



Co-funded by the
European Maritime and
Fisheries Fund of the
European Union

The Planning Forum

“The Planning Forum has allowed us to get a cross-border perspective for our national maritime spatial planning process.”

“A Planning Forum like this supports cooperation and coherence between plans. The forum is really hands-on and practical, facilitating exchange between members”

“Our international consultation gave very good input for our national planning, especially since other countries’ planners were already familiar with our MSP, thanks to the planning forum.”

“It’s inspiring! Every meeting generates a lot of ideas.”

A forum for hands-on work

In the Pan Baltic Scope collaboration we had a Planning Forum. Our forum was a place for hands-on, practical work, and a regular platform to collaborate in cross-border planning. All our 12 collaboration partners were members. Eight of those were planning authorities. All in the Baltic Sea Region.

Strengthened cooperation across borders

Our Planning Forum contributed to the progress of our members’ planning work. By having regular meetings, the planners had the chance to discuss and solve current issues with colleagues around the Baltic Sea. All members contributed with their own needs and expertise. And we built trust by creating an open and allowing atmosphere.

Pressing issue and agile – various ways of working

We started each forum meeting with each country sharing their most pressing issues at that time. We also deep-dived into one or more planning issue at each forum, for example how to handle cross-border fisheries, lands-sea interactions or cumulative impacts. The forum also aligned our Pan Baltic Scope outputs with planning needs, and coordinated other work.

- **Planning Forum meetings** for exchange and coordination
- **Lateral meetings** between two or more countries to discuss joint issues
- **Task forces** prepared questions and material on planning issues
- **International consultations** with neighbouring countries on plan proposals

Major Outputs

- Exchange of experiences through open dialogue
- Identified common challenges
- Boosted competence of planning authorities, raised awareness of transboundary issues
- Documentations from bilateral meetings
- Planning Forum final report
- Suggestions for the next steps

Learn how we did it at
www.panbalticscope.eu