

Overview of Mediterranean Area-based Conservation Schemes

Seminar ON PSSAs

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Global definitions and Standards

Marine Protected Area – MPA



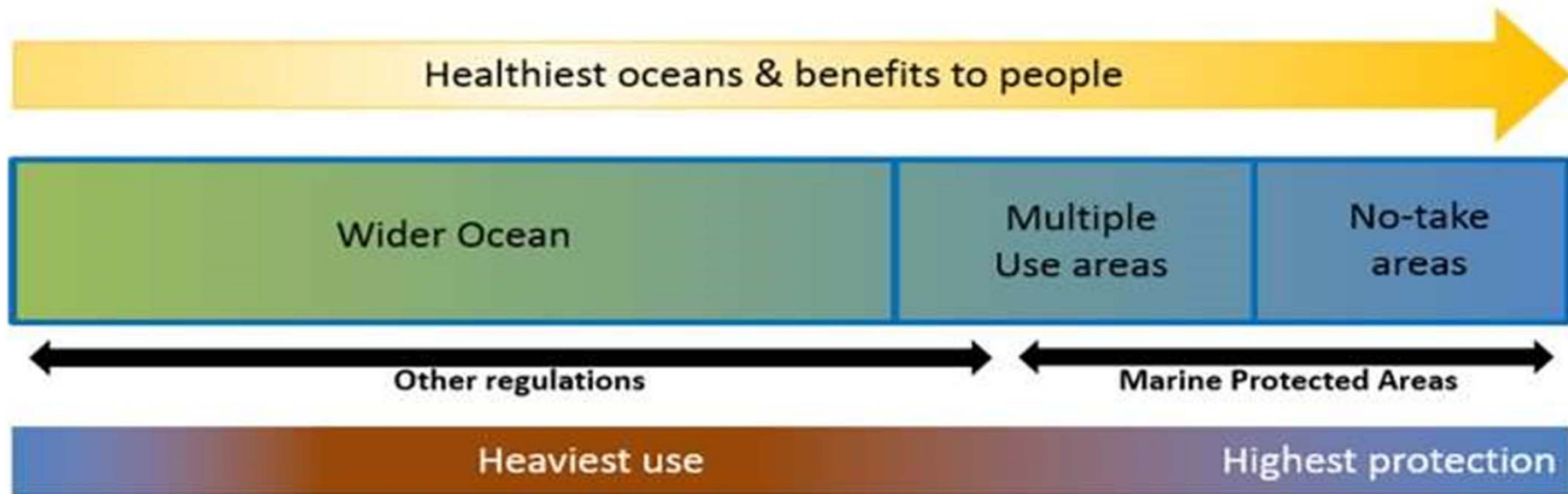
A clearly defined geographical space, recognized, dedicated, and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long-term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values.

Essential characteristics that a MPA needs to have:

- ☒ conservation focused with nature as the priority
- ☒ defined goals and objectives which reflect these conservation values
- ☒ suitable size, location, and design that deliver the conservation values
- ☒ defined and fairly agreed boundary
- ☒ management plan or equivalent, which addresses the needs for conservation of the MPA's major values, and achievement of its social and economic goals and objectives
- ☒ resources and capacity to effectively implement

MPAs, extractive uses and wider ocean management

MPAs fall into several different categories on a continuum from fully protected areas with no take, through to multiple use areas, as defined by the Guidelines for applying the IUCN Protected Area Management Categories to Marine Protected Areas. The benefits to people and coastal communities, and the degree of delivery of conservation outcomes generally increase with the level of protection and effective management, and by a commensurate reduction in the intensity of use and exploitation.



IUCN WCPA, 2018. Applying IUCN's Global Conservation Standards to Marine Protected Areas (MPA)

Protected Areas Categories

- **Ia Strict Nature Reserve:** strictly protected areas to protect biodiversity (reference areas for scientific research and monitoring)
- **Ib Wilderness Area:** protected areas usually large unmodified which are protected and managed so as to preserve their natural condition
- **II National Park:** protected areas large natural or near natural areas to protect large-scale ecological processes (spiritual, scientific, educational, recreational, and visitor opportunities)
- **III Natural Monument or Feature:** protected areas to protect a specific natural monument (high visitor value)
- **IV Habitat/Species Management Area:** protected areas to protect particular species or habitats (regular, active interventions)
- **V Protected Landscape/ Seascape:** protected area where the interaction of people and nature over time has produced an area of distinct character with significant, ecological, biological, cultural and scenic value
- **VI Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources:** protected areas to conserve ecosystems and habitats together with traditional natural resource management systems: (large, in a natural condition, where a proportion is under sustainable natural resource management and where low-level non-industrial use of natural resources is seen as one of the main aims of the area

MPAs good management

Well-constructed and **defined objectives** and goals for nature conservation

Addresses **the threats to marine biodiversity** and so overall, has activities and uses that are compatible with, and support the conservation objectives and goals

Has extractive activities that have low ecological impact, are **compatible** with the MPA's objectives

Well managed as part of an **integrated approach**

Does not have any environmentally damaging **industrial activities** or infrastructural developments located in, adjacent to, or otherwise negatively affecting it

Regulates **fisheries activities** that are low impact, assessed and managed to the highest standards

Has adequate **resourcing**, including staff capacity

Demonstrates successful **long-term conservation** of major natural values, with associated ecosystem services and cultural values.

Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures - OECM

Aichi Target 11: By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and **other effective area-based conservation measures**, and integrated into the wider landscape and seascape.

Recognition of OECMs offers a **significant opportunity for effective long-term conservation** that is taking place outside designated protected areas, under a range of governance and management regimes, implemented by a diverse set of actors, including local communities, the private sector and government agencies.

OECMs can contribute to

- Conserving important ecosystems, habitats and wildlife corridors
- Supporting the recovery of threatened species
- Maintaining ecosystem functions and securing ecosystem services
- Enhancing resilience against threats

Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures - OECM

A geographically defined area other than a Protected Area, which is governed and managed in ways that achieve positive and sustained long-term outcomes for the in-situ conservation of biodiversity with associated ecosystem functions and services and where applicable, cultural, spiritual, socio-economic, and other locally relevant values. (CBD, 2018).

PA has a **primary conservation objective**, whereas an OECM delivers effective conservation of biodiversity **regardless of its objectives**.

Permanent or long-term **fisheries closure areas** designed to protect complete ecosystems for stock recruitment, to protect specialized ecosystems in their entirety, or protect species at risk and are effective against fishery and non-fishery threats.

Coastal and marine areas protected for **reasons other than conservation**, but that nonetheless achieve the in-situ conservation of biodiversity e.g., historic wrecks, archaeological sites, etc.

Area-based Management Tools - ABTMs

Objectives of area-based management tools, including marine protected areas

To contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of ABNJ – High Sea

- (a) **enhancing cooperation and coordination** in the use of ABMTs, including MPAs, among States and existing relevant legal instruments and frameworks and relevant global, regional and sectoral bodies
- (b) effectively **implementing existing international obligations**, in particular those under UNCLOS, and international commitments (CBD, FAO, RFMOs)
- (c) promoting a **holistic and cross-sectoral approach** to ocean management
- (d) **conserving and sustainably using areas** designated to have special value under existing relevant legal instruments and frameworks
- (e) establishing a **connected network of effective and equitably managed, ecologically representative MPAs**
- (f) **rehabilitating and restoring ecosystems and biodiversity**, including with a view to enhancing productivity, health and building resilience to stressors, including those related to **climate change**
- (g) supporting **food security** and other **socioeconomic objectives**
- (h) creating **scientific reference areas** for baseline research
- (i) safeguarding **aesthetic, natural or wilderness values**



Ecologically or Biologically Significant marine Areas - EBSAs



Geographically or oceanographically discrete areas that provide important services to one or more species/populations of an ecosystem or to the ecosystem as a whole, compared to other surrounding areas or areas of similar ecological characteristics, or otherwise meet the [EBSA] criteria (CBD Decision 2008)

Areas which, through scientific criteria, have been identified as important for the healthy functioning of our oceans and the services that they provide (UNEP-WCMC)

Common and shared goal: To maintain, protect and conserve global marine biodiversity through conservation and protection of its components in a **biogeographically representative network of ecologically coherent sites**

Ecologically or Biologically Significant marine Areas - EBSAs

The seven criteria for identifying EBSAs, of which one or more must be applicable , are:

Uniqueness or rarity: area contains either (i) unique, rare or endemic species, populations or communities, habitats or ecosystems, geomorphological or oceanographic features

Special importance for life history stages of species: areas required for a population to survive and thrive

Importance for threatened, endangered or declining species and/or habitats: area containing habitat for the survival and recovery of endangered, threatened, declining species

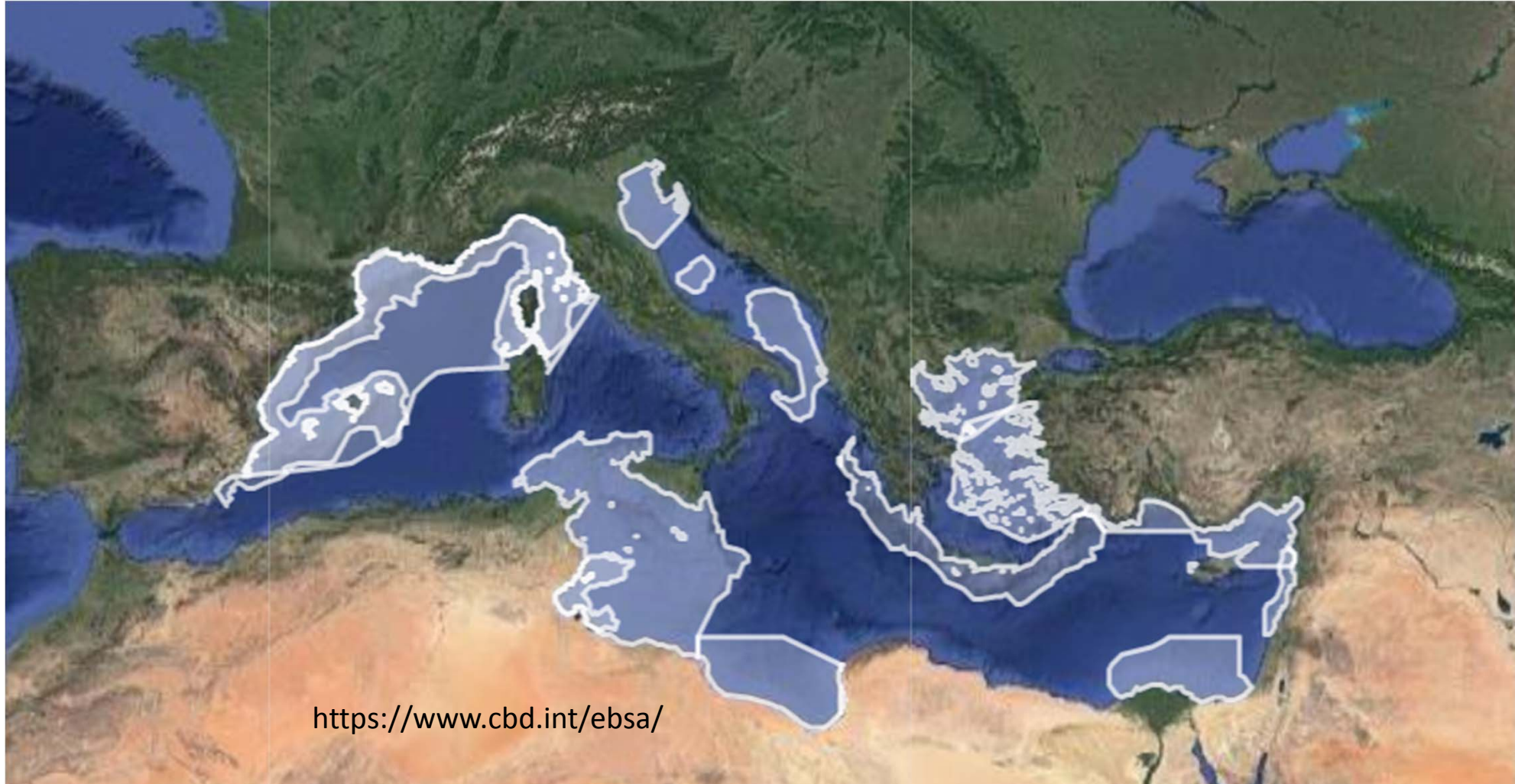
Vulnerability, fragility, sensitivity or slow recovery: areas that contain a relatively high proportion of sensitive habitats, or species that are functionally fragile or with slow recovery

Biological productivity: area containing species, populations or communities with comparatively higher natural biological productivity

Biological diversity: area contains comparatively higher diversity of ecosystems, habitats, communities, or species, or has higher genetic diversity

Naturalness: area with a comparatively higher degree of naturalness as a result of the lack of or low level of human-induced disturbance or degradation

Ecologically or Biologically Significant marine Areas - EBSAs



<https://www.cbd.int/ebsa/>



World Heritage sites - WH

The Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage was adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO in 1972.

The primary objective of the Convention is to identify and protect the world's natural and cultural heritage considered to be of “**Outstanding Universal Value**” (OUV).

Cultural and/or **natural significance** which is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity. As such, the permanent protection of this heritage is of the **highest importance to the international community** as a whole.

Currently, there is a relatively small number (**46** of 981 or 4.7%) of WHS that have been inscribed for their **outstanding marine values**, and these marine WHS represent predominantly tropical ecosystems as opposed to temperate and polar ecosystems.

World Heritage sites - WH

Selection criteria

- (i) to represent a masterpiece of human creative genius
- (ii) to exhibit an important interchange of human values, (...) or landscape design;
- (iii) to bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization (...)
- (iv) to be an outstanding example (...) or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history;
- (v) to be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use (...)
- (vi) (...)
- (vii) to contain superlative natural phenomena or areas of **exceptional natural beauty and aesthetic importance**;
- (viii) to be outstanding examples representing **major stages of earth's history**, (...);
- (ix) to be outstanding examples representing significant on-going **ecological and biological processes** in the evolution and development of terrestrial, fresh water, coastal and marine ecosystems and communities of plants and animals;
- (x) to contain the most important and significant **natural habitats for in-situ conservation of biological diversity**, including those containing threatened species of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation.

World Heritage sites - WH



Gulf of Porto: Calanche of Piana, Gulf of Girolata, Scandola Reserve

Part of the Regional Natural Park of Corsica, occupies the Scandola peninsula, an impressive, porphyritic rock mass. The vegetation is an outstanding example of scrubland. Seagulls, cormorants and sea eagles can be found there. The clear waters, with their islets and inaccessible caves, host a rich marine life.

Ibiza, Biodiversity and Culture

Excellent example of the interaction between the marine and coastal ecosystems. Dense prairies of oceanic Posidonia (seagrass); Evidence of its long history. The archaeological sites at Sa Caleta (settlement) and Puig des Molins (necropolis)



Man and Biosphere Reserves



The main characteristics of biosphere reserves are:

3 interconnected functions: **conservation, development** and logistic support;

Outpacing traditional confined conservation zones, through appropriate **zoning schemes** combining core protected areas with zones where sustainable development is fostered (...);

Focusing on a **multi-stakeholder approach** with particular emphasis on the involvement of local communities in management;

Fostering dialogue for **conflict resolution of natural resource use**;

Integrating cultural and biological diversity, especially the **role of traditional knowledge** in ecosystem management;

Demonstrating **sound sustainable development practices and policies (...)**

Acting as sites of excellence for education and training;

Man and Biosphere Reserves



Miramare 1979

Po Delta 2015

Intercontinental Biosphere
Reserve of the Mediterranean
2006

Camargue Rhône-Delta, 1977 &
2006

Menorca 1993, 2004 & 2019

Cabo de Gata-Níjar (1997)

Terres de l'Ebre (2013)

El Kala (1990)

Gouraya (2004)

Iles Zembra et Zembretta 1977

Man and Biosphere Reserves



The Intercontinental Biosphere Reserve of the Mediterranean is the first of its type to be designated by the Man and the Biosphere Programme. It combines the Tingitane Peninsula in Morocco and the southern Iberian Peninsula of Andalusia. Both countries are located in a biogeographic region of deciduous forests and evergreen sclerophyllous scrub within the Mediterranean bioclimatic zone. **The maritime area of the biosphere reserve is dominated by the Strait of Gibraltar**, which links the two peninsulas. The reserve also encompasses natural and human communication routes between Africa and Europe.



RAMSAR Sites



- 1: contains a **representative, rare, or unique** example of a natural or near-natural wetland type found within the appropriate biogeographic region.
- 2: supports vulnerable, endangered, or critically **endangered species or threatened ecological communities**.
- 3: supports populations of plant and/or animal species important for **maintaining the biological diversity** of a particular biogeographic region.
- 4: supports plant and/or animal species at **a critical stage in their life cycles or provides refuge** during adverse conditions.
- 5: regularly supports **20,000 or more waterbirds**.
- 6: regularly supports **1% of the individuals in a population** of one species or subspecies of waterbird.
- 7: supports a significant proportion **of indigenous fish subspecies, species or families**, life-history stages, species interactions and/or populations that are representative of wetland benefits and/or values and thereby contributes to global biological diversity.
- 8: is an important **source of food for fishes, spawning ground, nursery and/or migration** path on which fish stocks, either within the wetland or elsewhere, depend.
- 9: regularly supports 1% of the individuals in a population of one species or subspecies of wetland-dependent **non-avian animal species**.



Areas of Particular Environmental Interest - APEIs

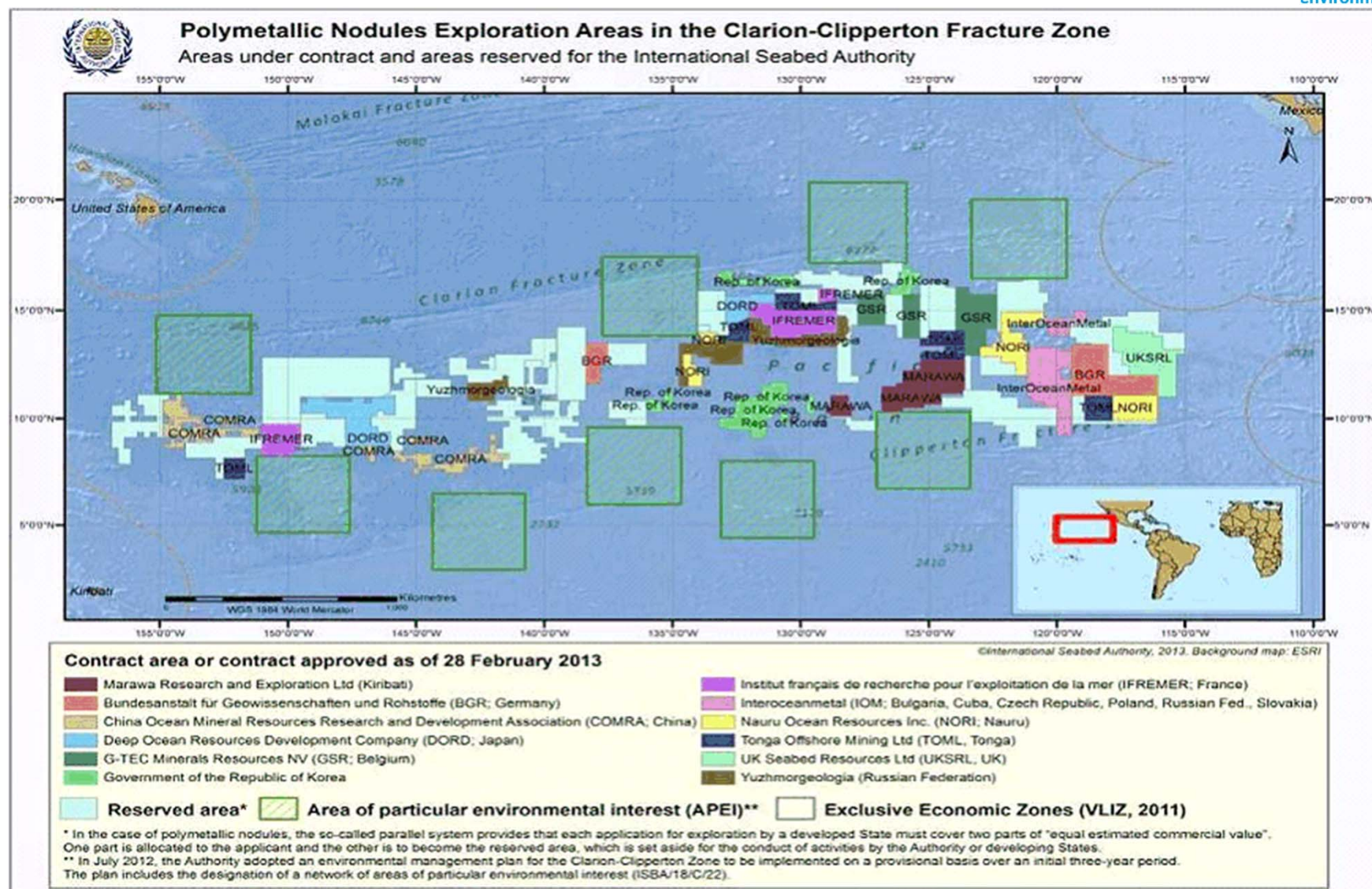


International Seabed Authority – ISA

Designates areas of environmental interest, on a provisional basis, to protect the biodiversity and ecosystem structure and functioning of the zone

Principles: Common heritage of mankind; Precautionary approach; Protection and preservation of the marine environment; Prior environmental impact assessment; Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity; Transparency

ISBA/17/LTC/WP.1, Draft environmental management plan for the Clarion- Clipperton Zone, adopted 22 July 2012 ISBA/18/C/22





Cetaceans Critical Habitats - CCH

ACCOBAMS – Agreement for the conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area

In 2002, the ACCOBAMS Scientific Committee (SC) first proposed four areas of interest for cetacean conservation in Greece, (2), Ukraine, and Croatia **Losinj, Kvarneric** (for bottlenose dolphins)

2007 Resolution 3.22 on MPAs for Cetaceans : establishing a **network of marine protected areas (...)** - List of 18 sites

2010 Resolution 4.15 on MPAs of importance for Cetaceans Conservation:

- Urges the States concerned to implement the development of high seas **Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (...)** in conjunction with UNEP- MAP RAC/SPA
- Encourages the States concerned to promote the institution of the **areas of special importance for cetaceans n and to ensure their effective management** - List of 22 sites

2016 Resolution 6.24 on New Areas of Conservation of Cetacean Habitats

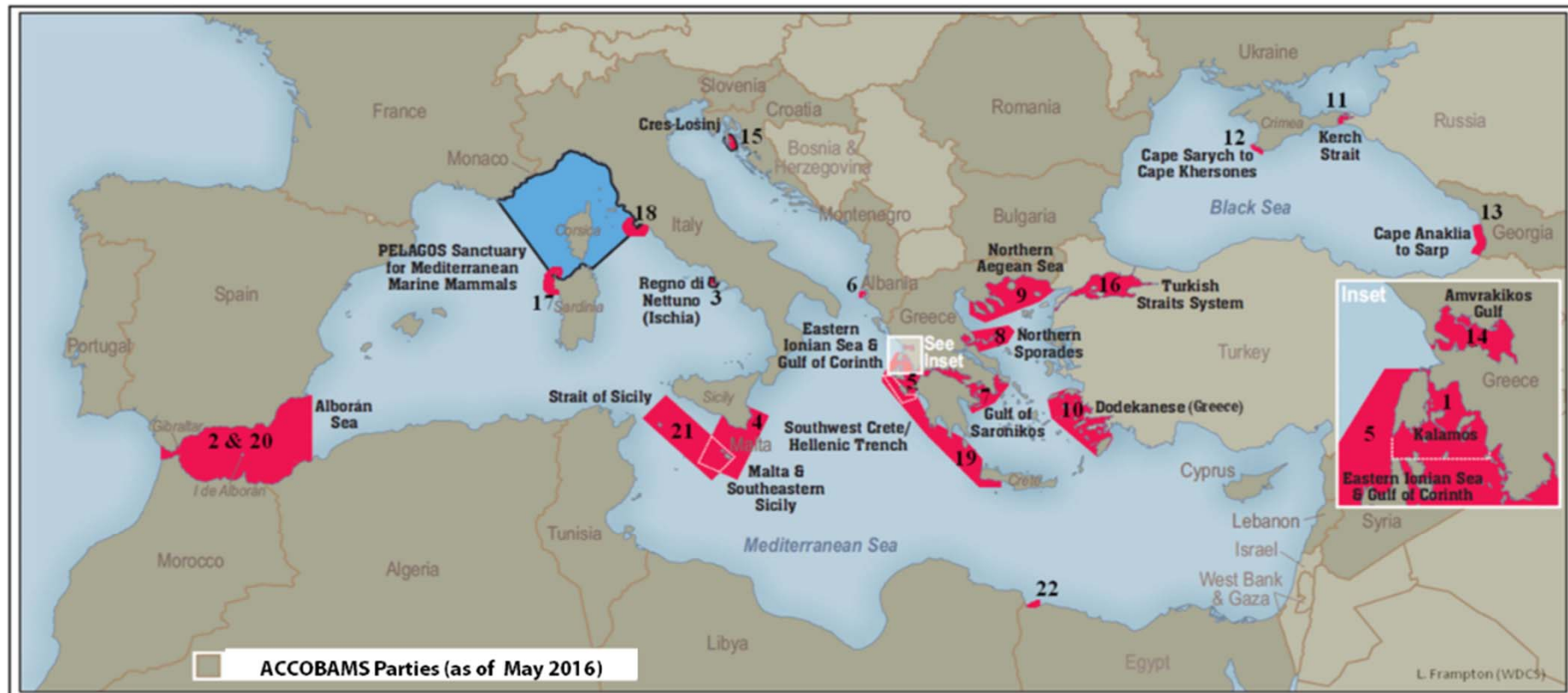
Conscious that establishing a network of MPAs constitutes an important element of **maritime spatial planning** and will help achieve and maintain a favorable conservation status for cetaceans

Convinced that, to be efficient, these protected areas (...), they require frequently **transboundary cooperation**

Considering a Strategical Alliance among ACCOBAMS, **GFCM, IUCN-Med, UNEP/MAP through SPA/RAC** and in collaboration with MedPAN, concerning **Spatial-based Protection** and Management Measures for Marine Biodiversity

Cetaceans Critical Habitats - CCH

Identification based on the overlapping of Important Marine Mammals Areas (IMMAs) and mapping of anthropogenic threats.



N.B.: This map is being updated through a threat management approach that combines both the inventory of human activities and the distribution of the populations of cetaceans.

Cetaceans Critical Habitats - CCH

Areas of special importance for the common dolphin and other cetaceans

1. Kalamos (Greece)
2. The Alborán Sea
3. Waters surrounding the island of Ischia (south-eastern Tyrrhenian Sea, Italy)
4. Waters surrounding the island of Malta and south-eastern Sicily, Italy
5. The eastern Ionian Sea and the Gulf of Corinth (Greece)
- 6. The Sazani Island – Karaburun Peninsula (Adriatic and Ionian Sea, Albania)**
7. The Gulf of Saronikos and adjacent waters (Argo-Saronikos and southern Evvoikos Gulf, Greece)
8. Waters surrounding the northern Sporades (Greece)
9. The northern Aegean Sea (Greece)
10. Waters surrounding the Dodecanese (Greece)

Areas of special importance for Black Sea cetaceans

11. The Kerch Strait for the bottlenose dolphin and the harbour porpoise (Russian Federation, Ukraine)
12. Cape Sarych to Cape Khersones for bottlenose and common dolphins and the harbour porpoise (Ukraine)
13. Cape Anaklia to Sarp for the common dolphin and the harbour porpoise (Georgia)

Areas of special importance for the bottlenose dolphin

14. The Amvrakikos Gulf (northwestern Greece)
- 15. Waters along east coast of the Cres-Lošinj archipelago**
16. The Turkish Straits system (also used by all Black Sea cetacean species)
17. North western area of Sardinia (Italy)
18. Tuscany archipelago (Italy)

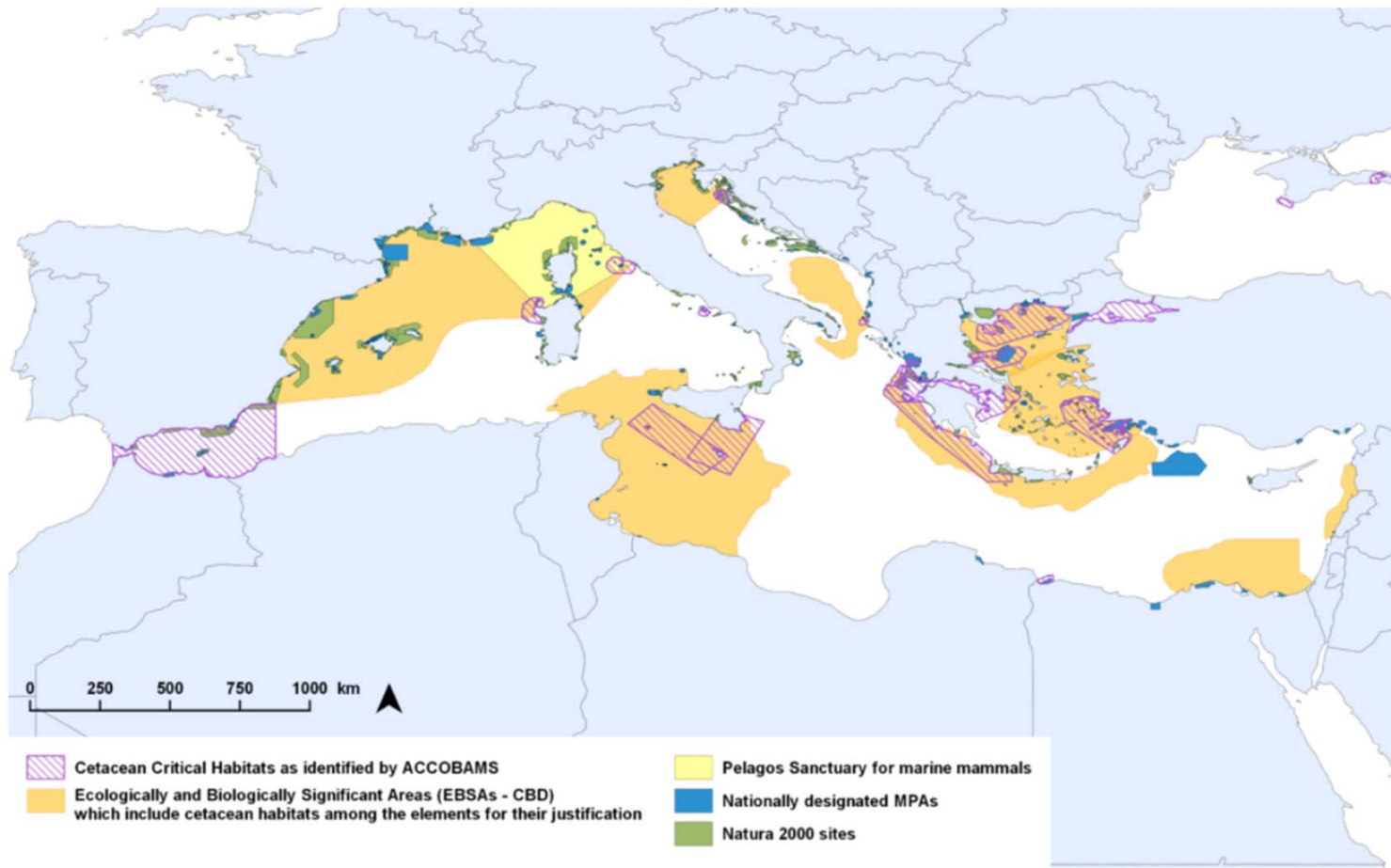
Area of special importance for the sperm whale

19. Southwest Crete and the Hellenic Trench (Greece)

Areas of special importance and diversity for various cetacean species

21. The Alborán Sea and the Strait of Gibraltar
22. The Strait of Sicily for fin whales and common, bottlenose and striped dolphins
23. Sallum marine protected area (Egypt)

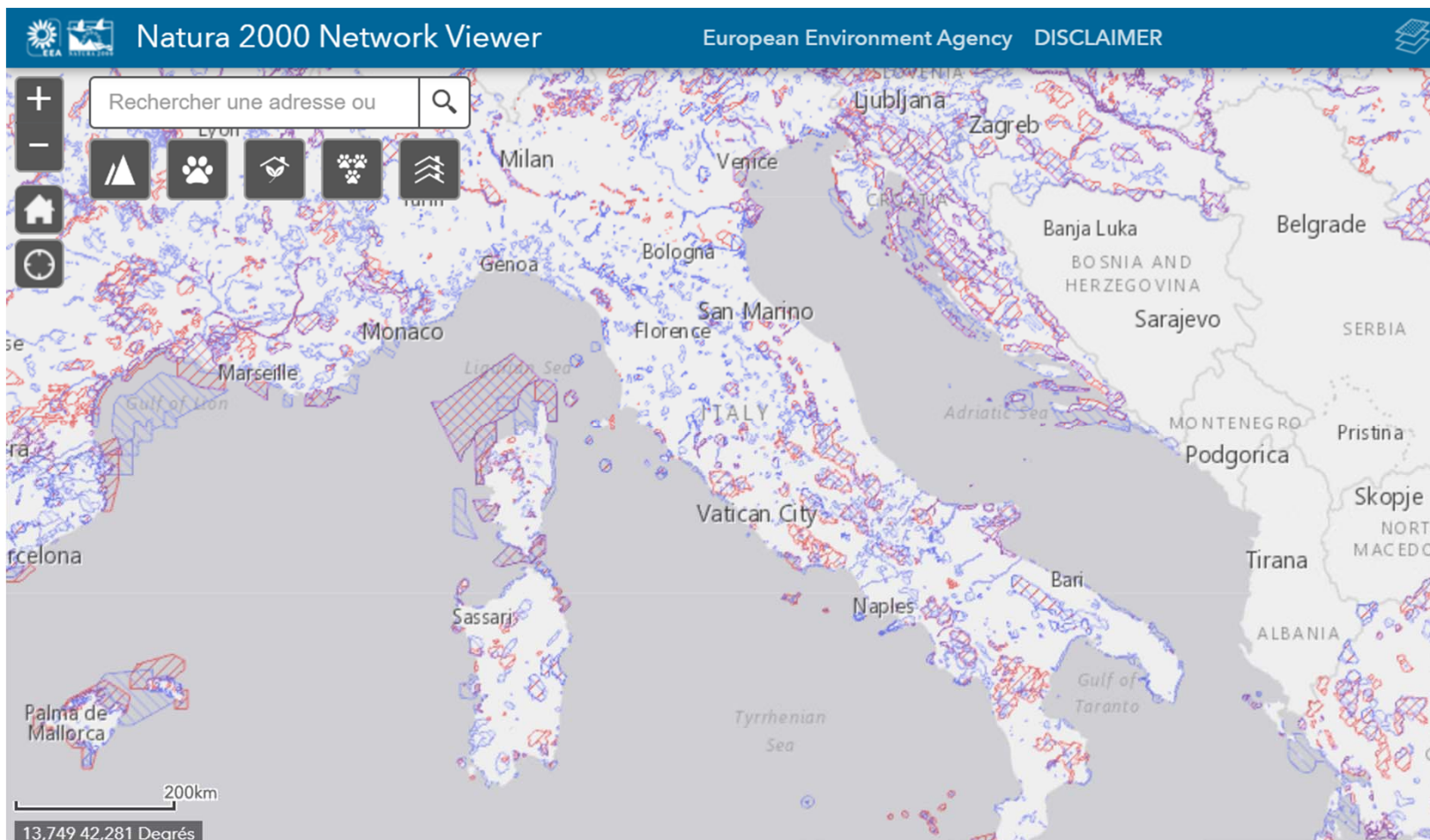
Cetaceans Critical Habitats - CCH



Sources:
 Cetacean Critical Habitats: ACCOBAMS - MOP4/2010/Res. 4.15.
 Countries: Natural Earth. Admin 0 - Countries. 2016.
 EBSAs, MPAs and Natura 2000 sites: MAPAMED, the database on Sites of interest for the conservation of Mediterranean marine environment. MedPAN, UNEP/MAP/RAC-SPA. April 2016 release.



Natura 2000 Sites



Natura 2000 is a network of core breeding and resting sites for rare and threatened species, and some rare natural habitat types which are **protected in their own right**. The aim of the network is to ensure the **long-term survival** of Europe's most valuable and threatened species and habitats, listed under both the Birds Directive and the Habitats Directive.



Vulnerable Marine Areas - VMEs

Groups of species, communities, or habitats that may be vulnerable to impacts from fishing activities (UNGA) Resolutions 59/25, 61/105 and 64/72.

Vulnerability relates to the likelihood that a population, community or habitat will experience **substantial alteration** from short-term or chronic disturbance, and the likelihood that it would recover and in what time frame.

Significant adverse impacts are those that **compromise the ecosystem integrity** (structure and function), i.e. impairs the ability of populations to replace themselves, degrades the long-term natural productivity of the habitat, or causes significant loss of species richness, habitat or community type on more than a temporary basis.

The concept of VMEs is applied in the context of a **management response to impacts** from deep-sea

List of VME Indicators

Features

Seamounts, pockmarks, volcanic ridges
Canyons and trenches
Slopes and slides
Cold seeps and hydrothermal vents

Habitats

Cold-water coral reefs
Coral gardens

- Hard-bottom coral garden
- Soft-bottom coral gardens
- Sea pen fields

Deep-sea sponge aggregations

- “Ostur” sponge aggregations
- Hard-bottom sponge gardens
- Glass sponge communities
- Soft-bottom sponge gardens

Tube-dwelling anemone patches
Bryozoan patches
Seep and vent communities
Other dense emergent fauna

Taxa

Anthozoa (corals)

- Antipatharia
- Scleractinia
- Alyconacea
- Pennatulacea
- Ceriantharia (tube dwelling anemones)

Hydrozoa
Profera (sponges)

- Demospongiae
- Hexactinellida (glass sponges)

Bryozoa
Chemosynthetic organisms that indicate a cold seep or hydrothermal vent

- Bivalve molluscs e.g. *Lucinoma kazani*, *Idas modiolaeformis*
- Polychaeta e.g. *Lamellibrachia anaximandri*, *Siboglinum* spp.
- Arthropoda (Malacostraca) e.g. *Haploops* spp.

New GFCM Protocols for the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems (VMEs), including on encounter reporting and mapping of deep-sea fishing areas

“Encounter” refers to an encounter with VME indicator taxa and is defined as any catch of VME indicator taxa obtained by any DSF, until possible revision of the current “VME Protocol”, that may establish thresholds levels according to GFCM/SAC advice, based on data and information gathered upon the implementation of current Protocols and measures established in this resolution.



Leiopathes glaberrima EN
SPA/BD Protocol: Annex II



Antipathes dichotoma
SPA/BD Protocol: Annex II

CPCs should establish a mechanism to ensure that DSF vessels actively fishing in the Mediterranean Sea record VME Indicator Taxa catches and bycatch following the Decision on VME Encounter Protocol reporting obligations established in GFCM 42nd Annual Session.

Vulnerable Marine Areas - VMEs





Fisheries Restricted Areas - FRAs

Spatial management measures adopted under GFCM to regulate or restrict demersal fisheries

Recommendation GFCM/30/2006/3 on the establishment of FRAs to protect deep-sea sensitive habitats

Resolution 59/25 of the UNGA (...) calling upon the RFMOs to adopt appropriate conservation and management measures in order to protect vulnerable marine ecosystems (**VMEs**);

Recommendation GFCM/29/2005/1 on the management of certain fisheries exploiting demersal and deep-water species and the establishment of a fisheries restricted area below 1000 m; and

For the same areas, the contracting parties and cooperating non-contracting parties (CPCs) shall call the attention of the relevant authorities in order to protect these areas from the **impact of any other activity jeopardizing the conservation of the features (...)**.

Fisheries Restricted Areas - FRAs

Rec. GFCM/30/2006/3 established 3 FRAs, falling both in high seas and national waters, where i) fishing activities **with towed dredges and bottom trawl nets are prohibited** and ii) Members have to ensure that these areas are **protected from the impact of any other activity**

- Deep-sea fisheries restricted area “**Lophelia reef** off Capo Santa Maria di Leuca”
- Deep-Sea fisheries restricted area “the **Nile delta** area cold hydrocarbon seeps”
- Deep-sea fisheries restricted area “the **Eratosthenes seamount**”

FRA of the **Gulf of Lion**

Rec. GFCM/33/2009/1 established a FRA falling **both in high seas and national waters** where **fishing effort has been frozen** to the level of 2008 to prevent any increase of fishing activities. Members have to ensure that: i) only vessels authorized to fish in 2008 can continue to fish in the FRA; ii) overall fishing effort cannot exceed the effort applied in 2008

Fisheries Restricted Areas - FRAs

Resolution GFCM/37/2013/1 on area-based management of fisheries, including through the establishment of fisheries restricted areas in the GFCM area of application and **coordination with UNEP-MAP** initiatives on the establishment of specially protected areas of Mediterranean importance

Recommendation GFCM/41/2017/3 on the establishment of a fisheries restricted area in the **Jabuka/Pomo Pit in the Adriatic Sea**

Resolution GFCM/41/2017/4 on a **permanent working group** on vulnerable marine ecosystems

Resolution GFCM/43/2019/1 on the **mapping of measures applicable to fisheries restricted areas** in the GFCM area of application



Essential Fish Habitats - EFH

Fish and other marine species depend on their habitat to survive and reproduce

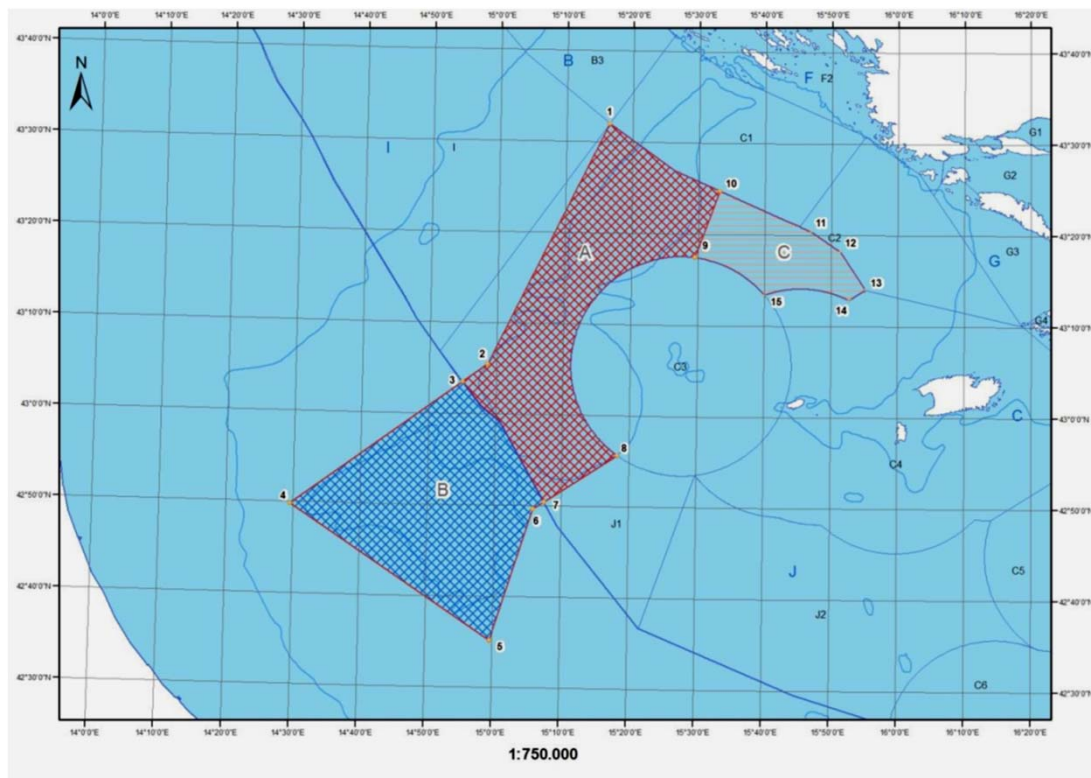
Resolution GFCM/41/2017/5 on a network of **essential fish habitats** in the GFCM area of application (...) establishment of new FRAs in order to create a consistent network of **EFH**

- Recommendation GFCM/40/2016/4: Protect nursery areas and **EFH** that are important for the stocks of European hake and deep-water rose shrimp in the Strait of Sicily

- Recommendation GFCM/41/2017/3: establish a FRA in the Jabuka/Pomo Pit area in the Adriatic Sea, with a view to contributing to the protection of VMEs and important **EFH** for demersal stocks such as European hake and Norway lobster.

Fisheries Restricted Areas - FRAs

GFCM FRA “Pomo pit”



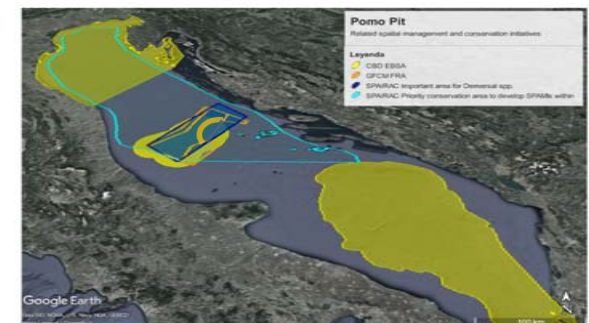
Three Areas

Area A: *Permanent closure of the area to any professional or recreational fishing activity.*

Area B: *Different measures on different gears*

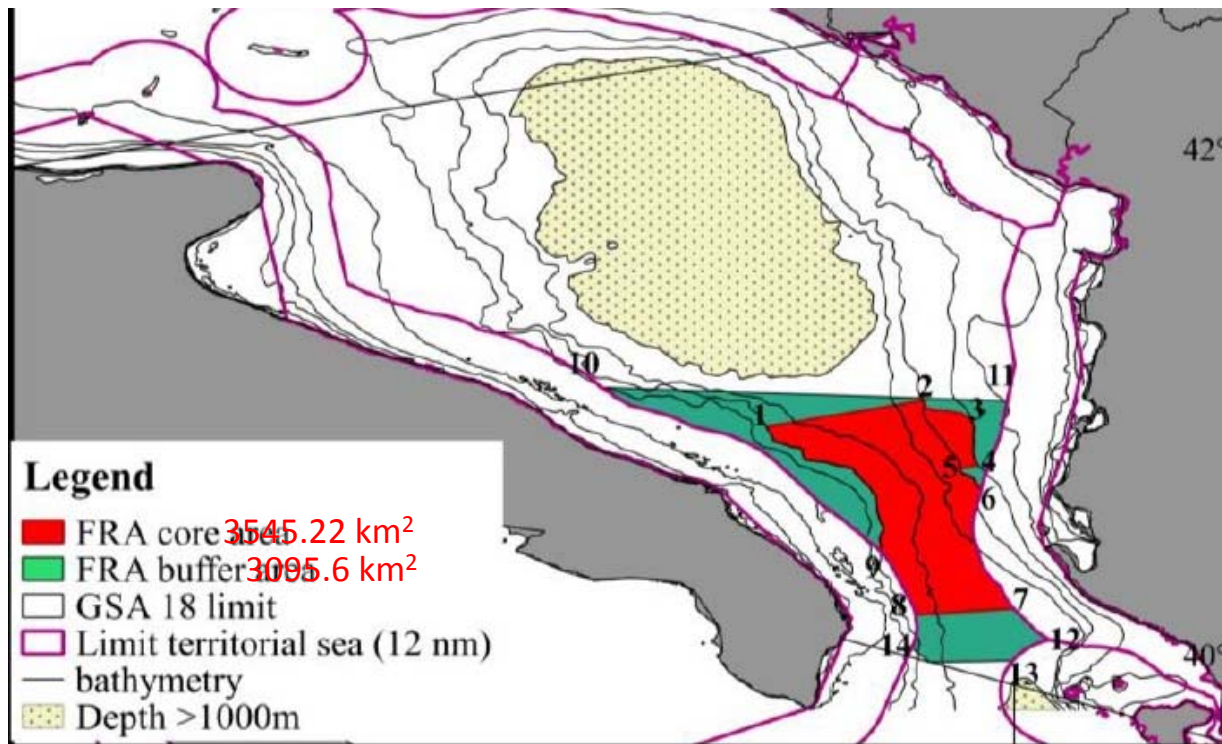
Area C: *Different measures on different gears*

A FRA in the Jabuka/Pomo Pit area in the Adriatic Sea, with a view to contributing to the protection of VMEs and important essential fish habitats for demersal stocks such as *M. merluccius* and *N. norvegicus*



Fisheries Restricted Areas - FRAs

GFCM FRA new proposal for “Deep water EFH and sensitive habitats in the South Adriatic”



A **FRA in the South Adriatic (Otranto)** has been proposed by a group of organizations with a view to contributing to the protection of VMEs EFHs for deep-waters stocks and cold water-corals

Core Area:
Permanent closure of the area to any professional or recreational fishing activity.

Buffer Area:

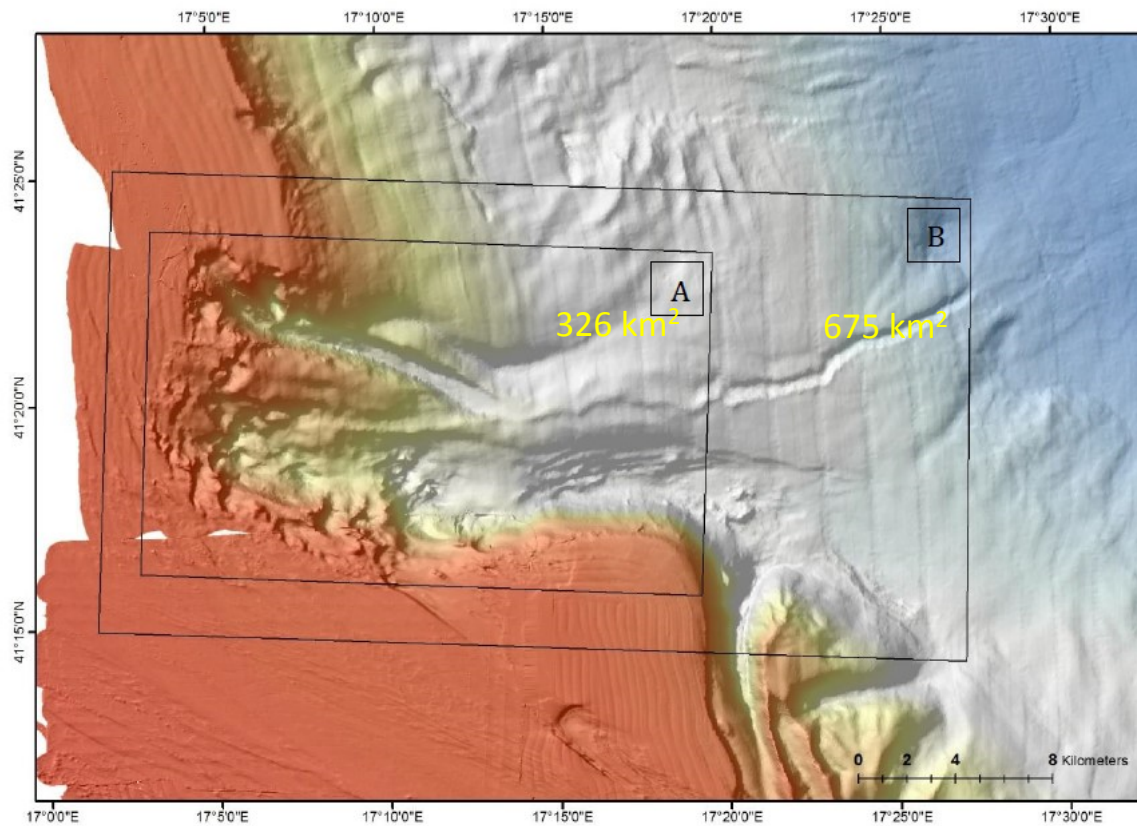
Licensing: Special Authorization

Temporal: Not more than 2 days/week



Fisheries Restricted Areas - FRAs

GFCM FRA new proposal “Bari Canyons”



FRA Bari Canyon proposed area. A) Core Area, B) Buffer Area.

A FRA in the Bari Canyons has been proposed by a group of organizations with a view to contributing to the protection of VMEs EFHs for different species such as *M. merluccius* and *P. bogaraveo*

Core Area:
Permanent closure of the area to any professional or recreational fishing activity.

Buffer Area:
Different measures on different gears



Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance SPAMI

SPAMIs are registered in the SPAMI List. Their inclusion is decided by consensus of the Meeting of the Parties. The SPAMI status creates two obligations:

Parties concerned must adopt protection and management measures related to the SPAMI;

Parties as a whole shall respect these measures (art. 9, para. 5).

39 sites have been included in the SPAMI List so far, including four new ones on November 2019. Concerning the relation of this network with third States, those are simply invited to cooperate to ensure the implementation of the Protocol, with respect to the international law (art. 28)

SPAMI

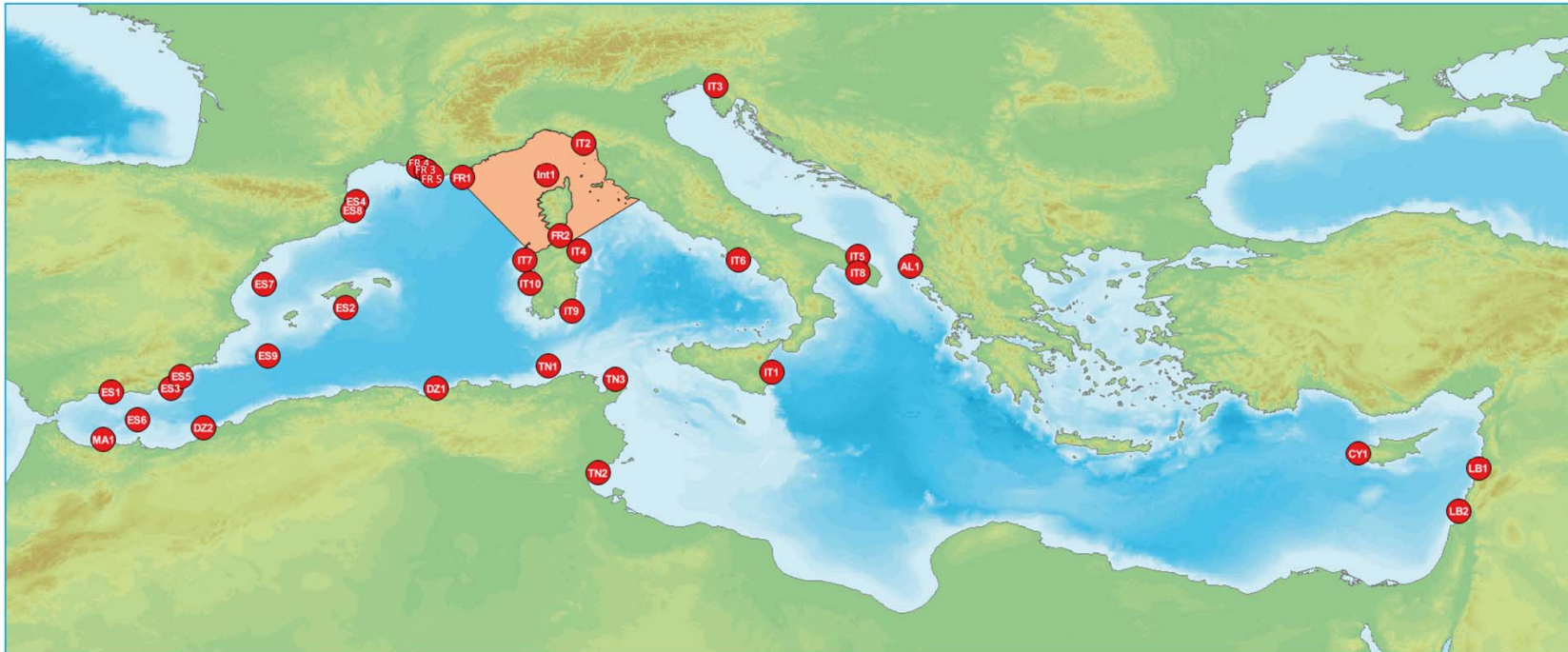


The SPAMI Listing Criteria

The SPAMI List « *may include sites which are of importance for conserving the components of biological diversity in the Mediterranean ; contain ecosystems specifics to the Mediterranean area of the habitats of endangered species ; are of special interest at the scientific, aesthetic, cultural or educational levels* » (art. 8, para. 2).

The SPA/BD Protocol (Annex 1 (Paragraph B. 2)) defined the following 5 criteria to assess the Mediterranean regional value of a candidate SPAMI:

- 1. Uniqueness:** The area contains unique or rare ecosystems, or rare or endemic species.
- 2. Natural representativeness:** The area has highly representative ecological processes, or community or habitat types or other natural characteristics.
- 3. Diversity:** The area has a high diversity of species, communities, habitats or ecosystems.
- 4. Naturalness:** The area has a high degree of naturalness as a result of the lack or low level of human-induced disturbance and degradation.
- 5. Presence of habitats that are critical** to endangered, threatened or endemic species.



SPAMI

SPAMIs and their year of inclusion in the SPAMI List: 35 sites (as per last update of the SPAMI List in December 2017)

ALBANIA

- AL1.Karaburun Sazan National Marine Park (2016)

ALGERIA

- DZ1.Banc des Kabyles Marine Reserve (2005)
DZ2.Habibas Islands (2005)

CYPRUS

- CY1. Lara – Toxeftra Turtle Reserve (2013)**

FRANCE

- FR1.Port-Cros National Park (2001)
FR2.Natural Reserve of Bouches de Bonifacio (2009)
FR3.The Blue Coast Marine Park (2012)
FR4.The Embiez Archipelago - Six Fours (2012)
FR5.Calanques National Park - (2017)

ITALY

- IT1.** Plemmino Protected Area (2008)
IT2. Marine Protected Area of Portofino (2005)
IT3. Miramare Marine Protected Area (2008)
IT4. Tavolara-Punta Coda Cavallo Marine Protected Area (2008)
IT5. Marine Protected Area of Torre Guaceto (2008)
IT6. Marine Protected Area Punta Campanella (2009)
IT7. Marine Protected Area of Capo Caccia-Isola Piana (2009)
IT8. Porto Cesareo Marine Protected Area (2012)
IT9. Capo Carbonara Marine Protected Area (2012)
IT10. Marine Protected Area of Penisola del Sinis (2012)

LEBANON

- LB1.Palm Islands Nature Reserve (2012)
LB2.Tyre Coast Nature Reserve (2012)

MOROCCO

- MA1.Al-Hoceima National Park (2009)

SPAIN

- ES1. Maro-Cerro Gordo Cliffs (2003)
ES2. Archipelago of Cabrera National Park (2003)
ES3. Natural Park of Cabo de Gata-Níjar (2001)
ES4. Natural Park of Cap de Creus (2001)
ES5. Sea Bottom of the Levante of Almería (2001)
ES6. Alboran Island (2001)
ES7. Columbretes Islands (2001)
ES8. Medes Islands (2001)

- ES9.Mar Menor (2001)**

TUNISIA

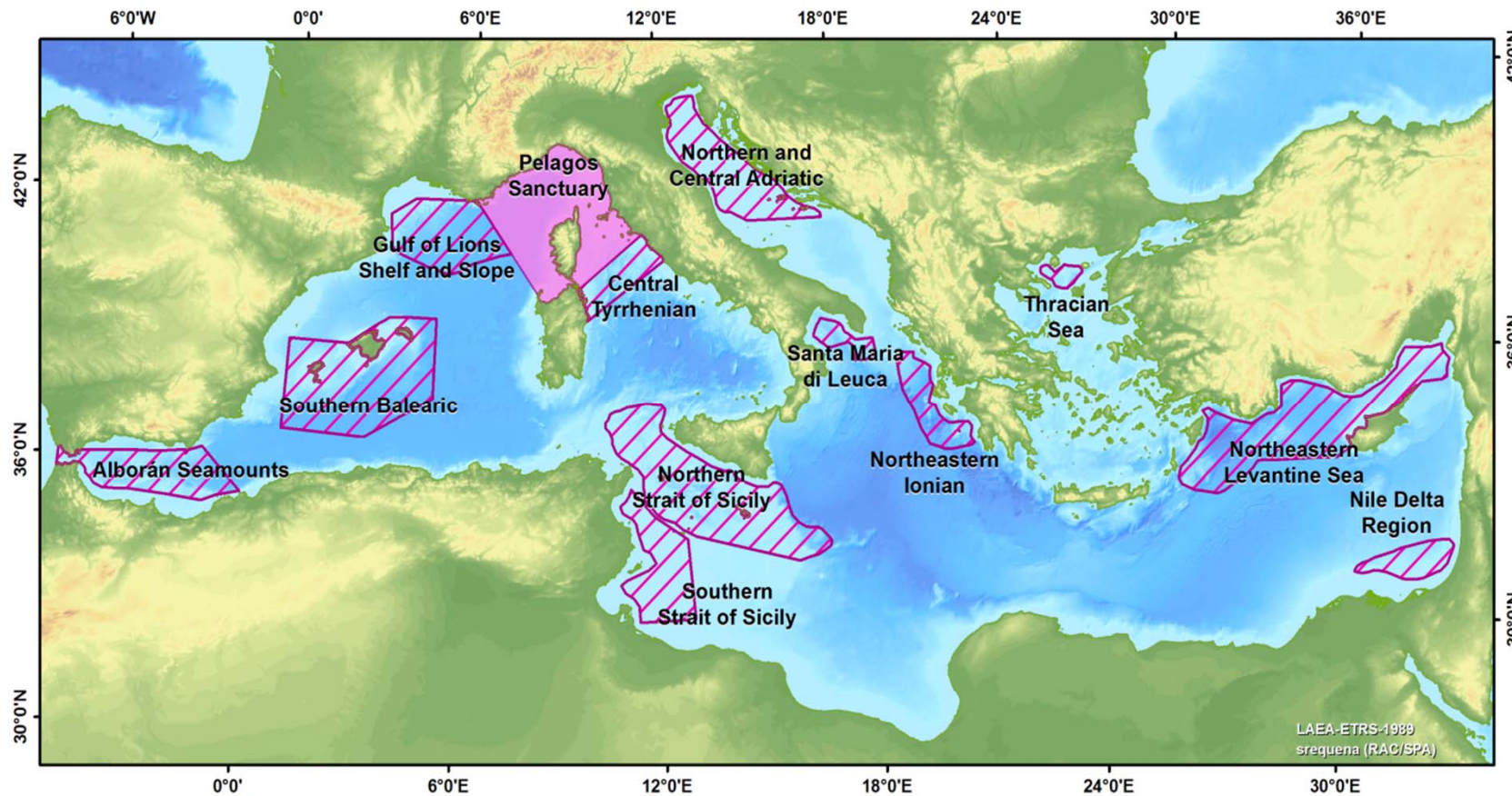
- TN1.**La Galite Archipelago (2001)
TN2.Kneiss Islands (2001)
TN3.Zembra and Zembretta National Park (2001)

FRANCE, ITALY AND MONACO

- Int1.** Pelagos Sanctuary for the Conservation of Marine Mammals (2001)

SPAMI

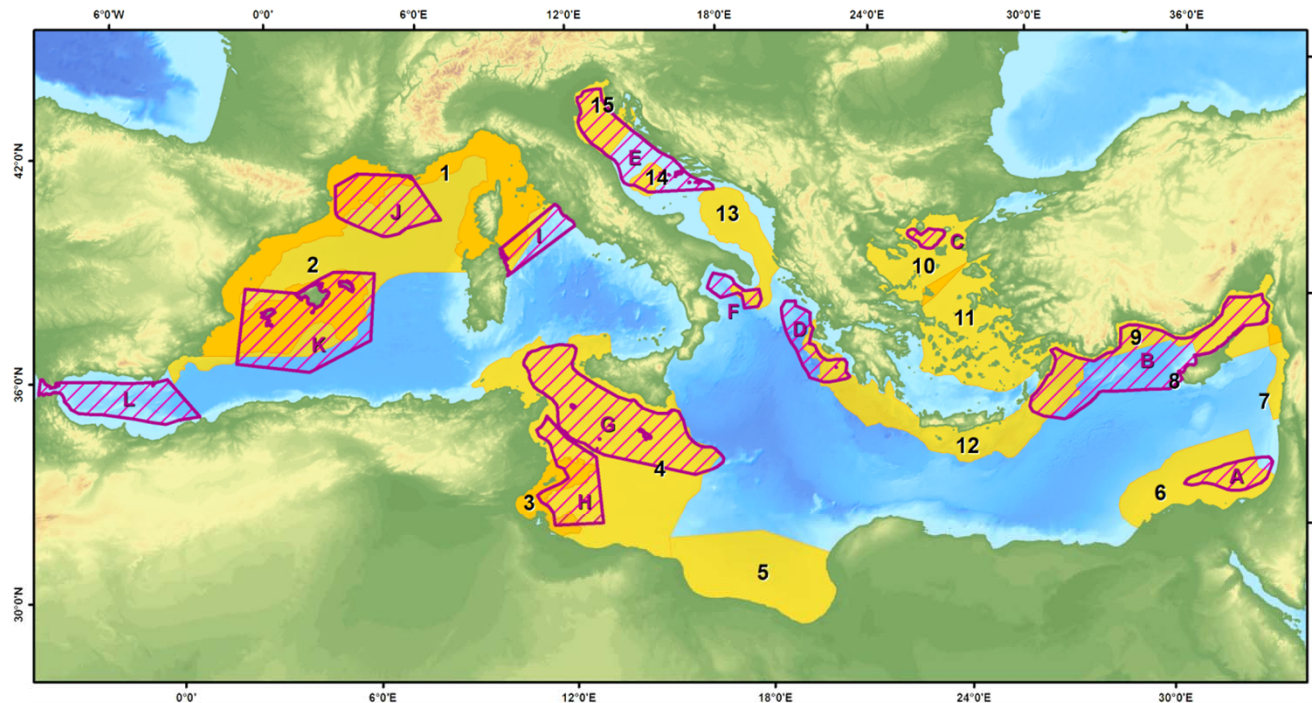
Identification of future SPAMIs embracing the open seas



Priority conservation areas in the open seas, including the deep seas, likely to contain sites that could be candidates for the SPAMI List

(Extraordinary Meeting of the Focal Points for SPAs. Istanbul, Turkey, 1 June 2010)

Identification of future SPAMIs embracing the open sea



Ecologically or Biologically Significant Areas (EBSAs)*

1 EBSAs

Overlapping area
between EBSAs

1. North-western Mediterranean Pelagic Ecosystems
2. North-western Mediterranean Benthic Ecosystems
3. Gulf of Gabès
4. Sicilian Channel
5. Gulf of Sirte
6. Nile Delta Fan
7. East Levantine Canyons (ELCA)
8. Akamas and Chrysochou Bay
9. North-East Levantine Sea
10. North Aegean Sea
11. Central Aegean Sea
12. Hellenic Trench
13. South Adriatic Ionian Strait
14. Jabuka / Pomo Pit
15. Northern Adriatic

* CBD's COP 2014 (Pyeongchang, Rep. Korea)

Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMIs)*

SPAMI potential areas

- A. Nile Delta Region
- B. Northeastern Levantine Sea
- C. Thracian Sea
- D. Northeastern Ionian
- E. Northern and Central Adriatic
- F. Santa Maria di Leuca
- G. Northern Strait of Sicily
- H. Southern Strait of Sicily
- I. Central Tyrrhenian
- J. Gulf of Lions Shelf and Slope
- K. Southern Balearic
- L. Alborán Seamounts

* Extr. Meet. of the F.P. for SPAs (Istanbul, Turkey, 2010)

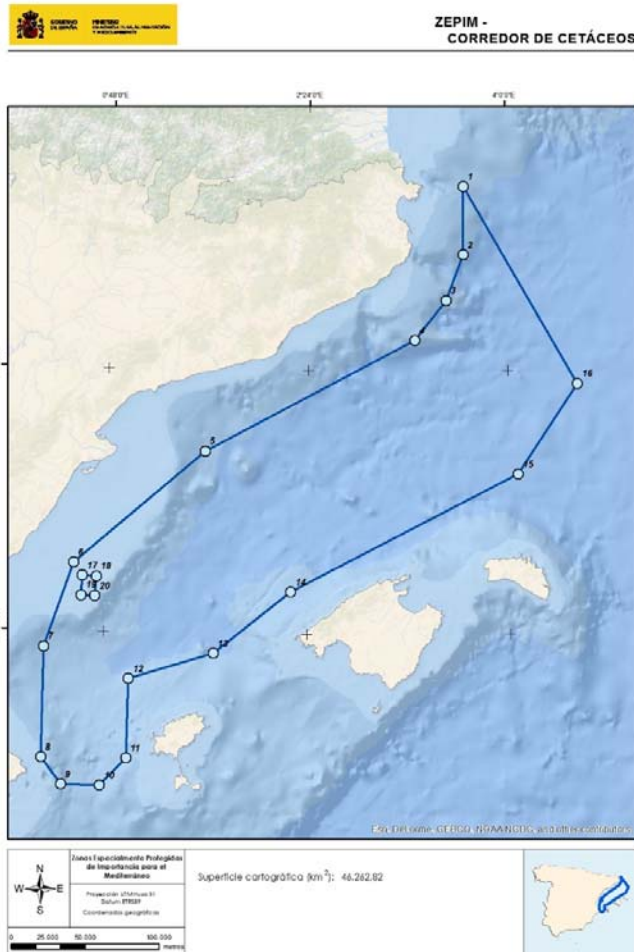
LAEA-ETRS-1989
GIS: RAC/SPA-S. Requena. Vers. April, 2015.

Mediterranean EBSAs in the CBD repository system and priority conservation areas for potential SPAMI candidates.

Current EBSAs satisfactorily cover most of the 2010 defined Priority Conservation Areas



Identification of future SPAMIs embracing the open sea



Spanish Cetacean Corridor

National MPA officially declared on 30 June 2018, bringing closer target 11 in the Mediterranean

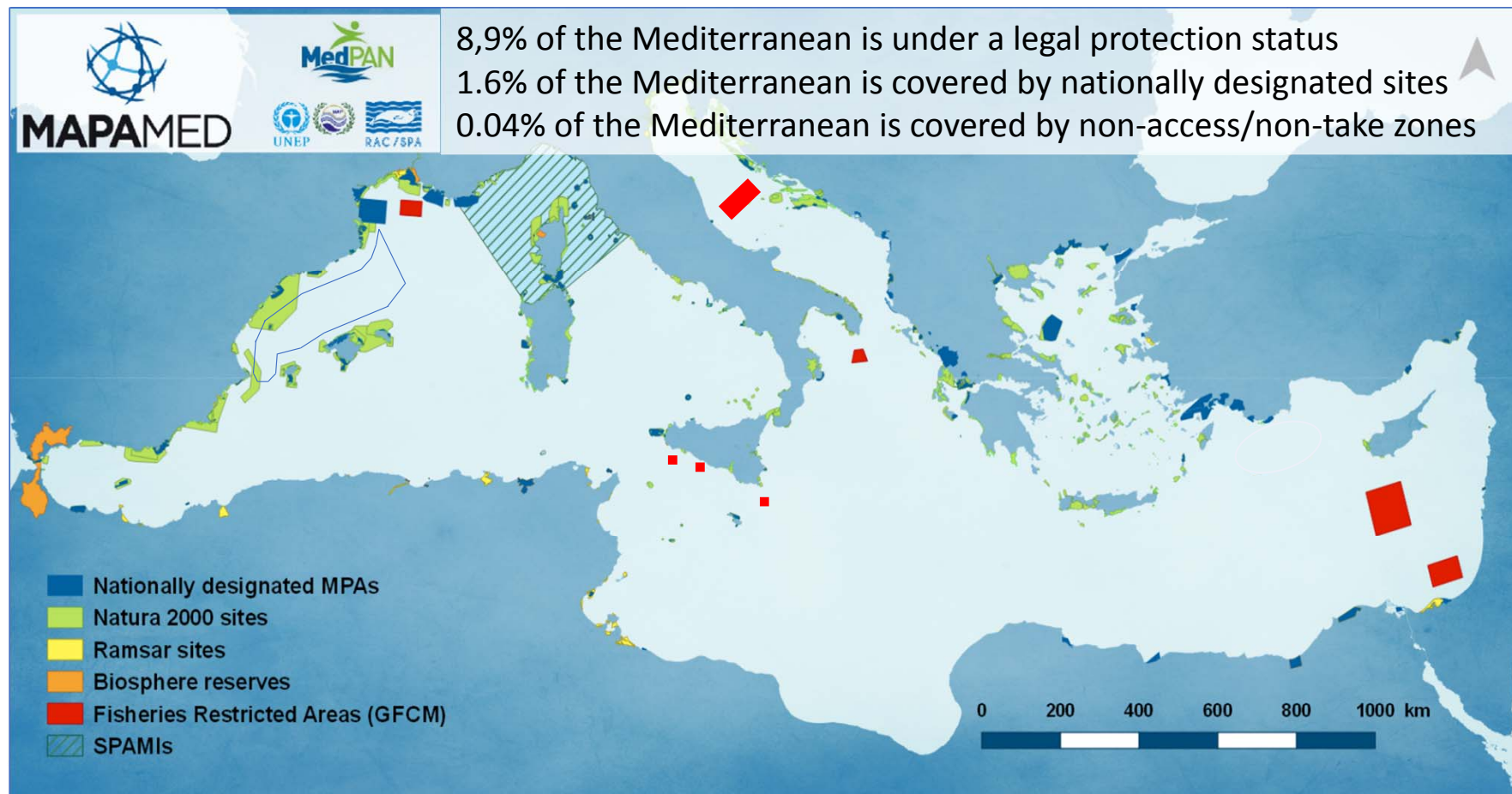
It is since November 2019 a **large SPAMI (46262,82 km²)** located in open seas, including deep seas, expected for 2019, and fully within **North-western Mediterranean Benthic Ecosystems EBSA and North-western Mediterranean Pelagic Ecosystems EBSA**

Willing for transboundary cooperation expressed by Spain and France to reach the Aichi target 11 for the whole Mediterranean through a larger corridor joining Pelagos and current Cetacean Corridor

The Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas & OECMs Status

Aichi Target 11 and SDG 14 are not limited to 10% of MPAs and OECM managed efficiently and equitably by 2020, but implies many qualitative improvements:

- Legal frameworks and governance
- Availability of funding
- Management planning
- Adapted human resources
- Regulation and monitoring
- Stakeholder engagement
- Integration of MSP





United Nations
Environment Programme



Mediterranean Action Plan
Barcelona Convention



SPA / RAC

*The Mediterranean
Biodiversity
Centre*

Thanks
For your attention!

François Simard

Expert

SPA/RAC consultant

Regional Activity Centre

UN Environment Programme / Mediterranean Action Plan