

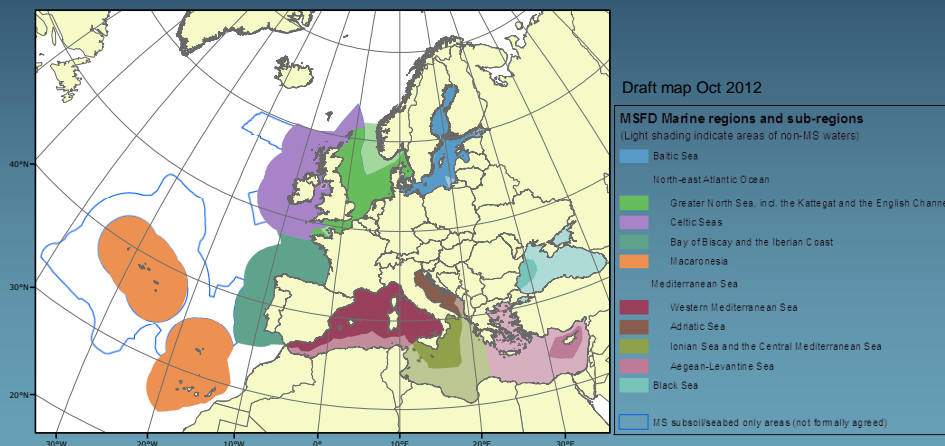
Coordination of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive at the regional level

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Challenges & Needs - MSFD implementation & operationalization

MSFD regionalities: similar issues, different solutions ?

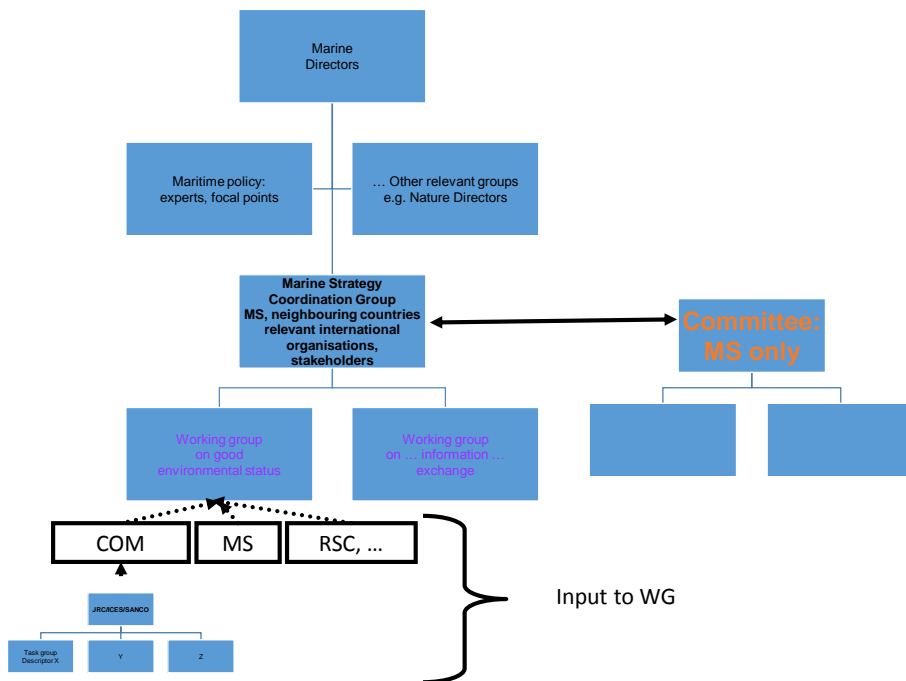


European Environment Agency



Working arrangements and structures for coordination

- Marine Directors Meetings
- Marine Strategy Coordination Group
- Working Groups
- Regional Sea Conventions
- Member States
- Stakeholders, NGOs, other interest groups or public and private organisations



Challenges for coordination

- Marine Strategy Framework Directive implementation and operationalization
 - State
 - Pressures and impacts assessment
 - setting targets
 - monitoring
 - implementing measures
- Marine Strategy integration
 - in Maritime area (Integrated Maritime Policy, Blue Growth)
 - in Environment area (EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy)
 - in Research area (Horizon 2020)

Coordination areas for the Common Implementation Strategy

- Assessment and Monitoring of the marine environment (Good Environmental Status)
- Data, Information and Knowledge Exchange on the marine environment (WISE-Marine)
- Management, measures, economic and social analysis of human activities affecting the marine environment

Mission and objectives of the CIS

- Ensure the best possible implementation of the MSFD and the 2020 objective to achieve GES
- Maintain or ameliorate the status of the marine environment through conservation and, where practicable, restoration of its ecosystems
- Improve the marine knowledge base for assessing and managing the marine environment
- Strengthen the regional capacities and coordination to implement the MSFD, in cooperation with the Regional Sea Conventions
- Enhance investments and (co-)financing for marine protection and management, where and when required or necessary

Role of Marine Strategy Coordination Group

- Coordinate and monitor the different working groups and activities under the Common Implementation Strategy, evaluates and agrees the outcome of the different working groups.
- Advise and assist the Commission in the preparation of the Article 25 Committee and delegated acts.
- Assist in the preparation of meetings of the Marine Directors and, as appropriate, call on the Marine Directors to resolve open issues.

Role of Working Groups

- preparing the work of the MSCG
- find technical and scientific solutions
- prepare concise documents summarising work done so far
- indicating clearly when input is needed from the MSCG
- advise the MSCG if new activities would be useful

Regional Seas Conventions

- Establish a joint coordinated regional monitoring programmes and, as appropriate, joint monitoring programmes to address all or selected parts of MSFD requirements
- Agreement a set of common GES criteria and characteristics, environmental targets and associated indicators
- Revise initial assessment and a review of GES and target requirements
- Develop a concept for sharing data and information between EU/EEA, ICES and RSCs and translate it in a formal arrangement (e.g. MoU)
- Align data flows and data needs for next round of initial assessment
- Establish a coordinated programmes of measures and, as appropriate, a joint programme of measures

River Protection Conventions

Key issues for landlocked Member States

1. Abundance/distribution of key trophic groups/species, including, where appropriate, long-distance anadromous and catadromous migrating species (Descriptor 4.3);
2. Minimizing human-induced eutrophication (Descriptor 5);
3. Concentration of contaminants (Descriptor 8);
4. Marine litter (Descriptor 10).

Achievements and lessons learnt

- Supported the preparation of the Decision on Good Environmental Status and developed a number of other useful products
- Created a considerable network of experts and expertise on the MSFD at EU level and contributed to build trust and understanding on its implementation.
- Worked transparently and attracted attention from numerous stakeholders.
- Contributed to help MS meeting important implementation deadlines.
- Jointly actions that directly contribute to the concrete implementation of the Directive, and to reaching its objectives (Project Preparation Group).

The next challenges of MSFD implementation

- Improving and made more user friendly the reporting system in order to allow in time reporting
- Improve the coordination within the Regional Sea Conventions in order to ensure a sufficient level of coherence and comparability.
- Updating the information reported, assessments and methodologies as they existed (well) before 2012.

Cross-cutting activities

- Sectoral dialogues / workshops (e.g. shipping, offshore energy, tourism or plastic industry)
- Cooperation with MSP Directive implementation (starting with "MSP and Environment" workshop)
- Licensing, authorisation and permitting – exchange of good practices

Thank you very much for your attention!
Questions ?



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