

Key Themes in Marine Planning and Management

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Creating sustainable solutions in the marine environment

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Overview

- What is MSP?
- Key Themes - components and linkages
 - How is it shaping up?
 - What can we learn from elsewhere?
- Challenges - what do we need to do better?
- Conclusions

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What is MSP?

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We Need a Common Understanding

- What is spatial planning?
- What should MSP be trying to achieve?
- What is the scope of MSP?

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What is Spatial Planning?

- RTPI - ‘the practice of place shaping and delivery at regional and local levels’

Spatial planning is a public, objective-led process for making choices about the nature of places and how they function through the integration of policies in time and space and delivering those choices through action.

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What is Marine Spatial Planning?

- MSP is simply a translation of these concepts to the marine area
- ‘Marine spatial planning (MSP) is a public process of analyzing and allocating the spatial and temporal distribution of human activities in marine areas to achieve ecological, economic, and social objectives that are usually specified through a political process’. (Ehler & Fouvere, 2009)

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What Should MSP be Trying to Achieve?

- To enable a vision for the future of marine regions and places that is based on evidence, local distinctiveness and stakeholder/community derived objectives (founded on sustainable development and the ecosystem approach);
- To translate this vision into a set of policies, priorities, programmes and spatial allocations together with the resources to deliver them;
- To create a framework for investment that supports sustainable development;
- To coordinate and deliver the public sector components of this vision with other agencies and processes.

(adapted from RTPI 2007)

What is the Scope of MSP?

- A governance framework
- A plan-making process
- A management process (implementation, monitoring and review)

- A system and process of marine spatial planning and management

- We call it 'Marine Planning'



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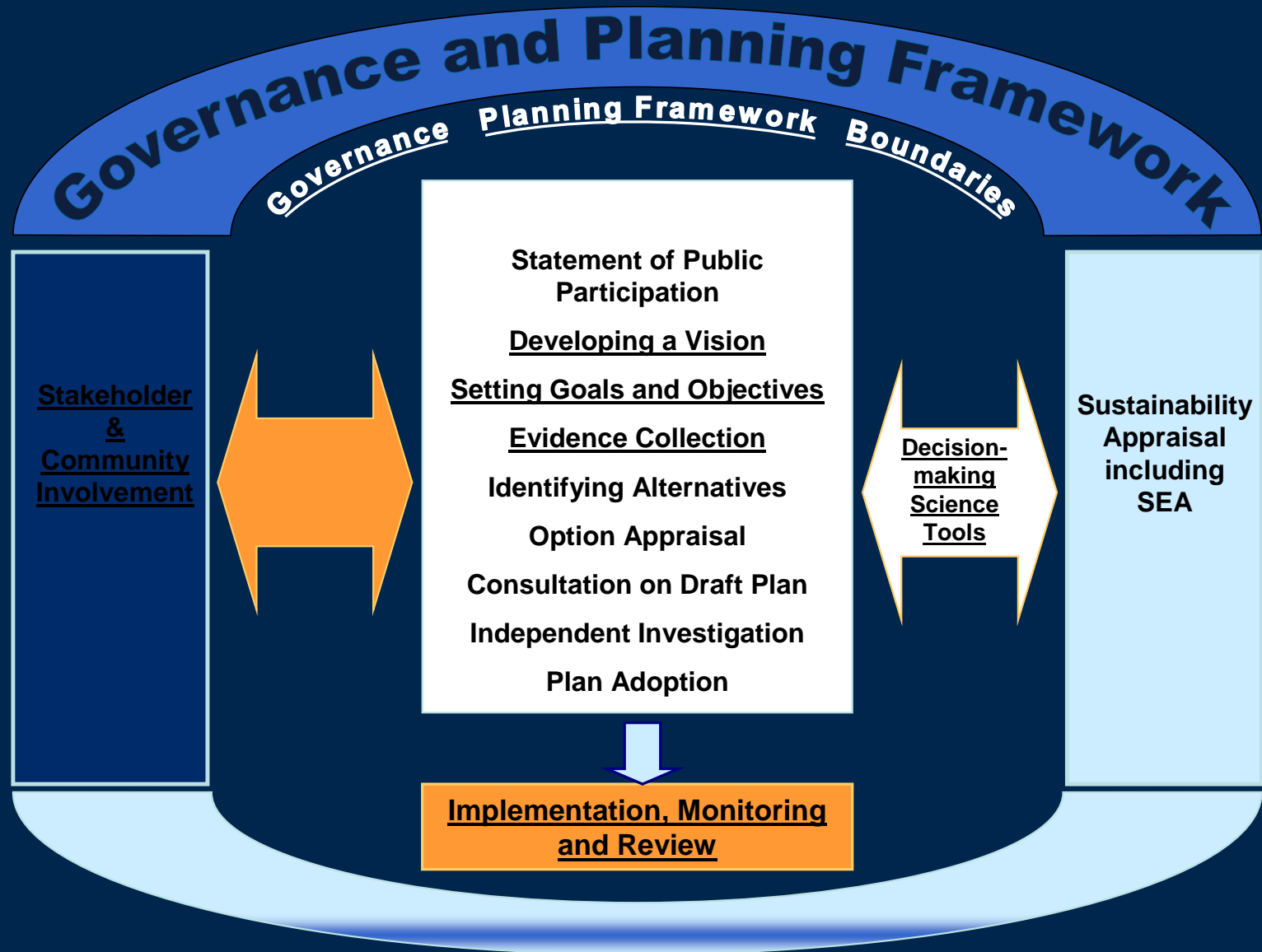
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Marine Planning Mind Map



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Governance

- Governance is the activity of governing
- MMO - Initial thinking from Defra
- Challenges:
 - International dimension e.g. MSFD
 - Balance of top-down vs bottom-up (collaborative)
- How might governance arrangements influence planning processes and outcomes?

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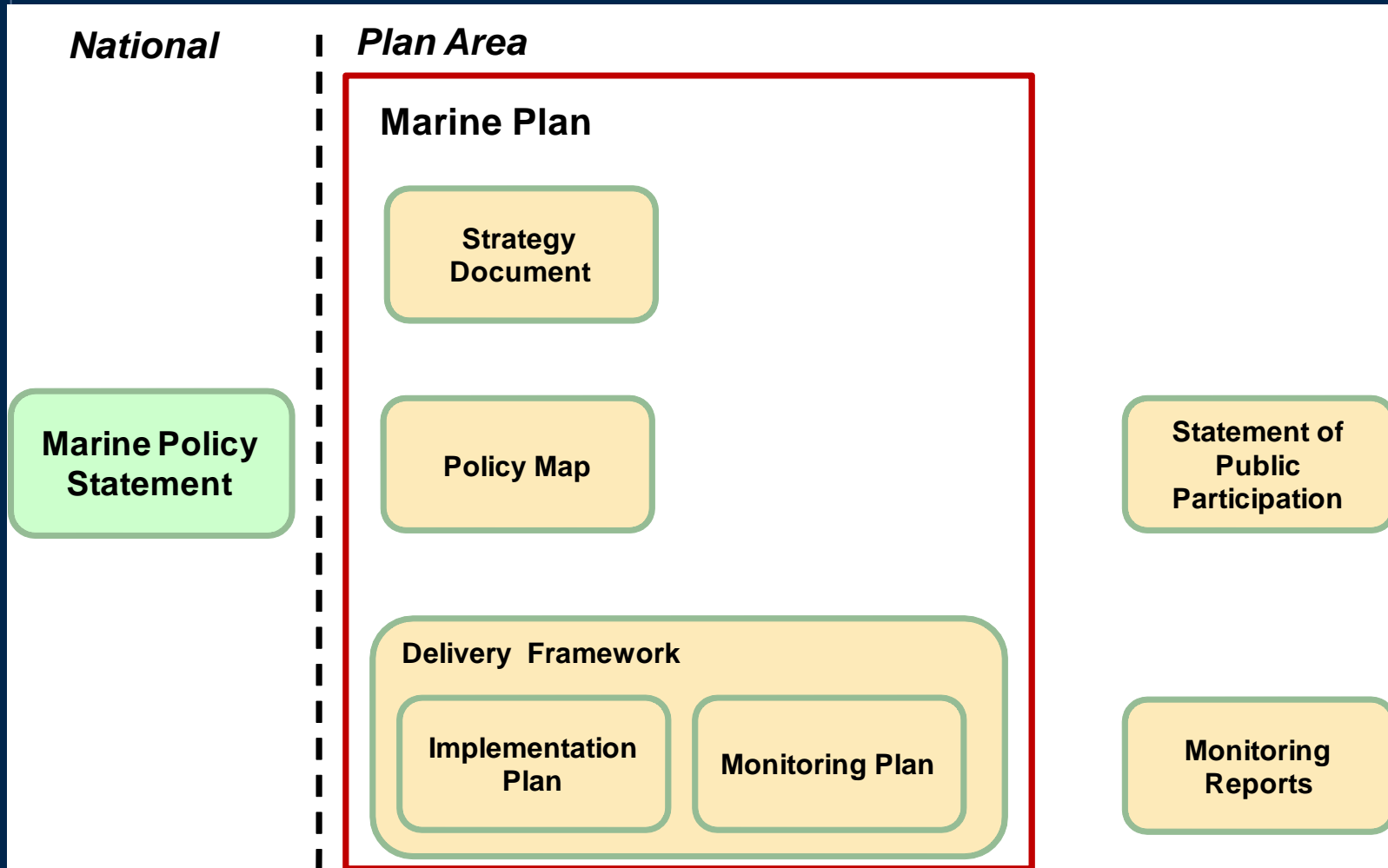
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Planning Frameworks



Defra, 2009. Marine Plan: Model Structure and Content. Draft.

Planning Frameworks

- Different arrangements among devolved administrations
 - e.g. hierarchy: national-regional-local plans of proposals for English terrestrial spatial planning
- Balance of top-down policy/guidance
 - Implications for ease of local planning
- Delivery management
 - Strong emphasis welcome

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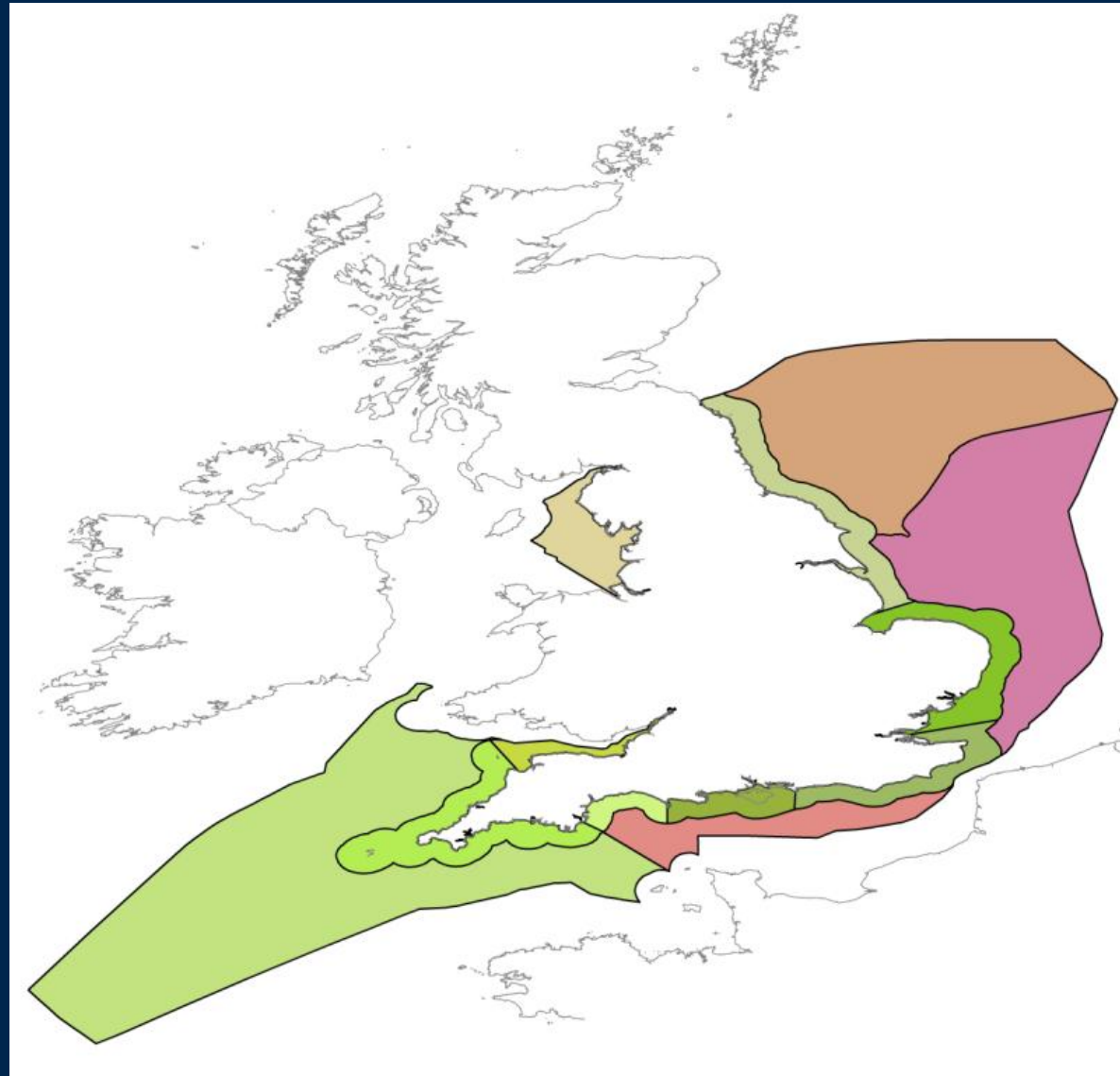
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Boundaries (England)



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Boundaries

- Managing issues across boundaries (lessons):
 - Joint evidence collection
 - Joint planning (but this will remain challenging)
- Integration at the coast
 - Marine Spatial Plan Scheme (cf terrestrial Local Development Scheme)



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'English' Plan-making Process

Plan-making Process

Statement of Public Participation

Developing a Vision

Setting Goals and Objectives

Evidence Collection

Identifying Alternatives

Option Appraisal

Consultation on Draft Plan

Independent Investigation

Plan Adoption

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Plan-making Processes

- International processes vary
 - UK process influenced by legal compliance needs
- Importance of scoping (Clyde SSMEI)
- Difficulty of translating vision into clear objectives
 - This is critical to plan success and the ecosystem approach
- Data gaps impede detailed planning
- Balance of stakeholder/community input?
- Development and analysis of options is weak cf terrestrial spatial planning model
 - Better use of SEA and decision-making frameworks

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Science

Science is fundamental to the understanding of marine ecosystems and how humans interact with them (Christensen et al 1996).
Discuss!



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Systems Thinking

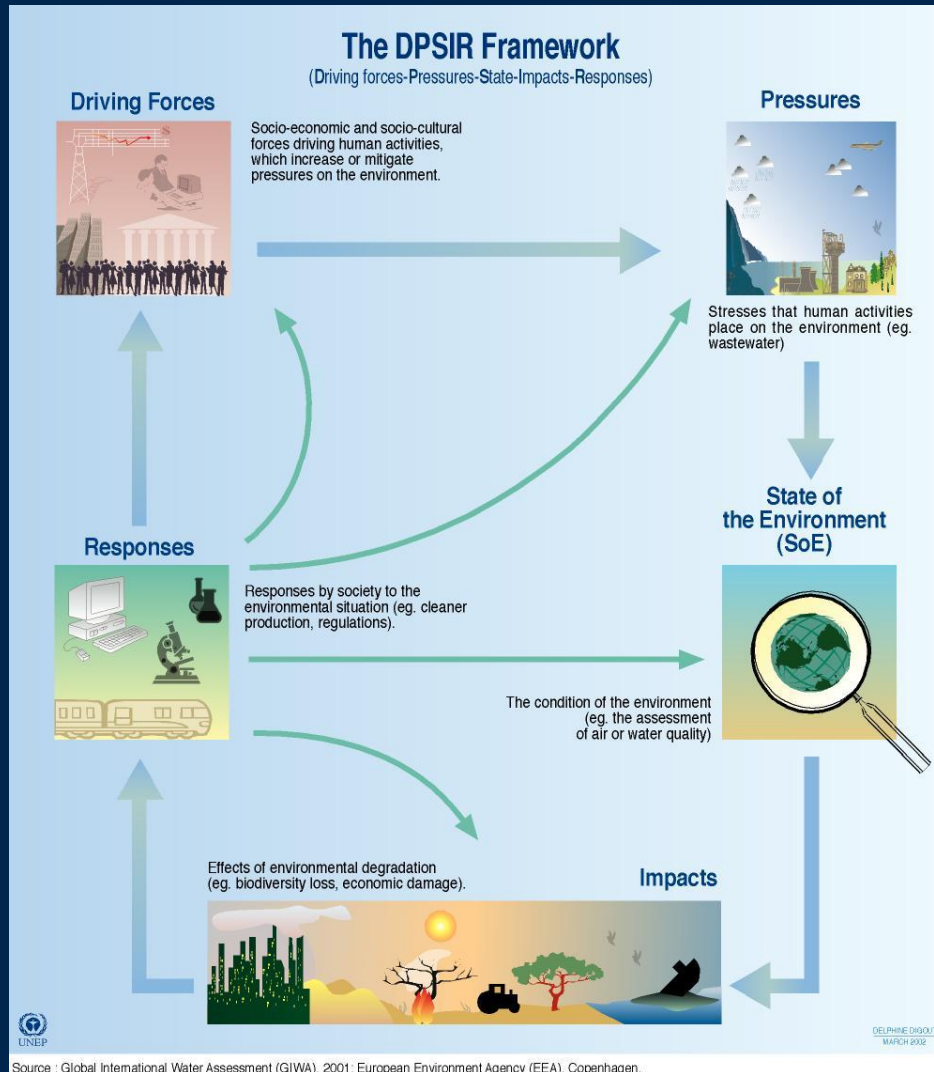
- Ecosystem Thinking (after Lubchenko, 1994)

From		To
Individual species	⇒	Ecosystems
Small spatial scale	⇒	Multiple scales
Short-term perspective	⇒	Long-term perspective
Humans outside system	⇒	Humans integral
Management divorced from research	⇒	Adaptive management
Managing commodities	⇒	Sustain production potential for goods and services

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DPSIR Framework



Delphine Digout, UNEP/GRID-Arendal, downloaded from
http://maps.grida.no/go/graphic/dpsir_framework_for_state_of_environment_reporting

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Science Challenges

- Better understanding of:
 - Ecosystem structure and function
 - Spatial and temporal distribution of human pressures and impacts
 - Thresholds, tipping-points and cumulative effects
- Better modelling and assessment tools
- Current use of science in marine planning is very weak and undermining ecosystem approach
- Adaptive management is not a silver bullet

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Implement, Monitor and Review

- **Delivery Plans**
 - Currently very weak, can learn from elsewhere
- **Development Management**
 - Much to learn, many challenges
- **Monitoring**
 - Being clear about what to monitor and why (clear objectives, targets and indicators)
 - Requires commitment to funding
- **Review and Adaptive Management**
 - A new approach requiring new thinking

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Some of the Big Issues

- Knowing what we want to achieve (so we'll know if we're getting there)
- Running an effective process
- Getting 'good enough' evidence
- Doing a robust analysis - use of science
- Making plans stick - implementation
- Doing better next time
 - Learning from monitoring
 - Learning from doing

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Conclusions

- Marine planning is coming
- Need to get on with it
- Do the best we can with what we've got but..
- Pleas(e)
 - Do it thoughtfully - there is much we can learn
 - Don't shy away from the challenges
 - We can't manage what we can't measure - better marine management requires better monitoring

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Marine Planning



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A dedicated website promoting research into marine planning practice

www.abpmer.net/marine-planning

Themes

- Boundaries
- Decision making frameworks
- Evidence requirements
- Governance
- Implementation and delivery
- Plan-making process
- Planning framework
- Planning tools
- Science
- Stakeholder involvement
- Vision and objectives