



Planning the Belgian Part of the North Sea

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

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

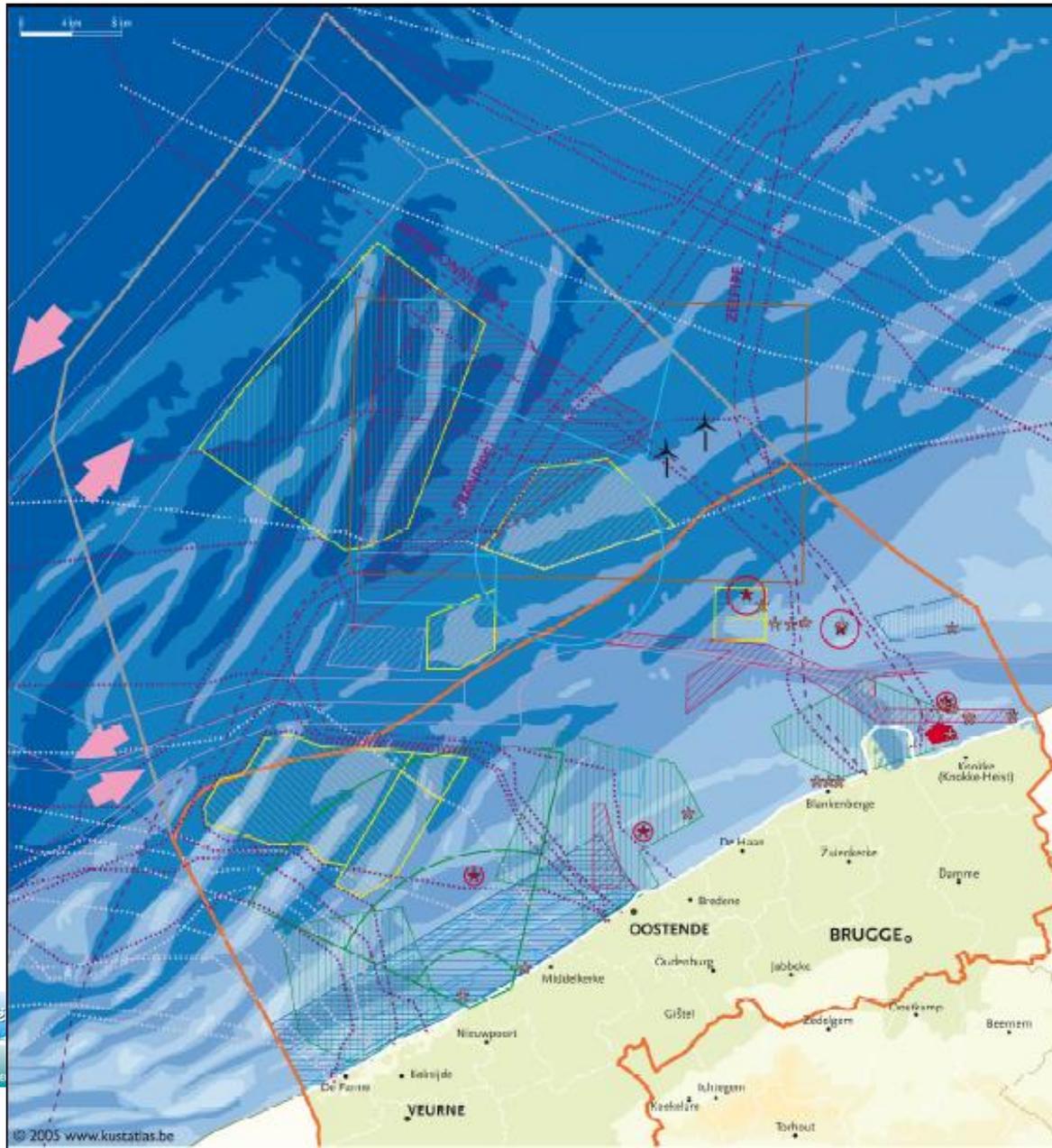


CENTRALE LIGGING IN HET EUROPEES KERNGEBIED

Algemene situering - Ligging in Europa



Or dramatically underrated?



Framework for Integrated Terrestrial and Marine Planning

C-SCOPE project

- ④ Theoretical and conceptual approach: expert team
- ④ 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...

Masterplan for the North Sea

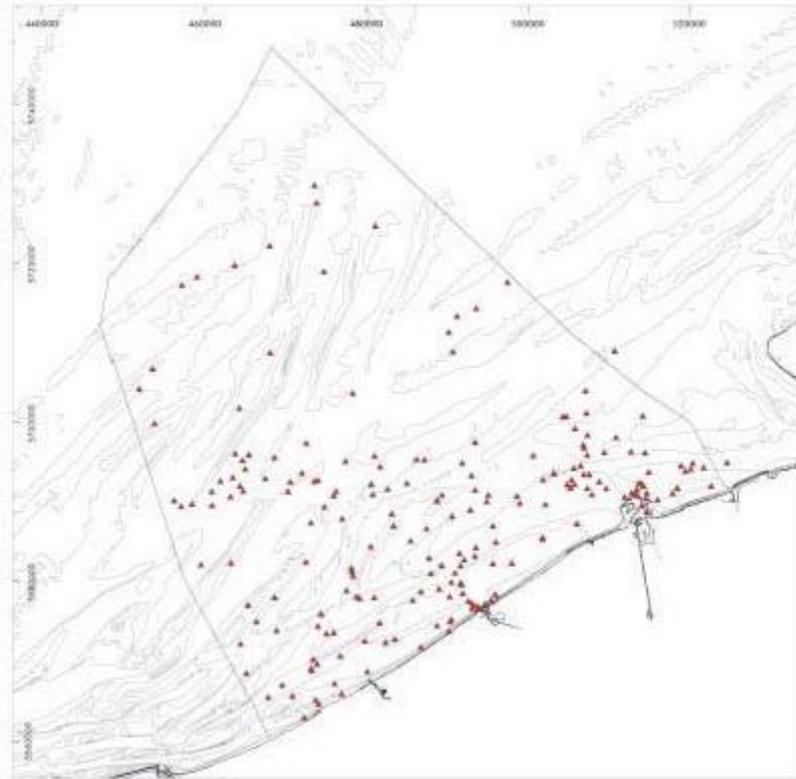
- Phase I (2003/2004):
sand and gravel
extraction
zones/windmill zone
- Phase II (2005/2006):
marine protected areas



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

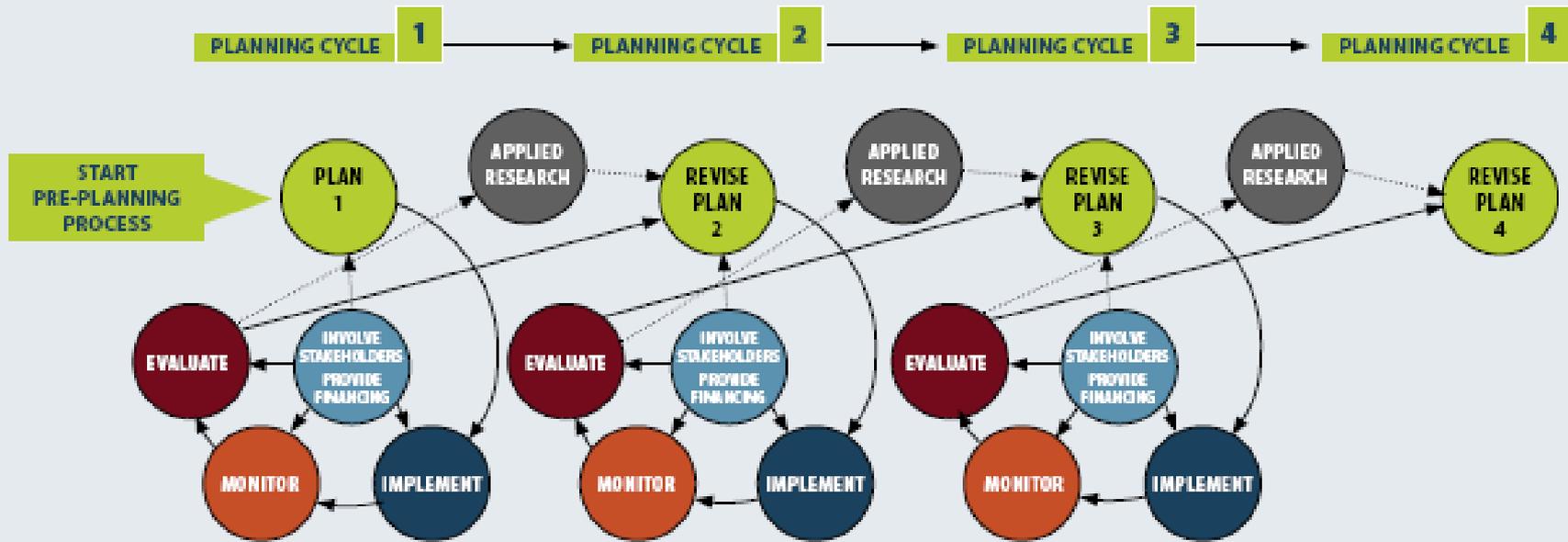


Scientific: GAUFRE

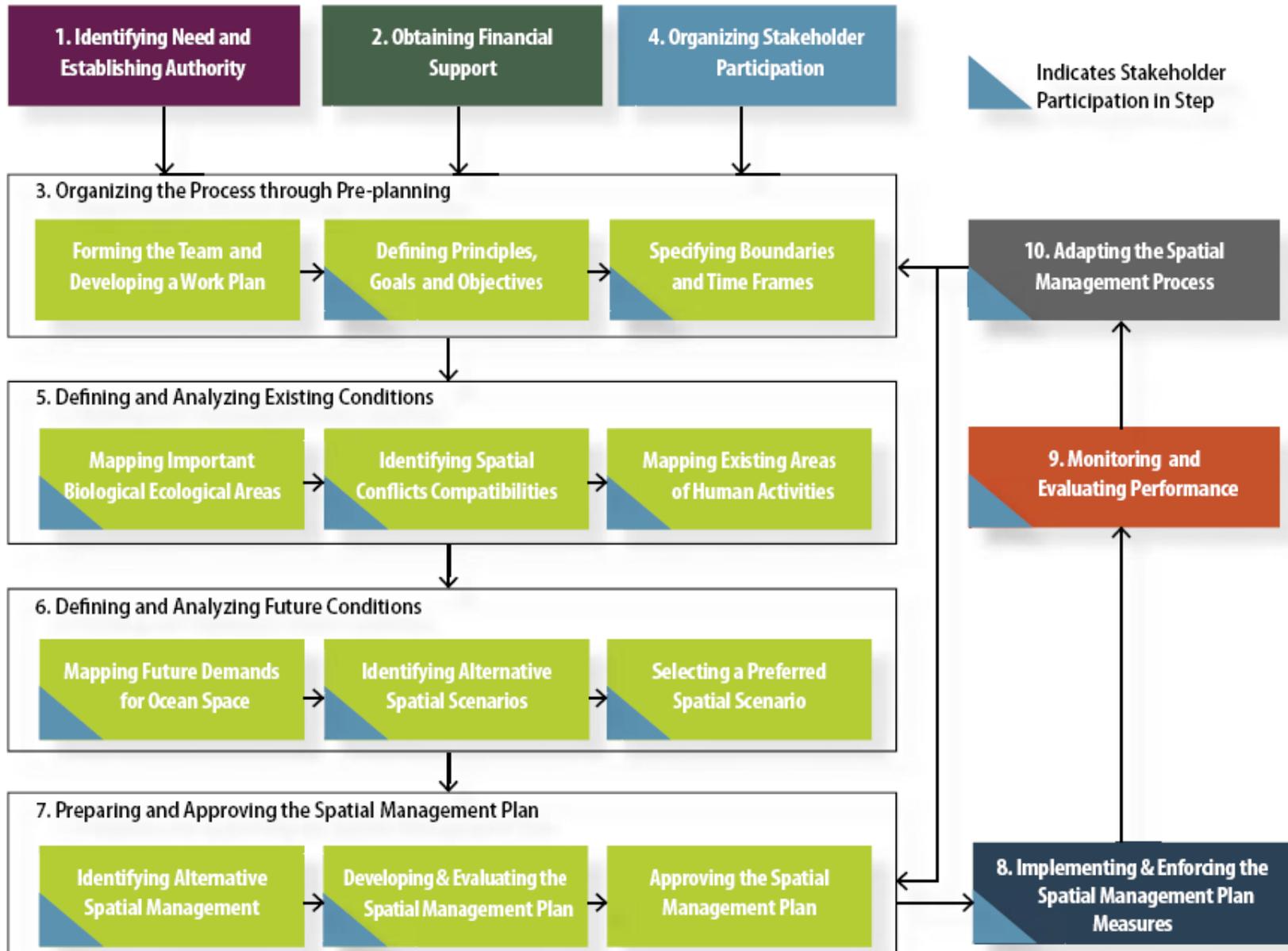


Analyse of the Belgian Situation

Methode: Unesco 10 steps



Method: 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	√	√	√	√	√	√

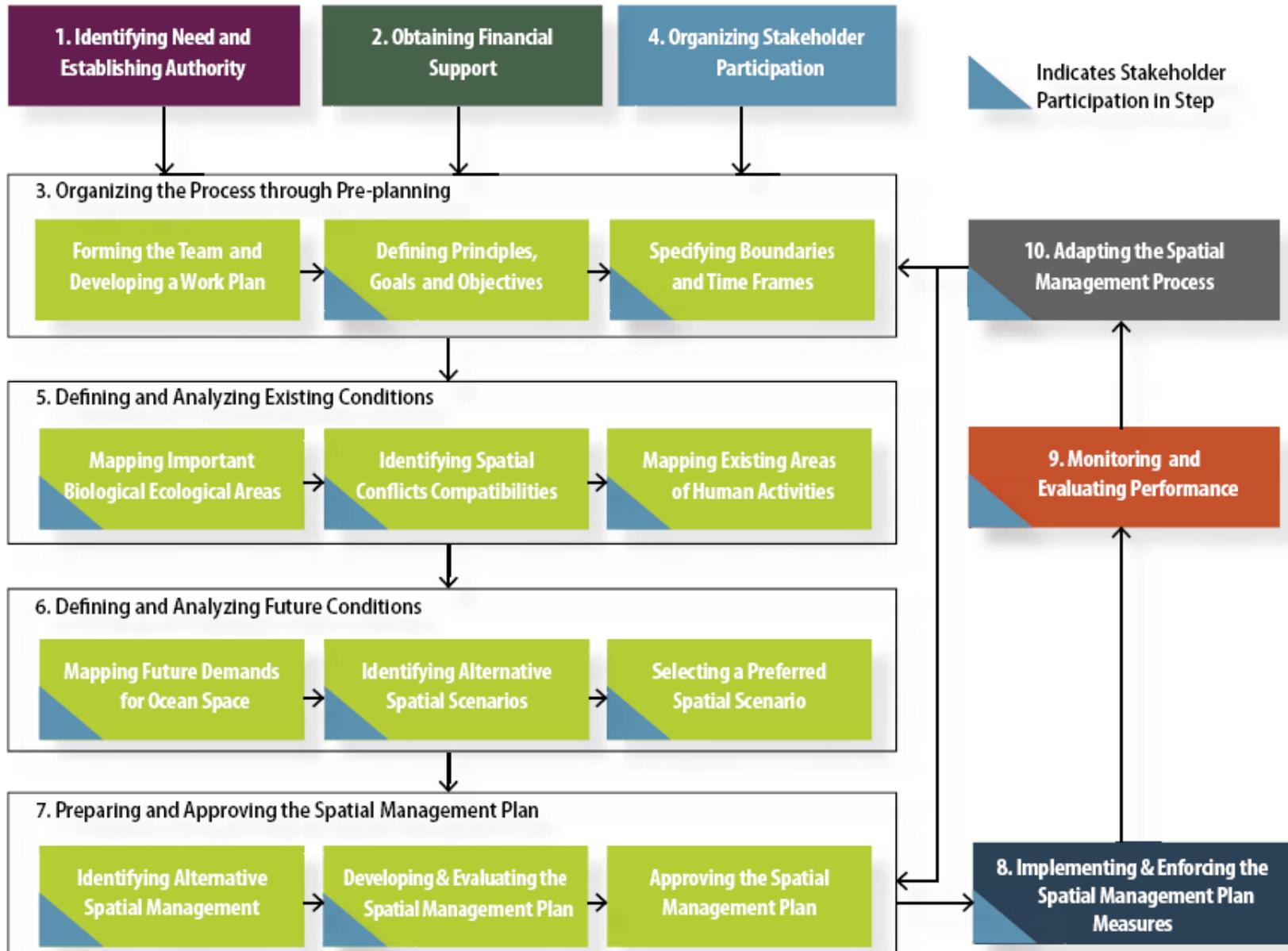


Step 4: Organizing stakeholder participation

- 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.



Method: Unesco 10 steps

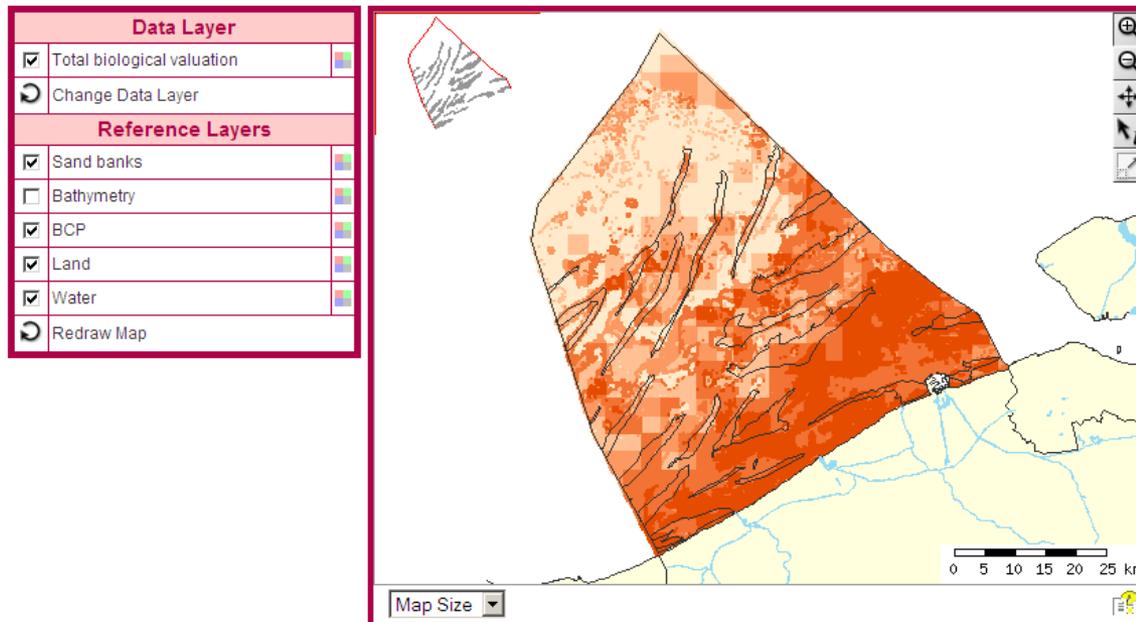


Step 5: Defining and analyzing existing conditions

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

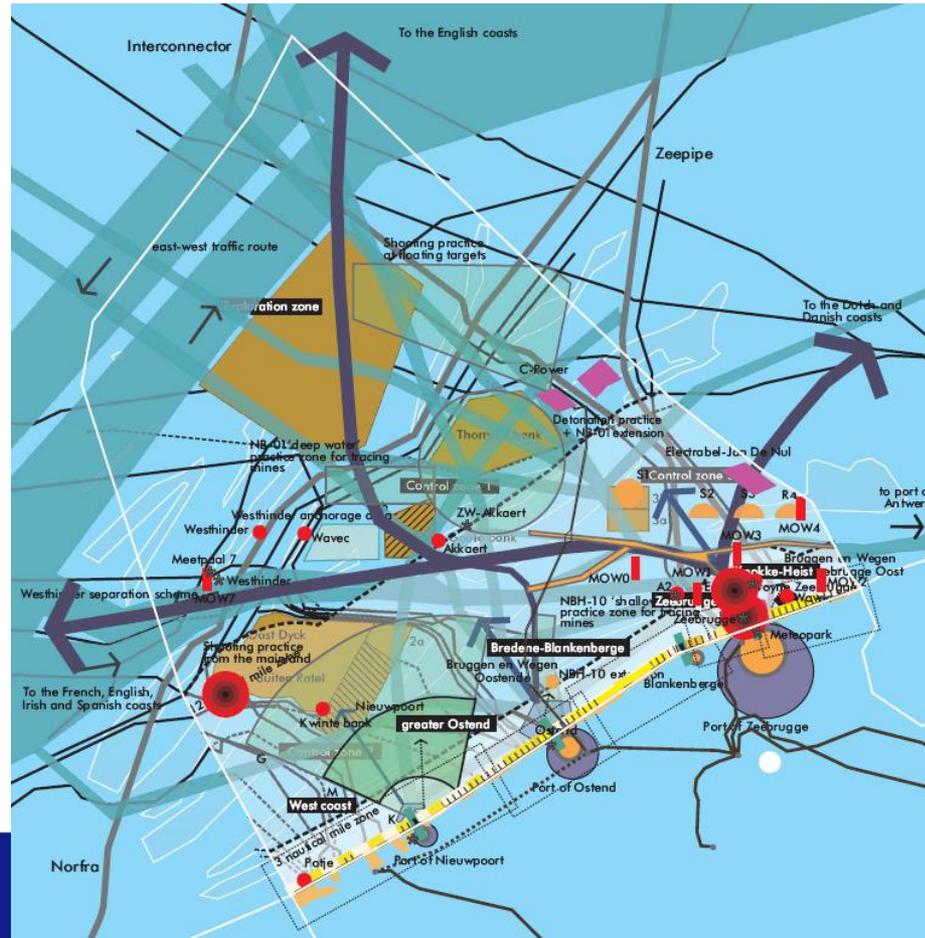
BWZee

A Biological Valuation Map for the Belgian Continental Shelf



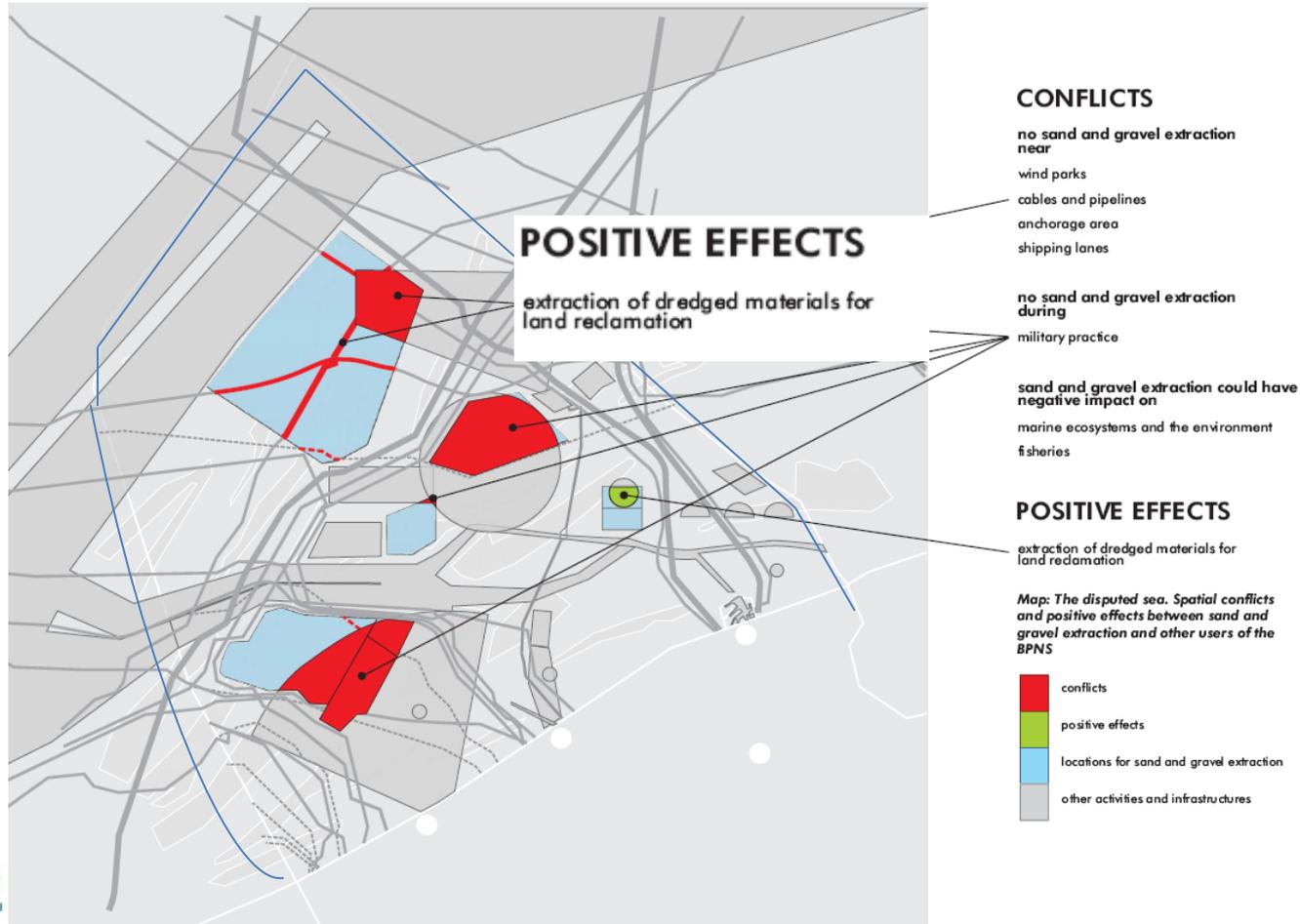
Step 5: Defining and analyzing existing conditions

Collecting and mapping info about human activities



Step 5: Defining and analyzing existing conditions

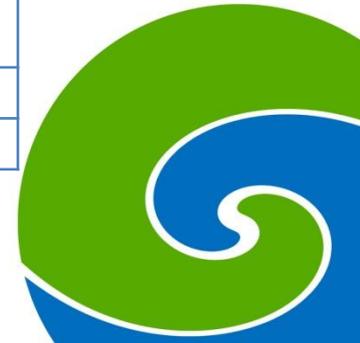
Identifying current conflicts and compatibilities



Step 6: Defining and analyzing future

- ④ Project current trends
- ④ Estimated new demands
- ④ Identify alternative futures
- ④ Select scenarios

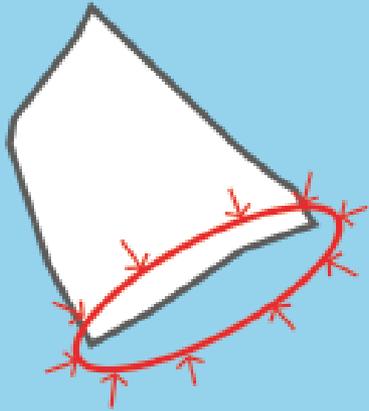
	LAND/SEA	T1: Projecting Current Trends	T2: Estimating new demands	T3: Alternative futures	T4: Selecting Scenario
1ste MSP attempt	SEA				
MIRA	LAND	√	√	√	
GAUFRE	SEA	√	√	√	
VLAAMSE BAAIEN (private)	LAND/SEA	√	√	√	
MAGNICANT SURROUNDINGS #* (private)	LAND/SEA			√	
M .U.D.	LAND/SEA			√	
RSV	LAND	√	√	√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



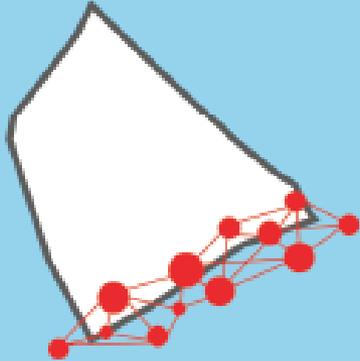


ontspannen zee

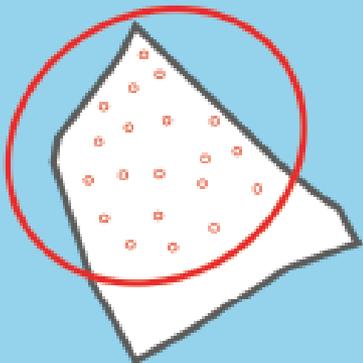
the relaxed sea



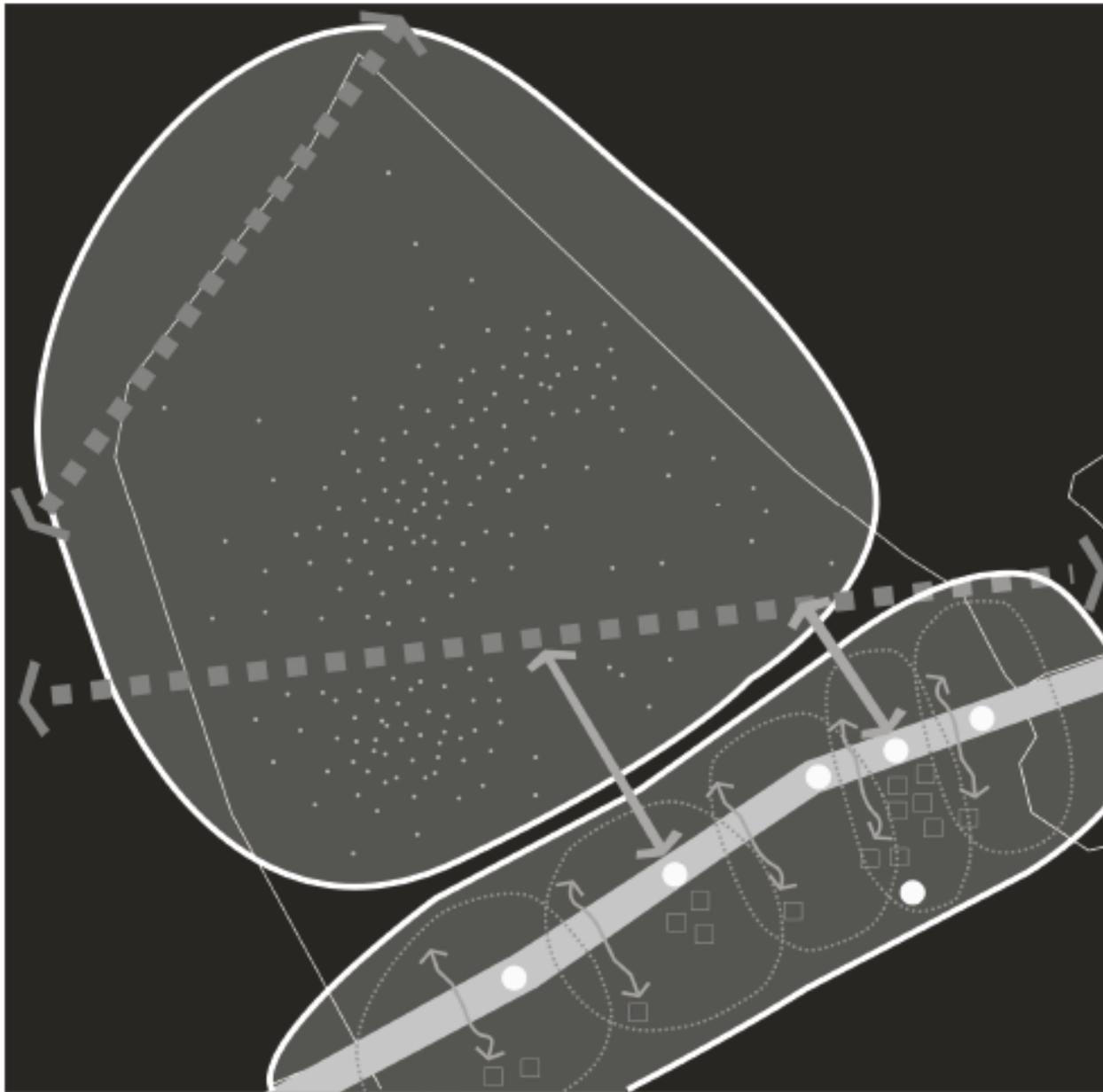
concentration and intensification
of activities in the coastal
area (seaside and landside)



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



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



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

- ④ There are clear monitoring and evaluation processes for certain activities
- ④ Monitoring is divers
- ④ 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



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VEILIGHEID VAN DE VOEDSELKETEN
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