



BALTSPOACE

Towards sustainable governance
of Baltic marine space
2015 – 2018

Results on MSP from the BONUS BALTSPOACE Project

**European Parliament, Brussels
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BONUS

SCIENCE FOR A BETTER FUTURE OF THE BALTIC SEA REGION

The BONUS BALTSPOACE project was supported by BONUS (Art 185),
funded jointly by the EU and Baltic Sea national funding institutions.



What we will present

- Basic facts about BONUS BALTSPEACE
- Why focus on MSP integration challenges?
- Four key areas of investigation
- More detailed results from two thematic areas
- Overall lessons for integration in MSP





BONUS BALTSPEACE: Basic facts

Duration: 2015–2018

Funding: 2 m Euro (EU+national)

 **Coordinator:** Södertörn University

Further partners:

 • Aarhus University, Dept. of Bioscience

 • Swedish Institute for the Marine Environment

• Maritime Institute in Gdańsk



• Coastal Planning and Research Institute



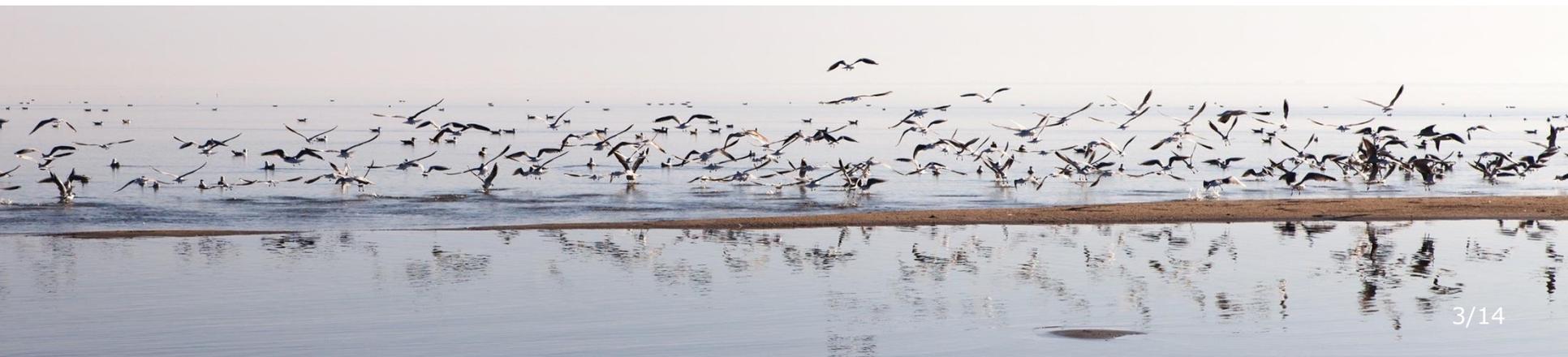
• Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht



• Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research



• s.Pro – sustainable projects





The MSP context



MSP – a new and prominent approach

- Reduce conflicts
- Promote blue growth
- Protect the environment
- Coordination
- Cooperation

MSP cannot be done in isolation

- Cross-border efforts
- Cross-sectoral
- Stakeholder and multi-actor
- Interdisciplinary knowledge

Many previous and ongoing projects in the Baltic





Why focus on integration in MSP?

MSP Directive calls for:

- Coherence
- Transboundary cooperation
- Stakeholder involvement
- Multidimensional sustainability

Understanding & addressing key MSP problems

- Diverse and increasing marine use
- National & sectoral priorities
- Multiple policy objectives
- Uncertainty
- Legitimacy

MSP is a collaborative effort

- A sector-based approach is no longer enough
- Practical experience and research needed



Our approach to studying integration



Cross-border & transboundary



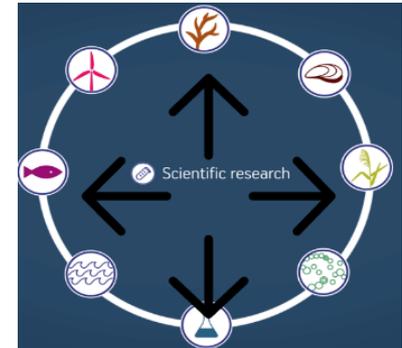
Policy & sector



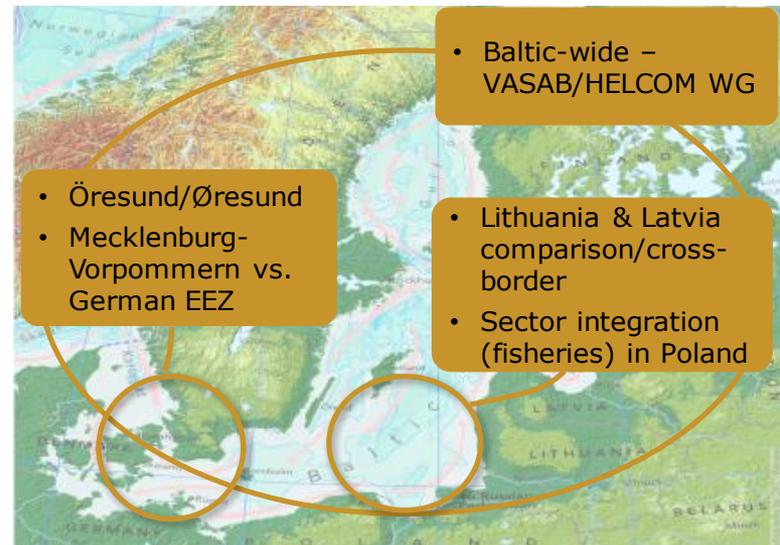
Stakeholder



Knowledge



In-depth case studies



- Key challenges in different situations?
- Enabling conditions?
- Implications for sustainable use and good environmental status?





More information

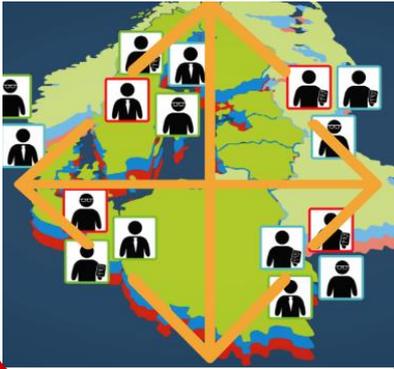


This work resulted from the BONUS BALTSACE project and was supported by BONUS (Art 185), funded jointly by the EU and national funding institutions.



Two fields in more depth

Cross-border & transboundary



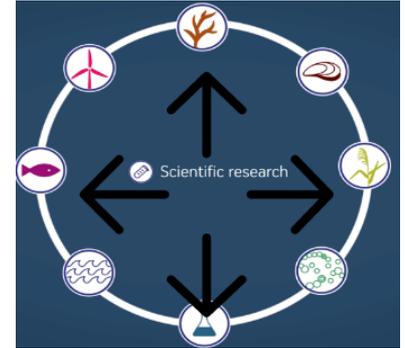
Policy & sector



Stakeholder



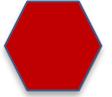
Knowledge



Enablers of integration?



Cross-border integration



Why is this important?

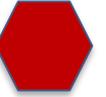
Art. 11 MSP Directive: "Member States bordering marine waters shall **cooperate** with the aim of ensuring that maritime spatial plans are **coherent and coordinated** across the marine region concerned."

Cross-border integration:

= to work across various types of administrative and geographical borders



Benefits of cross-border integration

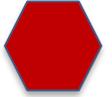


- **More coherent plans**
 - Neighbouring plans do not contradict each other
- **More coordinated planning processes**
 - More effective processes
 - More synergetic processes



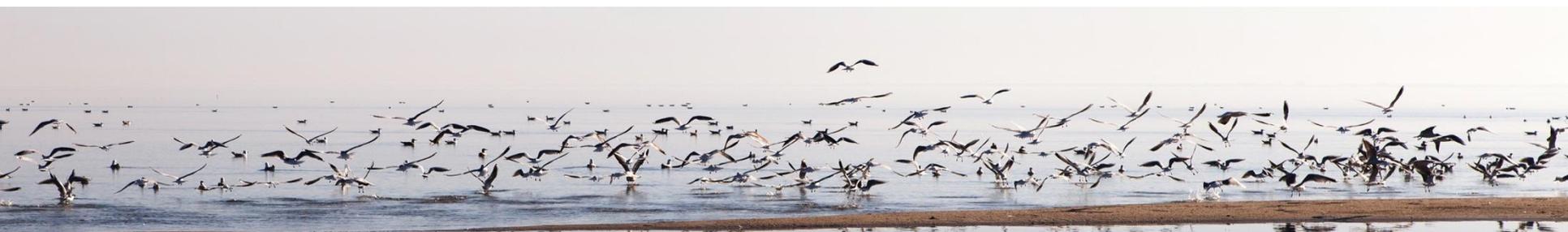


Differences are fine...

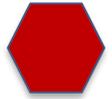


- as long as there is **awareness** and understanding of each other's structures and norms
- as long as there is **willingness** to communicate
- as long as there are **instruments** that facilitate communication.

→ A question of capacity



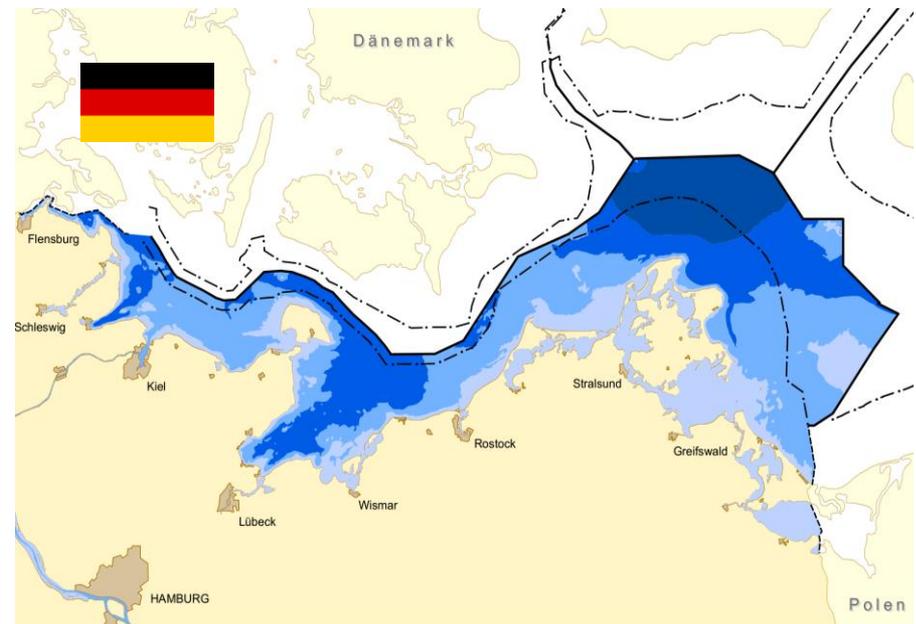
National example: Germany



- Three different MSP jurisdictions in the Baltic Sea
- **Gradual alignment** of spatial policy despite different timescales for planning

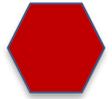
However:

- Similar legal base
- Same language
- Similar understanding of MSP
- A regular forum for exchange



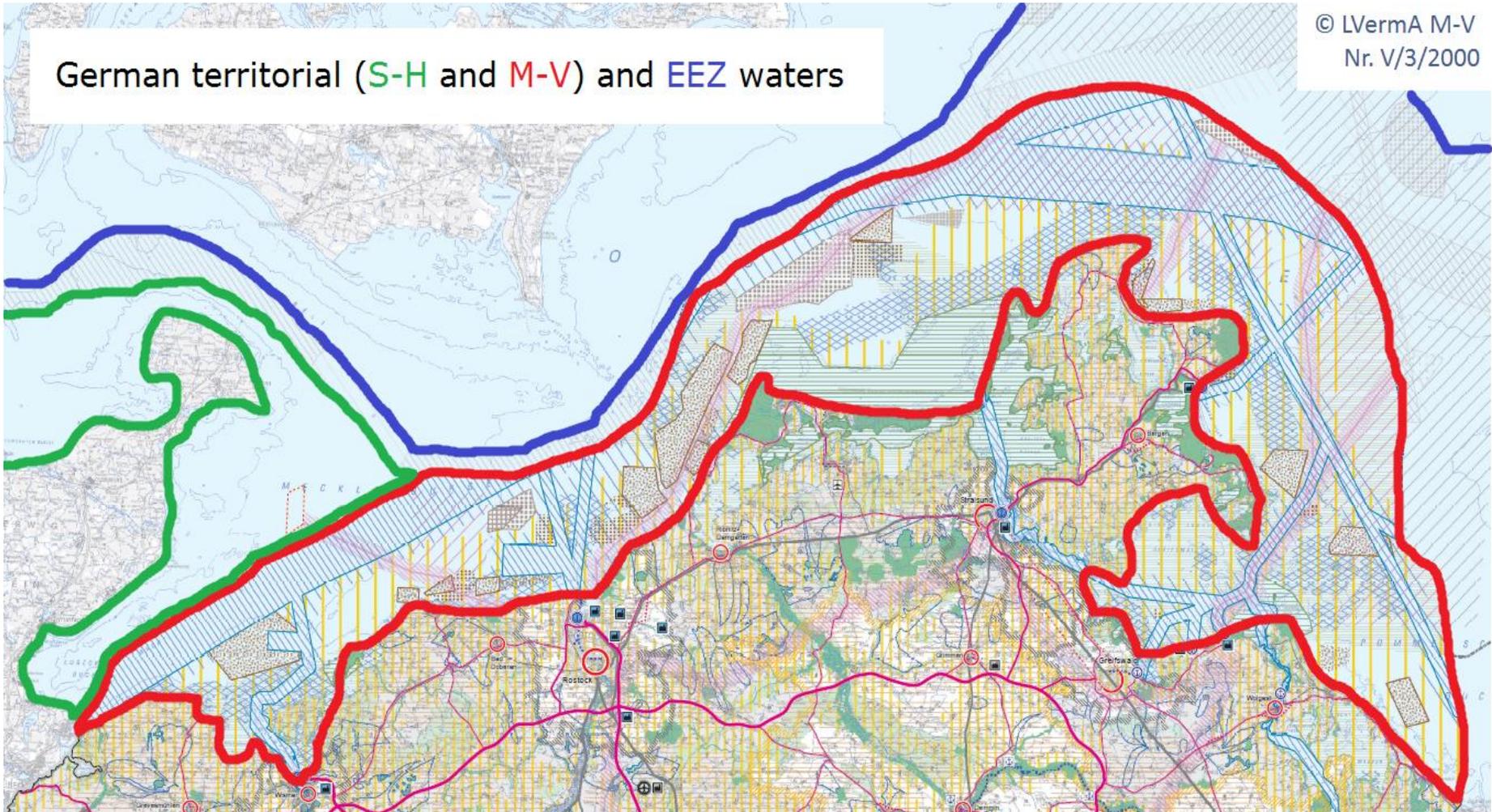


National example: Germany



German territorial (S-H and M-V) and EEZ waters

© LVerMA M-V
Nr. V/3/2000





Could this work cross-border?



Countries have **a lot in common** already:

- HELCOM/VASAB MSP WG: Overarching guidelines and recommendations for marine space
 - Referred to in some spatial plans already (Lithuania, Germany, Latvia)
- **Ensure broad-scale implementation of these soft-law recommendations** to enhance coherence.



A future strategic approach



Increase commonalities and understanding:

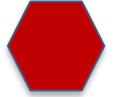
- **Agree which incompatibilities** should be addressed most urgently

E.g. differences in values, goals, priorities, ambitions, administrative routines etc.

→ A role for the **HELCOM-VASAB WG on MSP**



Use lower level knowledge



- Competent national authorities fully include municipalities and/or regions in the MSP process
- Capacity as a particular issue

Examples:

Latvia, Sweden, Oresund area (SE/DK)





Stakeholder integration



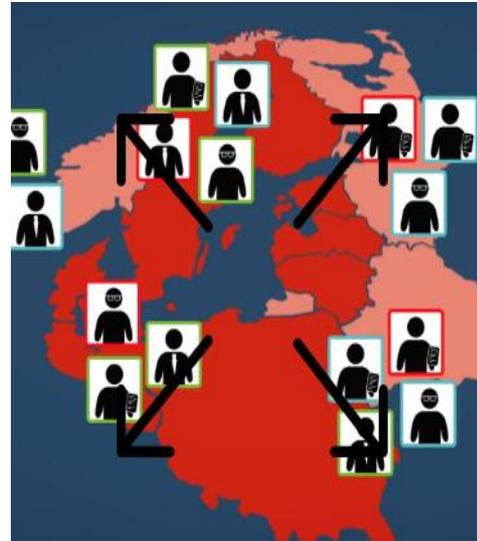
Cross-border & transboundary



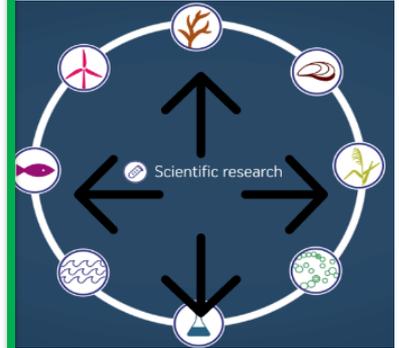
Policy & sector



Stakeholder



Knowledge





Stakeholder Integration: Why?



Two perspectives – Two sides

Authorities' view

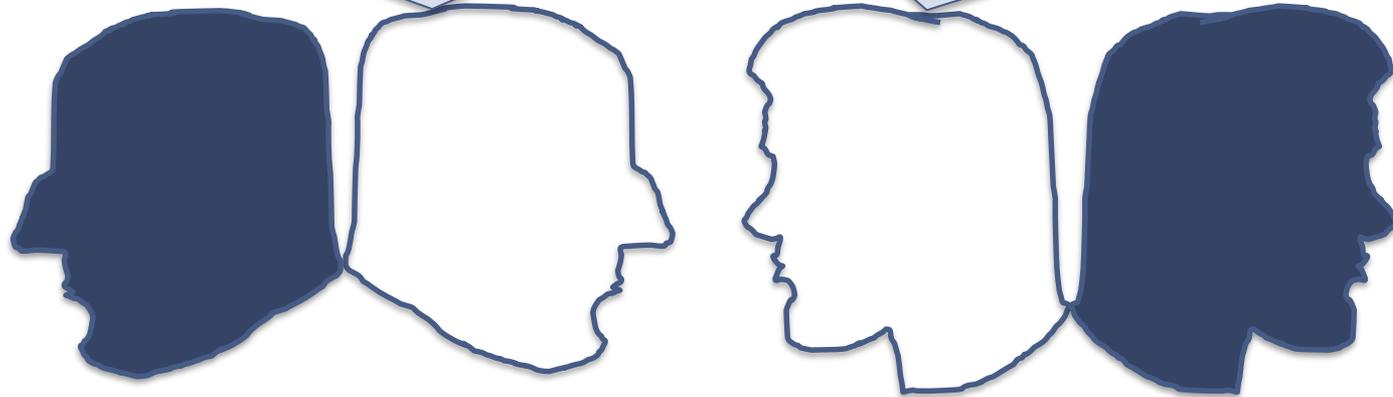
involve stakeholders because of...

- *Instrumental reasons*: information exchange, acceptance, legitimacy...
 - *Normative reasons*: democracy, emancipation, learning
- => Regulation can contain both

Stakeholders' view

get involved because of...

- Influence: interests, views
- Democratic rights, represent
- Personal development



=> **Why?** => who, when, how, where

=> Top down MEETS bottom up



Challenges

1. **General** – marine & coastal
 - Stakeholders: many, diverse, mobile
 - Authorities: limited resources and time
2. **Initial phase** of institutional development
 - Stakeholders: awareness, mobilisation
 - Authorities: capacity, knowledge, politicians
3. **Cross-border** MSP (especially coastal)
 - Complicating further: language, conflicting goals, understanding systems, planning cycles, mandate...



Stakeholders: Polish Fishers



Challenges

- **Distrust**, difficult to engage
- **Initial** information & mobilisation
- **Highly diverse stakeholder seascape** (subgroups!): harbors, target species and fishing patterns, gear types

Enablers

- Careful **stakeholder analysis** (incl. **social sciences**)
=> differentiate, adapt to needs
- **Listening & trust building**: resources for capacity development & planning
- **Good process facilitation**





Across the Sound //SE & DK



Challenges

- **Coastal zone:** X-border **AND** X-level !
- **Regional level** gap in MSP: Blue Growth
- **Timing:** early MSP development, different stages => awareness, mobilisation
- **Mandate** for X-border involvement?
- Different plan/permit systems & goals!

Enablers

- **Institutional development:** MSP projects good, continuity better
- **Social capital:** existing tradition of X-level & X-border collaboration, networks and forums (sector, expert, political)





Challenges

1. General – marine & coastal

Learn from facilitators & land planners

– Authorities: limited resources and time

2. Initial phase of institutional development

Communication, projects, inst. learning

– Authorities: capacity, knowledge, politicians

3. Cross-border coastal & MCD

– Co **Awareness & exchange**
language, conflicting goals, understanding systems, planning cycles, mandate...



Enabling Stakeholder Integration



Learning by **doing** – from **each other**

Social capital: use existing forums & channels

Continuity in non-planning phase, beyond projects

Know your stakeholders many needs & dimensions

Clarity: roles and possible influence, transparency of process

Why: purpose => “process ethics” of SI => legal frameworks

Capacity: resources, time & facilitation skills



⇒ **Overlap**

⇒ Key for integration in other dimensions

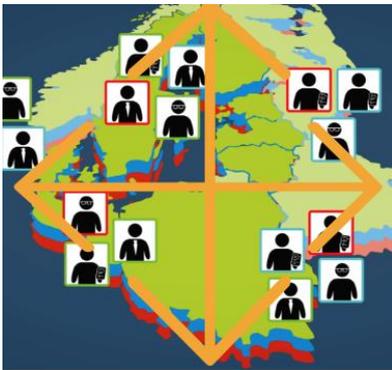
⇒ So are its enablers!





7 overall lessons...

Cross-border & transboundary



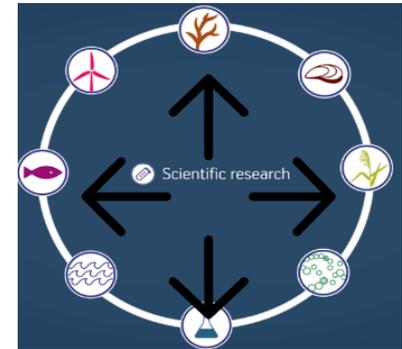
Policy & sector



Stakeholder



Knowledge



... and enablers for integration in MSP





1. Differences are fine...



- ... as long as there is **awareness and understanding** of each other's structures and norms
- ... as long as there is:
 - **willingness** to communicate
 - **instruments/forums /platforms** that bring everyone together at key stages

A common vision is a further enabler





2. Give integration time



Institutional frameworks and mutual understanding need to be **developed gradually at different levels.**

Learning needs to take place:

- At the individual level
- At the group level
- At the institutional level





3. Communication is key



Effective dialogue between different governance levels through:

- **Systematic transfer** of project knowledge
- Combining **formal and informal channels**
- **Continuous contacts:** bilateral or regional groups





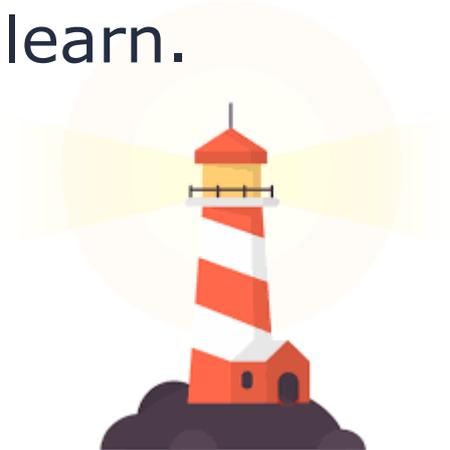
4. The importance of capacity



Successful integration requires:

- Capacity of **planners**
- Capacity for **stakeholders**
- Capacity of the institutional **framework**
- Capacity of **mechanisms** for exchange,
- Capacity of **institutions** to adapt and learn.

→ Closely linked to time and resources.





5. Good process management



- Understand **processes** to enhance cooperation:
 - reduces costs down the line,
 - makes formal instruments more efficient,
 - builds trust and knowledge
- Needs a **good facilitator**
 - individual capacity
 - process ethics





6. Trust and mutual understanding



A result of working and talking together

- Invest in **continuity** (structures, staff) and **capacity** (institutional/personal)
- Use **social sciences**, process management & social skills





7. Integration is no silver bullet



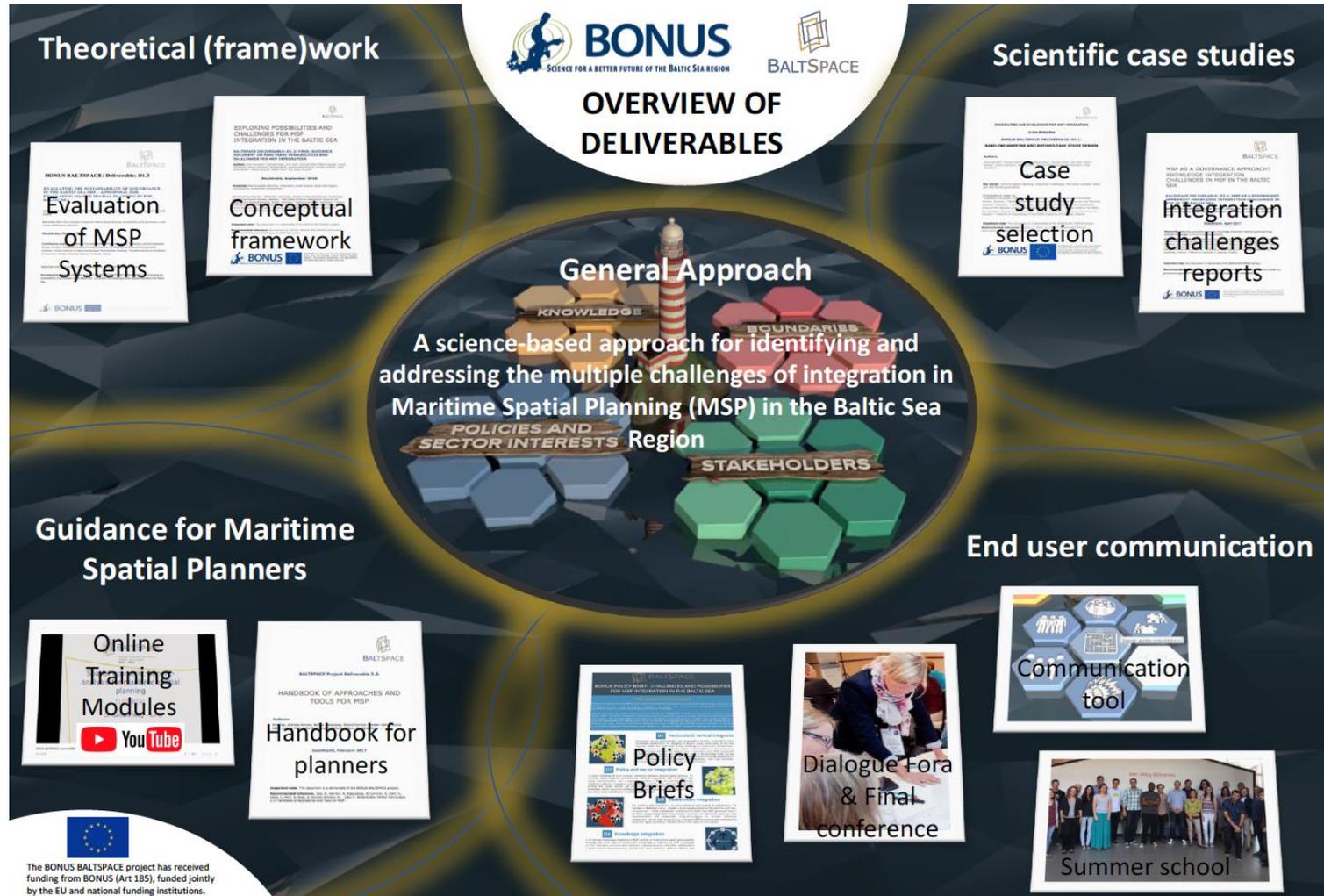
It can be **more efficient to take a sector or partial approach** for certain issues or during certain phases.





For more information:

www.baltSPACE.eu



The BONUS BALTSPACE project has received funding from BONUS (Art 185), funded jointly by the EU and national funding institutions.



Thank you!





Panel discussion

Ms. Ulrike Rodust, MEP, Vice-Chair of the Intergroup

Mr. Pierpaolo Campostrini, SUPREME & SIMWESTMED Projects

Mr. Jesse Verhalle, Marine Attaché of the Belgian Federal Public Services (FPS) Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment

Facilitator: Angela Schultz-Zehden, s.Pro