

**OVERVIEW OF EU POLICIES FOR MARINE PLANNING
&
PROGRESS AROUND EUROPE**

**EDWARD HOLDAWAY
COASTAL & MARINE
WORKING GROUP**

A decorative graphic consisting of several overlapping, rounded shapes. A large green shape is on the left, overlapping a yellow shape that extends towards the right. Below these is a blue shape. In the bottom right corner, there are two smaller overlapping shapes, one yellow and one green.

THE EUROPARC FEDERATION CONTEXT

The strategy

“By 2012 there will be a thriving network of protected areas engaged in making the connection between land and sea and agreement on a set of principles for making the connection between land and sea in the planning and management of coastal protected areas”.

The Coastal & Marine Working Group

To raise awareness of and to develop and promote the vital role of Europe’s protected areas in the conservation of the coastal and environment and their contribution to its wider planning and management.

THE INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT [1]

Convention on Biological Diversity [1992]
World Summit on Sustainable Development [2002]
Vth World Parks Congress [2003]
IUCN Marine Programme
Regional Seas Programmes – OSPAR, HELCOM etc

emphasis on:

Ecosystem approach
Halting the loss of biodiversity – 2010 target
Establishing a network of marine protected areas - 2012 target

THE INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT [2]

World Heritage Convention

Man & Biosphere Programme – Biosphere Reserves

Ramsar Convention

Focus on special areas

but

Look to an integrated approach across the land sea divide

EUROPEAN CONTEXT [1]

State of the European Coastline

Key messages from the EEA Report in 2006

- **Coastal zone under great pressure from development**
- **Inter-tidal and coastal areas not highly valued in their natural state**
- **Build up of pressure on coastal & marine environments stems from the fragmented approach to planning and management**

THE EUROPEAN CONTEXT [2]

The State of the European coastline

Pressures and drivers for change in the coastal & marine environment

Climate change	Fisheries & aquaculture
Agriculture & forestry change	Energy exploitation and distribution
Urbanisation & infrastructure	Pollution
Tourism development & activity	shipping
Recreation development & activity	Sand & gravel extraction

A familiar list affecting both land and sea

EUROPEAN CONTEXT [3]

EU Sustainable Development Strategy 2001

- **Biodiversity a key element**
- **Protected area designation under Natura 2000 a key tool**

EU 6th Environmental Action Programme 2002 – 12

- **Environmental component of the SD Strategy**
- **Environmental protection into all EU policies & strategies**
- **Introduces Thematic Strategy for the Marine Environment**
- **Natura 2000 a key tool**
- **Marine protected areas a priority**

EUROPEAN CONTEXT [4]

Biodiversity strategy & action plan

**“Communication on halting the loss of biodiversity
by 2010 and beyond”
[Adopted in 2006]**

- **Safeguarding EU’s most important habitats and species a key objective – using Natura 2000 network**
- **Marine elements – to be completed by 2008 and with management priorities & measures in place by 2012**
- **The wider marine environment to be protected via the Thematic Strategy for the Marine Environment – directive adopted 2008**
- **Takes account of existing international commitments towards establishing network of marine protected areas – CBD + OSPAR + HELCOM etc**

EUROPEAN CONTEXT [5]

EU Integrated Maritime Policy 2007

- **National Integrated Maritime policies to be prepared**
- **EU Guidelines due in 2008 – ecosystem approach underpins process**
- **Roadmap towards Marine Spatial Planning – published 2008**
- **Strategy for mitigating climate change on coastal regions**
- **European Marine observation and data network**
- **Visibility of maritime Europe – European Marine Day**

EUROPEAN CONTEXT [6]

Thematic Strategy on the Marine Environment [2005] & Marine Strategy Directive [2008]

- **Establishes a framework for achieving or maintaining good environmental status in the marine environment by 2020**
- **The preparation and implementation of strategies by member states is the key mechanism**
- **The ecosystem approach to the management of human activities is to be applied – i.e. collective pressure of human activity to be kept at levels compatible with good environmental status**
- **Co-operative approach**
- **Marine Strategy Framework Directive agreed in June 2008 – sets out basis for strategies**
- **Consistent with the Water Framework Directive**

EUROPEAN CONTEXT [7]

Marine Strategy Directive

Marine Regions – the basis for planning

- **Baltic**
- **NE Atlantic Ocean – Greater N Sea inc Kattegat & English Channel; Celtic Seas; Bay of Biscay & Iberian Coast**
- **Mediterranean Sea – Western Med; Adriatic; Ionian & Central Med; Aegean – Levantine Sea**
- **Black Sea**

**Co-operation between member states
is expected at this level**

EUROPEAN CONTEXT [8]

Marine Strategy Directive

Strategy preparation – milestones

- **By 2012 – initial assessment of current environmental status**
- **By 2012 – determination of what is deemed good environmental status for each region**
- **By 2012 – establish environmental targets and indicators**
- **By 2014 – establish & implement monitoring programme**
- **By 2015 – development of programme of measures to achieve /maintain good environmental status**
- **By 2016 – programme of measures to be in operation**
- **By 2020 – achievement of good environmental status**

EUROPEAN CONTEXT [9]

Marine Strategy Directive

Strategy preparation - Programme of measures

- **Must give consideration to sustainable development**
- **Must include spatial protection measures contributing to a coherent & representative network of marine protected areas**
- **By 2013 must publish a list of areas where spatial protection is necessary**
- **May identify or provide for administrative framework**

EUROPEAN CONTEXT [10]

Natura 2000

- **The network of areas designated for their significance in Europe under the Habitats [1992] and Birds [1979] Directives**
- **Key tool in delivering the conservation of natural habitats and wildlife species which are rare, endangered or vulnerable in the EU**
- **Where a site includes sea or seashore known as a European Marine Site**
- **By Dec 2008 533 marine SPAs [66,913 km²] and 1312 marine SACs [92,893 km²] designated - management schemes required**

EUROPEAN CONTEXT [11]

EU recommendation on ICZM

Principles

- **Take a wide ranging view of inter-related problems**
- **Base decisions on good data and information**
- **Try to work with natural forces**
- **Allow for unseen future developments**
- **Involve all stakeholders and all relevant parts of the administration**
- **Make use of a range of instruments**

Strategies

- **Each coastal member state to prepare a strategy by 2006**

EUROPEAN CONTEXT [12]

EU recommendation on ICZM **[adopted 2002 reviewed 2007]**

- **Integration not ignored – member states preparing strategies**
- **Recent review found increased awareness but slow up take of principles**
- **Greater emphasis needed on integration across land-sea divide**
- **Review has ruled out a legislative basis for ICZM for the time being**

EUROPEAN CONTEXT [13]

European Landscape Convention

Definition of landscape

“an area as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and /or human factors” Article 1.

n.b. includes land, inland water and marine areas

A possible definition of seascape

“an area of sea, coastline and land as perceived by people, whose character results from the actions and interactions of land with sea, by natural or human factors”

SUMMARY OF EUROPEAN DIMENSION

- **The ecosystem approach to ensure conservation of biodiversity and sustainable use of resources is now centre stage**
- **Natura 2000 provides a mechanism for protecting the best sites in Europe**
- **The Marine Strategy Directive provides a mechanism for achieving good environmental status for the marine environment**
- **The Maritime Strategy represents an important first step towards an integrated approach and to the development of marine spatial planning, but.....not obligatory**
- **The ICZM recommendation provides an informal framework for integration but.....not obligatory**
- **The ELC provides the opportunity for wider thinking about the environment – more than biodiversity**

PROGRESS IN EUROPE

Roadmap for Marine Spatial Planning

Emerging principles

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Ecosystem approach is overarching•Use MSP according to area & type of activity•Define objectives to guide MSP•Develop MSP in a transparent manner•Stakeholder participation•Co-ordination within member States | <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Ensuring legal effect of national MSP•Cross-border co-operation and consultation•Incorporating monitoring & evaluation in plan process•Achieving coherence between terrestrial & maritime spatial planning•A strong data & knowledge base |
|--|--|

PROGRESS IN EUROPE

MSP in its infancy

<p>Germany</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MSP prompted by wind energy development• Plans for EEZ in north Sea & Baltic in draft 2007 prepared by Federal Government• Mecklenburg – Vorpommern [Baltic] extension of land plans into territorial sea. M-V plan allocates areas e.g. for wind farms, nature protection & sand/gravel extraction	<p>Sweden</p> <p>Report of Marine Environment Inquiry published in 2008: no national objectives in coastal & territorial waters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• proposes new marine planning system• based on ecosystem approach• fixed zones for use and protection• Regional Government to plan coastal & territorial waters
<p>UK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Irish Sea Pilot leading to:• Legislation for new marine planning system by end of 2009 = High level Objectives + Marine Policy Statement + Marine Spatial Plan• New Marine Management Organisation for England & UK waters	<p>Belgium</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Masterplan being implemented incrementally since 2003• zoning system for sand/gravel extraction with rotation of areas• will cover protection of marine shipwrecks [for archaeological, biodiversity & ecological interests] & marine component of terrestrial protected areas

PROGRESS IN EUROPE

MSP in its infancy

<p>Netherlands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2005 Integrated plan for Dutch part of the North Sea = spatial planning framework• National Water Plan in preparation, including North Sea area	<p>France</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• focus on marine protected areas• Marine Protected Areas Agency created in 2006• Marine Natural Parks – first one is off Brittany: Mer d'Iroise
<p>Portugal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• National Strategy for the Seas [2006]• integrates sectoral policies• defines principles for MSP & ICZM	<p>Wadden Sea</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trilateral Wadden Sea Co-operation between Denmark, Germany & Netherlands

PROGRESS IN EUROPE

MSP in its infancy

<p>Baltic Sea - Helcom</p> <p>Focus on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overall strategy for the Baltic• Establishing MPAs• MSP a key part of action plan	<p>Baltic Sea – Balance Project</p> <p>Interreg project focussing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• tools for cross-sector & trans-national approach to MSP• advice on Zoning, GIS & stakeholder engagement
<p>Mediterranean</p> <p>Focus on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ICZM – protocol 2008• establishment of MPAs• Plancoast project	

SOME CONCLUSIONS

1. An exciting time:

- new spatial planning arrangements are being put in place
- networks of marine MPAs are being developed – many adjacent to the coast

2. New challenges, especially for coastal PAs:

- understanding their place in the marine environment- why they special and what needs to be done to protect them
- influencing the development of the new planning arrangements
- engaging with the new planning arrangements
- new ways of working to secure integration
- development of new techniques
- means for sharing experience