

Coordination between Marine Strategy Framework Directive and other directives and policies

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Marine Strategy Framework Directive

- Establishes a framework to achieve or maintain good environmental status in the marine environment
- Aim is to protect, preserve, prevent deterioration or, where practical, restore Europe's oceans and seas where they have been adversely affected and to prevent and reduce inputs in the marine environment
- Achieve the aim by applying an ecosystem based approach to management of human activities whilst ensuring sustainable use of marine goods and services.
- Addresses all aspects of biodiversity within the marine waters of EU Member States (excluding WFD transitional waters) and takes a regional approach to delivery of the Directive.

Good Environmental Status

“the environmental status of marine waters where these provide **ecologically diverse** and **dynamic** oceans and seas which are **clean, healthy** and **productive** within their intrinsic conditions, and the **use** of the marine environment is at a level that is **sustainable**, thus safeguarding the potential for uses and activities by current and future generations”

Habitats Directive

- Aims to protect the biodiversity of the EU by taking measures to maintain or restore a favourable conservation status of a selected number of species and habitats of Community interest.
- aims to contribute towards ensuring biodiversity of the EU, including in the marine environment through measures designed to maintain or restore, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of

Birds Directive

- Requires the protection of all naturally occurring wild bird species in the EU. A number of these habitat types and species occur in the marine environment and should be covered by the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD)
- Is concerned with the conservation of all naturally occurring wild bird species and covers their protection, management and control
- A major measure to help achieving the targets of the HBD is to designate and protect sites for the species and habitat types by SCI (Site of community importance) and Special Area of Conservation

Interrelation between MSFD, HD and BD (1)

- All are concerned with aspects of biodiversity conservation in the marine environment, including a requirement to achieve good status for the elements of biodiversity covered by each Directive.
- The concepts of good environmental status (MSFD) and favourable conservation status (HD) or status of population (BD) are not necessarily equivalent but can be mutually supportive.
- Conservation measures under the Habitats Directive (HD) should be part of any programme of measures to meet the requirements of MSFD and therefore help deliver more integrated policy and planning.

Interrelation between MSFD, HD and BD (2)

- Concerned with protection, maintenance and management of specific elements of biodiversity but also the restoration and recovery of habitats and species
- Requires measures which should contribute to the achievement of good environmental status, as well as monitoring and periodic assessment and reporting.
- Needs coordination in order to achieve their objectives by creating synergies between the measures proposed

Marine Protected Areas

- MPAs will play a significant role in supporting the achievement of a number of the GES characteristics and targets (D1,D6)
- MPA network forms an integral element of the proposed programme of measures for GES –spatial planning
- MPA network includes Natura 2000 sites designated under the Birds and Habitats Directives, as well as sites designated under national legislation

Maritime Planning

- Set out policies aimed at contributing to the achievement of sustainable development in the marine area
- Set up plans which will contribute to meeting the objectives of the MSFD, particularly in relation to any measures which have a spatial dimension by applying an ecosystem-based approach to the management of human activities
- Can shape activities within the marine area to support the goals of the MSFD, as well as those of other relevant pieces of EU legislation.

Safety of Offshore Oil and Gas Operations Directive

- Requires risk assessment and an emergency response plan before operation of the off shore oil and gas facilities
- Ensure that companies are well financed and have the necessary technical expertise
- Requires verification of safety provisions, environmental protection measures, and the emergency preparedness of rigs and platforms.
- Companies are fully liable for environmental damages caused to protected marine species and natural habitats.

Environmental Impact Assessment/Strategic Environmental Assessment

- Strategic planning and assessment of a marine development will contribute, at a generic level, towards the achievement and maintenance of GES by avoiding unintentional and irrevocable consequences for the marine environment
- Environmental impact assessment applies a procedure for the assessment of the environmental effects of projects which are likely to have a significant effect on the environment.
- Strategic environmental assessment seeks to provide a high level of protection of the environment by integrating environmental considerations into the process of preparing certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.

Common Fishery Policies

- Principal legal mechanism for managing fish stocks in EU waters and its implementation will play a critical role in supporting the achievement and maintenance of GES and ensuring consistency across European waters, promoting sustainable stocks and fishing practices
- Technical measures on gear selectivity, eliminating discards, spatial restrictions and limits on landings
- Measures will be focused both on achieving targets for Maximum Sustainable Yield in commercial fisheries and on achieving sustainable use of the marine environment outside the Marine Protected Area network

Water Framework Directive (1)

- Main objective is to achieve good water status/good chemical status/maximum ecological potential for all waters (surface, underground, coastal, transitional)
- Brings together in a common framework a diversity of previous directives dealing with water issues (Shellfish Waters, Bathing Waters Nitrates,Dangerous Substances, Urban Urban Waste Water Treatment)
- Requires water management at the River Basin level. In the understanding of WFD river discharging the water into the sea/ocean

Water Framework Directive (2)

- There are strong links between the Water Framework Directive (WFD) and the MSFD.
- Comparable objectives, with MSFD focused on the achievement of GES in marine waters, and WFD aiming to achieve Good Ecological and Good Chemical Status in all waters including transitional and coastal
- Overlap between the waters covered by the WFD and the MSFD
- Successful implementation of the WFD will essential contribute to good environmental status in the marine waters
- MSFD will define level of ambition for the WFD

Other international instruments

- United Nation Convention for the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)
- International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships from Ships (MARPOL)
- Regional Seas Conventions (OSPAR, Barcelona, Baltic, Black Sea)