



Guide for cross-border spatial data analysis in MSP

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KEY MESSAGES

Principles to improve efficiency and transparency of spatial data analysis in MSP:

1. Guiding spatial data analysis in a **goal-oriented** (instead of data-oriented) way
2. **Collaborating** with all MSP actors throughout the process
3. Using the **best available spatial data** and excluding inadequate data from the analyses
4. **Documenting** the utilised spatial data and analysis methods and their limitations at every step of the MSP process
5. **Sharing** and utilising high quality spatial data **across administrative and sectoral borders**

Targeted at actors in national and cross-border MSP:

- Regional planners – aiming at helping them understand and evaluate maps and other outputs of spatial data analysis
- Spatial data officers – aiming to assist them in understanding Maritime Spatial Planning and designing spatial data analysis workflows in a goal-oriented way

Based on: Scientific and practice-oriented literature and experiences from an MSP pilot project. The guide was prepared as part of the project Plan4Blue.

Main steps of the MSP spatial data analysis process:

- I. Set stage for spatial data analysis in MSP
- II. Collect and manage spatial data
- III. Analyse spatial data – examine interactions
- IV. Visualise MSP on maps

New guide book released: Nylén T, Tolvanen H, Erkkilä-Välimäki A & Roose M (2019). Guide for cross-border spatial data analysis in Maritime Spatial Planning. Publications of the Department of Geography and Geology of University of Turku 12. University of Turku, Turku.
Available online: syke.fi/projects/plan4blue

Cross-boundary issues in spatial information influence MSP processes at all scales since:

- Countries, counties and sectors must consider their neighbours
- Economic activities are often dependent on international and multisector interactions
- Habitats, species and environmental issues do not respect administrative borders and may be influenced by human activities on the other side of the border

Additional challenges at sea compared to land use planning:

- Ownership and jurisdiction differ
- No static boundaries at sea
- Vertical dimension must be considered
- Multifunctionality and seasonal uses possible
- Less data available and specific data types are difficult to obtain
- No official records of the influence areas of economic activities or the recreational use of sea space
- Land-sea interaction is vital for the environmental status and economic development of the sea, but difficult to transform into explicit spatial information

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