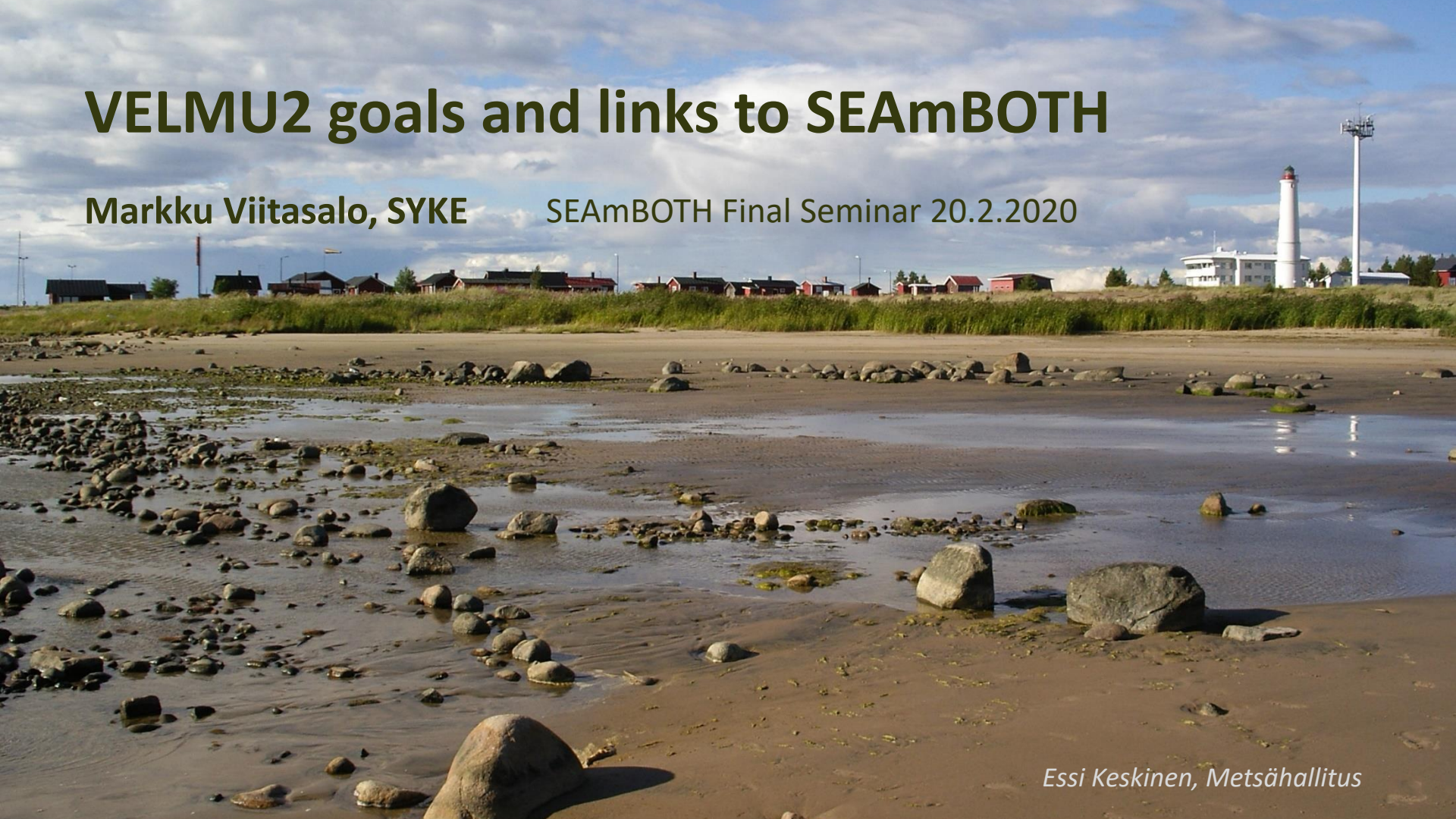


VELMU2 goals and links to SEAmBOTH

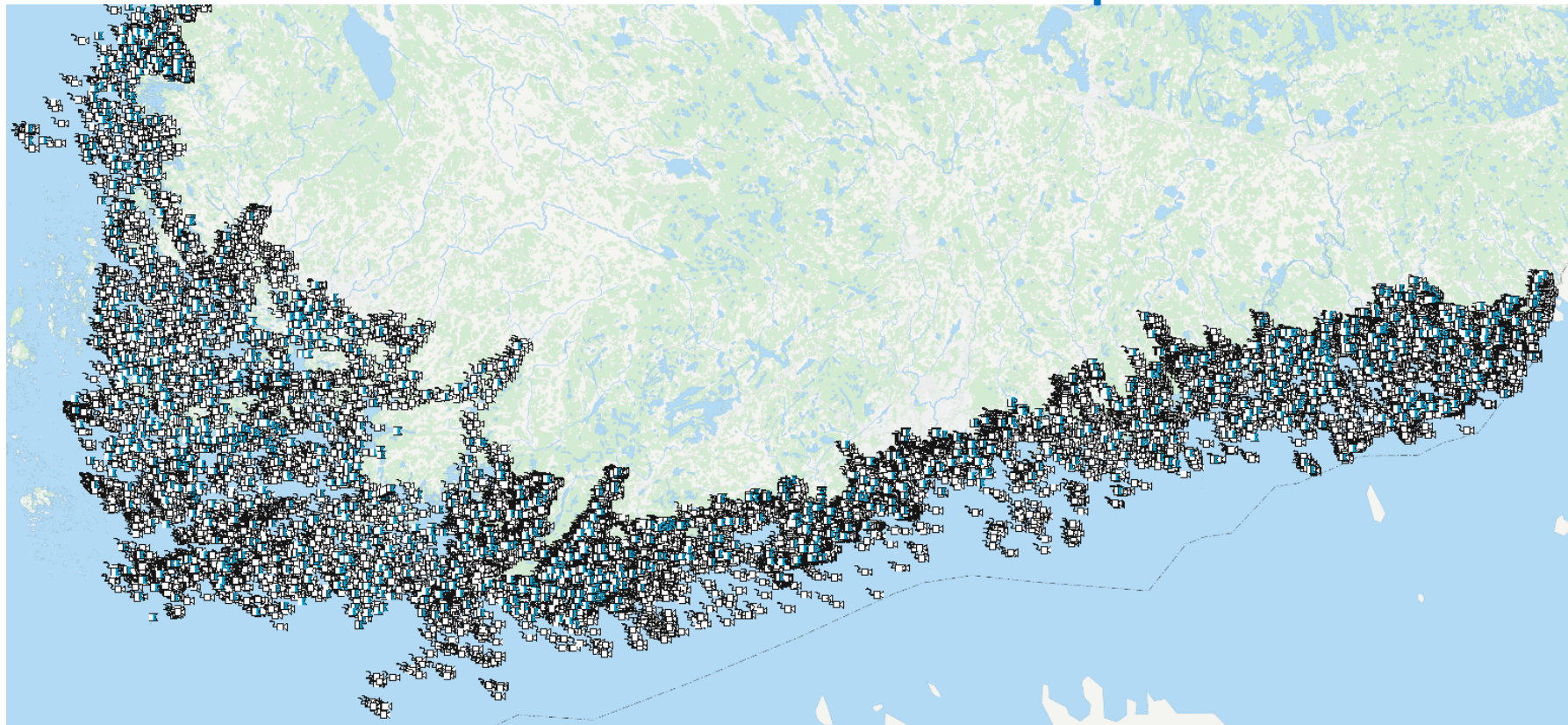
Markku Viitasalo, SYKE

SEAmBOTH Final Seminar 20.2.2020



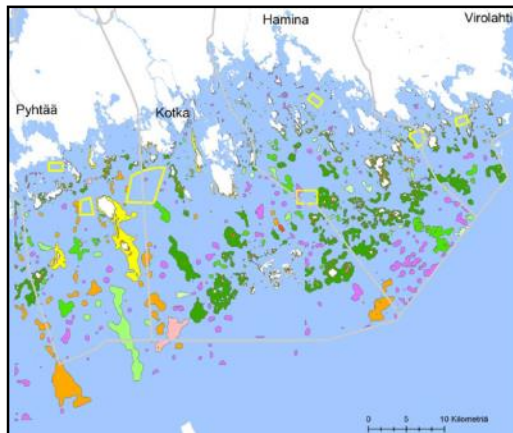
Essi Keskinen, Metsähallitus

**In 2004-2017 VELMU made an inventory of the Finnish sea area:
~140.000 observations on the underwater species and habitats**



Usage of VELMU data

Spatial planning



Regional plan of Kymenlaakso

Red list of habitats 2018



Red list of species 2019



Expansion of NATURA 2000

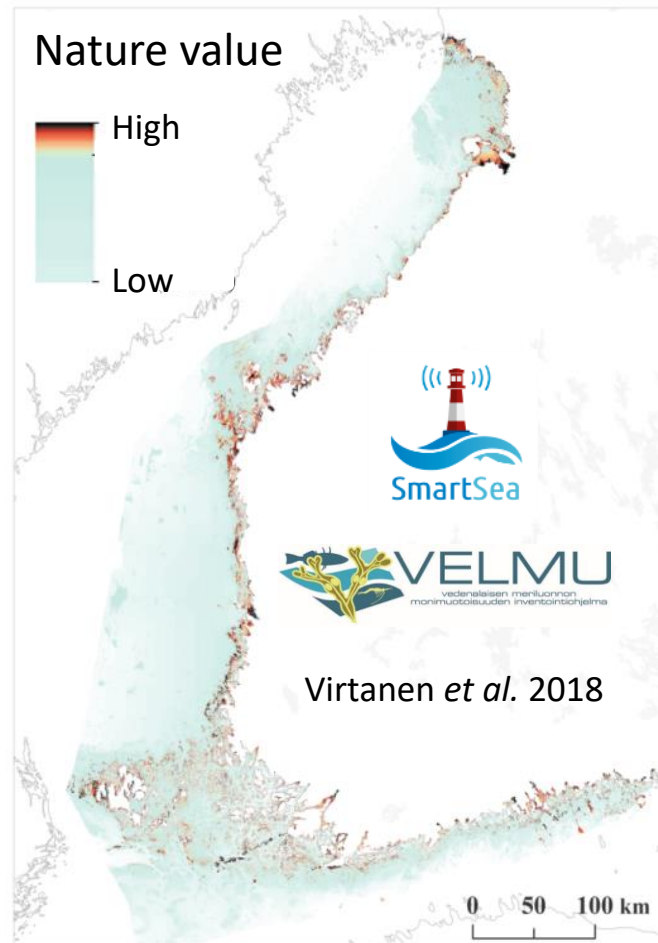
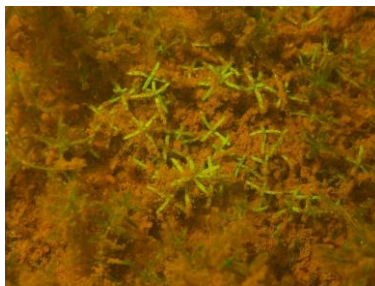


*Archipelago Sea
Bird area of Tulliniemi
Södra Sandbäck*

The first value map of the underwater marine environment



Photos: Niina Kurikka, Pekka Lehtonen and Essi keskinen
Parks & Wildlife Finland



Where are the optimal areas for offshore wind power?

Taking into account economy,
human interests, and nature

Virtanen et al., in prep.

"VELMU is an excellent example of a research project,
whose results can be directly used in decision making."

Ministry of the Environment Kimmo Tiilikainen, WWF Biodiversity Seminar 30.11.2018

The present P.M.
Antti Rinne



What next?

A phoenix rising from flames. The bird is depicted in a dynamic, upward-swooping pose, its wings spread wide. The feathers are rendered in vibrant shades of orange, yellow, and red, with a glowing, ethereal quality. The background is a deep, solid black, which makes the fiery bird stand out prominently. The overall effect is one of rebirth and transformation.

VELMU 2 goals

2018-2025

- ✓ New knowledge of data deficient species and habitats
- ✓ Spatial data products for conservation and sustainable use of the sea
- ✓ One off campaigns, e.g. Meriluonto 2020

Identification of valuable areas at three spatial scales:

Baltic Sea, National, and Local

1. Baltic Sea scale

cbd.int/ebsa



DISCLAIMER: The designations employed and the presentation of material in this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.



The EBSAs in
the northern
Baltic Sea

This satellite map shows the northern Baltic Sea region, including parts of Sweden, Finland, and Estonia. The land is depicted in shades of green and brown, representing vegetation and terrain. The sea is a deep blue. Several Exclusive Biological Sensitive Areas (EBSAs) are outlined in white, highlighting specific coastal and island regions. The text 'The EBSAs in the northern Baltic Sea' is centered over the sea area.

2. National Scale

What if we used VELMU data and CBD EBSA criteria at a spatial scale that is relevant with national planning and management decisions?



EBSA-criteria

- Uniqueness or Rarity
- Special importance for life history stages of species
- Importance for threatened, endangered or declining species and/or habitats
- Vulnerability, Fragility, Sensitivity, or Slow recovery
- Biological Diversity
- Naturalness
- Biological Productivity



EBSA-criteria

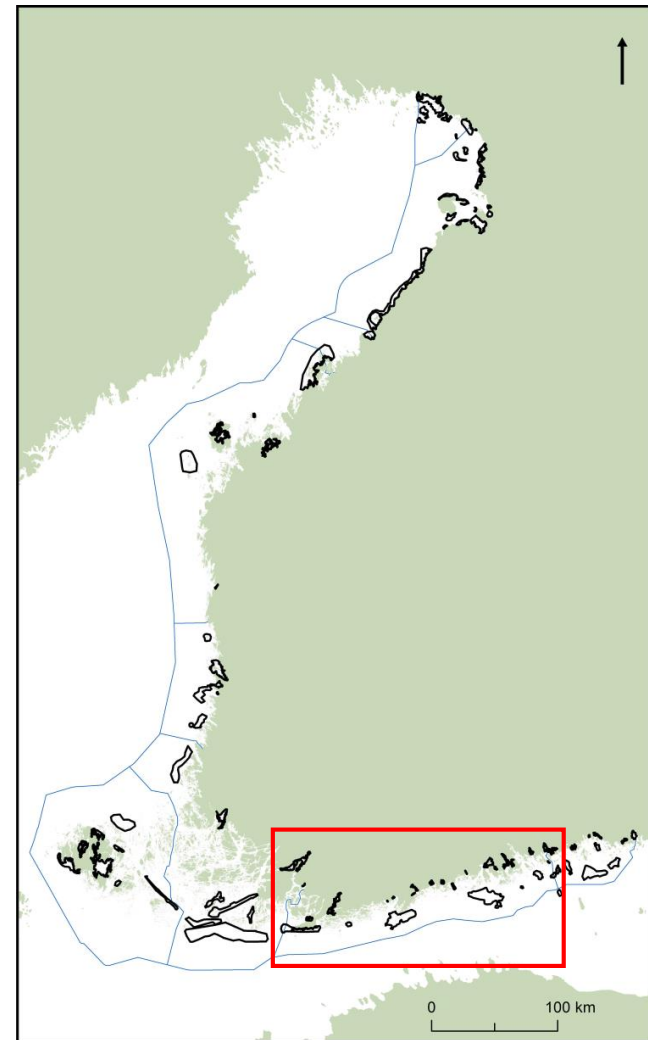
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- Vulnerability, Fragility, Sensitivity, or Slow recovery
- Biological Diversity
- Naturalness
- ~~Biological Productivity~~

EMMA

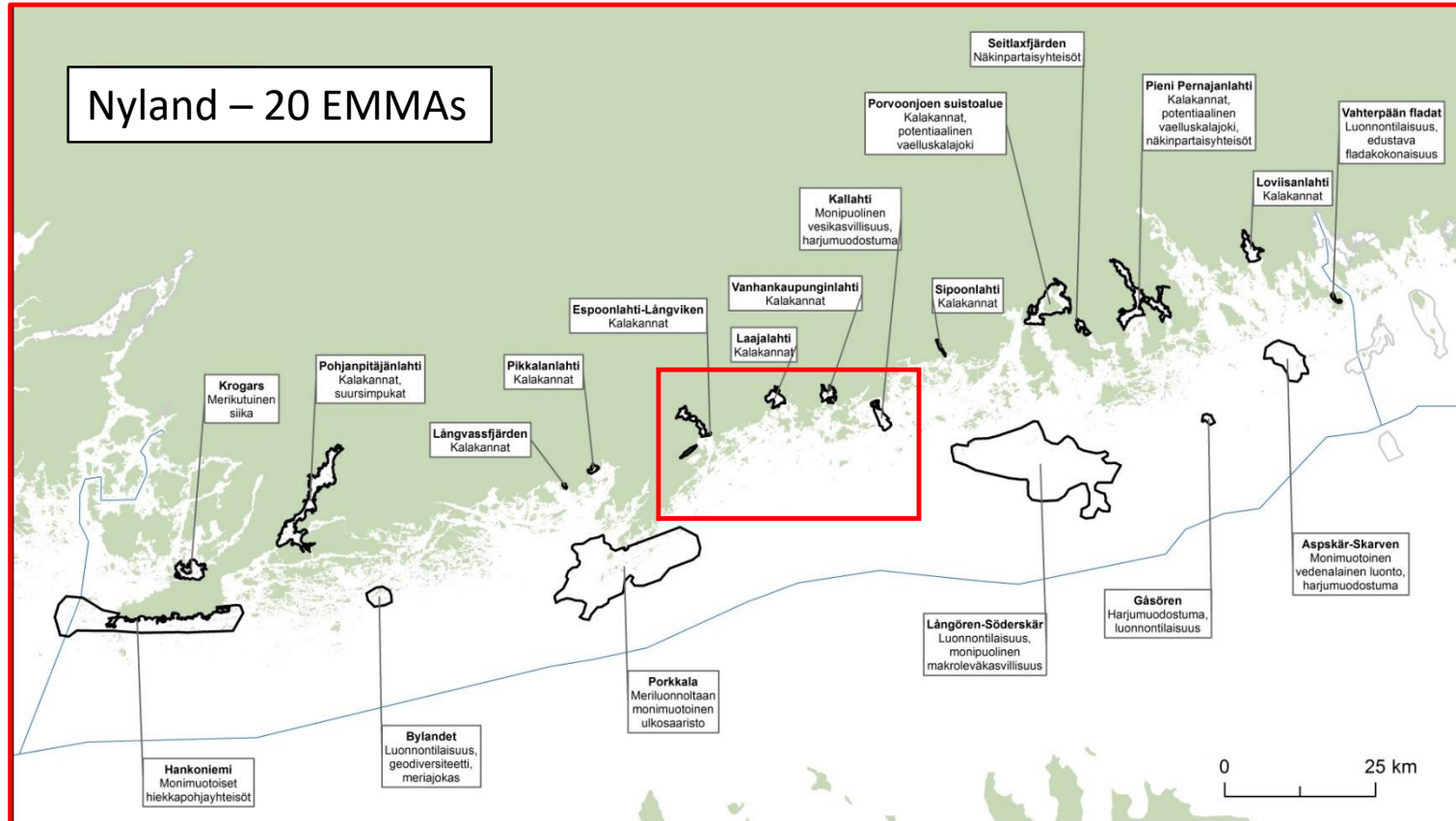
Suomen Ekologisesti Merkittävät vedenalaiset MeriluontoAlueet

Ecologically Significant Marine Areas in Finland

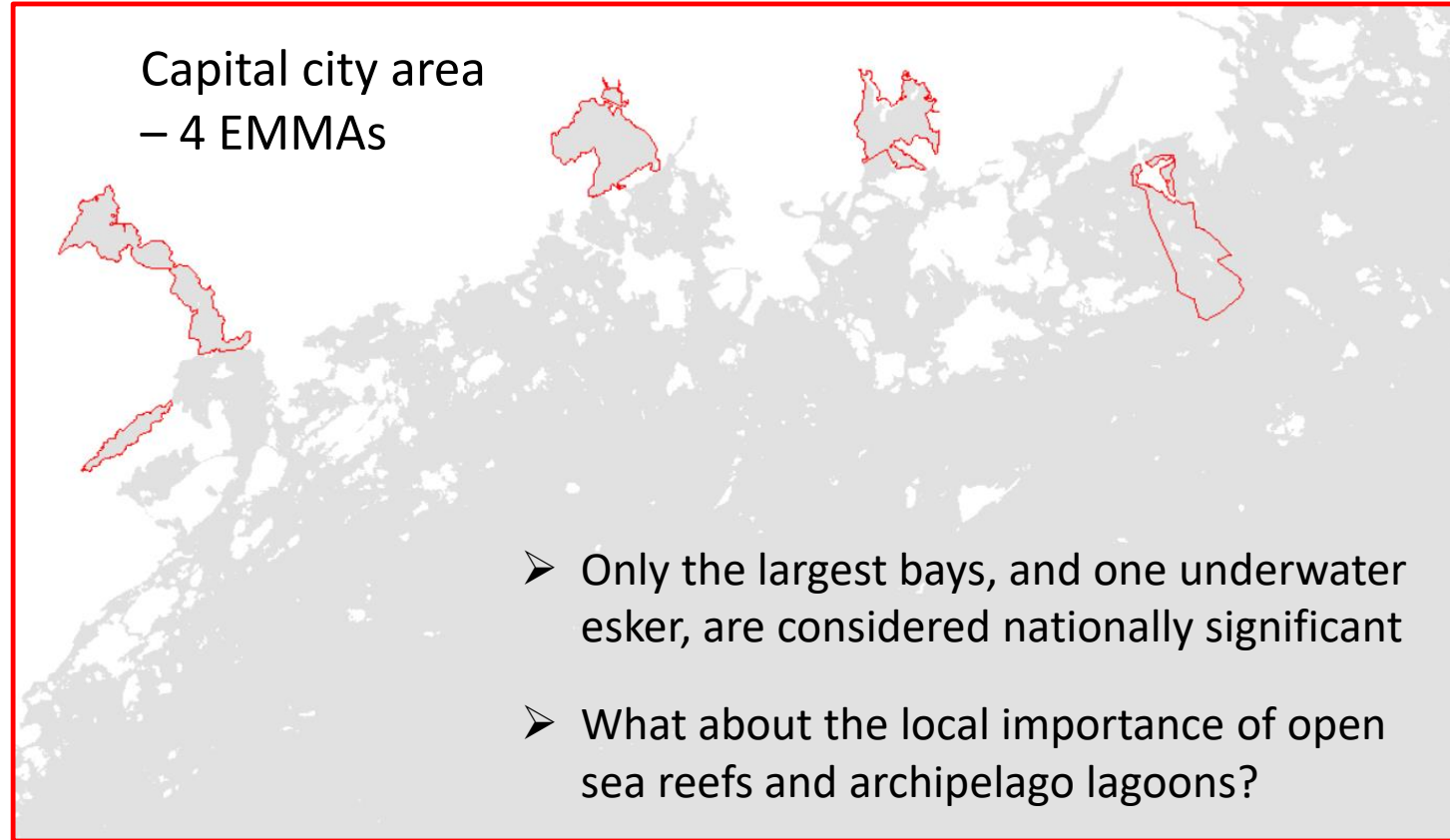
- ✓ 87 EMMAAs described for Finland
- ✓ 300-page report with detailed descriptions of each EMMA



Zoom in to the Regional scale



Zoom in to the Local Scale





Villinki, Helsinki



Suvisaari, Espoo

An underwater photograph showing a dense patch of green seagrass growing from a sandy and pebbly seabed. In the background, a faint rainbow is visible through the clear blue water. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

**Meriluonto 2020
Campaign will
explore the
“Treasures of the
Capital City sea
area”**

Photo: Mats Westerbom

Conclusions

Inventories can be done
at different spatial scales,
for different purposes

The purpose of VELMU is to
produce data and knowledge
for conservation and
sustainable use of the sea



SeamBoth

"~~VELMU~~ is an excellent example of a research project,
whose results can be directly used in decision making."

Ministry of the Environment Kimmo Tiilikainen, WWF Biodiversity Seminar 30.11.2018



Thank You for Your fantastic achievements!

