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# RU LT Transnational stakeholders meeting on the concept for maritime spatial planning in the Lithuanian Sea and its potential impacts on sea use in Russia

**7 - 8 November, 2013**

**Sports Complex of the Central Sports Club of the Army, Severnyi mol 7**

**Baltiysk, Kaliningrad Oblast Region, Russia**

## Summary Report

Author of the report: Daniel Depellegrin, Nerijus Blažauskas\*, Valdas Langas

Coastal Research and Planning Institute, Klaipeda University, Lithuania

Contact: \*nb@corpi.ku.lt

Goals of the workshop:

- To present the current state of the Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) process in Lithuania with key principles, concept solutions applied and potential future uses of the Lithuanian sea space.
- To identify existing seas uses and future development perspectives of the Russian and Lithuanian sea space that require cross-border consultation.
- To discuss with stakeholders potential conflicts and synergies for sea uses in the Russian – Lithuanian sea space.

### Participants

26 persons participated in the workshop

- from BSR:

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Russia    | Atlantic Branch of P.P.Shirshov Institute of Oceanology of Russian Academy of Sciences (ABIORAS), Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal University, Marine Administration, , St. Petersburg NGO "Ecology and Business", JSC St – Petersburg "NIIPGradoostroitel'stva", Baltiysk, IKBFO, Magazine "Point" (Media), Fishing Company, Administration of Svetly, Baltiysk Municipality, Institute for Spatial Planning, Development and Foreign Relations ( <i>NON Profit Partnership</i> ). |
| Lithuania | Coastal Research and Planning Institute (CORPI), Klaipeda University  |
| Poland    | Maritime Institute of Gdansk (MIG), Consulate General of Poland in Kaliningrad  |



## Meeting overview

The Stakeholder Meeting was structured in two sessions divided into day 1 and day 2 as follows:

### Day 1 (07/11/2013): MSP in the Russian Federation, Lithuania and Poland

The Stakeholder Meeting was held as parallel session to the Seminar on "Spatial planning in the Vistula Lagoon" under the VILA Project "Features and benefits of sharing the Vistula Lagoon" of the Lithuania-Poland-Russia ENPI Cross-border Cooperation Programme 2007-2013 ([www.lt-pl-ru.eu/en,1](http://www.lt-pl-ru.eu/en,1)). This session brought together stakeholders from Poland Russia and Lithuania and aimed at introducing current MSP processes and planning principles in this specific part of South Eastern Baltic Sea.

#### Presentation 1:

**MSP principles and concept solutions in the Lithuanian maritime space by N. Blažauskas, Klaipeda University, CORPI**

- **Aim and objectives of the plan** is to supplement the Lithuanian General Territorial Plan with marine spatial solutions, stocktake the existing natural resources and current use and protection of those in order to set strategic priorities for future use, protection and development of Lithuanian marine areas.
- **Planning process** is composed by four parts:
  1. analysis of current state of marine resources and existing uses
  2. preparation of conceptual solutions (Alternative A and B)
  3. SEA on proposed concept solutions in order to select the most suitable solutions;
  4. preparation of the final spatial maritime development concept to be integrated into the General Plan of the Republic of Lithuania

#### Presentation 2:

**Spatial planning of marine areas and coastal zone according to the Polish legislation by Andzej Ciesliak, HELCOM-VASAB working group/MOG**

- Overview on Polish legislation for Marine Spatial Planning.

#### Presentation 3:

**The basic principles of spatial planning of maritime activities in the Russian Federation. Viazilova Julia Semionov, "NIIPGradostroitel'stva", St. Petersburg, Russia.**

- Ms. Julia Viazilova of the Scientific Research Institute "Gradostroitel'svo" (St. Petersburg) made a presentation on the Russian Federation basic principles on sea use planning in the Baltic Sea area, for the water areas of Kaliningrad Region and the Leningrad Region, Neva Bay and the Gulf of Finland.
- On overall the criteria for the classification of functional zones and their respective aquatorial zones are defined as follows:

| Criteria for Classification of functional zones | Types of aquatorial zones  |
|---|--|
| Degree of priority                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operational</li> <li>• Main priorities for the state target use</li> <li>• General use</li> </ul> |
| Nature of activities and                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shipping zone</li> </ul>  |



|   |  |
|---|--|
| functional purpose  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Areas of maritime ports</li> <li>• Zone polygons navy department</li> <li>• Zones of underwater cables and pipelines</li> <li>• Fishing zones, zones of development of aquaculture</li> <li>• Area of accommodation of objects of electric power industry</li> <li>• Production areas and exploration of minerals</li> <li>• Tourist – recreation zones</li> <li>• Environmental area</li> </ul>  |
| Restriction on prohibitions on the use of areas of water (buffer zones) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zones with special conditions for the use of water</li> <li>• Forbidden areas for navigation and anchoring</li> <li>• Zones of protection of underwater engineering communications</li> <li>• Protection zone of artificial constructions</li> <li>• Protection zones of waterways</li> <li>• Areas spawning, feeding fish, migratory parking birds, nesting waterfowl and near water kinds of birds</li> <li>• Specially protected areas and their buffer zones</li> <li>• Area and zones of protection of objects of cultural heritage</li> </ul> |

- The base structure of the Russian MSP Stocktake for MSP can be defined as follow:
  - *Block1*: data on natural resources such as hydrological conditions, geomorphological conditions, marine habitats, spawning areas, bird migration and nesting areas, specially protected natural areas.
  - *Block2*: data on ecological component such as source of anthropogenic load, chemical pollution of water and sediments, eutrophication, sustainability of the marine environment by anthropogenic load.
  - *Block3*: Socio – Economic activities such as administrative structures, human settlements and resources, marine, industrial and infrastructural potential.
  - *Block4*: Cultural Heritage features.
  - *Block5*: Normative documents regarding nature management, state standards, sanitary regulations and standards assessment of the marine environment components.
- It was noted that the Russian Federation has no experience in MSP. There are about 100 legal acts related to marine planning, but they are not integrated. Responsible for sea use planning is federal government. The RU government approved a strategy on maritime activities till 2030. Strategy foresees development of sea use planning legal documents / instruments. Therefore preparation of the law on activities planning at sea has already started.

**Presentation 4:**

**Marine spatial planning in the Vistula Lagoon. Dmitry Domnin, ABIORAS, Kaliningrad, Russia**

The overall objective of the VILA project is the intensification of socioeconomic cooperation among PL-RU regions of the Vistula Lagoon with some specific objectives:

- To increase cooperation for optimal realization of Vistula Lagoon socioeconomic potential



(reports on natural environment and socioeconomic conditions of the Vistula Lagoon and creation of the catalogue on transport infrastructure);

- Seminar on improvement of territorial accessibility and cross-border mobility within Vistula Lagoon region;
- Recommendations and guidelines for future cooperation and common regional development around Vistula Lagoon, through series of dedicated seminars and study visits (attractiveness of region regarding tourist and natural environment);
- Two Handbooks published: first on the Baltic port development in the context of spatial planning, second on sustainable development in Vistula Lagoon region;
- Public consultations in Poland and Russia on future development on Vistula Lagoon and on spatial planning;
- Roadmap for future common activities, etc. The presentation provided an overall introduction of MSP in the context of the Vistula Lagoon.

**Day 2 (08/11/2013):** Focused group discussion with RU - LT MSP experts addressing present and future sea uses, synergies and conflicts in the RU – LT sea space.

#### **Military areas**

- The sea space in the Kaliningrad Oblast Region is predominantly a military area. Interest was expressed by Russian Stakeholders on the rule of military areas in the Lithuanian MSP case, which are used in a combined use as protected areas.

#### **Nature protection**

- The Lukoil D6 Platform is located in the Russian sea space at 22.5 km distance from the UNESCO World Heritage site of named Curonian and 4.3 nm from Lithuanian sea border. This sensitive environment is at potential oil spill risk, as far as 67% of simulated oil spills would impact the Lithuanian part of the Curonian Spit.
- Furthermore international law does not regulate liability and compensation issues in case of pollution incident by such type of off shore activity; hence the application of polluter pays principle.
- Plans exist to develop nature protection area till the 25 m isobath similar to the existing Lithuanian coastal Strip (Law of the Coastal Strip, 2002), which is the national ICZM unit in Lithuania and one of the zoning area of the Lithuanian MSP for recreational, nature protection and fishery purposes.

#### **OWE development**

- On overall it was noted that joined RU/LT projects are essential to development of baseline information for MSP stocktaking. In the specific case of OWE development several projects produced baseline information to assess conditions for OWE development in the Polish, Russian and Lithuanian sea space (<http://www.corpi.ku.lt/power/>). The baseline information identified is the following:
  1. Spatial data on optimal allocation of OWE parks.
  2. Concepts for power parks connectivity into Lithuanian power grid.
  3. Economic feasibility studies for OWE park development.
  4. Perspectives for trans-border grid network interconnection.
- In the meantime the advancing Lithuanian MSP process defined 10 potential sea areas designated for OWE development, whereas 4 of them are currently under EIA.

#### **Findings/Conclusions**

- At the current stage it is complicated to identify any sea use conflict between LT and RU MSP's, whereas the development of Russian sea-use plan has yet not started and is on a conceptual stage.



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It was agreed to arrange the next LT- RU meeting on MSP issues with involvement of RU representative's directly responsible/related to sea space planning activities.

- It was agreed that results from the joined questionnaire on MSP in the Vistula lagoon will be analyzed by Russian meeting partners and submitted to CORPI for further evaluation.