to use the sea for shipping, offshore wind farms, fisheries and nature conservation, we need a similar spatial planning system for managing these uses. The Baltic Sea is a sea shared by many countries, with different languages and different systems of governance.

We need a tool to sort out the sometimes conflicting uses – Happily, Maritime Spatial Planning offers us this very tool.

A GLOBAL PIONEER?

The Baltic Sea Region can be the first region in the world to implement successful Maritime Spatial Planning based on sound evaluation of uses and suitability of areas for particular uses, integration of users' interests and ideas, as well as the need for a healthy ecosystem. In this way, the Baltic Sea can make history by demonstrating how different nations manage joint resources in an ecosystem-based, participatory and coordinated manner.

BUT HOW DOES IT WORK?

Maritime Spatial Planning is the tool that can help sort out complex challenges on a crowded planet. Maritime Spatial Planning sounds awfully complicated, but in fact it isn't ...



THE UNESCO DEFINES MARITIME SPATIAL PLANNING AS:

"MARITIME SPATIAL

PLANNING (MSP) IS A

PUBLIC PROCESS OF ANALYSING AND

ALLOCATING THE SPATIAL AND TEMPORAL

DISTRIBUTION OF

HUMAN ACTIVITIES IN MARINE AREAS

TO ACHIEVE ECOLOGICAL,

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL OBJECTIVES

THAT ARE USUALLY SPECIFIED

THROUGH A POLITICAL PROCESS."

WWW.UNESCO.ORG

MSP can be described as a multi-step process of:

- developing a joint vision,
- assessing the capacity of a sea area as well as identifying the potential users of the sea,
- defining areas that fit best to the corresponding uses, and
- defining what is allowed and what has to be restricted to keep the sea area healthy and productive in the long term.

The final product will be a plan which should have a legal obligation to comply with. After a certain period such a plan has to be reviewed – and updated to take account of changes that may have occurred.

Maritime Spatial Planning in 6 steps:

- Start the process by assessing the need and will to undergo an MSP process based on a vision, planning principles and a defined legal framework and strategies.
- 2 Undertake initial stocktaking and systematic assessments of suitable areas for relevant sea uses.
- Find out compatibilities and conflicts of claims for use in an interactive process with stakeholders and based on sound mapping and analysis.
- Draft a maritime spatial plan with zoning of areas for specific uses or objectives –
 discuss the draft plan including detailed regulations for the zones with stakeholders.
- 5 Produce a final Maritime Spatial Zoning Plan including regulations for Management and Monitoring and obtain final stakeholder comments.
- **6** Adopt the plan and organise implementation and monitoring.

IN A SUITABILITY MAP.

THE SEA AREAS ARE MAPPED AND CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THEIR SUITABILITY FOR CERTAIN USES BASED ON THE BEST SCIENTIFIC AND STAKEHOLDER KNOWLEDGE, INCLUDING AREAS IMPORTANT FOR THE FISH GROWTH AND REPRODUCTION, AREAS WITH GOOD CONDITIONS FOR OFFSHORE WIND FARMS, IDEAL SHIPPING ROUTES, AREAS THAT SECURE HEALTHY BIODIVERSITY, ROUTES WHERE CABLES AND PIPELINES CAN BE PLACED SECURELY, AREAS WITH RESOURCES LIKE MINERALS, OIL OR OTHERS ...



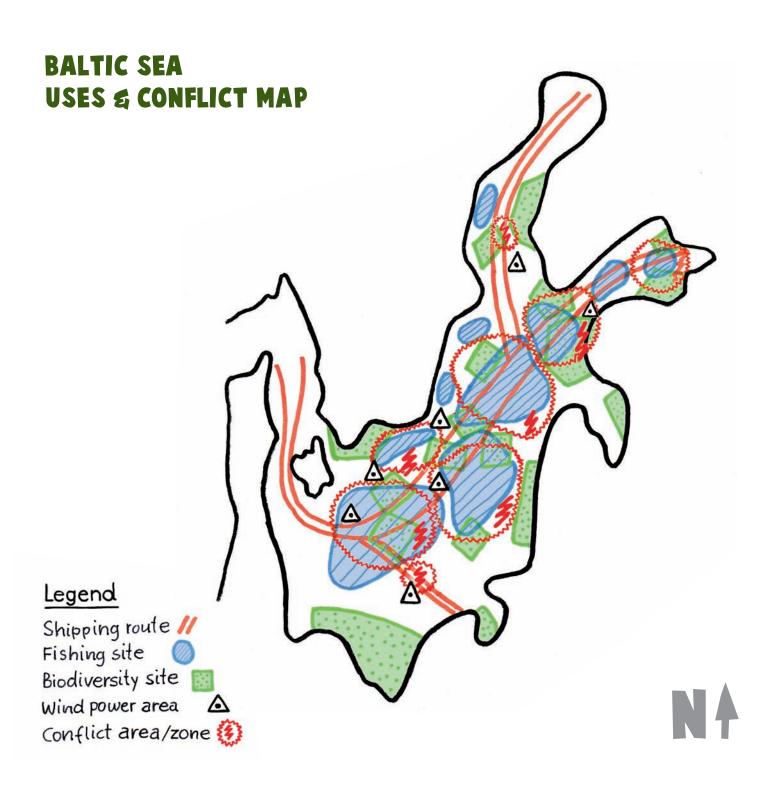
ON A SECOND MAP,

EXISTING AND SOMETIMES
OVERLAPPING OR CONFLICTING
USES AND INTERESTS ARE
DISPLAYED.

AND WHERE SOLUTIONS
MUST BE NEGOTIATED AND DECIDED.

THE MAP ONLY ILLUSTRATES THE CONFLICTS - THE SOLUTIONS WILL HAVE TO BE FOUND FOLLOWING THE AGREED GOALS, PRINCIPLES AND PRIORITIES.

THIS HAPPENS THROUGH A PROCESS OF INVOLVING AUTHORITIES, STAKEHOLDERS AND INTEREST GROUPS TO ESTABLISH A FORMAL SET OF REGULATIONS FOR ALL USES.

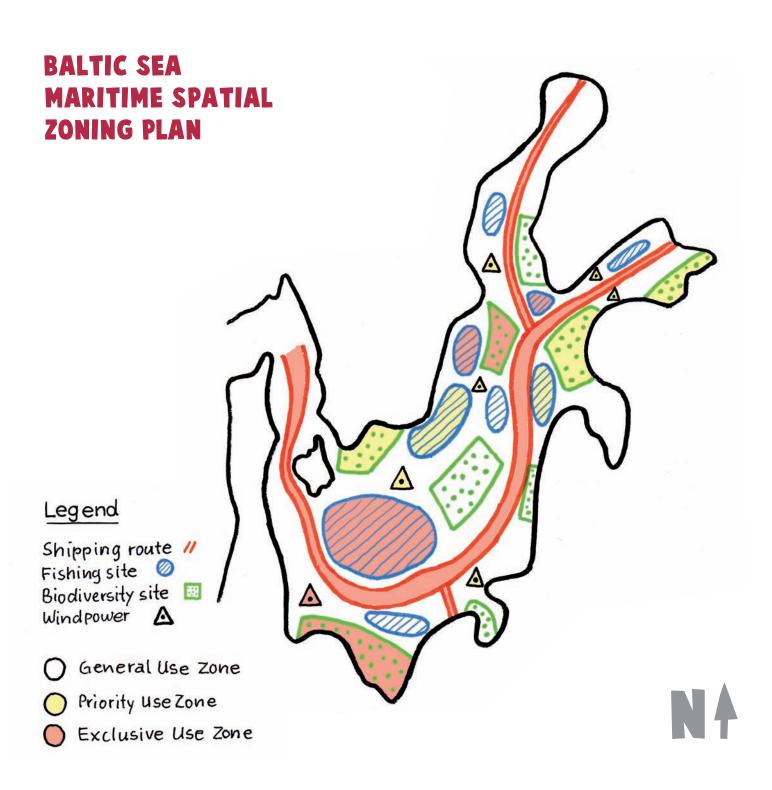


THE ULTIMATE GOAL

SHOULD BE A MARITIME SPATIAL
ZONING PLAN THAT IDENTIFIES AND MANAGES
CURRENT AND FUTURE SEA USES IN A
WAY THAT BEST MEETS THE PRIORITIES AND
GOALS SET BY
THE PARTICIPANTS.

THE PLAN SHOULD BE

ADOPTED BY A FORMAL
POLITICAL DECISION AND SUPPORTED
BY THE DEVELOPMENT OF MANAGEMENT
STRUCTURES THAT DELIVER
IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING,
AS WELL AS MANAGING AND GRANTING
ANY NECESSARY PERMITS AND
RESTRICTIONS FOR CERTAIN USES IN EACH AREA.
AS A RESULT, THE PLAN WILL BE
THE GUIDING DOCUMENT FOR FUTURE
DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT
OF THE SEA.



More information on Maritime Spatial Planning:

WWW.PANDA.ORG/BALTIC

WWW.BALTSEAPLAN.EU

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The BaltSeaPlan project (2009-2012) is jointly carried out by 14 partners from Germany, Poland, Denmark, Sweden, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia. Together they are working towards bringing Maritime Spatial Planning in the Baltic Sea region to reality: involving maritime stakeholders, analysing current and future maritime trends, drawing up pilot maritime spatial plans and trying to influence national regulations in favour of a wise-proactive integrated sea management, which takes into account the cumulative impacts of the various uses. More information and results of the project can be found under www.baltseaplan.eu



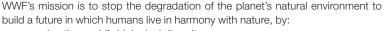


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- · conserving the world's biological diversity
- ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable
- promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption.

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