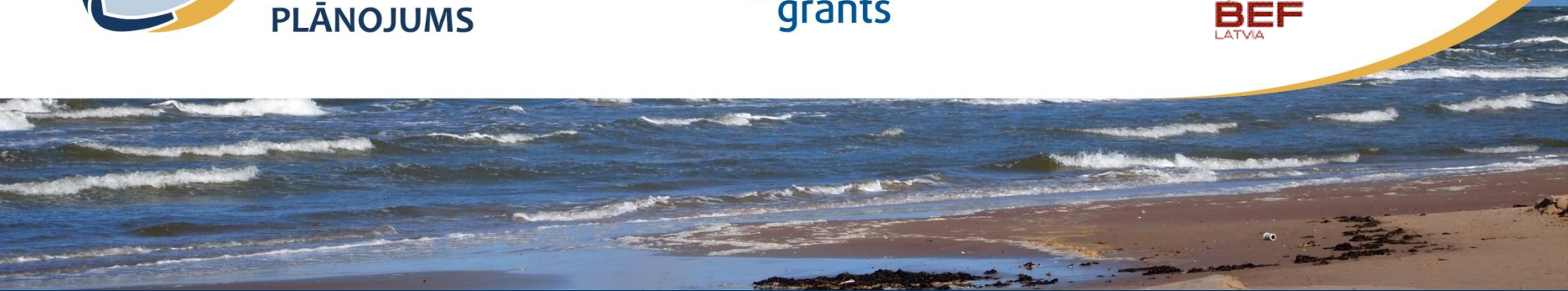


Introduction to the procedure and scope of the strategic environmental assessment (SEA) of the Latvian MSP

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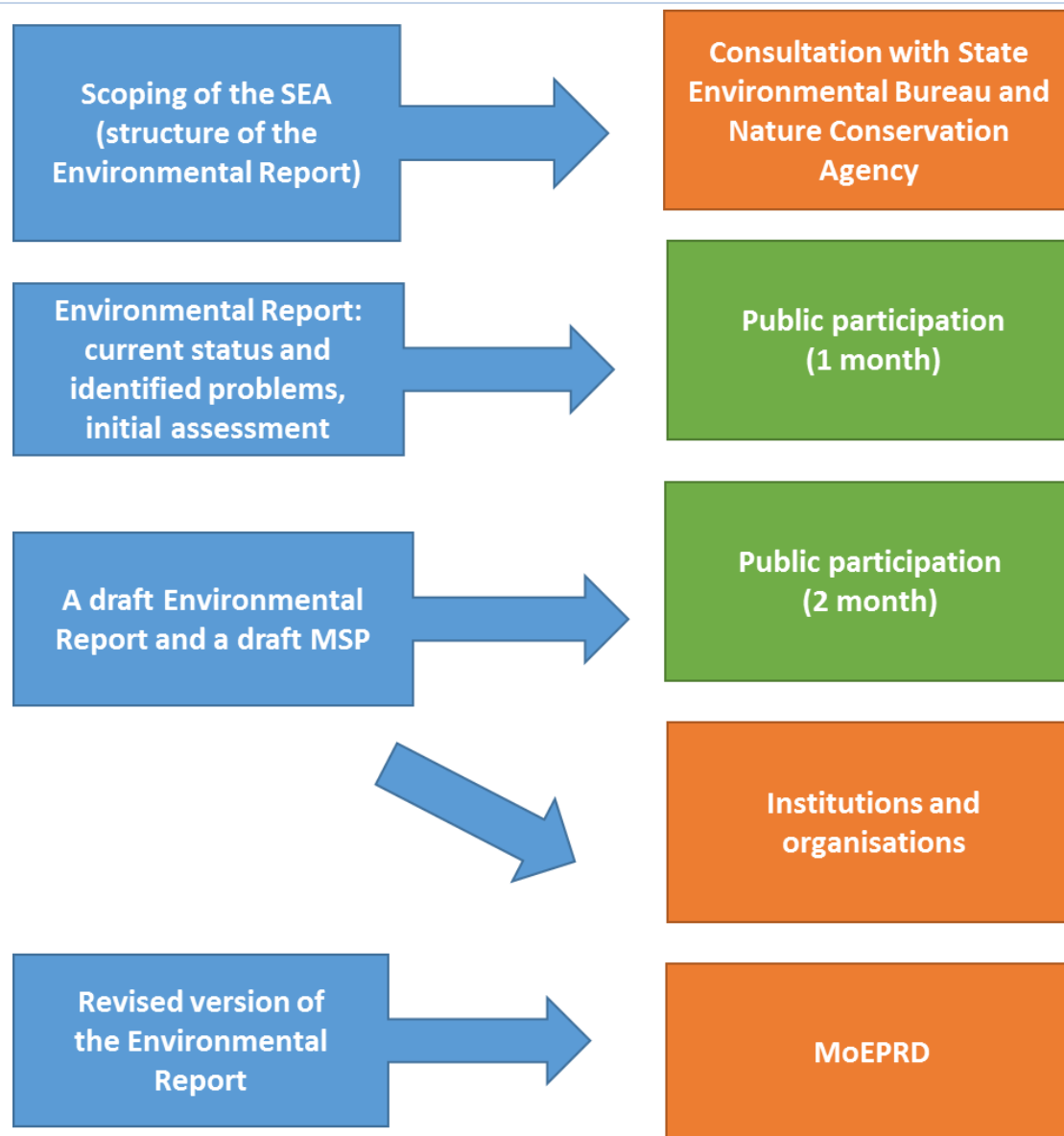
SEA legal framework

- Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment
- Latvian Law On Environmental Impact Assessment (since 2003)
- Cabinet of the Ministers Regulations No 157 «Procedures for Carrying Out a Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment», (23.03.204)

MSP legal framework

- Directive 2014/89/EU establishing a framework for maritime spatial planning (shall be transposed by the 18 September 2016)
- Law on Spatial Development Planning, 2011
- Cabinet of the Ministers Regulations Nr. 740 on Development, Implementation and Monitoring of Maritime Spatial Plan, 2012

The SEA process of Latvian MSP



Scoping of the Environmental Report

- The content of the report shall comply with the article 5 of the Directive and the Annex 1.
- Environmental Report shall include the information that may reasonably be required taking into account
 - current knowledge and methods of assessment,
 - the contents and level of detail in the plan,
 - its stage in the decision-making process and the
 - Extent to which certain matters are more appropriately assessed at different levels in that process in order to avoid duplication of the assessment.

Content overlap between ER and MSP

| Environmental Report | Maritime Spatial Plan | Chapter |
|--|---|---------|
| an outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme and relationship with other relevant plans | | ✓ |
| the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General marine and environmental characteristics of the Baltic Sea • Overview of marine ecosystems (habitats, species) • Status of the marine environment according to the MSFD criteria and indicators • Conservation status according to HD and BD | ✓ - | |
| the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected | environmental characteristics of all marine areas Ecosystem services | ✓ |
| any existing environmental problems | Pollution loads and their significance | ✓ |
| the environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan or programme | EU2020; MSFD; WFD; Biodiversity Conservation; Renewable Energy; HELCOM | ✓ |

Content overlap between ER and MSP

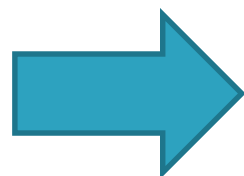
| Environmental Report | Maritime Spatial Plan | Chapter |
|---|--|---------|
| the likely significant effects on the environment | Environmental indicators (MSFD, WFD, HD, BD) Mapping and characterisation of ecosystem services | |
| the measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects | | |
| an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with | | |
| description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring in | | |
| a non-technical summary of the information | | |

Nature Conservation in SEA

- Take into account the network of MPAs and coastal Natura 2000 as well as distribution of the specially protected species and habitats
- Individual management plans of the MPAs;
- Information on the status of the species and habitats of the EU importance
- Initial assessment of the marine environmental status
- Marine and coastal monitoring results
- Results of other research and projects
- The dynamic character of the marine ecosystem, its interaction with coastal ecosystems and processes to ensure maintenance of the biodiversity and ecosystem services

Transboundary consultation on SEA: Article 7 of the Directive

- Where a Member State considers that the implementation of a plan being prepared is **likely to have significant effects on the environment** in another Member State, the Member State in whose territory the plan is being prepared shall, before its adoption or submission to the legislative procedure, forward a copy of the draft plan or programme and the relevant environmental report to the other Member State.



Early communication on the MSP
development

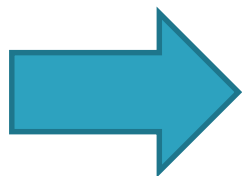
Communication with neighbors (till now)

- Notification letter to Estonia, Lithuania and Sweden (March 2015)
 - Informing about the launch of MSP and SEA
 - Asking for the interest to take part in the transboundary consultation
- Response letter from all three countries on the interest (April/May 2015)
- The stakeholder meetings on the state of the environment and development of MSP (in Klaipeda and Parnu, July 2015)
 - Early consultation process to identify concerns on the environment and development
- Public consultation process on draft MSP and Environmental report
 - Period for commenting: December 2015– January 2016
 - Meetings in January 2016

Transboundary consultation on MSP: Article 11 of the Directive

Cooperation among Member States

- Member States bordering marine waters shall cooperate aiming at ensuring that maritime spatial plans are coherent and coordinated across the marine region concerned;
- Cooperation shall take into account, in particular, issues of a transnational nature.



HELCOM-VASAB; Baltic Regional projects

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PASŪTĪTĀJS:



Vides aizsardzības un
reģionālās attīstības
ministrija

IZPILDĪTĀJS:



APAKŠUZŅĒMĒJI:



Latvijas Hidroekoloģijas institūts



Latvijas Jūras administrācija



Piekrastes pētniecības un
plānošanas institūts Lietuvā



Hendrikson & Ko

Vides, plānošanas
un konsultācijas
uzņēmums Igaunijā