



ADDRESSING BALTIC MUSSEL FARMS IN THE MSP PROCESS

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WHAT?

- Based on experience of project's focus farms, a common methodological approach on addressing the mussel farms in the process of the marine spatial planning (MSP).
- Issues to be touched upon: national and regional sector's plans, legal regulations, potential conflict areas with other maritime uses.

For whom and how?

It is for MSP practitioners: a review of the current knowledge and a guide on how to take mussel farms into account in the maritime spatial planning process.

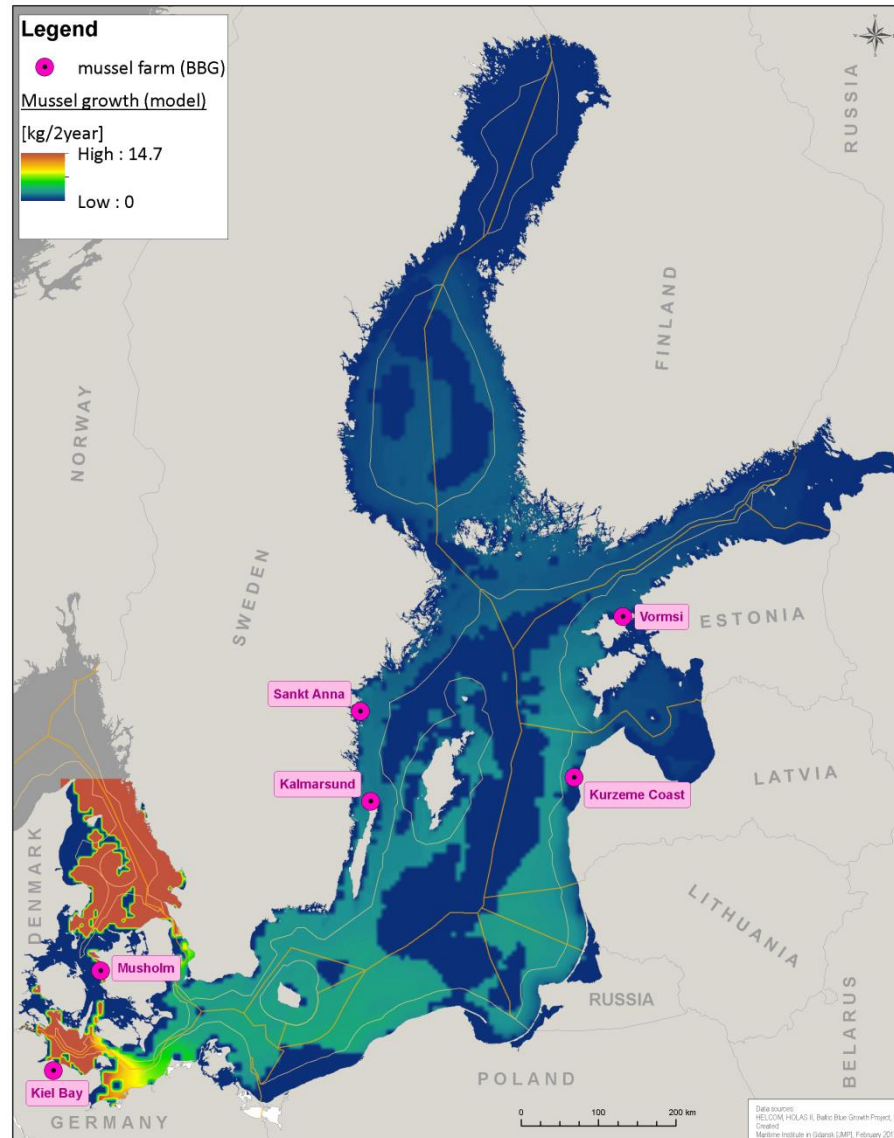
Harmonization vs. obvious differences

Physical conditions determines the site location

Based on:

- Experience and knowledge gained so far
- Findings from BBG focus farms
- Survey among MSP actors and mussel farms owners

The optimum: water temperature – near 20°C, salinity: the higher, the better, oxygen concentration over 5 ml·dm⁻³, chlorophyll a concentration from 3 µg·dm⁻³ and higher.



Being practical

- Now and beyond tomorrow
- MSP process steps
- Importance of stakeholders engagement
- Conflict analysis – general as this is very much site specific, searching for synergies (multi-use combinations)
- Planning criteria and planning provisions: there is not so much experience to built on.

Expectations vs reality

- Planning process may be inspired by research and technological development penetrating mariculture sector development potential but it cannot substitute policies and other instruments enabling its growth.
- MSP process as a decision making process may lower or remove the barriers for the mariculture development (by for instance allocating a space for future farms) but definitely it is not the main driver.
- The current approach to mariculture in the maritime spatial planning process reflects the sector development and/or strength in the given country.

Thank you for your attention!



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