The Ocean Multi-use Assessment Framework

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What is ocean multi-use?

- Combining two (or more) activities in a single area
- Diverse forms, depending on how much is shared (space, time, infrastructures, operations, etc.)
- Examples: OWF with aquaculture, OWF and solar energy production, tourism and aquaculture, tourism and active restoration, etc.
Crowded seas: resolution of conflicts over space

Making space for smaller, less powerful sectors

Generating environmental, economic and social synergies

But is it really better? How do we assess the added value?
The Ocean Multi-use Assessment Framework

1. **Identification of key possible impacts**
   - Scoping for possible impacts
   - Description of technical, social, economic, environmental and legal baseline
   - Description of (multi-use) project scenarios
   - Assessed pillars: Environment, Economy, Society

2. **Prediction of impacts**
   - Assessment of meaningfulness of impacts
   - Identification of optimisation measures
   - Assessed pillars: Environment, Economy, Society

3. **UNITED assessment reporting:**
   - environmental, economic and social
   - Review by involved stakeholders
   - Review by competent authorities

4. **Decision-making:** adoption/refusal of multi-use project

5. **Audit and monitoring stages**
   - Audit of predictions and optimisation measures
   - Post-decision monitoring
The Ocean Multi-use Assessment Framework

Early stages: context and priorities

1. Identification of key possible impacts
2. Scoping for possible impacts
3. Description of technical, social, economic, environmental and legal baseline
4. Description of (multi-use) project scenarios

Assessed pillars:
- Environment
- Economy
- Society
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Early stages: context and priorities

1. Identification of key possible impacts

Scoping for possible impacts

Description of technical, social, economic, environmental and legal baseline

Description of (multi-use) project scenarios

Assessed pillars:
- Environment
- Economy
- Society
Scenarios
- Baseline
- Single-use (individual) projects simultaneously
- Multi-use project
- Eventually completed with other scenarios/uses combinations

ΔImpact
- Single-use: Δ_{1A} and Δ_{1B}
- Multi-use: Δ_{2}

Scenario 1A = single-use project A
Scenario 2 = multi-use project (1A+1B)
ΔImpact
Baseline scenario = without projects
Scenario 1B = single-use project B
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**Reporting stages: assessment and review**

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   Decision stage
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   - Enabling conditions: Technology and Regulations

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Stakeholder engagement

Enabling conditions: Technology and Regulations

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Strong points of the OMAF

• Provides an answer to the following question: Is multi-use better than single-use?

• Integrated approach based on the three pillars of sustainable development

• Realistic assessment taking into account enabling conditions of multi-use

• Flexible in the method for impact assessment (pillars, context, etc.)

• Transposable to all projects and contexts

*Facilitating an integrated assessment of impacts in marine multi-use: the Ocean Multi-use Assessment Framework (OMAF) - In preparation

https://www.h2020united.eu/

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