

Maritime Spatial Planning Forum

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FORUM **MSP**



Session «Marine Green Infrastructure and Its Role in MSP and Climate Refugia» Introduction

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Background

- The **EU Biodiversity Strategy's target 2** requires that “by 2020, ecosystems and their services are maintained and enhanced by establishing green infrastructure and restoring at least 15% of degraded ecosystems.”
- EU-wide strategy promoting investments in green infrastructure, adopted by EC in 2013, defines GI as

“Strategically planned network of natural and semi-natural areas with other environmental features designed and managed to deliver a wide range of **ecosystem services**. It incorporates green spaces (or blue if aquatic ecosystems are concerned) and other physical features in terrestrial (including coastal) and marine areas.”





What is marine GI infrastructure?



- already designated network of marine protected areas (MPAs)?
- ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs)?
- benthic habitats of high conservation value and/or core habitats for species ?
- areas important for ecosystem service supply?





Aims of the session

- To introduce to the Pan Baltic Scope approach to mapping of marine GI – Anda Ruskule & Didzis Ustups
- To look at other examples of marine GI mapping and application cases/possibilities – Solvita Strāķe, Jan Schmidtbauer Crona, Oscar Thörnqvist
- To discuss the opportunities and current limitations for applying the GI concept in MSP
- To formulate recommendations and key actions to support application of the GI concept in MSP



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Thank you!

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Should we call it 'green' or 'blue'
infrastructure?





Panel discussion: role of green infrastructure concept in MSP





Panel discussion

Panel:

- **Cristina Cervera Núñez**, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO
- **Janica Borg**, WWF European Policy Office
- **Lena Bergström**, HELCOM/Pan Baltic Scope project
- **Magdalena Matczak**, Maritime Institute of Maritime University in Gdynia
- **Pierpaolo Campostrini**, Consortium for Managing Scientific Research on Venice Lagoon System
- **Juris Aigars**, Latvian Institute of Aquatic Ecology





Panel discussion

- What is marine GI concept good for and shall marine GI mapping become a common practice in MSP?
- What are current limitations/obstacles/reasons for not mapping marine GI?
- What actions can be taken and national and international level to support integration of the GI concept in MSP?

