

Blue Growth – more than technological enthusiasm alone?

Impact on marine governance

June 25, Sander van den Burg & Bas Bolman



"Sustainable economic growth and employment in the marine economy" (Limmasol Declaration 2012)



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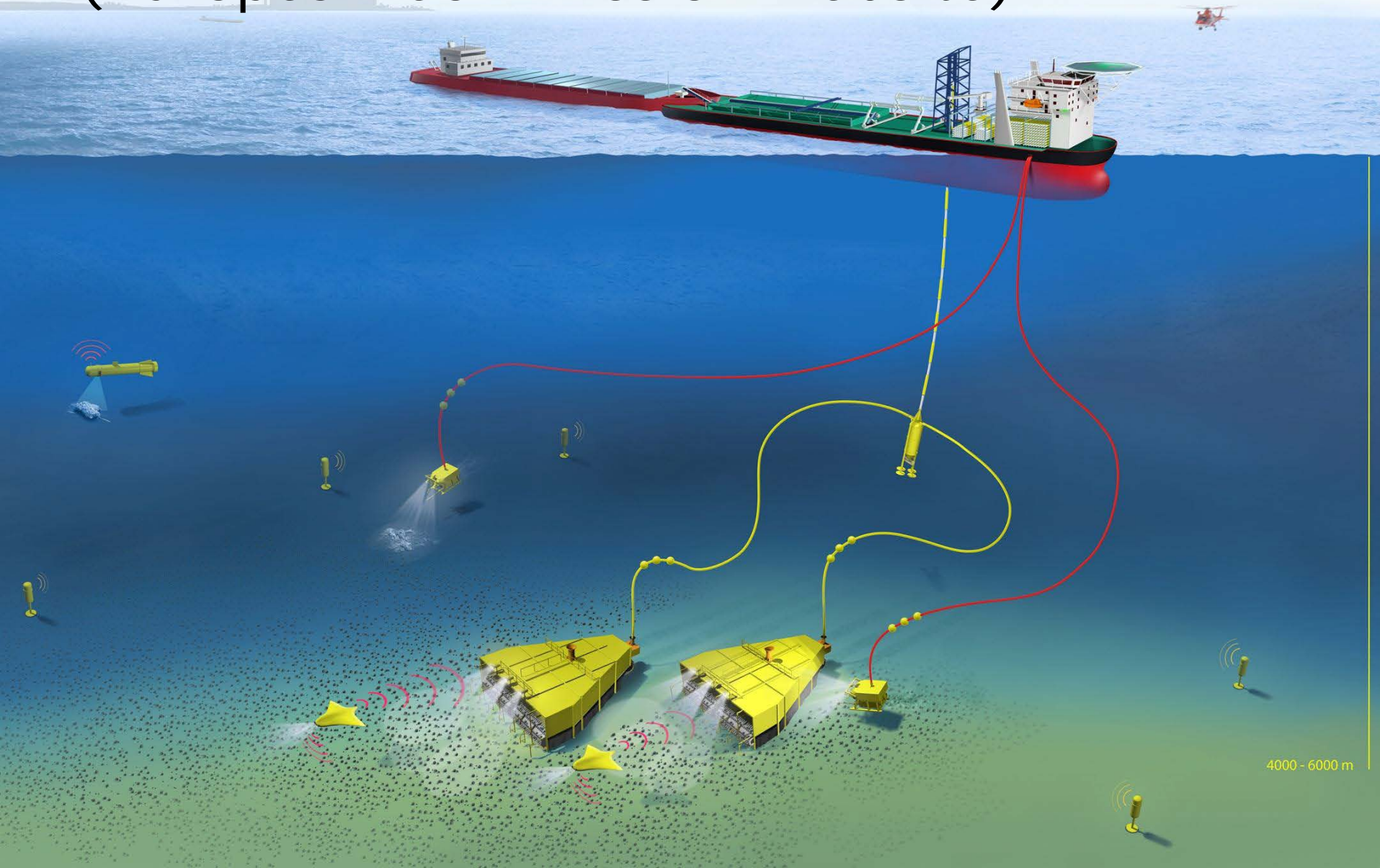
“Long term strategy to support sustainable growth” (European Commission website)



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“Great potential for innovation and growth”
(European Commission website)



Blue Growth

- Emergent policy concept (among other EU, FAO, OECD)
- Blue Growth versus the Blue Economy (fisheries, shipping, et cetera)
- Stimulate new economic activities at sea
- **Sustainable** exploitation
- Important objective: growth in jobs and income

The question addressed:

- History shows sustainable exploitation of seas is not self-evident
- Specific governance approaches are needed to deal with the oceans (public goods, territorial issues, complexity of ecosystems)
- What does it mean if these new Blue Growth sectors are brought into marine governance?

Marine Spatial Planning and Ecosystem based management

- Emergent notions of how marine governance should be shaped
- Distinct from 'old' governance styles (market, hierarchy, network, knowledge)
- Regional ecosystems and their requirements are leading
- Participatory approach, involving stakeholders into decision-making
- This is not always easily matched with the Blue Growth Agenda

5 critical issues for marine governance

1. Blue Growth comes with different policy objectives and not all are equally important for government
2. These Blue Growth sectors are not comparable
 - The size of the sectors
 - Organisation of the sector
 - (Historical) Access to government
3. New actors enter the stage
4. Competing claims for space (and multi-use is not easy)
5. Different history of governance

The 5 Blue Growth sectors

And the challenge to
combine these in
multi-use platforms



Objective of Blue Growth

Sustainable exploitation and growth in jobs and income

- Climate mitigation
- Less dependent on energy import
- Secure supply of natural resources
- Avoid competing claims on land
- Public resistance to wind on land
- Look for new pharmaceuticals
- Strengthen coastal communities
- Supply the world with marine proteins
- Contribute to food security
- Reduce impact of fisheries
- Stimulate new economic sectors
- Export new techniques
- ...
- ...

(1) Diverging objectives

- Aquaculture: food security, marine proteins
- Ocean Energy: climate policy, renewable energy policy
- Seabed mining: secure resources
- Coastal tourism: strengthen local communities
- Marine biotechnology: new pharmaceuticals

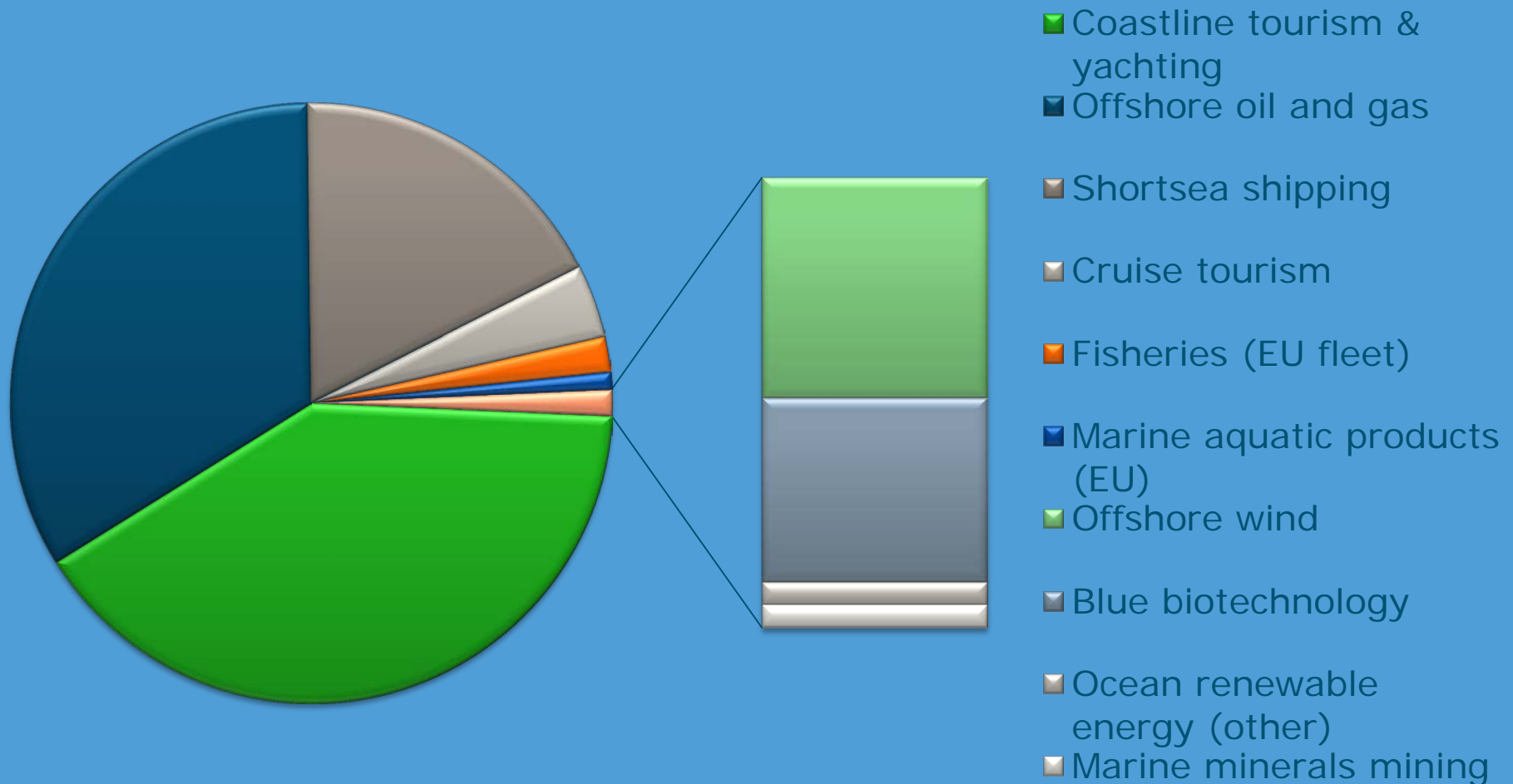
Diverging objectives

- Aquaculture: food security, marine proteins
- Ocean Energy: climate policy, renewable energy policy
- Seabed mining: secure resources
- Coastal tourism: strengthen local communities
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Not all objectives equally important. Huge differences in public support:

- InnovFin a €100M fund for Energy start ups
- €4.4bn for Gemini Windpark (15 yr, only €800k per day)

(2) Size of Blue Growth and Blue Economy sectors varies



But so do growth figures

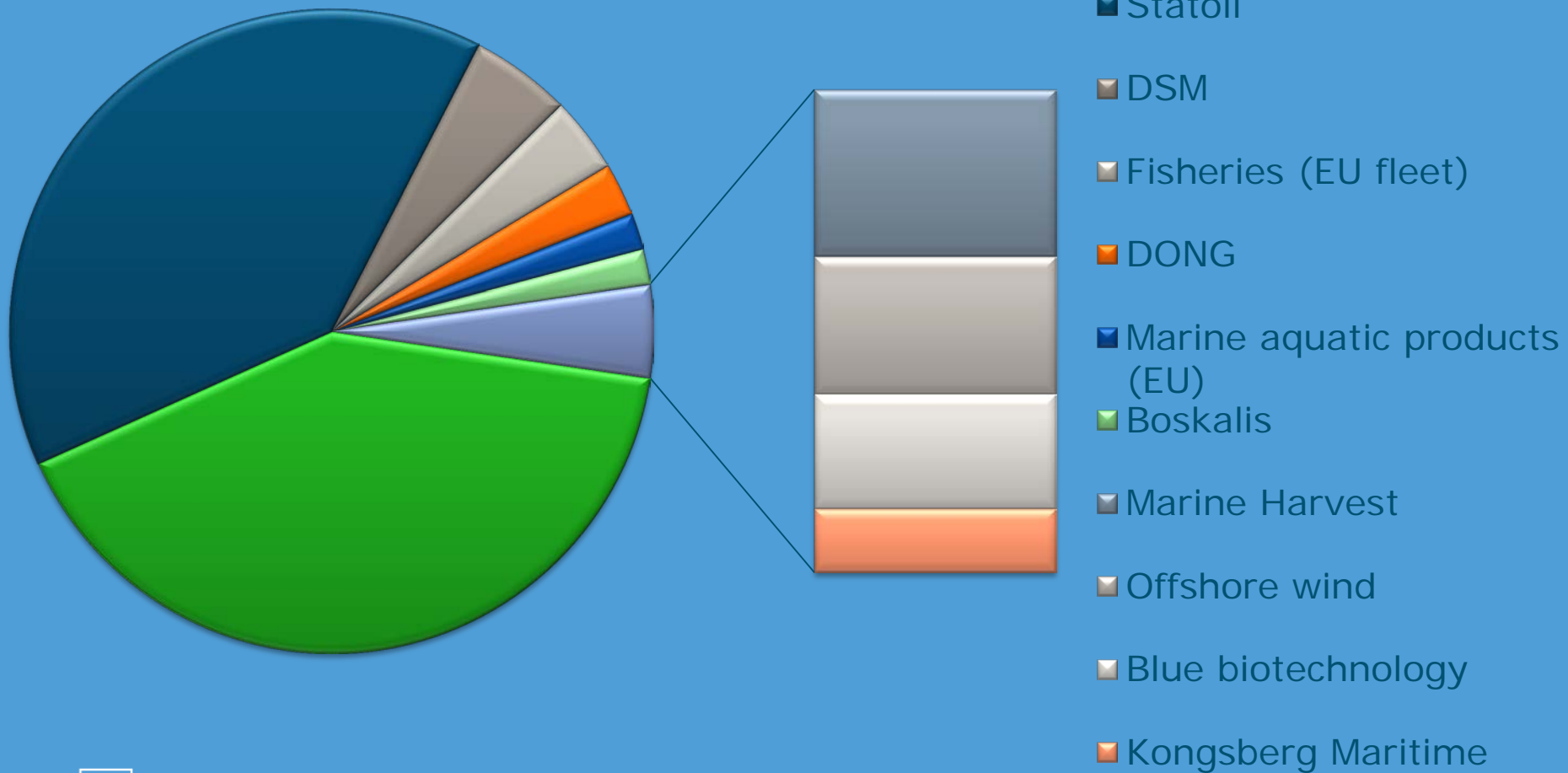
Sector	Sub-sector	Size (bn €)	Recent growth (5yr)
Ocean Energy	Offshore wind	2.4	21.7%
	Ocean renewable energy	<0.25	+
Deep sea mining	Marine minerals mining	<0.25	0/+
Aquaculture	Marine aquatic products	3.3	4.6%
Coastal tourism	Coastline tourism & yachting	144	3-5%
	Cruise tourism	14.1	12.3%
Marine Biotechnology	Blue biotechnology	2	4.6%
Oil and Gas	Offshore oil and gas	120	-4.8%
Fisheries	EU fleet	6.9	
Shipping	Shortsea shipping	63	6.1%

New sectors come with different corporations

Key actors identified in MARIBE:

- Aquaculture: Marine Harvest, Tinamenor
 - Ocean Energy: Statoil, DONG
 - Seabed mining: Boskalis, Kongsberg Maritime
 - Coastal tourism: Camp sites, diving centres
 - Marine biotechnology: DSM, BASF
-
- All organised differently, with different objectives, different relation to ecosystem and different size

Companies and sectors



(3) New actor categories



- Huge demand for private investments (pension funds, private equity, venture capital)
- What do investors consider important?
 - ROI
 - Risks
 - Responsible investment
 - Government support schemes
- Investment community targeted in research (e.g. MARIBE)
 - Hardly bound to geographical boundaries
 - Not especially committed to marine developments
 - Not directly dependent on ecosystem

(4) Competing claims for space

- Offshore wind objectives alone require 10.000 km²
- Social license to produce?
- Already led to lawsuits in the Netherlands (201106644/1/A2)
- Discussion in parliament (motion 39(33612)) requires developers to *examine* options for multi-use in future offshore windparks



Multi-use is not easy

Lot of talk

- Societal objectives (Marine Spatial Planning) are dominant
- Science and policy thinking *for business*

Talk about synergy but ...

- Economically a challenge
- Combinations not always obvious
- Insurance leads to higher costs
- Different in size and revenues



(5) History of governance differs per sector

- Some are used to collaboration (e.g. fisheries), *and some are not (e.g. ocean energy)*
- Some are working in an international policy arena (e.g. shipping) *and some are not (e.g. coastal tourism)*
- Some interact with global institutions (e.g. shipping routes), *others with national or regional governments*
- Historically: used to different types of government support (legislation, market incentives, knowledge, networks)

Wrapping up

■ Impact on marine governance

- Blue Growth brings new sectors, new actors and new policy objectives to the sea
- With different objectives, size, organisations, governance structures
- And different impact and dependency on ecosystem services

If Blue Growth takes off it will lead to new distribution of power and influence in marine governance

Decreasing importance of traditional sectors (towards an Energy Ocean?)

Thanks for your attention!

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