NATIONAL MSP PROCESS IN FRANCE
NATIONAL STRATEGY & SEA BASINS STRATEGIC DOCUMENTS MAKING PROCESS
REGINA MSP PROJECT
1ST MARCH 2023
The French MSP institutional background in a nutshell
A process conducted at the Sea Basin scale

- Eastern Channel – North Sea sea basin
- North Atlantic – Western Channel sea basin
- South Atlantic sea basin
- Mediterranean sea basin
A process conducted under the responsibility of two coordinating prefects (French state representatives)

A legally binding document in 4 « parts »

1. THE EXISTING SITUATION IN THE PERIMETER OF THE SEA BASIN

Strategic component

- Parts 1 & 2 (initial assessment summary, socio-economic objectives, environmental objectives, maritime spatial planning)
- Approved in 2019 in mainland France

2. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND RELATED INDICATORS

3. MEANS FOR ASSESSING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY DOCUMENT

4. ACTION PLAN OF THE STRATEGY DOCUMENT

Operational component

- Parts 3 et 4 (set of relevant criteria and indicators, including programme of measures established under the MSFD)
- Approved in May 2022 in mainland France

The legal basis for the sea basin strategy document, described in Article L. 219-4 of the French Environmental Code, is as follows:

- at sea, plans, programs, schemes and projects for works, structures and developments for which impact studies are required shall be compatible (or be rendered compatible) with the objectives and provisions of the sea basin strategy document. Compatibility implies not departing from the basic orientations, in this case the strategic objectives and designated uses map, while allowing some flexibility in terms of specifying their application.
- on land but with an influence at sea, they shall take the objectives and provisions of the sea basin strategy document into consideration; specifically, they are subject to the compatibility requirement, with concessions possible where justified.

MSFD and MSPD do not apply in overseas territories

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Joint procedure over sea basin strategies and marine renewable projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2023</th>
<th>2024</th>
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- **PPE making process**
  - National consultation over energy
  - Parliamentary debate
  - SNML making process
  - SNML 2 adopted

- **MSP process**
  - Public debate preparation
  - Focus on marine renewable energies
  - National commission in charge of public debate (CNDP) referral
  - DMO validated by CNDP
  - CNDP final assessment (2 months max)
  - Post-debate decision (0 months max)

- **Strategic component of SBSD (SFM)**
  - Public debate over SBSD (marine renewables included)
  - 4 sea basins at the same time
  - 6 months, max 8 months

- **SFM Adopted**
  - Independant authority in charge of the environment
  - Final public consultation (citizens and institutions)

- **Focus maps dedicated to marine renewables to launch tenders**

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## Focus on the role of regions within the process

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<th>Legal basis</th>
<th>In practice</th>
<th>Challenges</th>
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<tr>
<td>Art. R219-1-10 of the French environmental code</td>
<td>Variable association of regional bodies within the different sea basins</td>
<td>Notion of compatibility</td>
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<td>→ Regional council are among the institutions to be consulted at every stage of the consultation process</td>
<td>→ Esp. via the sea basins councils</td>
<td>Wider scope than regional councils</td>
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<td>→ Other local councils and institutions esp. (departemental level and group of municipalities) in charge of coastal planning tools are among the institutions to be consulted as welm</td>
<td>→ Nomination of regional VP within the different councils (CNML, CMF)</td>
<td>Coordination of the different processes, esp. given the various time frames concerned</td>
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<td>Art L.219-1-4 of the French env.code</td>
<td>→ Collaboration to the strategic making process</td>
<td>Implementation of MSP action plans regarding local expectations and ressources</td>
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<td>→ Regional and infra-regional plans are to be compatible with SBSD</td>
<td>→ Contribution to identification of actions</td>
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<td></td>
<td>→ Cooperation with « Sea Parliaments »</td>
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Thank you for your attention