



MARINE STRATEGY FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE (MSFD)

- STRUCTURE OF PRESENTATION
- *Introduction to the Directive and an overview of the requirements of the Directive;*
- *Information on the transposition arrangements and timescales.*

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INTRODUCTION TO MSFD

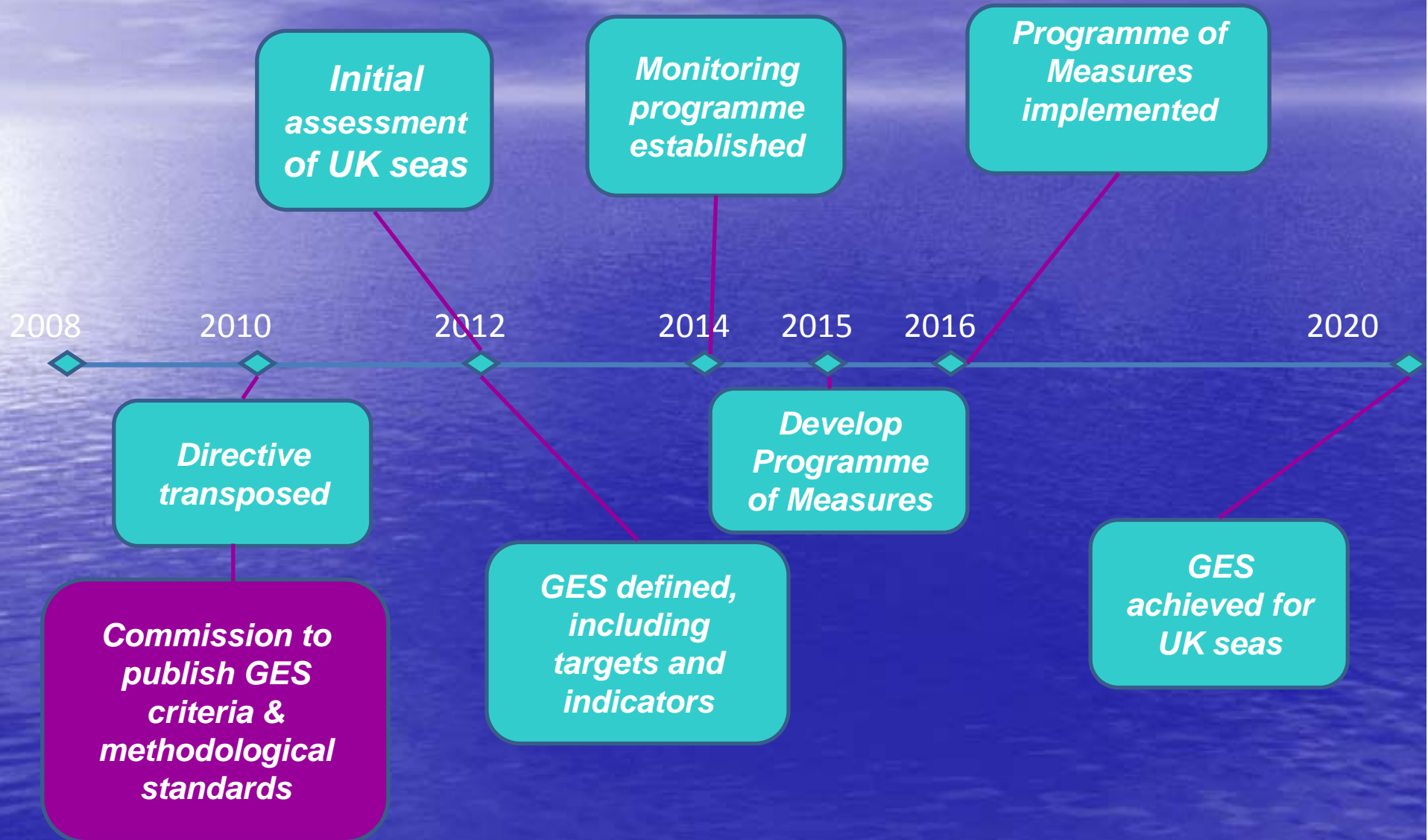
- *The MSFD is the Environmental pillar of Integrated European Maritime Policy and has clear linkages with other Directives and International Conventions;*
- *Developed to promote sustainable use of the seas and conservation of marine eco systems;*
- *Sets out a common framework based on co-operation between Member States to ensure the sustainable use of marine goods and services by current and future generations;*
- *Each Member State must achieve or maintain Good Environmental Status in the marine environment by 2020;*



What is GES ?

*Article 3 (5) defines Good Environmental Status as the “environmental status of marine waters where these provide ecologically diverse and dynamic oceans which are clean, healthy and productive within their intrinsic conditions, and the use of the marine environment is at a level that is **sustainable**, thus safeguarding the potential for uses and activities by current and future generations...”*

MSFD Timescales



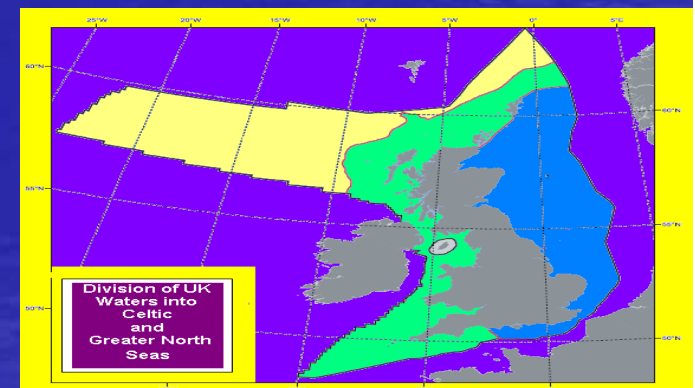
EU MANAGEMENT APPROACH

Commission will be assisted by a Committee as per Article 25



Regional Seas Approach

- *Strong focus on regional cooperation using existing regional seas conventions like OSPAR where appropriate;*
- *UK waters are located in the NE Atlantic Ocean marine region with the sub regions in the Directive relevant to UK waters primarily the Greater North Sea and the Celtic Seas;*
- *UK has already agreed bio-geographic areas under UKMMAS although additional clarity is required how data from the Atlantic North West Approaches would be reported;*
- *Like WFD need for close coordination with RoI and within UK.*



TRANSPOSITION TIMESCALES

- *To ensure a consistent and coherent approach is achieved there is a UK wide approach to transposition;*
- *NI is participating in a Defra led transposition project*





MSFD IMPLEMENTATION

- *There are many linkages between the Directive and existing commitments in the marine area including :-*
 - *UNCLOS, International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL), OSPAR (Hazardous Substances Strategy, Eutrophication Strategy), Bonn Convention on Migratory Species, Convention on Bio Diversity, etc;*
 - *European Legislation (Water Framework, Shellfish Waters, Nitrates, Urban Waste Water Treatment, Habitats and Birds Directives and the Common Fisheries Policy etc);*
- *Future developments to facilitate implementation of the Directive :-*
 - *The UK Marine and Coastal Access Bill and the NI Marine Bill;*
 - *The Marine Policy Statement;*
 - *Possible ratification of international agreements like the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ship's Ballast Water and Sediments.*

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CONCLUSION

- *The MSFD sets out a strategy with key milestones which Member States must follow to achieve GES in their marine environment by 2020;*
- *The Directive will be transposed by 15 July 2010;*
- *DOE is working with colleagues in Defra and the Scottish and Welsh governments to deliver UK wide Regulations;*
- *Additional information can be obtained from :-*

http://www.ec.europa.eu/environment/water/marine/index_en.htm

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/marine/environment/msfd.htm>

[http://www.doeni.gov.uk/index/protect_the_environment/water/marine framework_directive.htm](http://www.doeni.gov.uk/index/protect_the_environment/water/marine_framework_directive.htm)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/>

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/?lang=en>