



Reconciling human activities with EU's Marine Strategy Framework Directive

DEBATE FRAMEWORK AND OBJECTIVES

- MSFD = environmental pillar of EU's maritime policy
- Central concept: Good Environmental Status
- This session's objective: to grasp your ideas and opinions on "good vs. not good".
 - Relationship between seafloor integrity (D6) and seabed habitats (D1)
 - How to evaluate whether or not a seafloor is in good condition?
 - Scale-dependency and sustainable use
 - What could be the role of historic data and knowledge?
 - How to define operational targets and indicators?





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STIMULATING INTRODUCTORY PRESENTATIONS

- A general introduction to the Marine Strategy Framework Directive
 - David Connor (EC)
 - → Challenges in defining GES for Belgian waters: Marine Biodiversity
 - Jan Haelters (MUMM)
 - → Case 1: How to integrate historic knowledge in defining GES for gravel bed integrity?

 Jean-Sébastien Houziaux (MUMM)
 - → Case 2: Ecosystem engineers indicating Seafloor Integrity
 - Marijn Rabaut (Ghent University)





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DEBATE'S FOCUS

- How to determine what should be considered important to preserve?
- Good vs. bad
 - Relationship between seafloor integrity and seabed habitats
 - How to evaluate whether or not a seafloor is in good condition?
 - Scale-dependency and sustainable use
 - What could be the role of historic data and knowledge?
 - How to define operational targets and indicators?