



Document title	MSP exhibition stands at the European Maritime Day 2016
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Submitted by	HELCOM and VASAB Secretariats
Reference	

Background

Both HELCOM and VASAB have applied for a stand about Maritime Spatial Planning at the Exhibition held during the European Maritime Day (EMD) 2016 on 18-19 May 2016 in Turku, Finland. EMD is the annual meeting point for Europe's maritime community to network, discuss, and forge joint action.

According to the EMD organizers, the EMD exhibition is a place for stakeholders to meet, exchange experience and discuss the latest developments. Organising an exhibition stand is a possibility to showcase innovative ideas, products and services related to the themes of the conference.

Both applications can be reviewed in this document.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to take note of the information.

MSP exhibition stands at the European Maritime Day 2016

HELCOM – Description of the HELCOM stand; updated version of the application to the EMD Exhibition submitted on 15 February 2016.

Please make a short description of your project *

Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP), highly challenging and highly fascinating, provides the possibility of widening the horizon beyond purely sectoral thinking towards a more integrated spatial approach to any planning activities in the oceans and the seas. The key aim for HELCOM at the Exhibition is to showcase inter-governmental as well as specialized MSP work on macro-regional, European and global levels and give food for thought on new possible ways of meeting the countries' needs as well as connecting various organizations and policies and their MSP efforts.

The EU Directive on Maritime Spatial Planning has boosted establishment of national maritime spatial plans, and the INSPIRE Directive created a shift towards decentralized and inter-operable systems for collecting and storing spatial marine data. Many international organizations dealing with seas are increasingly addressing MSP according to their mandates, whether in the field of data, science or policies. Such organizations could be in the position to offer contribution and support to national MSP processes. Linking these developments early on, in the form of new cooperation frameworks and driven by national needs, can speed up the building of evidence base about the seas and oceans, and also open up new possibilities for a blue economy underpinned by sustainability.

The Baltic Sea region has been pioneering the close inter-governmental MSP cooperation between the coastal nations and the EU through the HELCOM-VASAB Maritime Spatial Planning Working Group since 2010. The Baltic Sea can offer its experiences to share, however, it would also like to learn and benefit from the work done in other parts of the world. Let's connect regional, European and global MSP work with a new partnership for healthy oceans and sustainable economy.

HELCOM as a host of the MSP stand will draw together representatives of international organizations and high-level politics, to discuss what kind of new partnership is needed to best serve countries to achieve true progress for MSP coherent across the borders.

Please describe how your project links to the theme of the Conference *

Cooperation on Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) is only emerging and we have a unique opportunity to create a joint agenda and synergies in this new field, thus contributing to improved ocean governance as called for in the recent consultation by the EU Commissioner Karmenu Vella.

Regional interaction on MSP offers the best options for influencing national prioritization due to the fact that countries share waters and face the same issues to be solved – there is motivation and common issues at stake. Ultimately, the aim of cooperation on a sea basin scale is to ensure that all move, perhaps at different pace but to the same direction. On the other hand, implementation takes place nationally and locally while the European level (EU EG MSP) connects the four seas. Good ocean governance is the one that allows taking actions at the most appropriate scale.

Please describe how you intend to organize your booth *

Dialogue sessions, live interactive maps, presentation of common roadmaps and collecting ideas from visitors will be the key means to engage audience at the HELCOM stand, "Planning the common sea – countries' needs and practical solutions".

The work on maritime spatial planning will be explained to the visitors with the help of interactive maps and map animations, as the HELCOM map service alone enables the use of over 500 layers illustrating the different uses of the marine space and resources. Hosts will assist in demonstrating the many possibilities of using and learning from real marine data and maps, supplemented with more data examples from the affiliate organizations. In addition, other information materials (roll-ups, handouts) on MSP work will be presented.

Moreover, the informal dialogues arranged during breaks at the stand with cooperating stakeholders aim to result in concrete ideas for creating partnership of regional, European and global organizations with a common agenda on MSP. The invited guests represent institutions with a record of concrete MSP work and will demonstrate what else can be done to support the countries.

The blend of guests ranging from strategic political level to operative administration, specialized agencies and research is to showcase possibilities for new ways of cooperating across different expertise and mandates. The tentative guests include e.g.:

- Minister of Agriculture and the Environment of Finland, responsible for MSP, Kimmo Tiilikainen (tbc);
- Katarzyna Krzywda, Director, the Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation of Poland, Chair of the HELCOM-VASAB Baltic Sea Region Data Expert Sub-Group, member of the EU's Member States Expert Group on MSP;
- Anita Mäkinen, Chief Adviser, Finnish Transport Safety Agency, Co-Chair of the HELCOM-VASAB MSP Working Group;
- International Hydrographic Organization (IHO, tbc)
- The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)

Contribution from visitors and the audience will be organized through an online survey available at the stand during the exhibition. The visitors will be requested to provide feedback to "Our common goal is better knowledge of oceans and seas and sustainable management of human activities"

- 1) What do you need for MSP (user perspective)?
- 2) What can you provide for MSP (provider perspective)?

Results of the survey will be published on the HELCOM MSP website.

We would highly appreciate if the stand would be placed next to the VASAB/Baltic SCOPE stand.

About the organization:

HELCOM has long-term experience in creating and respecting joint governance agreements, shaping future policies, as well as successfully identifying emerging activities e.g. relevant for MSP, without forgetting the practical steps needed for the future. There are masses of basin-wide HELCOM data available, a necessary foundation for any meaningful planning especially in transboundary context, and with great potential that has not yet been fully exploited. Specific regional challenges and opportunities have been mentioned as a particular focus throughout the Conference - HELCOM works without exception under the mandate given by all the nine coastal states, including the Russian Federation as well as EU.

This is your personal confirmation.

Event information:

Event name: European Maritime Day 2015 - Networking Village
Event organiser: Tapahtumat
Event organiser's e-mail address: tapahtumat@turku.lyyti.fi
Starts: Wednesday 18.5.2016, 9:00
Ends: Thursday 19.5.2016, 17:00
Venue: Logomo
Address: Köydenpunojankatu 14 ([On the map](#))
The registration deadline is: 31.3.2016 16:00

Your information:

I will participate Yes
Name of your organisation: VASAB Secretariat
First name Laura
Last name Melne
E-mail address laura.melne@vasab.org
Mobile phone number +37128625489
Website of your organisation: www.vasab.org; www.balticscope.eu
Please make a short description of your project
The stand will demonstrate macroregional approach to maritime governance showing the implementation of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region via specific Horizontal Action "Spatial Planning" – unique even among macro-regional strategies.

The stand will show practical example of Baltic SCOPE project funded by DG MARE. It gather the Maritime Spatial Planning authorities and Regional Sea Organisations in the Baltic Sea Area for the first time to find the planning solutions to transboundary issues and improve the Maritime Spatial Planning processes.

The main goal of this collaboration is to come up with common solutions of the cross-border maritime planning leading to greater alignment of national plans. To achieve the goal, two Maritime Spatial Planning cases are performed – Southwest Baltic affects Sweden, Denmark, Germany, and Poland and Central Baltic comprising the marine area between Estonia, Latvia, and Sweden. Both cases are focusing on how shipping, energy, fisheries, and environment sectors can co-exist, what are the potential cross-border conflicts and solutions there, also, at the same time looking for synergies between the sectors.

Type of your organisation: Public body
Please describe how your project links to the theme of the Conference
The stand will show how and what maritime governance and maritime spatial planning can contribute to blue growth. As Commissioner Vella mentioned recently "maritime spatial plans go hand in hand with more economic certainty, lower costs and less red tape".

The experience gathered over decades in the Baltic Sea Region by the spatial planning authorities on transnational and cross-border cooperation could be regarded as example for other European sea basins. In particular, the jointly created working group of HELCOM and VASAB networks have increased coherence of maritime governance in the Baltic Sea basin.

Please describe how you intend to organize your booth
The main aim of the booth is to show the achievements of the VASAB/Baltic SCOPE regarding the cross-border cooperation and joint actions towards coherent development of national maritime spatial plans covering whole Baltic Sea Region.

There will be visual material (posters) on the walls displaying the results and maps developed within the joint collaboration and cross-border cooperation.

To interact with the public there will be interactive (touch screen) tool presented which will let the participants to imagine what would happen if they could plan the sea themselves. The participants will be offered to try the simulation game on various maritime spatial planning situations across the sea, which will give the sense how the sectors on the sea can interact and raise the cross-border discussion on the maritime spatial planning issues, blue growth and governance with the project representatives.
In addition, there will be information materials available for participants presenting the results of the project and inviting to participate in the 2nd Baltic MSP Forum in November 23-24 in Riga, Latvia.

We would appreciate a lot if the VASAB/Baltic SCOPE stand would be placed next to the HELCOM stand.

Edit your information: [Edit](#)
Date of registration: 12.2.2016 18:55