

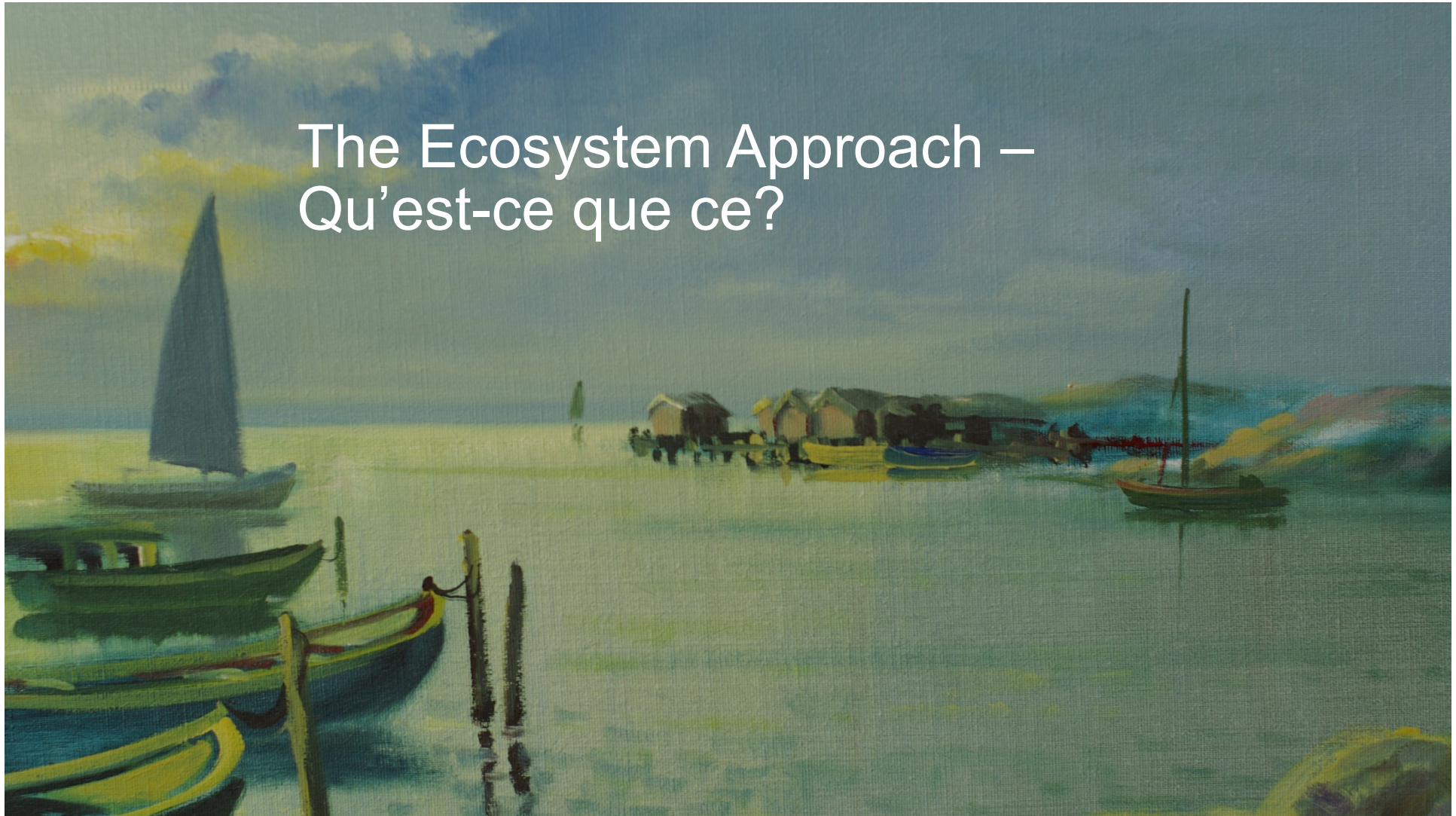
# The Ecosystem Approach

Jan Schmidtbauer Crona

Swedish Agency  
**for** Marine and  
Water Management



# The Ecosystem Approach – Qu'est-ce que ce?



## WHY?

- Globally and EU
- Common Fisheries Policy, MSFD and MSP
- Environmental need
- Potential!

- A strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way
- 12 principles (Malawi principles) - CBD
- Both WHAT and HOW
- HOW both knowledge and process participation

## Similar terms

"Ecosystem based" like in Ecosystem-based  
Management – EbM

"Ecosystem based approach"

Back to the roots:

## The Malawi Principles (CBD)

**Analysis:**

**What or  
How?**

**Goal or  
Method?**

1. Management objectives are a matter of societal choice.
2. Management should be decentralized to the lowest appropriate level.
3. Ecosystem managers should consider the effects of their activities on adjacent and other ecosystems.

4. Recognizing potential gains from management there is a need to understand the ecosystem in an economic context, considering e.g.,

- mitigating market distortions,
- aligning incentives to promote sustainable use, and
- internalizing costs and benefits.

5. A key feature of the ecosystem approach includes conservation of ecosystem structure and functioning.
6. Ecosystems must be managed within the limits to their functioning.
7. The ecosystem approach should be undertaken at the appropriate scale.



8. Recognizing the varying temporal scales and lag effects which characterize ecosystem processes, objectives for ecosystem management should be set for the long term.
9. Management must recognize that change is inevitable.
10. The ecosystem approach should seek the appropriate balance between conservation and use of biodiversity.

11. The ecosystem approach should consider all forms of relevant information, including scientific and indigenous and local knowledge, innovations and practices.

12. The ecosystem approach should involve all relevant sectors of society and scientific disciplines.

# Systematic Ecosystem Approach interpretation

- Definition
- Goal
- Assumptions
- Operation

## Definition

*"The Ecosystem Approach is a strategic approach for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way"*

## Goal

*"To ensure that human use of ecosystems is kept within the limits of ecosystem's capacity to regenerate"*

# Assumptions

The Ecosystem Approach recognises that:

- Ecosystems are dynamic and complex, and knowledge of their functions is often incomplete.
- Humans are an integral component of ecosystems.



## Assumptions 2

- It is essential to understand the values of ecosystems and the services they provide.
- Society needs to set the longterm objectives for conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems.

# Operation

The Ecosystem Approach implies:

- the use/application of the precautionary principle.
- adaptive management, meaning that new knowledge can lead to changes in management.
- a continuous development of different types of knowledge to a greater understanding of ecosystems social and ecological systems' complex functions and interactions.

## Operation 2

The Ecosystem Approach implies:

- all parts of society are involved in formulating the management objectives.
- management is decentralised to the lowest appropriate level.
- local participation and collaboration with stakeholders/users.
- a consideration of economic values of ecosystem services in decision making.

Ecosystem Approach		Application in Marine Spatial Planning
1.	Common objectives and participation (principles 1,2 and 12)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carry out public participation</li> <li>• Contribute to local participation</li> <li>• Involve in international discussion</li> <li>• Develop process knowledge</li> <li>• Develop an MSP-internet site</li> <li>• Integrate the Environmental Impact Assessment</li> </ul>

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## Ecosystem Approach in MSP

Framework  
from Swedish  
Environmental  
Protection  
Agency

2.	Natures capacity to generate ecosystem services is a priority; The precautionary principle should be applied (principles 5,6 and 10)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop ecosystem based targets</li><li>• Apply the precautionary principle</li><li>• Analyse knowledge gaps</li><li>• Use scenario techniques</li><li>• Develop planning alternatives</li></ul>
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## Ecosystem Approach in MSP

3.	Consider all kinds of knowledge (principles 11 and 12)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gather, analyse and provide knowledge</li><li>• Develop planning methodology</li><li>• Stay updated</li></ul>
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## Ecosystem Approach in MSP



4.	Evaluate the ecosystems economically (principle 4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identify ecosystem services</li><li>• Start from the Initial Assessment (MSFD)</li><li>• Integrate Social Economic Analysis</li></ul>
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## Ecosystem Approach in MSP

5.	Scoping/framing of time and space (princip 3, 7, och 8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Use scoping to focus on the essential</li><li>• Coordinate over administrative borders</li><li>• Use different geographical scales</li><li>• Analyse cumulative effects</li><li>• Carry out scoping with consultations</li></ul>
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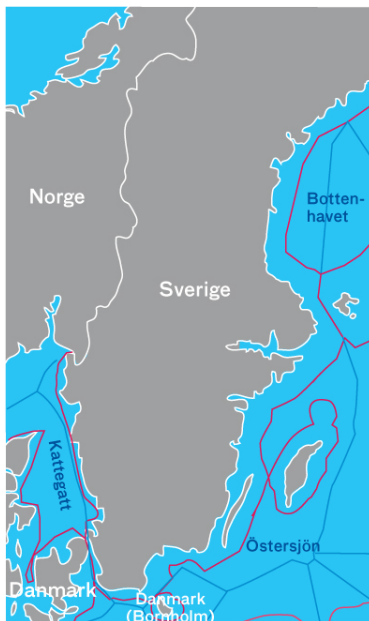
## Ecosystem Approach in MSP

6.	Flexible and adaptive (principle 9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Follow up and evaluation</li><li>• Cyclic learning process</li></ul>
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## Ecosystem Approach in MSP

# The Swedish forthcoming Marine Spatial Planning including SEA

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- Legislation on MSP in spring 2013

Three Marine Spatial Plans for Swedish waters in a 4-5 year process

Ambitions:

- Integration of SEA in the planning process
- Environmental baseline and SEA objectives starting point for planning
- **Strong scoping** – focused process and documentation
- Differentiated planning and SEA. Adaptation to a varying need for detail

# Apply the Ecosystem Approach in MSP

- adaptations in planning process
- integrated assessments, SEA, socio-economic

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 adapted to characteristics and special conditions at different areas
10. Continuous planning



## **The Ecosystem Approach -an overarching principle for Maritime Spatial Planning**

1. Sustainable management
2. Crossectoral and system based
3. Long term perspective and objectives
4. Precautionary Principle
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**+ socio economic evaluation  
of ecosystem services**

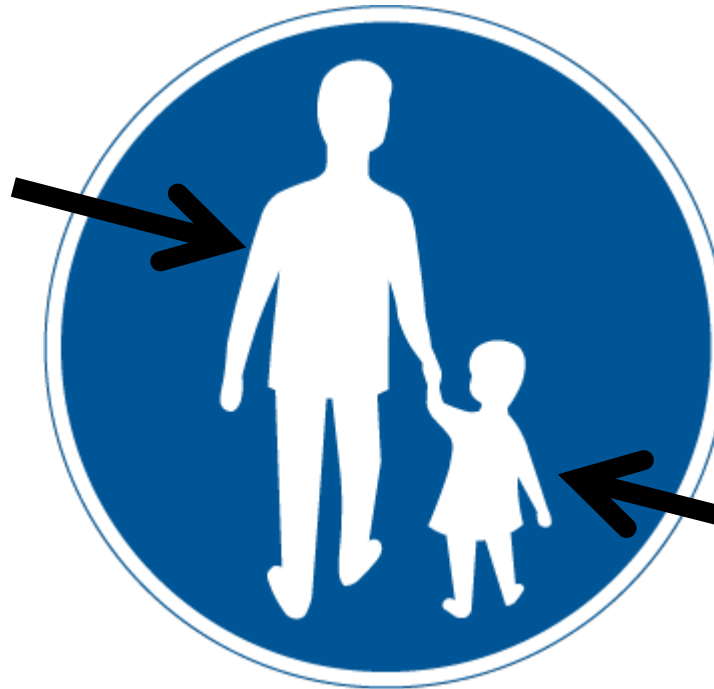
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# Transnational stakeholder meeting about Marine Spatial Planning in Sweden 11-12 September Gotland

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- Increase early, informal communication about key planning options and decisions (well before requirements such as ESPOO begins to apply)
- Create a “planner’s platform” for discussion of practical and technical planning matters (political forums already exist)
- Develop a “Pan-Baltic Vision” (some noted that the vision expressed in BaltSeaPlan is not sufficient)

# The Ecosystem Approach



You