



THE EU MARITIME POLICY AND MARITIME SPATIAL PLANNING PLANS



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<http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs>



Why an Integrated EU Maritime Policy?

In its strategic objectives for 2005-2009, the Commission declared

“the particular need for an all-embracing maritime policy aimed at developing a thriving maritime economy, in an environmentally sustainable manner. Such a policy should be supported by excellence in marine scientific research, technology and innovation”



The « Blue Book »



1. Invite Member States to draw up national **integrated maritime policies**
2. Act as **facilitator** and help Member States to set up networks for the exchange of knowledge and experiences
3. Propose in 2008 a set of **guidelines** for these national integrated maritime policies and develop a **road map** for marine spatial planning
4. Organise a **stakeholder consultation** structure.



The Action Plan



- Covers different issues and activities:
 1. Maritime Governance
 - 2. Tools for integrated policy**
 3. Maximising the sustainable use of the oceans and seas
 4. Building a knowledge and information base for the maritime policy
 5. Delivering the highest quality of life in coastal regions
 6. Promoting Europe's leadership in international maritime affairs
 7. Raising the visibility of maritime Europe



Current situation – Zoning without planning

MARINE TRANSPORTATION

- Vessel Traffic Routes
- Vessel Traffic Separation Zone & Precautionary Zone
- Areas To Be Avoided (by vessels)
- Particularly Sensible Sea Areas (PSSAs)
- Safety Zones Around Vessels and Terminals
- Anchoring & No-Anchoring Areas
- Security Zones in Ports and Waterways

OFFSHORE ENERGY

- Oil & Gas Lease or Concession Area
- Wind Farm and Wave Park Lease or Concession Area
- Safety Zones Around Oil & Gas Installations, Wind Farms, Wave Parks etc.

MILITARY OPERATIONS

- Military Operations or Exercise Zones

PIPELINES & CABLES

- Oil & Gas Pipelines Rights of Way
- Submarine Communications Cable Rights of Way
- Energy Transmission Line Rights of Way

MARINE MINING

- Sand & Gravel (Aggregate) Extraction Areas

FISHING

- Fishery Closure Areas, including seasonal closures
- No Trawl Areas
- Critical Habitat Designations

OFFSHORE AQUACULTURE

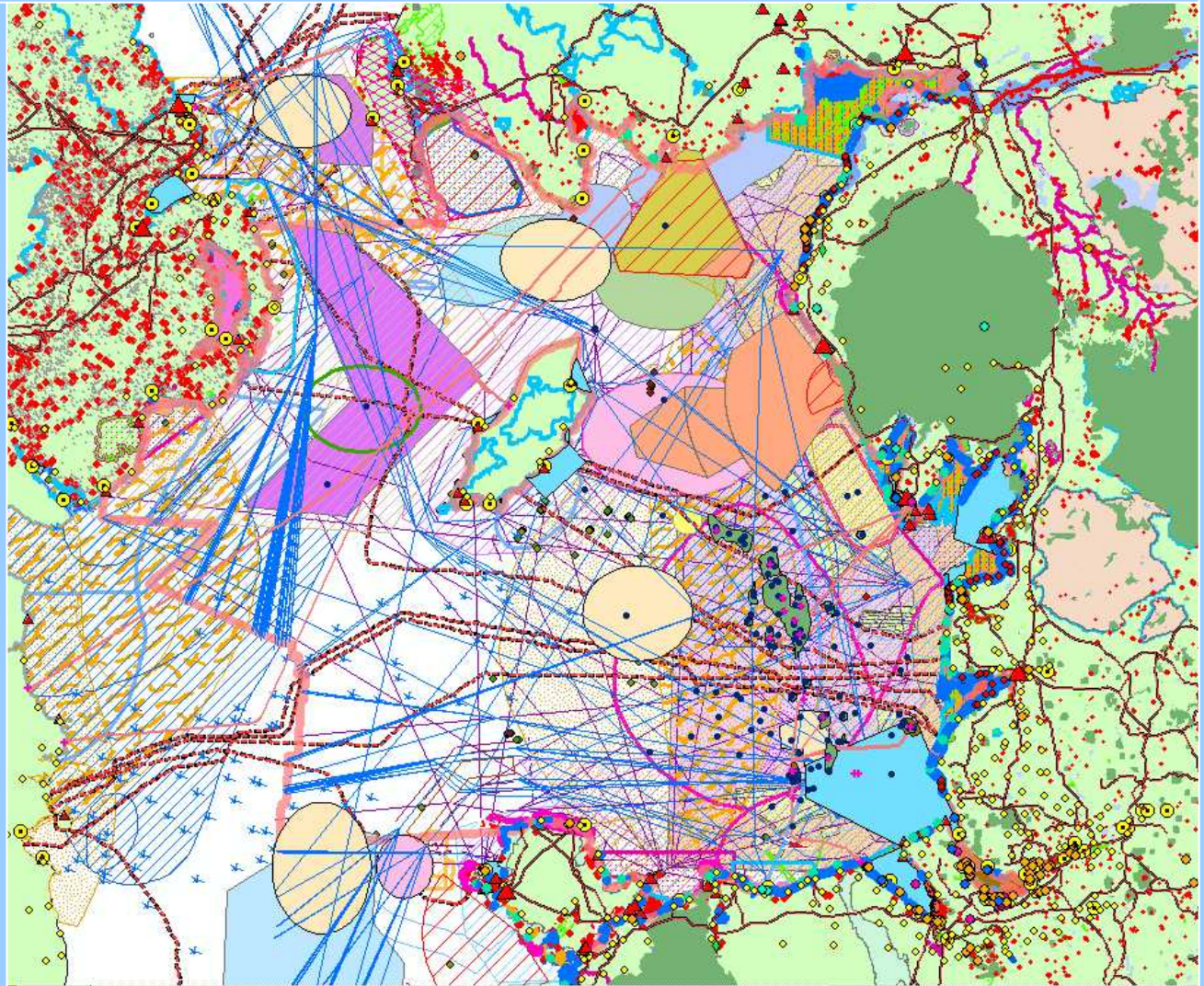
- Offshore Aquaculture Areas

MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

- Marine Sanctuaries, Reserves, Parks
- Protected Archaeological Areas, e.g. Ship Wrecks
- Cultural or Religious Areas

COMPETING CLAIMS Maritime Policy

- Land use
- Tourism
- Oil & Gas
- Mariculture
- Coastal Defence
- Ports & Navigation
- Military Activities
- Culture
- Conservation
- Dredging & Disposal
- Submarine Cables



▪ Fishing

▪ Renewable Energy

▪ Marine Recreation

▪ Mineral Extraction



Consultation Report – marine spatial planning

• Guidelines and Good Practice

- ★ **Sweden** *"a lack of fora within the EU"*.
- ★ **Denmark** *"facilitate best practice" and "guidance for coordination of data collection" and a "one-stop shop for preparation of permission for large-scale projects at sea"*.
- ★ **Greece** *"EU guidelines ensuring the harmonized implementation of MSP between EU Member States" and "promotion of experience, exchange and best practice among EU Member States"*
- ★ **Netherlands** *"the exchange of best practices primarily at regional level"*
- ★ **Spain** *"a European framework of guidelines for the regulation of marine areas"*.



Consultation Report – marine spatial planning

- **Coordination with Neighbours.**

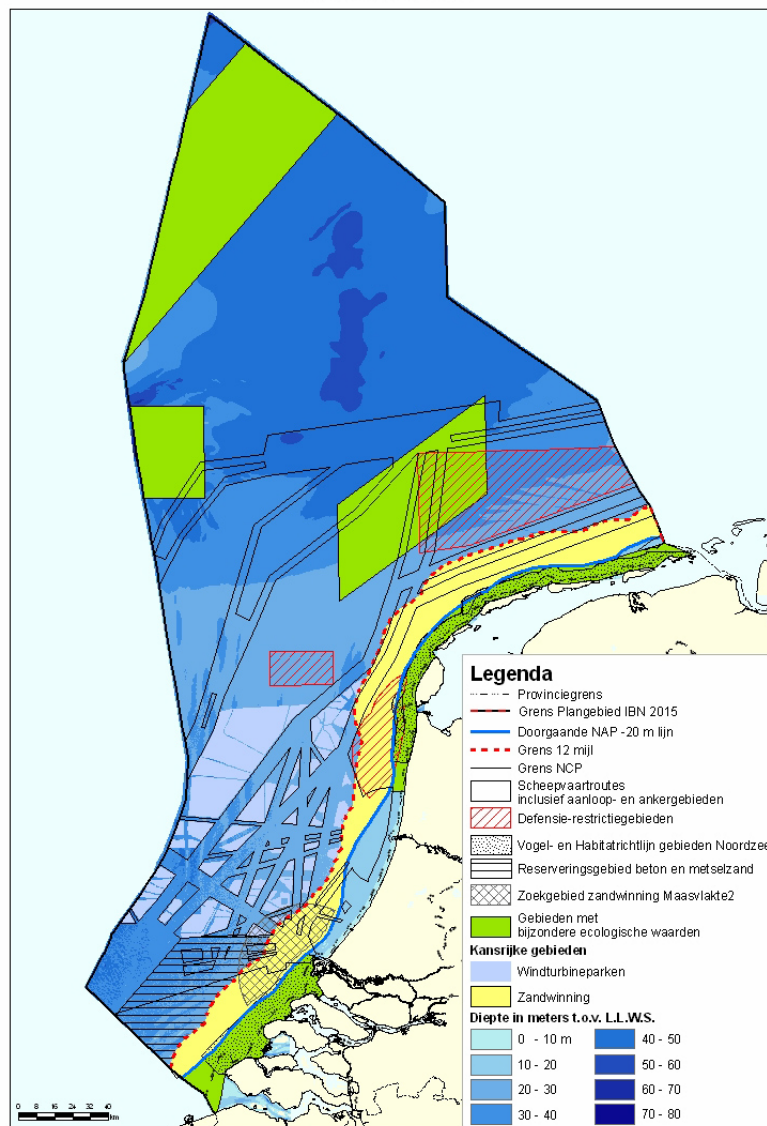
- ★ **Finland** "*cross-border cooperation in order to achieve common goals*".
- ★ **Netherlands** "*larger, cross-border projects (pipelines, wind farms) often call for common criteria and/or planning measures*".
- ★ **Belgium** "*different spatial plans have to be integrated with the plans of neighbouring countries*".
- ★ **Greece** "*cooperation of EU Member States - particularly those sharing the same maritime area*".
- ★ **Sweden** "*There is a need for increased cooperation between the Member States, especially around the same regional waters*".



Example – The Netherlands

- Integrated Management Plan North Sea 2015
- 3 themes: healthy, safe and profitable sea
- Co-production of 4 Ministries
- Stakeholder participation during the process
- Decision by council of Ministers and approved by Parliament

Overzichtskaart



Aan deze uitgave kunnen geen rechten worden ontleend.



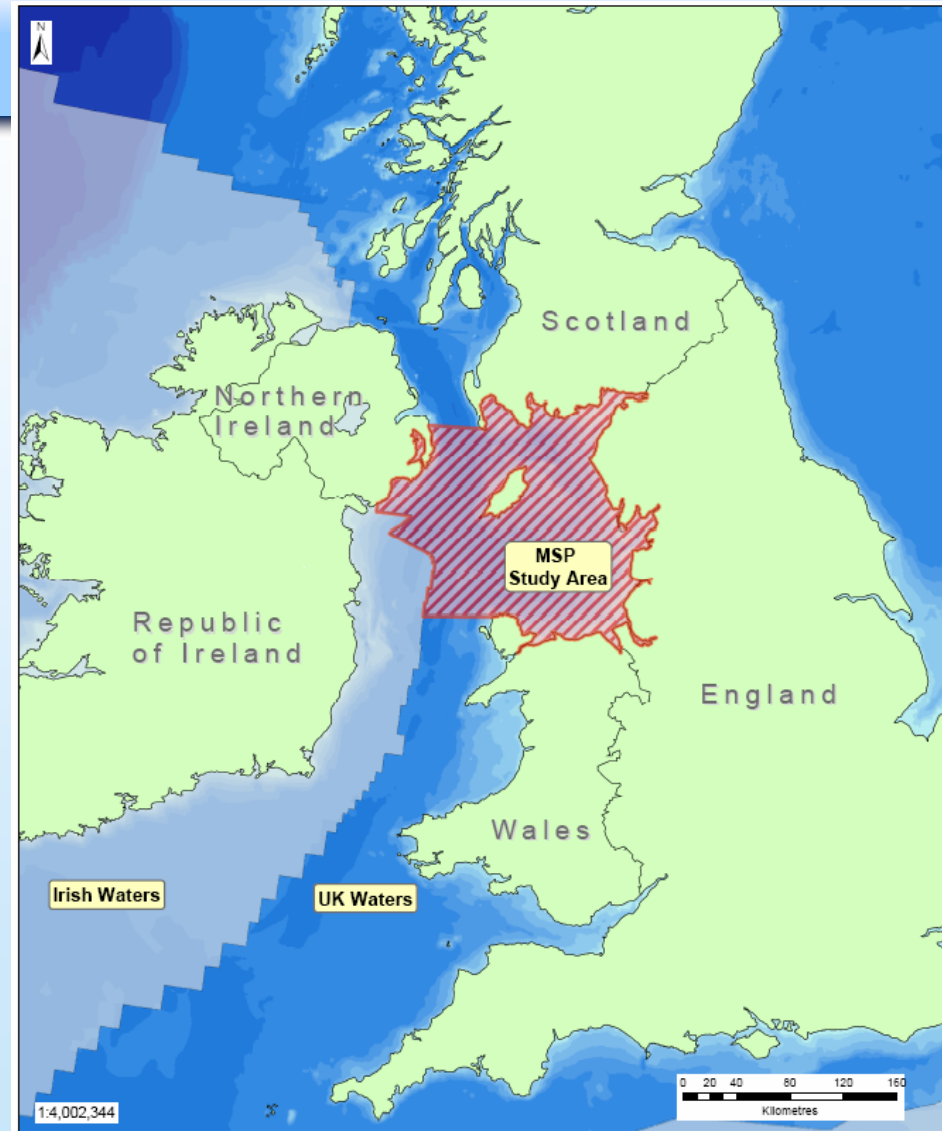
Example – Norway

- Integrated Management of the Marine Environment of the Barents Sea - Lofoten
- Particularly valuable and vulnerable areas that require special attention
- Plan establishes a framework for petroleum activity in the area until 2010 – revision of the plan by then
- In practice this means that oil and gas exploitation is temporarily halted in particularly sensitive areas outside the fisheries-rich Lofoten islands
- But: enough areas have been opened, however, to absorb the industry's capacity for exploration



Example – UK

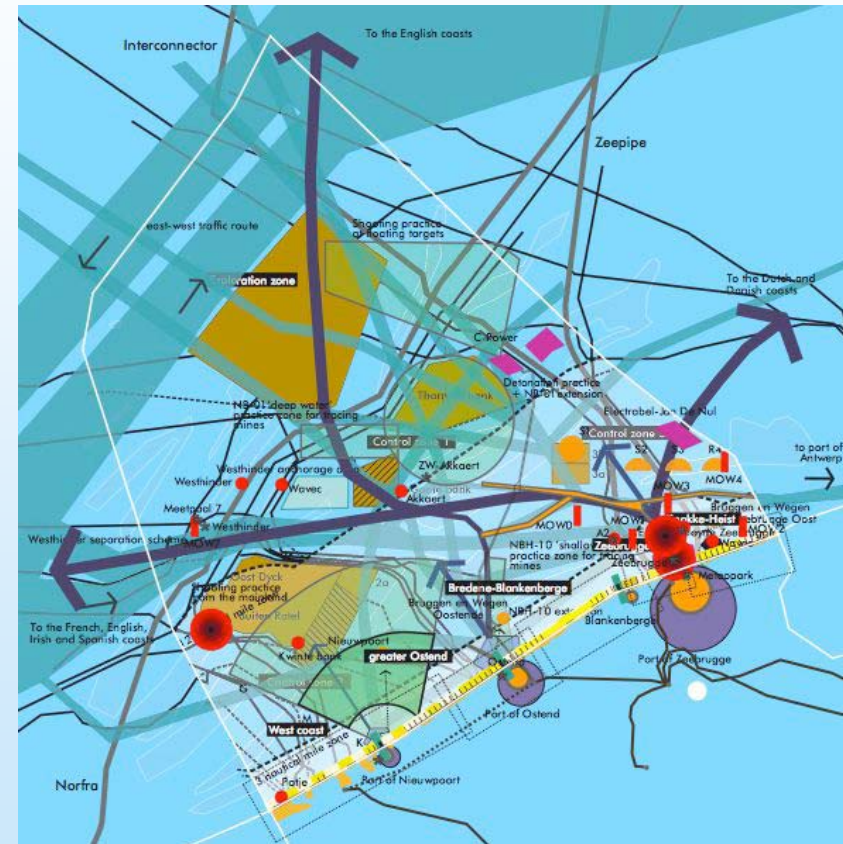
- Pilot project Irish Sea and preparation Marine Bill
- Simulated regional plan
- Practical issues being examined:
 - ✓ Information and data availability/quality
 - ✓ Boundary and scale of the plan
 - ✓ Managing the land-sea interface
 - ✓ how to ensure that all sectors are included
 - ✓ time horizon of the plan





Next Steps

- Continuation of stakeholder consultation – exchange of knowledge and best practice
- Study on legal aspects of data and surveillance as well as maritime spatial planning
- Development of road map to facilitate and encourage the further development of maritime spatial planning in 2008
- Examination of the needs and different options, including for zoning, in 2008





**Thank you
for your attention!**

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