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REPORT ON THE SEAPLANSPACE
FINAL JOINT PROJECT MEETING

Gdańsk, October 20-21, 2021

The SEAPLANSPACE Final Joint Project Meeting took place on October 21-22, 2021 in Gdańsk, Poland. The place of the main sessions was the University of Gdańsk (SEAPLANSPACE Project LP), Faculty of Law and Administration.

Guided by precautionary reasons, due to the coronavirus pandemic, the SEAPLANSPACE Project Team decided to conduct this meeting in a hybrid formula. The aim of the meeting was to summarize the achievements of the project. The most important achievements of all partners of the SEAPLAN-SPACE Project have been presented during this meeting, as well as the challenges of MSP and a vision for the future of sustainable marine governance in the South Baltic Sea area (SBA).

SEAPALNSPACE Final Joint Project Meeting started with welcome speeches delivered by: Vice-Rector of the University of Gdańsk, professor Krzysztof Bielawski; Dean of the Faculty of Law and Administration, professor Wojciech Zalewski; and Wojciech Zdanowicz - Director of the Maritime Office in Szczecin, as well as Antanas Sabanas - Joint Secretariat - Interreg South Baltic Project Officer, and Dorota Pyć SEAPLANSPACE Project Manager.

The two-day SEAPLANSPACE Final Joint Project Meeting was divided into four plenary sessions, two sessions each day.

The title of the first plenary session was 'Maritime Spatial Planning Challenges for Sustainable Future'. In this session, three keynote speakers presented their speeches: professor Jacek Zaucha, who spoke about 'Maritime Spatial Planning: Opportunities & Challenges in the South Baltic Area', then professor Joanna Przedrzymirska discussed 'Maritime Spatial Planning: Efficient

Communication (so how to move from being aware to being engaged)', and the last one in this session, professor Ernest Czermański presented the subject 'Maritime Spatial Planning and its Significance for Navigation'. The sessions ended with a discussion.

The second plenary session was devoted to 'SEAPLANSPACE Work Packages Overview, Valuation and Success Story'. The project partners made their views on this session. All work packages have been discussed. WP1 Management and Coordination and WP2 Communication and Dissemination issues were presented by professor Maciej Nyka; WP3 Marine Governance Network discussed issues were discussed by Robert Dobak; WP4 SEAPLAN-SPACE Manuals issues were presented by Franziska Stoll; WP5 Training supporting employment were discussed by professor Ramunas Povilanskas; and WP6 SEAPLANSPACE Web Portal issues were presented by professor Lise Schrøder. The sessions ended with a discussion.

The title of the third plenary session was 'Maritime Spatial Planning Instruments'. During this session, in the first section devoted to MSP Instruments, the subject of 'MSP Instruments - Some Brief Insights' was discussed by dr. Kira Gee, while Susanne Altvater refers to 'Maritime Cultural Heritage and Socio-Cultural Values in MSP'. In the second section devoted to Application of MSP Instruments, Anna Stelmaszyk-Świerczyńska presented 'Executive Tasks of Maritime Administration Authorities in MSP'. The sessions ended with a discussion.

The last, fourth plenary session concerned 'Sustainable Marine Governance'. During this session, in the first section devoted to the Idea of Sustainable Marine Governance, dr. Magdalena Adamowicz discussed some issues about 'MSP for Sustainable Marine Governance in the EU Policy'. Then, Karin Topsø presented 'MSP as a capacity building tool in sustainable marine governance'. In the second section devoted to Application of Sustainable Marine Governance, Robert Dobak explained the meaning of 'Monitoring and Evaluation in MSP'. The last speaker was Egidijus Jurkus with the subject 'MSP as a tool for the protection of marine and coastal natural resources'. The sessions ended with a discussion.

The ambition of the SEAPLANSPACE Project was and still is to boost the competences of labour force engaged in MSP dialogue and the number of people able to understand impact and influence of marine governance in their daily work related to Blue Growth. This has been done by cross-border training and networking according to the jointly prepared training curricula paying attention to national specificities. Therefore, a key target group are professionals at local/municipal administrative level, in companies and communities and students that plan to work there in the field of the blue growth stimulation. The project made an important contribution to the implementation of the EU Strategy for Baltic Sea region (EUSBSR), Europe 2020 and Blue Growth strategy

by: (1) strengthen transnational activeness and skilled labour force in the SBA blue & green economy; (2) increase human resources capacities; (3) development of cross-border cooperation capacity of local/regional authorities, universities, business and other stakeholders; (4) improve cross-border connectivity for a functional blue & green skilled labour force area. Due to the fact that the SEAPLANSPACE project is implemented by the University of Gdańsk in cooperation with partners representing scientific institutions, public administration and non-governmental organizations from five South Baltic countries, it was possible to present maritime spatial planning in a comprehensive, interdisciplinary way, taking into account cross-border aspects and social participation in the SBA. The SEAPLANSPACE project increases the availability of information related to maritime spatial planning instruments and their application conditions in the South Baltic countries for sustainable marine governance in the long term (SEAPLANSPACE Webinar https://seaplanspace. eu/education/seaplanspace-webinar-2021/ and e.g. SEAPLANSPACE Manuals https://seaplanspace.eu/countries/poland/polish-manuals/). Activities disseminating in-depth MSP knowledge of the environmental, social, legal and economic aspects of sustainable sea management are aimed at various entities and serve to build a marine space culture. In the SEAPLANSPACE Project, the partners jointly developed a framework training program on the basis of which training courses were carried out in Poland, Germany, Denmark, Sweden and Lithuania. Finally, the project increased employability of more than 300 persons that acquired new attractive skills.

The SEAPLANSPACE Project involved eight partners from Germany, Poland, Denmark, Sweden and Lithuania, representing different type of organisations and competences: universities, public administration, non-governmental organisations. Apart from the University of Gdańsk, the leader of the SEAPLANSPACE project, the partners of this project are: Aalborg University (Denmark), Center for Regional and Tourism Research (Denmark), County Administrative Board of Kalmar (Sweden), EUCC - The Coastal Union Germany (Germany), EUCC Baltic Office (Lithuania), Maritime Institute of Gdynia Maritime University (Poland) and World Maritime University (Sweden). The SEAPLANSPACE partnership has been supported by associated partners, representing national governmental maritime administration, and municipal authorities as well as entities involved in nature conservation. The associate partners of the SEAPLANSPACE project are: Administration of Seaside Region Park (Lithuania), Maritime Office in Gdynia (Poland), Ministry of Energy, Infrastructure and Digitalization, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (Germany), Pomeranian Regional Planning Office (Poland).

The SEAPLANSPACE Project ended in December 31, 2021, after 4 years of fruitful cooperation between Poland, Germany, Denmark, Sweden and Lithuania. On October 21-22, 2021 the SEAPLANSPACE Final Joint Project

Meeting was held at the University of Gdańsk, in Gdańsk (Poland), in order to summarize the SEAPLANSPACE Project, to present its results, and discuss the idea of further implementation the instruments of marine spatial planning for sustainable marine governance, in particular in the context of plan after project closure.

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