

**Interreg**  
Baltic Sea Region



Co-funded by  
the European Union



BLUE ECONOMY

**Baltic Sea2Land**

**5<sup>th</sup> BALTIC MSP  
FORUM**



11-12 November 2025 Riga, Latvia

# MSP past, present and future: Charting a course in a changing world

**Kira Gee**

Helmholtz Zentrum Hereon/Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency

[www.BalticMSPForum.eu](http://www.BalticMSPForum.eu)



# MSP – a journey

- **The past: Factors that shape current understanding of MSP**
- **The present: Where do we stand now – what is the status quo of MSP?**
- **The future: What does MSP need to continue to be successful?**

A journey in 13 words



# Ocean

*“ ... an exceptionally ungraspable space”*  
*(Steinberg 2014)*

**Who has known the ocean?  
Neither you nor I, with our  
earth-bound senses (...)  
To sense this world of waters  
(...) we must shed our human  
perceptions of length and  
breadth and time and place (...)  
For to the sea’s children  
nothing is so important as the  
fluidity of their world.”**

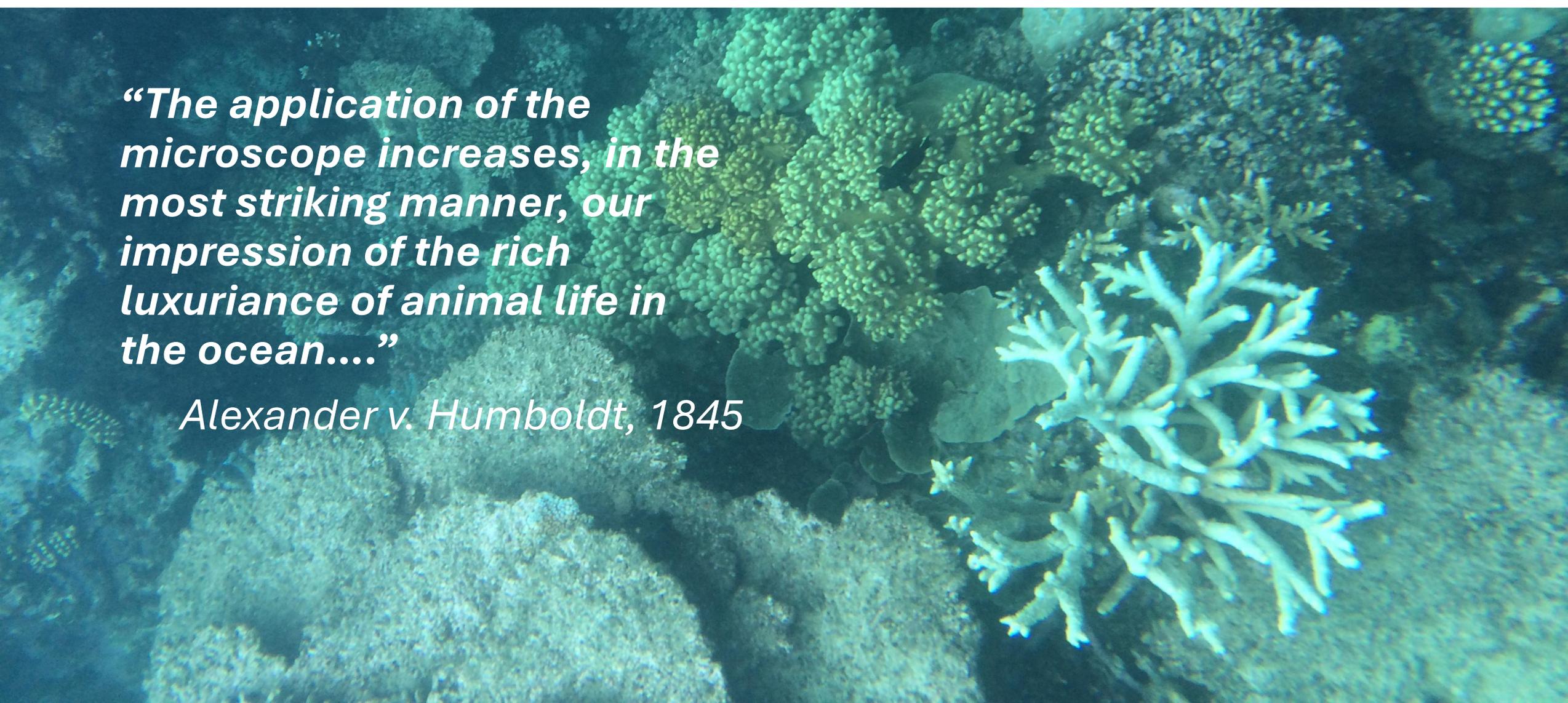
*(Carson 1937)*



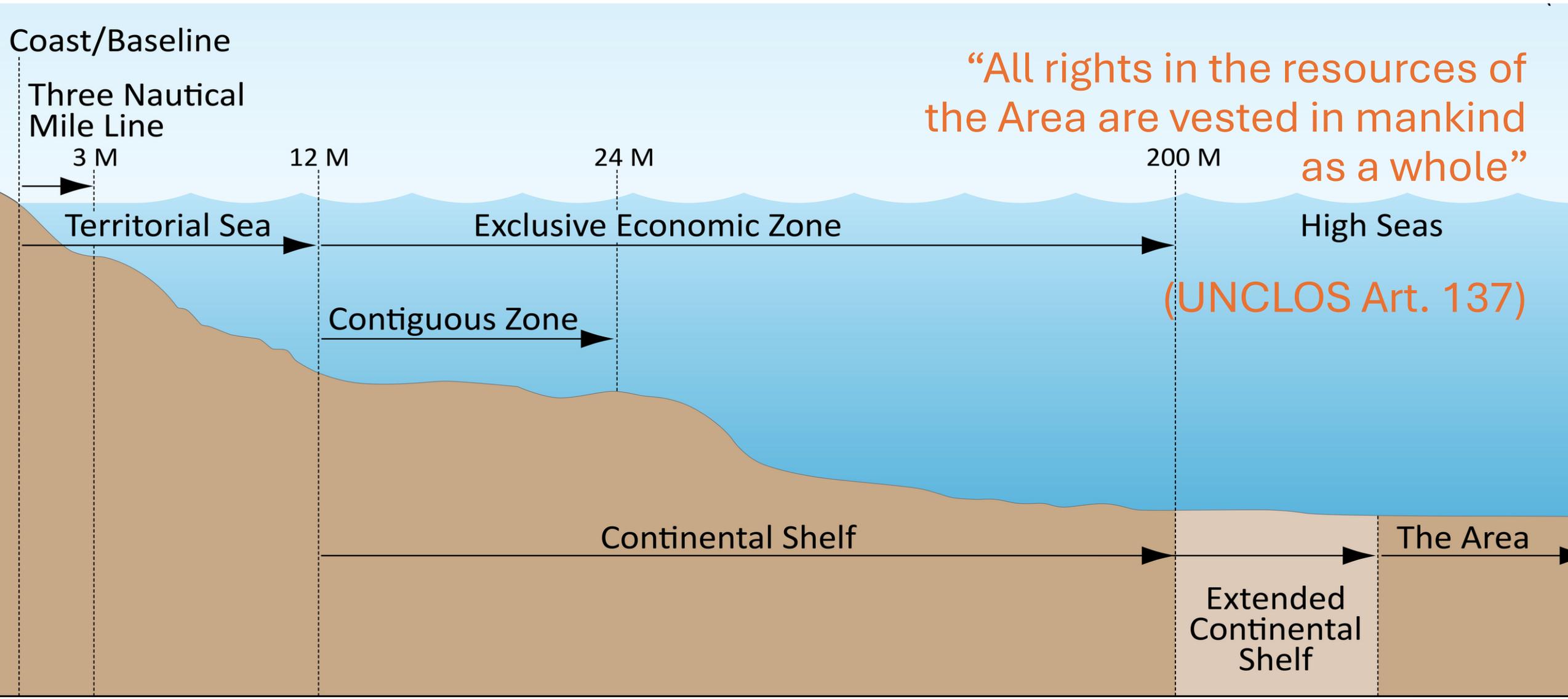
# Knowledge

*“The application of the microscope increases, in the most striking manner, our impression of the rich luxuriance of animal life in the ocean....”*

*Alexander v. Humboldt, 1845*

An underwater photograph of a coral reef. The scene is dominated by various types of coral, including large, rounded brain corals and branching, white-colored corals. The water is clear and blue, with some light filtering through from above. A small, dark fish is visible swimming near the center of the frame.

# Demarcation



# Divergence

“...the particular need for an all-embracing maritime policy aimed at developing a thriving maritime economy, in an environmentally sustainable manner.”

EC, 2005



# Integration

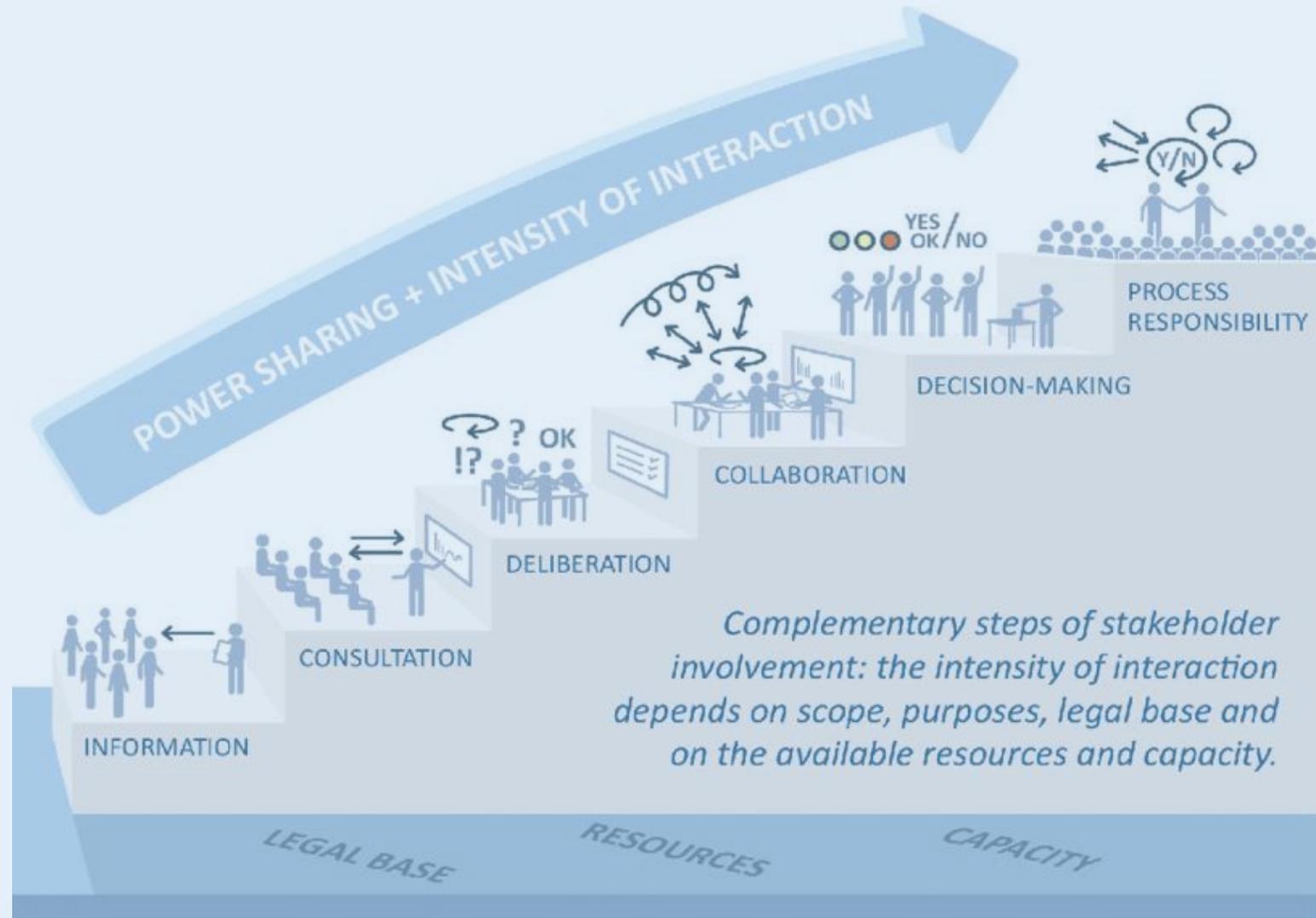
“the process of coordinating and balancing various marine uses (...) to create a more holistic and coherent approach to managing oceans and coastal areas.”



# Participation

“Participatory decisions need to carefully consider the why, who, how, and when to include people to reach sustainable outcomes of MSP”

*(Morf et al., 2019)*

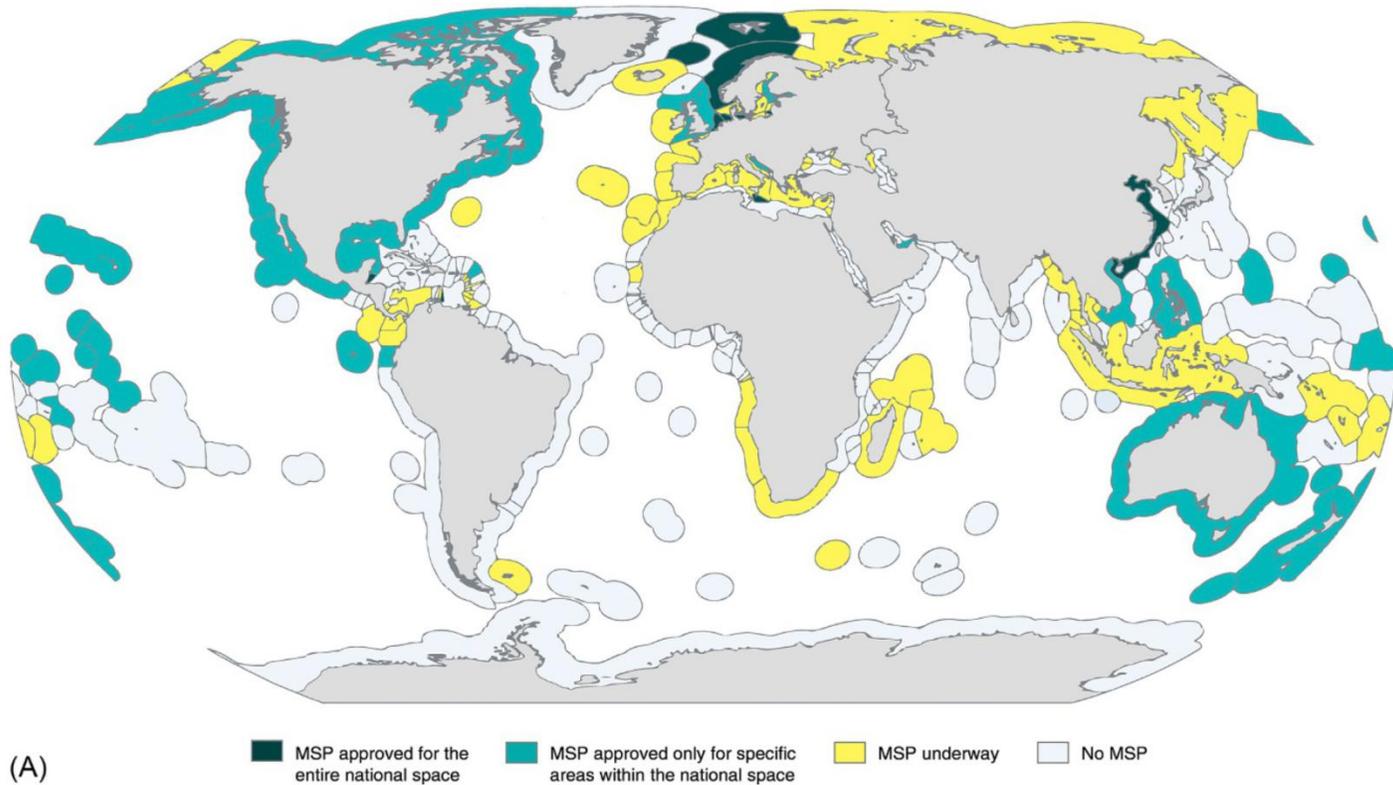


# Experimentation

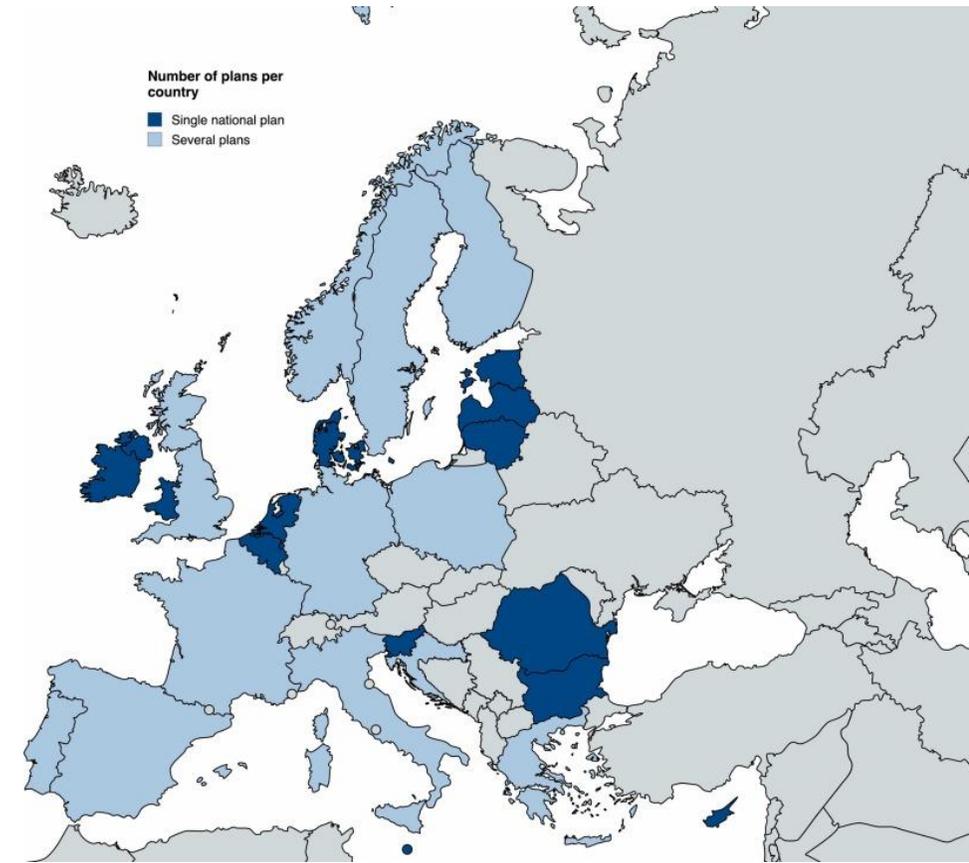


Institutionalisation  
and learning as key  
elements

# Diversity



Source: Frazao-Santos, C. et al. 2019. Marine Spatial Planning. In: World Seas. An environmental evaluation. <https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-805052-1.00033-4>



Source: Zaucha et al., 2025: Implementing the EU MSP Directive: Current status and lessons learned in 22 EU Member States. Marine Policy Volume 171, 2025

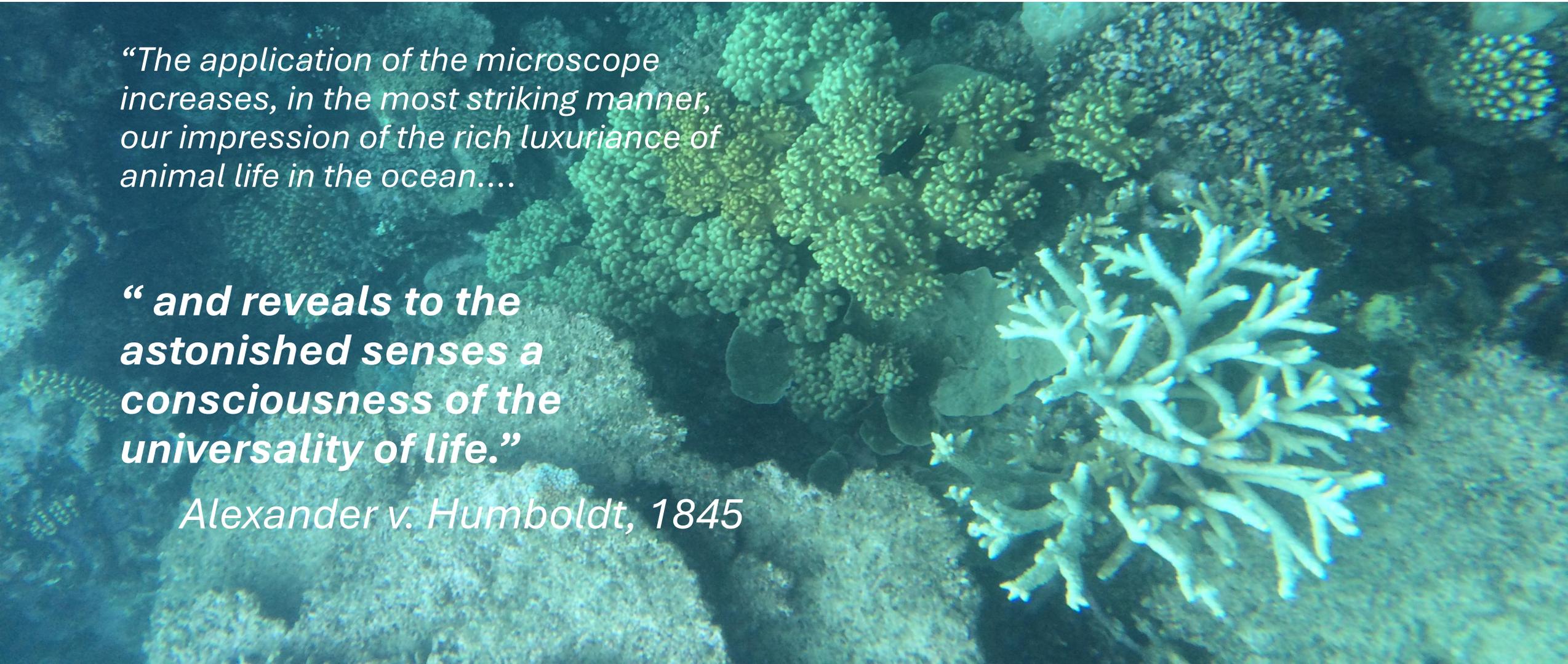


# Ecosystem

*“The application of the microscope increases, in the most striking manner, our impression of the rich luxuriance of animal life in the ocean....*

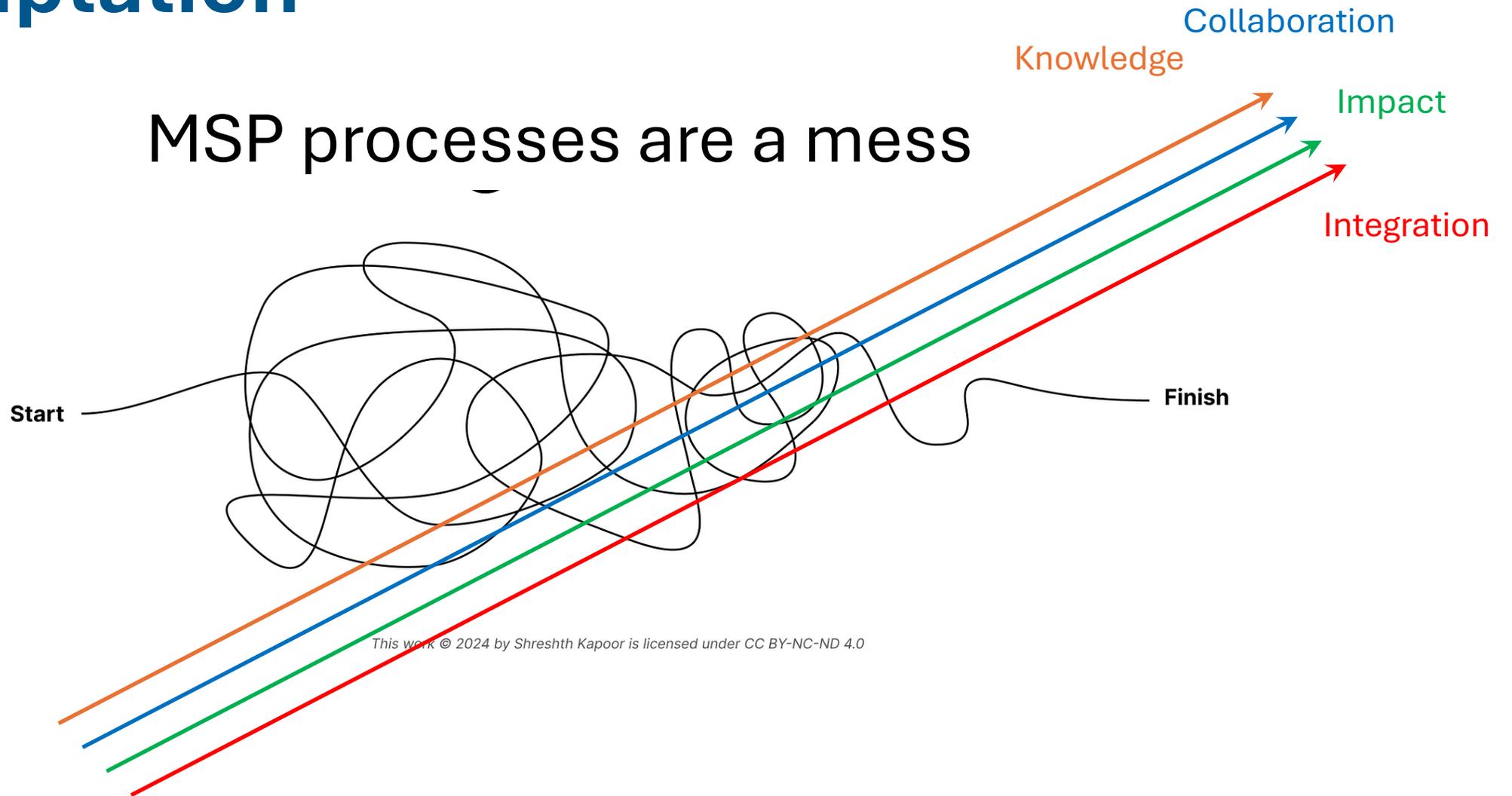
*“ and reveals to the astonished senses a consciousness of the universality of life.”*

*Alexander v. Humboldt, 1845*

An underwater photograph of a coral reef. The scene is dominated by various types of coral, including large, rounded brain corals and branching, white-colored corals. The water is clear and blue, and the lighting is soft, highlighting the textures and colors of the marine life.

# Adaptation

MSP processes are a mess



This work © 2024 by Shreshth Kapoor is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND 4.0

# Learning

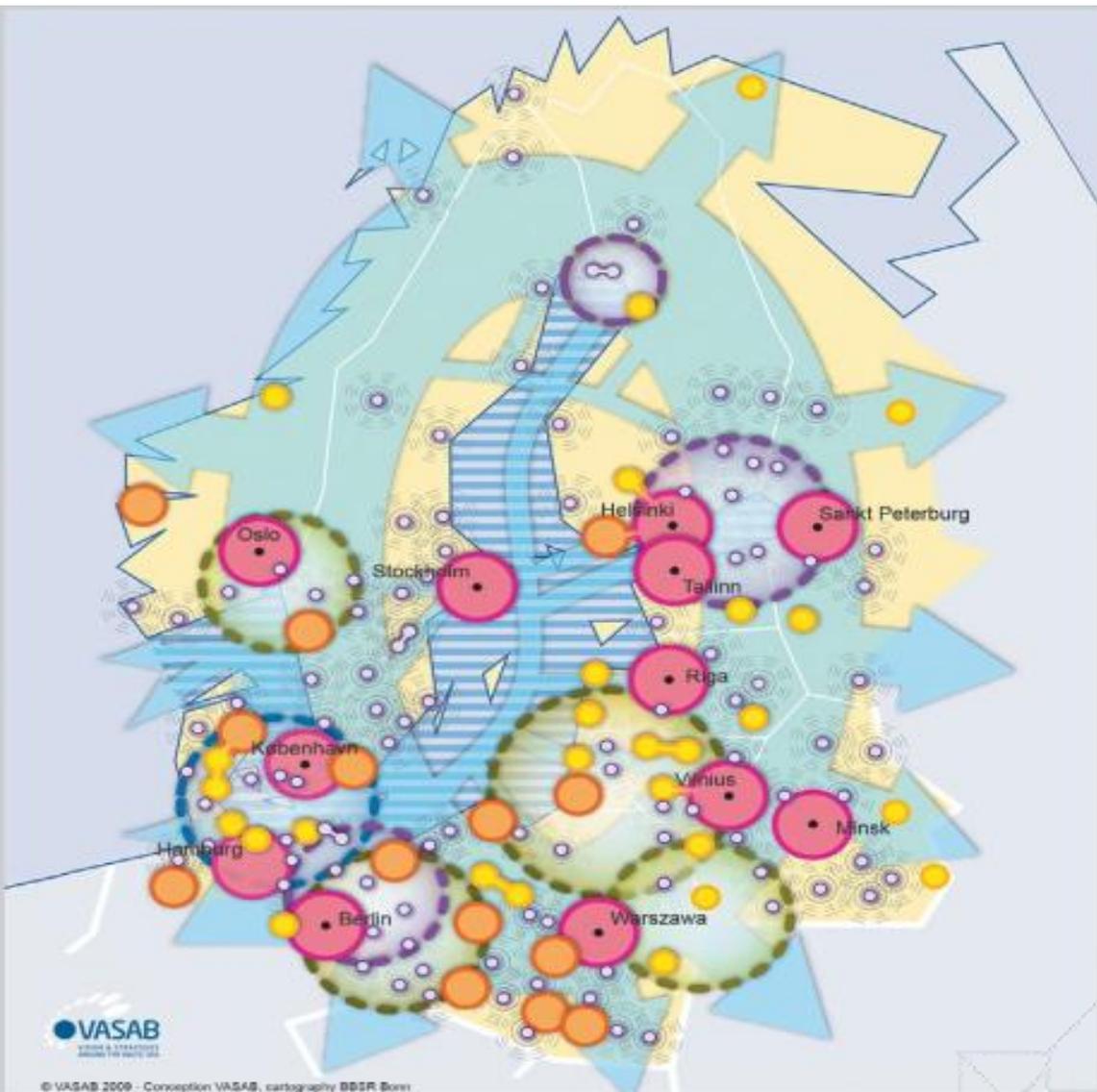




# Spaces



# Vision



**Interreg**  
Baltic Sea Region



Co-funded by  
the European Union



BLUE ECONOMY

**Baltic Sea2Land**

**5<sup>th</sup> BALTIC MSP  
FORUM**



11-12 November 2025 Riga, Latvia

# THANK YOU!

**Kira Gee**

Helmholtz Zentrum Hereon/Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency