

NORTH WESTERN marine waters of IBERIAN COAST

| SIMNORAT

Roadmap for a cross - border MARINE PROTECTED AREA

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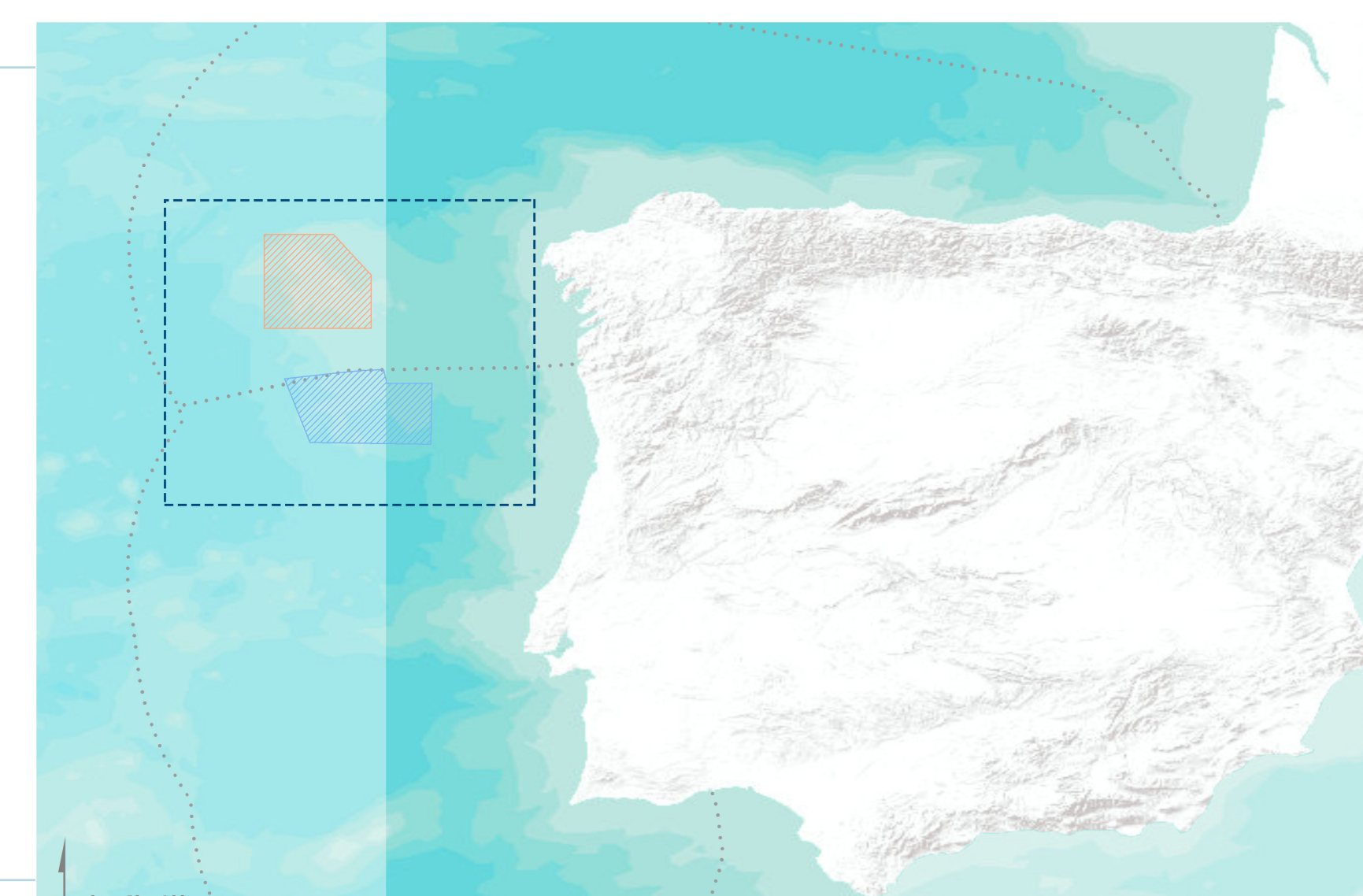


Objective

Propose a conceptual methodology to create and manage a cross-border Marine Protected Area (MPA) between Portugal and Spain. In order to achieve this, the case study is focused on the existing Spanish MPA of Galicia Bank and on the Vigo and Vasco da Gama seamounts, located in the western limit of the geologic continental platform and on the northern limit of the Portuguese jurisdictional area.

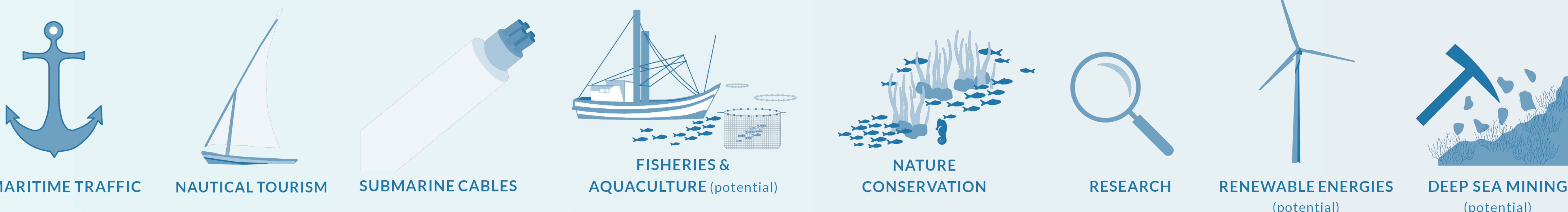
The following steps are addressed:

- Identification of the existing uses and activities, as well as the major pressures;
- Analysis of the governance framework in Spain and Portugal regarding marine conservation and maritime spatial planning;
- Comparative analysis of Portuguese and Spanish marine and coastal planning policies and management tools;
- Development of a roadmap for a cross-border MPA between Spain and Portugal.



Uses & activities

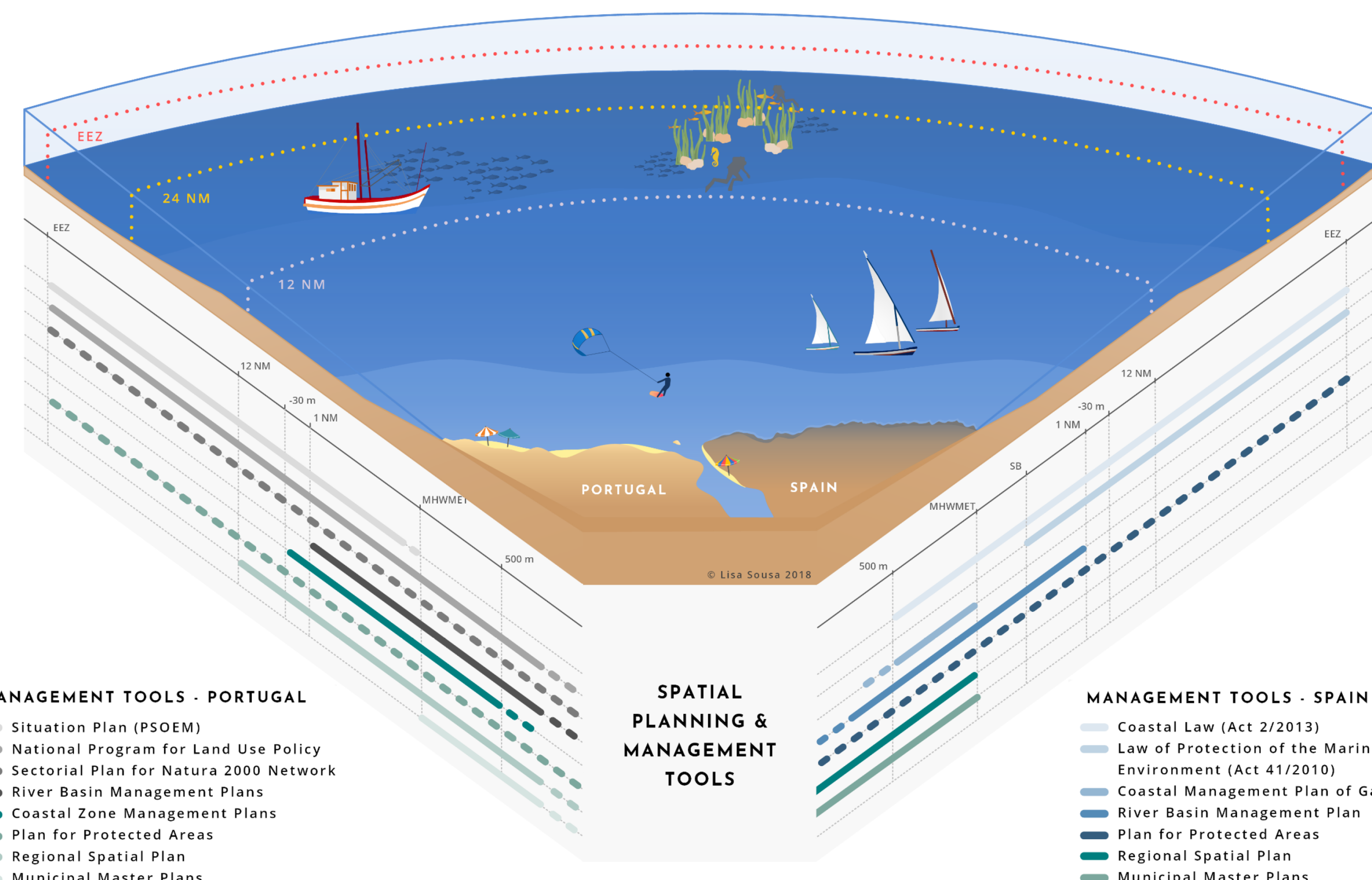
Existing and potential uses and activities within the study area.



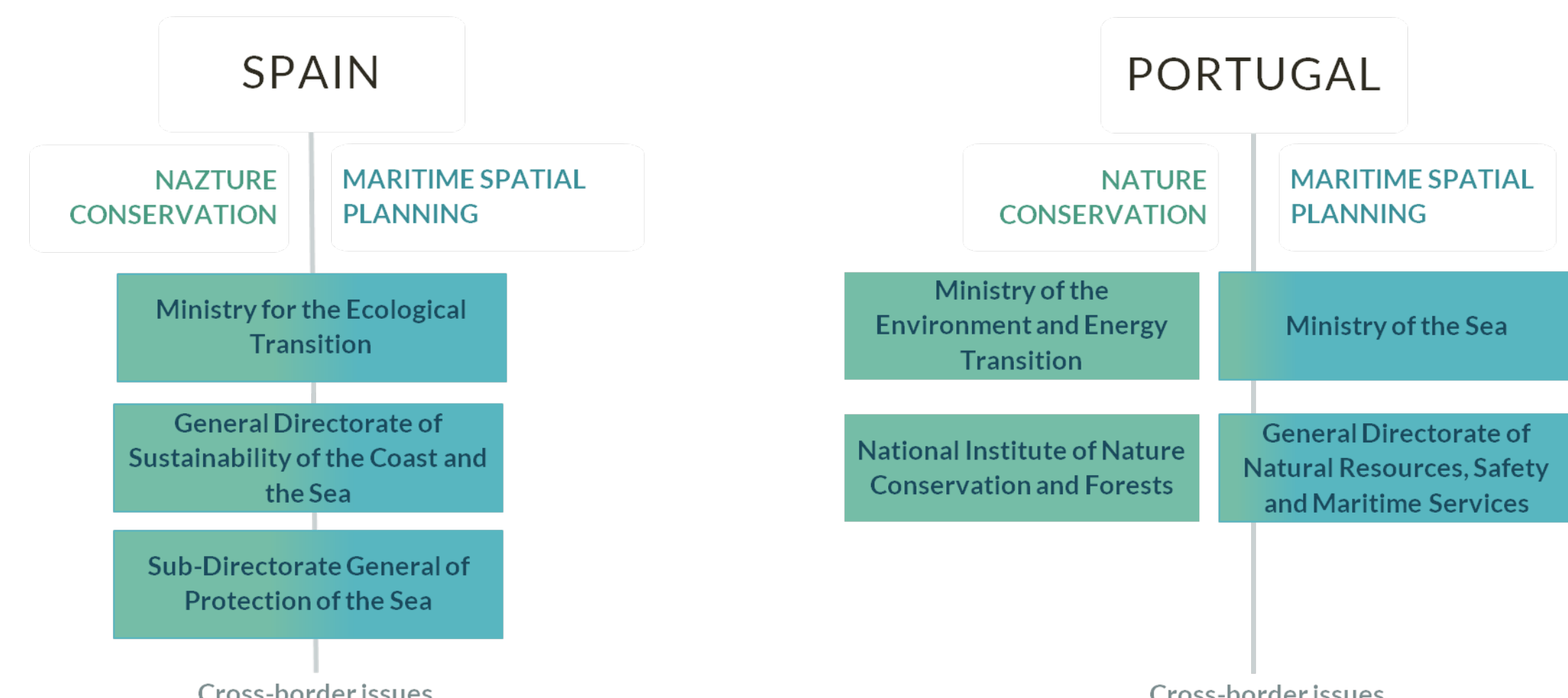
Governance Framework

Portugal and Spain have different governance frameworks regarding planning policies and management tools, and institutional framework for MSP and nature conservation. While Portuguese institutions responsible for MSP implementation and nature conservation are different, in Spain the competences are held by the same institution.

Marine & coastal PLANNING POLICIES and MANAGEMENT TOOLS



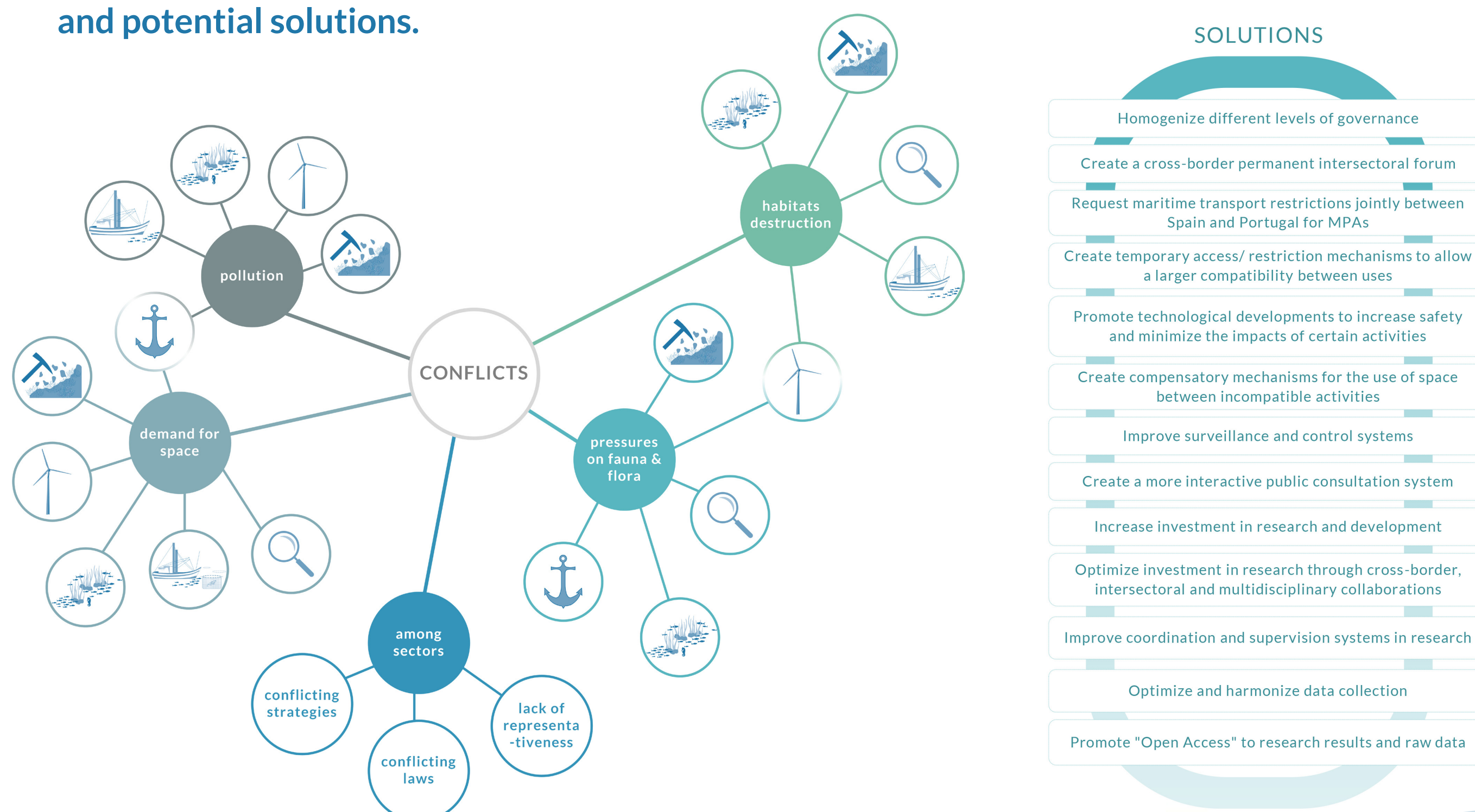
Institutional framework for NATURE CONSERVATION & MSP



Stakeholders' perceptions

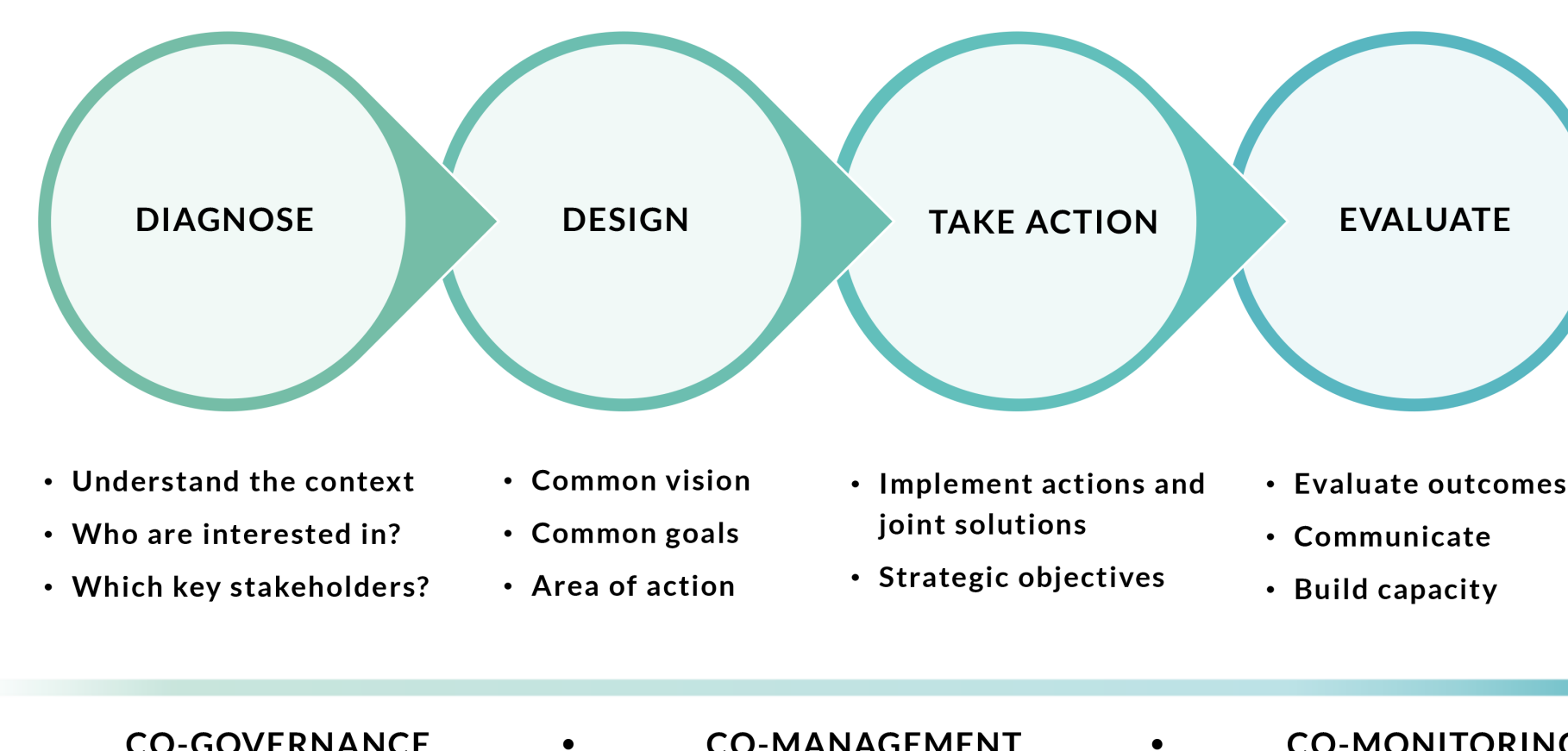
A cross-border workshop involving Spanish and Portuguese stakeholders was held in Vigo (Spain) to address the potential implementation of a cross-border MPA.

Aim: identify and spatially translate the interactions among sectors, synergies, conflicts, gaps and potential solutions.



Roadmap Steps

Proposal of major steps for a cross-border MPA within the context of the MSP process. Different political, cultural and economic contexts, as well as the volume of marine water administrated by each country need to be addressed. To create and implement a cross-border MPA it is essential to define a common governance framework and common management goals, through cooperation among responsible institutions of each country.



PLANNING THE
NORTHERN EUROPEAN
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Final conference

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January
2019
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Co-funded by the
European Union