



**eMSP
NBSR**

Emerging Ecosystem-based
Maritime Spatial Planning
Topics in the North and Baltic
Sea Regions



**Co-funded by
the European Union**

Interreg
Baltic Sea Region



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Provisional programme

Strengthening ecosystem-based approach in MSP and supporting sustainable blue economy.

Joint workshop of the Communities of Practice on Ecosystem Based Approach in MSP and on Sustainable Blue Economy of eMSP project.

Helsinki, Finland, 13-15 June 2023

Background information:

This workshop is jointly organized by eMSP-NBSR and MSP4BIO projects with support of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) Policy Area Spatial Planning.

The event will take place over three days and will be a physical meeting, with the opportunity to follow the meeting online. It will consist of several sessions dedicated to four main themes:

1. MSP's contribution to the establishing and maintaining a coherent Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) network and other spatial conservation measures- an example of eMSP study case on MSP and MPAs.
2. The role of MSP in overall progress towards Good Environmental Status (GES) (opportunities and limits) – an example of eMSP study case on MSP and GES.
3. International framework for ecosystem-based approach (EBA) in MSP – recommendations based on good EBA practices in MSP and gap-analysis.
4. MSP for sustainable blue economy –Natural capital & environmental impact as boundary condition for sustainable food and energy production in the long term and to contribute to biodiversity goals of Green Deal (including mitigation, nature-based solutions, ecosystem services, biodiversity, nature restoration, interaction between human and nature, ...).

Anticipated results:

- Demonstrate MSP related processes and means to facilitate coherence of protected areas and other spatial conservation measures.
- Identify environmental pressures which can be managed by MSP and respective indicators illustrating changes in the state of the marine environment.
- Discuss provisional recommendations to advance international framework for EBA in MSP applicable for both the North and Baltic seas with an example of the HELCOM-VASAB Guideline for the implementation of EBA in MSP in the Baltic Sea area.
- Demonstrate how MariPark (a highly developed sea area) can contribute to a good environmental status:
 - Ideas on mechanisms for integration the ecosystem approach in a MariPark.
 - Reflection on relations between MariParks and MPAs coherence.
- Explore the potential of nature-inclusive design of offshore infrastructure to create net positive environmental impact and identify key indicators & monitoring schemes that can be managed.

Spatial aspects to be addressed: contribution to nature restoration outside economic zones; effects of individual turbines and zonal effects; degrees of impact/contribution.

- Reflect on the climate change impact on MSP processes and on how MSP contributes to increasing climate change resilience.
- Promote common language and views between planners and environmentalists for the North and Baltic Seas and, particularly, facilitate dialogue between HELCOM-VASAB MSP Working Group and HELCOM Working Group on Biodiversity, Protection and Restoration (HELCOM WG BioDiv).
- Enhance cooperation and knowledge transfer between eMSP and MSP4BIO projects.

Provisional programme

Sessions on 13 and 14 June will be organized in Clarion Hotel, Tyynenmerenkatu 2, 00220 Helsinki.

9:00 – 9:30 Coffee and registration	
9:30 – 10:00 Welcome words (Lotta Ruokanen, HELCOM Professional Secretary). Setting the scene and presentation of organizers. Greetings from sister projects (MPA Europe, MSP-GREEN). Practicalities.	
June 13, Tuesday 10:00 – 13:00	
Session 1: MSP for coherent MPAs and other spatial conservation measures	
10:00-10:20	Introduction and results of a survey on MPA-MSP coordination, (Annica Brink , Government of Åland)
10:20-11:25	OSPAR approach to biodiversity conservation and ecosystem-based management, (Lena Avellan , OSPAR); HELCOM approach to biodiversity conservation, (Jannica Haldin , HELCOM) Marine conservation planning in Åland Islands, (Sonja Salovius-Laurén , Åbo Akademi University)
11:25 - 11:45 Break	
11:45-13:00	Interactive sessions in groups.
How can MSP and MPAs be further integrated with future planning and management in national MSP? How can the MSP authorities support and strengthen the transboundary cooperation on MPA networks? The participants will work in groups on addressing both questions. Moderators for groups in Helsinki: Annica Brink, Riku Varjopuro, Liene Gaujeniete . Three online sessions for online participants. Moderators: Kemal Pınarbaşı, Lotta Ruokanen, Ville Karvinen	
Brief wrap-up of the session	
13:00 - 14:00 Lunch	
June 13, Tuesday 14:00 – 18:00	
Session 2 - The role of MSP in overall progress towards GES: opportunities and limits – an example of eMSP study case on MSP and GES.	
14:00-14:20	GES of the Baltic Sea - Regional approach (Jannica Haldin, HELCOM, Finland)
14:20-15:30	eMSP case study on MSP and GES – Indicator review on the suitability of existing MSFD indicators in assessing effects of MSP (Ville Karvinen , Syke, Finland) Pressures and impacts assessment for MSP (Juuso Haapaniemi , HELCOM, Finland)
	The path from activities to pressures to effects – how indicators can illustrate this (Owen Rowe , HELCOM, Finland)
15:30 – 15:45 Break	
15:45-17:00	MSP for GES – group discussions
Potential discussion topics:	
- National perspectives on using MSP as a tool to achieve GES (best practices etc)	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Balancing developing blue economy with the need to achieve GES - Incorporating stakeholder perspectives in the MSP process to achieve GES - Identifying the main challenges in achieving GES through MSP - Exploring potential strategies for improving the integration of GES into MSP processes at different spatial scales (regional – national - local) <p>The participants will work in groups on addressing both questions. Moderators for groups in Helsinki: Ville Karvinen and Kemal Pinarbasi. Two sessions for online participants. Moderators: Lotta Ruokanen, Dmitry Frank-Kamenetsky</p>	
Brief wrap-up of the session	
June 14, Wednesday 9:00 – 12:00 Session 3 – Strengthening international framework for ecosystem-based approach in MSP – recommendations based on good EBA practices in MSP and gap-analysis.	
9:00-9:20	Ecosystem based approach – a vital instrument to maintain delicate balance with nature (Lena Bergstrom, SLU, Sweden)
9:20-10:30	How to strengthen application of EBA in MSP? (Recommendations based on project findings)
	Major challenges in application of EBA in MSP and gaps in international framework (Dmitry Frank-Kamenetsky, HELCOM, Finland)
	How can we ensure the application of EBA when setting planning goals, building plan’s content and assessing plan’s impact (Jan Schmidtbauer Crona, SwAM, Sweden; Dmitry Frank-Kamenetsky, HELCOM, Finland)
	Data collection: a reference data list for an ecosystem-based approach to MSP (Bérénice Lequesne and Alexis Esquerre, SHOM, France)
10:30 - 10:45 Break	
10:45-12:00	How to strengthen EBA in MSP – a group discussion
EBA when setting MSP goals and building the plan’s content? Strategic environmental assessment and the assessment of impacts as vital components of EBA in MSP? The participants will work in groups on addressing both questions. Moderator: Dmitry Frank-Kamenetsky and Jan Schmidtbauer Crona . Two sessions for online participants will be arranged. Moderators: Riku Varjopuro, Lena Bergstrom	
12:00- 13:00 Take aways from the first two days and final remarks.	
13:00 - 14:00 Lunch	
Excursion. A boat departs from Clarion hotel at 14.30 and returns at 17.30 .	
Cross-project networking session with catering will be arranged in Clarion hotel at 19.00 . <i>(Organized by Regional Council of Southwest Finland)</i>	

Session on Sustainable Blue Economy is hosted by the Ministry of the Environment

(Aleksanterinkatu 7, 00023 Helsinki, Finland)

June 15, Thursday 9:00-17:00 Session 4 – MSP for sustainable blue economy – A concept of maripark and how it can contribute to a good environmental status	
9:00 - 09:10	Welcome words on behalf the Finnish Ministry of the Environment (Tiina Tihlman, Finnish Ministry of the Environment)
9:10 - 09:50	LS SBE introduction & maripark concept - 3 current global transitions and a concept of a maripark. Marijn Rabaut

Part I – Climate Change in MSP
“Models for climate change to develop roadmaps for both seas with respect to the change in ecosystem. What changes can we expect (restore or introduce), what kind of scenarios for ecosystem can we predict based on the cc models? What does this mean for MSP to enhance SBE? What data or information is needed and not available yet? What kind of research or emerging topics arise and are in need of knowing?”
09:50 - 10:10 Ecological perspective on impact CC & what does this mean for multi-use & MSP? Prof. Steven DeGraer
10:10 - 10:30 Exploring future use and climate scenarios – OLAMUR project. Prof. Oivind Bergh
10:30 - 11:00 Break
11:00 - 12:00 Interactive session – Panel discussion
Panel discussion on the data needed, roadmap on multi-use and transition (food, energy and nature) + further emerging topics based on this topic of CC. What further research is needed to incorporate CC into MSP for SBE?
12:00 - 13:30 Lunch
Part II - mapping a Maripark process
“Designing the route to a maripark with NID”. What steps need to be taken from an ecological perspective?
13:30 - 13:50 Approach to designing nature inclusive windfarm & impact CC. Juva Katriina, SYKE
13:50 - 14:10 Designing a maripark. Rogier Steenis, EY
14:10 - 15:10 Interactive session on how to incorporate NID in a Maripark?
Participants will be asked to divide into several small groups. Led by a moderator each group will brainstorm and discuss around prepared questions on the necessary steps and priorities that need to be taken to include NID in multi-use and a maripark. And are there lessons learned from land which we can take into account?
15:10 – 15:30 Break
Part III – Nature inclusive design in the broader society (societal acceptance)
Nature inclusive design (NID) is in full development. While some people perceive marine ecosystems as pristine, others consider active restoration indispensable. Adapting human constructions to improve/accelerate this restoration is promising but includes risks at the same time. Active restoration onshore is commonly accepted, but the relatively new idea of NID at sea makes that public acceptance is sometimes weak.
15:30 - 15:50 How to include social acceptance for developing a maripark. Timothy van Agt, ORG
15:50 – 16:10 How to include social acceptance of a maripark from an NGO perspective. Heleen Vollers, Stichting de Noordzee.
16:10 – 17:00 Interactive session
By means of SLIDO participants will be invited to discuss more in depth on this topic. Aim is to have a greater understanding of how a maripark specifically can be socially accepted.
17:00 – 17:05 Part IV Closing remarks
Networking session with refreshments

Timetable

	12-Jun	13-Jun	14-Jun	15-Jun
9:00 - 10:00	Arrivals	Registration, coffee Setting the scene	Session 3: International framework for EBA in MSP	Session 4: MSP for Sustainable blue economy
10:00 - 11:00		Session 1: MSP for coherent MPAs		
11:00 - 12:00			Wrap-Up of the sessions	Lunch
12:00 - 13:00				
13:00 - 14:00		Lunch	Excursion (boat from Clarion Hotel)	Session 4: MSP for Sustainable blue economy
14:00 - 15:00		Session 2: Towards GES		
15:00 - 16:00				
16:00 - 17:00				
17:00 -				

