Underlying principles in Marine Spatial Planning

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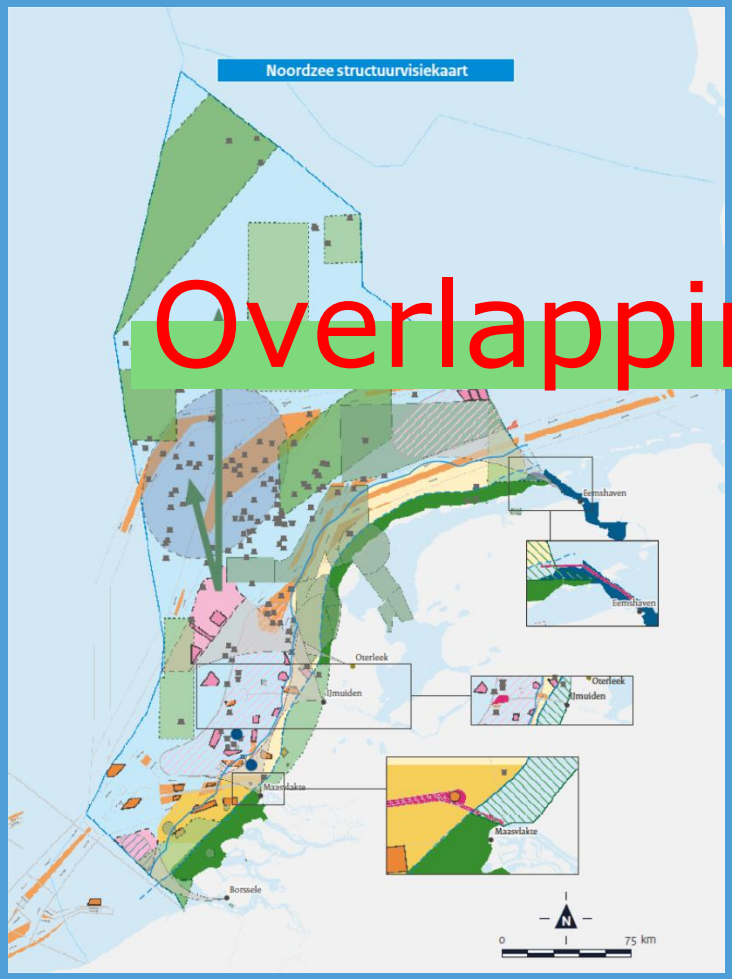
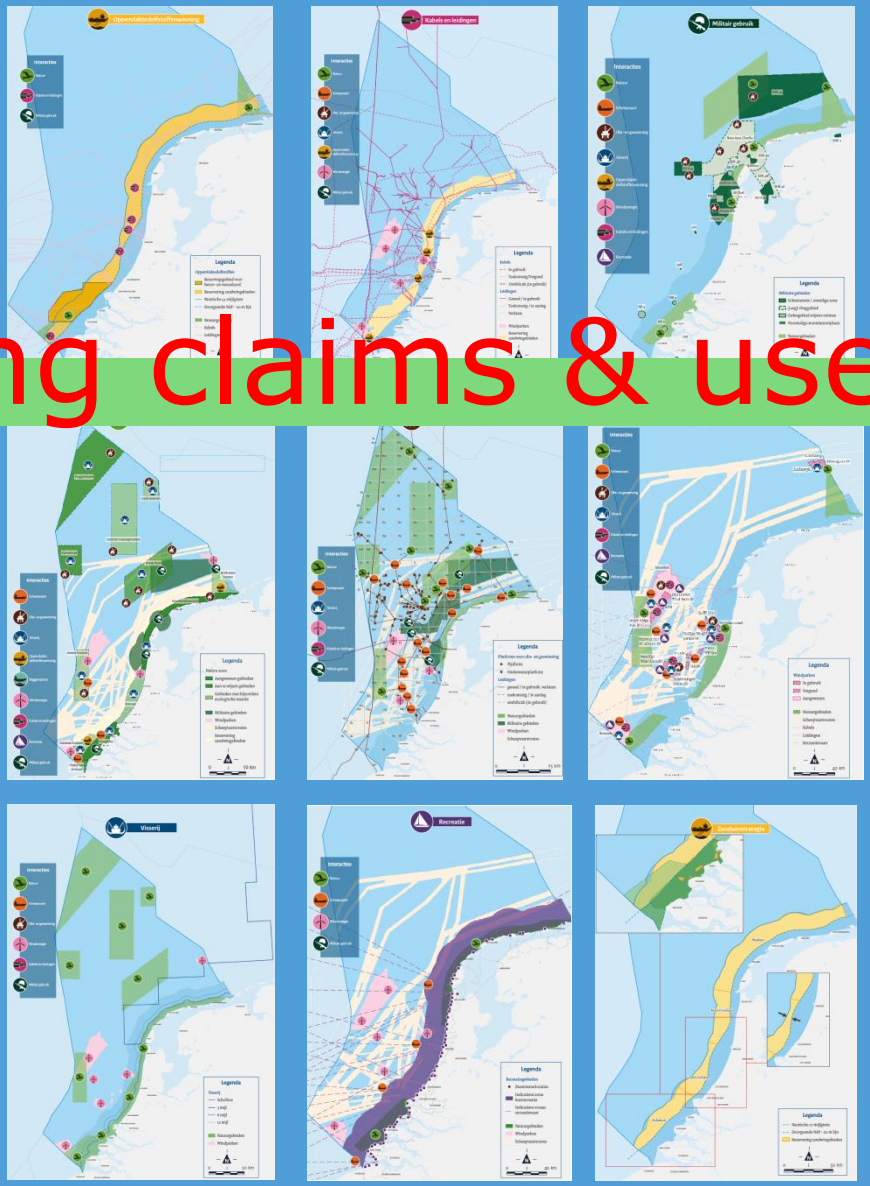
What is the problem?



Overlapping claims & uses



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What is the solution?

Marine Spatial Planning

- Maes (2008): a public process of analyzing and allocating the spatial and temporal distribution of human activities in marine areas to achieve soc/ecol/econ objectives, specified through a political process.

- MSP = an act of governance
- MSP = making (hard) choices

What should we look at, based on governance theory?

- Who makes (hard) choices?
  - Issues of authority
  - Increased role of stakeholders
- Make (hard) choices on the basis of what?
  - Broadening of the scientific knowledge base
  - Limitations to scientific knowledge

-> Look at underlying principles: structure governance on the how (who) and what (content)

So… give attention to underlying principles

principles/ worldview shape the debate

Guide assessment of the state of the marine ecosystem

…often concealed

- Try to get a shared set of principles
- If too complex…. At least common understanding of the base from which each actor will discuss / negotiate

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What if we disregard unveiling underlying principles?

- End up working towards different goals
- You need common grounds & trust to be able to share knowledge

Which principles?

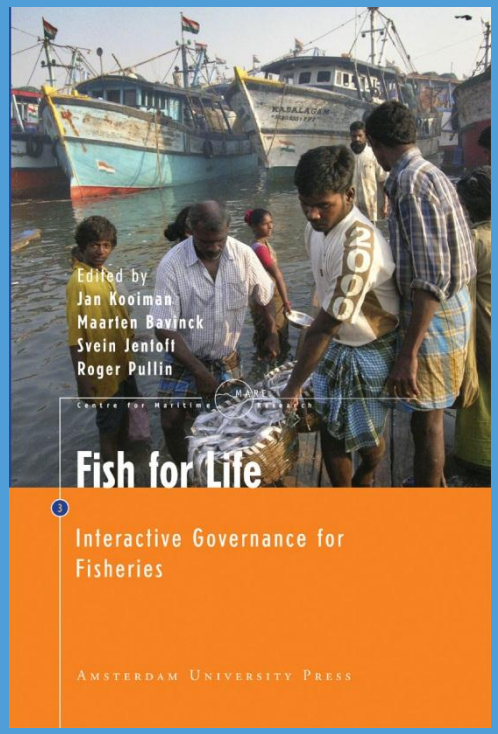
Adaptive management

responsibility

participation

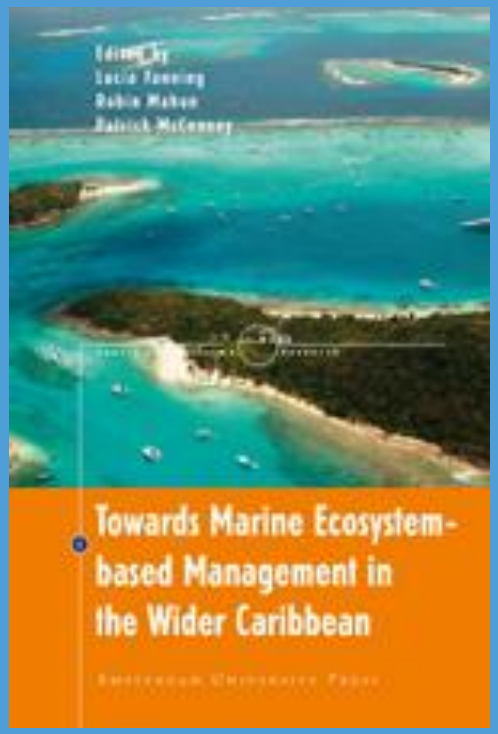
precaution

sustainability



Mahon et al. (2011)

- Applied perspective
- Describes the process of arriving at a shared vision
- Stakeholder based
- Shown how choices were made



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Our case

- A case of MSP, that we could study
- In what way were underlying principles unveiled or not

(1) Principles related to 'content' in the process at hand

(2) Principles related to the institutional set-up

(1)
Day-to-day management

(2)
Institutions

(3)
Meta-governance

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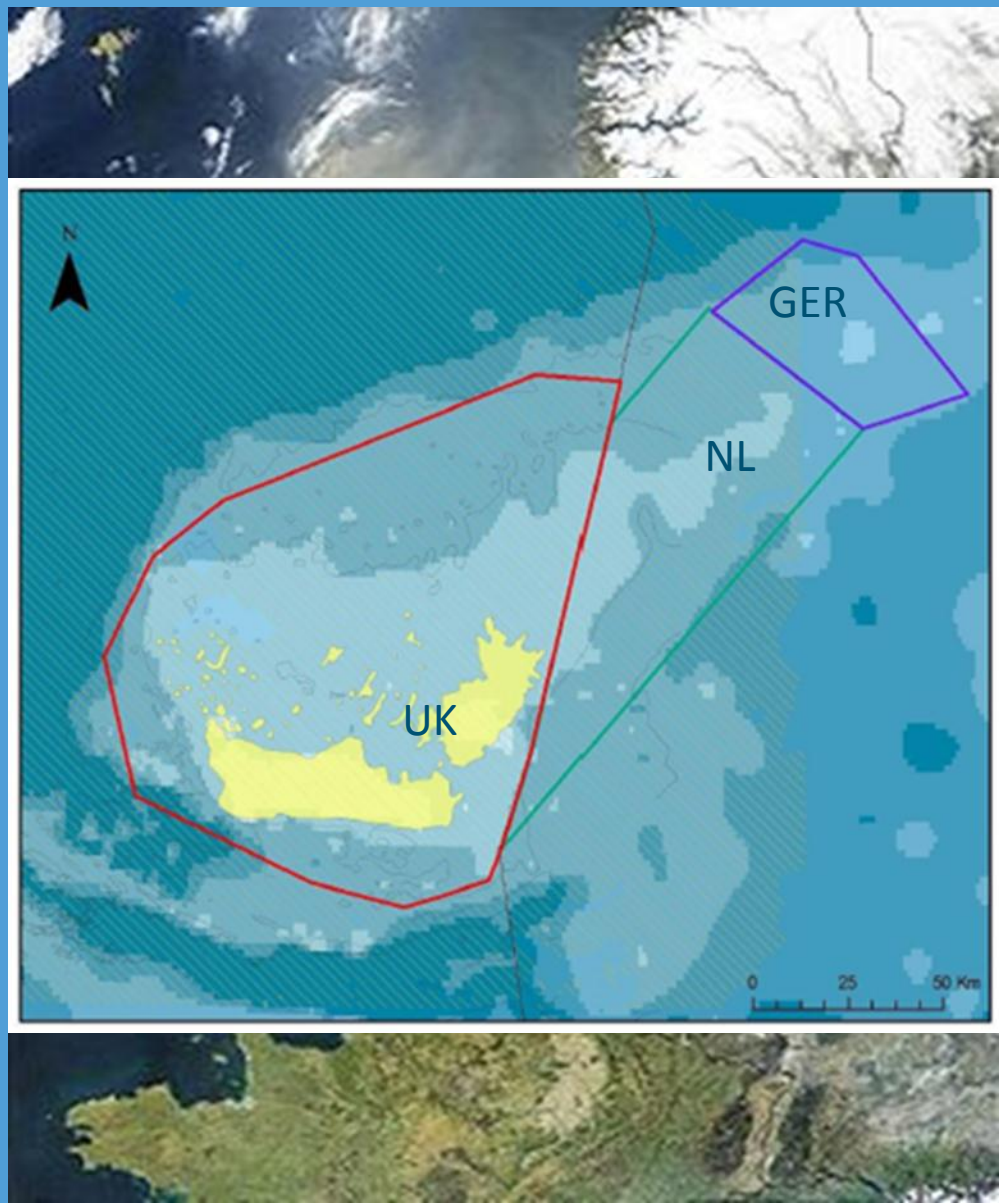
The Dogger Bank

- Largest sandbank in the North Sea
- Shallow dynamic flat top , surrounding slopes more stable
- Over 300 km long and max 120 km wide
- Nutrient rich currents
- EEZ of 4 countries, 3 of which have a conservation obligation
- Important fishing grounds
- Wind farm area UK



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4 stakeholder processes

FIMPAS → DBSG

Zoning proposal

NSRAC

1
NSRAC -> position paper

2
DBSG NSRAC observer

3
NSRAC DBSG observer

4
NSRAC -> Position paper +2

DBSG

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2 contrasting stakeholder processes

NSRAC process

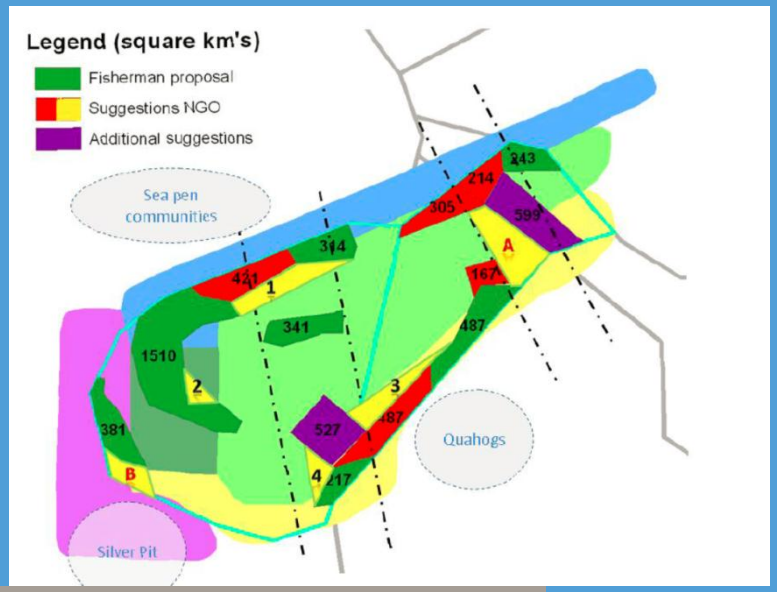
- 2 processes
- Participation
- Mode: co-governance
- Form: discussion
- Content
- Driver: practical implementation

DBSG process

- 2 processes
- Decision making
- Mode: hierarchical gov
- Form: negotiation
- Politics
- Driver: Policy implementation & interpretation

Principles related to content

- complete transparency is essential for creating an atmosphere in which stakeholders can exchange views based on available data
- an extensive monitoring and evaluation program is needed
- A zoning proposal needs to be simple and straightforward
- Responsibility
- Full-cost allocation
- adaptive management
- co-management



http://www.nsrac.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/03/2011-10-10-11-ExCom-Paper-7-Dogger-Bank-report-FINAL.pdf

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Conclusion

- NSRAC led processes: principles on content and procedure were discussed and agreed upon -> stalemate between NGO's and industry reverted into cooperation and knowledge sharing
- Interaction between the DBSG & NSRAC processes: underlying principles of 2nd order was not made transparant, discussed nor agreed upon -> derailment of shared vision at 1st order.

Questions?

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