

ANNEX //

The mandate for maritime spatial planning and land-sea interactions in Estonia within a rethought multilevel, integrated and inclusive governance framework

ESPON MSP-LSI spin-off

Annex // August 2022

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Disclaimer

This document is a final report.

The information contained herein is subject to change and does not commit the ESPON EGTC and the countries participating in the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme.

The final version of the report will be published as soon as approved.

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Abbreviations

EEZ	Exclusive economic zone
LSI	Land-sea interactions

1 Annex: Survey questionnaire

1. Municipality
2. Occupation and title of the respondents
3. The local governments do currently not have the opportunity to regulate and plan the maritime area (being in a leading role). However, please select all the areas of maritime use that your municipality currently needs to plan spatially and where to regulate its activities. Please also choose a role, your municipality would like to be in these sectors.

Table 1A (Land-sea interactions) LSI areas and roles.

LSI		Role			
		Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Renewable energy	Use of seawater for cooling/heating Installing wind turbines into harbour areas Solar parks in the sea area Wave energy Hydrogen solutions				
Mining of mineral resources (e.g. sand/gravel)					
Development of ports, piers, slips, quays, berths					
Maritime transport (shipping, sea taxi service, etc.)					
Regulation of waterborne traffic					
Tourism and recreation					
Motorised water sports (scooters etc.)					
Non-motorized water sports (rowing boats, sailboats)					
Establishing of ice roads					
Dredging of navigation routes					
Dumping of dredged material					
Sewer, gas and other pipelines					
Telecommunication cables					

LSI	Role			
	Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Wastewater treatment				
Land-based industry effluent discharge				
Agriculture run-off				
Fishing				
Aquaculture (algae, shellfish, finfish)				
Other marine living resource exploitation (e.g. seaweed harvesting, seal hunt)				
Research and monitoring (incl. archaeology, fisheries and environment)				
Nature conservation				
Conservation of cultural heritage				
Securing public access to the sea and shore areas				
Military activities				

4. Is your local government interested in spatial planning and regulation (being in a leading role) of the maritime area bordering your local municipality?
 - a) Yes
 - b) No

5. In your opinion, what would be the adequate distance from the coastline, that the local government (being in a leading role) should have the authority to plan and regulate?
 - a) One nautical mile (i.e. 1.9 km)
 - b) More than one nautical mile
 - c) According to the need and functionality (e.g. port area)
 - d) Other (please explain)

6. Which and what kind of support would local governments need in order to plan maritime spatial areas and regulate different sectors?
 - a) Knowledge (experts) and skills, including the need for relevant training courses
 - b) Human resources
 - c) Financial resources
 - d) The legal framework
 - e) Guidelines and technical support (e.g. from ministries)
 - f) Other (please explain)

7. Which activity/sector/ aspect is unregulated, or insufficiently or over-regulated by the state in the maritime area? Please explain and provide details.

8. Please provide specific suggestions for changing some of the most important legal provisions for the use of maritime space in your local government (e.g. which legal provisions are incomplete or need to be changed).

2 Annex: Individual responses of local governments to the survey questionnaire

2.1 Respondent 1

1. Occupation and the title of the respondent

Planning specialist

2. The local governments do currently not have the opportunity to regulate and plan the maritime area (being in a leading role). However, please select all the areas of maritime use that your municipality currently needs to plan spatially and where to regulate its activities. Please also choose a role, your municipality would like to be in these sectors.

Table 2A LSI areas and roles

LSI		Role			
		Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Renewable energy	Use of seawater for cooling/heating			X	
	Installing wind turbines into harbour areas	X			
	Solar parks in the sea area		X		
	Wave energy		X		
	Hydrogen solutions		X		
Mining of mineral resources (e.g. sand/gravel)			X		
Development of ports, piers, slips, quays, berths		X			
Maritime transport (shipping, sea taxi service, etc.)			X		
Regulation of waterborne traffic			X		
Tourism and recreation		X			
Motorised water sports (scooters etc.)		X			
Non-motorized water sports (rowing boats, sailboats)			X		
Establishing of ice roads				X	
Dredging of navigation routes				X	
Dumping of dredged material			X		

LSI	Role			
	Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Sewer, gas and other pipelines		X		
Telecommunication cables		X		
Wastewater treatment	X	X		
Land-based industry effluent discharge	X			
Agriculture run-off	X			
Fishing		X		
Aquaculture (algae, shellfish, finfish)	X			
Other marine living resource exploitation (e.g. seaweed harvesting, seal hunt)		X		
Research and monitoring (incl. archaeology, fisheries and environment)			X	
Nature conservation		X		
Conservation of cultural heritage		X		
Securing public access to the sea and shore areas	X			
Military activities	X			

3. Is your local government interested in spatial planning and regulation (being in a leading role) of the maritime area bordering your local municipality?
 - a) **Yes**
 - b) No
4. In your opinion, what would be the adequate distance from the coastline, that the local government (being in a leading role) should have the authority to plan and regulate?
 - a) One nautical mile (i.e. 1.9 km)
 - b) More than one nautical mile
 - c) According to the need and functionality (e.g. port area)
 - d) **Other (please explain):** it depends on the activities and impacts of these activities.
5. Which and what kind of support would local governments need in order to plan maritime spatial areas and regulate different sectors?
 - a) **Knowledge (experts) and skills, including the need for relevant training courses**
 - b) **Human resources**
 - c) **Financial resources**
 - d) **The legal framework**

e) Guidelines and technical support (e.g. from ministries)

f) Other (please explain)

6. Which activity/sector/ aspect is unregulated, or insufficiently or over-regulated by the state in the maritime area? Please explain and provide details.

Military activities, construction and planning, and water traffic are insufficiently organized.

7. Please provide specific suggestions for changing some of the most important legal provisions for the use of maritime space in your local government (e.g. which legal provisions are incomplete or need to be changed).

The military field. Use of the shooting range in Kolga landscape protection area and integration with Lahemaa National Park.

2.2 Respondent 2

1. Occupation and the title of the respondent

Planning specialist

2. The local governments do currently not have the opportunity to regulate and plan the maritime area (being in a leading role). However, please select all the areas of maritime use that your municipality currently needs to plan spatially and where to regulate its activities. Please also choose a role, your municipality would like to be in these sectors.

Table 3A LSI areas and roles

LSI		Role			
		Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Renewable energy	Use of seawater for cooling/heating		X		
	Installing wind turbines into harbour areas		X		
	Solar parks in the sea area		X		
	Wave energy		X		
	Hydrogen solutions		X		
Mining of mineral resources (e.g. sand/gravel)			X		
Development of ports, piers, slips, quays, berths			X		
Maritime transport (shipping, sea taxi service, etc.)			X		
Regulation of waterborne traffic			X		
Tourism and recreation			X		
Motorised water sports (scooters etc.)			X		

LSI	Role			
	Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Non-motorized water sports (rowing boats, sailboats)		X		
Establishing of ice roads		X		
Dredging of navigation routes		X		
Dumping of dredged material		X		
Sewer, gas and other pipelines		X		
Telecommunication cables		X		
Wastewater treatment		X		
Land-based industry effluent discharge		X		
Agriculture run-off		X		
Fishing		X		
Aquaculture (algae, shellfish, finfish)		X		
Other marine living resource exploitation (e.g. seaweed harvesting, seal hunt)		X		
Research and monitoring (incl. archaeology, fisheries and environment)		X		
Nature conservation		X		
Conservation of cultural heritage		X		
Securing public access to the sea and shore areas		X		
Military activities		X		

3. Is your local government interested in spatial planning and regulation (being in a leading role) of the maritime area bordering your local municipality?
 - a) **Yes**
 - b) No

4. In your opinion, what would be the adequate distance from the coastline, that the local government (being in a leading role) should have the authority to plan and regulate?
 - a) One nautical mile (i.e. 1.9 km)
 - b) More than one nautical mile
 - c) **According to the need and functionality (e.g. port area)**
 - d) Other (please explain)

5. Which and what kind of support would local governments need in order to plan maritime spatial areas and regulate different sectors?
 - a) **Knowledge (experts) and skills, including the need for relevant training courses**
 - b) **Human resources**
 - c) **Financial resources**
 - d) **The legal framework**
 - e) **Guidelines and technical support (e.g. from ministries)**
 - f) Other (please explain)

6. Which activity/sector/ aspect is unregulated, or insufficiently or over-regulated by the state in the maritime area? Please explain and provide details.

I can't give a specific example examples.

7. Please provide specific suggestions for changing some of the most important legal provisions for the use of maritime space in your local government (e.g. which legal provisions are incomplete or need to be changed).

I can't give a specific suggestion.

2.3 Respondent 3

1. Occupation and the title of the respondent

Architect-construction advisor

2. The local governments do currently not have the opportunity to regulate and plan the maritime area (being in a leading role). However, please select all the areas of maritime use that your municipality currently needs to plan spatially and where to regulate its activities. Please also choose a role, your municipality would like to be in these sectors.

Table 4A LSI areas and roles

LSI		Role			
		Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Renewable energy	Use of seawater for cooling/heating				X
	Installing wind turbines into harbour areas				X
	Solar parks in the sea area			X	
	Wave energy			X	
	Hydrogen solutions				X
Mining of mineral resources (e.g. sand/gravel)			X		
Development of ports, piers, slips, quays, berths		X			

LSI	Role			
	Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Maritime transport (shipping, sea taxi service, etc.)			X	
Regulation of waterborne traffic		X		
Tourism and recreation	X			
Motorised water sports (scooters etc.)		X		
Non-motorized water sports (rowing boats, sailboats)	X			
Establishing of ice roads				X
Dredging of navigation routes		X		
Dumping of dredged material			X	
Sewer, gas and other pipelines			X	
Telecommunication cables			X	
Wastewater treatment	X			
Land-based industry effluent discharge			X	
Agriculture run-off			X	
Fishing			X	
Aquaculture (algae, shellfish, finfish)			X	
Other marine living resource exploitation (e.g. seaweed harvesting, seal hunt)				X
Research and monitoring (incl. archaeology, fisheries and environment)		X		
Nature conservation		X		
Conservation of cultural heritage		X		
Securing public access to the sea and shore areas	X			
Military activities			X	

3. Is your local government interested in spatial planning and regulation (being in a leading role) of the maritime area bordering your local municipality?

a) **Yes**

b) No

4. In your opinion, what would be the adequate distance from the coastline, that the local government (being in a leading role) should have the authority to plan and regulate?
 - a) One nautical mile (i.e. 1.9 km)
 - b) More than one nautical mile
 - c) According to the need and functionality (e.g. port area)**
 - d) Other (please explain)
5. Which and what kind of support would local governments need in order to plan maritime spatial areas and regulate different sectors?
 - a) Knowledge (experts) and skills, including the need for relevant training courses**
 - b) Human resources**
 - c) Financial resources**
 - d) The legal framework**
 - e) Guidelines and technical support (e.g. from ministries)**
 - f) Other (please explain)
6. Which activity/sector/ aspect is unregulated, or insufficiently or over-regulated by the state in the maritime area? Please explain and provide details.

Environment and nature conservation

7. Please provide specific suggestions for changing some of the most important legal provisions for the use of maritime space in your local government (e.g. which legal provisions are incomplete or need to be changed).

Nature conservation laws.

2.4 Respondent 4

1. Occupation and the title of the respondent
Senior maritime specialist
2. The local governments do currently not have the opportunity to regulate and plan the maritime area (being in a leading role). However, please select all the areas of maritime use that your municipality currently needs to plan spatially and where to regulate its activities. Please also choose a role, your municipality would like to be in these sectors.

Table 5A LSI areas and roles

LSI		Role			
		Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Renewable energy	Use of seawater for cooling/heating		X		
	Installing wind turbines into harbour areas		X		
	Solar parks in the sea area		X		
	Wave energy		X		

LSI	Role			
	Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Hydrogen solutions		X		
Mining of mineral resources (e.g. sand/gravel)	X			
Development of ports, piers, slips, quays, berths	X			
Maritime transport (shipping, sea taxi service, etc.)	X			
Regulation of waterborne traffic		X		
Tourism and recreation	X			
Motorised water sports (scooters etc.)	X			
Non-motorized water sports (rowing boats, sailboats)	X			
Establishing of ice roads	X			
Dredging of navigation routes	X			
Dumping of dredged material	X			
Sewer, gas and other pipelines	X			
Telecommunication cables	X			
Wastewater treatment	X			
Land-based industry effluent discharge	X			
Agriculture run-off		X		
Fishing	X			
Aquaculture (algae, shellfish, finfish)	X			
Other marine living resource exploitation (e.g. seaweed harvesting, seal hunt)	X			
Research and monitoring (incl. archaeology, fisheries and environment)		X		
Nature conservation	X			
Conservation of cultural heritage	X			
Securing public access to the sea and shore areas	X			
Military activities			X	

3. Is your local government interested in spatial planning and regulation (being in a leading role) of the maritime area bordering your local municipality?
 - a) **Yes**
 - b) No
4. In your opinion, what would be the adequate distance from the coastline, that the local government (being in a leading role) should have the authority to plan and regulate?
 - a) One nautical mile (i.e. 1.9 km)
 - b) **More than one nautical mile**
 - c) According to the need and functionality (e.g. port area)
 - d) Other (please explain)
5. Which and what kind of support would local governments need in order to plan maritime spatial areas and regulate different sectors?
 - a) **Knowledge (experts) and skills, including the need for relevant training courses**
 - b) **Human resources**
 - c) **Financial resources**
 - d) **The legal framework**
 - e) **Guidelines and technical support (e.g. from ministries)**
 - f) **Other (please explain): being included in international projects (finances and knowledge)**
6. Which activity/sector/ aspect is unregulated, or insufficiently or over-regulated by the state in the maritime area? Please explain and provide details.

Mapping of the maritime sector, has not been done yet. In my personal opinion, this is mainly because the maritime services are fragmented between different institutions.

7. Please provide specific suggestions for changing some of the most important legal provisions for the use of maritime space in your local government (e.g. which legal provisions are incomplete or need to be changed).

Under the Permanently Inhabited Small Islands Act, the state should have an obligation to ensure the continuity of regular trips in the event of cancellation. In the 2008 version of § 8 (3), it is said that: in the event of interruption of a waterway connection (interruption of regular trips) due to ice conditions or for any other reason, an ice road should be constructed or regular trips by airplanes should be provided to ensure the continuation of the regular trips. This is established by the Government of the Republic. The currently in force, § 8 (3) of the Permanently Inhabited Small Islands Act states that the Transport Board organizes the construction of ice roads in accordance with the requirements established on the basis of § 92 (10) of the Building Code and § 65 (151) of the Traffic Act. However, this does not guarantee the inhabitants of the permanently inhabited small islands that the state will immediately provide a solution in the event of interruption of regular trips.

2.5 Respondent 5

1. Occupation and the title of the respondent
Advisor
2. The local governments do currently not have the opportunity to regulate and plan the maritime area (being in a leading role). However, please select all the areas of maritime use that your municipality currently needs to plan spatially and where to regulate its activities. Please also choose a role, your municipality would like to be in these sectors.

Table 6A LSI areas and roles

LSI		Role			
		Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Renewable energy	Use of seawater for cooling/heating		X		
	Installing wind turbines into harbour areas				X
	Solar parks in the sea area		X		
	Wave energy		X		
	Hydrogen solutions		X		
Mining of mineral resources (e.g. sand/gravel)			X		
Development of ports, piers, slips, quays, berths		X			
Maritime transport (shipping, sea taxi service, etc.)			X		
Regulation of waterborne traffic				X	
Tourism and recreation		X			
Motorised water sports (scooters etc.)					X
Non-motorized water sports (rowing boats, sailboats)					X
Establishing of ice roads				X	
Dredging of navigation routes				X	
Dumping of dredged material				X	
Sewer, gas and other pipelines		X			
Telecommunication cables		X			
Wastewater treatment		X			
Land-based industry effluent discharge			X		
Agriculture run-off			X		
Fishing				X	
Aquaculture (algae, shellfish, finfish)				X	

LSI	Role			
	Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Other marine living resource exploitation (e.g. seaweed harvesting, seal hunt)			X	
Research and monitoring (incl. archaeology, fisheries and environment)			X	
Nature conservation			X	
Conservation of cultural heritage			X	
Securing public access to the sea and shore areas	X			
Military activities			X	

3. Is your local government interested in spatial planning and regulation (being in a leading role) of the maritime area bordering your local municipality?
 - a) **Yes**
 - b) No
4. In your opinion, what would be the adequate distance from the coastline, that the local government (being in a leading role) should have the authority to plan and regulate?
 - a) One nautical mile (i.e. 1.9 km)
 - b) More than one nautical mile
 - c) **According to the need and functionality (e.g. port area)**
 - d) Other (please explain)
5. Which and what kind of support would local governments need in order to plan maritime spatial areas and regulate different sectors?
 - a) **Knowledge (experts) and skills, including the need for relevant training courses**
 - b) **Human resources**
 - c) **Financial resources**
 - d) **The legal framework**
 - e) **Guidelines and technical support (e.g. from ministries)**
 - f) **Other (please explain): an agreement must be made between the local government and responsible ministry. The content of the contract would be the overall tasked of the state, the role of the local government in it, as well as the amount of funds allocated from the state budget to help the local governments to fulfil these tasks.**
6. Which activity/sector/ aspect is unregulated, or insufficiently or over-regulated by the state in the maritime area? Please explain and provide details.

Construction of small ports as well as slips is over-regulated (environmentally).
7. Please provide specific suggestions for changing some of the most important legal provisions for the use of maritime space in your local government (e.g. which legal provisions are incomplete or need to be changed).

The obligation to apply for an environmental permit, except for the construction of smaller ports and larger slips. The construction of public recreational buildings in the construction exclusion zone should not be prohibited. Transshipment of hazardous and other substances outside the waters of ports shall not be permitted in Estonian territorial waters.

2.6 Respondent 6

1. Occupation and the title of the respondent

Head of construction and planning department

2. The local governments do currently not have the opportunity to regulate and plan the maritime area (being in a leading role). However, please select all the areas of maritime use that your municipality currently needs to plan spatially and where to regulate its activities. Please also choose a role, your municipality would like to be in these sectors.

Table 7A LSI areas and roles

LSI		Role			
		Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Renewable energy	Use of seawater for cooling/heating		X		
	Installing wind turbines into harbour areas		X		
	Solar parks in the sea area		X		
	Wave energy		X		
	Hydrogen solutions		X		
Mining of mineral resources (e.g. sand/gravel)			X		
Development of ports, piers, slips, quays, berths		X			
Maritime transport (shipping, sea taxi service, etc.)				X	
Regulation of waterborne traffic				X	
Tourism and recreation			X		
Motorised water sports (scooters etc.)			X		
Non-motorized water sports (rowing boats, sailboats)					X
Establishing of ice roads					X
Dredging of navigation routes				X	
Dumping of dredged material					X

LSI	Role			
	Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Sewer, gas and other pipelines		X		
Telecommunication cables			X	
Wastewater treatment		X		
Land-based industry effluent discharge		X		
Agriculture run-off		X		
Fishing		X		
Aquaculture (algae, shellfish, finfish)		X		
Other marine living resource exploitation (e.g. seaweed harvesting, seal hunt)		X		
Research and monitoring (incl. archaeology, fisheries and environment)			X	
Nature conservation		X		
Conservation of cultural heritage			X	
Securing public access to the sea and shore areas	X			
Military activities		X		

3. Is your local government interested in spatial planning and regulation (being in a leading role) of the maritime area bordering your local municipality?
 - a) **Yes**
 - b) No
4. In your opinion, what would be the adequate distance from the coastline, that the local government (being in a leading role) should have the authority to plan and regulate?
 - a) **One nautical mile (i.e. 1.9 km)**
 - b) More than one nautical mile
 - c) According to the need and functionality (e.g. port area)
 - d) Other (please explain)
5. Which and what kind of support would local governments need in order to plan maritime spatial areas and regulate different sectors?
 - a) **Knowledge (experts) and skills, including the need for relevant training courses**
 - b) **Human resources**
 - c) Financial resources
 - d) The legal framework

- e) Guidelines and technical support (e.g. from ministries)
 - f) Other (please explain)
6. Which activity/sector/ aspect is unregulated, or insufficiently or over-regulated by the state in the maritime area? Please explain and provide.

At present, for example, the transfer of fuel from ship to ship is unregulated. This bears a high risk for an environmental disasters.

7. Please provide specific suggestions for changing some of the most important legal provisions for the use of maritime space in your local government (e.g. which legal provisions are incomplete or need to be changed).

We do not have any suggestions.

2.7 Respondent 7

1. Occupation and the title of the respondent

Focus group interview

2. The local governments do currently not have the opportunity to regulate and plan the maritime area (being in a leading role). However, please select all the areas of maritime use that your municipality currently needs to plan spatially and where to regulate its activities. Please also choose a role, your municipality would like to be in these sectors.

Table 8A LSI areas and roles

LSI		Role			
		Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Renewable energy	Use of seawater for cooling/heating	X			
	Installing wind turbines into harbour areas	X			
	Solar parks in the sea area	X			
	Wave energy	X			
	Hydrogen solutions	X			
Mining of mineral resources (e.g. sand/gravel)				X	
Development of ports, piers, slips, quays, berths		X			
Maritime transport (shipping, sea taxi service, etc.)		X			
Regulation of waterborne traffic		X			
Tourism and recreation		X			
Motorised water sports (scooters etc.)		X			

LSI	Role			
	Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Non-motorized water sports (rowing boats, sailboats)	X			
Establishing of ice roads			X	
Dredging of navigation routes			X	
Dumping of dredged material			X	
Sewer, gas and other pipelines	X			
Telecommunication cables	X			
Wastewater treatment	X			
Land-based industry effluent discharge	X			
Agriculture run-off	X			
Fishing			X	
Aquaculture (algae, shellfish, finfish)			X	
Other marine living resource exploitation (e.g. seaweed harvesting, seal hunt)			X	
Research and monitoring (incl. archaeology, fisheries and environment)			X	
Nature conservation		X		
Conservation of cultural heritage		X		
Securing public access to the sea and shore areas	X			
Military activities			X	

3. Is your local government interested in spatial planning and regulation (being in a leading role) of the maritime area bordering your local municipality?

a) **Yes**

b) No

4. In your opinion, what would be the adequate distance from the coastline, that the local government (being in a leading role) should have the authority to plan and regulate?

a) One nautical mile (i.e. 1.9 km)

b) More than one nautical mile

c) According to the need and functionality (e.g. port area)

d) **Other (please explain): one nautical mile or in the case of valid reasons more than one nautical mile.**

5. Which and what kind of support would local governments need in order to plan maritime spatial areas and regulate different sectors?
 - a) **Knowledge (experts) and skills, including the need for relevant training courses**
 - b) **Human resources**
 - c) **Financial resources**
 - d) **The legal framework**
 - e) **Guidelines and technical support (e.g. from ministries)**
 - f) **Other (please explain): the most important aspect is the legal framework.**
6. Which activity/sector/ aspect is unregulated, or insufficiently or over-regulated by the state in the maritime area? Please explain and provide details.

Securing the shore and addressing shore erosion. Artificial islands, floating saunas. Also, the degree of regulation and the spatial scope is very needs-based. In the answer to question 3 in connection with maritime transport, a leading role is necessary from the point of view of public transport (e.g. water taxis). The local government should certainly not regulate international shipping. The same goes for ice roads. Also, public space above water, cantilever parts of the buildings above the water, floods, shore fortifications, changing coastline and changes in land use construction conditions over time with that. Pollution – division of roles and responsibilities of the state and the local municipality.

7. Please provide specific suggestions for changing some of the most important legal provisions for the use of maritime space in your local government (e.g. which legal provisions are incomplete or need to be changed).

Local governments are affected by everything that is happening at the sea, e.g. bunkering, and in the event of an accident, the outcome must be dealt with by the local municipality.

2.8 Respondent 8

1. Occupation and the title of the respondent
Head of the local municipality
2. The local governments do currently not have the opportunity to regulate and plan the maritime area (being in a leading role). However, please select all the areas of maritime use that your municipality currently needs to plan spatially and where to regulate its activities. Please also choose a role, your municipality would like to be in these sectors.

Table 9A LSI areas and roles

LSI		Role			
		Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Renewable energy	Use of seawater for cooling/heating		X		
	Installing wind turbines into harbour areas			X	
	Solar parks in the sea area	X			
	Wave energy				X

LSI		Role			
		Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
	Hydrogen solutions		X		
	Mining of mineral resources (e.g. sand/gravel)	X			
	Development of ports, piers, slips, quays, berths	X			
	Maritime transport (shipping, sea taxi service, etc.)		X		
	Regulation of waterborne traffic		X		
	Tourism and recreation	X			
	Motorised water sports (scooters etc.)	X			
	Non-motorized water sports (rowing boats, sailboats)		X		
	Establishing of ice roads				X
	Dredging of navigation routes			X	
	Dumping of dredged material			X	
	Sewer, gas and other pipelines		X		
	Telecommunication cables			X	
	Wastewater treatment		X		
	Land-based industry effluent discharge		X		
	Agriculture run-off	X			
	Fishing				X
	Aquaculture (algae, shellfish, finfish)				X
	Other marine living resource exploitation (e.g. seaweed harvesting, seal hunt)		X		
	Research and monitoring (incl. archaeology, fisheries and environment)			X	
	Nature conservation				X
	Conservation of cultural heritage				X
	Securing public access to the sea and shore areas	X			
	Military activities			X	

3. Is your local government interested in spatial planning and regulation (being in a leading role) of the maritime area bordering your local municipality?

a) **Yes**

b) No

4. In your opinion, what would be the adequate distance from the coastline, that the local government (being in a leading role) should have the authority to plan and regulate?

a) One nautical mile (i.e. 1.9 km)

b) More than one nautical mile

c) According to the need and functionality (e.g. port area)

d) Other (please explain)

5. Which and what kind of support would local governments need in order to plan maritime spatial areas and regulate different sectors?

a) Knowledge (experts) and skills, including the need for relevant training courses

b) Human resources

c) Financial resources

d) The legal framework

e) Guidelines and technical support (e.g. from ministries)

f) Other (please explain)

6. Which activity/sector/ aspect is unregulated, or insufficiently or over-regulated by the state in the maritime area? Please explain and provide details.

Nothing is under-regulated, rather over-regulated. The building register does not function. Environmental regulations are the most problematic ones. Local governments must deal with do maintenance on land, but the state does not support it financially.

7. Please provide specific suggestions for changing some of the most important legal provisions for the use of maritime space in your local government (e.g. which legal provisions are incomplete or need to be changed).

Local governments need more rights. The local government tax system does not provide sufficient resources. The municipality should be able to grant building rights.

2.9 Respondent 9

1. Occupation and the title of the respondent

Construction and planning advisor

2. The local governments do currently not have the opportunity to regulate and plan the maritime area (being in a leading role). However, please select all the areas of maritime use that your municipality currently needs to plan spatially and where to regulate its activities. Please also choose a role, your municipality would like to be in these sectors.

Table 10A LSI areas and roles

LSI		Role			
		Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Renewable energy	Use of seawater for cooling/heating				X

LSI		Role			
		Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
	Installing wind turbines into harbour areas				X
	Solar parks in the sea area		X		
	Wave energy				X
	Hydrogen solutions				X
	Mining of mineral resources (e.g. sand/gravel)				X
	Development of ports, piers, slips, quays, berths	X			
	Maritime transport (shipping, sea taxi service, etc.)				X
	Regulation of waterborne traffic				X
	Tourism and recreation				X
	Motorised water sports (scooters etc.)		X		
	Non-motorized water sports (rowing boats, sailboats)				X
	Establishing of ice roads		X		
	Dredging of navigation routes		X		
	Dumping of dredged material			X	
	Sewer, gas and other pipelines				X
	Telecommunication cables			X	
	Wastewater treatment		X		
	Land-based industry effluent discharge				X
	Agriculture run-off				X
	Fishing			X	
	Aquaculture (algae, shellfish, finfish)				X
	Other marine living resource exploitation (e.g. seaweed harvesting, seal hunt)				X
	Research and monitoring (incl. archaeology, fisheries and environment)			X	

LSI	Role			
	Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Nature conservation			X	
Conservation of cultural heritage				X
Securing public access to the sea and shore areas	X			
Military activities		X		

3. Is your local government interested in spatial planning and regulation (being in a leading role) of the maritime area bordering your local municipality?
 - a) Yes
 - b) No**
4. In your opinion, what would be the adequate distance from the coastline, that the local government (being in a leading role) should have the authority to plan and regulate?
 - a) One nautical mile (i.e. 1.9 km)
 - b) More than one nautical mile
 - c) According to the need and functionality (e.g. port area)**
 - d) Other (please explain)
5. Which and what kind of support would local governments need in order to plan maritime spatial areas and regulate different sectors?
 - a) Knowledge (experts) and skills, including the need for relevant training courses**
 - b) Human resources**
 - c) Financial resources**
 - d) The legal framework**
 - e) Guidelines and technical support (e.g. from ministries)**
 - f) Other (please explain)
6. Which activity/sector/ aspect is unregulated, or insufficiently or over-regulated by the state in the maritime area? Please explain and provide details.

I do not know how to answer to this question.
7. Please provide specific suggestions for changing some of the most important legal provisions for the use of maritime space in your local government (e.g. which legal provisions are incomplete or need to be changed).

I do not have any suggestions.

2.10 Respondent 10

1. Occupation and the title of the respondent

Land and planning advisor
2. The local governments do currently not have the opportunity to regulate and plan the maritime area (being in a leading role). However, please select all the areas of maritime use that your municipality currently needs to plan spatially and where to regulate its activities. Please also choose a role, your municipality would like to be in these sectors.

Table 11A LSI areas and roles

LSI		Role			
		Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Renewable energy	Use of seawater for cooling/heating			X	
	Installing wind turbines into harbour areas	X			
	Solar parks in the sea area		X		
	Wave energy		X		
	Hydrogen solutions		X		
Mining of mineral resources (e.g. sand/gravel)				X	
Development of ports, piers, slips, quays, berths		X			
Maritime transport (shipping, sea taxi service, etc.)				X	
Regulation of waterborne traffic				X	
Tourism and recreation		X			
Motorised water sports (scooters etc.)			X		
Non-motorized water sports (rowing boats, sailboats)					X
Establishing of ice roads		X			
Dredging of navigation routes				X	
Dumping of dredged material				X	
Sewer, gas and other pipelines			X		
Telecommunication cables			X		
Wastewater treatment			X		
Land-based industry effluent discharge			X		
Agriculture run-off			X		
Fishing			X		
Aquaculture (algae, shellfish, finfish)			X		

LSI	Role			
	Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Other marine living resource exploitation (e.g. seaweed harvesting, seal hunt)			X	
Research and monitoring (incl. archaeology, fisheries and environment)			X	
Nature conservation		X		
Conservation of cultural heritage		X		
Securing public access to the sea and shore areas	X			
Military activities		X		

3. Is your local government interested in spatial planning and regulation (being in a leading role) of the maritime area bordering your local municipality?

a) **Yes**

b) No

4. In your opinion, what would be the adequate distance from the coastline, that the local government (being in a leading role) should have the authority to plan and regulate?

a) **One nautical mile (i.e. 1.9 km)**

b) More than one nautical mile

c) According to the need and functionality (e.g. port area)

d) Other (please explain)

5. Which and what kind of support would local governments need in order to plan maritime spatial areas and regulate different sectors?

a) **Knowledge (experts) and skills, including the need for relevant training courses**

b) Human resources

c) **Financial resources**

d) **The legal framework**

e) **Guidelines and technical support (e.g. from ministries)**

f) Other (please explain)

6. Which activity/sector/ aspect is unregulated, or insufficiently or over-regulated by the state in the maritime area? Please explain and provide details.

I don't have any comments. I have not had do much experience with planning the marine area.

7. Please provide specific suggestions for changing some of the most important legal provisions for the use of maritime space in your local government (e.g. which legal provisions are incomplete or need to be changed).

I have not had much experience with planning the marine area, so I can't provide specific suggestions.

2.11 Respondent 11

1. Occupation and the title of the respondent

Architect

2. The local governments do currently not have the opportunity to regulate and plan the maritime area (being in a leading role). However, please select all the areas of maritime use that your municipality currently needs to plan spatially and where to regulate its activities. Please also choose a role, your municipality would like to be in these sectors.

Table 12A LSI areas and roles

LSI		Role			
		Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Renewable energy	Use of seawater for cooling/heating		X		
	Installing wind turbines into harbour areas	X			
	Solar parks in the sea area		X		
	Wave energy		X		
	Hydrogen solutions		X		
Mining of mineral resources (e.g. sand/gravel)			X		
Development of ports, piers, slips, quays, berths		X			
Maritime transport (shipping, sea taxi service, etc.)		X			
Regulation of waterborne traffic			X		
Tourism and recreation		X			
Motorised water sports (scooters etc.)		X			
Non-motorized water sports (rowing boats, sailboats)		X			
Establishing of ice roads			X		
Dredging of navigation routes				X	
Dumping of dredged material				X	
Sewer, gas and other pipelines			X		
Telecommunication cables			X		
Wastewater treatment		X			

LSI	Role			
	Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Land-based industry effluent discharge		X		
Agriculture run-off		X		
Fishing		X		
Aquaculture (algae, shellfish, finfish)		X		
Other marine living resource exploitation (e.g. seaweed harvesting, seal hunt)		X		
Research and monitoring (incl. archaeology, fisheries and environment)		X		
Nature conservation		X		
Conservation of cultural heritage		X		
Securing public access to the sea and shore areas	X			
Military activities		X		

3. Is your local government interested in spatial planning and regulation (being in a leading role) of the maritime area bordering your local municipality?
 - a) Yes
 - b) **No**
4. In your opinion, what would be the adequate distance from the coastline, that the local government (being in a leading role) should have the authority to plan and regulate?
 - a) **One nautical mile (i.e. 1.9 km)**
 - b) More than one nautical mile
 - c) According to the need and functionality (e.g. port area)
 - d) Other (please explain)
5. Which and what kind of support would local governments need in order to plan maritime spatial areas and regulate different sectors?
 - a) **Knowledge (experts) and skills, including the need for relevant training courses**
 - b) **Human resources**
 - c) **Financial resources**
 - d) **The legal framework**
 - e) **Guidelines and technical support (e.g. from ministries)**
 - f) Other (please explain)
6. Which activity/sector/ aspect is unregulated, or insufficiently or over-regulated by the state in the maritime area? Please explain and provide details.

Since the local government does currently not have a leading role in these activities, I do not have sufficient experience to evaluate the adequacy and relevancy of the regulations.

- Please provide specific suggestions for changing some of the most important legal provisions for the use of maritime space in your local government (e.g. which legal provisions are incomplete or need to be changed).

Since the local government does currently not have a leading role in these activities, I do not have sufficient experience to give any specific suggestions.

2.12 Respondent 12

- Occupation and the title of the respondent

Architect-planner

- The local governments do currently not have the opportunity to regulate and plan the maritime area (being in a leading role). However, please select all the areas of maritime use that your municipality currently needs to plan spatially and where to regulate its activities. Please also choose a role, your municipality would like to be in these sectors.

Table 13A LSI areas and roles

LSI		Role			
		Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Renewable energy	Use of seawater for cooling/heating		X		
	Installing wind turbines into harbour areas	X			
	Solar parks in the sea area		X		
	Wave energy		X		
	Hydrogen solutions		X		
Mining of mineral resources (e.g. sand/gravel)			X		
Development of ports, piers, slips, quays, berths		X			
Maritime transport (shipping, sea taxi service, etc.)		X			
Regulation of waterborne traffic				X	
Tourism and recreation			X		
Motorised water sports (scooters etc.)				X	
Non-motorized water sports (rowing boats, sailboats)					X
Establishing of ice roads			X		

LSI	Role			
	Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Dredging of navigation routes		X		
Dumping of dredged material		X		
Sewer, gas and other pipelines		X		
Telecommunication cables		X		
Wastewater treatment	X			
Land-based industry effluent discharge		X		
Agriculture run-off		X		
Fishing		X		
Aquaculture (algae, shellfish, finfish)		X		
Other marine living resource exploitation (e.g. seaweed harvesting, seal hunt)			X	
Research and monitoring (incl. archaeology, fisheries and environment)		X		
Nature conservation		X		
Conservation of cultural heritage		X		
Securing public access to the sea and shore areas		X		
Military activities		X		

3. Is your local government interested in spatial planning and regulation (being in a leading role) of the maritime area bordering your local municipality?
 - a) **Yes**
 - b) No
4. In your opinion, what would be the adequate distance from the coastline, that the local government (being in a leading role) should have the authority to plan and regulate?
 - a) One nautical mile (i.e. 1.9 km)
 - b) More than one nautical mile
 - c) **According to the need and functionality (e.g. port area)**
 - d) Other (please explain)
5. Which and what kind of support would local governments need in order to plan maritime spatial areas and regulate different sectors?
 - a) **Knowledge (experts) and skills, including the need for relevant training courses**
 - b) **Human resources**
 - c) **Financial resources**

d) The legal framework

e) Guidelines and technical support (e.g. from ministries)

f) Other (please explain)

- Which activity/sector/ aspect is unregulated, or insufficiently or over-regulated by the state in the maritime area? Please explain and provide details.

Renewable energy development is over-regulated. Securing public access to the seashore areas is under-regulated.

- Please provide specific suggestions for changing some of the most important legal provisions for the use of maritime space in your local government (e.g. which legal provisions are incomplete or need to be changed).

The sea shore public access area could be broader, at least 20 m. The beach belongs to the people.

2.13 Respondent 13

- Occupation and the title of the respondent

Focus group interview

- The local governments do currently not have the opportunity to regulate and plan the maritime area (being in a leading role). However, please select all the areas of maritime use that your municipality currently needs to plan spatially and where to regulate its activities. Please also choose a role, your municipality would like to be in these sectors.

Table 14A LSI areas and roles

LSI		Role			
		Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Renewable energy	Use of seawater for cooling/heating	X			
	Installing wind turbines into harbour areas	X			
	Solar parks in the sea area	X			
	Wave energy		X		
	Hydrogen solutions		X		
Mining of mineral resources (e.g. sand/gravel)			X		
Development of ports, piers, slips, quays, berths		X			
Maritime transport (shipping, sea taxi service, etc.)		X			
Regulation of waterborne traffic		X			
Tourism and recreation		X			

LSI	Role			
	Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Motorised water sports (scooters etc.)	X			
Non-motorized water sports (rowing boats, sailboats)		X		
Establishing of ice roads			X	
Dredging of navigation routes		X		
Dumping of dredged material	X			
Sewer, gas and other pipelines	X			
Telecommunication cables		X		
Wastewater treatment	X			
Land-based industry effluent discharge	X			
Agriculture run-off	X			
Fishing		X		
Aquaculture (algae, shellfish, finfish)	X			
Other marine living resource exploitation (e.g. seaweed harvesting, seal hunt)	X			
Research and monitoring (incl. archaeology, fisheries and environment)	X			
Nature conservation	X			
Conservation of cultural heritage	X			
Securing public access to the sea and shore areas	X			
Military activities	X			

3. Is your local government interested in spatial planning and regulation (being in a leading role) of the maritime area bordering your local municipality?

a) **Yes**

b) No

4. In your opinion, what would be the adequate distance from the coastline, that the local government (being in a leading role) should have the authority to plan and regulate?

a) One nautical mile (i.e. 1.9 km)

b) More than one nautical mile

c) According to the need and functionality (e.g. port area)

d) **Other (please explain): 12 nautical miles**

5. Which and what kind of support would local governments need in order to plan maritime spatial areas and regulate different sectors?
 - a) **Knowledge (experts) and skills, including the need for relevant training courses**
 - b) **Human resources**
 - c) **Financial resources**
 - d) **The legal framework**
 - e) **Guidelines and technical support (e.g. from ministries)**
 - f) **Other (please explain): there are many areas where support is needed, but mostly in human resources.**
6. Which activity/sector/ aspect is unregulated, or insufficiently or over-regulated by the state in the maritime area? Please explain and provide details.
7. **Most areas are over-regulated. The protection and planning of cultural heritage should be more organized by the local municipality. The entire coastal area is closed for construction. The construction exclusion zone covers a shore area of 200 m on islands and 100 m on the mainland. In some areas where there are more floods and ice (in the winter) the construction ban area should be wider.**
8. Please provide specific suggestions for changing some of the most important legal provisions for the use of maritime space in your local government (e.g. which legal provisions are incomplete or need to be changed).

I have not had any major problems, except wind farms (they should be farther from the coast and fewer in number) and the construction exclusion zone. There are a lot of communication going on with the Environmental Agency and sometimes we mutually disagree. For example, state-designed Natura areas hinder local development, there are too many of them. We would like to have more rights and say in hauling routs. The blue economy issues affiliated to several ministries, where each one only looks at its own issues. Making offshore sumps and wind farms according to the same legislation – more flexibility is needed.

2.14 Respondent 14

1. Occupation and the title of the respondent
Member of the municipal council
2. The local governments do currently not have the opportunity to regulate and plan the maritime area (being in a leading role). However, please select all the areas of maritime use that your municipality currently needs to plan spatially and where to regulate its activities. Please also choose a role, your municipality would like to be in these sectors.

Table 15A LSI areas and roles

LSI		Role			
		Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Renewable energy	Use of seawater for cooling/heating		X		
	Installing wind turbines into harbour areas		X		

LSI		Role			
		Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
	Solar parks in the sea area		X		
	Wave energy		X		
	Hydrogen solutions		X		
	Mining of mineral resources (e.g. sand/gravel)	X			
	Development of ports, piers, slips, quays, berths	X			
	Maritime transport (shipping, sea taxi service, etc.)	X			
	Regulation of waterborne traffic		X		
	Tourism and recreation	X			
	Motorised water sports (scooters etc.)		X		
	Non-motorized water sports (rowing boats, sailboats)		X		
	Establishing of ice roads	X			
	Dredging of navigation routes		X		
	Dumping of dredged material		X		
	Sewer, gas and other pipelines		X		
	Telecommunication cables		X		
	Wastewater treatment			X	
	Land-based industry effluent discharge			X	
	Agriculture run-off		X		
	Fishing	X			
	Aquaculture (algae, shellfish, finfish)	X			
	Other marine living resource exploitation (e.g. seaweed harvesting, seal hunt)	X			
	Research and monitoring (incl. archaeology, fisheries and environment)		X		
	Nature conservation	X			
	Conservation of cultural heritage	X			

LSI	Role			
	Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Securing public access to the sea and shore areas	X			
Military activities		X		

3. Is your local government interested in spatial planning and regulation (being in a leading role) of the maritime area bordering your local municipality?

a) **Yes**

b) No

4. In your opinion, what would be the adequate distance from the coastline, that the local government (being in a leading role) should have the authority to plan and regulate?

a) One nautical mile (i.e. 1.9 km)

b) More than one nautical mile

c) **According to the need and functionality (e.g. port area)**

d) Other (please explain)

5. Which and what kind of support would local governments need in order to plan maritime spatial areas and regulate different sectors?

a) **Knowledge (experts) and skills, including the need for relevant training courses**

b) **Human resources**

c) **Financial resources**

d) **The legal framework**

e) **Guidelines and technical support (e.g. from ministries)**

f) Other (please explain)

6. Which activity/sector/ aspect is unregulated, or insufficiently or over-regulated by the state in the maritime area? Please explain and provide details.

Professional fishermen working near seal protection areas should be provided with more affordable seal repellents with subsidies. In one particular small island, compared to other small islands, professional fishermen have for this reason proximately ten times fewer historical fishing rights, which is disproportionate.

7. Please provide specific suggestions for changing some of the most important legal provisions for the use of maritime space in your local government (e.g. which legal provisions are incomplete or need to be changed).

Maybe in the fishing industry in general, when one species becomes more dominant than the other (i.e. invasive species). We should have the right to influence this balance, so we do not leave it up to nature (to restore the balance) or the market. Perhaps it would be easier to get support for the certain types of traps during this period. It is just an idea I had, especially when thinking about the round goby. In case a particular fish species (invasive round goby is the current concern), if some species starts to overpower the others and management intervention could balance the situation, then it doesn't have to be left to nature or the market to regulate it. Perhaps it is possible to support certain types of traps more easily during such a period.

2.15 Respondent 15

1. Occupation and the title of the respondent

Deputy head of the local government

- The local governments do currently not have the opportunity to regulate and plan the maritime area (being in a leading role). However, please select all the areas of maritime use that your municipality currently needs to plan spatially and where to regulate its activities. Please also choose a role, your municipality would like to be in these sectors.

Table 16A LSI areas and roles

LSI		Role			
		Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Renewable energy	Use of seawater for cooling/heating				X
	Installing wind turbines into harbour areas			X	
	Solar parks in the sea area				X
	Wave energy				X
	Hydrogen solutions			X	
Mining of mineral resources (e.g. sand/gravel)					X
Development of ports, piers, slips, quays, berths		X			
Maritime transport (shipping, sea taxi service, etc.)				X	
Regulation of waterborne traffic					X
Tourism and recreation		X			
Motorised water sports (scooters etc.)					X
Non-motorized water sports (rowing boats, sailboats)				X	
Establishing of ice roads					X
Dredging of navigation routes				X	
Dumping of dredged material				X	
Sewer, gas and other pipelines		X			
Telecommunication cables					X
Wastewater treatment		X			
Land-based industry effluent discharge					X
Agriculture run-off				X	

LSI	Role			
	Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Fishing		X		
Aquaculture (algae, shellfish, finfish)			X	
Other marine living resource exploitation (e.g. seaweed harvesting, seal hunt)			X	
Research and monitoring (incl. archaeology, fisheries and environment)			X	
Nature conservation		X		
Conservation of cultural heritage		X		
Securing public access to the sea and shore areas	X			
Military activities				X

3. Is your local government interested in spatial planning and regulation (being in a leading role) of the maritime area bordering your local municipality?
 - a) **Yes**
 - b) No
4. In your opinion, what would be the adequate distance from the coastline, that the local government (being in a leading role) should have the authority to plan and regulate?
 - a) One nautical mile (i.e. 1.9 km)
 - b) **More than one nautical mile**
 - c) According to the need and functionality (e.g. port area)
 - d) Other (please explain)
5. Which and what kind of support would local governments need in order to plan maritime spatial areas and regulate different sectors?
 - a) **Knowledge (experts) and skills, including the need for relevant training courses**
 - b) **Human resources**
 - c) Financial resources
 - d) The legal framework
 - e) Guidelines and technical support (e.g. from ministries)
 - f) Other (please explain)
6. Which activity/sector/ aspect is unregulated, or insufficiently or over-regulated by the state in the maritime area? Please explain and provide details.

The main concern is the construction of wind farms in the Gulf of Riga. As a local government, we understand the need for the state to find solutions to the situation in the energy sector, where production capacities are needed, but we do not understand the irregularity of planning new production capacities. We want the environmental impact assessment of all offshore wind farm areas to be carried out for the whole offshore park area together. Unfortunately, this is not the case at the moment. The views and interests of

the local community must be taken into account when assessing the environmental impact of offshore wind farms. When planning massive wind farms, it is necessary to ensure the development and establishment of a functioning compensation mechanism with considerable weight for the community, which, according to the information available to us, has not been done so far.

7. Please provide specific suggestions for changing some of the most important legal provisions for the use of maritime space in your local government (e.g. which legal provisions are incomplete or need to be changed).

A major overall problem is cross-sectoral cooperation, which is sometimes lacking. For example, the construction of wind farms and their effects on fisheries. The construction of wind farms directly reduces activities in the fishing sector and thus affects the financial aspect of the fishing sector. Therefore, cross-sectoral co-operation (incl. operational information exchange and consultation) must be provided by law and made an obligation. And failure to do so also provides for appropriate sanctions. Aquaculture is not yet widespread, but it can be expected in the future. This may require new/different approaches or conditions and requirements. These need to be taken into account when adapting legislation in the future.

2.16 Respondent 16

1. Occupation and the title of the respondent

Member of the municipal council

2. The local governments do currently not have the opportunity to regulate and plan the maritime area (being in a leading role). However, please select all the areas of maritime use that your municipality currently needs to plan spatially and where to regulate its activities. Please also choose a role, your municipality would like to be in these sectors.

Table 17A LSI areas and roles

LSI		Role			
		Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Renewable energy	Use of seawater for cooling/heating		X		
	Installing wind turbines into harbour areas	X			
	Solar parks in the sea area		X		
	Wave energy		X		
	Hydrogen solutions		X		
Mining of mineral resources (e.g. sand/gravel)			X		
Development of ports, piers, slips, quays, berths		X			
Maritime transport (shipping, sea taxi service, etc.)		X			
Regulation of waterborne traffic			X		

LSI	Role			
	Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Tourism and recreation		X		
Motorised water sports (scooters etc.)		X		
Non-motorized water sports (rowing boats, sailboats)		X		
Establishing of ice roads		X		
Dredging of navigation routes			X	
Dumping of dredged material		X		
Sewer, gas and other pipelines		X		
Telecommunication cables		X		
Wastewater treatment		X		
Land-based industry effluent discharge		X		
Agriculture run-off		X		
Fishing		X		
Aquaculture (algae, shellfish, finfish)		X		
Other marine living resource exploitation (e.g. seaweed harvesting, seal hunt)		X		
Research and monitoring (incl. archaeology, fisheries and environment)			X	
Nature conservation		X		
Conservation of cultural heritage		X		
Securing public access to the sea and shore areas	X			
Military activities		X		

3. Is your local government interested in spatial planning and regulation (being in a leading role) of the maritime area bordering your local municipality?
 - a) **Yes**
 - b) No

4. In your opinion, what would be the adequate distance from the coastline, that the local government (being in a leading role) should have the authority to plan and regulate?
 - a) One nautical mile (i.e. 1.9 km)
 - b) More than one nautical mile
 - c) According to the need and functionality (e.g. port area)

- d) **Other (please explain): the local government should have the authority to plan and regulate area up to 15 km, in which they can make yes/no decisions in planning this area; further than 15 km may be regulated by the state.**
5. Which and what kind of support would local governments need in order to plan maritime spatial areas and regulate different sectors?
- a) Knowledge (experts) and skills, including the need for relevant training courses
 - b) Human resources
 - c) **Financial resources**
 - d) **The legal framework**
 - e) Guidelines and technical support (e.g. from ministries)
 - f) **Other (please explain): cooperation between different authorities is still effective when the state is planning a maritime area, i.e. different authorities are sharing their views within their competence. Thus, this competence does not have to be concentrated directly in the municipality, but the local government should have a more rights to give their opinion or make a dissenting decision in maritime spatial planning. Thus, the options related marked in this question are not subject areas that should somehow be concentrated in the municipality, but I marked what the local government has in the minority today. The support that would be most needed in practice is the legal framework. Of course, there is always a lack of financial resources, which itself limits the involvement of human resources and thus of knowledge and skills in the process. I believe that the legal framework and financial resources make it possible to acquire knowledge and skills through the involvement of human resources and that the guidelines and technical support are already a natural extension of the process.**
6. Which activity/sector/ aspect is unregulated, or insufficiently or over-regulated by the state in the maritime area? Please explain and provide details.

The organization of the use of the maritime area is biased towards the state – too much control in the decision-making without the obligation to involve local governments. In other words, the local governments do not have effective tools to make its views and needs heard. I have indicated the topics listed in the question above (about the areas and roles) in which the local government should and would like to have greater involvement/role in, but these are not currently topical issues. Participating also means submitting a binding yes/no opinion, which the state must take into account. We are not opposed to the state being in a leading role: it is reasonable to implement it in the light of having a bigger picture, but the local government needs its own legislative tool, so to speak, as well. Asking for an opinion, which is known to be overridden *a priori*, will not increase the confidence of local governments in the field of maritime spatial planning.

7. Please provide specific suggestions for changing some of the most important legal provisions for the use of maritime space in your local government (e.g. which legal provisions are incomplete or need to be changed).

Legally, local governments do not have rights in the use of the maritime area. It is true that there are certain rights in relation to facilities functionally linked to the coast, but these facilities generally border directly on the coast and are rather not to be understood as a wider maritime area. A conceptual change of mindset is needed – local governments must have the right to plan the use of their maritime space and to work through different legislation in order to find the provisions that need to be changed to implement the concept. Today, the local government essentially watches from the shore while the state makes decisions, moreover the local government and the state do not have sufficient communication about these decisions. The proposals are submitted through the Association of Estonian Cities and Municipalities, but it should not be like this – every local government must be able to have a constructive dialogue about this directly with the state, not through representative organizations, especially in the matters that directly concern the well-being of the local government population.

2.17 Respondent 17

1. Occupation and the title of the respondent

Member of the municipal council

2. The local governments do currently not have the opportunity to regulate and plan the maritime area (being in a leading role). However, please select all the areas of maritime use that your municipality currently needs to plan spatially and where to regulate its activities. Please also choose a role, your municipality would like to be in these sectors.

Table 18A LSI areas and roles

LSI		Role			
		Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Renewable energy	Use of seawater for cooling/heating		X		
	Installing wind turbines into harbour areas		X		
	Solar parks in the sea area		X		
	Wave energy		X		
	Hydrogen solutions		X		
Mining of mineral resources (e.g. sand/gravel)	X				
Development of ports, piers, slips, quays, berths	X				
Maritime transport (shipping, sea taxi service, etc.)	X				
Regulation of waterborne traffic		X			
Tourism and recreation	X				
Motorised water sports (scooters etc.)		X			
Non-motorized water sports (rowing boats, sailboats)		X			
Establishing of ice roads	X				
Dredging of navigation routes		X			
Dumping of dredged material		X			
Sewer, gas and other pipelines		X			
Telecommunication cables		X			
Wastewater treatment				X	

LSI	Role			
	Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Land-based industry effluent discharge			X	
Agriculture run-off		X		
Fishing	X			
Aquaculture (algae, shellfish, finfish)	X			
Other marine living resource exploitation (e.g. seaweed harvesting, seal hunt)	X			
Research and monitoring (incl. archaeology, fisheries and environment)		X		
Nature conservation	X			
Conservation of cultural heritage	X			
Securing public access to the sea and shore areas	X			
Military activities		X		

3. Is your local government interested in spatial planning and regulation (being in a leading role) of the maritime area bordering your local municipality?
 - a) **Yes**
 - b) No
4. In your opinion, what would be the adequate distance from the coastline, that the local government (being in a leading role) should have the authority to plan and regulate?
 - a) One nautical mile (i.e. 1.9 km)
 - b) More than one nautical mile
 - c) **According to the need and functionality (e.g. port area)**
 - d) Other (please explain)
5. Which and what kind of support would local governments need in order to plan maritime spatial areas and regulate different sectors?
 - a) **Knowledge (experts) and skills, including the need for relevant training courses**
 - b) **Human resources**
 - c) **Financial resources**
 - d) **The legal framework**
 - e) **Guidelines and technical support (e.g. from ministries)**
 - f) Other (please explain)
6. Which activity/sector/ aspect is unregulated, or insufficiently or over-regulated by the state in the maritime area? Please explain and provide details.

In the seal protection areas the local professional fisherman could be provided with cheaper seal scaring/repelling devices.

- Please provide specific suggestions for changing some of the most important legal provisions for the use of maritime space in your local government (e.g. which legal provisions are incomplete or need to be changed).

Perhaps it would be easier to get support for the certain types of traps to help regulate population size of some species (invasive, like round goby).

2.18 Respondent 18

- Occupation and the title of the respondent

Planning specialist

- The local governments do currently not have the opportunity to regulate and plan the maritime area (being in a leading role). However, please select all the areas of maritime use that your municipality currently needs to plan spatially and where to regulate its activities. Please also choose a role, your municipality would like to be in these sectors.

Table 19A LSI areas and roles

LSI		Role			
		Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Renewable energy	Use of seawater for cooling/heating		X		
	Installing wind turbines into harbour areas	X			
	Solar parks in the sea area			X	
	Wave energy			X	
	Hydrogen solutions			X	
Mining of mineral resources (e.g. sand/gravel)			X		
Development of ports, piers, slips, quays, berths			X		
Maritime transport (shipping, sea taxi service, etc.)				X	
Regulation of waterborne traffic				X	
Tourism and recreation			X		
Motorised water sports (scooters etc.)		X			
Non-motorized water sports (rowing boats, sailboats)		X			
Establishing of ice roads				X	

LSI	Role			
	Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Dredging of navigation routes			X	
Dumping of dredged material			X	
Sewer, gas and other pipelines		X		
Telecommunication cables		X		
Wastewater treatment		X		
Land-based industry effluent discharge		X		
Agriculture run-off		X		
Fishing		X		
Aquaculture (algae, shellfish, finfish)		X		
Other marine living resource exploitation (e.g. seaweed harvesting, seal hunt)			X	
Research and monitoring (incl. archaeology, fisheries and environment)			X	
Nature conservation		X		
Conservation of cultural heritage		X		
Securing public access to the sea and shore areas	X			
Military activities			X	

3. Is your local government interested in spatial planning and regulation (being in a leading role) of the maritime area bordering your local municipality?
 - a) Yes
 - b) No**

4. In your opinion, what would be the adequate distance from the coastline, that the local government (being in a leading role) should have the authority to plan and regulate?
 - a) One nautical mile (i.e. 1.9 km)
 - b) More than one nautical mile
 - c) According to the need and functionality (e.g. port area)**
 - d) Other (please explain)

5. Which and what kind of support would local governments need in order to plan maritime spatial areas and regulate different sectors?
 - a) Knowledge (experts) and skills, including the need for relevant training courses**
 - b) Human resources**
 - c) Financial resources**

d) The legal framework

e) Guidelines and technical support (e.g. from ministries)

f) Other (please explain)

6. Which activity/sector/ aspect is unregulated, or insufficiently or over-regulated by the state in the maritime area? Please explain and provide details.

Navigation and navigation marks.

7. Please provide specific suggestions for changing some of the most important legal provisions for the use of maritime space in your local government (e.g. which legal provisions are incomplete or need to be changed).

Construction in the beach area, especially in the beach and coastal areas. Legislation is complex and sometimes contradictory (for example, different interpretations of the provisions on the delimitation of the construction exclusion zone in the nature conservation legislation). Over-regulation, for example to reduce the construction exclusion zone requires a detailed plan that changes the general plan.

2.19 Respondent 19

1. Occupation and the title of the respondent

Head of planning department

2. The local governments do currently not have the opportunity to regulate and plan the maritime area (being in a leading role). However, please select all the areas of maritime use that your municipality currently needs to plan spatially and where to regulate its activities. Please also choose a role, your municipality would like to be in these sectors.

Table 20A LSI areas and roles

LSI		Role			
		Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Renewable energy	Use of seawater for cooling/heating		X		
	Installing wind turbines into harbour areas				X
	Solar parks in the sea area		X		
	Wave energy		X		
	Hydrogen solutions		X		
Mining of mineral resources (e.g. sand/gravel)			X		
Development of ports, piers, slips, quays, berths		X			
Maritime transport (shipping, sea taxi service, etc.)			X		
Regulation of waterborne traffic			X		

LSI	Role			
	Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Tourism and recreation	X			
Motorised water sports (scooters etc.)	X			
Non-motorized water sports (rowing boats, sailboats)	X			
Establishing of ice roads			X	
Dredging of navigation routes			X	
Dumping of dredged material			X	
Sewer, gas and other pipelines			X	
Telecommunication cables			X	
Wastewater treatment			X	
Land-based industry effluent discharge			X	
Agriculture run-off			X	
Fishing			X	
Aquaculture (algae, shellfish, finfish)			X	
Other marine living resource exploitation (e.g. seaweed harvesting, seal hunt)			X	
Research and monitoring (incl. archaeology, fisheries and environment)			X	
Nature conservation			X	
Conservation of cultural heritage			X	
Securing public access to the sea and shore areas	X			
Military activities			X	

3. Is your local government interested in spatial planning and regulation (being in a leading role) of the maritime area bordering your local municipality?
 - a) **Yes**
 - b) No

4. In your opinion, what would be the adequate distance from the coastline, that the local government (being in a leading role) should have the authority to plan and regulate?
 - a) **One nautical mile (i.e. 1.9 km)**
 - b) More than one nautical mile
 - c) According to the need and functionality (e.g. port area)

- d) Other (please explain)
5. Which and what kind of support would local governments need in order to plan maritime spatial areas and regulate different sectors?
- a) **Knowledge (experts) and skills, including the need for relevant training courses**
- b) **Human resources**
- c) **Financial resources**
- d) **The legal framework**
- e) **Guidelines and technical support (e.g. from ministries)**
- f) Other (please explain)
6. Which activity/sector/ aspect is unregulated, or insufficiently or over-regulated by the state in the maritime area? Please explain and provide details.
- Putting attractions at sea.**
7. Please provide specific suggestions for changing some of the most important legal provisions for the use of maritime space in your local government (e.g. which legal provisions are incomplete or need to be changed).

Putting attractions at sea.

2.20 Respondent 20

1. Occupation and the title of the respondent
- Head of planning and construction department**
2. The local governments do currently not have the opportunity to regulate and plan the maritime area (being in a leading role). However, please select all the areas of maritime use that your municipality currently needs to plan spatially and where to regulate its activities. Please also choose a role, your municipality would like to be in these sectors.

Table 21A LSI areas and roles

LSI		Role			
		Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Renewable energy	Use of seawater for cooling/heating		X		
	Installing wind turbines into harbour areas				X
	Solar parks in the sea area				X
	Wave energy				X
	Hydrogen solutions				X
Mining of mineral resources (e.g. sand/gravel)					X
Development of ports, piers, slips, quays, berths		X			

LSI	Role			
	Leading	Involved	Informed	No need to plan
Maritime transport (shipping, sea taxi service, etc.)		X		
Regulation of waterborne traffic		X		
Tourism and recreation		X		
Motorised water sports (scooters etc.)	X			
Non-motorized water sports (rowing boats, sailboats)	X			
Establishing of ice roads				X
Dredging of navigation routes		X		
Dumping of dredged material		X		
Sewer, gas and other pipelines	X			
Telecommunication cables		X		
Wastewater treatment	X			
Land-based industry effluent discharge				X
Agriculture run-off				X
Fishing		X		
Aquaculture (algae, shellfish, finfish)		X		
Other marine living resource exploitation (e.g. seaweed harvesting, seal hunt)		X		
Research and monitoring (incl. archaeology, fisheries and environment)		X		
Nature conservation	X			
Conservation of cultural heritage	X			
Securing public access to the sea and shore areas	X			
Military activities		X		

3. Is your local government interested in spatial planning and regulation (being in a leading role) of the maritime area bordering your local municipality?
 - a) **Yes**
 - b) No
4. In your opinion, what would be the adequate distance from the coastline, that the local government (being in a leading role) should have the authority to plan and regulate?

- a) One nautical mile (i.e. 1.9 km)
 - b) More than one nautical mile
 - c) **According to the need and functionality (e.g. port area)**
 - d) Other (please explain)
5. Which and what kind of support would local governments need in order to plan maritime spatial areas and regulate different sectors?
- a) **Knowledge (experts) and skills, including the need for relevant training courses**
 - b) **Human resources**
 - c) **Financial resources**
 - d) **The legal framework**
 - e) **Guidelines and technical support (e.g. from ministries)**
 - f) Other (please explain)
6. Which activity/sector/ aspect is unregulated, or insufficiently or over-regulated by the state in the maritime area? Please explain and provide details.

Bunkering.

7. Please provide specific suggestions for changing some of the most important legal provisions for the use of maritime space in your local government (e.g. which legal provisions are incomplete or need to be changed).

I do not have any suggestions.

3 Annex: Review of the previous national survey (2018)

The master's thesis describes the situation in the management of the Estonian maritime area, including spatial planning and regulation of maritime use, as of 2018. The master's thesis states that pursuant to the Water Act of the Republic of Estonia, the government of the state of Estonia has full jurisdiction over the maritime area, including the terrestrial sea and the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). The Ministry of Finance is responsible for planning. Other agencies are responsible for regulating the use of the sea and other things, for example, the Ministry of Rural Affairs is responsible for fisheries, and the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications is responsible for issuing maritime transport and building permits. Right now, the planning rights of local governments extend only to land, but they have been granted the right to regulate the organization of water traffic in the maritime area bordering the local municipality. Pursuant to the 01.01.2018 Water Act §18 subsection 5, the local governments have the right to prohibit navigation on public and publicly used water bodies, to establish a speed limit for traffic and to prohibit going on the ice if the traffic, high speed of the watercraft or icing:

- Endangers water traffic;
- Damages or may damage the condition of the water body and destroy the shores of the water body;
- Damages or is likely to damage fish stocks or the condition of fish stocks;
- Disturbs other waterbody users;
- Endangers the ones that go to the ice;

The master's thesis points out that in many countries, local governments have certain rights when planning maritime space, either in a certain territory or in certain areas. For example, German municipalities generally do not have maritime rights, but they have the option of extending planning rights to a certain part of the maritime territory in order to develop recreational facilities or build ports. Finnish municipalities have experience in coastal planning in the fields of construction, shipping, transport, nature conservation and wind energy.

The aim of the master's thesis was divided and completed in three parts. First, in the autumn of 2018, a survey was sent to individuals engaged in the field of planning to investigate the planning experience of Estonia's neighbouring countries, examining whether and to what extent and in which areas of the local governments of these countries have planning rights at sea. A survey was then conducted for Estonian local governments, examining their current and future maritime needs and interests. The survey was followed by a focus group interview, which was a follow-up to the initial analysis of the survey of Estonian local governments in order to pinpoint the possible interests of the local governments in the maritime sector. The aim of the analysis of the study was to draw conclusions from which proposals can be made to make the current legal framework simpler and more transparent.

As of 2018, the maritime planning experiences in Estonia's neighbouring countries were different. Latvian local governments are the legal holders of a sea area up to 2 km wide from the coast. They have the right to plan and regulate activities in this area, but not to issue permits for the use of the sea area. Due to the lack of competence of local governments, there are only a few plans where recreational facilities are planned in the water area up to 400 m in width. In Finland, the territorial sea and coastal areas are part of the local governments. The municipalities bordering the sea provide instructions for the comprehensive plans of cottages on the coastline, whereas only the coastline and islands are covered in the comprehensive plans. However, in some cases, they have also included wind farms (Tahkoluoto, Pori) and nature conservation, including cables, existing shipping lines and ports. Swedish coastal municipalities have the right to plan the sea for 12 nautical miles. However, despite this right, most local governments' comprehensive plans have focused mainly on urban and land-use planning rather than maritime issues. Danish municipalities have the right to plan up to the coastline, but sometimes they also have the right to plan certain activities in coastal waters.

In December 2018 local governments were addressed to respond to the survey. In two weeks, a total of 20 out of 25 local governments by the sea responded to the survey, which accounted for 80% of the respondents. The results showed that already in 2018, 60% of the respondents needed to plan a maritime

area and regulate their activities. In the future, this need would be up to 95% of the respondents. The negative respondents cited the lack of interest, the lack of addressing maritime developments in the strategic documents and the fact that maritime planning or regulation has already taken place, for example in the case of port and protected areas where new uses could not be planned.

The need for planning has arisen mainly in the areas of ports, recreation, maritime transport and fisheries. In addition to the above, local governments are also interested in planning the areas of energy, construction and cabling. Based on the specifics of local governments, planning needs were also highlighted in such areas of marine use as environmental conservation (planning of coastal protection measures, mitigation of the impact of ships), shoreline alteration, marine heating and cooling, freshwater drainage, cultural heritage protection, marine rescue and coastal pastures. State defence and security or larger objects involving many interest groups (such as an offshore wind farm of national importance) should remain in the state plans.

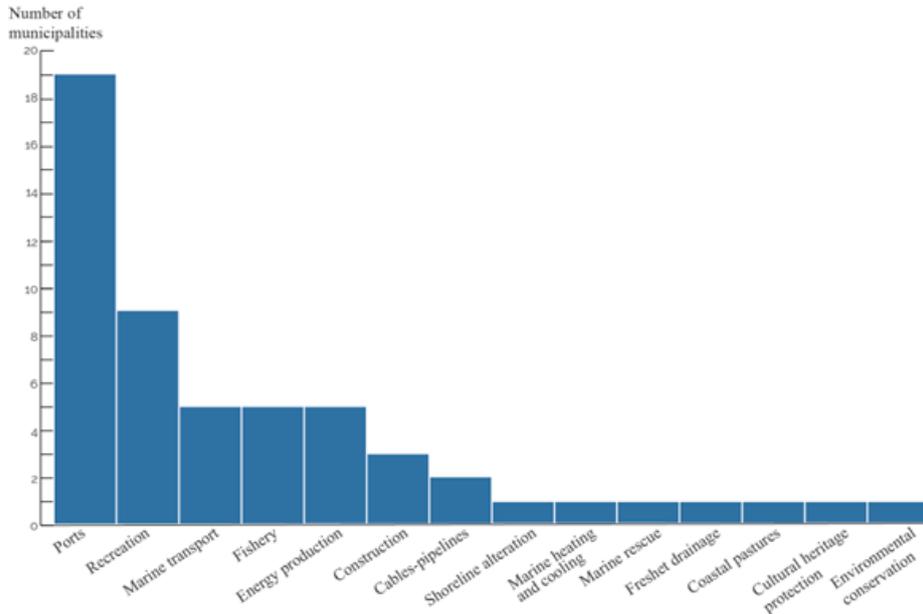


Figure 1A Marine uses, which need planning and regulating in the future

The majority of Estonian coastal local governments are of the opinion that 1 nautical mile is sufficient for them to plan their maritime area, but there were also local governments that proposed to extend the planning right to the sea by 2 nautical miles. Municipalities are of the common opinion that in some cases the planning right could arise from the nature of the planned object or area, such as the planning of facilities at sea. In maritime areas that would not be covered by local governments' planning rights, they would like to have the right to be involved and coordinated on all maritime uses.

As of 2018, the entire maritime area was under state administration and local governments do not have planning rights there, the latter were asked what the biggest challenges in planning could be and regulating activities in the maritime area and what support they would need. The five local governments that mentioned the challenges pointed to a lack of knowledge and experience. The same number of respondents also considered legislation to be a challenge. If local governments are given planning rights in the maritime area, there will be a need for clear and unambiguous regulations. Local governments should be able to plan their work in such a way as to be able to respond effectively to changing circumstances. According to four municipalities, it is difficult to take into account different sectors and interest groups, for example, bathers and jet skiers or surfers and kitesurfers.

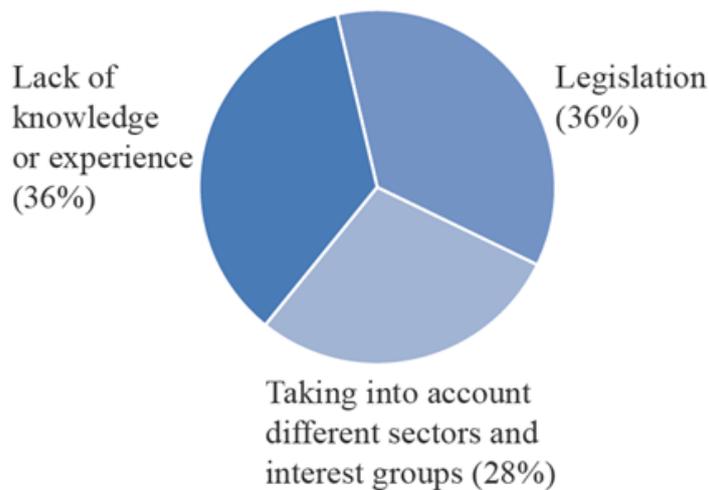


Figure 2A Biggest challenges in planning and regulating activities in the maritime area

If the planning and regulatory powers of local authorities were to extend to the sea, some new areas would emerge for them for which they would like to receive support. Eight local governments would like to receive additional training on certain topics or the opportunity to involve a specialist in planning. Certain topics or areas require additional research, which would make local governments interested in financial support, either from the state or partners. According to one local municipality, support is also expressed in the involvement of local governments in various decision-making processes, even if the interests come externally.

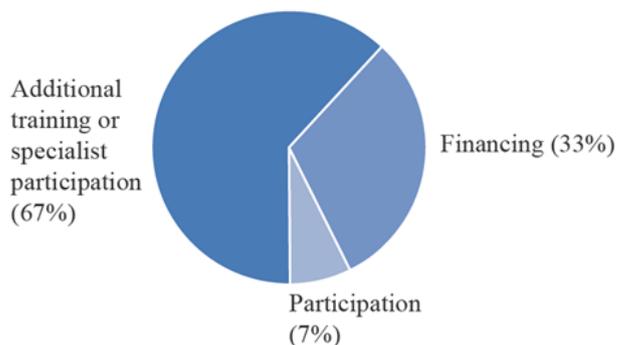


Figure 3A Support needs in planning and regulating activities in maritime area

Representatives of 11 local governments participated in the interview of the focus group held at the beginning of January 2019. In addition, representatives of the Ministry of Environment and the Association of Estonian Cities and Municipalities participated in the interview. The interviews of the focus group were conducted by the representatives of the Ministry of Finance and the consulting company Hendrikson & Ko, which prepared the Estonian maritime spatial plan. Five questions were discussed in the focus group interview.

The first question in the discussion was “Which marine uses need to be planned or regulated by local authorities? Give examples of problems that have arisen and indicate what the spatial scope of maritime spatial planning could be.”

The main answer was that local governments should have areas or activities related to coastal areas. This could include topics and activities, such as tourist attractions, swimming, public beaches, no-fly zones, cabling, coastal fishing, cultural and natural values, marine protection facilities, cruise ship mitigation, shore protection and recreational areas. The planning of artificial islands could also remain in the administration of local governments. On the issue of wind energy, local governments prefer to have the right of coordination or to be involved in this process. The scope of maritime planning and regulation could be 1 to 2 nautical miles from the coastline. In addition, it was pointed out that the right to coordinate the construction of wind farms could be up to 15 km. On this issue, several local authorities referred to "gaps" in the planning system,

as the land and sea are treated separately. Representatives of local authorities were of the opinion that spatial planning should be a comprehensive system where the land and the sea have to be looked at together, as each activity affects one or the other.

The second issue was coordination or positioning. More specifically, the representatives of the local governments were asked the following: “What could be the area where the local governments should definitely think something? What is problematic in the current application system and why can’t the local governments give their opinion at the moment? ”

The focus group considered that if the planning rights of local governments were extended from the coastal area to 1 nautical mile, then beyond 1 nautical mile they could be involved in the coordination or positioning processes in all areas. It would not be right to take a position on a few individual issues, as all areas and activities are interlinked. In order to make the planning system more complex, it was proposed to include an area of up to 1 nautical mile from the coast within the administrative boundaries of the local governments. As an alternative, the following option was pointed out: local governments plan within 1 nautical mile, counties to the territorial sea and the state to the exclusive economic zone.

The local governments already have the right to regulate the field of water traffic. According to the Water Act, prohibited areas and restrictions can be set for watercraft, if necessary, which means that the local governments can designate different areas for surfers, jet skiers and rowers.

As a result of the above, the third question of the discussion was asked from the representatives of local governments whether they have exercised the right to regulate the field of water transport.

Most of the municipalities present in the interview were not aware of such a right to regulate. For example, the municipalities of Lääne-Harju and Viru-Nigula have set restrictions by placing signs. It turned out that the city of Pärnu has so far been the only one that has actively used this regulation.

Fourthly, the representatives of local governments were asked if there are any areas that should definitely remain within the competence of the state.

Local governments are generally reluctant to plan and regulate major issues affecting the state, such as security and defence. However, sometimes it may not be an area, but rather a specific object, such as an offshore wind farm of national importance.

The last question in the discussion was "What bottlenecks could arise when planning rights come to the sea and is there a need to create an additional post?"

The main bottlenecks identified were the lack of experience and knowledge, legislation and financial resources. More specific obstacles become apparent during actual work. As local governments do not currently have experience in maritime planning, they do not know how to assess their competence. If local authorities are given the opportunity to plan a maritime area within 1 nautical mile, training needs would arise in some areas, such as maritime construction. There could also be an opportunity to involve a planning consultant. In addition, it was found that in some local governments, even when planning the land, they lack competence. That is why various experts and consultants are involved. The need to create an additional position is different in each local municipality, depending on the planning area or the objects to be planned. Local governments expect to receive clear instructions from the state to learn about this system.

Regarding the discussion of the master's thesis, it was stated that due to the planning experience and need of European countries, each country has its own planning system. Land planning takes place at both national and local levels. However, due to the novelty of maritime spatial planning and the lack of planning experience, maritime spatial plans are mostly prepared at the national level. People in coastal municipalities are closely connected to the sea, using the sea for fishing, surfing or boating, and perceive the sea as part of the municipality's territory. When planning at the state level, the focus is on the needs of the state, leaving the needs of local governments secondary.

The master's thesis maintained that it is not necessary to develop a new planning system for maritime spatial planning, but that the existing one should be improved so that maritime spatial planning becomes possible at the local level, as well. Land use planning systems and applications can be transferred to the sea for maritime planning. When a system is transferred, it must be adapted to the marine environment, taking into account ownership, the co-location of several uses, the three-dimensional and dynamic nature of the sea and the amount of data available. One option would be to plan the sea at hierarchical levels. States would plan the entire maritime area up to the outer limit of the exclusive economic zone, counties up to the outer

limit of the territorial sea and local governments within 1 nautical mile of the coast, within which it is possible to prepare general and detailed plans. As coastal activities affect the sea and vice versa, another option would be to include an area of up to 1 nautical mile from the coast within the administrative boundaries of the local governments. This need has arisen especially during the preparation of general plans, as the local government border ends with the land border, which leaves the planning almost incomplete.

An important fact pointed out in the master's thesis was that local governments do not know how to assess their competence in maritime spatial planning, as they have no experience in this area. It was felt that if they were given planning rights at sea, the biggest challenges would be legislation, a lack of specific knowledge and experience, and consideration of different stakeholders and areas. The need to create an additional post would depend on the planning area or the planned object. Maritime planning should receive the same support as land-based planning, i.e. the state should organize various planning courses and the opportunity to involve specialists and planning consultants in the planning process.

The issue of maritime spatial planning is topical both in Estonia and in other European countries because the use of marine resources has become an important economic activity. Sustainable and efficient management of these resources is therefore essential while achieving and maintaining a good environmental status of the marine environment. In summary, based on the results of the master's thesis, the following proposals emerged as a result of the study of the interests or needs of local governments in maritime spatial planning and regulation:

Designate an area in which it is possible to view the coast as a whole and any part of the sea;

Improve and develop the existing planning system and transfer it to the sea;

Extend the planning rights of local governments to 1–2 nautical miles from the coastline in all areas except national defence and security;

Extend the administrative boundaries of coastal local authorities to 1–2 nautical miles;

From 1–2 nautical miles give local governments the right to issue a binding position;

Organize courses introducing the planning system on the topic of expanding the rights of local governments.

The results of the master's thesis showed that due to the interests and needs of local governments in the planning and regulation of activities, there are several “gaps” in the current planning system and these proposals should be considered in order to improve it.



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