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This project is co-financed by the European Union and the Republic of Turkey

Trkiye'de Deniz Stratejisi ereve Direktifi Kapsamında Kapasite Geliřtirme Projesi  
Capacity Building Project on Marine Strategy Framework Directive in Turkey

# Background and history of the MSFD

Ben van de Wetering  
The Netherlands



*Denizlerimizin geleceđi bizim ellerimizde* *The future of the seas is in our hands*



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The discussion on the development of an EU Marine Strategy was initiated in the

## 6th Environment Action Programme (2001)

with as overall aim

**"to promote sustainable use of the seas  
and conserve marine ecosystems"**



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This was further strengthened by the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg (2002). In its implementation plan the Summit agreed, inter alia,

**to encourage the application by 2010 of the ecosystem approach to oceans**



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These political commitments to sustainable development should lead to a more integrated approach to policy making and management as **each policy sector should consider also the side effects, positive or negative, on other sectors and on the marine ecosystem**



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**Starting point in July 2001**

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## Challenges

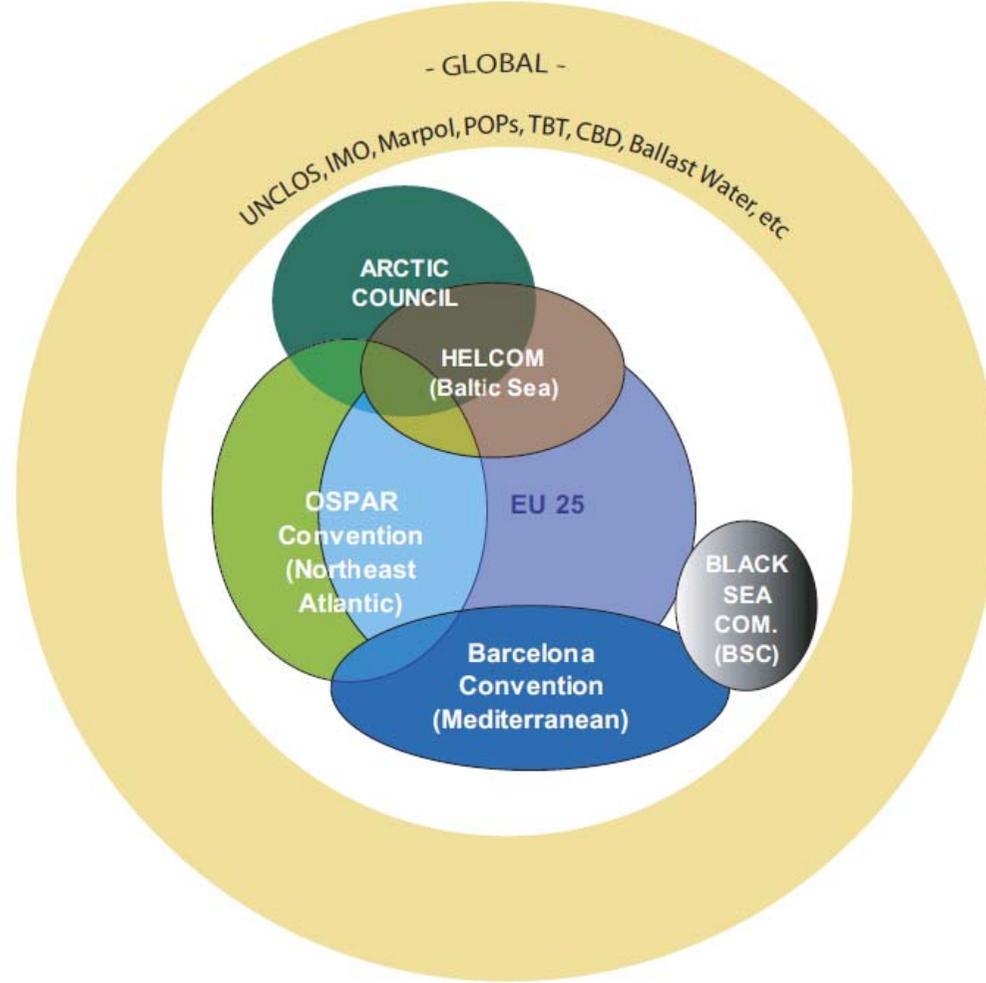
- **A common approach for different regions**
  - EU is / will be covering parts of all regional seas around Europe
  - there are many problems shared in these seas
  - transboundary nature of several threats and human activities
- **A regionalised ecosystem approach**
  - holistic and integrated instead of a sector by sector
  - addressing regional specificities
  - using as much as possible existing (regional) institutional instruments





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## Towards a strategy to protect and conserve the marine environment

First publication  
- COM(2002)0539 -

- summarises available information concerning the **environmental status** of the seas and oceans and the **main threats**
- describes the status of the **development and implementation of policies** to control these threats, both **within the EU and at regional and international level**
- identifies **gaps in knowledge** and review the present situation with regard to monitoring, assessment and research
- draws **operational conclusions** on what needed to be done to improve that situation



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## Türkiye'de Deniz Stratejisi Çerçeve Direktifi Kapsamında Kapasite Geliştirme Projesi Capacity Building Project on Marine Strategy Framework Directive in Turkey



Threat/Pressure	Legislation, policy or programme
Biodiversity Decline/ Habitat Destruction	A Sustainable Europe for a Better World: A European Union Strategy for Sustainable Development (SDS), Directive on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (92/43, Habitats Directive), Directive on the conservation of wild birds (79/409, Birds Directive), Council Regulation establishing a Community system for fisheries and aquaculture (No 3760/92 of 20 December 1992, CFP), Agricultural Policy (CAP), Directive establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy (2000/60, WFD), draft Recommendation concerning the implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management in Europe (ICZM); proposed Directive amending the Recreational Craft Directive 94/25 to include noise and exhaust emission limits for engines used in recreational craft
Hazardous Substances	Directive on the approximation of laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances (67/548) and related legislation, Directive 76/769 relating to restrictions on the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances and preparations, Directive concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market (91/414), Directive concerning the placing of biocidal products on the market (98/8), Directive on pollution caused by certain dangerous substances discharged into the aquatic environment of the Community (76/464, plus daughter directives), Directive concerning integrated pollution prevention and control (96/61, IPPC), WFD, Chemicals Policy, emissions legislation especially national emission ceilings
Eutrophication	Council Directive concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources (91/676, Nitrates Directive), Council Directive concerning urban waste-water treatment (91/271, UWWT), WFD, CAP, emissions legislation/national emission ceilings
Chronic Oil Pollution	Directive on port reception facilities for ship-generated waste and cargo residues (2000/59), Community Framework for cooperation in the field of accidental or deliberate marine pollution
Radionuclides	Basic safety standards established under the Euratom Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community
Health and Environment	Directive concerning the quality of bathing water (76/160), UWWT, Directive 91/492 on shellfish, Directive 91/493 on fish and fishery products and Directive 96/23 on monitoring of residues in food (Food Safety Framework), Directive laying down the health conditions for the production and the placing on the market of live bivalve molluscs (91/492), Commission Strategy with regard to Dioxins, Furans and PCB; proposed Directive amending the Recreational Craft Directive 94/25 to include noise and exhaust emission limits for engines used in recreational craft (COM (2000) 639); Proposal for a directive on the Protection of the Environment through Criminal Law (COM (2001) 139)
Maritime Transport (limited to measures most directly linked to the protection of the marine environment)	Directive 93/75 concerning minimum requirements for vessels carrying dangerous or polluting goods; Directive 94/57 on common rules and standards for ship inspection and survey organisations, Directive 95/21 concerning Port State Control; Directive 2000/59 on port reception facilities for ship-generated waste and cargo residues; Directive 2001/25 on the minimum level of training of seafarers; Regulation 417/2002 on the accelerated phasing-in of double hull or equivalent design requirements for single hull oil tankers;



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Threat/Pressure	International Conventions / Commissions / Organisations
General	Convention for the Protection of Marine Environment of the North East Atlantic (OSPAR), Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea (HELCOM), Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (BARCELONA), Convention for the Protection of the Black Sea against Pollution (Bucharest), North Sea Conference
Biodiversity Decline / Habitat Destruction	OSPAR, HELCOM, BARCELONA, Agreement on the conservation of small cetaceans of the Baltic and the North Seas (ASCOBANS), Agreement on the conservation of cetaceans in the Black and Mediterranean Seas and contiguous areas of the North East Atlantic (ACCOBAMS), International Baltic Sea Fisheries Convention (IBSFC), North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC), North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organisation (NASCO), International Commission for the Protection of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn Convention), Convention on the Conservation of Wildlife and Natural Habitats in Europe (Bern Convention), UN Convention of the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)
Hazardous Substances	OSPAR, HELCOM, BARCELONA, Bucharest, Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping Wastes and other Matters (London Convention), Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL 73/78), UN-ECE Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (LRTAP); Rotterdam Convention on Prior Informed Consent for certain Hazardous Chemicals in International Trade
Eutrophication	OSPAR, HELCOM, BARCOM, Bucharest
Chronic Oil Pollution	OSPAR, Agreement for Cooperation in Dealing with Pollution of the North Sea by Oil and Other Harmful Substances (Bonn Agreement), Agreement concerning Cooperation in taking Measures against Pollution of the Sea by Oil (Copenhagen Agreement), Agreement for Cooperation in Dealing with Pollution due to Hydrocarbons or Other Harmful Substances (Lisbon Agreement, not yet in force), HELCOM, BARCELONA, Bucharest, MARPOL 73/78
Radionuclides	OSPAR, HELCOM, BARCELONA, Bucharest, International Atomic Energy Agency, London Convention
Health and Environment	HELCOM, BARCELONA, Bucharest, European Environment and Health Committee, World Health Organisation; Convention for the protection of environment through criminal law of the Council of Europe
Maritime Transport	International Maritime Organisation (IMO) administering several global conventions related to maritime transport, Paris Memorandum on Port State Control (Paris MOU), HELCOM, BARCELONA



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# Ecosystems and Biodiversity

## Main threats / pressures

- commercial exploitation of fisheries (declining stocks, impacts on non-target species and habitats, alterations of ecosystems)
- introduction of non-indigenous species (mainly by ships ballast water and mariculture)
- increasing intensity of human activities along the coast and at sea (e.g. urbanisation, tourism, windfarms, shipping, offshore industry)



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# Ecosystems and Biodiversity

## EU policies and legislation

- Strategy for Sustainable Development
- Common Fisheries Policy
- Habitat and Birds Directives
- Water Framework Directive
- Recommendation concerning Integrated Coastal Zone Management



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# Ecosystems and Biodiversity

Regional  
Global

- **General:** OSPAR, HELCOM, BARCELONA
- **Nature conservation:** ASCOBANS, ACCOBAMS
- **Fisheries:** IBSFC, NEAFC, NASCO, ICCAT
- **Global:** CBD, FAO, IMO, Bonn Convention, Bern Convention, UNCLOS



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## Chronic Oil Pollution

### Main threats / pressures

- frequent violations of existing regulations in all European seas (deliberate washing of tanks or the flushing of bilge or ballast water)
- discharges from offshore industry
  - Decreased substantially, however activities extending into deeper waters and into waters seasonally affected by ice
- oiling of seabirds, shellfish, other organisms and the coastline



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## Chronic Oil Pollution

### EU policies and legislation

- Directive on port reception facilities for ship-generated waste and cargo residues (2000/59/EC)
- Community Framework for cooperation in the field of accidental or deliberate marine pollution



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# Chronic Oil Pollution

Regional  
Global

- Regional: OSPAR, Bonn Agreement, Copenhagen Agreement, Lisbon Agreement (not yet in force), HELCOM, BARCELONA, Bucharest
- Global: MARPOL 73/78



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## Overall Conclusions (1)

### Monitoring Assessment and Research

- a large number of problems yet to be fully addressed
- major threats still persist
- a significant number of gaps in information on:
  - the state of the marine environment and
  - the effectiveness of existing measures
- **Consequently** it was often unclear whether and which additional protection measures should be considered as well as the administrative level at which they should be considered



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## Overall Conclusions (2)

### Programmes and Measures

- Most of the Community legislation that contributes to addressing the protection of the marine environment was not designed specifically for that purpose
- Control measures of the regional marine conventions difficult to enforce
- Consequently it was unclear whether the aggregate of these measures would be sufficient to afford the desired level of protection and conservation



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## Overall Conclusions (3)

In addition

- differences in assessments about the need to control
- lack of coherence and uncertain adequacy in overall policies
- breaks in the chain of the policy cycle when one organisation transfers certain issues to another for follow-up action
- disputes about matters of competence
- duplication of efforts and waste of resources



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## The Way Forward

A marine strategy should set ambitious, clear and coherent objectives and promote sustainable use of the seas and conserve marine ecosystems

This requires inter alia

- a coherent marine policy based upon an ecosystem-based approach
- improved implementation and enforcement
- better co-ordination of measures and of the different organisations involved
- enhanced knowledge on past trends in and likely future scenarios for the quality status of European seas
- improved procedures and methodologies to assess this information



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## Main principles of the Strategy (1)

Second publication  
- COM(2005)0504 -

- Vision shared by all stakeholders
- Planning and management of human activities should be integrated, strategic and adaptive
- The geographical span of management should reflect ecological characteristics
- Objectives should address the desired quality status of the structure and dynamic functions of the ecosystem



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## Main principles of the Strategy (2)

Second publication  
- COM(2005)0504 -

- Precautionary principle, polluter-pays principle, and prevention principle as basis for action
- Application of best available technologies and best environmental practices, with appropriate risk assessment and cost-benefit analysis, and applying tools for assessing priorities for action
- Support by coordinated programmes for monitoring, assessment, implementation and enforcement, and by peer reviewed scientific research and advice



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## Worthwhile reading

- [Towards a strategy to protect and conserve the marine environment \(COM\(2002\)539\)](#)
- [Thematic Strategy on the Protection and Conservation of the Marine Environment \(COM\(2005\)504\)](#)
- [EU Marine Strategy - The story behind the Strategy \(2006\)](#)
- [Fact Sheet: protecting and conserving the marine environment \(2006\)](#)
- [European Commission /DG Environment - Our Oceans, Seas and Coasts](#)



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# Thank you for your attention



*Denizlerimizizin geleceđi bizim ellerimizde* *The future of the seas is in our hands*



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