How to approach MSP:
the need for a coordinated approach

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Why coordination

"That's just common sense!"

Is it?

➢ No, there can be benefit in quarrel and disorganization

In PADDLE: emphasis on the need for coordination in MSP

Need for coordination in MSP

Unpacking the discourse: four narratives

1. Instrumental argument
2. Historical-institutionalist perspective
3. Relational perspective
4. Critical argument

1. Instrumental argument

- MSP as a rational planning process
- An efficient and effective process is more legitimate
  - Avoiding unnecessary actions
  - Achieving commonly set goals (ecological, economic and social objectives)
- Involvement of stakeholders helps the planning process

Coordination to strengthen efficiency and effectiveness

(cf. Douvere and Ehler, 2009;
Douvere and Pomeroy, 2008)

2. Historical institutionalism

- Institutions are designed to be robust and resilient, thus not easily changed
  - ❖ Freedom of the Seas principle (Mare Librum)
  - ❖ State authority and private property defined differently than on land (UNCLOS)

- A "patchwork" of institutions (and much ambiguity)

Coordination helps to address institutional ambiguities and contributes to defining strategies for synergies

(cf. Guirreiro et al, 2010; Van Leeuwen et al, 2012; Van Tatenhove, 2013, 2016)

3. Relational approach

- Notion of marine space is not "fixed" but described by relations between human actors, activities and (living and non-living) objects

- MSP as a process of spatial ordering (and re-ordering) activities

- Focus on the (re-) definition of socio-political space: power dynamics and contestation

Coordination enables MSP in creating an arena that nourishes 'multiple ways of knowing'

(cf. Jay, 2010, 2012; Kidd and Shaw, 2014;
Toonen and Van Tatenhove, 2013)

4. Critical argument

- Globalization brings in a new normative order

- "Radical MSP": attention for social justice
  - unequal access of actors to planning processes
  - deliberate exclusion
  - non-participation
  - cultural differences are not considered

Coordination to strengthen democratic legitimacy – ensuring equality and inclusivity of participatory MSP

(cf. Flannery et al. 2016; St.Martin and Hall-Arber, 2008; Boucquey et al, 2016; Ritchie and Ellis, 2010)

Summary: coordination narratives in MSP

arguments

transitions   transformations

instrumental   critical

historical institutionalism   relational approach

perspectives