

STAKEHOLDER PERCEPTION ON MARITIME SPATIAL PLANNING



STIMULATING IMPLEMENTATION
OF MARITIME SPATIAL PLANNING IN
THE NORTHERN EUROPEAN ATLANTIC





« This kind of initiative is valuable
to better understand each other »

SIMNORAT

**AN EU FUNDED PROJECT RUNNING
FROM 2017 TO 2019**



The two main objectives were to :

- Support countries in their own implementation of the EU Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) Directive
- Foster cross-border cooperation on MSP

Partnership

Partners from France, Spain and Portugal + the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions

Area of interest

OSPAR region IV
(Biscay Bay
and Iberian Coasts)



universidade
de aveiro

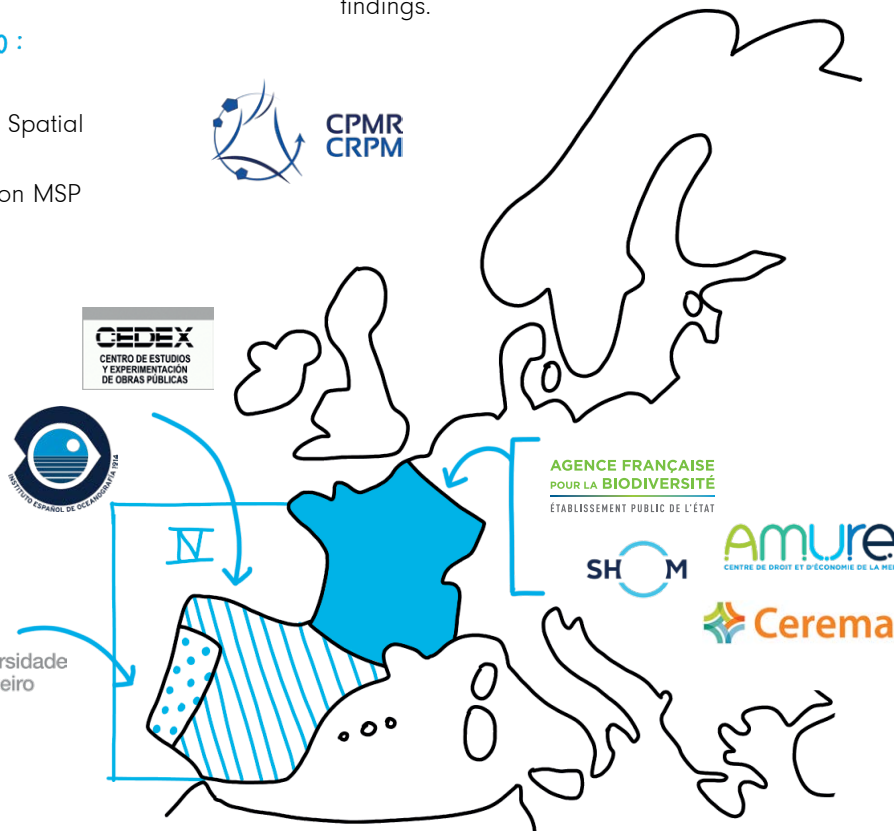


CPMR
CRPM

Stakeholder engagement

A component of the project aims at testing methods to engage stakeholders in MSP processes, particularly regarding cross-border stakes and issues.

This document sums up the main findings.



A EUROPEAN COMMON FRAMEWORK: INTEGRATED MARITIME POLICY

EU Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP) is based on the idea that Member States can create higher returns from seas and oceans with less impact on the environment.

Cross-cutting policies covered

IMP addresses multi-sector based policies that require coordination of different sectors and actors.

Objectives



MARITIME SPATIAL PLANNING DIRECTIVE (2014/89/UE)



« At sea, there is now a diversity of activities. It becomes a sort of need to organise things. »

Objectives



Reduce
Conflicts
Between sectors



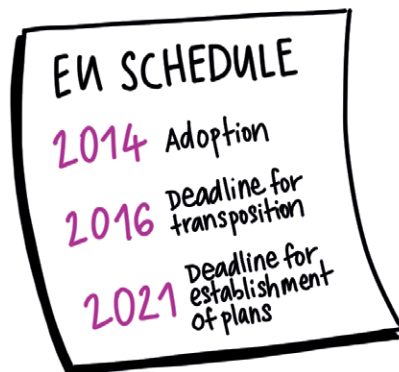
Environmental
Quality
Targeted by MSFD



Cross-Border
Cooperation



Encourage
Investments
By creating predictability



Some guiding principles ...



Holistic Approach
To address every maritime sectors' needs



Ecosystem-Based
Approach



Stakeholder
engagement



Coherence between
Sector-Based Policies



Land-Sea
Interactions
To be taken into account

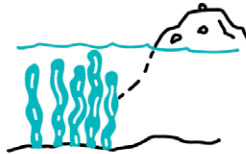
Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) Towards the "Good Environmental Status"

→ It is the environmental pillar of the EU Integrated Maritime Policy
→ Each country is to set an Action Plan to achieve the "Good Environmental Status" by 2020

OSPAR IV REGION AT STAKE

MARINE ENVIRONMENT

Many different types of Coastal habitats, such as rocky, sandy and muddy shores or estuaries



Fish communities show signs of recovery in some areas



Deep ecosystems all along the continental slope



Eutrophication

About 30 species of cetaceans and 7 species of seals (4 identified as "threatened species" by the IUCN)



Bycatch of marine mammals



Benthic habitats affected by bottom fishing



"Region at stake" for migratory bird species

Marine Litter



Rich Biodiversity

Environmental Issues

Marine Protected Areas

349 MPAs

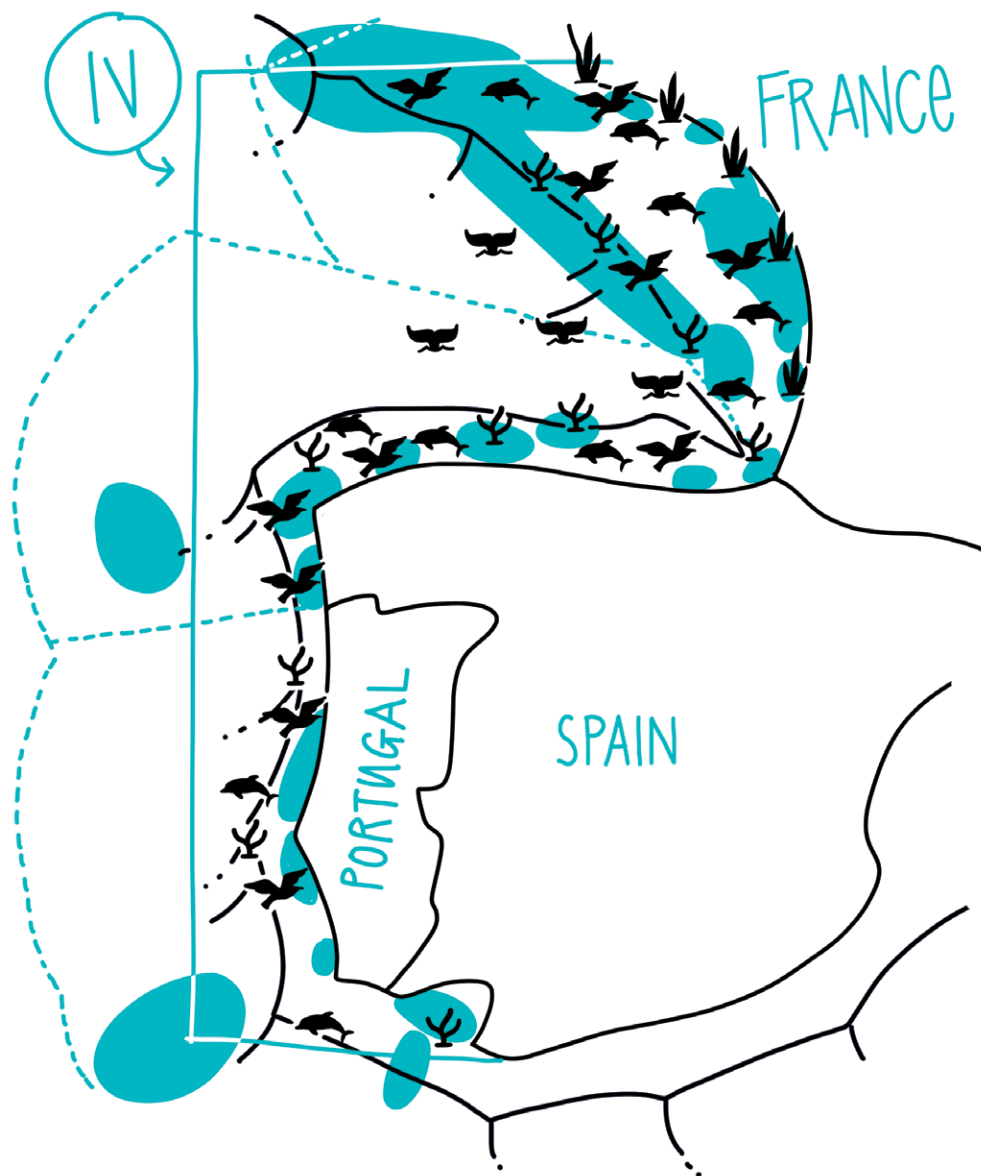
(200 N2000 MPAs)

18.1% Of OSPAR IV
Region covered
by MPAs

18 different MPA
Categories over
the three countries

Coastal areas better
covered (33.2%) than
offshore waters (16.6%)

-  Deep-sea ecosystems
-  Seagrass beds
-  Seabirds
-  Small dolphins
-  Fin whale
-  MPA

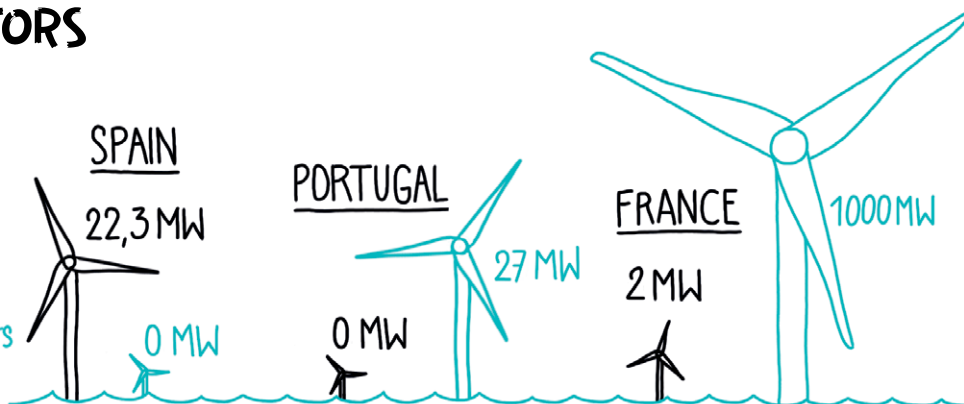


OSPAR IV REGION AT STAKE

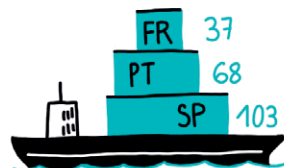
ECONOMIC SECTORS

MARINE RENEWABLE ENERGIES

Capacity of pilot projects
Capacity of Licenced projects

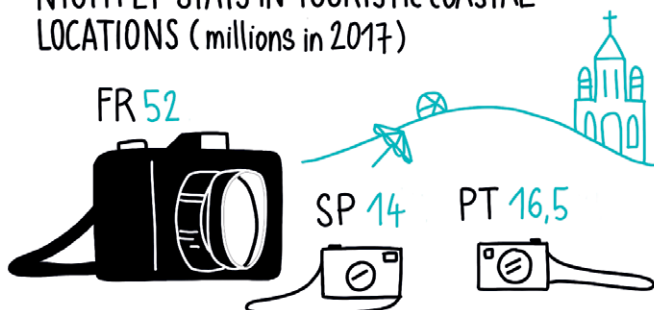


FISHING EMPLOYMENT

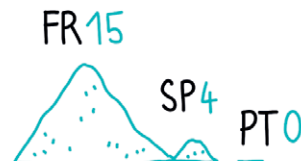


GOODS PASSING THROUGH PORTS
(millions of tonnes in 2017)

NIGHTLY STAYS IN TOURISTIC COASTAL LOCATIONS (millions in 2017)



AGGREGATE EXTRACTION Mining Licenses



Oil and gas exploitation
prohibited in France

The Region
represents



37%

of the EU aquaculture
production



527M€
of turnover
for fishing

More than
1600
Swimming areas

and
500
marinas



Aquaculture



Operational pilot windfarm



Windfarm in project

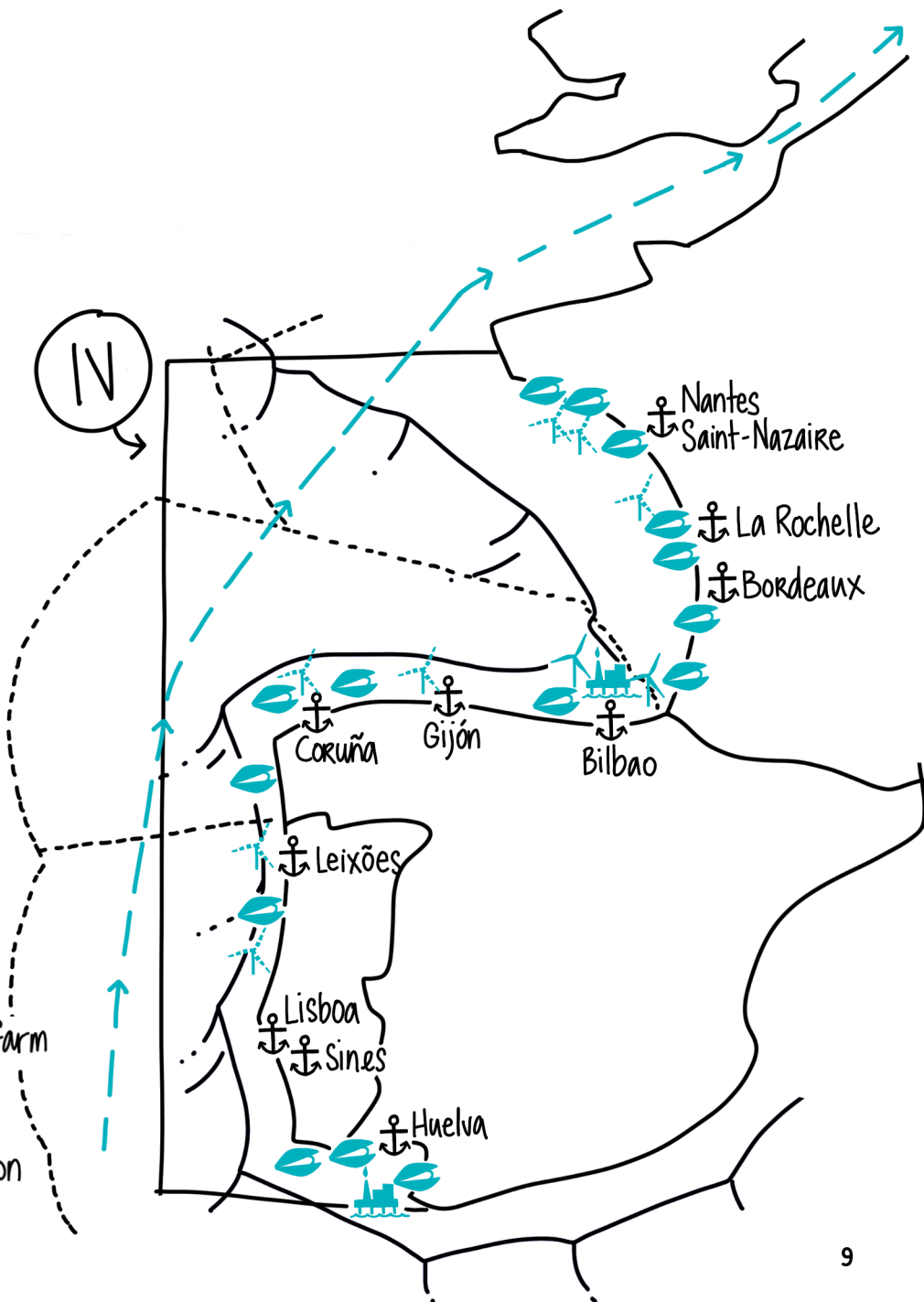


Oil and gas exploitation



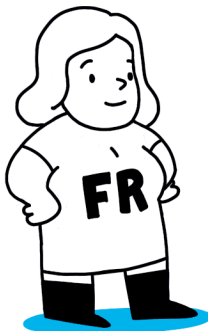
Main port

IV



MSP in France

- Implemented with MSFD by the **“Documents Stratégiques de Façade”** (DSF)
- Two phases:
 - ▶ A **“strategic” phase** by mid-2019 → set environmental and socio-economic objectives and spatial plans, known as “Vocation Maps”
 - ▶ An **“operational” phase** by 2021 → set up a monitoring program and an action plan
- **State driven process** (coordination by the “Ministère de la Transition Ecologique et Solidaire”) with stakeholders’ engagement through the “Conseils Maritimes de Façade” (CMF)



MSP in Spain

- Implemented by the **“Planes de Ordenación del Espacio Marítimo”** (POEM), interlinked with MSFD documents
- Process is in its **initial phase**. Participation in European projects to share knowledge among neighbouring countries and initiate approaches that involve stakeholders from the initial stages
- Coordination by the **“Dirección General de Sostenibilidad de la Costa y del Mar** - Ministerio para la Transición Ecológica”. Creation of a **MSP-specialised working group** in the heart of the inter-ministerial committee for maritime strategies (also in charge of MSFD)



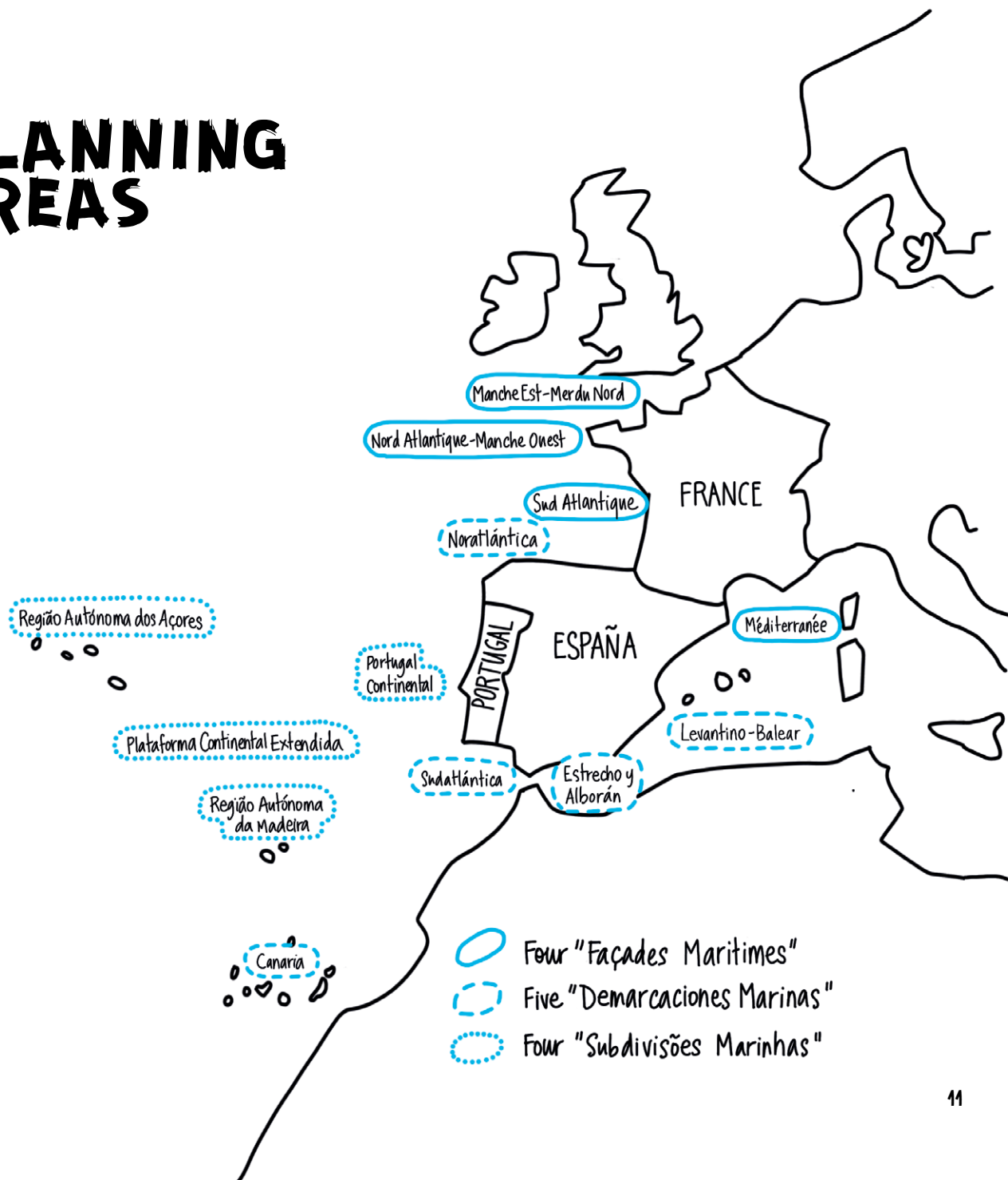
MSP in Portugal

- Implemented by the **“Plano de Situação do Ordenamento do Espaço Marítimo”** (PSOEM)
- Public consultation until 31 January 2019, expected adoption May 2019



- **Coordination by:**
 - ▶ The **“Direção-Geral de Recursos Naturais, Segurança e Serviços Marítimos – Ministério do Mar”** on Portugal Mainland and extended continental shelf
 - ▶ The **“Direção Regional do Ordenamento do Território e Ambiente”** (DROTA) on autonomous region of **Madeira**
 - ▶ The **“Direção Regional dos Assuntos do Mar”** on autonomous region of **Azores**

PLANNING AREAS

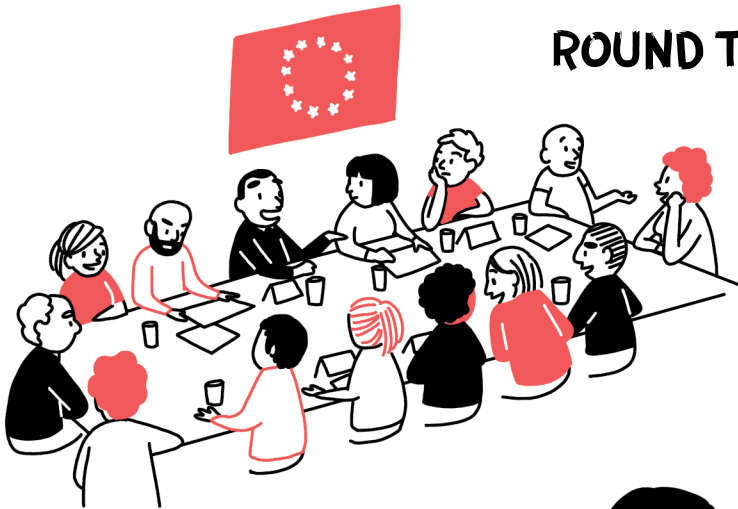


STAKEHOLDER OPINION

To understand stakeholder engagement in the context of the implementation of the MSP, different methods were tested to collect **“quotes” of stakeholders’ opinion.**



ROUND TABLES



BOARD GAMES





What they say about ...

MSP PROCESSES



EXPECTATIONS OF COMMON REFERENCES

"The idea is to try to accommodate maritime uses, based on common references, in order to create the conditions for sustainable development."

PERCEIVED LACK OF COORDINATION AT EVERY LEVEL

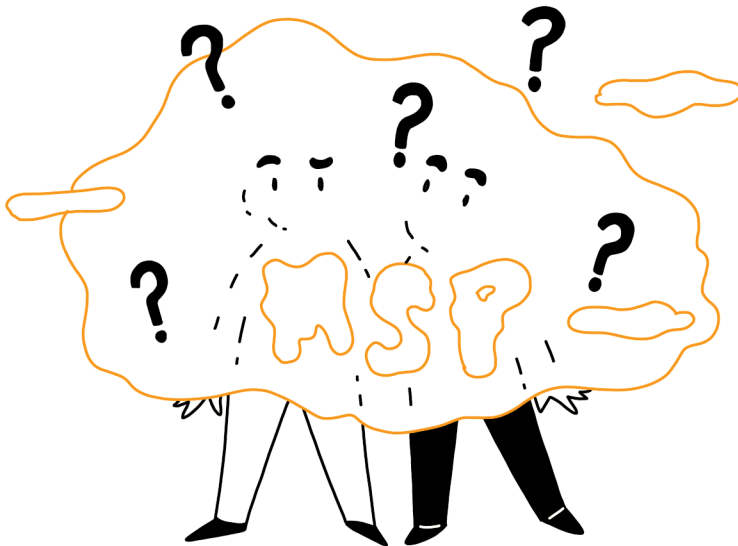
"I think that MSP is a big mess, there is no leader and a coordination body is missing."



EXPECTATIONS OF STREAMLINED LICENSING PROCEDURES

“Hopefully this process will reduce the bureaucracy that exists concerning licensing of processes.”

“There will be more legal security and a stronger incentive for some projects.”



CRITICISM OF THE LACK OF TRANSPARENCY IN THE DRAFTING OF PLANS

“There are coherent issues but there is a need to clarify the objectives to precisely know what we want and where we should go.”



What they say about ...

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT & GOVERNANCE

EXPECTATIONS OF AN EARLY ENGAGEMENT

“Transparency is important with the participation of all of the actors concerned from the very beginning.”



MSP SHOULD FACILITATE DISCUSSIONS

“Everyone is dealing with everything and there is no leader but MSP is not the “Far west”. It won’t be by fighting and arguing that we will solve conflicts. It should be done in a climate of peace with a gentlemen’s agreement.”

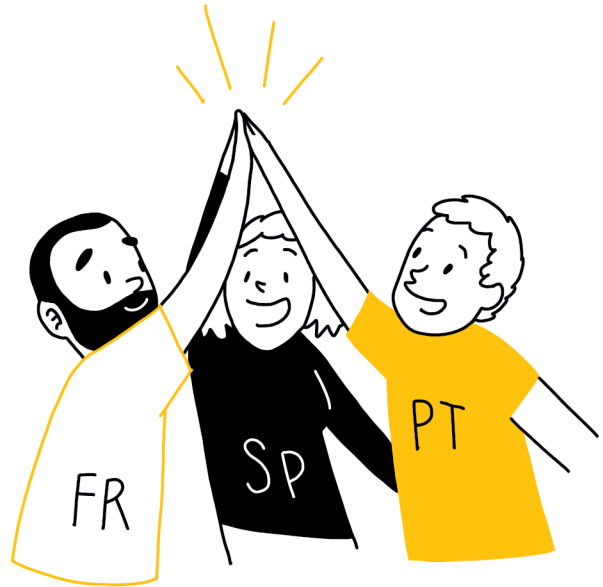
EXPECTATIONS OF DEEPER CONSULTATION WITH LESS SOLICITATIONS

"We haven't been consulted enough on the planning process."

"1000 pages to read!
Of course we didn't read it...
We don't have neither the time nor the skills necessary to assimilate all this in an organisation like ours.
We are too small!"

MORE
CONSULTATION

LESS
MEETINGS



NEED FOR CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION

"A permanent stakeholder transnational discussion forum might be a good idea."



What they say about...

ENVIRONMENT & CONSERVATION

CONSENSUS ON THE NEED FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT...

"We need sustainable development!"

"Preserving the environment can support economic development."



"If there is someone worried about environment, it's fishermen!"

**... HOWEVER THE
POINT OF VIEW THAT
THE INTERESTS OF
OTHERS IS ALWAYS
BETTER TAKEN INTO
ACCOUNT THAN
ONE'S OWN**

"For planning, we focus on economic activities, but not on environmental protection."



"As usual, environmental objectives are more important."



ALL RESPONSIBLE OR ONLY THE OTHERS?

"Fishing has an impact on ecosystems, but we aren't the only ones responsible!"

"From our point of view, fishing has the most impact on marine environment, but we still all want to eat fish."

"Impacts come particularly from terrestrial pollution."

"There is 500m of exclusion around offshore platforms, which becomes a blue oasis."



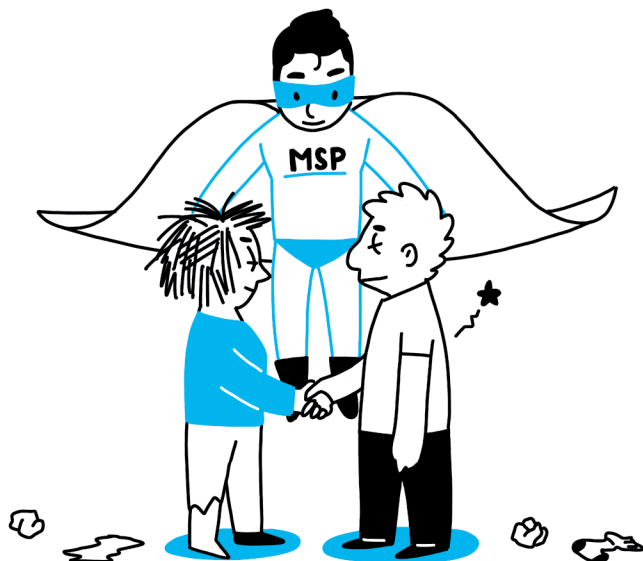
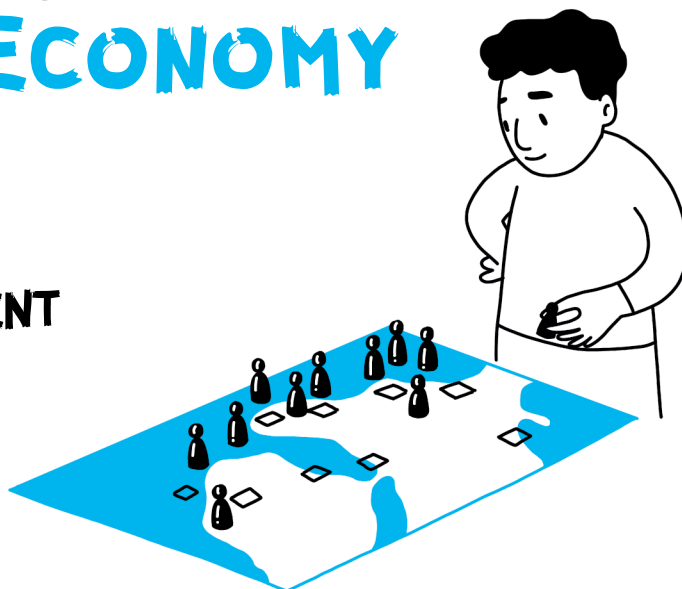


What they say about...

BLUE ECONOMY

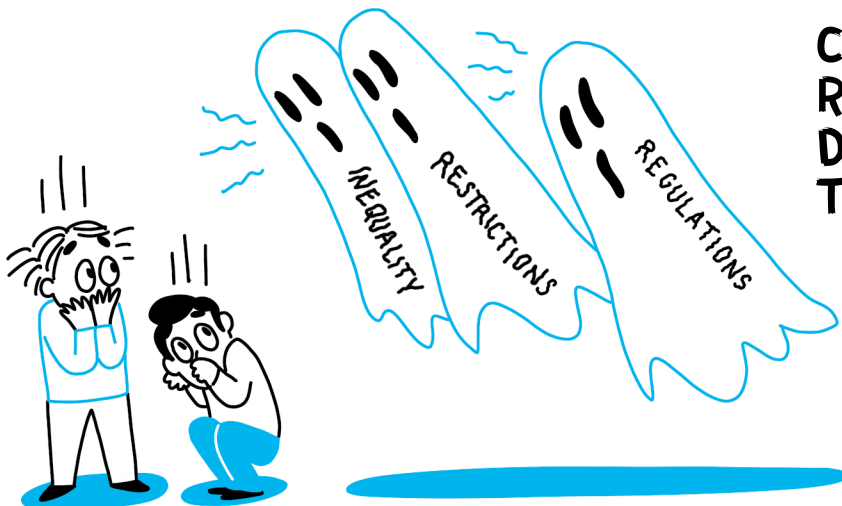
EXPECTATIONS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND VISIBILITY

“It is necessary to know what we can and can’t do: where activities need to be conciliated and where it’s important?”



EXPECTATIONS OF MSP CONFLICT RESOLUTIONS

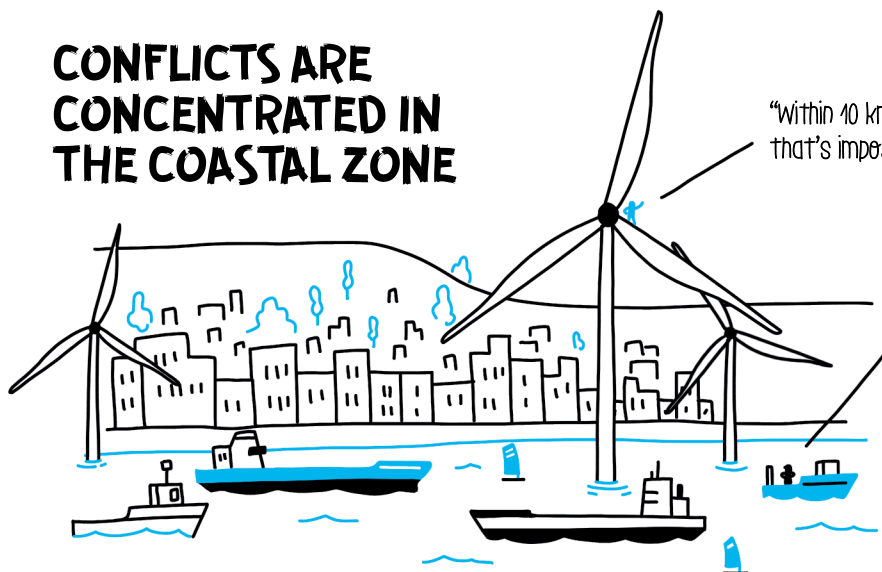
“We always think that the grass is always greener on the other side of the fence! But we all need to understand, accept and adapt over time!”



CONCERNS ABOUT RESTRICTIONS AND DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENTS

“Some sectors are less regulated than others: there are different rules between private or public sectors and between activities having an occupation title or not, such as fishing.”

CONFLICTS ARE CONCENTRATED IN THE COASTAL ZONE



“Within 10 km from the coasts, that’s impossible!”

“In our fishing area, 6 miles from the coasts, I predict that there’ll be 3 or 4 areas of conflict with other activities such as renewable energies, mining or exploitation of fossil resources.”

TO BE CONTINUED...

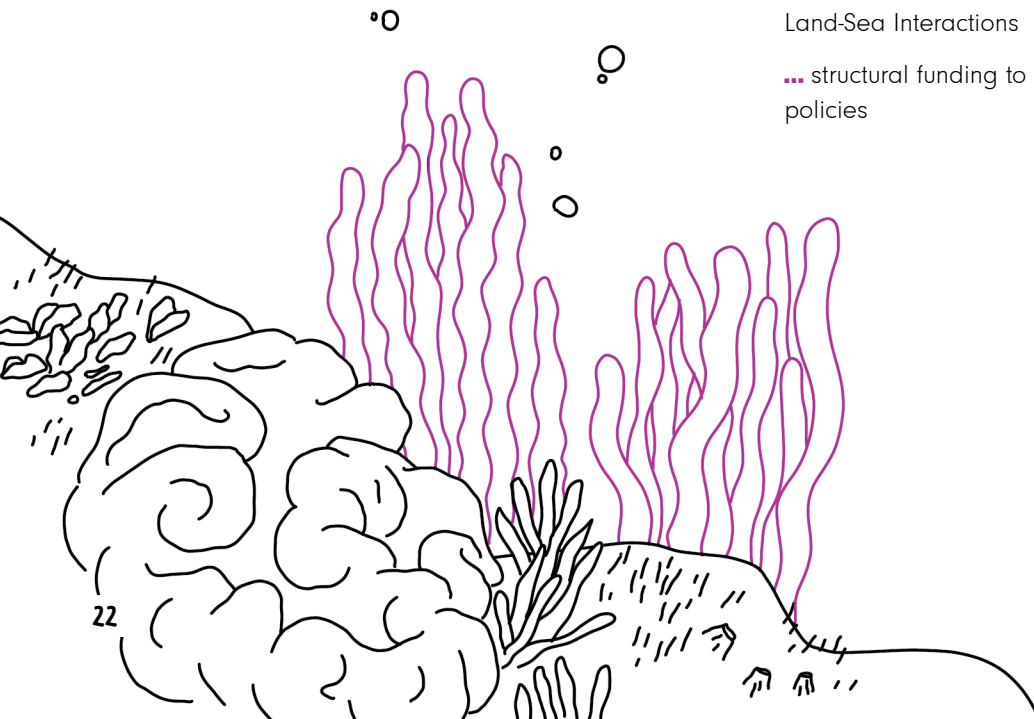
MSP brings many expectations but also many concerns, questions and criticisms... Every stakeholder holds a different point of view but there are some meeting points:

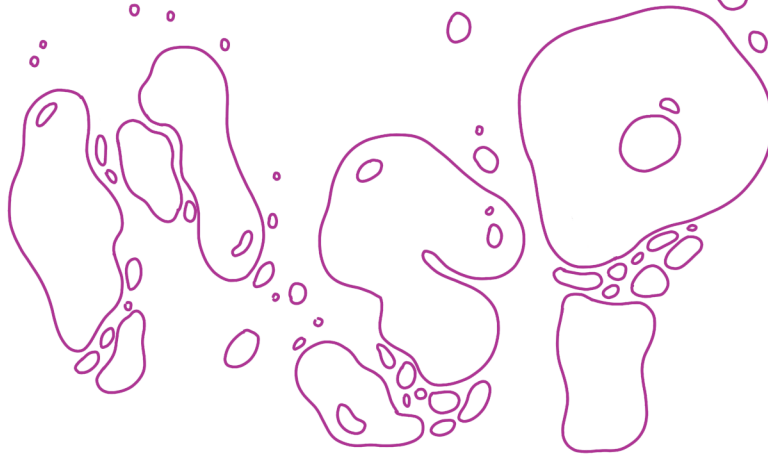
THE EXPECTATION THAT MSP...

- ... harmonises transnational policies and fosters cross-border cooperation
- ... brings greater coherence between policies and the implementation of directives at national level
- ... encourages knowledge sharing and collecting

BUT MSP STILL NEEDS...

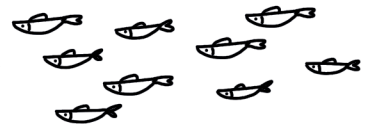
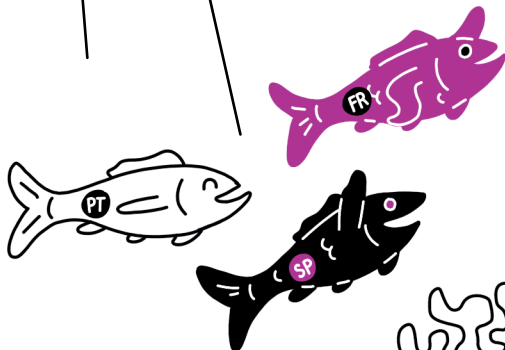
- ... shared baselines concerning sustainability and environmental protection
- ... a better organisation in stakeholder engagement and consultation
- ... a better organisation of maritime sectors and enhanced economic predictability
- ... to take better into account Climate Change and Land-Sea Interactions
- ... structural funding to facilitate the implementation of policies





“Hey look, they’re getting
their act together!”

“Thank goodness! I think
we’re going to make it...”



Coordination

**AGENCE FRANÇAISE
POUR LA BIODIVERSITÉ**
ÉTABLISSEMENT PUBLIC DE L'ÉTAT

Amure
CENTRE DE DROIT ET D'ÉCONOMIE DE LA MER

In partnership with



universidade
de aveiro



Co-funded by the
European Union

This report was produced as part of SIMNORAT Project
(Grant Agreement N0. EASME/EMFF/2015/1.2.1.3/03/SI2.742089).

The contents and conclusions of this report, including the maps and figures were developed by the participating partners with the best available knowledge at the time. They do not necessarily reflect the national governments' positions and are therefore not binding. The European Commission or Executive Agency for Small and Medium sized Enterprises is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains.