Stakeholder involvement in development of the Maritime Spatial Plan of Latvian waters

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Why stakeholder involvement?

• balancing different interests - management of marine areas is complex covering different sectors and authorities of different levels
  – Synergies and conflicts; coordination and compatibility
• ensuring that maritime spatial plans are based on reliable data and information
  – Data are fragmented, scattered – not yet structured for direct use in MSP
• transparency and openness as key principles for successful policy development and the decision-making process
  – Legal mechanisms on public participation in policy development
• Increase awareness about the marine resources, processes, problems, challenges
MSP Directive (2014/89/EU)

— a process by which the relevant Member State’s authorities analyse and organise human activities in marine areas to achieve ecological, economic and social objectives

Article 9 on Public participation

1. Member States shall establish means of public participation by informing all interested parties and by consulting the relevant stakeholders and authorities, and the public concerned, at an early stage in the development of maritime spatial plans, in accordance with relevant provisions established in Union legislation.

2. Member States shall also ensure that the relevant stakeholders and authorities, and the public concerned, have access to the plans once they are finalised.
MSP and Public participation

MSP Directive

Latvian national process

Information

- Interested parties

Consultation

- Stakeholders, authorities and public concerned

Involvement

- Public (incl. Individuals)
- Stakeholders and authorities (target groups)

- Press, media, printed materials
- Public hearing, written comments, questionnaire
- MSP work group Individual meetings, discussions
Who shall participate?

- Interest in the decision making
- Affected or likely to be affected
- May have some influence

Public concerned
Interested parties = stakeholders

Interests
(environment, nature, culture)

MSP

Sectors/users
(shipping, energy, fishery, tourism, etc)

Planners, authorities
### Identification of stakeholders & interested parties

#### Thematically

**Economic sectors:**
- Fishery and aquaculture
- Ports and navigation
- Energy production (renewables; hydrocarbons)
- Tourism (water tourism, link to recreation)

**Cultural heritage**

**Environment and nature**

**National security**

#### Institutionally

- Ministries – responsible for state development policies
- State institutions – responsible for data, licensing, supervision
- Associations, federations, unions
- Enterprises, group of enterprises
- Municipalities and planning regions

**Data base > 350 people**
Latvian MSP development process

1. Assessment of the existing situation and trends
2. Development of long term vision and targets
3. Alternative development scenarios
4. Categories and types of allowed sea uses
5. Optimal solution for marine uses
6. Communication with stakeholders
7. Regional events
8. Maritime day
9. Public consultation
10. Transboundary
11. Approval process by Government
Events and communications – so far

- **Sectorial events** – meetings with representatives from authorities and economic representatives either individual or jointly
  - To clarify the existing uses
    - Practices in sea uses
    - Legal frameworks for regulating, licensing, controlling, etc.
    - Challenge with the key data to be reflected in the MSP
  - To discuss sectorial targets 2020/2030 and development trends: national policies, individual business plans
    - A lack of integrated approach
    - Scattered approach, mainly middle term (2020)
- Regional integrative events/workshop style
  - Existing uses and policies
  - Development of future vision
Information supply

- Website (in Latvian) – www.jurasplanojums.net
- Twitter account @jurasplanojums
- Press releases – before events
  - Interest by regional media
- Information at different internet portals
- Developed targeted materials