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Political Criteria for Evaluating Plans

Translating Plans to Action

Political Criteria

- How many years do I have
 - Results are expected within a short term : electoral gain
 - A result, means also the necessity of :
 - a broad concensus by all actors/stakeholders
 - no risk of legal challenges
 - compliance with international or regional agreements/legislation

Political Criteria

- Time required for implementation is determining the way of handling
 - can it be shortened by scientific experience, existing legislation, or has the debate started already for some years
 - or is new [framework] legislation and thus a Parliamentary procedure necessary

Political Criteria

- Need for resources
 - budget
 - human resources : staffing, consultancy
 - priority setting

Political Criteria

- Need for scientific advice
 - Immediate, based on the different existing scientific programs
 - or proposals for new [expensive] studies

Political Criteria

- Translation of scientific advice
 - Lack of interdisciplinary concensus can work counterproductive :
 - . study on gravel extraction gives zone 1
 - . study on offshore wind gives zone 1
 - . study on best fishing grounds gives zone 1

Political Criteria

- difficult if there is no current problem : explain why zoning/measures are necessary
- proposals needs fine tuning : define clearly the conflicts and solutions (is a total ban really necessary or can a timely ban, during wintertime be enough)

Translating Plans to Action

- Searching for a consensus by the stakeholders
 - be transparent – no black box, where a ‘commission will decide upon the measures to be taken’
 - set a clear line from the beginning and foresee margins to discuss for example ‘historical rights’
 - search for win-win situations (zoning gives legal/economic stability on the longer term)

Translating Plans to Action

- integrate participation and access to information
- users committees, voluntary agreements can be a solution if there is a polarisation

Translating Plans to Action

- Searching for a consensus within the government
 - political composition (e.g. majority)
 - a broad acceptance on the field makes it difficult for someone to be against
 - must be in line with administrative rules as simplicity and impact on staffing/budget

Translating Plans to Action

- The legal implementation makes the work complete.
- As our economy, our nature is changing, evaluation, learning and adaptation will always be necessary
- This is for another politician ...