

Celtic Seas Partnership:
demonstrating effective
stakeholder engagement
as part of the ecosystem
approach

Jenny Oates, WWF-UK
Celtic Seas Project Manager

www.celticseaspartnership.eu



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Celtic Seas Partnership

- Building on successful PISCES project
- Four year EC Life + funded project (2013-2016)
- WWF-UK lead with University of Liverpool, SeaWeb Europe, NERC-BODC and Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly



Process and sectors involved



- Supporting transboundary implementation of EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive in the Celtic Seas through the [ecosystem approach](#)
- Engagement with over 750 marine stakeholders from 22 sectors, including fisheries, energy, governments, eNGOs, aquaculture, shipping...



Celtic Seas Partnership Objectives

1. **Increase stakeholder understanding** of marine policy
2. **Build & develop relationships** between sectors and countries
3. **Increase stakeholder involvement** in marine policy and decision-making **and influence management** practices
4. **Improve the availability of information** at Celtic Seas scale

Capacity building

Multi-national and national stakeholder workshops



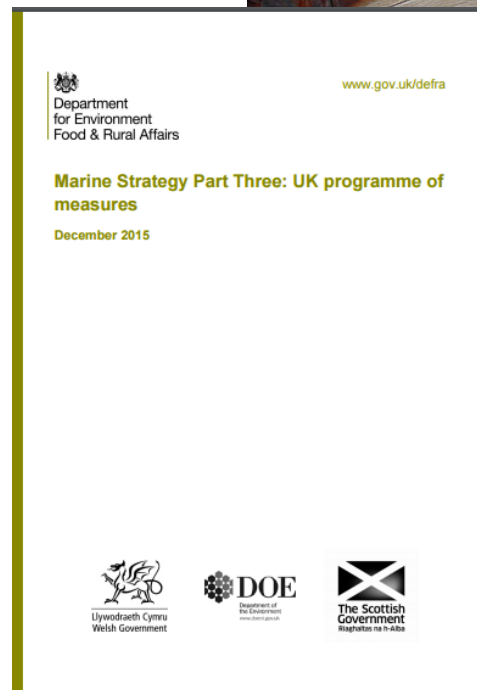
Online MSFD tutorial



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Stakeholder initiatives

- **Marine Litter:** Eco-schools programme
- **Biological diversity:** Engaging fisheries in monitoring
- **Non-indigenous species:** Celtic Seas scale biosecurity protocol



- Demonstrate need for integrated management in the Celtic Seas
- Highlight possible future trends in the Celtic Seas over the next 20 years
- Stakeholder engagement: trade offs between alternative scenarios

SECTORS 2. Shipping

Since the mid 1990's, the Baltic Sea region as a whole has witnessed enormous growth in maritime transports.¹⁴ Despite the fall in the shipping industry in 2008 caused by the economic recession, the Baltic Sea is still one of the most heavily trafficked seas in the world, accounting for up to 15% of the world's cargo transportation.

Each month there are around 3,500 to 5,000 ships on the waters of the Baltic Sea; around 2,000 sizeable ships are normally at sea at any given moment, including large oil tankers, ships carrying dangerous and potentially polluting cargoes, as well as many large passenger ferries.¹⁵

On top of the intense traffic with many crossing shipping routes, the Baltic Sea presents particular challenges to navigators because of its shallow waters, its many islands and its ice conditions in the winter.

Future trends

Looking 10 and 20 years ahead, forecasts predict a huge growth in the sector. The number of ships is expected to double by 2030¹⁶ (Fig. 3) and the size of ships is expected to increase substantially as well¹⁷. Shipping of oil, counted in tonnes, is predicted to grow by 64% by 2030¹⁸ (Fig. 4). This massive growth in the shipping sector is mainly due to the expansion and construction of oil terminals on the shores of the Gulf of Finland and regional economic growth.¹⁹ Also, the number of cruise ships in the area is increasing annually with a growing trend for the use of larger ships and more international cruisers²⁰.

Impacts

The enormous volume of shipping in the Baltic Sea is accompanied by a large risk of accidents. According to Helcom, there has been an increase in both groundings and collisions during the last years, and the number of accidents is estimated at 150 per year.²¹ Many accidents result in oil spills. Since 1980 the Baltic Sea has experienced on average one major shipping accident per year resulting in an oil spill larger than 100 tonnes²². A large oil accident in the Baltic Sea would have serious ecological

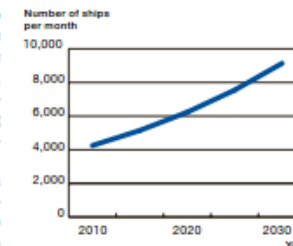


Figure 3. Predicted Increase in the number of ships per month on the Baltic Sea 2010-2030.²⁴

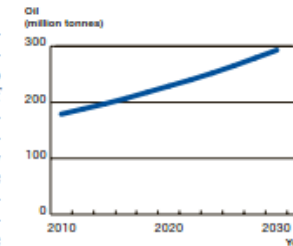
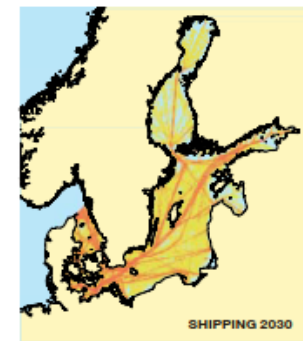
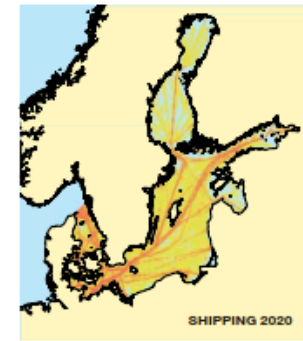
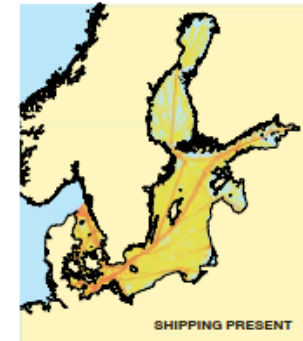


Figure 4. Predicted Increase of shipping of oil on the Baltic Sea 2010-2030.²⁵



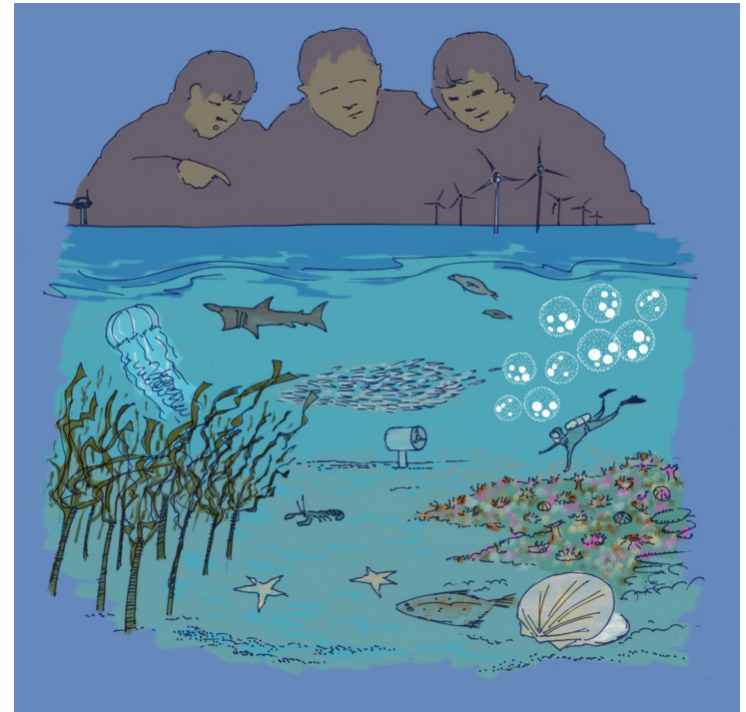
Best practice guidelines

- A. Transboundary marine governance
- B. Co-location of marine renewables
- C. Conflict resolution
- D. Terrestrial Planning & MSFD



Conclusions: the way forward

- Legacy of Celtic Seas Partnership and outcomes
- Continued stakeholder engagement platform across sectors and countries
- Celtic Seas Forum?



Thanks for listening!

Jenny Oates, WWF-UK
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joates@wwf.org.uk

www.celticseaspartnership.eu

Twitter/celticseas



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