

GNSBI Stakeholder presentation

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Gdansk, Poland

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What is the Greater North Sea Basin Initiative?



What is the Greater North Sea Basin Initiative?

- The Greater North Sea Basin Initiative (GNSBI) is an initiative of 9 Greater North Sea countries* and the European Union
- It is a body to cooperate in dealing with the spatial ecological squeeze in transitions such as
 - climate change mitigation,
 - countering biodiversity loss,
 - sustainable food production
 - clean and safe operations at sea.
- The GNSBI believes that sectoral and national approaches limit the effectiveness of dealing with abovementioned challenges.



GNSBI's added value in short

- To liaise and fill gaps between existing fora and sectorally organized bodies for strengthened international and integral cooperation Greater North Sea;
- To enhance regional cross-boundary cooperation to better align maritime spatial planning;
- To present a platform for communication and stakeholder engagement.

* Participating countries: Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom, + (EU commission)

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How is the GNSBI organized?

Six integrated working tracks explore integrated themes

To foster cooperation between sectors, six integrated working tracks have been established.

North Sea countries (co-) chair the working tracks based on their preference and capacity.

Governance

Explores current and needed arrangements for the GNSBI to function properly.

Nature restoration and conservation

Sets up a program for cooperation regarding conservation, enhancement and restoration of nature.

Multiple use of space

Explores setting up criteria and sharing best practices on co-use.

Cumulative impacts

Finds a common approach on cumulative impact assessments based on existing work to identify ecological tensions, ecosystem-based MSP and options for enhancement and protection of the marine environment.

Long-term perspective of fisheries

Creates insight in key fisheries areas and socioeconomic/food impacts of spatial developments at North Sea scale.

Knowledge sharing

Coordinates the exchange of best practices on (scientific) information, data, plans and assessments. The result of this work could be incorporated into established data-portals.

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Outcomes of meetings in 2023



GNSBI Paris DG meeting as kick-start of initiative

- In May in Paris, DGs of fishery, nature, energy, MSP committed to explore an enhanced integral cooperation on the Greater North Sea basin



GNSBI Hamburg Technical Session as official start technical work]

- In October in Hamburg, two papers were developed for the different working tracks
- Here, track leaders made agreements about the organization of their track and aims of the track in 2024.



GNSBI Maritime Spatial Planning summit as first ministerial event

- In November in the Hague, conclusions were signed by MSP ministers about the need for integrated and international cooperation in spatial use on the Greater North Sea.

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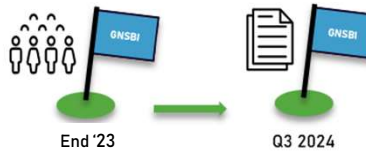
What are the goals of GNSBI in 2024?

2024 aims for GNSBI

Joint exploration on how strengthened international and integrated cooperation can take place on the Greater North Sea, looking at the different sectors and transitions on the Greater North Sea

GNSBI priorities for 2024

- Create content through the various working tracks
- Commitment from the nature and fishery ministers
- A clear vision for GNSBI's development into the future.
- Stakeholder participation
- Increase political commitment



26-2-2024

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What main activities will the GNSBI undertake?



A. Working tracks

The priority for the working tracks will be to generate content and to harbour alignment of the six working tracks.



C. Stakeholder involvement

Develop a process for long-term stakeholder participation for GNSBI. In 2024, we will already start to create commitment during particular events



B. Connecting GNSBI to other partnerships/frameworks

Strengthen the GNSBI relationship with various fora (such as NSEC & OSPAR)



D. High-level events*

- DG meeting (September/early October)
- Ministerial Meeting (November)

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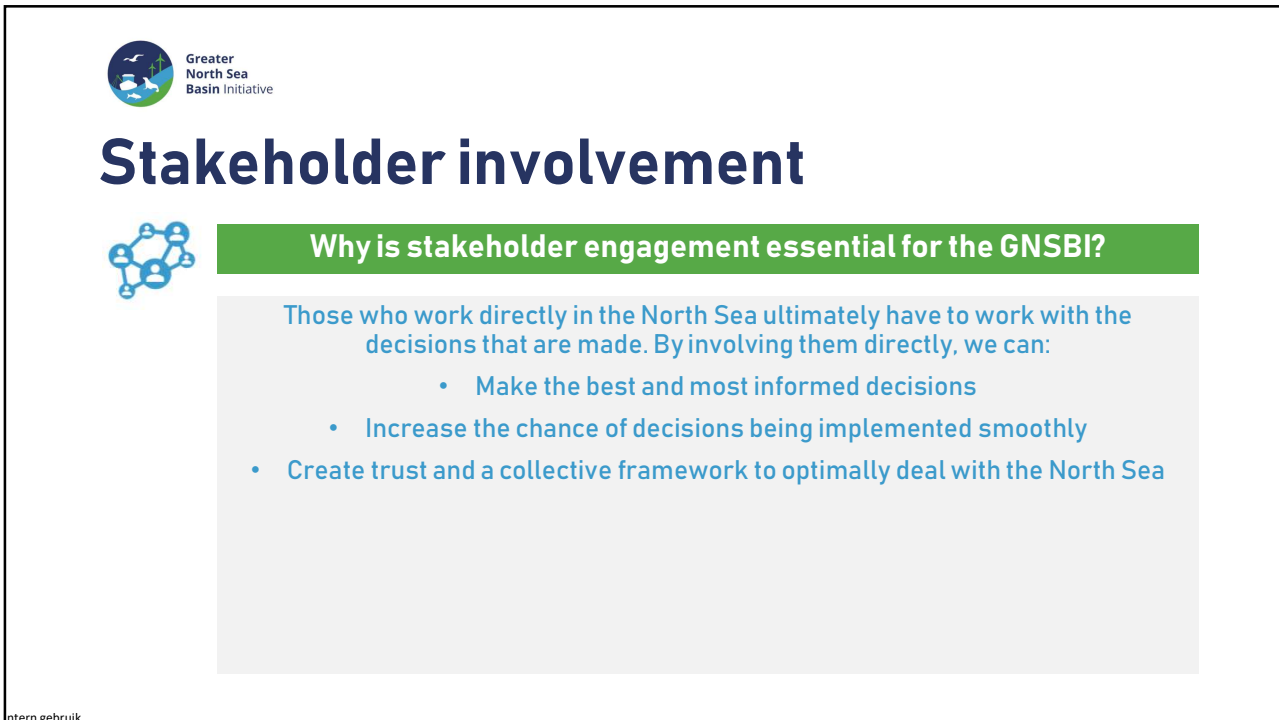
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Deep dive: stakeholder engagement



What will stakeholder engagement look like in 2024?

- **Obtaining stakeholder perspective on events**
 - Wind Europe event in Bilboa (20-22 March 2024): expanding the stakeholder network by pitching GNSBI and actively approaching stakeholders
 - European Maritime Day in Svendborg (20 May 2024): presenting a stakeholder engagement plan to stakeholders, and collecting feedback
- **Creating key stakeholder community from all sectors and involve them in GNSBI process**
 - During the presentation of the stakeholder plan in Svenborg, the stakeholder community is formally established. Throughout the year, we will expand and consolidate this community.
- **Present stakeholder participation plan to ministers**
 - Options for Stakeholder participation/co-development are presented to Ministers
 - During the integral ministerial GNSBI summit in Belgium, November '24, key stakeholders will be invited to participate

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e-MSP BNSR and GNSBI



What are the links between e-MSP and GNSBI?

e-MSP as inspiration for GNSBI:

- Set up of working tracks
- Advices of policy briefs to working tracks
- Learning from the Baltic Sea (Helcom/VASAB)
- Creating a community of practice

Next phase:

- Common application to EU-call in order to make a policy platform to be able to bring the policy advices of e-MSP further.

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