

Towards coherent maritime spatial planning in the Baltic Sea Region, transnational and project perspective

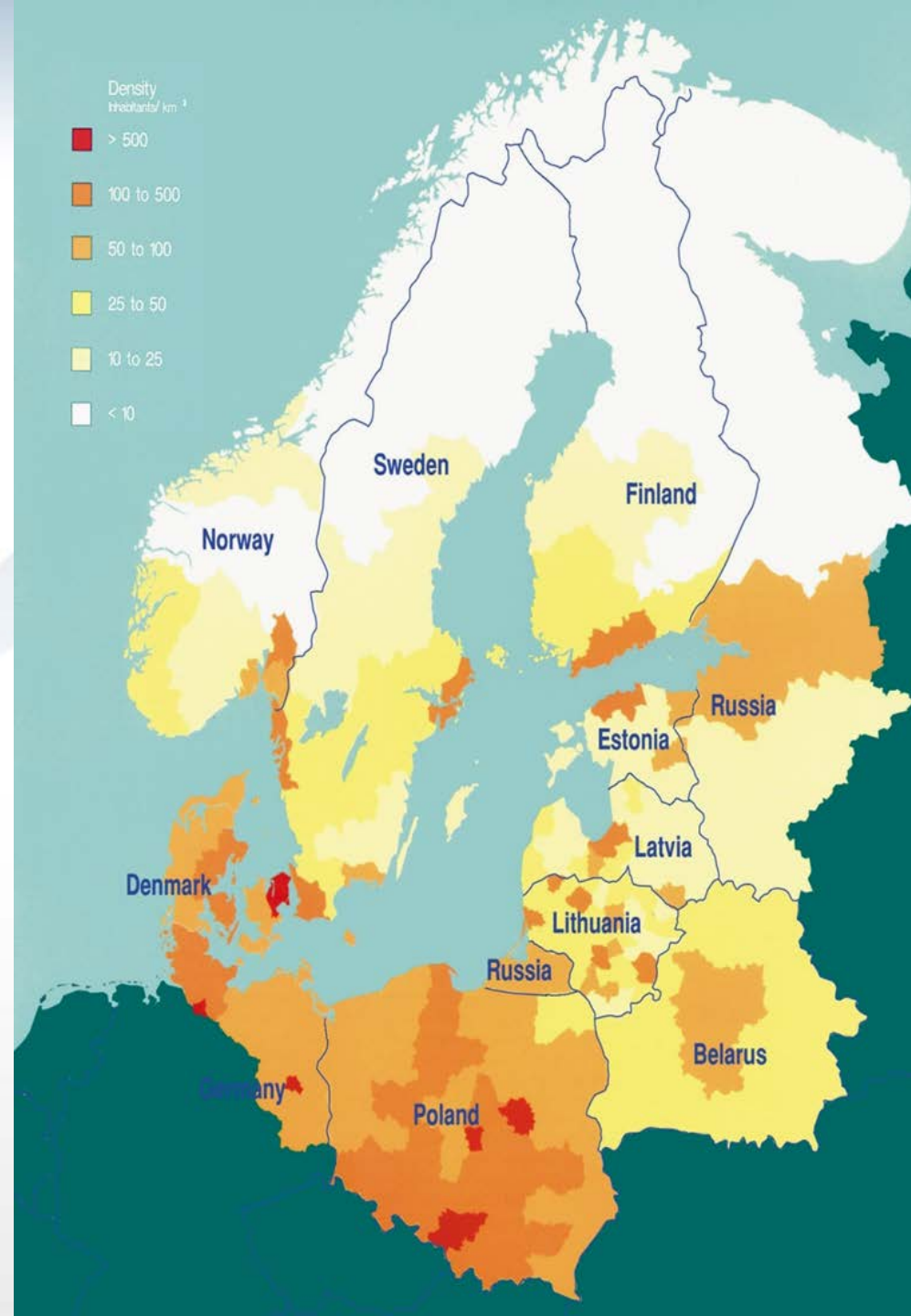
Talis Linkaits
Head of VASAB Secretariat

3 June 2013 Riga
PartiSEApate Workshop
*MSP as Tool for Underwater Cultural Heritage
Management in the Baltic Sea*

**A cooperation of ministers of the
11 Baltic Sea Region countries
responsible for spatial planning and
development**

Organization

**Intergovernmental network
founded in 1992
to promote cooperation on spatial
planning and development
in the Baltic Sea Region**



Mission

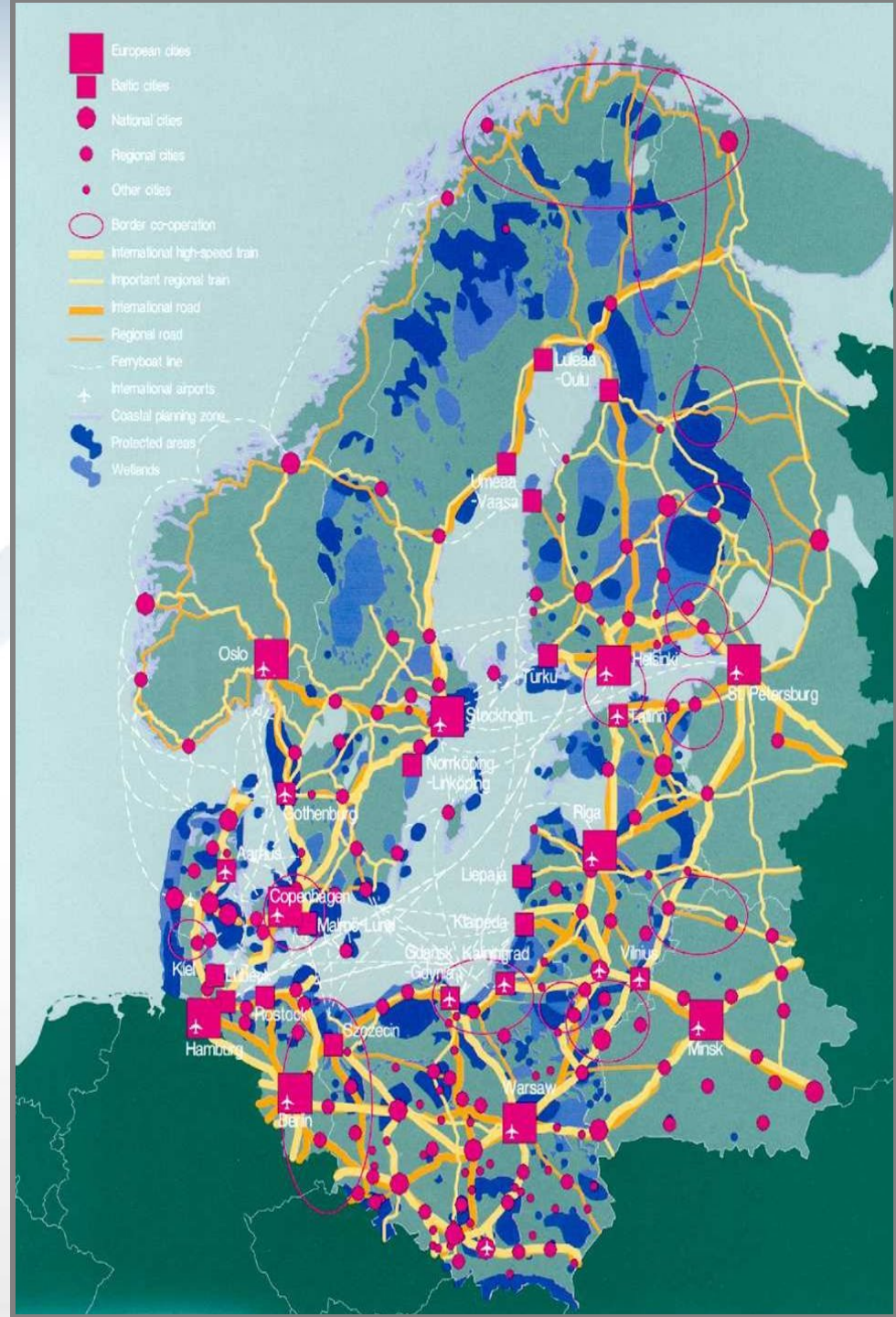
Prepare policy options for the territorial development of the Region and to provide a forum for exchange of know-how on spatial planning and development between the Baltic Sea countries

Organization

Since 1994 ministers are supported by Committee on Spatial Planning and Development in the Baltic Sea Region (CSPD/BSR) and permanent secretariat

Since 2007

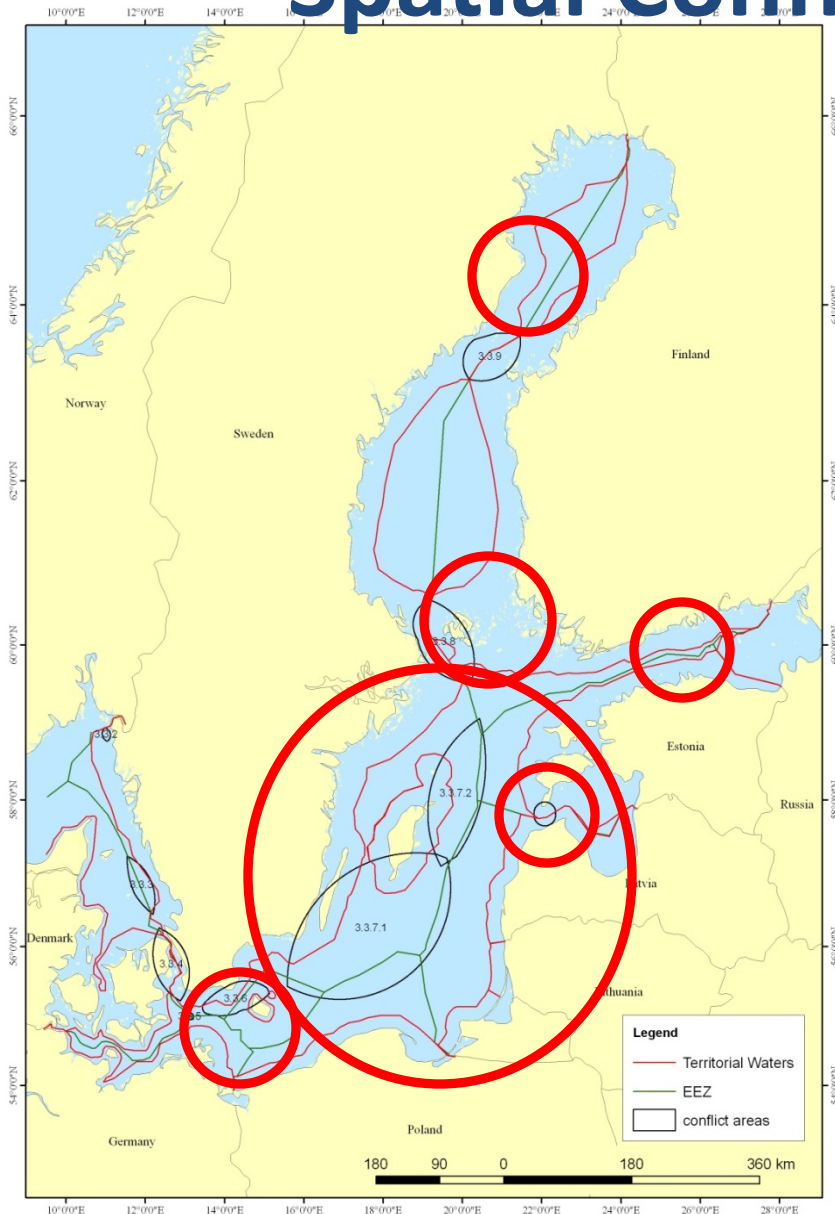
VASAB Secretariat located in Latvia



VASAB “coastal” history

- 
- 1992** Karlskrona Conference - VASAB first steps
 - 1994** Tallinn Conference
 - 1996** Stockholm Conference
 - 2001** Palanga seminar - BALTCOAST kick-off meeting
 - 2001** Wismar Conference
 - 2002** BALTCOAST project
 - 2005** Gdansk Conference – Recommendations on ICZM and sea use planning

Spatial Conflict Zones in Baltic Sea



The Bornholm Gut (Bornholmsgattet)

Conflicts between increasing transit shipping (high risk area for maritime accidents), fishery, pipeline infrastructure,

Offshore area south and east of Öland and Gotland

Conflicts between increasing transit shipping (high risk area for maritime accidents), fishery, nature protection (Natura 2000 areas), development of wind-energy installations, pipeline infrastructure, military remaining

The Åland Sea

Conflicting interests in the whole area between shipping, defence, nature protection, outdoor life and wind power development

The Northern Kvark (Norra Kvarken)

Conflicting interests in the whole area between shipping, defence, fishery, nature protection

Baltic Proper and the Irbe Strait zone of Latvia

Conflicting interests in the whole area between increased shipping, nature protection, undersea cultural heritage

The area between Helsinki and Tallinn

Crossing ship traffic is such a huge risk in that particular area

VASAB Vilnius Declaration

2009

- **A common Baltic approach for MSP should be discussed and tools and methods of such planning developed**
- **Ministers encourage.. to promote the introduction and development of MSP in the Region. A close cooperation with HELCOM and with other actors is essential.**
- **Endorse VASAB Long Term Perspective for the Territorial Development of the Baltic Sea Region**



Profile of the LTP

- LTP concentrates on policy themes, where **transnational cooperation in spatial planning** provides a clear added value: **(1)** urban networking and urban-rural relations, **(2)** accessibility, and **(3)** sea space planning and management
- LTP particularly addresses **territorial disparities** in the field of socio-economic development (east-west, north-south, urban-rural divides)
- LTP is **complementary** to transnational actions of other organisations (no duplication of efforts intended)
- LTP a combination of **policy** and **(22) actions** (involving many stakeholders)

Long Term Perspective

Territorial cohesion perspective of the Baltic Sea Region in 2030

It is a veritable European sea macroregion, which demonstrates an integrated land and sea-space planning and management.

The Baltic Sea is acknowledged as a common asset and a development resource of all countries, and the maritime spatial planning principles alleviate the potential sea use conflicts for the present and future generations.

Long Term Perspective

Actions

- **Develop a common approach for Baltic Sea Maritime Spatial Planning**
- **Prepare and implement demonstration projects for some Baltic Sea areas of severe use conflicts**
- **Initiate joint capacity building actions in maritime spatial planning to ensure exchange of experience, promote education availability and to increase competence**

VASAB

Long-Term Perspective for the Territorial Development of the Baltic Sea Region

2030

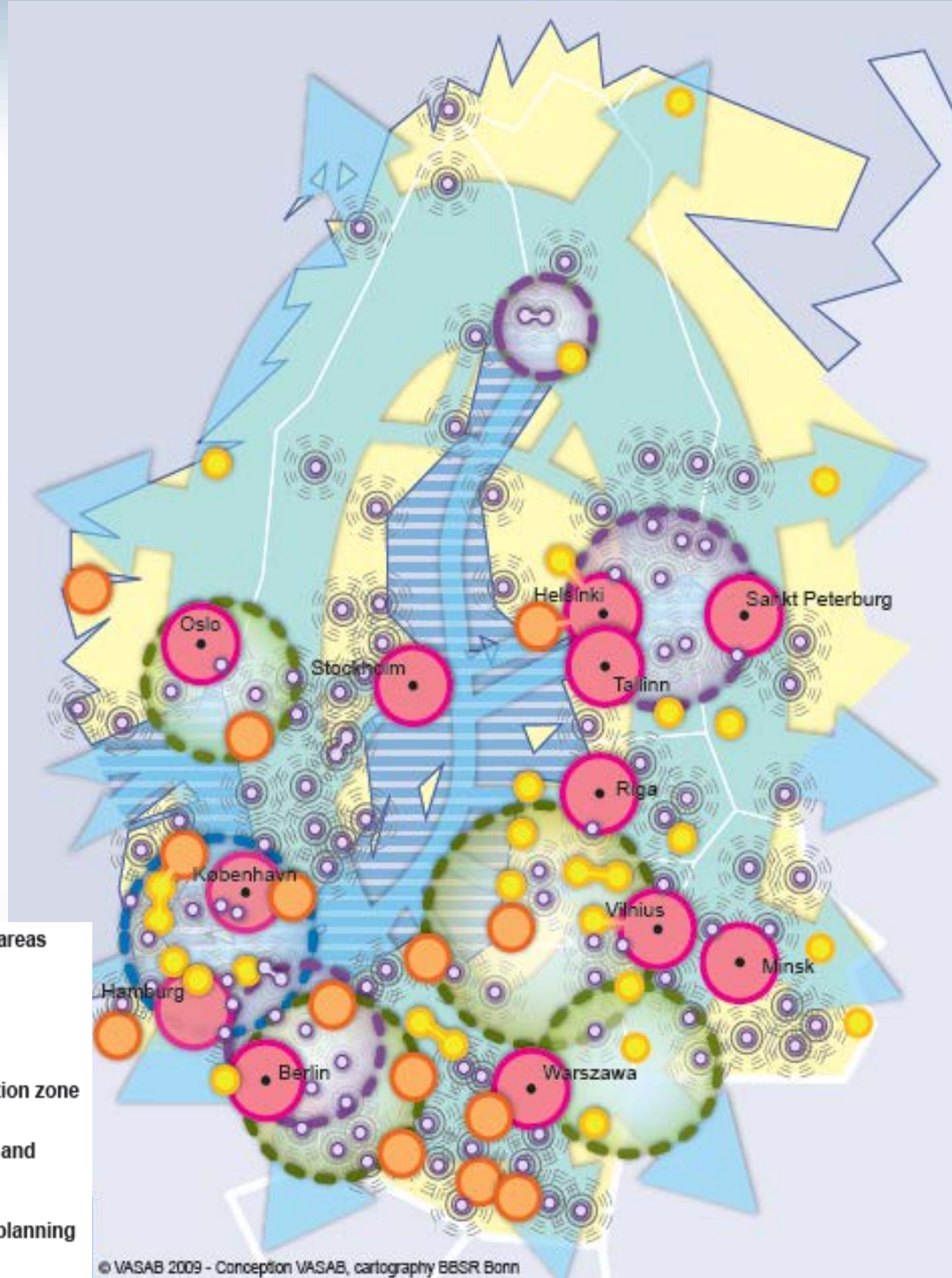
Functional profile of urban regions and centres *

-  Global gateway with prominent R&D and knowledge intensive business services
-  BSR gateway with well developed R&D and knowledge intensive business services
-  Urban region in process of metropolisation with growing globally linked R&D and knowledge intensive services
-  Regional development centre providing high quality services to residents in the surrounding area
-  Bi-polar and multipolar urban development

* Urban regions as defined in the report 'Towards an Integrated Baltic Sea Region', Nordregio, Stockholm 2008

Cross-border cluster cooperation areas

-  Existing
-  Potential
-  Cross border global integration zone
-  Integrated transport system and international links
-  Integrated maritime spatial planning



HELCOM

Baltic Sea Action Plan

- Jointly develop **by 2010**, as well as test, apply and evaluate **by 2012** in cooperation with other relevant bodies, broad-scale cross-sectoral, marine spatial planning principles based on ecosystem approach
- Endorse Recommendation 28E/9 on development of broad scale marine spatial planning principles in the Baltic Sea area

Joint Efforts in MSP

- Joint VASAB-HELCOM MSP WG established **in 2010**
- Baltic Sea
Broad-Scale MSP principles adopted
- Legislative base for MSP
- Ecosystem-approach in MSP
- ICZM practices in the Region
- Knowledge exchange on good practices in MSP
- Minimum requirements for MSP in the Region
- Roadmap by 2020



Baltic Sea MSP Principles

1. Sustainable Management
2. Ecosystem Approach
3. Long Term Perspective and Objectives
4. Precautionary Principle
5. Participation and Transparency
6. High Quality Data and Information Basis
7. Transnational Coordination and Consultation
8. Coherent Terrestrial and Maritime Spatial Planning
9. Planning Adaptive to Characteristic and Spatial Conditions at different Areas
10. Continuous Planning

VASAB and HELCOM are Horizontal Action Leaders

Encourage the use of Maritime Spatial Planning in all Member States around the Baltic Sea and develop a common approach for cross-border cooperation

EU BSR Strategy



- **EU BSR Strategy** contains key territorial development issues, such as promoting land-based and maritime spatial planning as horizontal actions
- **Strategy** has overall political weight, but RU is not included
- Member States set indicators and **targets** for its implementation:
 - ***By 2020 drawing up and application of trans-boundary eco-system based MSP plans through-out the Region***
 - ***By 2013 at least one MSP pilot plan created through a joint trans-boundary process***



MSP and ICM proposal

*Proposal
for a Directive
of the European Parliament and of the council
establishing a framework
for
maritime spatial planning and integrated coastal
management
(COM(2013) 133 FINAL)*

Objectives of MSP and ICMS (Article 5)

P Promote sustainable growth and sustainable use of resources

Application of an ecosystem-based approach in plans/strategies to facilitate co-existence and prevent conflicts between sectorial activities and contribute to achieving goals of EU policies: *Energy, Maritime transport, Fisheries and aquaculture, Environment, Climate change*





Article 6. Common minimum requirements for plans and strategies

1. Establish operational steps to achieve the objectives.
2. In doing so plans and strategies shall ensure
 - Coordination between MSP and ICMS;
 - Trans-boundary cooperation between MS;
 - Effective cooperation between national authorities and stakeholders of the relevant sector policies;
 - Identification of the trans-boundary effects of MSP and ICMS.
3. Review every six years.



Articles 7 and 8. Specific minimum requirements for MSP and ICM

MSP: Contain a mapping of marine waters which identifies the spatial and temporal distribution of all relevant activities.

ICM:

- Inventory of existing measures applied in coastal zones
- Analysis of the need for additional actions
- Integrated and cross-sectoral policy implementation
- Interactions between terrestrial and maritime activities

▷ *Relevant activities are listed in articles 7 and 8 (non-exhaustive)*

Present Developments

- **Intense discussions on the EC Proposal on Directive for MSP/ICM on-going**
- **Member States have different positions on the proposal as their experiences show that countries can agree, even in more matters than the proposal requests**
- **Cooperation on MSP and ICM in the Baltic Sea Region is actively taking place (preparation for VASAB, HELCOM Ministerial conferences; bi-, multilateral projects among countries; national spatial planning initiatives; etc.)**

Pilot Projects

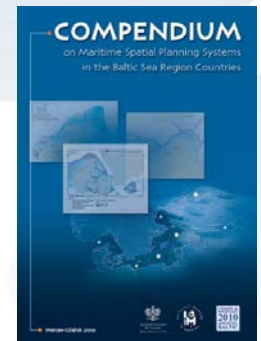
2002 BALTCOAST: examples on plans and recommendations for planning



2004/5 Mecklenburg-Vorpommern and Niedersachsen adopt plans covering territorial sea

2007 VASAB WG on sea use planning and ICZM

2009 Germany adopts plans for Exclusive Economic Zone
VASAB Compendium on MSP in BSR countries



BaltSeaPlan: January 2009 – January 2012

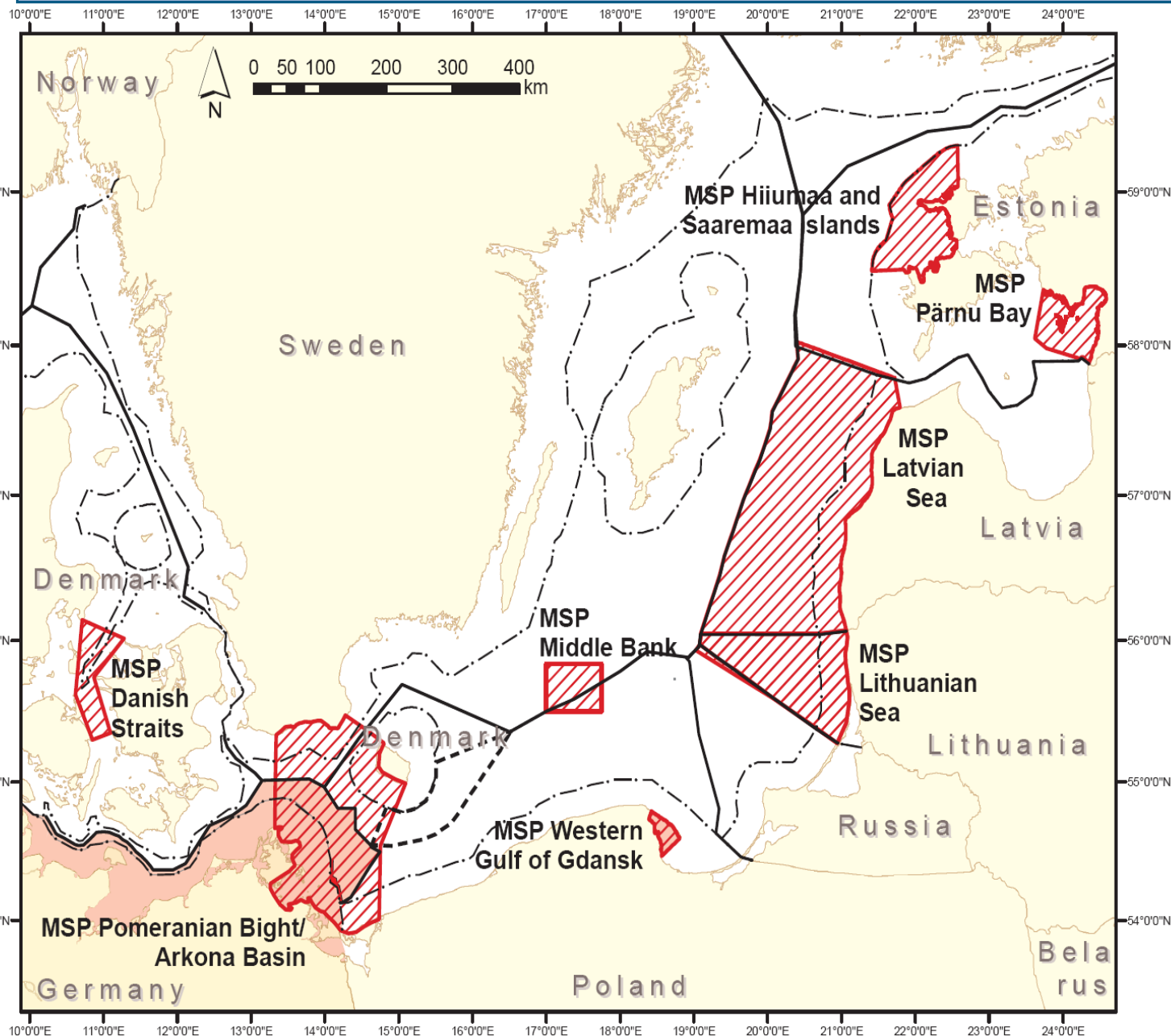


Plan Bothnia: December 2010 – June 2012



PartiSEApate: September 2012 – September 2014

MSP Pilot Projects - Overview Pilot Areas



Pilot Project Areas

- Pilot Project Areas 1 - 8
- MSP in effect or in leg. proced.

Boundaries

- Territorial Sea
- Continental Shelf/EEZ *
- International Boundary
- unclear legal status (PL and DK)

* no guarantee for EEZ boundaries shown - different sources show different delimitations causing inconsistencies regarding the pilot project outlines

Map Projection:
Mercator (54°N), WGS 84
BSH - 06.04.2010



Vision 2030

Towards the sustainable planning of Baltic Sea space

Key principles allocating sea spaces:

- **Pan-Baltic thinking:** «Think Baltic, act regionally»:
Long-term objectives first: focus on long-term sustainability objectives, specified for environment, economy and social sphere
- **Spatial efficiency-** some spaces declared no-go areas to be kept free of all users, which can be for environmental, cultural and resources related reasons
- **Connectivity thinking**

Key transnational topics – a healthy marine environment 2030 – i.a. transnationally agreed criteria are applied to protect key cultural assets in the sea, such as marine archaeology or immaterial values (e.g. beauty of the seascape)



- **Environmental Report for the MSP in the German EEZ** in the Baltic Sea i.a. includes tangible assets, cultural heritage (archaeology), analysis of effects of uses on the subject of protection tangible assets, **cultural heritage** and development of the subject of protection tangible assets, cultural heritage in the event that the plan is not implemented
- Polish experience from the project ‘Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Western Gulf of Gdansk’ - assessment of the cumulative effects of environmental impacts of the Plan’s solutions was done in the six main groups describing the character of functioning of the area (transport accessibility, national defence, economical activities, protection of people and property on land, nature protection, protection of cultural and material heritage).

- EU funded MSP “preparatory action”
- Maritime planning cooperation between Sweden and Finland
- Aim to produce a pilot plan for whole Bothnian Sea
- Lead by HELCOM, SE-FIN authorities partners, involvement of regions
- Additional output: Minimum Requirements for MSP in the Region

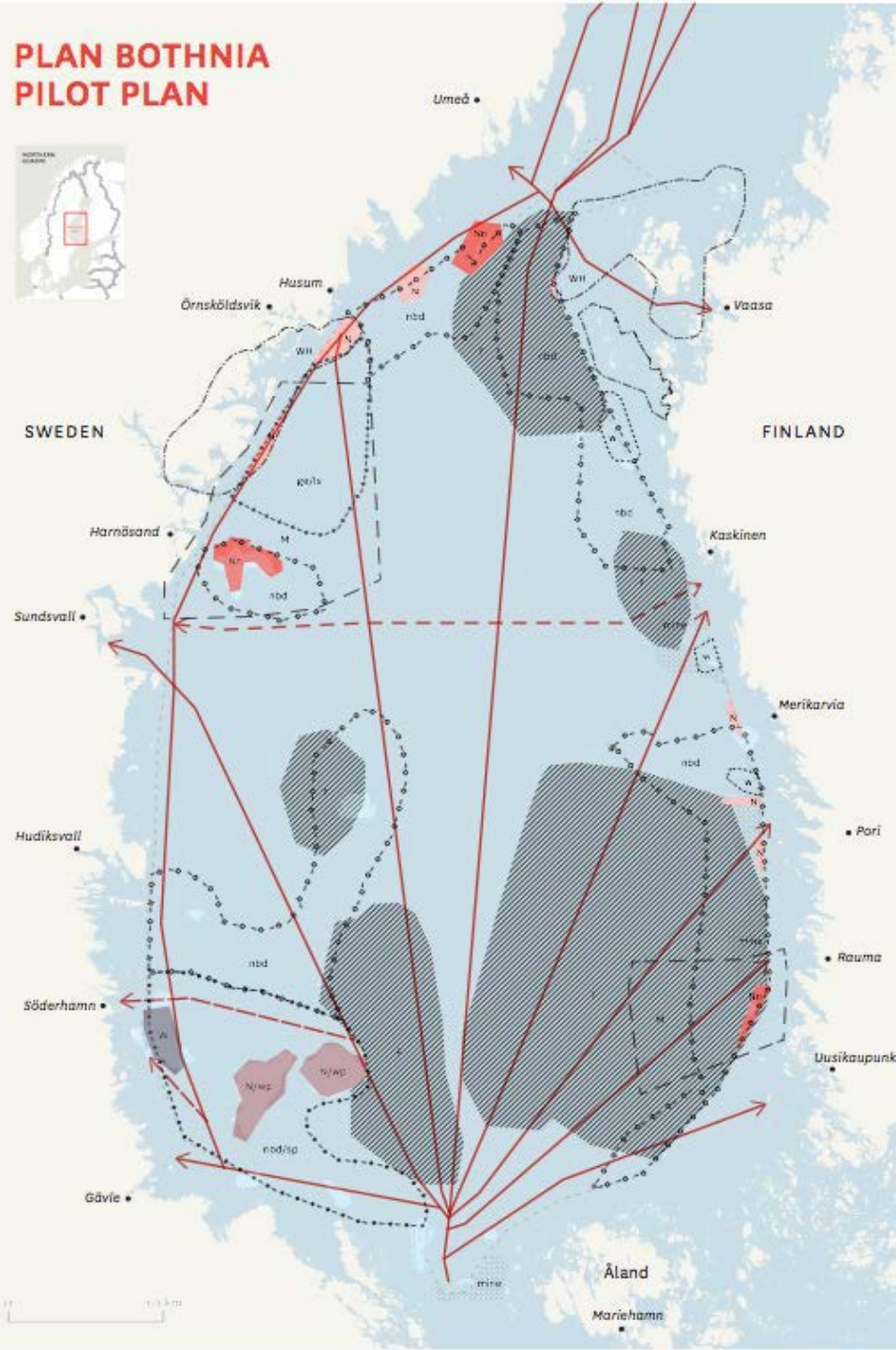
www.planbothnia.org

PLAN BOTHNIA

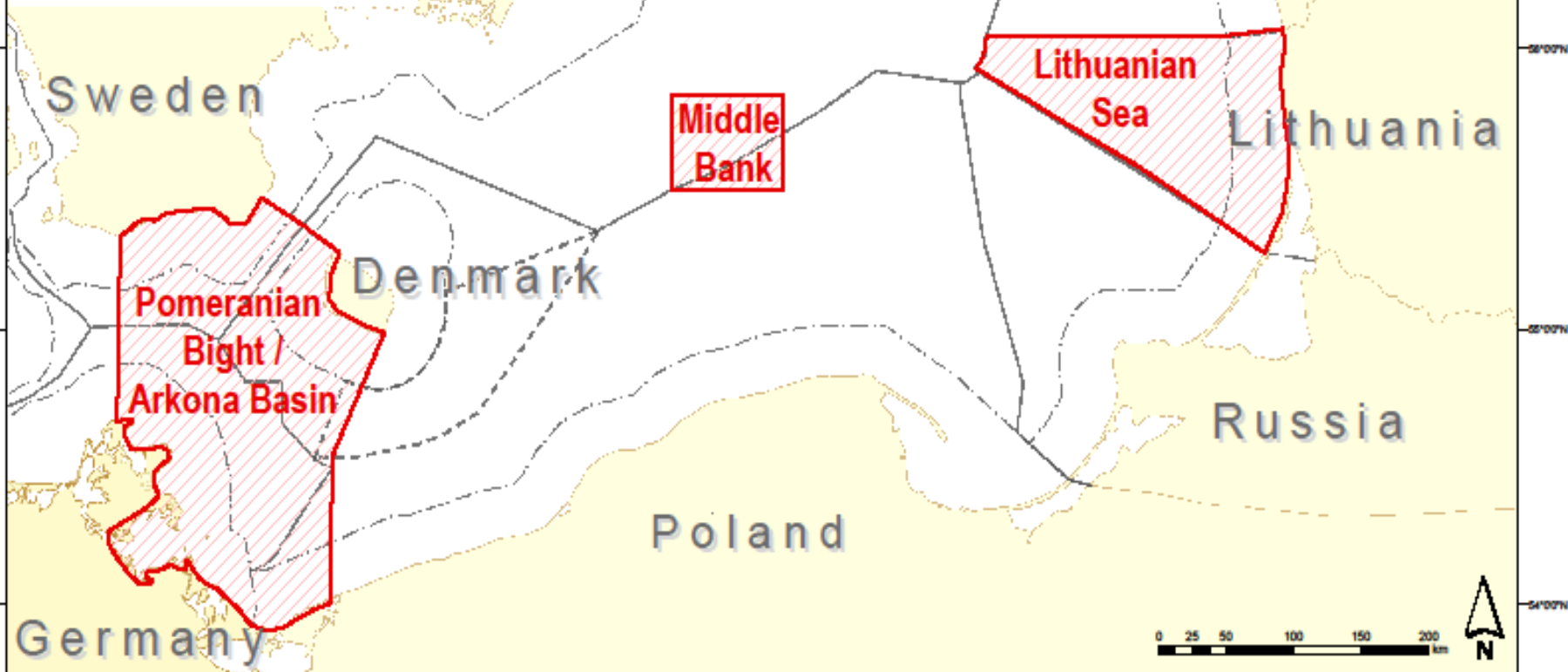
Bothnian Sea-
the “PLAN BOTHNIA”
MSP project
focus area



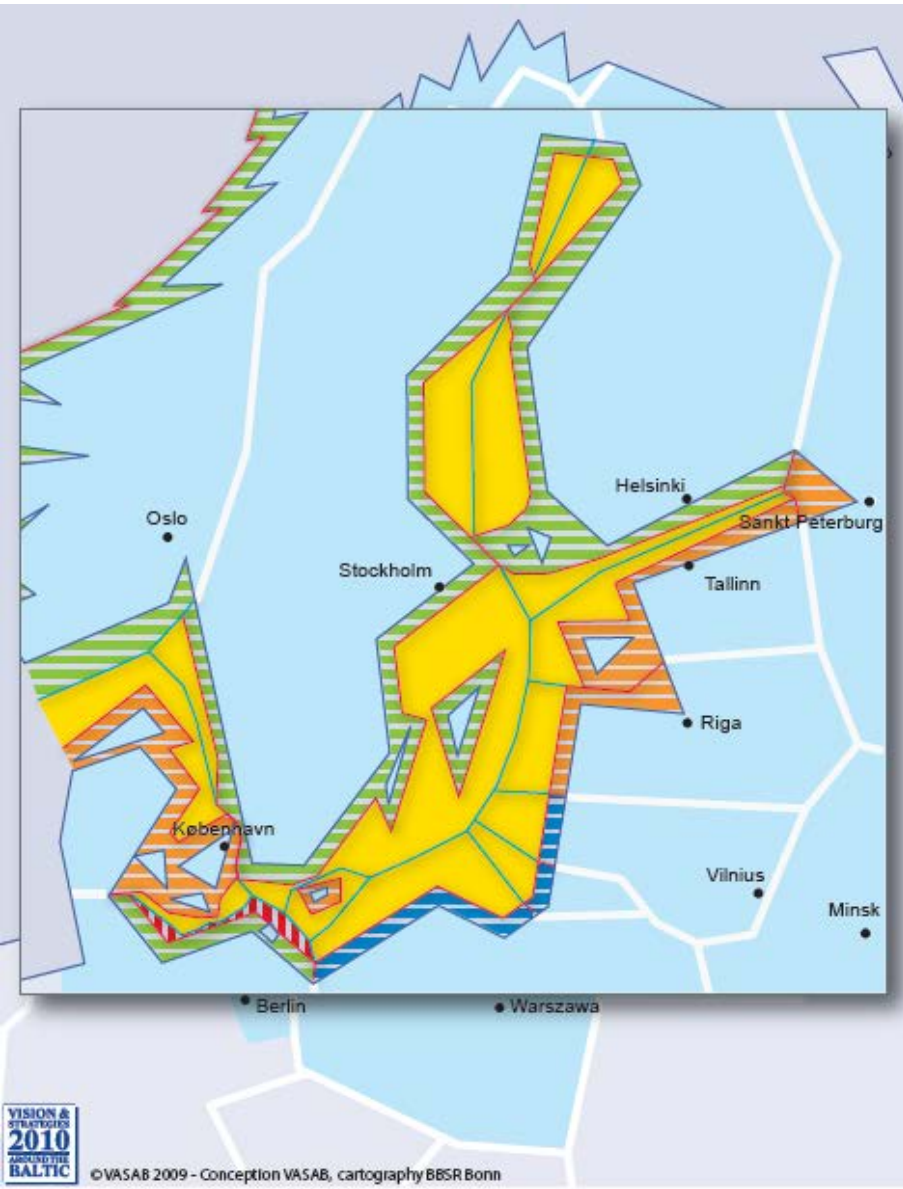
PLAN BOTHNIA PILOT PLAN






Model Case Areas





Situation in 2009: Need for enhanced maritime spatial planning and management





Territorial Waters

-  Existing sea space planning
-  Pilot examples of sea space planning
-  Sea space planning recommended

Division of sea space

-  Border of territorial waters
-  Border of Exclusive Economic Zone

Exclusive Economic Zones

-  Existing sea space planning
-  Sea space planning recommended

**Thank you for your
attention!**

**Information about VASAB:
*www.vasab.org***

**VASAB Secretariat, Riga
*info@vasab.org***