MAIA

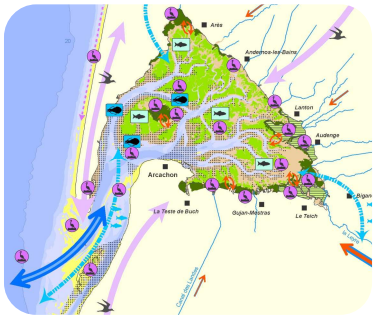
Marine protected areas in the Atlantic arc

First Conference of the Atlantic Arc Marine Protected Areas Network

1re Conférence du réseau d'aires marines protégées de l'arc atlantique

MAIA Workshop
3 - 5 December 2012

Arcachon, France



Workshop Proceedings

Agence des aires marines protégées

January 2013

Agence des aires marines protégées

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Agence des aires marines protégées

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[Published by] Agence des aires marines protégées
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Work quotation: Tom Hooper, Laure Friedrich, January 2013. Proceedings of the First Conference of the Atlantic Arc Marine Protected Areas Network, Agence des aires marines protégées – MAIA, Brest, France.

This publication is supported by the European Union (ERDF European Regional Development Fund), within the Interreg IV B Atlantic Area Programme, under the Objective 2.2. "Sustainable management and protection of the resources of marine spaces".

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Proceedings of the "First Conference of the Atlantic Arc Marine Protected Areas Network"

This conference has been organised by the Agence des aires marines protégées, the MAIA project partnership, in close cooperation with the preparatory unit for the proposed *parc naturel marin* of the Bassin d'Arcachon and the MeshAtlantic (Mapping European Seabed Habitats) project team.

The aim is to promote the development of a well-managed MPA network in the Atlantic arc by gathering MPA practitioners and organisations to share their experiences and to consolidate the momentum created by the project. This First Conference of the Atlantic Arc MPA Network is also the opportunity to formally launch the MAIA network, extending it to the Atlantic region as a whole.

Monday 3rd Dec. 2012 – Conference Side Event:

"Marine habitats mapping for MPA management", in cooperation with the MeshAtlantic Project

Tuesday 4th Dec. 2012 – 1st Conference of the Atlantic MPA network:

"MAIA achievements and role in the political context of the Atlantic Arc"

Morning session: **MAIA project outputs**

Afternoon sessions: **MPA practitioners and stakeholders expectations for the future MAIA network (working groups)**

MAIA connections with European policies and Regional Conventions

Wednesday 5th Dec. 2012 – 1st Conference of the Atlantic MPA network:

"Improve cooperation to promote the deployment of a well-managed MPA network in the Atlantic arc"

Morning session: **Cooperation and collaboration in managing and planning high sea, off shore and cross borders MPAs**

Afternoon session: **Perspectives for the MAIA network**

Wednesday 5th Dec. 2012 – Conference Side Event

Announcement of the IUCN Categories assignation to the French Atlantic MPAs

Thursday 6th Dec. 2012 – Field Visit to "Bassin d'Arcachon"

Résumé

Actes de la « 1re Conférence du réseau d'aires marines protégées de l'arc atlantique »

Cette conférence est organisée par l'Agence des aires marines protégées, les partenaires du projet MAIA, en étroite coopération avec la mission de création du parc naturel marin du Bassin d'Arcachon et l'équipe de projet MeshAtlantic (Mapping European Seabed Habitats).

Elle a pour but de promouvoir le développement d'un réseau AMP bien géré dans l'arc atlantique en réunissant des organisations et des acteurs d'AMP afin de partager leurs expériences et de consolider la dynamique créée par le projet. Cette première conférence du réseau d'AMP de l'arc atlantique est également l'occasion de lancer officiellement le réseau MAIA, en l'étendant à l'ensemble de la région atlantique.

Lundi 3 Déc. 2012 – Conference Side Event :

« Cartographie des habitats marins pour la gestion des AMP », en coopération avec le projet MeshAtlantic

Mardi 4 Déc. 2012 – 1re Conférence du Réseau d'AMP de l'arc Atlantique :

« MAIA : Réalisations et rôle dans le contexte politique de l'arc atlantique »

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Sessions de l'après-midi :	**Attentes des parties prenantes et des acteurs d'AMP concernant le futur Réseau MAIA (groupes de travail)**
	Articulations entre MAIA et les politiques européennes et conventions régionales

Mercredi 5 Déc. 2012 – 1re Conférence du Réseau d'AMP de l'arc Atlantique

« Améliorer la coopération pour promouvoir le déploiement d'un réseau d'AMP bien géré dans l'arc atlantique »

Session du matin :	**Coopération et collaboration en matière de gestion et de planification des AMP transfrontalières, en haute mer et du large**
Session de l'après-midi :	**Perspectives pour le Réseau MAIA**

Jeudi 6 Déc. 2012 – Visite de terrain sur le Bassin d'Arcachon

Acronyms

AZTI-Tecnalia	Marine and Food Technological Centre, Spain
CARTHAM	French programme for the cartography of marine habitats
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CCMAR	Centre for Marine Sciences, Portugal
CDDA	Common Database on Designated Areas
DG Environment	Director General for Environment, European Commission
DG Mare	Director General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, European Commission
EGTC	European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation
EMODNET	European Marine Observation and Data Network
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
EU	European Union
EUNIS	European Nature Information System
GIS	Geographic Information System
ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
IMP	Integrated Maritime Policy
IMPA	Instituto Português do Mar e da Atmosfera, Portugal
INSPIRE	Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community
ISA	International Seabed Authority
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
iVMS	iVessel Monitoring System
JNCC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee
LIDAR	Light Detection And Ranging
MCZ	Marine Conservation Zone
MedPAN	Network of Mediterranean MPA managers
MPA	Marine Protected Area
MSFD	Marine Strategy Framework Directive
OSPAR	Oslo Paris Conventions for the protection of the marine environment of the North East Atlantic
PMIBB	Parc marin international des Bouches de Bonifacio, International Marine Parc of the Straight of Bonifacio
RAMPAO	Regional Network of MPAs in West Africa
RAMSAR	Convention on Wetlands
ROV	Remotely Operated Vehicle
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SHOM	French national hydrographical service
UK	United Kingdom
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

Background

The conference represented the culmination of the MAIA project and preparations for a new network of Marine Protected Area (MPA) practitioners in the Atlantic Arc.

The countries of the Atlantic Arc (United Kingdom (UK), Ireland, France, Spain and Portugal and their dependencies) are all equally concerned with issues of marine biodiversity protection. They are all signatories to international Conventions such as OSPAR and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). As members of the European Union (EU) they are also focused on meeting the requirements of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) and the Birds and Habitats Directives. MPAs are inescapably transnational. Although they may be located in the territory of one country, they will all form part of an international network and the impacts will be felt across borders. There is a huge range of tools and ideas being developed locally, regionally and nationally and it is important that these are shared and used. Equally it is important that monitoring of changes to species, ecosystems and human uses can be compared internationally so that changes occurring at an ecosystem level can be picked up.

The MAIA project was set up to share experiences between MPA practitioners in order to build a greater level of coherence and co-operation. This will help ensure that best practice is shared and that MPAs become more effective and efficient. The project was funded by the European Commission Interreg IVB Atlantic Area programme. The project started in 2010 and brought together partners from the UK (The Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC), Natural England and South West Food and Drink); France (Agence des aires marines protégées, Association du Grand Littoral Atlantique, Comité National des Pêches et des élevages marins); Spain (Xunta de Galicia – Concelleria do Mar, Universidad de A Coruna Recursos Marinos y Pesquerias) and Portugal (Instituto Nacional do Recursos Biologicos I.P.; Instituto da Conservaçao da Natureza e da Biodiverisidade).

The approaches used to plan, manage and monitor MPAs in the Atlantic Arc region are currently quite divergent. The MAIA project was the first step in working towards a more coherent and co-ordinated approach in the region. It aimed to establish some common ground such as the legislative drivers for MPAs in each country. It also developed a Web GIS tool that details on an international level all MPAs in the region and their management status.

The MAIA project was organised in thematic work packages, each with a series of meetings, workshops and reports.

Work Package 1: The state of play for MPAs in the Atlantic Arc Region
This Work Package provided a baseline for the legislative drivers for the development of MPAs in the region. The French MPA Agency has also developed a Web GIS for MPAs across the Atlantic Arc.

Work Package 2: Developing common monitoring strategies
This work package has enabled the different monitoring taking place in the Atlantic Arc region to be compared. A workshop was held in Sesimbra in November 2009 with monitoring experts from around the region focusing on ecological and socio-economic monitoring.

Work Package 3: Management plans for MPAs
A comprehensive report has been developed which provides the detail of the management status of MPAs in the Atlantic Arc. A workshop was held in La Coruna in June 2012

which focused on good practice in MPA management.

Work Package 4: Securing stakeholder participation for new MPAs
This work package focused on how stakeholders are involved in planning of MPAs. It had a particular focus on international involvement of stakeholders in MPA planning. A workshop was held in Totnes in September 2011 which brought together stakeholders and MPA planners from the region and overseas.

As well as reporting on work being undertaken within the project and by other institutions in the region, this conference also aimed to take the first steps towards the development of a formalised MPA practitioner's network in the Atlantic Arc region. This network would mirror similar networks that have been set up in the Caribbean, Mediterranean, West Africa and Baltic Sea. The conference programme incorporated a series of workshops, an executive level session and a plenary discussion to help determine what shape this network should take.

In order to help inform these discussions, the co-ordinators of the MedPAN (Mediterranean) and RAMPAO (West Africa) networks were invited to explain how their networks were set up and are managed.

Tuesday 4th Dec. 2012

MAIA achievements and role in the political context of the Atlantic Arc

The delegates were welcomed by a spokesman for Daniel Philippon, Deputy Mayor of Arcachon, Mathieu Bergé (Regional Council of Aquitaine with responsibility for ports, fisheries and mariculture), and François Gauthiez, (Deputy Director of the Agence des aires marines protégées).

The Deputy Mayoral spokesman welcomed the delegates to Arcachon. He highlighted that MPAs and the preservation of biodiversity are of particular importance to Arcachon. The exchanges of skills and knowledge that will take place in this conference will be extremely important to help deal with this problem and help to provide solutions for future generations. Arcachon is beautiful, but fragile and it is our collective responsibility to manage it properly so that we can all enjoy it. The issue of the MPA in Arcachon is of prime importance to the local Council and is an issue that will be following closely to ensure that the best possible outcome is achieved.

The Aquitaine Regional Council representative told the audience that they are engaged in the work to develop a network of MPAs to help restore the good ecological status of the sea. He added that they are pleased to see professional organisations playing an important role in this process to help us achieve the sustainable management of our coastline. For this region there is a demographic challenge since more people want to come and live on the coast; there is a risk from erosion, flooding and sea level rise and there is also a challenge to keep the coastal areas economically vibrant. Their focus is on working with all those involved to build a process for sustainable management of the area.

Finally, on behalf of the French MPA Agency, the Deputy Director, François Gauthiez welcomed the delegates and opened the proceedings. He reminded the audience that the Arcachon basis is an area of exceptional ecological importance with many stakeholder interests. It has been identified as a future Marine Park. There are two main reasons for this conference: Firstly to review the work that has been undertaken by the MAIA project and secondly to expand our horizons. We want to see if we can expand the partnership to other countries and build a more permanent network. The MPA Agency is committed to contributing its share to the future. Our mutual work in developing the marine Natura 2000 network; the requirements for the Marine Strategy Framework Directive all rely on a strong network of exchange.

Session1:

The MAIA project outputs

Chaired by Purificació Canals (MedPAN network):

Introduction to the session

MedPAN is a similar network to MAIA, established for the management of MPAs in the Mediterranean Sea under the Barcelona Convention. MedPAN and MAIA provide a good opportunity for making links between the Atlantic, the Mediterranean and other European seas which have the same aims, obligations and issues with regard to marine protection, for example the international target of designating 10% of the ocean as MPA by 2020 which was set by the CBD. At the same time there are interesting particularities in each regional sea.

The MAIA network brings together different countries with different national and institutional approaches to marine conservation. It is important to recognise that this network is not only at state level, but also a network of institutions and practitioners. This holds very interesting elements for the advancement of national, European and international policy objectives.

The speakers today will provide reports on the legislative frameworks that influence MPA management in the Atlantic Arc. They will talk about monitoring and sharing scientific data to allow comparisons and support collaborative approaches. We will discuss management plans. Lastly, we will to look at the involvement of stakeholders, a very important element in every MPA and crucial to ensure that we reach our 10% target.

Laurent Germain (Agence des aires marines protégées, France):

Introduction to the MAIA project

Like many Interreg projects, MAIA was an opportunity for international exchanges and technical working groups between managers and stakeholders. The project had three objectives: 1) promoting and structuring the sharing of experiences and approaches, 2) develop common methodologies, and 3) contribute to the emergence of a network of managers and stakeholders. We hope that from this start a more ambitious, organised and permanent network will emerge.

The project brought together a strong partnership from the UK, France, Spain and Portugal; although clearly there are some key areas missing geographically and technically. It is hoped that Ireland and the Azores will join the MAIA network in the future.

The legislative framework governing marine protection in the marine area covered by MAIA includes the MSFD, OSPAR zones 2-5, as well as various fisheries policies.

The MAIA work programme focused on management issues common to the MPAs of the Atlantic Arc: 1) management issues concerning the establishment of a real

monitoring strategy with real indicators of MPA effectiveness, 2) involving stakeholders and users in the designation and management of MPAs, and 3) designing and implementing management plans in MPAs. These themes were addressed in various workshops, involving managers, scientists and MPA users, as well as site visits of the case study sites in each country. MAIA also has a dedicated portal in four languages which provides a GIS database and a document database including project reports, field studies, cross-sectional analyses, methodological guides and thematic documents on MPAs. The portal also provides a collaborative space for the partners.

Lastly, it is important to recognise the contribution of the Interreg IVB Atlantic Area programme in providing 65% of the budget for this project.

Laurent Germain (Agence des aires marines protégées, France):

Understanding the legislative sources of the Atlantic Arc MPA network

The questions of legal status, one of the first obstacles that was encountered by the MPA Agency.

We all have similar commitments, for example to CBD targets, RAMSAR and UNESCO, OSPAR, EU directives and EU MFSD. In particular there is the obligation on EU states to complete the marine Natura 2000 network and to maintain the favourable conservation status of habitats and species. Within the Marine Strategy Framework Directive there is particular interest in MPAs as a means to achieving good ecological status.

However, the first step is to be clear about what we are talking about and agree on what is meant by a Marine Protected Area. We started with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) definition, which is quite clear, but at the same time there are some grey areas which were not properly defined. So our work looked at what was happening at a national level.

Species and habitats don't respect international boundaries and human activities such as fishing take place across the whole maritime area. However there were clear differences in each country: In the UK there are four categories under national legislation and four under international commitments. In France six under national and six under international; in Spain there are 14 national and seven international and in Portugal there are five national and three international.

For the region we identified 450 MPAs and identified their status, governance and goals under international and national categories. It is important that this portal is compliant with international data exchange formats and to be able to exchange information fluidly. The database meets the requirements of INSPIRE and the European CDDA database.

The aim is to have a collaborative tool which can be updated and edited by MPA managers to keep it up to date. There is a reserved space on the website for MAIA partners to obtain and upload financial and administrative information. There is also a wealth of documentation, newsletter, reports and other resources which can be downloaded. The long term objective is for a stronger link between MAIA database under OSPAR and with other European programmes and projects such as PANACHE or MedPAN. It is important to share information under the same standards so that it can be compared objectively.

This database will not short-circuit the flow of official information. MAIA is not an information provider; it is up to national focal points to provide the information both to MAIA and to official international sources to ensure that coherence is maintained. The

structure of database has been designed to cover all information under each designation. Under the World Database on Protected Areas, you can have an MPA within another, even if it is superimposed exactly. Each MPA in this system has its own identifier and attributes.

MAIA partners are obliged to complete database and bring designations up to an international standard. It has proved an interesting pilot initiative to test at a regional scale the assessment of effectiveness of MPA management. We are also working on helping to link the information within this database with requirements under OSPAR to assess the effectiveness of the MPA network.

An example was shown from the Banc d'Arguin in Arcachon showing the MPA designation, polygons and information about governance, advisory committee, monitoring, regulation of uses and marine habitats affected by the MPAs. All of this information was gathered by the different partners and MPA managers.

A question from the audience focused on how information will be updated and how information flows will be managed. In response, the speaker explained that this information has to be present within national databases. In some cases, even nationally required information is missing. MAIA is not replacing flows of information; but MAIA will be organising flows of information in both directions-collecting information and feeding back. It will help achieve this by ensuring attributes and information flows are more standardised.

1 – Yorgos Stratoudakis, IPMA © Mélanie Odion / Agence des aires marines protégées

Yorgos Stratoudakis (IMPA, Instituto Português do Mar e da Atmosfera, Portugal):

Developing common monitoring strategies in MPAs

This presentation focused on the work on monitoring that was done throughout the MAIA project. The objectives of this work were to identify best practice for monitoring, set up monitoring and transfer knowledge in order to start developing coherent ways of monitoring the effects of MPAs, to perform comparisons between the system components and to understand the dynamics and effects of ecosystem-human interactions.

We realised early on that there were no objectives for management plans and actions that were shared across the entire network, which made it difficult to determine a common monitoring focus. However, there was a common factor across all MPAs: the interaction between MPAs and fisheries, in terms of the impact of fisheries on an MPA but also the impact of an MPA on fisheries. In view of this, we decided to monitor ecological indicators as well as socio-economic and governance components of MPAs.

Common approaches were developed through literature reviews and workshops and then tested in MPAs across the Atlantic Arc. Towards the end of the project the focus of the monitoring work shifted towards the development of best practices, knowledge transfer and common monitoring approaches that would allow a comparison of the same

processes in different places as well as over a longer time period.

Four case studies were presented:

1) Lyme Bay and Torbay, Site of Community Importance, UK

For the last two decades a number of studies have monitored the habitats and the impacts of towed gear on substrate in Lyme Bay. A statutory no towed gear zone has been designated in Lyme Bay in 2008. In order to monitor and implement the no entry zone, the Marine Management Organisation and Natural England are currently experimenting with mechanisms to monitor small vessels, involving the use of mobile phone technology. The challenge was to develop technology that was affordable and available for small vessels but at the same time robust and reliable.

The iVessel Monitoring System (iVMS) has proved to be a useful tool for conservation and fisheries management where spatial restrictions are in place. It acts as a control mechanism and deterrent and allows a description of fishing tactics and patterns in the monitored area. The main problem with the iVMS is that it is dependent on the signal of the mobile phone, which limits the distance at which the system can be reliably used. The conclusions of the Lyme Bay case study where that combining statutory and voluntary measures can be effective and help prevent complete fisheries dislocation in zoning schemes. A combined approach can be more useful than a simple ban. However, vessel monitoring technology needs to be enhanced.

2) Reserva mariña de interese pesqueiro de Cedeira, Spain

In Cedeira a protected area was created through a bottom up approach together with the local fishermen. The aim was to increase local fish production by banning fishing at the entrance of the ria. The University of La Coruña undertook a before/after study looking at fish catches in the area over time.

2 – Reserva mariña de interese pesqueiro de CedeiraSpain, © CEM S Cop

The University worked with fishermen to collect data on effort and catch before the implementation of the MPA. They found that after the MPA was put in place fishing effort decreased as fishermen respected the MPA. The study also revealed information about the fishermen's tactics, especially with regard to gear use and seasonality. The conclusion was that fishermen have valuable knowledge which can be a constructive contribution to scientific monitoring. However, for this relationship between fishermen and scientists to work and provide relevant information, it has to be long term and there has to be acceptance of the MPA among the fishermen.

3) Parque Natural da Arrábida, Portugal

3 – Parque Natural da Arrábida, Portugal © RBernardo

In Arrábida it was suspected that the official catch data was correct. To verify this, the fishing activity in the area was monitored with the help of local fishermen. It was found that even the fishing vessels that had a license to fish in the MPA spent most of their time

outside the designated area. The study also found that every vessel had very distinct fishing tactics and that the vessel registration does not give any information on the gear used as fishermen have multiple licenses for different gear types. There appeared to be a large amount of discarding of small pelagic species for which there is no market. Smaller vessels (3-7 metres) were found to be much more squeezed for space than larger vessels. This is partly due to the MPA, but also to other reasons including local safety laws and power relations between fishermen. Similar to Cedeira, the Arrábida case study found that fishermen's collaboration can be effective where they are willing to provide support but that it demands continuous engagement and verification. Most importantly, fishermen must get some benefit in return or they will stop engaging. It was concluded that soft statutory obligations can make the collaboration with fishermen more robust in the long term. Fisheries dynamics are complex and often invisible to external observers, but they shape the fisheries attitude towards MPAs.

4) Parc naturel marin d'Iroise, France

4 – Parc naturel marin d'Iroise, France © Yannis Turpin / Agence des aires marines protégées

This case study went beyond ecological monitoring, into using socioeconomic indicators to monitor fisheries and other economic activities. In this MPA, they have developed about 17 indicators for fisheries which are or will be monitored. This will provide input on current status and trends and inform the management of the MPA. In this site, recreational fishing received much attention in terms of ecological implications and its coexistence with other professional and recreational users.
Summarising monitoring results in a simple metric is not easy. Indicators were developed in many areas from global goals to very specific objectives and then incorporated into the decision making process. Within the management plan there is an attractive and clear synthesis and communication of complex monitoring information to support decision making.

You realise just from these four case studies how different the approaches are, but also how different the areas are in terms of their uses.

In order to allow some informed comparison in view of this variation, a comparative study was undertaken in Arrábida and Cedeira, using the same questionnaire for local fishermen and stakeholders. The design of the questionnaire was adapted to different groups of MPA stakeholders. Respondents were asked a number of ecological, socio-economic and governance questions exploring what is desirable and what is undesirable, some of which are presented here:

What they thought the overarching purpose of the MPA was and what it should be?
In Cedeira, the respondents views on the actual (fisheries) and preferred designation purpose of the MPA coincided. Both fishermen and other stakeholders believed that the MPA was and should be designated for fisheries management. In Arrábida, however, there was a divergence between views of the actual designation purpose (conservation) and opinions on what the purpose of the MPA should be. While the other stakeholders agreed with the conservation aim, the fishermen in Arrábida thought the MPA should aim to support fisheries instead.

What role different groups have in the resolution of MPA problems?
Universities were seen as positive actors by all groups of respondents while fishermen in both sites where more reserved about the role of Non-Government Organisations than other community stakeholders. Both groups of fishermen saw fishermen outside the MPA as lest desired actors. In both sites, the views on MPA managers were neutral among fishermen and other stakeholders. Responses differed considerably between the sites with regard to local municipalities and fisheries authorities. Respondents in Arrábida displayed very positive perceptions of local municipalities, while in Cedeira the lack of action by the municipalities was penalised. Fishermen in Arrábida had positive attitudes towards their national fisheries authority, in Cedeira this relationship was negative.

What are your perceptions of the ecology, governance, and socioeconomic situation in your respective MPAs?
Ecological indicators were perceived to perform the same or have slightly improved. The top down approach in Arrábida was not found to be perceived as negative. Fisheries related issues were perceived to have improved in Cedeira but not in Arrábida where the exclusion of fishermen has deteriorated with the MPA designation.

The speaker concluded that when building global monitoring approaches it has to be taken into account that every country and site comes from very distinct settings that affect performance and views. The case studies have provided a good example of a monitoring framework designed to continuously informing and adapting the MPA management system (Iroise) as well as demonstrating the diversity in objectives, current states, levels of action, engagement and effectiveness of these actions, but also the degree of acceptance of the people that live associated to these MPA around the Atlantic Arc.

In the panel session one audience member asked a question that was answered by the speaker. He pointed out that it is important to distinguish between the way coastal areas and deep sea areas are used and impact on fishermen, for example through the development of wind farms. The speaker remarked that it was interesting to note that even within fishing communities there were distinctions identified within communities themselves for different sized boats or fishing gears who tend to blame each other for their own lack of fishing area.

Another audience member pointed out that it was important to include information about the time of year, or state of the tide that the surveys were carried out since it can have a significant effect on the activities that are taking place. The speaker agreed, adding that as well as the temporal context it is also important to understand a fishermen's perception of what he is saying. It is also important to try and return after a few years to see how these perceptions and values have changed.

5 – Port du Guilvinec, Site d'importance communautaire des Roches de Penmarch, France © Sophie Lecerf

Inma Álvarez Fernández (Recursos Marinos y Pesquerias, Departamento Biología Animal, Biología Vegetal y Ecologia, Universidad de La Coruña, Spain):

Status of MPA management plans in the Atlantic Arc

The objective of this component was to identify the differences between management plans in the region, characterise the way they were structured and determine the differences between them. In order to obtain this information a questionnaire was used. The information was then validated by partners and the figures analysed.

It was a challenge to gather this information and to minimise differences in the way that it was interpreted. It was also difficult to engage wider MPA managers as part of this data gathering exercise.

We were able to get 121 management plans that correspond to a total of 234 MPAs between April 2011 and August 2012. This included 100% of management plans in France. In the UK, only management plans for England were collected. There were 22 different categories or designations of which 6 were international. 65% of the MPAs were Marine Natura 2000 sites, 15 international and the remaining 20% were national and regional sites.

We separated management plans into 4 different types:
A-for MPAs with a management plan
B-where the management plan is created for different areas but overlaps the MPA
C-the management plan is created and associated with a marine area, but includes other marine areas that overlap totally or partially
D-When there is a joint management plan for marine areas but does not overlap geographically.

The average preparation time was 24 months and revisions took place on average every 5-6 years. 2% of management plans were in their 3rd revision; 14% in their second revision and 46% had exceeded their planned lifespan. Site description and characteristics includes information on boundaries, zoning, threat analysis and conflict analysis. Management includes objectives, expected results, regulations, control, enforcement and monitoring.

The process of developing a management plan tends to involve the following stages: A draft prepared by a technical committee, a validation phase and then approval. In 90% of cases, stakeholders are involved in some or all of the steps. The description of site features were found in most management plans in France and Portugal. In the case of Spain the site features are generally found in a separate document.

Key points from the analysis showed the following:

- Governance: In England and France 90% of management plans described the organisation, but in Spain less than 20% described governance in the management plan.
- Site description: In Spain, 90% described boundaries and zoning. In France and England 90% described boundaries, with only 20% including a zoning plan.
- Conflict analysis: 100% in Portugal, but largely absent in France, Spain and UK
- Monitoring and assessment: Between 70% and 90% provided a regular monitoring programme.
- Regional co-operation more common in France (58% of cases) than Portugal, Spain and UK where it is less than 205 of cases.

Conclusions

- The structure of MPAs is similar, but varies between countries.
- Governance rarely described in Management Plans.
- Quantitative objective were not present in many management plans.
- Conflict analysis was not very common.
- Control and enforcement rarely appear in the Management Plans.

Jon Davis (JNCC, UK):

Experiences and lessons learned in involving international stakeholders in MPA planning and management

JNCC has been involved in identifying and advising the government on offshore MPAs in the UK. The identification of a new suite of national MPAs allowed us to take a different approach without constraints on the involvement of stakeholders. These national MPAs have been identified and recommended through a stakeholder led process.

The identification and submission of Offshore Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and national MPAs is nearing completion. The effective management and enforcement of these areas is an important issue. The management of fisheries in particular presents a challenge in terms of international fishing activities and controls. Effective protection of these offshore sites requires better involvement of international organisations and fishermen in the site management.

MAIA addressed the need to start working transnationally, in particular in terms of stakeholder engagement and implementing management measures. MAIA offered an opportunity to develop ideas and learn from others' experience, share best practice, consider standardised management processes

6 – Jon Davies, JNCC © Mélanie Odion / Agence des aires marines protégées

and mechanisms and develop common approaches that ensure fairness and equity in the way that international stakeholders are being engaged and involved in these processes.

JNCC was mainly involved in work package 4 which looked at securing stakeholder participation for new MPAs. This work package set two objectives:

1. to secure engagement of national and international stakeholders in the identification and/or development of appropriate protection levels, and
2. to explore different tools and pilot approaches to assist stakeholders participate in new MPA selection.

These objectives were to be achieved through 1) a pilot study which would explore ways to engage stakeholders and trial engagement tools, and through 2) the development of a set of participatory GIS and decision support tools.

MPAs are an emotive subject because they affect livelihoods and thus ways had to be found to engage with and address these elements. Such an engagement process is a step-by-step process that takes time and relies on good communication and feedback at every step. JNCC commissioned a study with RK Partnership which gave us an insight into how international stakeholders could be effectively involved. The report emphasised the need for a stepwise process assisted with good communication and feedback.

In England, a network of national MPAs, Marine Conservation Zones (MCZ), has recently been proposed through a stakeholder based process in four regional projects. This process engaged stakeholders and enabled them to decide where the MPAs should be placed. The Finding Sanctuary project in the South West functioned as a pilot study for MAIA and tested this approach for how international stakeholders could be involved. The culmination of this pilot study was a workshop in 2011 that brought together 80 delegates, including MAIA partners and stakeholders to look at how stakeholders are involved in MPA planning and management.

Collecting and sharing stakeholder data is becoming more important, and the data itself is being made more accessible, e.g. through web mapping. The MCZ project produced an internet mapping system which allowed stakeholders to add their own spatial activity data into the decision making process. The use of web mapping and GIS tools featured as a separate session within the workshop.

Most of this is common sense, but there are some key lessons for us to take away. Stakeholder engagement is basically common sense in terms of how to deal with people on a day to day basis. Decision processes that may affect people's lives need to have clear objectives, be simple and demonstrate clear benefits of finding a joint solution. They require full and early on involvement and dialogue and must recognise the stakeholders' constraints (e.g. time). Data quality is crucial for decision making, however it has to be understood that stakeholder data comes in different qualities and formats and is subject to various constraints. Finally, when it comes to dealing with people we need to be very careful about the images that we use and the messages that they may convey to different people.

Panel session with previous four speakers

A question focused on how to address potential inequities of power in a stakeholder engagement processes between fishermen that depend on the use of marine resources for their livelihoods and other stakeholders that do not.

The speaker explained that other stakeholder groups also have economic interests in marine resources, through direct use or indirectly e.g. from tourism related to recreational marine activities, and further that non economic interests such as scientific research and cultural values also have to be considered. The question is at what level of governance these conflicting interests should be managed and who should have the authority to make decisions. For this, different countries take different approaches.

Another member of the audience pointed out that there are other groups that also have an interest such as recreational participants; although this interest might not be economic it does not mean that they do not have a vested interest.

An audience member asked how you distinguish between issues in coastal zones and offshore. It was pointed out that distinctions need to be made inshore and offshore fisheries which are exposed to very different impacts and need different management approaches. It was noted that management practices from coastal MPAs cannot simply be transferred to offshore sites. JNCC workshops on management measures for offshore SACs have revealed that stakeholder engagement will be an important element of the management of offshore MPAs.

MPAs directly affect people's livelihoods and thus it is essential to include their views and perceptions in the management. The discussion concluded with contributions on the importance of integrating natural and

social sciences in the management and monitoring of MPAs.

In conclusion the Chairman picked up the theme of working with people and stated that in order to preserve nature you need to work with people. In order to work with people it is important to understand the values and perceptions that each group has.

Session 2:

MPA practitioners and stakeholders expectations for the future

This session was organised into working groups. The outputs from these sessions are presented in this document (see the Focus on this interactive sessions).

7 – Lundy, Marine Coservation Zone and Special Area of Conservation, UK © Keith Hiscock

Session 3:

MAIA connections with European policies and Regional Conventions

Chairman: Helena Maria Gregório Pina Calado (Departamento de Biologia, Campus Universitário de Ponta Açores, Portugal)

The chair talked about the 30 year anniversary of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), the CBD target of protecting 10% of the world's coastal and marine areas by 2020, OSPAR and other regional and international conservation policies.

Laurent Germain (Agence des aires marines protégées, France):

MAIA achievements for European and regional policies implementation.

The MAIA project added value to European and regional policies. It has met its first objective of moving the establishment of a coherent network of MPAs in the Atlantic Arc forward by providing a coherent approach for national MPA networks. Further, it has made progress on data collection for MPA management and monitoring. An expert analysis of the current status of the network is in preparation for the International Marine Protected Area Conference in Marseilles in 2013. With regard to the objective of achieving good ecological status throughout the network MAIA has collected a robust dataset for analysis. However, the data collection is not completed and analysis results are not yet available. Moreover, it needs to be determined what good ecological

status means and common indicators need to be developed. A MAIA 2 project will have to use the data that has been gathered so far and continue to aggregate date in a standardised format.

MAIA recommendations include to continue the work on:

1. implementing a coherent network of MPAs, as well as on
2. good management of MPAs, and to
3. develop eco-regional collaboration, including shared methods and tools and common approaches to monitoring, management plans and stakeholder engagement.

MAIA has made progress on collaboration and exchange of monitoring approaches and data. However, there remains a need to become more coherent in methods and approaches and ways of addressing problems.

Round table: How the MAIA achievements fit in with European policy

Fotios Papoulias (Director General for Environment – Nature and Biodiversity, European Commission)

DG Environment is responsible for the implementation of the Natura 2000 network in the marine environment. Marine Natura 2000 sites have started to be implemented over the last four to five years. However, the Habitats Directive has limitations with regard to marine features; while covering the most important habitat types it includes only a limited number of marine species. This is in contrast to the much broader scope of the MSFD. Nonetheless, the Habitats Directive provides a strong legal basis for the designation and management of MPAs.

Progressing with the designation of marine Natura 2000 sites across different regional seas in Europe is a main concern for DG Environment. While progress is being made, it is clear that so far the marine features in the Habitats Directive are not sufficiently represented within currently designated areas. Much more needs to be done to meet the requirements of the Directive and the global target set by the CBD. Currently, only slightly more than 4% of European seas are designated for protection, with considerable differences across regions.

At the same time, the focus need to move towards the effective management of the Natura 2000 network, in particular addressing issues related to the impacts of fisheries and measures required to fulfil conservation objectives. DG Environment is currently exploring with Member States and stakeholders the best ways to work together towards providing the necessary tools for effective MPA management, including sharing of experience, development of management plans, stakeholder engagement, improvement of conservation status for protected features and awareness raising.

In conclusion, adequate marine Natura 2000 designations and effective management are key priorities for DG Environment. In this respect, the implementation of transboundary cooperation by the MAIA project is definitely of great relevance and use to promote European policy objectives.

David Johnson (OSPAR Executive Secretariat)

European policy fits in with global policies such as the CBD as well as regional policy conventions such as OSPAR. About 5% of the OSPAR marine area is now covered by an MPA network, overlapping the European marine Natura 2000 network in some areas.

8 – Marine Protected Areas (OSPAR), Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction

© JFontes

This falls short of the OSPAR targets. The main reasons for this shortcoming are lack of funding and political will. OSPAR welcomes the MAIA achievements which have contributed towards harmonising a system of spatial management for MPA networks. OSPAR recommendations for the future of MAIA are to keep developing and updating the MAIA database, continue to develop the partnerships, and keep track of the changes in conservation policies. While the OSPAR MPA network is limited to lists of conservation features, MAIA has the opportunity to incorporate wider socio-economic aspects. Further, MAIA is seen as very successful in encouraging the standardisation of methods.

Luis Cuervo Spottorno (Director General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries – Maritime Policy – Atlantic, outermost regions and Arctic, European Commission)

The Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP) aims to encourage and advance sustainable blue growth of maritime economic sectors. The MSFD is the environmental pillar of the IMP. For the sustainable development of the Atlantic, the IMP has been translated into an Atlantic Maritime Strategy. The challenge is how to implement and manage this strategy. The strength of MAIA in this context is that it has addressed socio-economic issues which other European maritime projects often fail to do.

Europe has the potential to become a world leader in maritime sectors (especially in the Atlantic) through the sustainable development of marine aquaculture, marine renewable energy, marine biotechnologies, green shipping, etc. The sustainable development of maritime sectors will have positive socio-economic outcomes. However, it has to be done right from the outset to avoid finding out later that certain uses and activities conflict. For this reason the work of the MAIA project is important for the implementation of the Atlantic Maritime Strategy which is based on maritime spatial planning, an approach that combines socio-economic and ecological aspects. MAIA could support this maritime spatial planning.
The main benefit of MAIA for the Atlantic Maritime Strategy is the network it has created. It would, for example, be very useful to have links to port authorities in order to make sure that the MAIA findings are considered in marine developments.

There is potential to take the positive lessons on MPAs from MAIA into other maritime sectors in order to support the coordination of the development of maritime sectors. In particular the gathered experience on networking and indicators is very valuable for the IMP. Also, maritime spatial planning has to include environmental considerations. The knowledge and data gathered by MAIA on this could support the integration of environmental concerns under the Atlantic Maritime Strategy. According to DG Mare, an Atlantic MPA would be an excellent contribution to making the Atlantic Maritime Strategy work and would give it the environmental status it seeks.

The DG Mare speaker concluded with an invitation to the MAIA partners to participate in the stakeholder consultations and workshops that will contribute to the Atlantic Maritime Strategy.

Chairman summary of roundtable introductions

The promotion of transnational cooperation through MAIA is very relevant in the current move from designating to managing the Natura 2000 marine network. Further, the project is perceived to have produced valuable lessons on MPA management which can be integrated into OSPAR and European approaches. Finally, MAIA can feed into the Atlantic Maritime Strategy, in particular ensuring the achievement of good environmental status, to support the blue growth agenda of the IMP.

Questions for the future of MAIA:

- Should MAIA be extended to a broader range of stakeholders and users in order to support DG Mare's Atlantic Maritime Strategy?
- Should the MAIA network be extended to cover the entire North Atlantic?
- Can MAIA envisage having a technical role in OSPAR?
- Should MAIA propose a transboundary MPA?

Luis Cuervo Spottorno commented that MAIA seems to be one of the few networks that takes a holistic look at the marine environment, which is what is needed to make marine planning and management decisions. He went on to say that the establishment of a transboundary Atlantic MPA would be an excellent starting point for the Atlantic Strategy while also providing the environmental element of the strategy.

From the audience it was argued that it was too early to integrate MPA management into maritime spatial planning while the issues between MPA management and fisheries and how to integrate these two have not yet been resolved. Fisheries is only a minor part in the IMP's blue growth agenda. To this, DG Mare replied that maritime spatial planning and the blue growth agenda are already under way and that potential conflicts between new maritime sectors and MPAs need to be addressed now before they become problematic.

Concern was also raised over the fact that the blue growth agenda does not include the environment as a strategic sector and on the contrary encourages sectors that are not suitable for sustainable development. It was urged that DG Mare and DG Environment should work together on establishing how a network of Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs can promote sustainable development. DG Mare ensured the audience that the IMP and Atlantic strategy would build on the existing work under Natura 2000, MAIA and OSPAR to ensure the environmental sustainability of the blue growth strategy.

The chair of the session raised the question whether MAIA should become a sector in maritime spatial planning, a tool to combine different maritime users and environmental interests and solve conflicts between the different sectors.

It was urged from the audience that MAIA should be developed into an operational tool to address the rapidly emerging need to manage MPAs, helping MPA managers e.g. through sharing of data, information and best practice. In the longer term, MAIA could then also support policy development.

A further point of discussion was the need to balance the growth agenda of the IMP and environmental protection under the Natura 2000 requirements. A particular point of contention was the relationship between environmental protection and fisheries. It was made clear that this needs to move away from antagonism and conflict and that the idea behind MPAs is not to confront fisheries but to support marine resources. In particular as evidence increases on the benefits obtained from functioning, healthy marine ecosystems.

The Habitats Directive is a strong policy and legal tool that enables planning of marine areas to achieve designation aims while taking into consideration socio-economic aspects. It offers legal tools for integrated planning that puts into place environmental conservation requirements and considers growth.

The MAIA network can contribute to the work of the DG Environment by contributing to the management of the Natura 2000 network and beyond.

Following the round table discussion, **Rob Angell (RK Partnership Ltd)** presented the key outputs of the working group sessions.

Wednesday 5th Dec. 2012

Improving cooperation to promote the deployment of a well-managed MPA network in the Atlantic Arc

Session 4:

Co-operation and collaboration in managing and planning high seas, offshore and cross border MPAs

Chairman: Sébastien Mabile (PhD in Environment and Public Law, France)

Gwenaëlle Le Gurun (International Seabed Authority):

International stakeholders' involvement in high seas MPAs

The speaker gave an introduction to the work of the International Seabed Authority (ISA) and talked about the environmental management plan (EMP) for the Clarion-Clipperton Zone.

The ISA was set up by UNCLOS. It has jurisdiction over mineral resources in international seabed areas. The precise boundaries of the ISA's jurisdiction are unclear as nation states continue to put in requests for extension of their territorial seas. The idea behind the ISA is that the mineral resources in international seas are a common heritage of mankind and no state can claim a sovereign right over these resources. ISA has two functions: protection of the marine environment and scientific research. The Authority ensures that measures to protect biodiversity are in place when minerals are exploited and it promotes scientific research and dissemination, in particular related to the environmental impacts of activities in the areas under their jurisdiction. If a nation wants to explore resources in an international seabed area it has to make a contract with ISA. Currently, there are four contracts for exploration in place.

The speaker then went on to talk about the EMP for the Clarion-Clipperton Zone. This is a main area of interest for manganese nodules and hosts most of the ISA exploration contracts. The EMP was set up in anticipation of future extraction activities after the completion of the exploration contracts. The purpose of the EMP is to preserve the ecosystem of the Clarion-Clipperton Zone and manage activities in the area. The marine protection requirements under UNCLOS present the legal basis for the EMP. The EMP sets out guiding principles for activities in the Clarion-Clipperton Zone, putting particular emphasis on spatial management tools. The EMP has a 2-5 year review cycle.

For ISA it is important to have cooperation and complementarities between international organisations. The data and information gathered by MAIA could contribute to ISA activities for the Atlantic and facilitate the relations between the Authority and its contractors. ISA recognises that in the deep sea harmonisation of methods is essential because exploration and scientific activities

are very difficult and expensive in the deep sea.

Anne Littaye (Agence des aires marined protégées, France), representing the European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC) Parc marin international des Bouches de Bonifacio (PMIBB):

Parc marin international des Bouches de Bonifacio (Corsica, France): creation of a European group for territorial cooperation to co-manage the Bouches de Bonifacio cross border MPA between France and Italy

The territory between Corsica and Sardinia shares environmental features and ecosystems as well as an important navigational channel. There are multiple MPAs on both sides. The international marine park was created out of common interest in what is going on in the Straight of Bonifacio. The foundations for the PMIBB were laid in the 1990s with the designation of multiple MPAs in the area, the recognition of the lack of a legal framework for cooperation in the management of the Sraight and a decision by French and Italian governments and the EU to establish an international MPA in the area.

The PMIBB was created in 2012 under the European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC). The EGTC presents a legal entity for cross-border management and cooperation, in response to the European cohesion policy on territorial cooperation. Its objectives are very widely defined. In this context, the PMIBB is a tool for international cooperation between France and Italy, recognising the straight between Corsica and Sardinia as a morpho-functional unit rather than a French and an Italian part. It strengthens a common strategy, provides tools for large scale acquisition of scientific knowledge on biodiversity, allows the development of management tools at a larger scale and enables better coordination of the management of the area.

Further, the EGTC is responsible for the implementation of adequate measures to optimise maritime security in the Straight of Bonifacio. This follows the designation of a Particularly Sensitive Sea Area by the International Maritime Organisation.

The EGTC also gives visibility to local issues at international level, for example the request for classification of the Straight as a UNESCO world heritage site and the strengthening of the maritime security by including it in European straight programmes.

The main protagonists of the PMIBB are the Environmental Office of Corsica in France and the National park of La Maddalena archipelagos in Italy.

In the discussion following the two presentations the point was raised that the global trend towards national appropriation of marine areas through extension of territorial seas is reducing the ISA's area of jurisdiction. However, the extension of territorial seas is provided for by UNCLOS. With regard to data ownership it was explained that any data collected on the continental shelf is owned by the national States who have no obligation to pass this data on to ISA.

In response to a question on the influence of the EGTC-PMIBB on fisheries management in the area it was explained that there had already been cooperation in place between the local MPAs and fisheries bodies but that one aim of the EGTC-PMIBB is to improve resource management in the straight between Corsica and Sardinia, an area in which resources have not been well managed. It was added that the EGTC provides for staff exchange and language training to support cooperation. With regard to maritime traffic it

was clarified that, while an important issue in the Straight of Bonifacio, this is not a responsibility of the EGTC. The EGTC strengthens awareness of the ecology and sets requirements for proper management, thus adding weight to environmental conservation.

Round table: shared habitats and species and shared management

Laurent Germain (Agence des aires marines protégées, France)

MAIA has managed to collect information on a large range of topics and has produced coherent methods and a shared database. While shared management of MPAs is not yet in place, progress is being made towards this and the preceding speakers confirmed that there is need for collaboration, especially in the deep sea. Laurent Germain added that there might be a role for MAIA as a technical management body for transboundary areas, providing technical support to ISA on the management of deep sea areas, or as an EGTC.

Annabelle Aish (Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, France)

The speaker presented some examples of how countries collaborating beyond borders to achieve common marine conservation goals. Her focus was primarily on Europe.

1) Starting at the largest scale - sharing collective responsibility for MPAs in areas beyond national jurisdiction. In 2010 OSPAR established 6 MPAs in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction and proposed recommendations on their management. OSPAR also involved with the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission and CBD Secretariat to organise workshop.

2) Sharing coordinated management of an area that spans different country jurisdictions. The UK/German/Dutch authorities (and others with a fishing industry interest) developed a management proposal through the International Dogger Bank Steering Group. It was based on a collective assessment of fisheries activities on the impact of the feature as a whole.

3) Sharing contributions to ecological coherence of international MPA networks by getting countries in a biogeographical region involved in the development and assessment of sites that are ecologically coherent. A UK-French collaborative project is evaluating the ecological coherence of MPAs in the Channel.

4) Sharing approaches to evaluate potential impacts to marine features in the marine environment. While the approaches for impact assessment are broadly the same in most countries, work still needs to be done on developing coherent methods and consistent, standardised measures e.g. for sensitivity.

5) Going beyond spatial management, for example looking at mobile MPAs. When should wider MPAs be considered and should we be thinking about more dynamic MPAs?

Round table discussion

Laurent Germain added that transnational management is needed not only for mobile species, but also for fishing activities that take place in two neighbouring countries and need to be managed equitably. He said that MAIA is now at a crossroads: it can either continue with technical collaboration and exchanges or create a joint governance structure to manage MPAs with a clear mandate to organise technical work for management cooperation.

It was pointed out in the round table discussion that taking international approaches is difficult for EU Member States who are bound by EU directives. For example

in the case of the Dogger Bank the Natura 2000 regulations do not allow for a joint approach but rather require each of the five Member States involved in the MPA to set up individual plans with fixed timetables. Joint management of the area thus depends on all five national plans to start at the same time. A transboundary MPA could be a way around these restrictions imposed by Natura 2000.

The discussion then turned to the need to consider the topographical and ecological differences, different uses and activities between different parts of the Atlantic Arc when designing a common approach to MPA management. This was acknowledge but at the same time it was stressed that methods and responses, e.g. for assessing and monitoring the conservation status of a particular feature, need to be comparable across national borders to meet international and European conservation commitments. MAIA offers a geographically coherent framework for this, though some geographical gaps still need to be filled, e.g. Ireland and the Basque country.

The ISA explained that it is essential to coordinate what data is needed and how to collect it, and to integrate the collected data into shared databases in order to avoid double work, increase knowledge to support risk management and achieve common conservation aims.
Annabelle Aish commented that the strength of MAIA that it brings stakeholders together to discuss management questions rather than being a tool for collating scientific advice. Laurent Germain agreed that the role of MAIA is not to produce more scientific data but to connect the existing data with the managers and authorities responsible for MPAs. With regard to the deep sea, MAIA has so far only gathered data on these areas but has not had any involvement in their management. Here, MAIA could play a role informing authorities on the management process.

A further suggestion was that MAIA could have a role supporting the collaboration between EU Member States on the technicalities of existing and future deep sea Natura 2000 sites. There is an obligation of designating more marine sites, especially sites for marine birds and mammals, and there is still no cross border Natura 2000 site in the Atlantic. Moreover, there is a need to integrate fisheries activities in the management of Natura 2000 sites to ensure equity across the EU. MAIA could facilitate the necessary dialogues between Member States on coherent fisheries management in relation to Natura 2000 sites. MAIA could also become a technical forum on marine management for the EU.

The discussion then turned to stakeholder and citizen involvement in science and the role that this should play in MAIA. It was recognised that citizen science is gaining importance, what it is necessary to establish how this kind of data collection can be encouraged, how the data can be gathered and applied and what standards can be used to ensure robustness of the data. It was suggested that MAIA could be a means of utilising citizen science data.

It was also suggested that MAIA should become involved with the Regional Advisory Councils in the Atlantic region as these involve all relevant stakeholders.

The question was raised whether MAIA should become more involved in communication to the public and awareness rising on the importance of the marine environment and protection efforts. This could involve creating links with the European network of aquariums and providing them with the right information but also consolidating public awareness rising as a part of MPA management.

Teresa Salgado Lameiras (Management Authority of the INTERREG IV B Atlantic area programme)

Following the round table discussion, the speaker gave a short talk about the INTERREG context, at the end of which she announced that in 2013 there will be an invitation to request an extension of funding to continue the work on existing project such as MAIA, in order to allow these projects to reinforce and strengthen their partnerships and complete their work.

Session 5:

Perspectives for the MAIA network

Chairman: Rob Angell (RK Partnership Ltd)

Olivier Musard (Agence des aires marines protégées):

Introduction: importance of human networks in implementing ecological networks

A social network is a relationship based on a mutual interest to give and receive. In this, the human factor is vitally important. The individuals in a social network are brought together by a common subject and decide to pool their resources. The functioning of such a network depends on the input of its members. However, networks do not follow a linear trajectory, members join or leave at different times, depending on their motivation and readiness to contribute. These are challenges for a network. Further, each partner in a network must have a clearly defined function. When a network becomes institutionalised, it also needs a common aim and a strategy how to work towards this aim and strengthen its internal relationships. To get a network up and running smoothly and effectively it takes time. These are important messages to be kept in mind for the future development of the MAIA network, in particular as it wants to open up for new stakeholders to join, for example fisheries and social sciences.

Purificació Canals (MedPAN network):

MedPAN, MPA managers network experience in the Mediterranean sea

MedPAN has been in existence for three years and this is a useful opportunity to provide an update of what has been happening. The second status report for Mediterranean MPAs has just been published. There are 677 MPAs, of which 507 are marine Natura 2000 sites and 161 have legal status within national waters. There are only 9 MPAs which only have international status. The distribution is not well balanced with a lot more sites in the north where the resources of European countries are more significant. In total around 4% of the Mediterranean is protected in some way (although the figure is nearer 1% if the large PELAGOS cetacean protected area is excluded). This means we are well short of CBD objectives.

MedPAN launched informally in 1990 as a network between different managers. It developed a more formal basis in 2001 with 23 partners and Interreg III funding. Following the end of this project, it was decided to create an organisation with a more permanent structure. Nine founder members created MedPAN. There is now a permanent secretariat in Hyeres with 6 permanent members of staff; 31 members, 24 partners and 18 countries involved. Funding partnerships have been established with the WWF, IUCN and French MPA Agency.

We operate within the existing legislative frameworks within the Mediterranean such as the Barcelona Convention and the Habitats Directive. We also have a role both in site management and sharing our experiences to help decision makers strengthen policy. Our aim is to build close relationships between managers and members and optimise the links between training, experience exchanges. We are also keen to develop sustainable financing for the network, and to a certain extent provide some limited funds for small MPA projects in the Mediterranean.

Our main activities are: MPA database; workshops, small funding programme; website and MPA forum.

A key learning point for us is to strike a balance between growing and diversifying our network, but keeping strength within our core actions and aims. The financing model needs to be sustainable and focus on a long term mission. The size of our secretariat remains small to ensure that we do not become top-heavy and the emphasis of work remains within the partnership.

For the future we will be providing more regular updates to the database; provide better links between scientists and managers and improve capacity building to promote the skills within the network.

The three main strategic axes for the next four years are as follows:

- Being a network for knowledge, information, anticipation and synthesis
- Reinforce the vitality of the network, interactivity between members and building their capacity for an effective management of MPAs with stakeholders
- Reinforce the network's sustainability, prominence, governance and resources

The first two questions from the audience focused on the funding from the organisation, since it is a problem also faced by MAIA. MAIA is funded at the moment through public funds, and we should also look at private funding. This is also the same case for MPAs, where perhaps we should also look at private sources.

The speaker commented that they have funding from Mava or the Albert II foundation; but agrees that MPAs should consider accessing money from companies as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility programmes, even if it is a means for them to 'relieve their conscience'.

The second question was about the balance between keeping a small secretariat, but growing the network. In response the speaker explained that the secretariat has a strong role in developing information and ensuring that exchanges take place; but they don't want to take over. However, we do not very active and committed partners within the structure.

Dominique Duval-Diop (Secretary General, Regional Network of MPAs in West Africa (RAMPAO):

RAMPAO network experience in West Africa

The Regional Network of MPAs in West Africa (RAMPAO) covers an eco-region across seven countries in West Africa which are all strongly influenced by the Canary Current. In this region, more than 60% of the population lives in the coastal zone and there are highly productive fisheries and ecosystems representing sources of income and food security for local populations. The natural environment is still relatively well preserved, but experiencing increasing pressure and degradation. The creation of MPAs to respond to environmental pressures is a fairly recent

development which began only in the early 2000s.

RAMPAO's goal is to ensure that a consistent network of critical habitats is maintained at an ecoregional scale to secure the functioning of ecological processes that generate natural resources and biodiversity for the benefit of society. The objectives of the network include: 1) linking MPAs that are representative of critical ecosystems and habitats in the sub-region; 2) promoting exchange of experiences and mutual learning; 3) creating synergies between MPAs on topics of common interest; 4) making MPAs in the region functional and operational; and 5) strengthening MPA capabilities in advocacy and international representation.

The network was created in 2007 and includes 30 MPAs ranging from National Parks, Natural Reserves to biosphere reserves. An MPA cannot be considered to be part of the network until it has a management plan. Work has been undertaken to build more synergy in management within MPAs in the region. A database and information system of MPAs has also been developed and a gap analysis has identified 48 sites of potential ecological and biological significance.

The network is funded by international partners such as IUCN and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and has a secretariat with three staff members. In terms of structure, there is a General Assembly, Scientific Council and Advisory Council. The General Assembly determines the general priorities of the network; the Scientific Council provides technical advice and the Advisory Council oversees strategic, financial and organisational issues.

The RAMPAO network includes almost 95% of the total area of MPAs in the region, including 60% of the marine surface across five countries, and covers a large part of the critical sites identified in the region. It is formally recognised by all relevant ministries and has significantly improved the quality of MPA management across the region. It has developed a database and information system on MPAs and the eco-region and has conducted an ecological gap analysis identifying 48 sites of potential ecological and biological significance.

The RAMPAO network has successfully accomplished collaboration across different scales despite poor financial and human resources and weak government structures. It has achieved this through harnessing partnerships at different scales:

- Local and national scale: local pilot projects, working with regional partners, e.g. WWF, which inform and influence national policies and linkages.
- Local-regional scale: facilitating the sharing of local experience across the region through exchange visits, thus contributing to the dissemination of successful practices and influencing regional policies.
- National-regional scale: supporting the development of common policies, visions and principles, establishing a regional policy framework complemented by national priorities and action plans.

In order for the actors in a network to have the capacity to effectively coordinate their work and have shared aims and visions there must be a relationship of trust and a culture of sharing knowledge. Capacity building is critical to ensuring the engagement of all relevant stakeholders in the network. In this respect, MAIA should not only be a network of managers and technicians but should bring together a broader scope of actors.

MPAs are not only ecological but social systems. In order to be effective and sustainable, conservation measures need to be understood and accepted locally by local stakeholders, citizens and decision makers. All actors in an MPA network must be seriously and meaningfully integrated and capacity building is essential for this. At the same time,

power relations between different actors must be acknowledge and dealt with in order to ensure equity. Finally, RAMPAO has shown the importance of local experimentations and pilot projects which provide valuable experience and knowledge for the entire network.

Open discussion on the future of MAIA

Rob Angell: feedback on an executive level meeting on the future of the MAIA network

The Director of the Agence des aires marines protégées, Olivier Laroussine France concluded the Conference by saying that MAIA had produced some interesting results and ideas, and useful contacts for future collaboration. The MAIA database was designed in direct contact with MPA managers to understand and communicate what is being done in the different MPAs. The partner institutions have all shown an interest in a follow up of MAIA, though the funding is yet uncertain. Indeed, the need for further projects to establish coherent MPA management was identified as a key reason for the continued existence of a MAIA network. Ultimately we want to be more effective in the way that we manage our MPAs and to do this in the context of the EU integrated Maritime Policy.

After thanking the organisers and hosts of the conference, he provided details of the International Marine Protected Areas Congress in Marseilles, October 2013.

Tuesday 4th Dec. 2012 – Session 2

Focus on MPA practitioners and stakeholders expectations for the future (interactive session)

Overall Process

The conference had has one of its main purposes to shape and inform what a future network of marine protected areas might be like in the North Atlantic area. The hope was that conference participants could generate ideas on this for more senior level representatives of potential future network organisations to decide upon.

This objective was the reason for designing working group sessions for the conference participants and a separate "executive level" meeting for the decision takers from the potential future network organisations.

Creating the opportunity for participants to contribute

The conference was split into smaller working groups, with about 20 participants in each.
Each working group session was designed and then facilitated to gather input from the participants on what they thought:

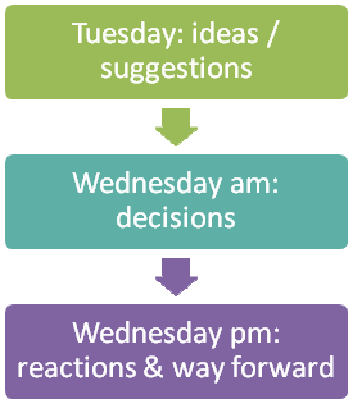
1. The purpose / goals of the network should be
2. Possible projects to collaborate on are
3. How network partners should work together in practice
4. The structure & governance / Status of the network should be

Using the outputs from the Working Groups sessions

The suggestions made and priorities indicated by the participants were fed into a "decision makers" meeting. This meeting was run in parallel with further conference sessions and was for senior level representatives of potential future MAIA network partners. The purpose of this meeting was to see if there was enough common ground for them to be able to agree to commit in principle to setting up and running a future network (and what its main purpose and role will be).

The decisions made at this session were then fed back to the conference participants for their information and to gather their reactions.

There was therefore a complete decision cycle; input, decisions, feedback for reactions / thoughts / comments and finally clarity on what happens next.



Session 2:

MPA practitioners and stakeholders expectations for the future

The working group sessions

Each of the 6 working groups were run in parallel, in other words they all ran at the same time. In addition each did the same thing. It didn't therefore matter which working group someone went to because each working group covered the same subjects. However, there was also an opportunity for each working group to see what the others said (and to briefly comment on it).

Background

- The aim of this session was to provide the conference delegates with an opportunity to generate ideas on the shape and function of a future network.

- The conference delegates were divided into six working groups of between 10 and 18 people in size. Each of these groups was assigned a room within the conference venue and were led by a facilitator who had been given training.

- In each room, four stations were set out in each corner with 'flipchart paper' and pens.

- The stations were labelled as follows: 'Purpose and goals'; 'Projects'; 'How to work together in practice' and 'Stucture and Governance'

- Small groups of between 3 and 6 people worked at each station to discuss their ideas and write them concisely on the flipchart. They then rotated to the next stations until they had completed all four. Between 10 and 15 minutes was allotted for each station. In order to ensure that the group arriving at each station had an understanding of what was discussed and written, one member of the previous group stayed behind.

- At the end of the session, everyone in the room was given four red sticky dots to indicate which of the statements in the room they wanted to indicate as a priority for the decision takers session, the following day.

- Everyone in the room was also given three green sticky dots that they could use to highlight key messages for the decision takers in the other five rooms.

- Any messages that had 'sticky dots' (either red or green) associated with them were identified as 'priority' and identified in the feedback given to a plenary session at the end of the afternoon and for the decision takers session the following day. In some cases the language within the messages was clarified and some messages were placed in different sections if the facilitator felt that it was a better fit.

Conclusion of the Working Groups (session 2)

The messages below reflect the prioritised responses gathered from the working group sessions. All of these had one or more stickers. Some of them have had their language clarified. Where the same point was identified in different rooms, these have been merged together.

Purpose and Goals

- Define and consolidate a coherent network of well managed MPAs
- Build local capacity for MPA management
- Have an MOU with other networks
- Environmental protection
- Education and dissemination to wider community
- Rationalise the different types of MPAs
- A common approach to managing priority species
- Complementary with EU directives and policy
- Involve the public and stakeholders in citizen science programmes to build support for MPAs
- Training for managers and trainers
- An informal network to ensure duplication is avoided

Structure, Governance and Status

- Expand the partnership (i.e Ireland, Scotland, Basque regions, Azores, Madeira)
- Thematic Work Groups Eg. Water, waste and fisheries
- Create an international profile and status for the network
- Adaptive and responsive to fit the purpose and goals
- A committee with representation from each country
- A stakeholder group
- Participation of external experts
- Scientific advisory committee
- Clearly defined figurehead for network
- MOU between partners
- Have an informal association with an appointed co-ordinator
- Have professional facilitation and mediation to ensure meetings are productive
- Don't set up anything new, do it under OSPAR

How to work together

- Sharing data
- Web based collaboration
- Sharing of personnel (e.g. secondments)
- Each partner should make financial commitment
- Networking & exchange for site managers (site visits & informal activities)
- Avoid duplicating other work and structures
- Make sure that there are face to face meetings and practical workshops
- Clarify and agree goals before starting any project
- Use both academic and stakeholder knowledge
- Include academic organisations, stakeholder organisations
- Use social media to share information

Future Projects

- Linking sea and land-learning from terrestrial experiences
- Project that assesses sociological and socio-economic impact on communities
- Use of technology to reduce the cost of monitoring and enforcement
- Standardise the method of developing management plans
- Standardise the method for monitoring MPAs
- Develop guidelines and methodologies on how to do stakeholder engagement, evaluation of management plans, monitoring, fisheries regulation, mineral extraction and decision making
- Evaluate human impacts (not just fishing) and develop new ways to minimise human pressure
- Evaluate the ecological coherence of the MPA network
- Develop a process in place through which new information on MPAs is added to the database (Eg through a

restricted access system for MPA managers)
- Promote the value and benefits of MPAs for alternative livelihoods, particularly in deprived communities
- Promote the value and benefits of MPAs at a regional and international level
- Evaluate the ecosystem services that are provided within an MPA
- Assess the effectiveness of the MPA network
- Develop and share case studies
- Improve knowledge on habitat mapping and functionality of endangered species
- Improve understanding on sensitivity of habitats and species to different human pressure
- Improve accessibility and interpretation of activity mapping – particularly for inshore fishing fleet
- Develop a common and coherent glossary of MPA terms and language

The facilitator, Rob Angell presented the 'key messages from the decision makers' back to plenary.

Executive Level – Decision Makers Meeting

A session was held for Senior Representatives of MAIA partners and other organisations invited for potential interest in participation in a future network of MPA practitioners.

The objective of the meeting was for those present to be able to make decisions on what they wanted to say back to the plenary meeting on how their organisations wanted to proceed with a future network of MPA practitioners.

The meeting was facilitated by Rob Angell from RK Partnership.

Those present were:

- Olivier Laroussinie (Director, French Marine Protected Areas Agency)
- Francois Gauthiez (Deputy Director, French Marine Protected Areas Agency)
- Neil Wellum (Head of Marine Conservation and Enforcement, Marine Management Organisation, UK)
- José Molares Vila (Head of Unit, Directorate General of Fisheries Development, Regional Government of Galicia)
- Marie Therese (ICNB)
- Mary Lewis (Maritime Policy Officer, Countryside Council for Wales, UK)
- John Clorley (Marine Biodiversity Department, Defra)

The meeting the outputs from the working group sessions from the previous day as their starting point.

The record for this meeting consists only of their agreements that they made. They are as follows:

Purpose and Goals of the future Atlantic Area MPA Practitioners Network

Enable effective management of MPAs by:

- Exchange of information, expertise and knowledge
- Developing consistent approaches/indicators and tools

that contribute to EU and international MPA obligations

Projects

Finding new funding streams for projects: e.g.

- Maintain and develop the existing MAIA database
- Evaluate the impact and benefits of MPAs
- Develop new guidelines and methodologies on management, monitoring etc

The workshop ideas show that the network is worthwhile, but our organisations need more time to properly assess and prioritise them and how they should be delivered

How to work together

- Actual meetings for exchange and learning etc on focused topics
- Web based mechanisms for wider projects (including the database)
- Implementing and collaborating to deliver the projects
- Exchange/swap of staff between partners
- Nominated person to co-ordinate the network (from within a partner organisation)
- Use of (moderated) web forum/notice board

Structure, governance and status

Who is part of the network?
MPA managers, regulators and advisors

Who can participate in projects undertaken?
Scientists, users, local communities, local government and NGOs

What area does the project cover?
It should encompass the whole of the Atlantic Arc area, including Ireland, Scotland, Spain, Azores, Northern Ireland, Isle of Man and Madeira.
The extent should be kept flexible and open for new countries and partners to join.

There should be a named person in each organisation that is the lead contact for the partnership project.

There could be a rotating lead role for the partnership group.

The network should be kept as informal as possible.

There will be some 'core functions' but more time is necessary to sort out how this will work.

Next steps

The MPA Agency will co-ordinate the next meeting of potential partners.

UK MMO will draft an MOU for partners to define how they will work together and what the network purpose is.

Decision takers will canvas views from colleagues in other organisations about potential involvement.

If and when there is another meeting, decision takers will contact other potential partners in countries not currently present to motivate them to come.

The French MPA Agency offers to allocate staff time to maintain the database in the short term.

The French MPA Agency will analyse the database to find out the status of MPAs in the MAIA area (as a baseline for future MPA development) and show where the gaps are in the information and see if this type of analysis is worthwhile.

Some present were not aware of the forthcoming International Marine Protected Areas Congress meeting in 2013, so the French MPA Agency agreed to circulate some more information.

The meeting considered the outputs from the interactive session

Session 5:

Perspectives for the MAIA network

A forward vision for the MAIA network

A panel consisting of the decision makers was present on the stage, with the exception of Olivier Laroussinie and José Molares Vila.

The facilitator, Rob Angell gave a summary of the outputs that were gathered in the previous day's session to gather ideas from the conference delegates. He reminded the audience that the prioritised messages had been used within the decision makers session and used as a starting point for their discussions. He also explained the key conclusions reached from the decision makers session.

The facilitator summarised his own impression of the meeting was that participants felt there was a shared commitment in principal and clearly enough concrete actions proposed to make sure that some kind of network was set up. However, with no new money available and the focus was going to have to be a collaboration which added value to people's work and their work programmes. On this basis they were keen to make something happen. With these next steps, they felt that there was enough concrete action to make sure that something was set up.

The audience were given an opportunity to say if they had any actions or thoughts on these conclusions.

1. There seems to be a discrepancy between two bullet points which state that 'there will be a network' and that 'if and when there will be another meeting'.
2. In the list of those that will participate in the network, it includes 'advisors' which can mean many things.

The panel responded with an example from the UK, that this meant those 'statutory' advisors who were called upon to give advice on the management of an MPA. On the other point, the facilitator explained that the notes were taken in real-time, so it was in fact a mistake and that there is a clear commitment for another meeting.

The facilitator asked the audience if they were happy and confident with what has been decided.

A representative from the States of Jersey noted that it was gratifying to see Jersey included within this network. It was also interesting to compare with similar networks in Africa. He stated that in fact the network could certainly help them to achieve their work. As a Crown Dependency they are keen to get involved and expect that this will help to achieve value for money and synergy with those with jurisdiction in neighbouring waters.

A member of the panel confirmed that they wanted MAIA to continue building on what it has achieved and want to continue learning

from each other and not repeating the same mistakes. They felt that they needed to keep it at this level since there are enough international and regional instruments. They wanted the focus to be on the practitioners and people that matter.

A panel member added that MAIA is about adding value to what we do, and if it does this, it is worth our organisations participating.

An audience member wanted to reinforce that it is very important for managers to co-operate and share experiences to ensure that their approaches are more coherent within the region. This is an opportunity that will be welcomed by all MPA managers.

A representative from the European Environment Agency said that with the MSFD it was important to have projects like MAIA to check and co-ordinate the efforts of MPA designation and ensure a coherent approach. The management of Dogger Bank marine Natura site, for example is shared between three countries and an organisation like MAIA is well placed to co-ordinate transnational efforts like this. MAIA can also assist with the biogeographical statements that are due in 2014. It is important to highlight the lack of funding available, since clearly there is a great deal of value to partnerships like this.

There was a question from the audience about how the MAIA database would link with OSPAR.

A panel member responded that it is important that there is not overlapping databases, and this needs to be carefully managed between MAIA and OSPAR. However, the MAIA database has more depth and detail on the management aspects of MPAs and this is important for the assessments for a well-managed and ecologically coherent network that are part of the OSPAR 2016 target.

The MAIA project manager added that a comparative study of the two databases was occurring right now.

The facilitator asked the audience how they felt about the process of coming to these conclusions. Putting it more simply he asked if they have had a good influence over the outcomes?

An audience member felt that it was an interesting exercise as it was an opportunity to talk to people that you wouldn't necessarily talk to.

A further comment was that one of the limitations at this stage was that the partners had not had sufficient time to reflect on which projects or elements might be taken forward.

An audience member stated that stakeholder activities were not featured strongly in the project, and asked if this would be addressed in the future.

A member of the panel explained that the MOU will set out the broad principles under which the partnership would work, it wouldn't be binding and legal. It would specify the purpose, who the partners are, how they are going to work together and how we are going to keep it under review. In principle it will describe where we are going.

An audience member made a comment on the process saying that the workshops on expectations for the future were on the assumption that money was not an issue, whereas the decision makers group clearly stated that there were no available funds, so perhaps the contrast between reality and hope was too great. He asked if there are other mechanisms for securing funding and which group should be responsible for sourcing it.

A panel member explained that it is important to identify areas of funding that could be accessed and was something that was

discussed within the Executive meeting. This could include Life+ or EMFF. Someone from the European Commission had stated in a parallel session that there was money available. It is important to be imaginative in finding sources and perhaps looking at public/private partnerships. The reality is that National and Local Governments have no extra money at the moment. It is a priority to look at how we can access other money.

The facilitator added that the observation on the contrast between the opening discussions with the premise that money was no object and the executive discussion in which the lack of money was a barrier. However, it was comforting that none of the ideas brought forward were discounted, and many of them could be achieved through good collaboration. In retrospect, it may have been more effective to have a more financially 'graduated' discussion.

A panel member added that this project should be ambitious.

This session was brought to a close.

MAIA

MAIA SIDE EVENT

www.maia-network.org

Announcement of the IUCN categories assignation to the French Atlantic MPAs

Tuesday 4 December 2012

Arcachon, France

French IUCN Committee
IUCN Experts

MAIA Side Event

UICN Comité Français

Agence des aires marines protégées

ATLANTIC AREA Transnational Programme
ESPACIO ATLÁNTICO Programa Transnacional
ESPACE ATLANTIQUE Programme Transnational
ESPAÇO ATLÂNTICO Programa Transnacional

European Union
European Regional Development Fund

INVESTING IN OUR COMMON FUTURE

Announcement of the IUCN Categories assignation to the French Atlantic MPAs

Thierry Lefèvre (French IUCN Committee)

The speaker presented the preliminary results of a study on the assignation of IUCN management Categories to MPAs along the French coast, undertaken by the French IUCN Committee in 2012.

At an international level, the number and surface covered by protected areas has been constantly increasing since the opening of the Yellowstone National Park in 1872. Today, there are 160000 protected areas with a large diversity of conservation objectives, protection levels and management approaches. In response to this, IUCN has developed an international referencing system to categorise protected areas based on their management objectives.

At the basis of the classification lies the IUCN definition of a protected area: it is a geographically defined, legally recognised area designated for the long term conservation of nature. The conservation designation can include ecosystems, ecosystem services and cultural values but the main IUCN focus is on the conservation of nature.

There are six categories of IUCN protected area classifications:

1. Wilderness: the objective is nature protection; permitted activities are limited to scientific observations.

2. National park: management objectives include protection of ecosystems and recreational activities.

3. Natural monuments: conservation of specific, mainly geographical features.

4. Habitat and species management areas: management interventions for the conservation of specific habitats and or species.

5. Protected landscapes/seascapes: management objectives focus on the interactions between humans and their environment.

6. Areas of sustainable management of natural resources.

The IUCN classification provides a common language and facilitates the sharing of information between countries through the United Nations database on protected areas. The classification system was set up in 1994 and in 2012 a technical guide was published focussing specifically on marine protected areas. The IUCN classification is not adaptable to individual national cases and there is no hierarchy of protection importance between the categories. The only differentiation is the different levels of human intervention that are permissible in the different categories.

To date, about two thirds of protected areas around the world have been classified, with categories 3 and 4 being the most frequent. Looking at the geographic distribution of categories, Wilderness areas are concentrated in northern Europe and

Australia while protected areas in southern countries are dominated by sustainable management designations. In Western Europe the most relevant designation category is 4, management of specific habitats and species.

IUCN also takes into consideration the governance of a protected area, distinguishing between centralised governance and local governance structures.

The classification process takes into account two elements. First, the main management objective of a protected area is determined. This must apply to at least three quarters of the area. Second, the designation must comply with the IUCN protected area definition.

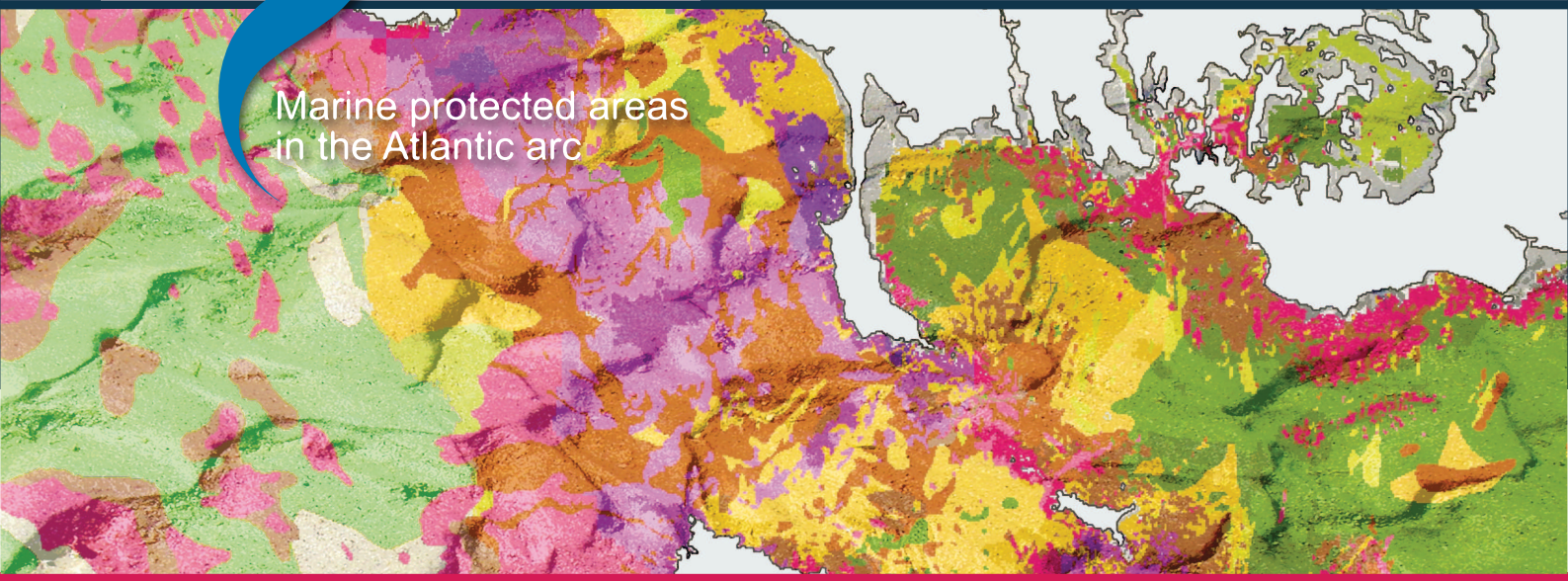
In the case of the French marine protected areas, OSPAR and Natura 2000 sites were not considered because they did not comply with the IUCN definition. The classification process encompassed 27 sites, including the marine nature park, national and regional nature reserves, natural hunting and wilderness reserves, habitat protection sites and world heritage sites; the majority of sites being national nature reserves or habitat protection areas. French marine protected areas are dominated by category 4, habitat and species management sites, with only one national monument, the île de Roi, and one protected seascape, the Iroise marine natural park. In terms of covered surface, however, the marine natural park covers most of the area considered by the IUCN classification, while category 4 MPAs only represent about 7% of the area.

In a next step, the classifications of the French MPAs will have to be validated with the site managers and agreed by the responsible Ministry in France. Hereafter, the classifications will be communicated to the European and United Nations databases and will form the basis of further IUCN recommendations.

MAIA

MAIA SIDE EVENT

Marine protected areas
in the Atlantic arc



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Marine Habitats Mapping For MPA Management

Monday 3 December 2012

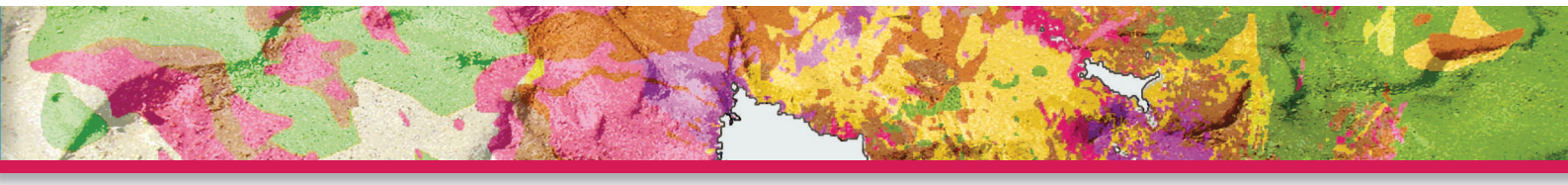
Arcachon, France

Highlighting the MeshAtlantic project results

MAIA Side Event

MESH ATLANTIC

Agence des aires marines protégées



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INVESTING IN OUR COMMON FUTURE

Monday 3rd December – Conference Side Event:

Marine habitats mapping for MPA management", in cooperation with the MeshAtlantic Project

Welcome

The delegates were welcomed by **Anne Littaye (Agence des aires marines protégées)** who highlighted the symbolic geographic location of the Conference in Arcachon, in the centre of the Atlantic Arc.

Session 1:

Marine habitat mapping for MPA management- highlighting MeshAtlantic project results

Background

The MeshAtlantic project aims to provide a harmonised seabed habitat map of the coastal and shelf areas of the Northeast Atlantic in order to aid the development of sustainable management plans at both regional and European levels. They recognise that the lack of habitat data is a barrier to the implementation of the Habitats Directive and Marine Strategy Framework Directives. The Mesh project partners wanted to find out how their outputs could best serve the needs of the marine community for MPA designation and management. A side event was therefore organised to introduce the project and some its outputs and to initiate discussions with the delegates over how the outputs could be used or improved.

Jaques Populus (MeshAtlantic Project Manager, Ifremer, France):

Introduction to the MESHAtlantic project

MeshAtlantic (2010-2013) is an Interreg IVb project aimed at producing complete, harmonised mapping of the coastal zones and continental shelf in the Atlantic in order to support sustainable development and MPA management in the region.

The first step of the project was to look at all the biological, geographical and sedimentary features present in the area. The MeshAtlantic mapping methodology incorporates historic maps and data as well as new data gathered throughout the project. This included bathymetric surveys as well as more difficult substrate surveys, based on which it was possible to reconstruct a continuous map of the continental shelf.

A challenge the project encountered was how to present the data in the best and most homogeneous way to make it available for all users. One important aspect was being able to inform the user about the quality of the data. The highest quality of data was always sought. A confidence assessment was undertaken for each of the data layers. A first trial map was produced using the EUNIS classification.

The conclusions that can be drawn from the MeshAtlantic project are that working

together is better than working separately. The project helped the harmonisation between countries for data maps and habitat classification. It allowed the development of common practice for shared protocols for surveys and mapping of sites across borders. It achieved this through seminars on data interpretation, exchange on research and working methods. The project has produced harmonised outputs and reports, common publications and tools (e.g. exhibition on seabed mapping, a common website, meetings).

Ibon Galparsoro (AZTI-Tecnalia, Spain):

Producing benthic habitat map

The speaker described the process of developing habitat maps.

Data is collected using multibeam echo sounder, Topographic LIDAR and hydrographic LIDAR to get 100% coverage of the coasts and shallow seas. The data is integrated and analysed to produce different layers such as depth, seafloor type and slope. Grab samples, ROVs and drop cameras are used to gather data on biological composition and sediment characteristics. Both of these data sets are combined and interpreted to develop a habitat map using the EUNIS classification. Habitat modelling analyses data sources to predict the relationships between physical data sets (depth, seafloor type) and point samples for biological data. The model can predict environmental characteristics for particular benthic communities or species of interest.

Two examples of the use of habitat maps were given. The first showed how you can use spatial catch data for lobster to relate to different morphological characteristics. You can extrapolate this data to develop maps showing low, high and medium habitat suitability for lobster.

The second focused on the development of broadscale habitat maps for the whole region where high resolution information is not available. The first step is the collation of available environmental maps with bathymetry, light penetration, substrate and sediment type distribution. Habitat modelling allows the integration of these layers to produce a habitat map which can be uploaded to a Web-GIS.

Conclusions:

- The integration of remote techniques significantly improves the quality of the information necessary for the seabed and process characterisation.
- Knowledge about the morphosedimentary characteristics and habitats is relevant in the implementation of laws; as well as in the adoption of management and conservation measures.
- The information and knowledge about benthic habitats and their ecological functioning is essential for appropriate allocation and management of marine activities in order to increase the socio-economic benefit and ensure GES is achieved.

There were a few questions from the audience which focused on the technical methodologies used. The speaker explained that the maps are a simplification of a great deal of information that is behind each polygon, but it is possible to examine the data behind it. He also explained that the map is static and cannot be updated as habitats change. Habitat mapping requires a great deal of resources so the focus will be on completing these maps and using them to help inform the MSFD. Lastly, the speaker reinforced that this data was not used by Portugal to help justify the extension to the continental shelf.

Other questions focused on the habitat prediction for lobsters. The speaker confirmed that the maps are not used by

lobster fishermen, but by fishery managers and government. There is no use of fishermen's ecological knowledge as such. Fishermen were contracted to participate and to complete a logbook.

Fernando Tempera (Department of Oceanography and Fisheries, University of the Azores, Portugal):

Video surveying techniques for seafloor habitat mapping

The presentation focused on surveying techniques, groundtruthing and bathymetry mapping in the deep sea around the Azores. The speaker started by introducing a definition of seafloor mapping as 'the process by which we identify the spatial location, extent, characteristics and conditions of geomorphological features and habitats occurring on the seafloor.' Habitat maps are required for Marine Spatial Planning, ecological studies, fisheries management, geological studies, infrastructure (eg. submarine cable) routing, extractive activities, military operations, renewable energy projects, harbour and seaways management, archeological mapping and leisure activities. Many different skills are involved in the habitat mapping process from those with expertise in collecting information, GIS analysts, and biologists, geologists, oceanographers, statisticians, managers and people working in public awareness. The quality of information and outputs is important as the maps will be used in decision making.

Seafloor maps can represent different scales, from a fine scale looking at species distribution on a seamount to very large scales encompassing the entire ocean.

Acoustic surveying was found to be the most accurate and cost effective method to obtain full seafloor coverage. It produces high-resolution maps of the seabed topography and composition, allowing a first assessment of seafloor diversity and indications about biodiversity. This then needs to be ground-truthed. Ground-truthing is a vital part of the mapping process and a number of different techniques and technologies can be used, including direct observation techniques like diver surveys, drop cameras, remotely operated vehicles (ROV), manned submersibles and baited cameras as well as collecting physical samples with grabs, dredges or box corers.

The speaker went on to present a case study: the Condor Seamount has been the focus of research for many years. Bathymetrical surveys provided an insight into the spatial distribution of rocks and sediments at the site. Drop-down cameras and ROVs were then used to ground-truth the bathymetry data. Ground-truthing found a vertical zonation of fauna along the depth of the seamount. By linking data on biological features with geomorphological variables, a habitat map of the site was produced.

The speaker explained that the outputs of these surveys have relevance for a number of applications: spatially explicit EUNIS marine habitat maps, baseline data for scientific research, assessment of marine resources, reviews of conservation measures, assessment of MPA ecological coherence and support of planning and decision making in the management of marine resources.

Following the presentation, a question was raised as to whether the ground-truthing techniques could be used to monitor habitats in coastal areas. The speaker explained that video surveying is being used in shallow waters in the Azores to complement scuba diving surveys. However, it is not used for monitoring since the focus in the Azores is on the status of fish populations rather than the integrity of the seafloor. Fishing in the Azores is mostly done by longlines and handlines and has little impact on the seafloor.

Jorge Goncalves (CCMAR, Faro University, Portugal):

Marine habitat mapping for the enhancement of MPA and Natura 2000 networks: MeshAtlantic case study on south western European coasts

This presentation focused on the use of habitat mapping for planning Marine Natura 2000 sites in Portugal. The objective was to produce maps of habitats and species that could be useful for marine management and protection. The 'RENSUB' project surveyed and mapped marine biodiversity identifying 32 new species and 26 species that were commercially threatened. The project developed diversity maps showing species richness, species density, and species with conservation status. The weighting was carried out using expert judgement. The maps show 5 levels of importance with red areas containing more species diversity or with conservation status. These maps helped to give a basis for a developing marine Natura 2000 network. The study area is completely covered by marine Natura 2000 habitats; so a more specific and comprehensive list was obtained using OSPAR priority habitats.

New surveys focused on three sites including a coastal site and submarine canyons and seamounts (Sagres, Gorringe Ridge and Portimão). They used acoustic surveys for bathymetry. Species data was collected using underwater visual census, ROV's, video sledge, beam trawl and Van Veen grab. This work allowed the development of basic mapped layers showing habitats and bathymetry that can be used for baseline studies. The surveys also identified new habitats of potential conservation significance.

Ultimately these maps have helped to identify areas for potential MPAs, established a baseline for monitoring of MPAs and mapped habitats that will become part of the OSPAR and marine Natura 2000 networks. Finally, the speaker reinforced the importance of input from stakeholders to ensure that the product is useful.

In a short discussion the speaker explained that this same model could be extended through the whole marine area to help plan an ecologically coherent network of MPAs, but it would be demanding on time and cost. However, he noted that it is important to have a methodology that can be repeated and replicated. In terms of moving from qualitative data (images) to quantitative data it is possible to automate the process, but difficult since species are difficult to identify. We are only at the beginning of this methodology.

Fergal Mac Grath (Marine Institute, Galway, Ireland):

Mapping for management and supporting directives (Marine Strategy Framework Directive, Water Framework Directive, "Birds" and "Habitats" Directives)

The focus for this presentation was how the MeshAtlantic project has been implemented and how its outputs are being used in Ireland, with a particular emphasis on management. This project is run by Infomar, the Irish national seabed survey, a joint venture between the Marine Institute and the Geological Survey of Ireland. Infomar operates in three pillars: 1) data acquisition, management and interpretation, 2) data exchange and integration, including the free provision of all Infomar data, and 3) gaining added value and generating funds and resources, e.g. from EU projects such as MeshAtlantic.

The speaker emphasised that the most important output of EU projects are the networks that are created throughout these projects. There has been an evolution of

European mapping projects and the importance of a developing network of institutes and expertise should not be underestimated. The MeshAtlantic project has helped to develop habitat mapping capabilities and mapping products. It has also helped to encourage the use and integration of data and ensured better alignment with EU policy such as the MSFD.

One of the principal outputs from the MeshAtlantic project is a Level 3 (and in some cases Level 4) Eunis habitat map for Ireland based on multibeam, GEBCO and substrate data. On a fine scale it has enabled the mapping of important sites such as Kenmare river. This supports the monitoring requirements under the Water Framework Directive in Ireland. MeshAtlantic also supports monitoring under the MSFD in Ireland. For the MSFD the Marine Institute has adopted a Sector, Pressure, Exposure and Sensitivity analysis based on the following ecological characteristics:

- Predominant seabed habitat types
- Predominant pelagic habitat types
- Species and functional groups

Other uses of MeshAtlantic data in Ireland include: EMODNET, academic research, hydrographic observations and modelling in the Kenmare River and fisheries research.

In conclusion, MeshAtlantic is a great example of mapping for management and supporting directives. Data outputs have a greater value and importance if they are made available as widely as possible.

A question was raised concerning the lack of biological information in the EUNIS level 3 and 4 maps which makes it difficult to determine the sensitivity and assess the vulnerability of habitats for the MSFD. The speaker agreed that much work still needs to be done, in particular in deeper seas with small spots of biodiversity, but that it is good information in the absence of other information sources. Fernando Tempera added that the bathymetry data also needs to be ground-truthed. He explained that by combining ecological data with geomorphology data accurate predictive habitat models can be created, which can then be verified by video survey ground-truthing.

Julie Tourolle (Ifremer, France):

The MeshAtlantic interactive web GIS: what can we find there?

The MeshAtlantic GIS website is linked to the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) metadata catalogue and presents habitat data collected and developed in Mesh and MeshAtlantic. It is still under development.

The website offers direct access to interactive maps, query pages for habitats, a free text search function and the option to download available data layers.

Available data includes:

- habitat maps based on the EUNIS classification
- historical and recent data
- a quality index for the presented data
- EUSeaMap data
- OSPAR habitat data (which goes beyond the Mesh study area)

The MeshAtlantic interactive web GIS is a useful tool for reports to Europe on what type of habitats is represented in a specific area.

In the following discussion it was made clear that the MeshAtlantic web GIS database is not designed to integrate all existing and new data but rather that it should be referenced on other database websites. Jaques Populus added that MeshAtlantic contributes to the bigger picture by integrating the Atlantic region but that a European perspective is beyond the MeshAtlantic project reach. ICES could produce maps for the whole of Europe

but that this would require a more extended effort which goes beyond what MeshAtlantic can do.

Benjamin Guichard (Agence des aires marines protégées, France) :

CARTHAM, what contributions for managing MPAs?

CARTHAM stands for 'Cartographie des Habitats marine Patrimoniaux'. It is a project that started in 2009 and is co-ordinated by the French MPA Agency. It is an inventory of French marine habitats, encompassing maps for 69 designated or planned Natura 2000 sites as well as the perimeter of 5 Marine Parks. The main objectives of this program were to establish the initial biological status on all marine Natura sites and marine parks, and to contribute to the national inventory of marine Sites of Community Importance. Ultimately it will provide the necessary knowledge to set up and manage MPAs around French shores.

The expected results are:

- A map of biological communities (using predicted mapping based on the physical nature of the seabed) to provide support to managers for data forms, targeted management plans, implementation of conservation measures, and monitoring systems based on initial status reports.
- Descriptive conservation status assessment matrixes to support the production of conservation status indicators.

The project used a consistent approach for the entire area developed with scientific input from the Museum of Natural History, Ifremer and SHOM. Two reference guides have been produced. The assessments were carried out by 41 consulting firms or research organisations and 17 marine biological stations. The data was acquired using multi-beam sonar, side-scan sonar, scuba diving, ROV and grabs. Right now in the process there are over 12,000 samples, more than 2,000 hours of diving and more than 4,000km^2 of sonar coverage. A long phase of processing and validation is now required.

The results of four case study sites were presented:

1) In Picardy and Opal Coast a study was completed this year, producing a habitat map and species richness map for the proposed marine nature park which it is hoped will be designated soon. The study found a strong gradient between the species rich deep rocky ridges, which lie in a busy shipping route and are of high conservation interest, and the species poor coastal area.

2) In the Normand-Breton Gulf different types of sampling take place over a very large geographical area, including five Natura 2000 sites and one Ramsar site, to support a future marine nature plan and zoning.

3) The third case study was the Rochebonne Shelf, a shelf which extends from 100m to the surface. It hosts a large biodiversity, is dangerous for shipping and has not been much studied up to now. This site has been chosen as a Natura 2000 site, and the conservation objectives have recently been presented. CARTHAM has collected considerable information on the site from diving surveys which will support the objective documents for the site.

4) Arcachon Bay hosts a Natura 2000 sites and two nature reserves as well as a proposed marine nature park. CARTHAM is supporting the management for the future Marine Park.

In the question and answer session, an audience member asked how far CARTHAM incorporates economic data e.g. from fishing and shipping activities. The speaker replied that the focus of CARTHAM is on biological data, but that this data should be cross referenced with general data on pressures,

especially for Natura 2000 sites. Annabelle Aish (Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, France) added that an approach is under development to asses the risk of different fisheries activities in correlation with habitat types and that this will be adopted in Natura 2000 sites.

The CARTHAM data will be made available for MPA managers in 2013 and will be disseminated through different platforms, e.g. the Natural History Museum, the Agence des aires marines protégées website, Ifremer, EMODNET and others.

Pascale Fossecave (IMA, France):

Developing empirical professional fishermen knowledge, what perspective for marine habitat mapping?

In order to protect MPAs, comprehensive knowledge of the ecosystems is essential. For this the knowledge of local communities must be taken into account and local actors must be involved. At the end of the MeshAtlantic project a set of habitat maps will be provided on the internet. This will provide stakeholders in the marine environment with tools that can be widely used for spatial planning.

The Basque coast, between Biarritz and the Spanish border has five marine Natura 2000 sites. It is an area that is also important for coastal fisheries, tourism and has a commercial port at Bayonne.

The area was mapped with a multibeam echosounder and diving surveys. The collected data has been processed into the first habitat map for the area showing 36 different habitats. This area is interesting since it is the confluence of Atlantic and Mediterranean habitat types. What we wanted to focus on was how to bring together this scientific data with fishermen's knowledge.

Recent work has looked at a number of ways in which fishermen's knowledge has been incorporated into scientific surveys. The study concluded that the empirical knowledge of fishermen can provide a rich and complex experience that can improve knowledge and existing assessments. However it is important to build trust and offer clear statements of how the data will be used.

A methodology has been proposed that details the collection, validation and integration of data, however the process has only just begun.

In the following discussion the speaker was asked about examples of integrating fishermen's knowledge in habitat mapping in other countries. The speaker explained that in Canada the cod fishermen had predicted the decline of their cod stocks which had then been used for the management of the stock. However, he went on to say that there are no examples that reveal anything on how fishermen's knowledge can contribute to habitat mapping. One way could be to focus video surveying on areas that are known to fishermen in order to make correlations between their knowledge and the survey data. The speaker said that the fishermen are generally interested but that the whole process is still in its infancy.

On this, it was commented that fishermen in the North Sea are often reluctant to share information about biodiversity hotspots for fear that the information will be used to stop their fishing activities. In view of this, a question was raised as to how fishermen can be motivated to contribute to habitat mapping. The speaker explained that in his experience the fishermen are aware that management is necessary and that they have an interest in participating in the management e.g. of a marine park rather than just suffering the consequences of the designation.

It was also noted that it would be important to share the results from this work.

The discussion then turned to the usefulness of data exchange not only for habitat mapping but also for fisheries management. It was made clear that two-way information exchange has to be the basis of work with fishermen in order to create the necessary trust. Jaques Populus concluded the discussion by stating that standardised maps can be of great interest to fisheries and shipping and that the Mesh habitat maps should be made useful for fishermen, which requires addressing the current problems of standardisation. He stressed that standardisation is a central requirement for a common map shared across Europe.

Discussion and feedback on the MeshAtlantic project:

how to transfer the MeshAtlantic knowledge to MPA managers and practitioners?

Jaques Populus started the discussion by prompting a range of questions and ideas: What habitats are 'useful' to be mapped? How to deal with the lack of biological data? Is mapping useful? What should be the focus? What would be the best tools? MPA managers may need advice and training on how to make maps and conduct surveys to get the data themselves in their MPAs. Is there a need for a standard in classification?

There needs to be classification or else a way of linking different classifications. Maps need to be familiar in order to be useable. How to get citizens and stakeholders to take part in participatory science, sharing their knowledge on the seabed? How to integrate outside information into the database? There is a need for an effective and accessible database.

There needs to be a common classification language and system, but the relationships between different classifications are complex and the definitions of habitats in policies are often not very precise, which further complicates the comparison of different classifications.

A fisheries representative voiced concern that Natura 2000 designations should not be used to manage and restrict fisheries activities while other activities are not being affected by the designation.

A further point of discussion was the resolution of maps. From a science point of view maps should be produced with the best data and highest resolution possible. For MPA managers however the complexity of high resolution maps is often not useful, thus the resolution must be adapted to management needs and type of use. It was argued that the level of detail available online allowed inadequate decisions if the manager had no guidance on how to interpret the data. However, simply using a bigger scale that does not show detailed features is not a solution as the detailed information is needed to manage the habitats in an MPA. What is needed are ways to disseminate scientific data that make the information understandable and usable for MPA management decision makers.

In response to whether seabed mapping will help define release areas for dredging materials from ports it was explained that mapping alone would not be useful for this purpose.

It was noted that currently MeshAtlantic can not provide a decision making toolbox. The focus is still on developing maps and locating habitats. In a next step these habitat maps would then have to be correlated with socio-economic values and compatibility/incompatibility of activities in order to then create a toolbox on how to use the maps for decision making. It may be possible to gain some insights from landbased maps where decision supporting tools already exist.

Jaques Populus concluded the discussion with some final remarks on the future development of seabed habitat mapping. He said that while MeshAtlantic is currently developing a static map, in the future this could become dynamic through the incorporation of new data batches. The challenge will be how to keep the maps updated. Further, while the maps are currently limited to physical data, it could be looked at how to integrate biological data.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 **MAIA Conference programme**
- Appendix 2 **List of attendees**

MAIA

MAIA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Marine protected areas
in the Atlantic arc

www.maia-network.org

1re Conférence du réseau d'aires marines protégées de l'arc atlantique

First Conference of the Atlantic Arc Marine Protected Areas Network

3 - 6 décembre 2012

Palais des Congrès
Boulevard Veyrier Montagnères
Arcachon, France

PROGRAMME

Agence des aires marines protégées

ATLANTIC AREA Transnational Programme
ESPACIO ATLÁNTICO Programa Transnacional
ESPACE ATLANTIQUE Programme Transnational
ESPAÇO ATLÂNTICO Programa Transnacional

European Union
European Regional Development Fund

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MAIA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

www.maia-network.org

SYNTHETIC PROGRAMME

	Monday 3rd December 2012	Tuesday 4th December 2012	Wednesday 5th December 2012	Thursday 6th December 2012
		First Conference of the Atlantic Arc Marine Protected Areas Network		
Morning		9:00 Session 1 MAIA project outputs	9:00 Session 4 MAIA connections with European policies and Regional Conventions	06:30 Visit to the Arcachon fish auction 08:15 Meeting at the Arcachon Marina for the morning visits
		Free Lunch		Lunch in the restaurant of the Cercle de voile d'Arcachon (CVA).
Afternoon	14:00 MAIA Side Event Marine habitats mapping for MPA management in cooperation with the MeshAtlantic Project	14:00 Session 2 MPA practitioners and stakeholders expectations for the future MAIA network - Working groups 16:30 Session 3 MAIA connections with European policies and Regional Conventions 18:30 MAIA Side Event French IUCN Committee	14:00 Session 5 Perspectives for the MAIA network	Afternoon visit
Evening	18:30 Press Conference MAIA welcome cocktail and exhibition opening	MAIA Official Dinner		

No fees required but compulsory registration on www.maia-network.org

LANGUAGES

The conference will be translated simultaneously in French, Spanish, English and Portuguese.

PARTICIPANTS

MAIA project partners, MPA managers and stakeholders, decision makers for MPA planning and management, competent institutional representatives, organisations, academics.

Agence des aires marines protégées

MESH ATLANTIC

IUCN

ATLANTIC AREA Transnational Programme
ESPACIO ATLÁNTICO Programa Transnacional
ESPACE ATLANTIQUE Programme transnational
ESPAÇO ATLÂNTICO Programa transnacional

European Union
European Regional Development Fund

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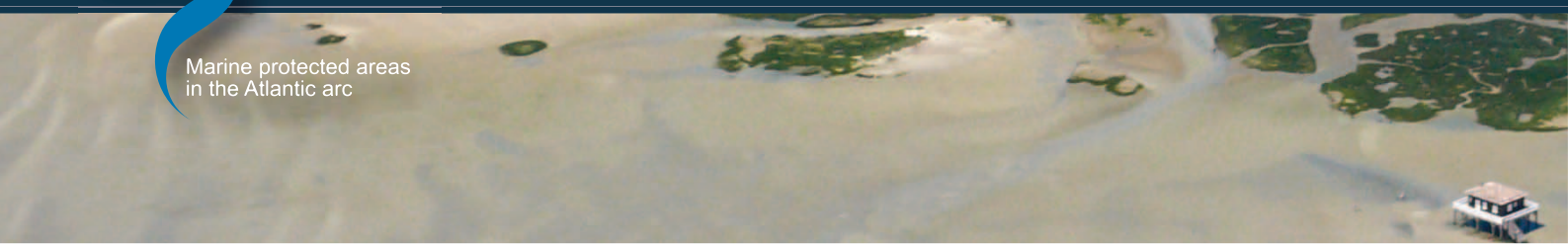
MAIA

Marine protected areas in the Atlantic arc

MAIA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



Monday 3rd December

13:30 Meeting, greeting and inscriptions

MAIA Side Event

Marine habitats mapping for MPA management, highlighting MeshAtlantic project results

Chairman: Jacques Populus, MeshAtlantic project manager, Ifremer (France)

14:00 Welcome

14:15 Producing benthic habitat map, *Ibon Galparsoro, AZTI-Tecnalia, San Sebastian (Spain)*

14:30 Q & A

14:40 Video surveying techniques for seafloor habitat mapping, *Fernando Tempera, department of Oceanography and Fisheries, University of the Azores - DOP/UAz (Azores, Portugal)*

14:55 Q & A

15:05 Marine habitat mapping for the enhancement of MPA and Natura 2000 network: MeshAtlantic case study on south west European coasts, *Jorge Gonçalves, CCMAR, Faro University (Portugal)*

15:20 Q & A

15:30 MeshAtlantic – Mapping for Management and Supporting Directives (MSFD / WFD / "Birds" and "Habitats" Directives), *Fergal Mac Grath, Marine Institute, Galway (Ireland)*

15:45 Q & A

16:00 Tea & coffee

16:30 The MeshAtlantic web GIS: what can we find there? *Julie Tourolle, Ifremer (France)*

16:45 Q & A

16:50 CARTHAM, what contributions for managing Marine Protected Areas? *Benjamin Guichard, Agence des aires marines protégées (France)*

17:05 Q & A

17:15 Developing empirical professional fishermen knowledge, what perspective for marine habitats mapping? *Pascale Fossecave, IMA (France)*

17:30 Q & A

17:40 Discussion and feedback.
Key points. How to transfer this knowledge to MPA managers and practitioners?
Best Use? Cost / Efficiency? Update?

18:30 MAIA welcome cocktail and MAIA exhibition opening

Tuesday 4th December

8:30 Tea & Coffee
Meeting, greeting and inscriptions

MAIA achievements and role in the political context of the Atlantic arc

9:00 Welcome
Olivier Laroussinie, Director of the Agence des aires marines protégées (France)

Session 1: the MAIA project outputs

Chairman: Purificación Canal, MedPAN network

9:30 Introduction to the MAIA project, *Laurent Germain, Agence des aires marines protégées (France)*

9:45 Understanding the legislative drivers that have shaped the MPA network of the Atlantic area, *Laurent Germain, Agence des aires marines protégées (France)*

10:00 Q & A

10:05 Developing common monitoring strategies in MPAs, *Yorgos Stratoudakis, IPIMAR (Portugal)*

10:30 Q & A

10:35 Tea & coffee

11:00 Status of MPA management plans in the Atlantic arc, *Xunta Galicia, Conselleria do Mar (Spain)*

11:25 Q & A

11:30 Experiences and lessons learned in involving international stakeholders in MPA planning and management, *Jon Davis, JNCC (UK)*

11:55 Q & A

12:00 Discussion and feedback.
Key points for success of such cooperation project. Presentation of the MAIA project's evaluation questionnaire

12:30 - 14:00 Lunch time

Session 2: MPA practitioners and stakeholders expectations for the future

14:00 Working groups

Session 3: MAIA connections with European policies and Regional Conventions

Chairman: Helena Maria Gregório Pina Calado, Departamento de Biologia, Campus Universitário de Ponta Açores, (Portugal)

16:30 MAIA achievements for European and Regional policies implementation.
Laurent Germain, Agence des aires marines protégées (France)

17:00 MAIA connections with European policies and regional convention (Round table)
- *David Johnson on behalf of Dr Darius Campbell, OSPAR Executive Secretary*
- *Fotios Papoulias, DG ENVI – Nature and Biodiversity, European Commission*
- *Luis Cuervo Spottorno, DG MARE – Maritime Policy – Atlantic, outermost regions and Arctic, European Commission*
- *Laurent Germain, Agence des aires marines protégées (France)*

17:45 Summary & Close

MAIA Side Event

Announcement of the IUCN categories assignation to the French Atlantic MPAs

18:30 French IUCN Committee (IUCN Experts)

19:00 End of the day

20:00 MAIA official dinner
Restaurant Diego
2 boulevard Veyrier Montagnères
Registration required

FIRST CONFERENCE OF THE ATLANTIC ARC MARINE PROTECTED AREAS NETWORK

Wednesday 5th December

8:30 Tea & Coffee
Meeting, greeting and inscriptions

Improve cooperation to promote the deployment of a well-managed MPA network in the Atlantic arc

Session 4 : Cooperation and collaboration in managing and planning high seas, off shore and cross borders MPAs

Chairman: Sébastien Mabile, Docteur en Droit public, droit de l'environnement

8:45 Introduction to the session

9:00 International stakeholder's involvement in offshore MPAs
- *Benoit Guerin, Executive Secretary of the South Western Waters Regional Advisory Council (SWW RAC)*
- *Alexandre Rodriguez, North Western Waters Regional Advisory Council (NWW RAC)*

9:15 Q & A

9:20 International stakeholder's involvement in high seas MPAs, *Gwenaëlle Le Gurun, International Seabed Authority (ISA)*

9:35 Q & A

9:40 Parc marin international des Bouches de Bonifacio experience (Corsica, France): creation of a European group for territorial cooperation to co-manage the Bouches de Bonifacio cross border MPA between France and Italy, *Maddy Cancemi, Parc marin international des Bouches de Bonifacio director (France)*

9:55 Q & A

10:35 Tea & coffee

10:30 Introduction to the round table: shared habitats and species, shared management
- *Laurent Germain, Agence des aires marines protégées (France)*
- *Annabelle Aish, Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle (France)*

11:00 What kind of tools to enhance high seas, off shore and cross border MPAs planning and management considering international stakeholders involvement? (Round table)
Expert witness : José Antonio Ruiz De Casas, Desk Officer, DG Regional Policy, Unit European Transnational and Interregional Cooperation, Atlantic Forum, European Commission

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch time

Session 5: Perspectives for the MAIA network

Chairman : Rob Angell

14:00 Introduction to the session
Olivier Musard, Agence des aires marines protégées, (France)

14:05 Importance of human networks in implementing ecological network, MedPAN MPA managers network experiences and lessons learned. Medpan network experience, *Purificación Canal, MedPAN Network*

14:25 Q & A

14:35 Rampao network experience, *Dominique Duval-Diop, Secretary General Regional Network of Marine Protected areas in West Africa (RAMPAO)*

14:50 Q & A

15:05 Tea & coffee

15:30 A forward vision for the MAIA network and open discussion

Final conclusion

16:30 Conclusion of the 1st conference of the Atlantic arc MPAs network - Introduction to the 3rd International Marine Protected Areas Congress (October 2013, Marseille, France), *Olivier Laroussinie, Director of the Agence des aires marines protégées (France)*

17:00 Explanation of plans for the next day (site visits)

Thursday 6th December

Site visits

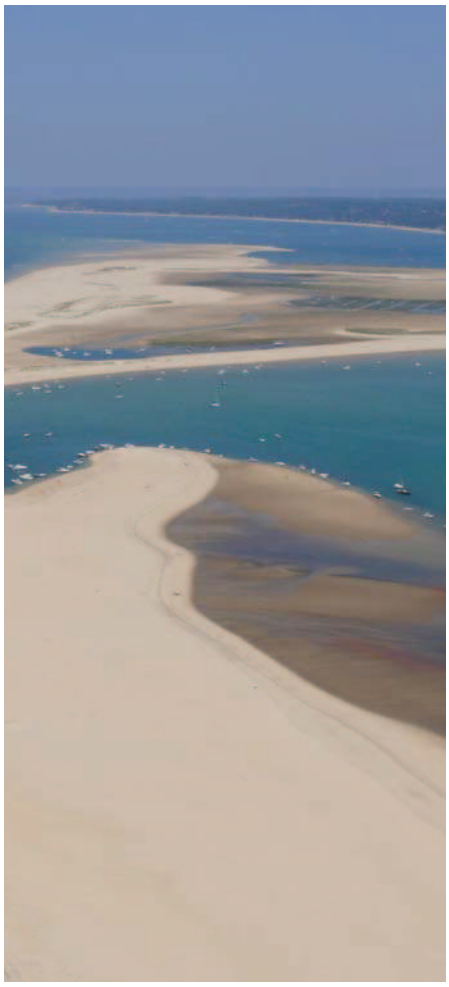
6:30 Visit to the Arcachon fish auction

8:15 Meeting at the Arcachon Marina for the morning visits

13:00 Lunch at the restaurant
The Cercle de voile d'Arcachon

14:00 Departure for the afternoon visit

16:30 End of the day



First Conference of the Atlantic Arc Marine Protected Areas Network (Dec. 2012, Arcachon, France)

Number of attendees: 127

ORGANIZATION	NAME	
1er Adjoint au maire d'Arcachon	PHILIPPON	Daniel
A2DBA	ACOT-MIRANDE	Jean-François
A2DBA	COLIN	Jean-Pierre
A2DBA	DUPOY	Jean-Claude
A2DBA	PERRIN	Marie-France
A2DBA	RUIZ	Gérard
ADERA / CRPMEM Aq / LPO Aq	DANIEL	Gwennaëlle
ADPPM	FRIBOURG	Jean
Agence des aires marines protégées	ABELLARD	Olivier
Agence des aires marines protégées	CARRIER	Sonia
Agence des aires marines protégées	CARRIER	Sonia
Agence des aires marines protégées	DUPECHAUD	Laure
Agence des aires marines protégées	EYNAUDI	Amandine
Agence des aires marines protégées	GAUTHIEZ	François
Agence des aires marines protégées	GAUYACQ	Nathalie
Agence des aires marines protégées	GERMAIN	Laurent
Agence des aires marines protégées	GUICHARD	Benjamin
Agence des aires marines protégées	GUILLON	Nathalie
Agence des aires marines protégées	HARLAY	Xavier
Agence des aires marines protégées	HUBERT	Romain
Agence des aires marines protégées	LE FUR	Fanny
Agence des aires marines protégées	LECA	Pierre
Agence des aires marines protégées	LITTAYE	Anne
Agence des aires marines protégées	MANNAERTS	Gerald
Agence des aires marines protégées	MARRAS	Phénia
Agence des aires marines protégées	METZLER	Nathalie
Agence des aires marines protégées	MUSARD	Olivier
Agence des aires marines protégées	ODION	Mélanie
Agence des aires marines protégées	PAILLET	Jérôme
Agence des aires marines protégées	PAQUIGNON	Guillaume
Agence des aires marines protégées	RIVIERE	Tiphaine
AGLIA	PANHELEUX	Marion
arca-coop op	COIFFEC	Gaëlle
AUPPM33/UNAN33	MULCEY-LONGAU	Claude
Azimut ong	MASSE	Alexandra
AZTI-Tecnalia	CASTRO	Raúl
AZTI-Tecnalia	IBON	Galparsoro
BAE	LACASSAGNE	Gilbert
BAE	VUILLEMIN	Pierre
Bassin d'Arcachon Ecologie	BRANGER	Françoise
BRGM	HOHMANN	Audrey
BRGM	MULLER	Héloise
CCMAR - University of Algarve	GONÇALVES	Jorge M.S.
CCSPB	DUVAUCHELLE	Cécile
CDPMEM 33 / CRPMEM Aquitaine	KHAYATI	Alice
CDROM	CONTRE	Pierre
CEBA	MARODIER	Jean
CEBA	MORA	Gisèle
CEBA	RICQUIER	Marie Helene
CEBA	SERRANO-MARTINI	Pierre
Comité Départemental des Pêches Maritimes et des Elevages Marins de la Gironde	LABROUSSE	Jean-Michel
Comité des Pêches du Finistère	QUENTEL	Armand
Comité national des pêches	DUCLOY	Perrine
Comité National des Pêches Maritimes et des Elevages Marins	JOURDAIN	Jérôme
Conseil Général de la Gironde	AUDY	Olivier

Conseil Régional d'Aquitaine	BERGE	Mathieu
Consellería do Medio Rural e do Mar	MOLARES	José
Conservatoire du littoral	KISIELEWSKI	Isabelle
Conservatoire du littoral	PERRIN	Katia
COREPEM	HUBERT	Antonin
Countryside council for Wales	LEWIS	Mary
CRPMEM Nord-Pas de Calais/Picardie	VIERA	Antony
DDTM Gironde	COURGEON	Laurent
Deloitte	CABAUSSEL	Matthieu
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	CLORLEY	John
Diputacion Foral de Gipuzkoa	JON	Zulaika
Direction Interregionale de la mer Sud-Atlantique	DE CHAVANES	Eric
Direction Interregionale de la mer Sud-Atlantique	MARTIN-ROUMEGAS	Lydia
Direction interrégionale de la mer sud-atlantique	METAYER	Hervé
DIRM SA	VERDIER	Jean-Bastien
Ecologue	DOBIGNY	Sandra
EEA-European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity (ETC/BD)	MAC SHARRY	Brian
Environment Department, States of Jersey	SHRIVES	Jonathan
Etudiante	GAUYACQ	Sandrine
European Commission	CUERVO SPOTTORNO	Luis
European Commission	PAPOULIAS	Fotios
FNPPSF	DANIS	Annick
GIS	NEGRE	Sébastien
Gujan Mestras Environnement	ROSSI	Yvonne
ICNF	HENRIQUES	Miguel
ICNF	LEONARDO SERAFIM	Teresa
ICNF	SERAFIM	Teresa
Ifremer	BERTHOU	Patrick
Ifremer	PLUS	Martin
Ifremer	POPULUS	Jacques
Ifremer	TOUROLLE	Julie
Indépendant en écologie marine	GRIMA	Damien
Institut de Géographie et d'Aménagement Régional de l'Université de Nantes	LOYEN	Mickaël
Institut des Milieux Aquatiques	FOSSECAVE	Pascale
Institut des Milieux Aquatiques	SOULIER	Laurent
Intenational Seabed Authority (ISA)	LE GURUN	Gwennaëlle
Interreg Management Authority	SALGADO-LAMEIRAS	Teresa
IPMA	STRATOUDAKIS	Yorgos
IUCN France	LEFEBVRE	Thierry
JNCC	DAVIES	Jon
LPO	BOUE	Amélie
LYSIAS PARTNERS	MABILE	Sébastien
Marine Institute	MC GRATH	Fergal
Marine Management Organisation	WELLUM	Neil
MedPAN	CANALS	Purificacio
Ministére de l'Ecologie, du Développement durable et de l'Energie	DE PINS	Charlotte
Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle	AISH	Annabelle
North Sea RAC	VISSER	Willem
Oceana	FOURNIER	Nicolas
Parc naturel marin d'Iroise	LASPOUGEAS	Claire
Pêcheurs de Bretagne	GACE RIMAUD	Nolwenn
Préfecture de la région Pays de la Loire	TOURILLON	Bertrand
R K Partnership Ltd	ANGELL	Rob
RAMPAO - Regional Network for Marine Protected Areas in West Africa	DUVAL-DIOP	Dominique
Réserve Naturelle Nationale du Banc d'Arguin	LE NOC	Christophe
Seas Life	FRIEDRICH	Laura
Seas Life	HOOPER	Thomas
Seascape Consultants Ltd	JOHNSON	David
SEPANSO - France Nature Environnement	DELORME	Dimitri
SEPANSO - France Nature Environnement	FROIDEFOND	Jean-Marie
States of Jersey	ENTWISTLE	Mike

UNAN 33	DENECHAUD	Mireille
Universidade dos Açores	COSTA	Ana
Université des Açores	CALADO	Helena
Université François Rabelais	GALLAIS-BILLAUD	Antoine
University Bordeaux II	FERRAN	Jean-Renaud
University of A Coruña	ALVAREZ FERNANDEZ	Inma
University of A Coruña	INES NAYA	Inés
University of the Azores	TEMPERA	Fernando
XUNTA DE GALICIA - Consellerêa do medio rurale e do mar	FRANCISCO JAVIER	Filgueira Rodriguez
	BIDONCAUBIT	Danielle
	JENNER	Martine

MAIA

Marine protected areas
in the Atlantic arc

Développer un réseau d'aires marines protégées sur l'arc atlantique

Le projet de coopération MAIA vise la constitution d'un réseau de **gestionnaires et d'acteurs** d'aires marines protégées (AMP). Ce réseau humain, **force de proposition** à l'échelle internationale en matière de désignation, de gouvernance, de gestion, œuvrera au **déploiement d'un réseau d'aires marines protégées** représentatif, cohérent, efficace et accepté sur l'arc atlantique.

MAIA s'organise en 4 groupes de travail technique :

- Etat des lieux des AMP existantes
- Stratégies de suivi
- Plans de gestion
- Intégration des acteurs

MAIA réunit 9 partenaires **impliqués dans la désignation et la gestion d'AMP,** issus de quatre pays européens : Royaume-Uni, France, Espagne et Portugal.

L'Agence des aires marines protégées, en tant que chef de file, assure la coordination globale du projet.

Plan d'action 2010 – 2012

Des ateliers techniques sur des problématiques de gestion communes aux AMP de l'arc atlantique.

Des visites de sites dans chaque pays partenaire qui visent le partage de savoir-faire.

Des analyses transversales afin de comparer les situations des AMP de l'arc atlantique.

Des études de terrain réalisées par les partenaires, qui alimentent les échanges au sein du réseau.

Un site web dédié qui intègre un espace collaboratif réservé, une base documentaire et une base de données SIG qui établira un point de référence de l'état des AMP sur la façade atlantique.

La réalisation et la diffusion de ressources documentaires.

Towards an Atlantic network of Marine Protected Areas

The purpose of the European Marine Protected Areas in the Atlantic arc (MAIA) project is to create a **network of MPA managers and stakeholders**, who will take initiatives on an international level in terms of designation, governance and management. This will be to enhance the **development of a consistent, efficient and accepted MPAs network** in the Atlantic arc.

MAIA is structured in 4 main technical lines of work:

- State-of-play of the existing MPAs
- Setting up common monitoring strategies
- Implementing management plans
- Involving stakeholders

MAIA gathers 9 partners from 4 countries: United Kingdom, France, Spain and Portugal, **involved in MPAs designation and management.**

As lead partner, the French Marine Protected Areas Agency, coordinates the project implementation.

The 2010 – 2012 Action Plan

Organisation of technical workshops on common MPA management issues in the Atlantic arc.

Site visits in each partner country to enhance the sharing of information, knowledge and know-how.

Overview reports to compare MPAs' situation in the Atlantic arc.

Field studies to be carried out by MAIA partners, promoting the exchanges within the network.

Creation of a dedicated website, including a private collaborative space, a document database and a GIS database used to establish a baseline on the status of MPAs in the Atlantic arc.

Production and dissemination of document resources.

www.maia-network.org

ATLANTIC AREA Transnational Programme
ESPACIO ATLÁNTICO Programa Transnacional
ESPACE ATLANTIQUE Programme Transnational
ESPAÇO ATLÂNTICO Programa Transnacional

European Union
European Regional Development Fund

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