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Challenges and opportunities for maritime spatial planning of the Black Sea in Romania and Bulgaria

Final Conference of the **MARSPLAN-BS** project

*CONTRIBUTION OF MARSPLAN-BS PROJECT TO THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DIRECTIVE 2014/89/UE – ESTABLISHING
A FRAMEWORK FOR MARITIME SPATIAL PLANNING*

Bucharest,
11th of January 2018



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- **Structure**

- The importance of MSP and EU context
- The rationale of MARSPLAN-BS project in the context of MSP Directive
- The role of the project for Directive's implementation



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- **The importance of MSP and EU context**

short history

1980 – 1990 – Australia - the first country which regulated the use of marine areas

In Europe

After 2000 – the attention on MSP was increased

First, in the context of reference to the Integrated Maritime Policy of the EU and to Integrated Coastal Zone Management

2008 – EC launched Roadmap for Maritime Spatial Planning – Achieving common principles in the EU

From 2010 – projects on MSP were started

2014 – EC launched the Directive 2014/89



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• The importance of MSP and EU context

what is MSP?

- In the Blue Paper and the Action Plan on an EU Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP)¹, Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) was identified as one of the cross-sectoral tools supporting the implementation of the IMP (Integrated Maritime Policy).
- MSP is commonly defined as a process of public authorities of analysing and allocating the spatial and temporal distribution of human activities in marine areas to achieve ecological, economic and social objectives.
- MSP ensure the integrated approach and take into account land-sea interactions.



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- **The importance of MSP and EU context**

Marine spatial planning - UNESCO:

*“Marine spatial planning is a practical way to create and establish a more **rational organisation of the use of marine space** and the interaction between its uses, to **balance demands for development with the need to protect marine ecosystems**, and to achieve social and economic objectives in an **open and planned way.**”*



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- **The importance of MSP and EU context**

why EC?

- Competition for maritime space - for renewable energy equipment, aquaculture and other growth areas - has highlighted the need for efficient management, to avoid potential conflict and create synergies between different activities.
- The implementation of MSP is the responsibility of Member States and that it is ready to act as a facilitator for cooperation and developing a common approach.
- Involvement of EU is necessary for:
- A common approach would enable efficient and smooth application of MSP in crossborder marine areas, favouring the development of maritime activities and the protection of the marine environment based on a common framework and similar legislative implications.
- Ensuring that MSP is used in all Member States would enhance sustainable growth in the maritime sectors.



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- **The importance of MSP and EU context**

what are the benefits of MSP?

- **Reduce conflicts** between sectors and create synergies between different activities.
- **Encourage investment** - by instilling predictability, transparency and clearer rules. This will help boost the development of renewable energy sources and grids, establish Marine Protected Areas, and facilitate investment in oil and gas.
- **Increase coordination** - between administrations in each country, through the use of a single instrument to balance the development of a range of maritime activities. This will be simpler and cheaper.
- **Increase cross-border cooperation** - between EU countries, on cables, pipelines, shipping lanes, wind installations, etc.
- **Protect the environment** - through early identification of impact and opportunities for multiple use of space.



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- **The importance of MSP and EU context**

- which are the key principles?**

1. Using MSP according to area and type of activity
2. Defining objectives to guide MSP
3. Developing MSP in a transparent manner
4. Stakeholder participation
5. Coordination within Member States – Simplifying decision processes
6. Ensuring the legal effect of national MSP
7. Cross-border cooperation and consultation
8. Incorporating monitoring and evaluation in the planning process
9. Achieving coherence between terrestrial and maritime spatial planning – relation with ICZM
10. A strong data and knowledge base



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which are the crossing domains?

- Transports of people, goods and energy (on and under the sea and on the land)
- Environment (protection, research)
- Spatial planning
- Economic activities (tourism, fisheries, extraction, renewable energy)

which are the crossing activities?

- aquaculture areas and fishing areas,
- installations and infrastructures for the exploration, exploitation and extraction of oil, of gas and other energy resources, of minerals and aggregates, and for the production of energy from renewable sources,
- maritime transport routes and traffic flows,
- military training areas,
- nature and species conservation sites and protected areas,
- raw material extraction areas,
- scientific research,
- submarine cable and pipeline routes,
- tourism,
- underwater cultural heritage.



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– The rationale of MARSPLAN-BS project in the context of MSP Directive

Challenges

Marine waters and coastal zones are subject to intense and increasing use for economic activities. The demand for space and competition and conflicts between uses in marine regions and sub-regions are expected to increase rapidly in the future. Traditional activities such as fisheries, shipping, dredging and oil exploitation have expanded rapidly over the past decades. New uses (such as tourism, mineral extraction, or recently wind energy and offshore marine aquaculture), have started to claim their own sea space. Coastal zones are affected by more intense land-use and higher urbanisation rates.

These zones increasingly suffer from ecosystem degradation which also has negative social and economic consequences. Climate change impacts such as sea level rise will further increase the exposure to risks for assets, population and biodiversity and the need for adaptation measures which should be planned and executed in an integrated framework.



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– The rationale of MARSPLAN-BS project in the context of MSP Directive

The need to:

- ensure a better coordination between planning system on the land, coastal zones and marine space, between spatial planning, regional development, urban development and maritime spatial planning - in order to capitalize, in a sustainable manner, the economic potential of these areas.
- change the approach on maritime area - from a sectorial approach to an integrated manner.
- explore the concept - to identify the main activities, the domains, the steps, the main stakeholders at EU, national, cross-border and local level, the studies and the initiatives elaborated for the Black Sea area and to build a database.
- improve and to enlarge the cross-border cooperation.
- identify best practices in field of MSP.
- promote the concept at national, cross-border and local level.
- substantiate the transposition activities of the MSP Directives.



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– The rationale of MARSPLAN-BS project in the context of MSP Directive

- In this context it was decided on 12 of November 2014, at Sofia, at the common meeting between the representatives of Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works from Bulgaria and the representatives of the Ministry of Regional Development, Public Administration and European Funds from Romania to apply to the call for proposal launched by DG MARE (MARE/2014/22) in order to develop a project in maritime spatial planning.





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– The role of the project for Directive's implementation

Project management

Brings together the most relevant stakeholders at the cross-border area for maritime spatial planning

Project activities

Component 1. Preparation of implementation of Maritime Spatial Planning directive in the Black Sea basin

Component 2. Project management

Component 3. Communication and dissemination

Component 4. Lessons learned



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– The role of the project for Directive's implementation

Project management - 10 partners

- Ministry of Regional Development, Public Administration and European Funds - Romania
- Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works - Bulgaria
- Ministry of Waters and Forests - Romania
- National Institute for Marine Research and Development *Grigore Antipa*, Constanta, Romania
- Danube Delta National Institute for Research and Development, Tulcea, Romania
- National Institute for Research and Development in Construction, Urban Planning and Sustainable Spatial Development, Bucharest, Romania
- *Ovidius* University of Constanta, Romania
- Institute of Oceanology - Bulgarian Academy for Science, Varna, Bulgaria
- Executive Agency Maritime Administration, Sofia, Bulgaria
- Bulgarian Ports Infrastructure company, Sofia, Bulgaria



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– The role of the project for Directive's implementation

Project activities

Component 1. Preparation of implementation of Maritime Spatial Planning directive in the Black Sea basin

- supporting the transposition of the directive in the EU member states (Romania and Bulgaria)
- involvement of the relevant stakeholders
- recommendations for the setup of MSP in Romania-Bulgaria cross-border area
- setting out a vision and common objectives for maritime spatial planning in the Black Sea basin
- analysis of current and prospective situation in Black Sea basin, with emphasis on human activities and environment
- establishing a mechanism/framework for exchange of experience and information between relevant institutions in the Black Sea basin



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– The role of the project for Directive's implementation

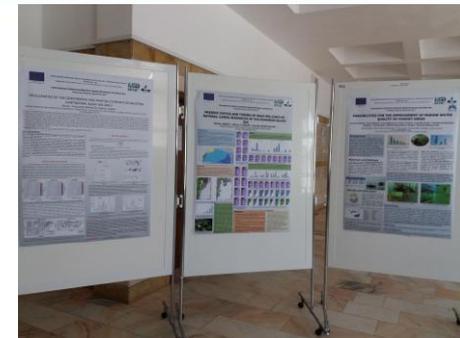
Project activities

Component 2. Project management

- ensuring suitable management of the project
- consolidation of cross-border cooperation between national MSP authorities and other relevant institutions

Component 3. Communication and dissemination

- dissemination of information;
- events and publications;
- impact on media.





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– The role of the project for Directive's implementation

Project activities

Component 4. Lessons learned

Elaboration of publications / guidelines / brochures presenting examples of best practices and experience during the project lifetime:

- description of successful cross-border cooperation, obstacles encountered, technical, administrative and legal barriers encountered in elaboration of MSP
- presenting the methodology (steps, procedures made in order to make cross-border MSP work), the strong and weak points of this methodology), additional requirements and gaps
- studies, analyses, case studies, other information resulted from the project



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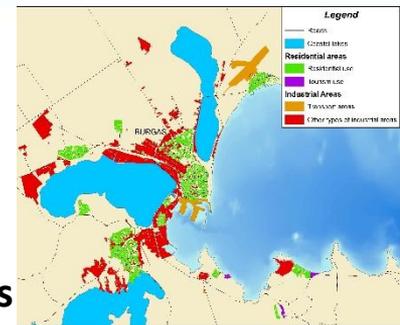
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– The role of the project for Directive's implementation

The main points achieved:

- The first experience on maritime spatial planning approach
- The methodology for cross-border MSP
- A comprehensive analysis and identification of the main conflicts and synergies
- A common database
- 5 detailed case studies
- Principles, vision and common objectives for Black Sea maritime spatial planning structured into a development concept for MSP cross-border area – Romania and Bulgaria
- A maritime spatial plan for cross-border area Mangalia-Shabla
- Main stakeholders involvement



Which supported the transposition of the Directive in the national legislative framework and which will represent the base for the Maritime Spatial Plan development process.



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