PROTECT BALTIC

Preserve Revive Thrive

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PROTECT BALTIC
- why is it needed and what is the rational?

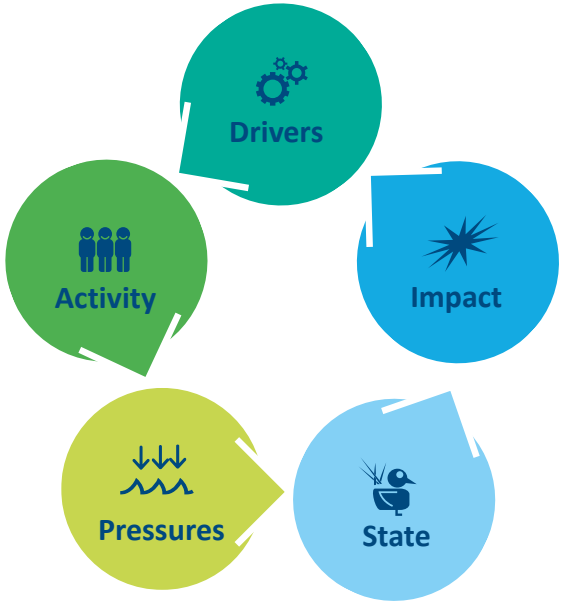
Credits: Juuso Haapaniemi

The Relationship of Society and the Sea

The relationship society and the sea is multifaceted and nuanced.

- Society can derive benefits from human activities that may have negative impacts on the marine environment.

- A dynamic tension between the need to protect the ecosystem and the desire to use it for our own short-term benefit.



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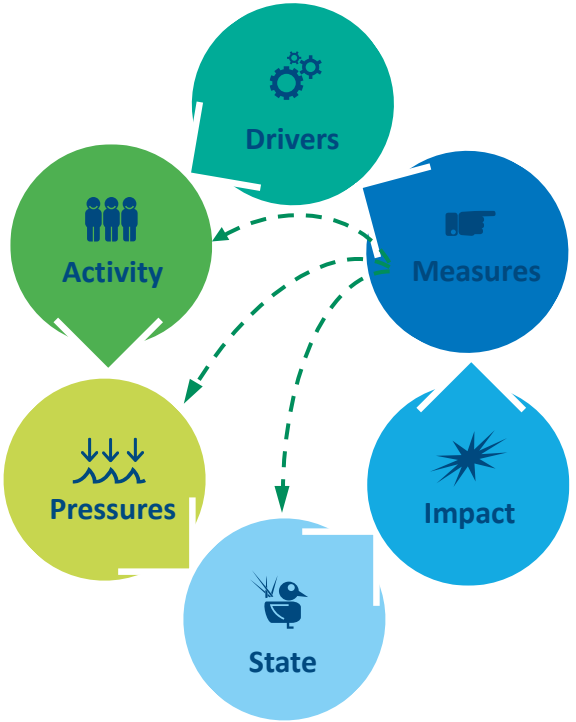
Protection, why do we need it?

- Nature and biodiversity **make life possible**, provide **health** and **social benefits** and **drive our economy**. Nature is also our best ally in **tackling the climate crisis**, and the marine environment is an integral part of the larger land-sea ecosystem.

- Several of the **sectors** utilising the Baltic Sea **depend on the quality of the environment** (including e.g. fishing, aquaculture, tourism, leisure activities etc.).

- The practice of protecting, i.e **leaving space for**, the natural environment from negative impacts.

- This is done by **limiting activites and pressures**, or **improving the status** of the environment directly.



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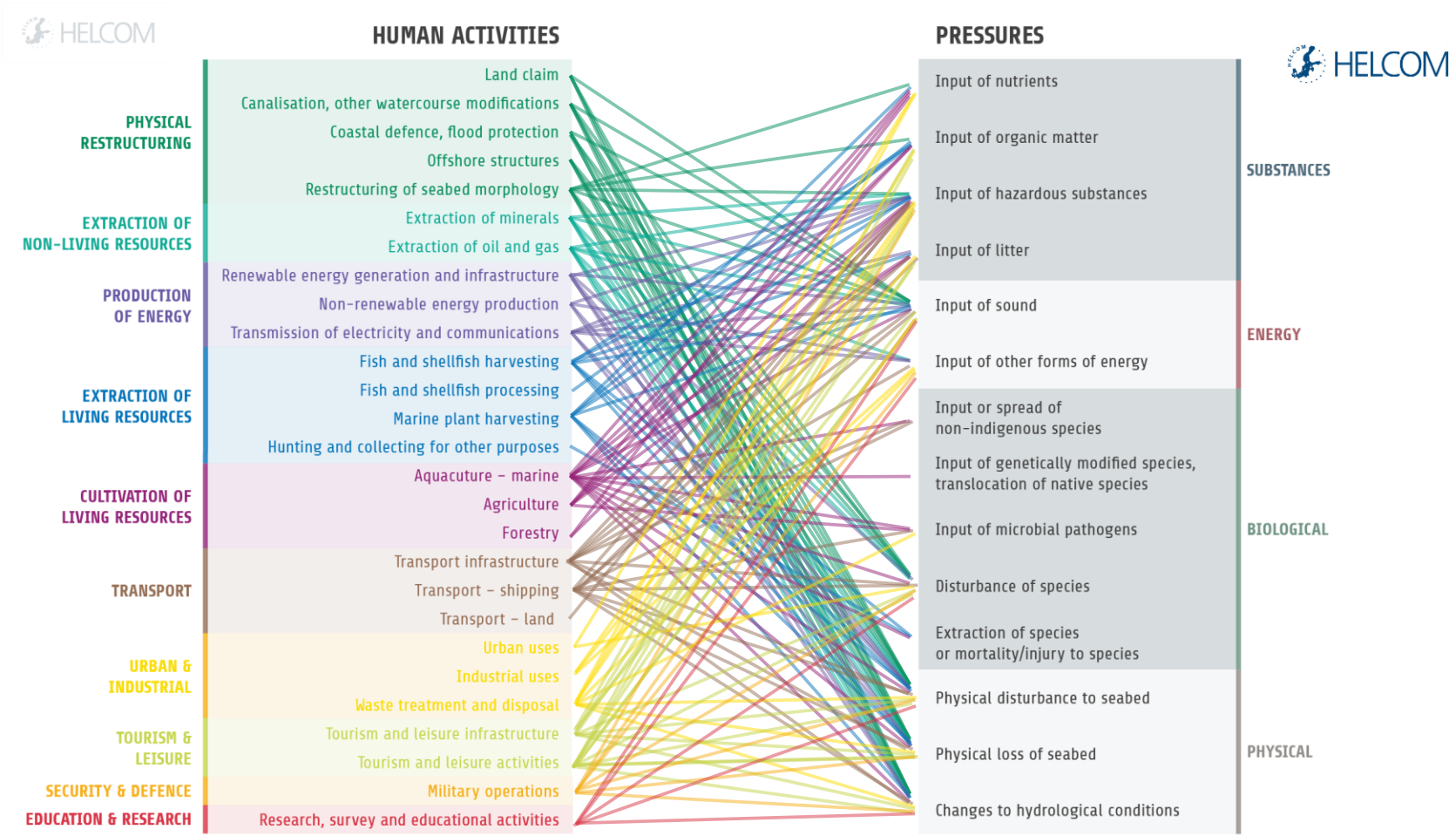
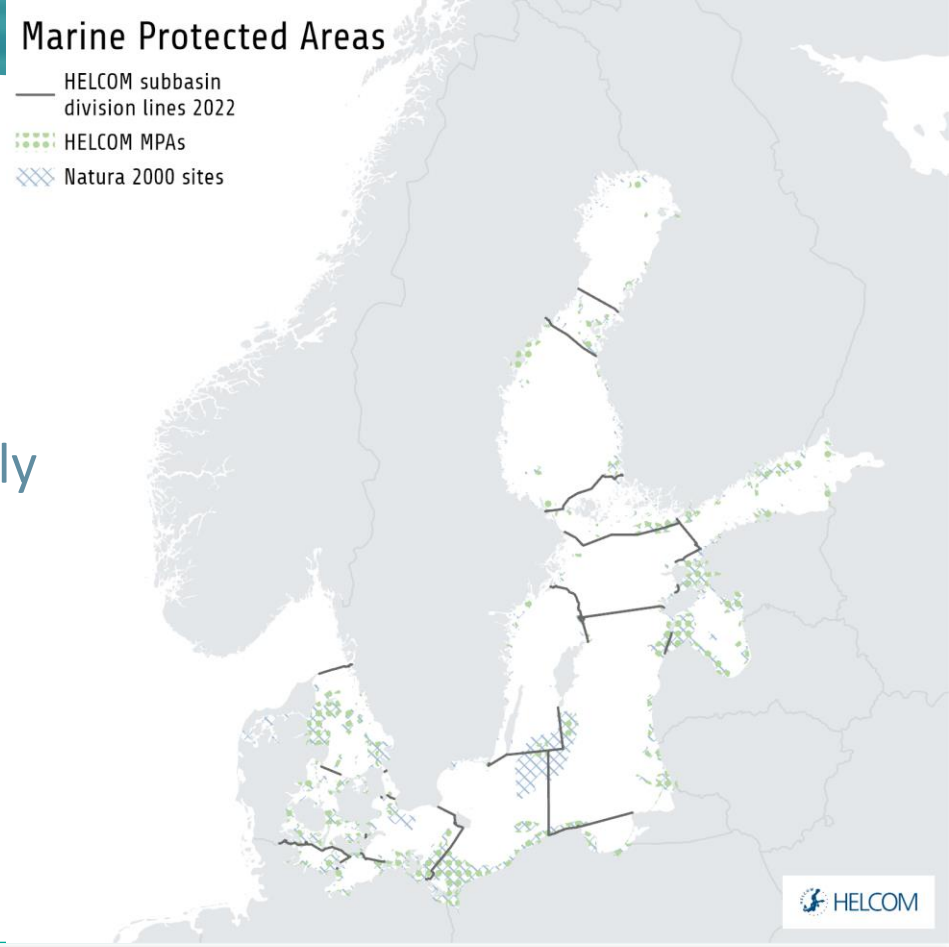


By Jannica Haldin, HELCOM
Friday, March 8, 2024

Current situation – the good

- First region in the world to reach the global 10% target.
- As of December 2022, the Baltic MPA network covers approximately 16.5% of the Baltic Sea.
- Included in this are 178 HELCOM MPAs (i.e. part of a recognised transboundary MPA network), amounting to about 13.2% of the Baltic Sea.



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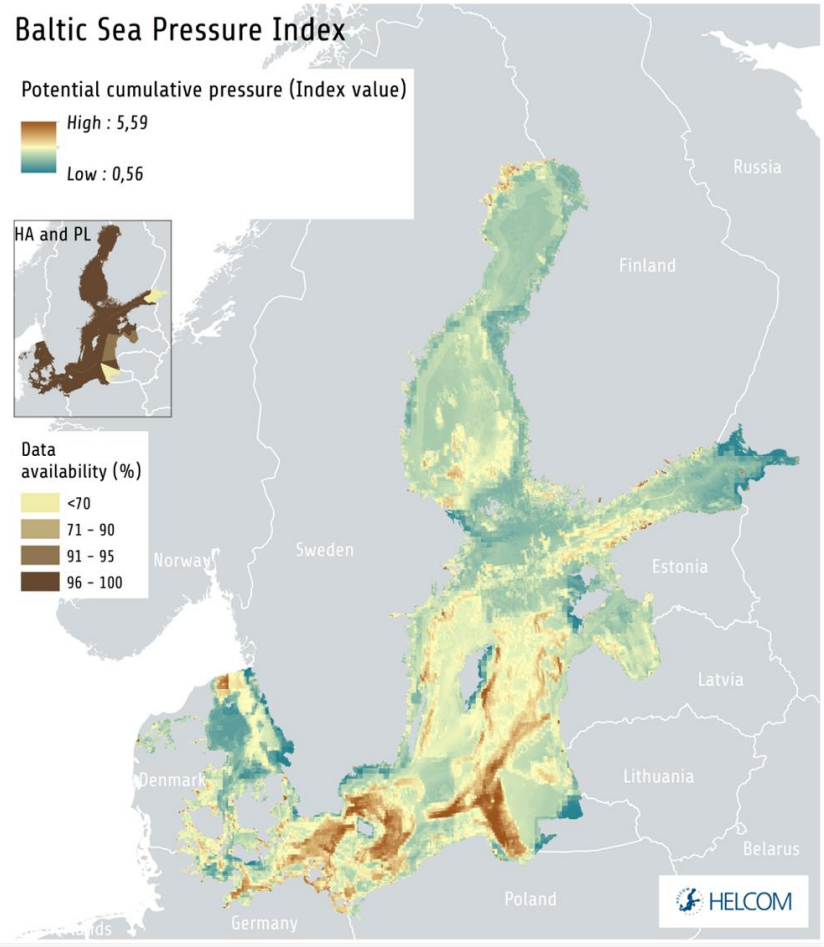
Current situation – the not so good

- Incomplete knowledge base for decision making and designation.
- Gaps in governance.
- Insufficient use of adaptive management.

- **It took 30 years to get where we are, now we need to double it in 7 years.**
- **But it isn't about getting to 30%, it's about getting there in a way that actually provides the biodiversity benefits.**



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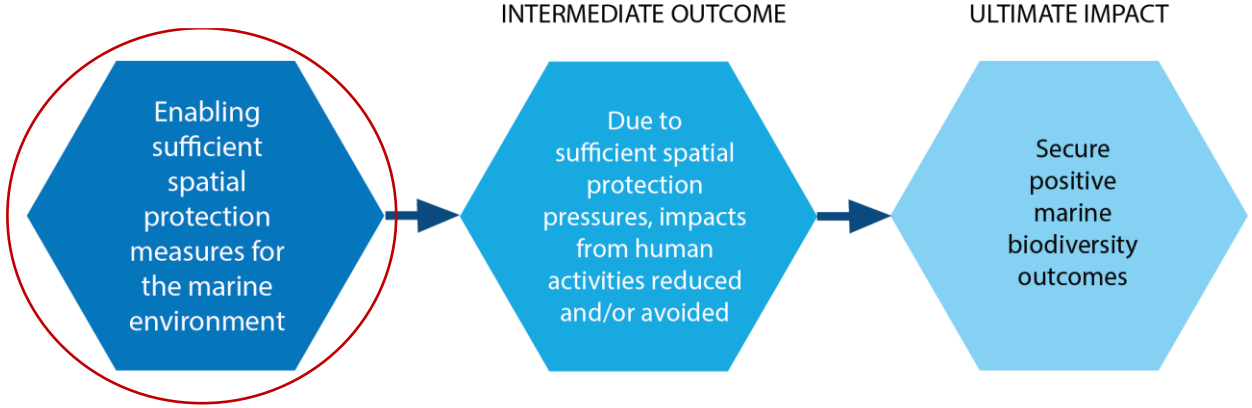
- what do we do?

Credit: Juuso Haapaniemi

What are we working to achieve?



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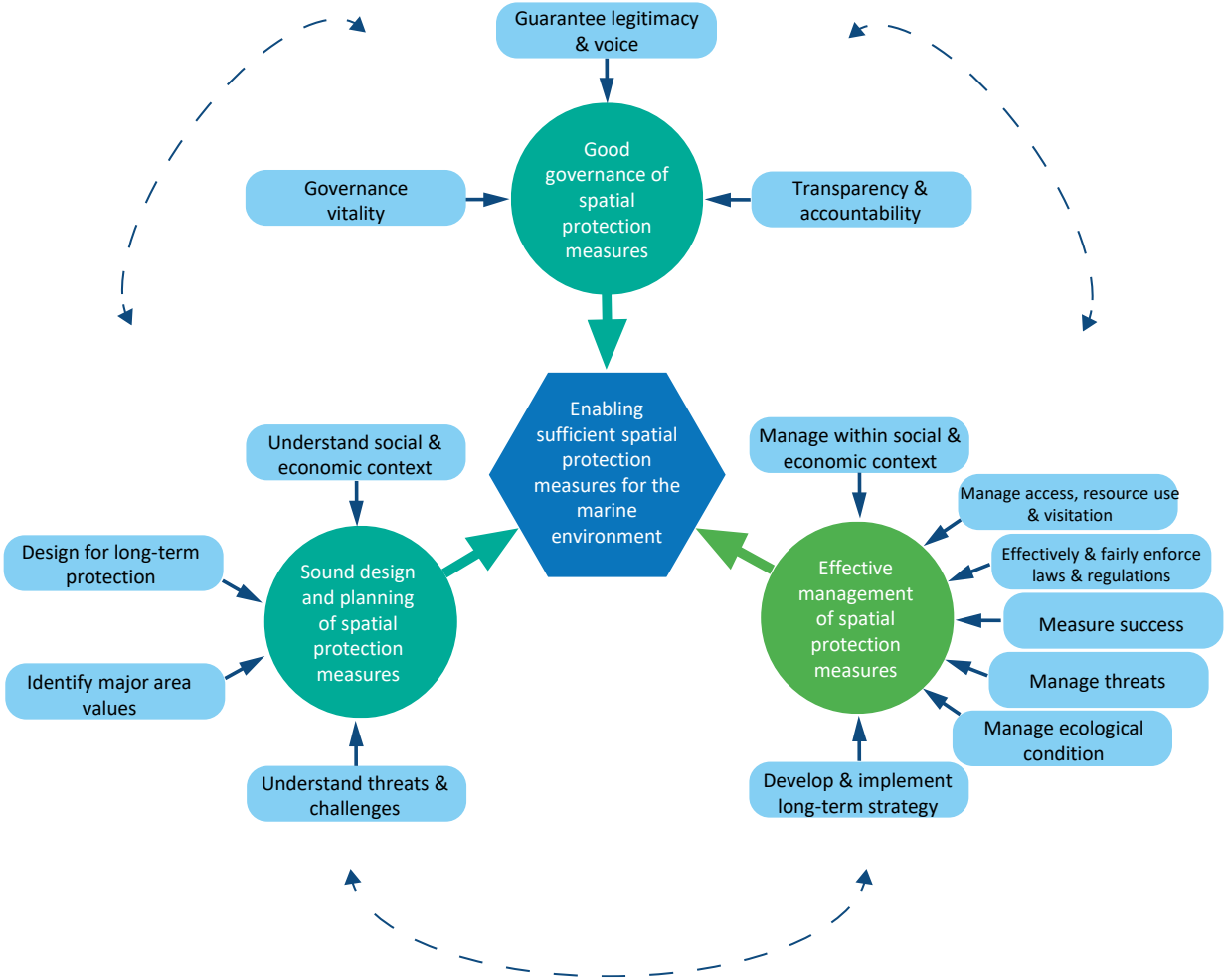
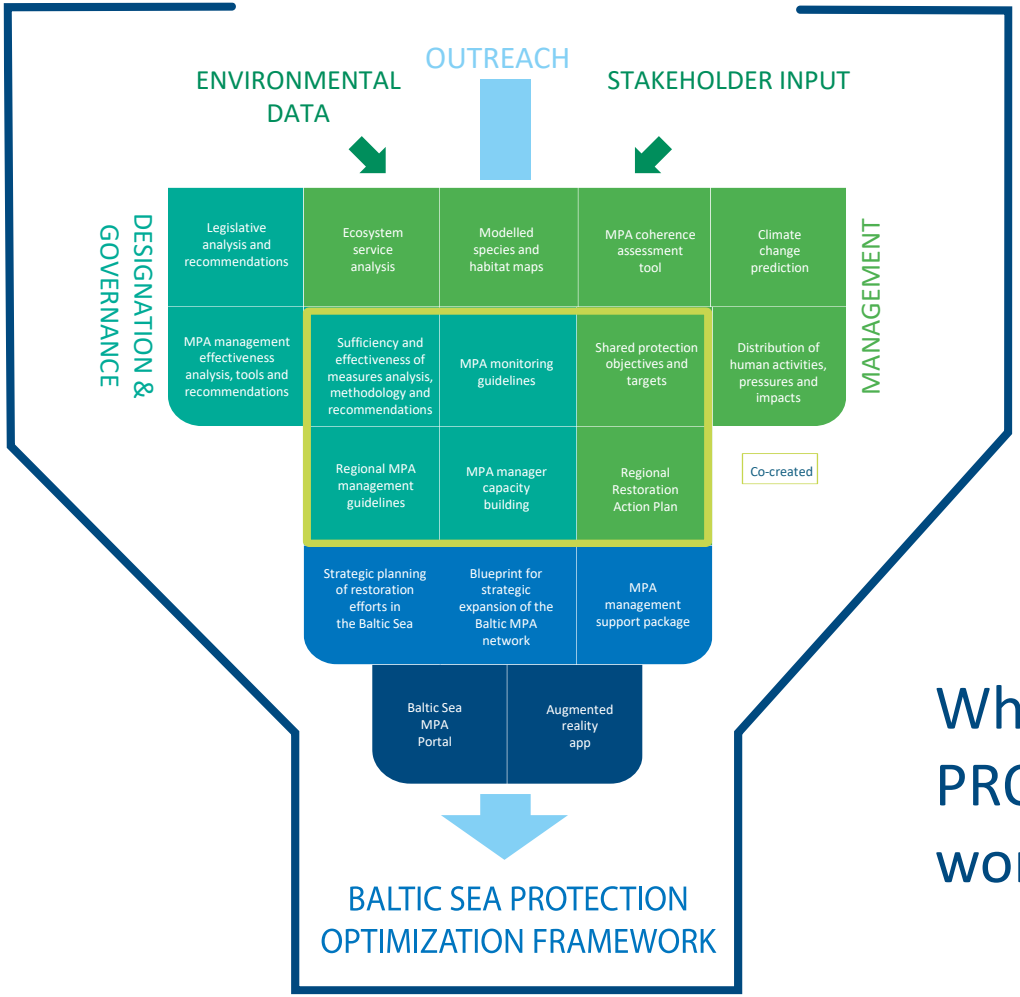
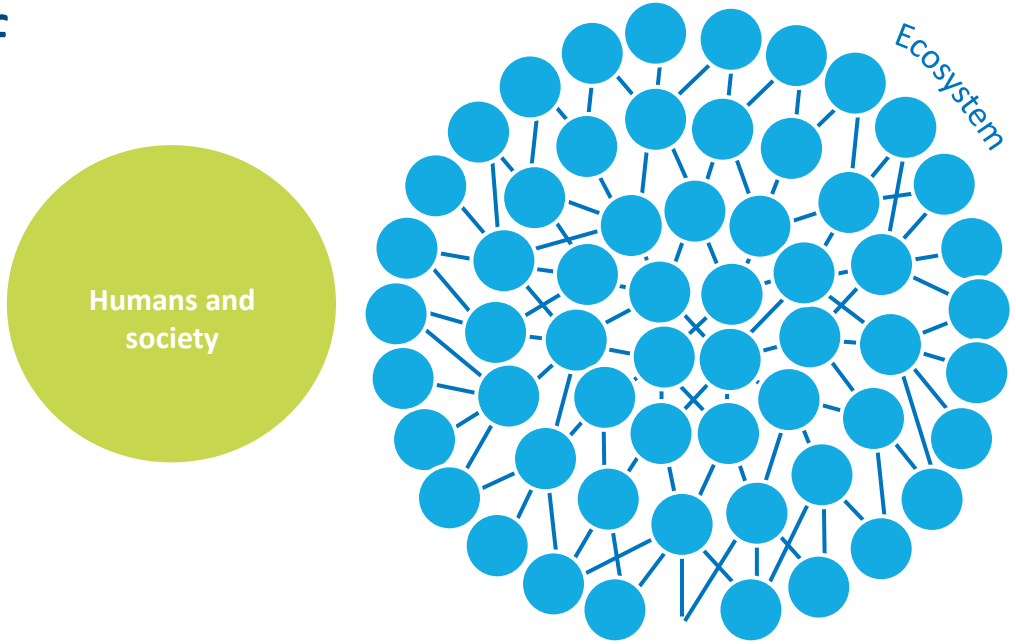
How do we get there?





What is PROTECT BALTIC working on?

The Relationship of the Sea and Society



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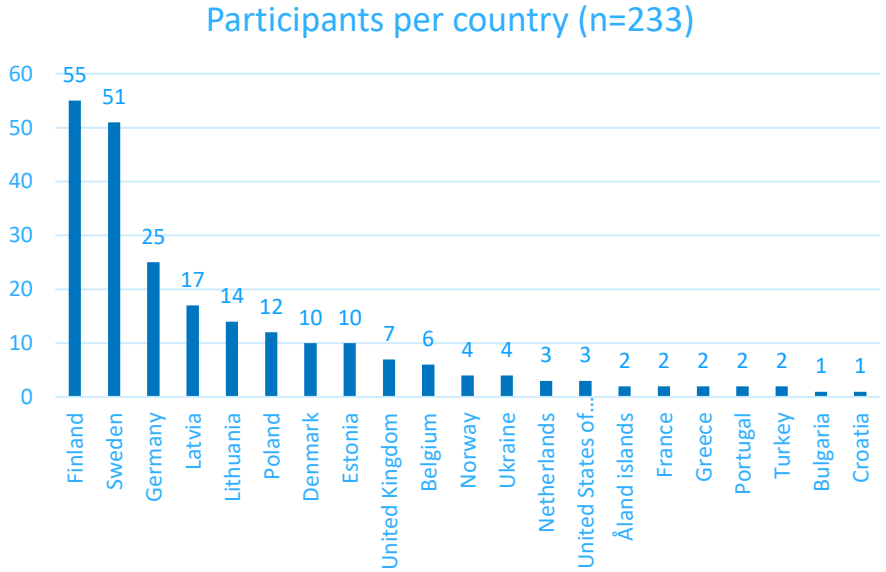
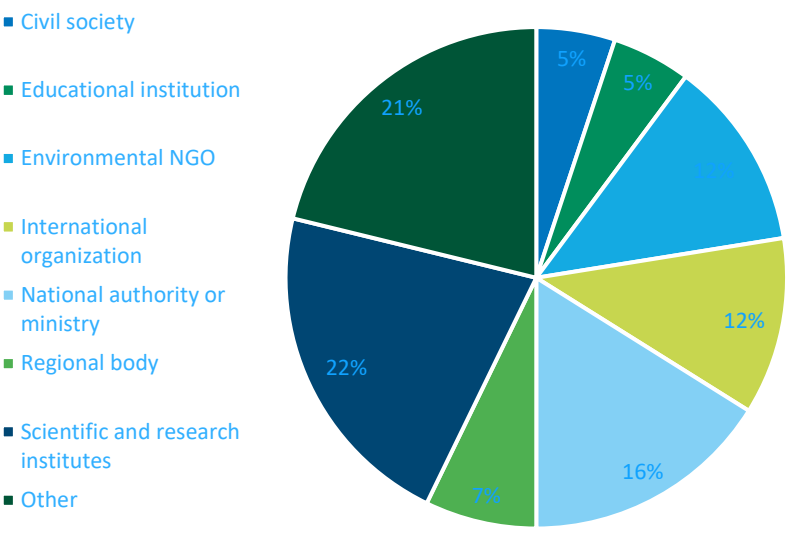
PROTECT BALTC and stakeholders -the 2024 Baltic Sakeholder Conference





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of sustainability and ecological harmony.

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