

International Workshop
«Fostering Ocean Innovations»
Naples, September 4, 2023

International cooperation for cross-border, transboundary MSP

ENABLERS, GOOD PRACTICES, BARRIERS AND CHALLENGES

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WHAT IS A PRIORITY?

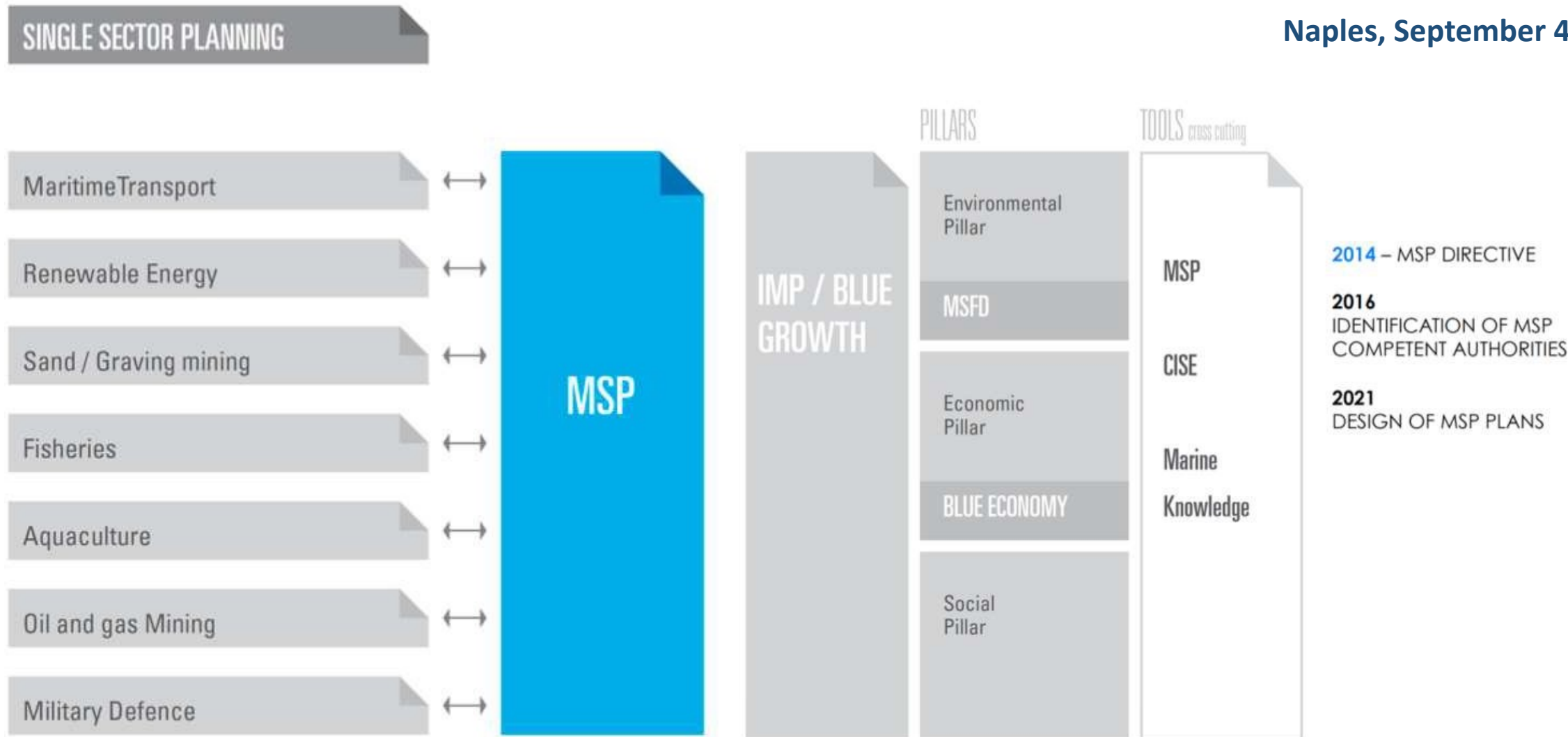
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- **Limit conflicts** between different sectors and create synergies between different activities.
- **Encourage investment** by ensuring predictability, transparency and clearer standards. This will help to strengthen the development of renewable energy sources and their networks, establish protected marine areas and facilitate investment in oil and gas.
- **Enhance coordination** among administrations in individual countries through the use of a single tool to reconcile the development of a range of maritime activities, ensuring greater simplicity and lower costs.
- **Increasing cross-border cooperation** between EU countries at wiring harness, pipelines, navigation routes, wind power plants, etc.
- **Protect the environment** by early detection of impact and opportunities for multipurpose use of space.



Source: EU, 2016

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Source: Elher_Douvere_2009

BARRIERS TO TRANSNATIONAL MSP

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1. Barriers relating to **power**: Who has the ultimate power to decide; who is involved in the negotiation process?
2. Barriers relating to **interests**: Are individual (state or stakeholder) interests best served by participation or non-participation in a cooperative approach?
3. Barriers relating to **capacity**: Political and functional readiness and ability to participate in a negotiation process or maritime spatial planning activities.

Power	Interests	Capacity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sovereignty • Governance level • Challenge to EU community • External states • Stakeholder engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criteria and weighting • Flexibility • Benefits • Approach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need / urgency • Timing • Monitoring • Data

Boundaries can be international, national, regional, or sub-national, and cooperation can therefore be both horizontal (across jurisdictions at the same level, such as between countries or provinces), or vertical (across jurisdictions at different levels of governance, such as between state and federal levels).

ENABLERS

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The idea of a common MSP framework has materialized through the adoption of the EU's 'MSP Directive', which requires Member States to develop maritime spatial plans by 2021 and establishes a set of minimum requirements for such MSP, including strengthened coherence and collaboration between countries

Main enablers and good practices in transboundary MSP.

Source: synthesis of enablers and good practices for transboundary MSP.

- Enhance role of existing transboundary networks
- Develop stronger participatory processes and tools
- Enhance convergence between policy and legislative arrangements
- Develop transboundary data and information
- Establish clear joint objectives

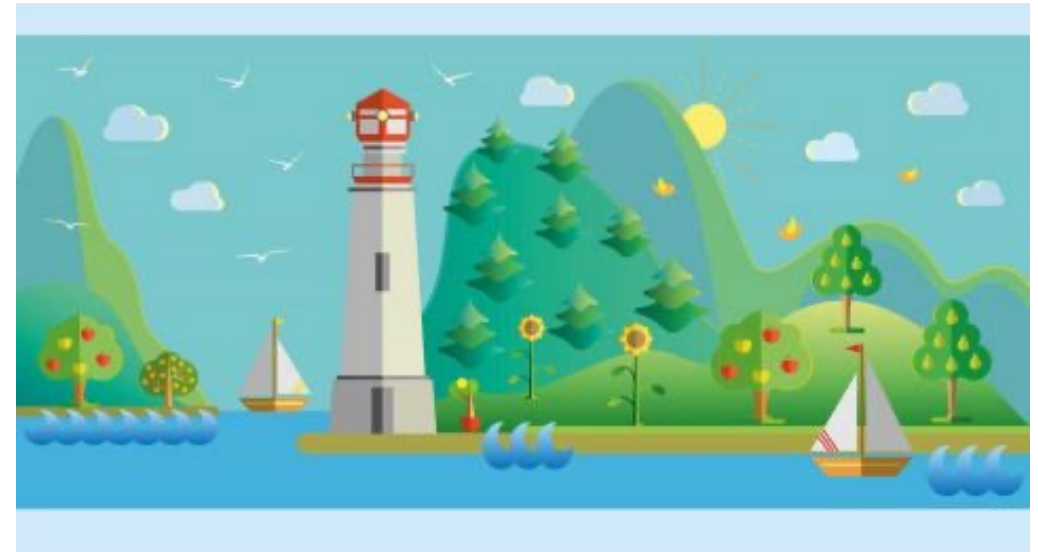


GOOD PRACTICES (1)

Supporting transboundaries MSP collaboration

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1. clear legal authority to undertake MSP
2. strong political leadership
3. adequate financing to complete at least a first round of MSP
4. effective stakeholder engagement throughout the MSP process
5. clear, measurable management objectives
6. use of best available information, including local and traditional knowledge, in the analysis phase of MSP



the practice of MSP is as much, often more, a social and political process, with major economic consequences, as it is a scientific and technical challenge. This conclusion has implications for cross-border collaboration in MSP and thinking through how best to address the priorities and challenges that lie ahead in a given marine area.

This overarching conclusion leads to the realization that most MSP initiatives are primarily political processes and that the usual limiting factor to effective MSP is the capacity to practice the ecosystem approach

GOOD PRACTICES (2)

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Given this context, good practices that encourage cross-border cooperation in MSP include the following.

- *Good practice 1: Invest in a deep understanding of the existing governance system*
- *Good practice 2: Invest time and resources during the MSP processes in building trust and a sense of common purpose among all parties involved*
- *Good practice 3: Adopt an issue-driven approach to MSP*
- *Good practice 4: Adopt a long-term perspective*
- *Good practice 5: Manage expectations for stakeholder involvement*
- *Good practice 6: Design monitoring and evaluation system that analyses program performance, learning and progress towards goals over the long-term*

FRAMEWORKS AND PLATFORMS



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The existing international MSP frameworks and platforms for the promotion of MSP that DG MARE could engage with include:

UN fora (global and regional)

1. UN-Oceans
2. UNESCO-IOC
3. Convention on Biological Diversity and the Sustainable Oceans Initiative (CBD-SOI)
4. 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and Sustainable Development Goal 14
5. UN Environment Regional Seas Programme
6. UN Environment Marine Spatial Planning in Practice Initiative
7. Regional Fisheries Management Organisations
8. UN Ocean sector-based agencies (FAO, IMO, ISA)

Non-UN regional platforms

1. World Ocean Council MSP Ocean Platform
2. World Economic Forum New Vision for the Ocean
3. The Economic Ocean and Economist World Ocean Summit
4. Regional platforms

GOOD PRACTICES (3)

Eight good practices from transboundary MSP initiatives

1. *Establish a coordination body respected by relevant MSP stakeholders*
2. *Establish a framework for facilitating transboundary dialogue and discussion among relevant MSP stakeholders*
3. *Facilitate learning about different MSP governance/planning systems and stakeholder interests*
4. *Adopt a fit-for-purpose approach to stakeholder engagement*
5. *Tools to facilitate transparent data sharing*
6. *Identify conflict and synergy areas across boundaries and sectors and establish clear joint objectives*
7. *Adopt an issue-driven approach and long-term perspective in finding solutions*
8. *Create a common understanding of key concepts and approaches*

M. Kull, et al., Marine Policy, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marpol.2019.03.005>



MSP OPPORTUNITIES

Sustainable Blue
Economy Partnership



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About

The Partnership boosts the transformation towards a climate-neutral, sustainable, productive and competitive blue economy. We aim to restore the ocean's health, resilience and services to people by enabling economic activity that is climate-neutral, sustainable and productive.

Vision

- by 2030: give the transformation towards a climate-neutral, sustainable, productive and competitive blue economy a boost
- by 2050: create and support the conditions for a healthy ocean for the people

Through this vision we work together to support key EU policy objectives of Green transition, digital transformation and recovery and ultimately contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals.

Intervention areas

Intervention Areas are set in the Annual Work Programme of the Partnership and are based on the [Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda](#) and the Member States and Associated Countries' priorities. Intervention Areas for future calls and activities will be developed according to an annual cycle.

Intervention areas 3

PLANNING AND MANAGING SEA-USES

Innovating the management of sea-uses by integrating tools and approaches of artificial intelligence-based Maritime Spatial Planning, maritime surveillance, and the seafloor in 4D.

CONCLUSIONS



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- **Most MSP initiatives are primarily political processes and that the usual limiting factor to effective MSP is the capacity to practice the ecosystem approach**
- *Address the priorities and challenges that lie ahead in a given marine area*
- *Data are a key factor - including local and traditional knowledge.*
- *Boundaries can be international, national, regional, or sub-national, and cooperation can therefore be both horizontal (across jurisdictions at the same level, such as between countries or provinces), or vertical (across jurisdictions at different levels of governance, such as between state and federal levels)..*
- *Harmonization between land and sea planning is another challenge to face in order to facilitate both coastal and marine spatial planning.*

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Thanks

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