



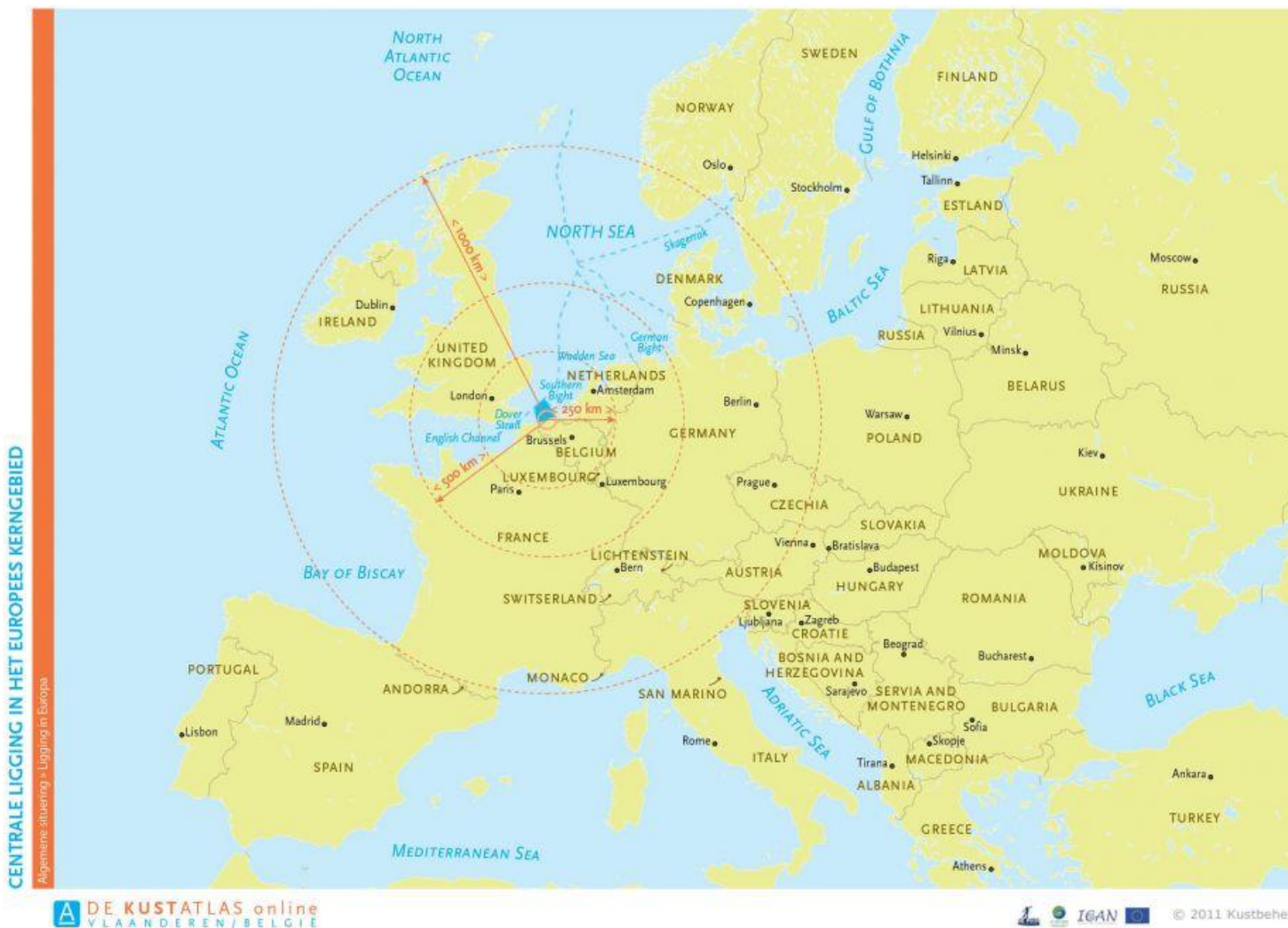
Planning the Belgian Part of the North Sea

Analyse of the current situation based on UNESCO's 10 steps

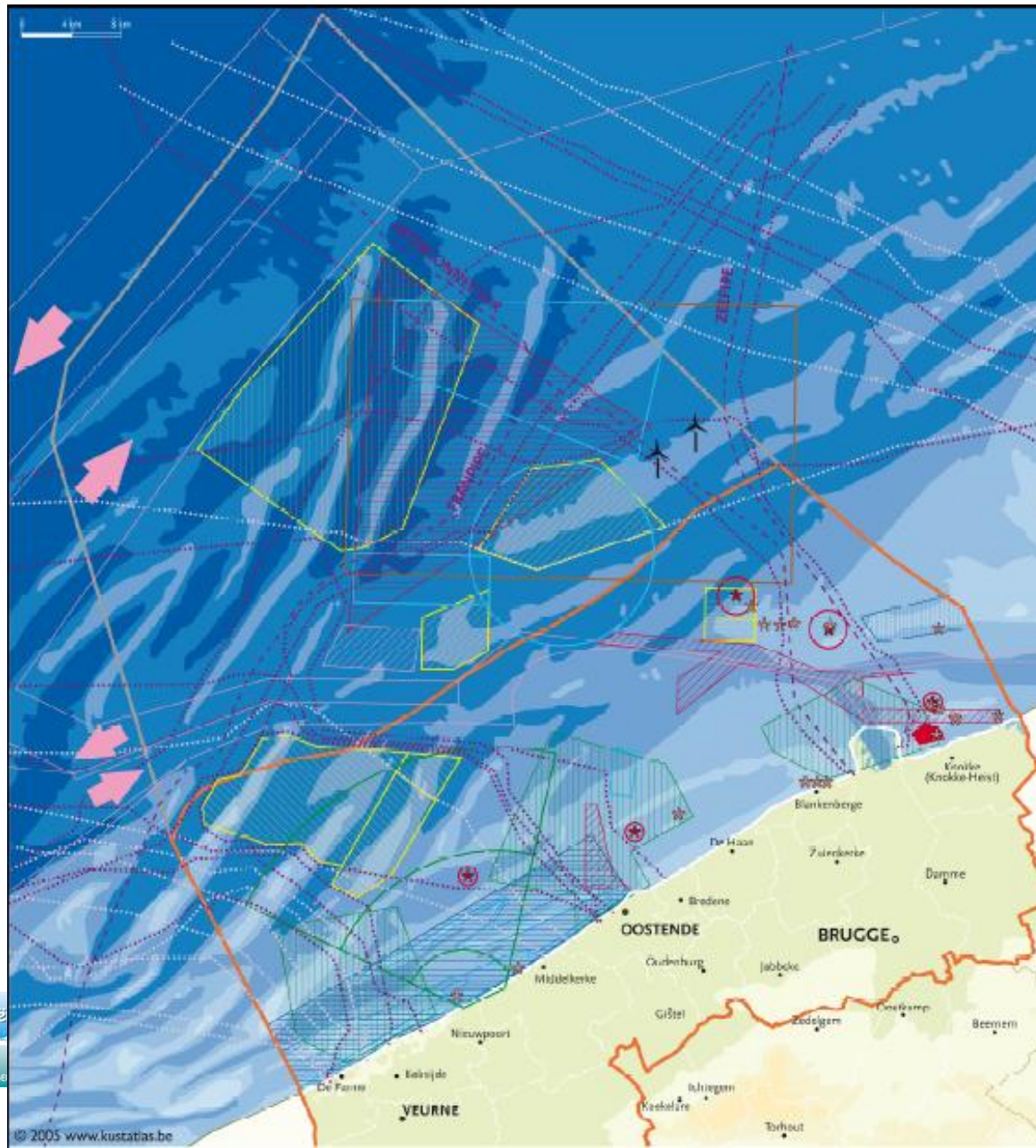
Hannelore Maelfait,
Coordination Centre on ICZM



The Belgian part of the North Sea: negligible...?



Or dramatically underrated?



Framework for Integrated Terrestrial and Marine Planning

C-SCOPE project

- Theoretical and conceptual approach: expert team
- Practical approach: Heist Marine Management Area



Theoretical and conceptual approach

End products

-  Analyse and inventory of the Belgian situation

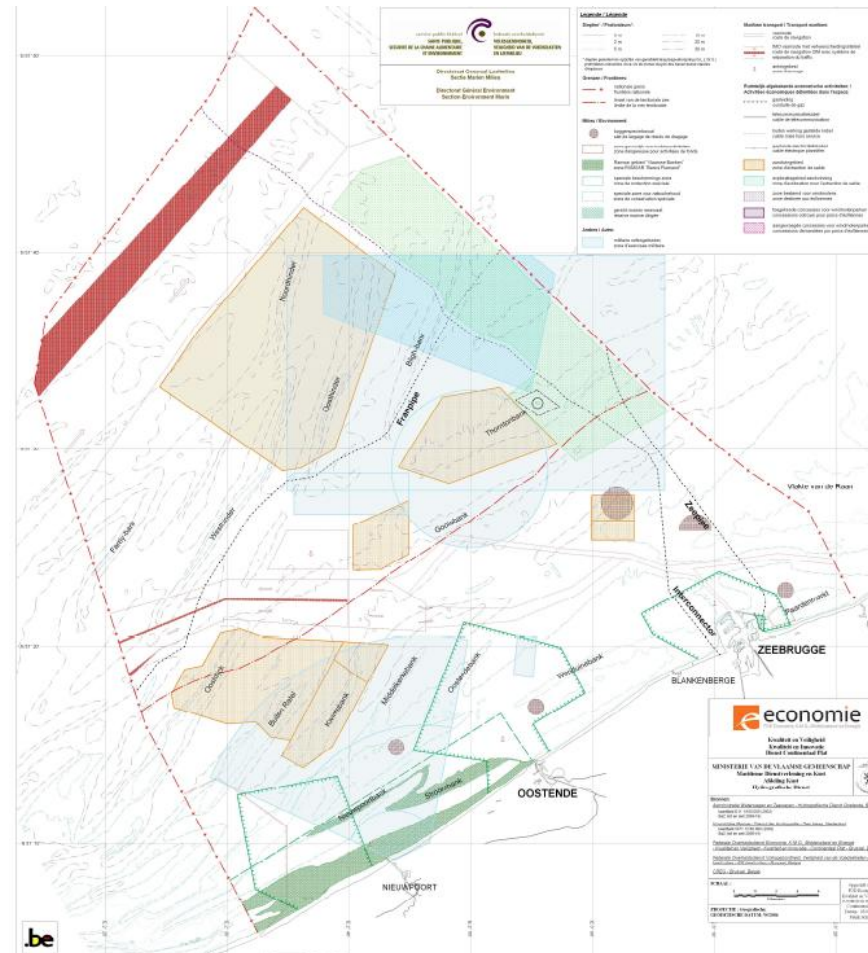
-  Position paper

-  Background information

MSP Expert team, Chair: Fanny Douvere

 Experts on: spatial planning, marine law, architects, policy experts...

The Belgian Situation 2010:



Masterplan for the North Sea

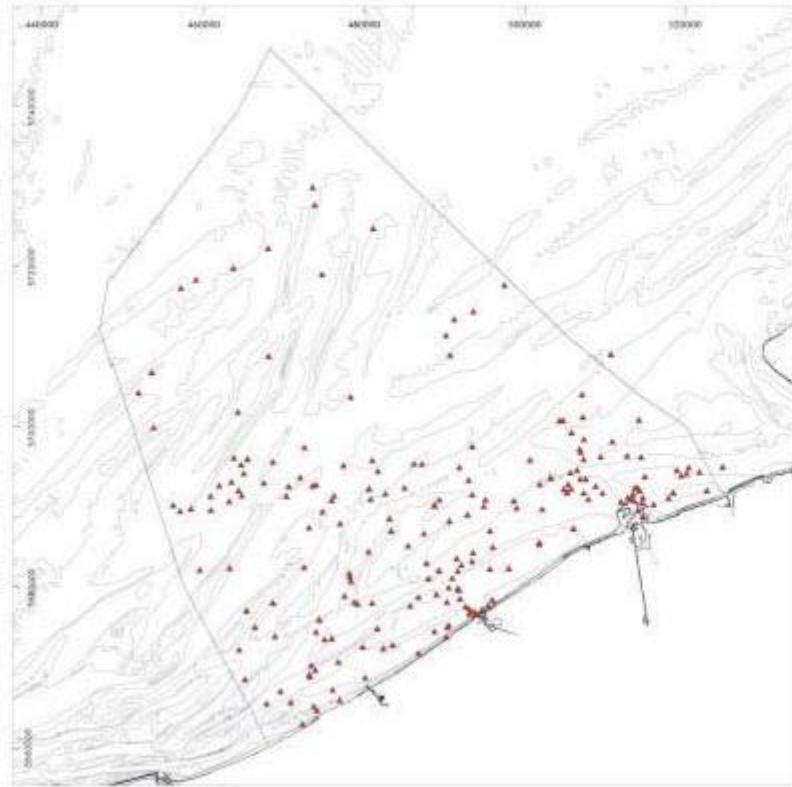
- Phase I (2003/2004):
sand and gravel
extraction
zones/windmill zone
- Phase II (2005/2006):
marine protected areas



Fig. 1. Phases 1 and 2 of the sustainable Master Plan for the BPNS.

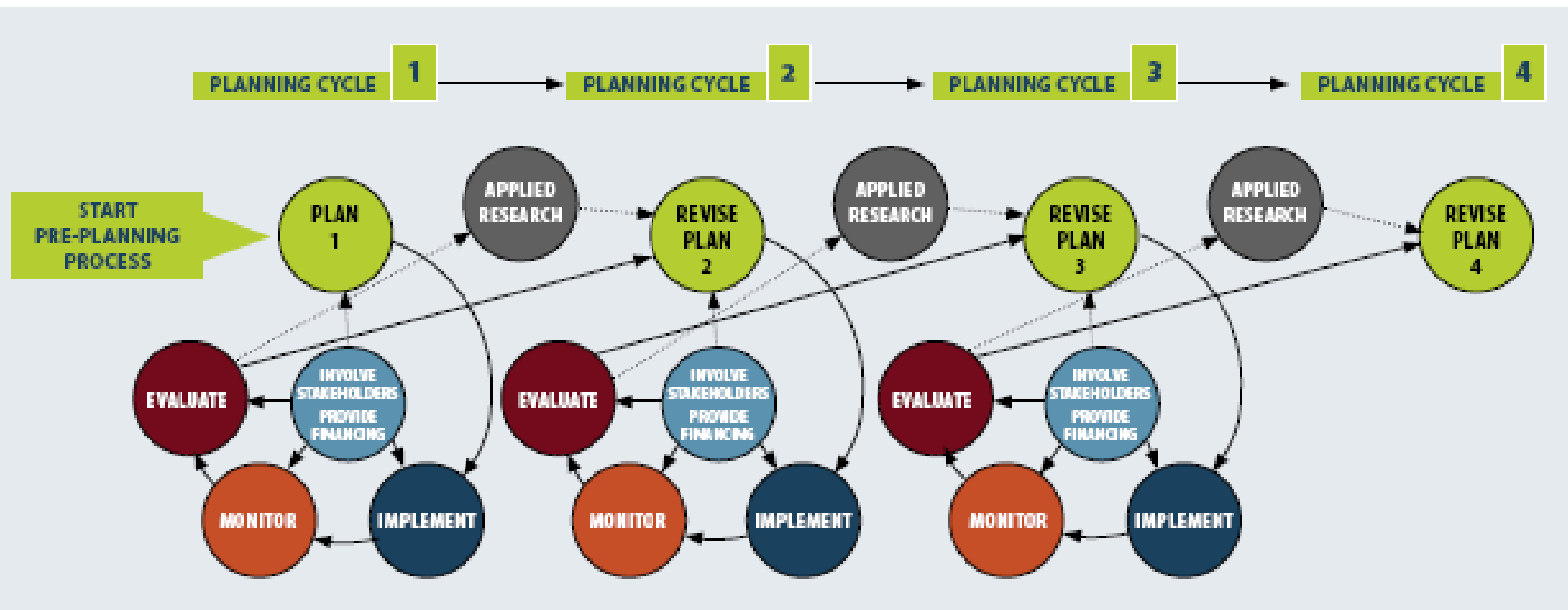


Scientific: GAUFRE

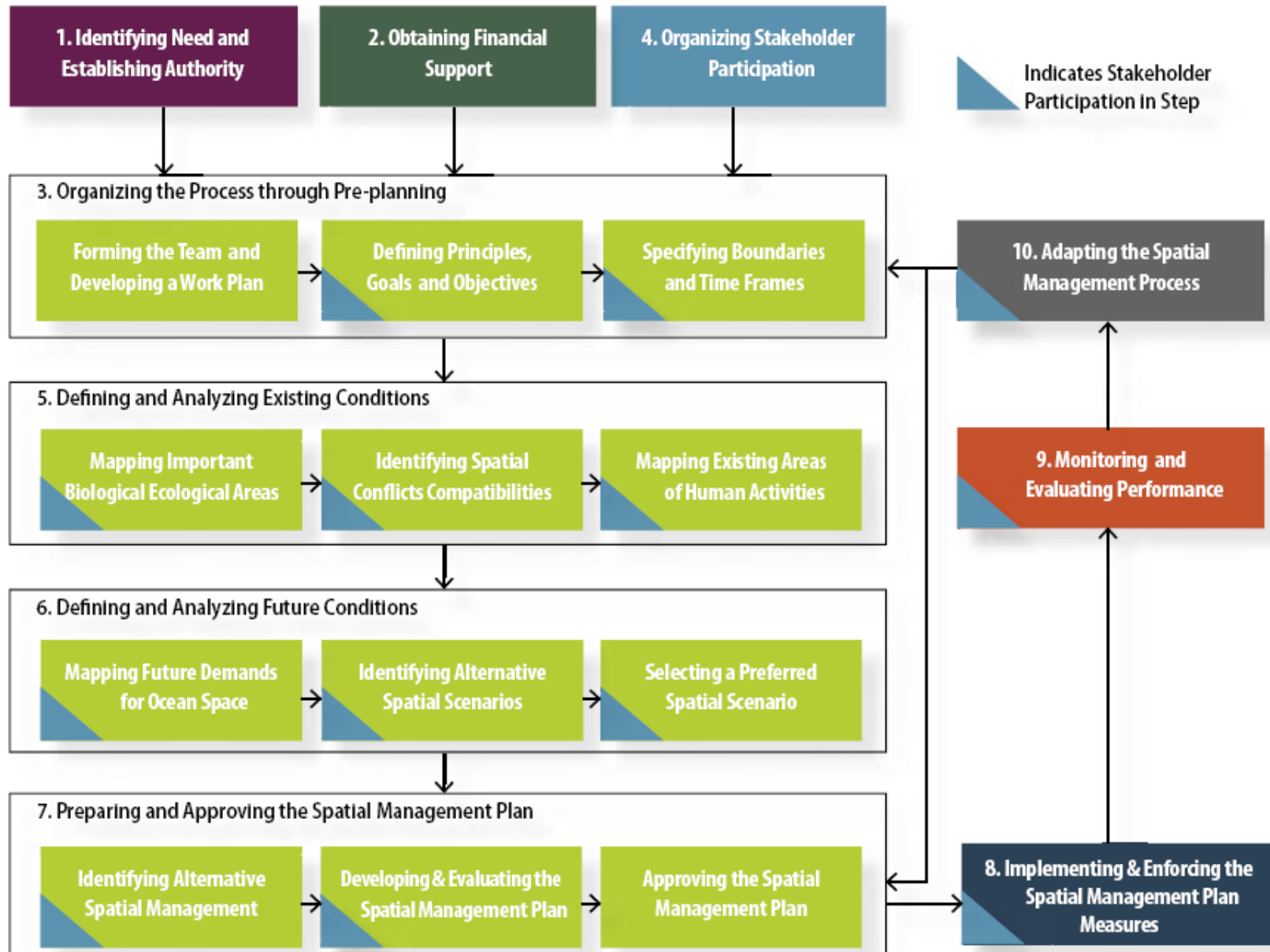


Analyse of the Belgian Situation

Methode: Unesco 10 steps



Methode: Unesco 10 steps



Step 1: Identifying need and establishing authority

Identifying the need:

First MSP Attempt:

- Bottom-up: Need for offshore energy production
- Top-Down : European network of protected areas

Current situation:

- European Marine Strategy Framework Directive and Integrated Maritime Policy, Roadmap MSP,...
- Federal policy note ' Marine Environment'
- Local actions: C-scope project, questions of stakeholders (Vlaamse Baaien), aquaculture,...



Step 1: Identifying need and establishing authority

Establishing authority:

First MSP attempt:

- Minister of the North Sea: first federal minister responsible for the BNPS
- Still authorities are divided between ministers


New process:

- Challenge: bringing together all responsible authorities.



Step 2: Obtaining financial support

Financing mechanisms

-  Different governments that undertake parts of the MSP process rely on direct allocations from general tax revenues

⇒ No budget specific allocated for MSP

⇒ Natural resources (wind, sand & gravel): retribution system, used for carrying out research.



Step 3: Organizing the process through pre-planning

Tasks:	Task 1: Creating a spatial planning team	Task 2: Developing a work plan	Task 3: Defining boundaries and timeframe	Task 4: Defining principles	Task 5: Defining goals and objectives	Task 6: Identifying risks and developing contingency plans
1st MSP attempt (2003- 2006)	?	✓	?	?	✓	?
Spatial Structure Plan Flanders	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

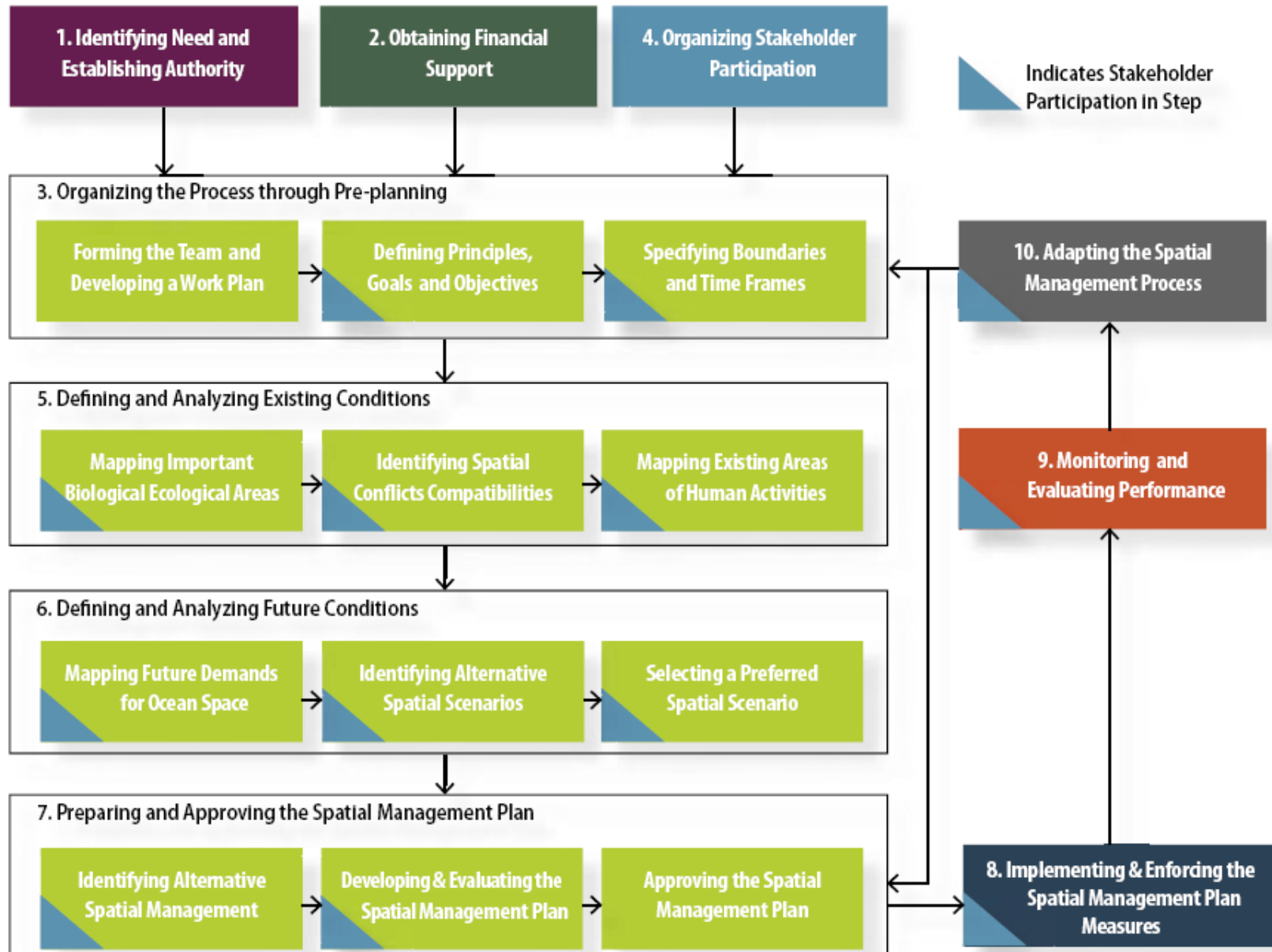


Step 4: Organizing stakeholder participation

- Who, when, how involving stakeholders (First MSP cycle)
 - Different processes (designation MPA's, Spatial implementation plans for Beaches and Dykes,...) involving stakeholders in different way
⇒ No framework for participation
- Federal government: first steps for a socio-economical advisory body, for structural advices regarding the North sea.



Methode: Unesco 10 steps

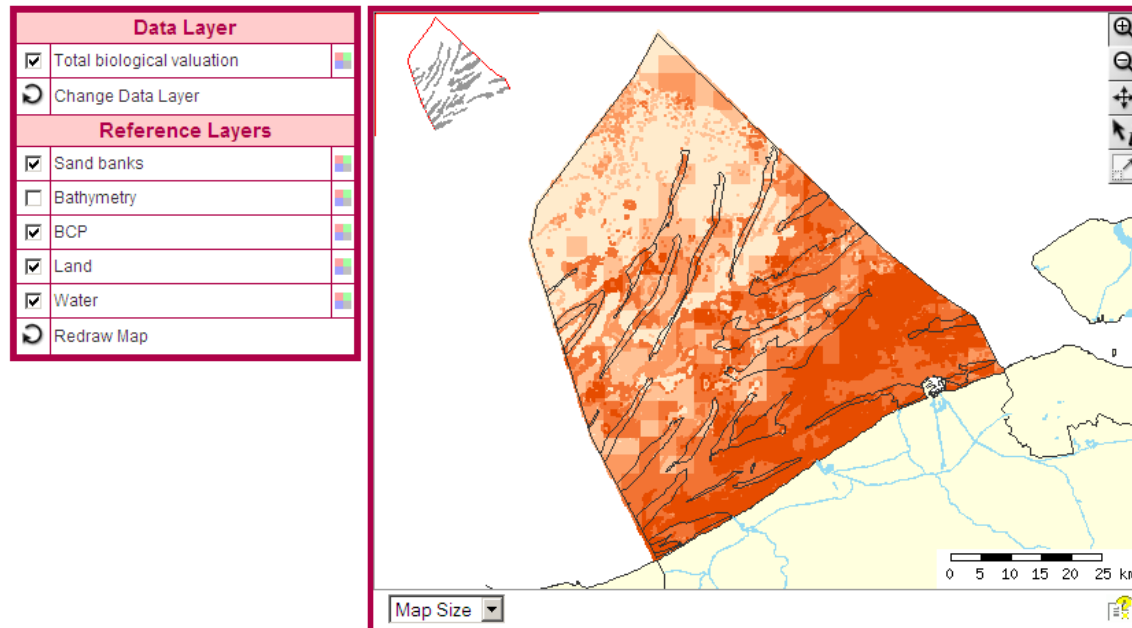


Step 5: Defining and analyzing existing conditions

- Collecting and mapping info about ecological, environmental and oceanographic conditions

BWZee

A Biological Valuation Map for the Belgian Continental Shelf

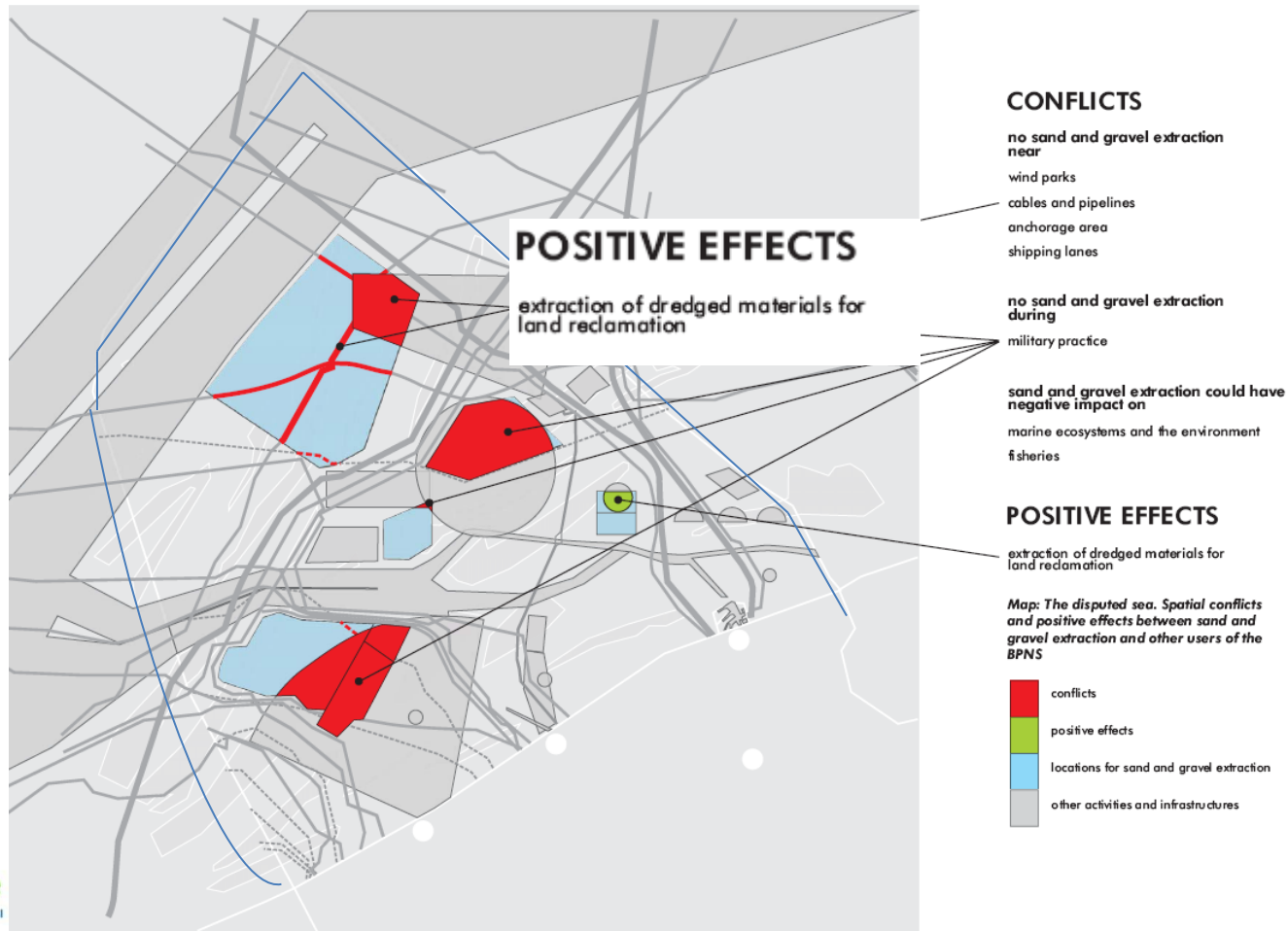


Collecting and mapping info about human activities



Step 5: Defining and analyzing existing conditions

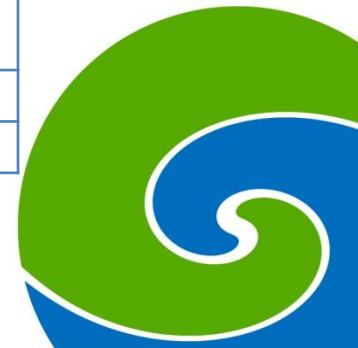
Identifying current conflicts and compatibilities



Step 6: Defining and analyzing future

- Project current trends
- Estimated new demands
- Identify alternative futures
- Select scenarios

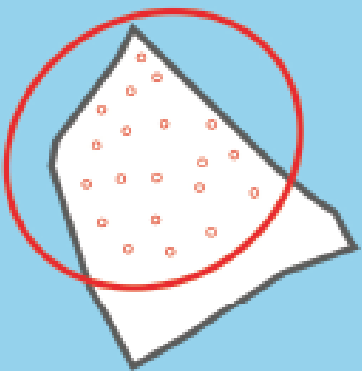
	LAND/SEA	T1: Projecting Current Trends	T2: Estimating new demands	T3: Alternative futures	T4: Selecting Scenario
1ste MSP attempt	SEA				
MIRA	LAND	✓	✓	✓	
GAUFRE	SEA	✓	✓	✓	
VLAAMSE BAAIEN (private)	LAND/SEA	✓	✓	✓	
MAGNIFICANT SURROUNDINGS #* (private)	LAND/SEA			✓	
M .U.D.	LAND/SEA			✓	
RSV	LAND	✓	✓	✓	✓



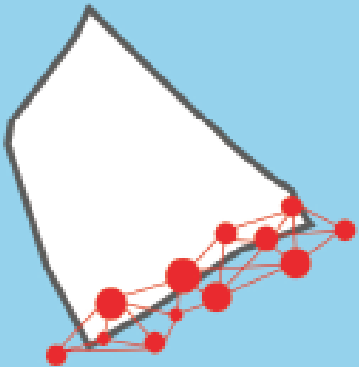


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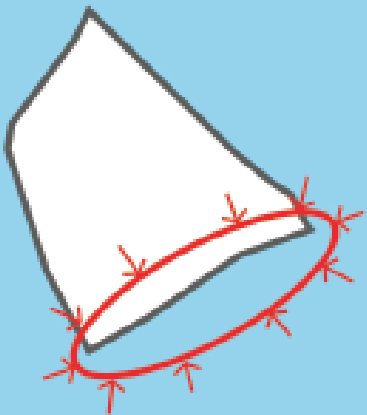
the relaxed sea



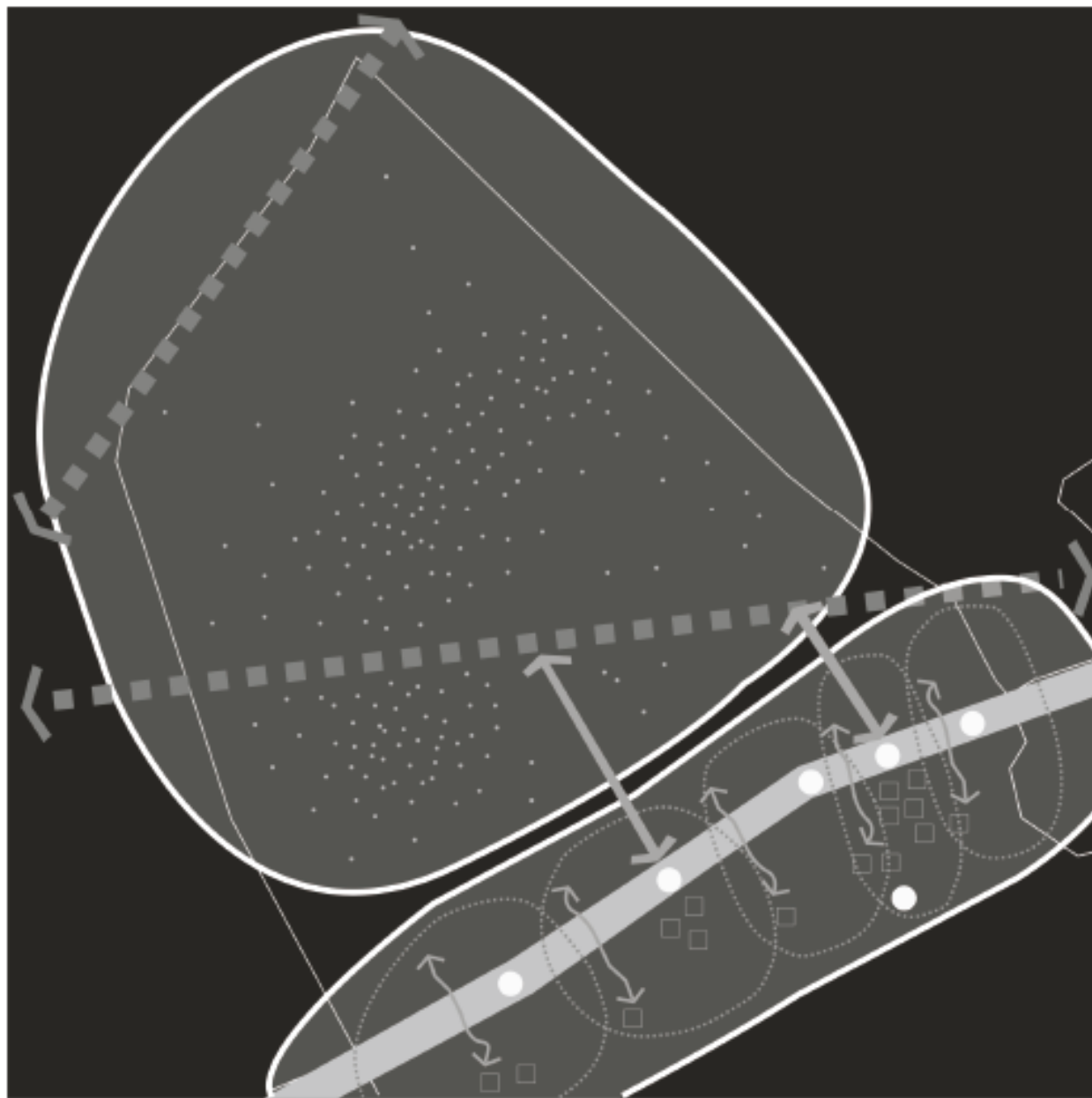
activities that cause disturbance
to tourism and recreation
are located in the deep sea



coastal area as a network of
complementary activities
(tourism - marine land
development - ...)



concentration and intensification
of activities in the coastal
area (seaside and landside)



Map III.1.4.2d. Scenario 1: The Relaxed Sea - spatial structure plan
(Structure map: Maritime Institute - Gent University)




2100





Step 6: Defining and analyzing future

Conclusion

-  First MSP attempt: steps lacking,...
-  Task of the authorities to take the lead in selecting the scenarios, and developing an integrated approach
-  New demands are not mapped for BPNS



Step 7: Preparing and approving the spatial management plan

Project	T1: Identify spatial and temporal measures and institutional arrangements	T2: Specify criteria for selecting management measures	T3: Developing the zoning plan	T4: Evaluating the spatial management plan	T5: Approving the spatial management plan
GAUFRE	✓	✓			
1st MSP cycle	✓	?	✓	?	?
Spatial Structure Plan	✓	✓	✓	?	✓



Step 8: Implementing and enforcing the spatial management plan

🌀 Implementing

- 🌀 1969: Continental shelf Act: rules for the exploration and exploitation of non living resources
- 🌀 1999: Act on EEZ and Act on protection of the marine environment. 2 Royal Decrees for implementing the act
 - 🌀 Marine protection act: licence requirements and environmental impact.
 - 🌀 Concessions granted under the Continental Shelf Act are excluded from the Marine Protection Act.



Step 9: Monitoring and evaluating performance

- There are clear monitoring and evaluation processes for certain activities
- Monitoring is divers
- Link with policies evaluation often lacks



Step 10: Adapting the spatial management process

- 🌀 New process is starting
 - 🌀 New initiatives are coming
 - 🌀 Communication of the Expert group
 - 🌀 Private questions
 - 🌀 ...



Recommendations for the future:

- New process is starting
 - Establish authority between all govern levels,
Coordination within Belgian state structure
 - Definition of objectives, work plan, principles,...
 - Coherence terrestrial-maritime spatial planning
 - Transparency and structural stakeholder participation
 - Data and knowledge based (possible to trace back)
 - Incorporate monitoring and evaluation in planning process





With special thanks to our funding partners
and all our coastal stakeholders

