



# **Commission Proposal for a Directive establishing a Framework for Maritime Spatial Planning and Integrated Coastal Management**

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**International Hydrographic Organisation, Paris  
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# Grounds and aims of the Proposal

## Grounds:

- Increasing and uncoordinated use of coastal and maritime areas.
- Multiple increasing pressures on coastal and marine resources.

## Aim:

- To establish a framework for maritime spatial planning and integrated coastal management that promotes:
  - the sustainable growth of maritime and coastal economies and
  - the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources

## What will Member States have to do?

Key obligations of the proposed Directive:

- Develop and implement maritime spatial plans and coastal management strategies.
- Mutually coordinate or integrate plans and strategies to ensure land-sea connectivity.
- Cooperate with MS and Third countries to ensure coherent approaches across sea-basins.
- Appropriate consultation of stakeholders.

⇒ *All obligations are of procedural nature.*



# Policy Framework: Integrated Maritime Policy

## *2007 Blue Book on an Integrated Maritime Policy for the EU*

- MSP: Challenges that emerge from the growing competing uses of the sea must be addressed.
- ICZM: Commitment is needed at EU level to ensure sustainable management of cross-border coastal ecosystems.

## *2008 Marine Strategy Framework Directive*

- The environmental pillar of the IMP.
- Recognises MSP as a tool to support an ecosystem-based approach to the management of human activities to require good environmental status.

## *2012 Blue Growth*

- The present legislative proposal is an essential part of the ambition to develop Europe's Blue Economy.

## *2012 "Limassol Declaration"*

- MSP is one of the instruments to bolster sustainable growth in offshore areas.

# Impact Assessment – Problem definition

*Increasing and uncoordinated use of coastal and maritime areas leads to:*

- Conflicting claims on space
- Inefficient use of sea space
- Suboptimal exploitation of economic potentials

*Increasing pressures on resources and risk related to climate change lead to:*

- Intense and increased use of coastal and maritime areas
- Close interaction between land and sea
- Degradation of maritime and coastal environment

## ⇒ **Solutions**

- Coherently manage and plan human uses of maritime space (MSP) .
- Coordinate coastal management policy instruments (ICM).
- Development of common principles for MSP and ICM process.
- Appropriate cross border co-operation.



# Impact Assessment II – impact analysis

**Economic impacts:** *Reduced costs and increased certainty for private investments.*

**Environmental impacts:** *Reduced pressures on environment and improved biodiversity conservation and resilience to climate change.*

**Social impacts:** *Improved engagement of population and stakeholders and improved political cooperation climate.*

## **Costs and benefits (examples):**

- *Economic benefits up to EUR 1.6 billion across the EU.*
- *ICM implementation costs : 200 M€ start-up costs and some 20 M€ annual operational costs.*



## Impact Assessment III - conclusions

A legally binding approach by means of a Framework Directive is the most appropriate instrument, contributing to:

- significant economic, environmental and social benefits;
- resource efficiency gains both for stakeholders and national administrations;
- enhanced transnational co-operation;
- reduction of barriers and bottlenecks in order to enhance sustainable economic growth;
- better respect for the ecological boundaries of ecosystems.



# The Proposal

⇒ ***Establish a framework for MSP and ICM.***

Maritime Spatial Planning focuses on mapping existing and potential human activities for the purpose of preparing maritime spatial plans in marine waters.

➤ Instrument: Maritime Spatial Plan

Integrated Coastal Management aims for coordinated application of policy processes affecting the coastal zone, addressing land-sea interactions in a coordinated way with a view to ensuring their sustainable development.

➤ Instrument: Integrated Coastal Management Strategies



## Article 5. Objectives of MSP and ICMS

⇒ ***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 sectoral 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)*



## Other key elements

### Article 9. Public Participation

- Public participation at an early stage in the development of MSP and ICMS.

### Article 10. Collection and exchange of data

- MS collect best available data and exchange information necessary for MSP and ICMS, building on existing efforts

### Article 11. Strategic Environmental Assessment

- MSP and ICMS are subject to an strategic environmental assessment in accordance with the provisions of Directive 2001/42/EC.



## Other key elements II

### Articles 12 & 13: Cross-border cooperation

- MS should ensure that their MSP and ICMS are coherent and coordinated across the coastal zone or marine region, through:
  - Regional cooperation structures;
  - Network of Member states' competent authorities.

### Article 14. Competent authorities

- A competent authority or authorities must be designated for the implementation of the Directive in each coastal zone and marine region.

**Thank you for your attention**

**More background information at:**

***<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/iczm/home.htm>***

***[http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/policy/maritime\\_spatial\\_planning/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/policy/maritime_spatial_planning/index_en.htm)***

