



The Atlantic Region Transnational MPA Project



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Presentation of Agence des Aires Marines Protégées



The French Marine Protected Areas Agency

A new National Agency funded by French Ministry
of Environment (law on marine nature park in 2006)

In charge :

- ✓ To support public policies in the field of marine protected areas (in French Waters, including french territories overseas)
- ✓ To manage the human and financial resources dedicated to marine nature parks and others MPA.
- ✓ To federate and help managers of marine protected area



Vision for the network of marine protected areas

- Integration in the monitoring system
- Representativeness of habitats and species of special interest
- Protection of ecosystems with important ecological functions
- Contribution to the sustainable development of human activities at sea
- Contribution to integrated coastal zone management



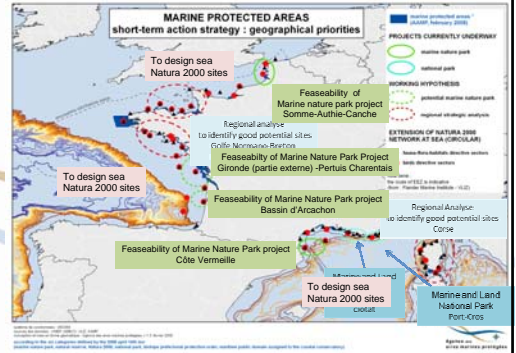


Meeting the 2012 target

- To adapt Natura 2000 to the sea and to complete the network by June 2008
- To set up a new tool, the « marine nature park », and to establish 10 of them before 2012



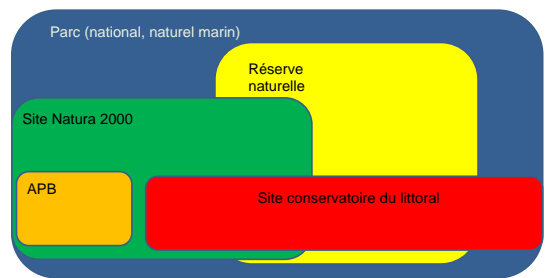
The French National Strategy



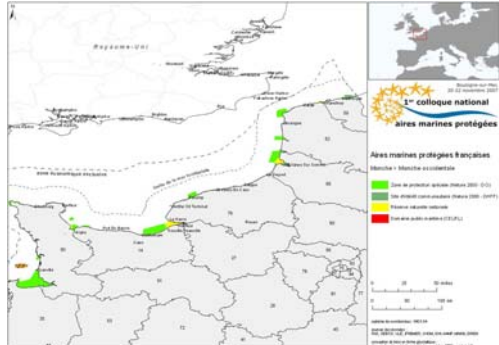
French existing MPAs



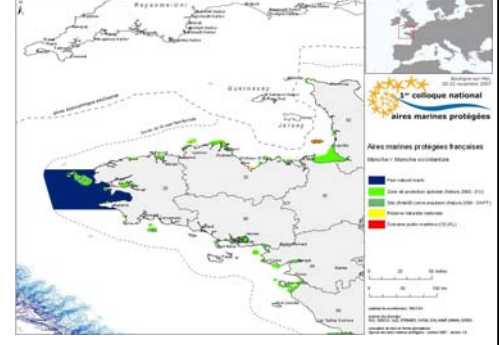
Different French kind of MPA



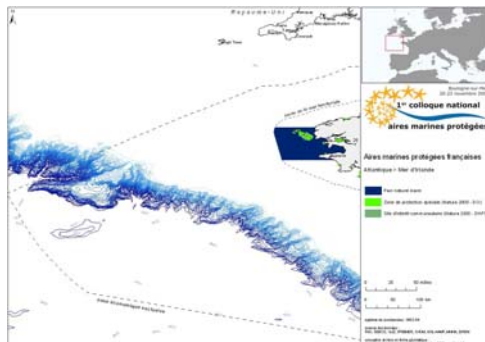
The french existing MPAs on English channel shore (1)



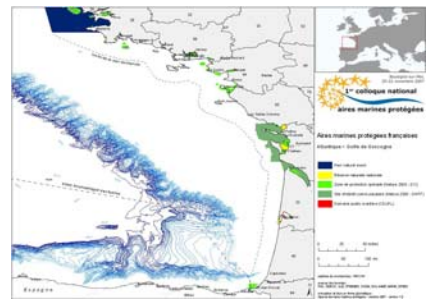
The existing french MPAs on English channel shore (2)



(NO) existing MPAs on French Atlantic EEZ



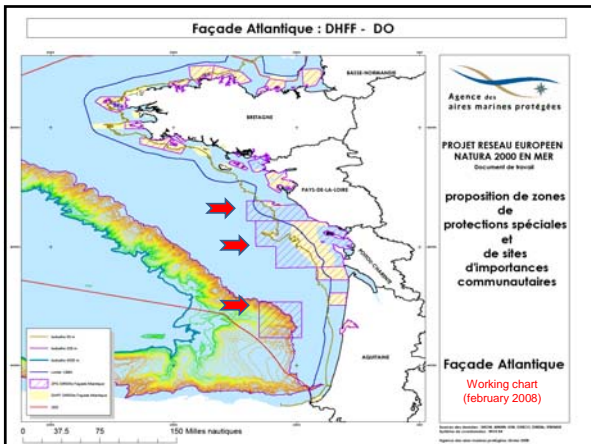
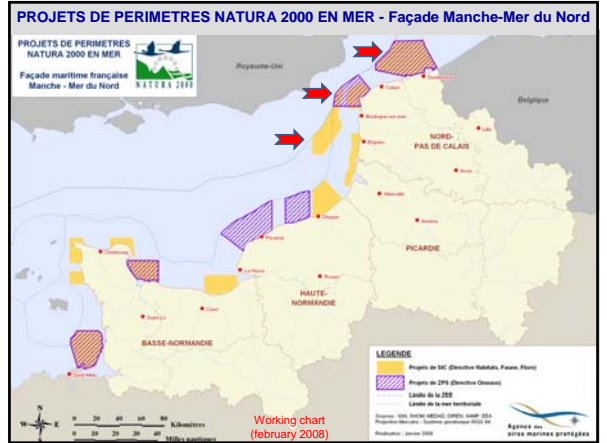
The French existing MPA on Atlantic shores





French Natura 2000 sites projects on Atlantic area

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Necessity to maintain a good conservation status



End of designation process of Natural 2000 sites in all countries by the end of the year.

→ Good conservation status of the habitat and species designated (evaluation every 6 years)

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Next steps...



o In France the chosen method for N2000 sites involve

- Creation of local steering group for each site
- Elaboration of managing plans
- Information of all stakeholders (local and foreigners) of measures in application

o in the North West Atlantic European area

- To implement the management measures adopted by all the contracting countries part of the OSPAR Convention (12 habitats, 22 species). They complete the 94 protected species and 9 habitats of Natura 2000 directive)
- To improve scientific knowledge about marine ecosystem of atlantic sea and to protect them
- To allow a sustainable and long term exploitation of fishery industry in The Atlantic (RAC responsibility).



To go beyond....

A MPAs Cooperation Program in North East Atlantic



Concerned area : North East Atlantic



The maritime area covered by the OSPAR Convention includes 5 regions of the North-East Atlantic:

I: Arctic Waters; II: the Greater North Sea; III: the Celtic Seas; IV: the Bay of Biscay and Iberian Coast; V: the Wider Atlantic.



General aims of the project



- To meet the international commitment (Biodiversity convention, OSPAR sea convention, Natura 2000) to set up a MPA network in order to stop biodiversity erosion.
- To anticipate implementation of the Marine strategy directive for the environmental protection of Europe seas and oceans (→ the directive includes member states' obligation to establish marine protected areas).
- To make connection between scientific approach and stakeholders interests and to involve everybody from the beginning.



A necessary partnership



- o **Scientifics** => To gather scientific information
To present them in a comprehensive way to stakeholders.
- o **Stakeholders** => To evaluate acceptability of proposals.
To bring owns knowledge and proposals,
- o **National Authorities** => To valid proposals
- o **MPA Managers** => To developp and implement managing plans



Scientific possible inputs



- **CoralFish (7th UE PCRD)**
Assessment of the interaction between corals, fish and fisheries, in order to develop monitoring and predictive modelling tools for ecosystem based management in the deep waters of Europe and beyond
- **Regional scale programs (eg : Charm)**
The CHARM project aims to develop an integrated system of marine management for the evaluation of living resources, important species and habitats in the Eastern English Channel.
- **Natura 2000 knowledge program**
- **« French Marine Life » (LIFE+) 2009-2013**
To get scientific knowledge on french EEZ (habitats, marine mammals, sea birds, turtles, sharks, rays) & To set up technics and methods for effective and long term monitoring.
- **Same** - Reefs SAC Assessment & Management in Europe
Establishing a network of marine conservation expertise



Project proposal 2009-2013

WORKPACKAG	ACTIVITIES	OUTPUTS
ES		
1 - Identification of potential location for offshore & coastal MPAs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Collect users'Knowledge •Gather the best scientific data available for decision on large scale •Organize sharing decision (meetings, workshop) with national and international steering group •Establish proposal forms for the selected areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GIS data base (scientific & stakeholders uses) • Reliable proposals for MPA in coastal zone and offshore area of the Economic Exclusive Zone of each participating country • Guidelines to design offshore and coastal MPAs



Project proposal 2009-2013

WORKPACKAG	ACTIVITIES	OUTPUTS
ES		
2 - Integrated management for MPAs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Integrate stakeholders and users in the decision making in local steering group •Integrate the different functional scales •Elaborate management plans •Increase stakeholders and users environmental awareness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management plans on pilot areas : 2 to 5 for each country • Guideline (Methods and tools) for each functional scale and kind of MPA • Reliable indicators for managing MPAs



Project proposal 2009-2013

WORKPACKAGES	ACTIVITIES	OUTPUTS
3 - Network of Atlantic MPAs (sites and managers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect the information on Atlantic MPAs Promote exchanges between MPAs Identify shared needs Associate European partners to elaborate common tools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atlantic MPAs database Common culture and proposals in UE and OSPAR decision making Website and newsletter Operational network of competences on MPAs through the actions of stakeholders, managers, scientists and local authorities.

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Funding

INTERREG - Volet IIIB

priority n°2 : Sustainable management of resources and management of risks

theme 1 : to promote sustainable and innovative approach of managing natural resources (as biodiversity)



2 UE countries at minimum
Between 8 to 20 partners
Contribution level : 50%
Period of time : 2007-2013

First call start in March 2008
end in May 2008

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Funding

INTERREG - Volet IVC

priority n°2 : Environment and risks prevention

theme 4 : biodiversity & preservation of natural heritage (to connect Natura 2000 sites)



3 UE countries at minimum
Between 8 to 20 partners
Contribution level : 75-85%
Period of time : 2008-2013

Second call start in June 2008
end in October 2008

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Commons goals



-Regional Initiative Projects= exchange of experiences and identification, analysis, dissemination and transfert of good practices.

→ good practice guide, policy recommendation

- Capitalisation Projects = Transfert of regional development good practise into structural Funds Mainstream Programm.

→ concrete action plan (strategic document which define how good practices will be implemented in each region).

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Calendar for preparation of project




- o January/February => **Looking for partners**
- o March => **call for contributions**
- o March/June => **To elaborate project with all partners (national+UE)**
- o Summer => **Finalization of document**
- o October 2008 => **Submission of the project**




Potential EU leader partners objectives



- o **England** (finding sanctuary & Natural England) => Design and plan a network of MPA around south England based on science and developed with a wide cross section of stakeholders.
- o **Spain** (Centro Tecnológico do mar - cetmar) => Identification of stakeholders groups and potential locations for the implementation of MPA. Development of a legal and management framework for a network of MPA.
- o **Portugal** (IPIMAR Laboratory) => Assess current fishing, ecology and environmental aspects on 38 km of a rocky coast through a monitoring program and GIS spatial data base.
- o **France** (agence des aires marines protégées) => Identification of good location of MPA in offshore area, test of governance in pilot MPA (different kind of status), set up a network of MPAs in Atlantic and mid channel zone.




Potential EU leader partners (areas)



Workpackage 1 : Identification of potential location for offshore & coastal MPAs

- o **England** => Coast & seas around South West Region – finding sanctuary Eastern English Channel – Natural England
- o **France** => French EEZ Atlantic and mid channel zone – Agence des aires marines protégées
- o **Spain** => Coastal area of Galicia – Centro Tecnológico do mar
- o Portugal ? Ireland ? Germany ? Belgium ?

WARNING : IT IS IMPORTANT TO GET IN MIND THAT FINAL DECISION DEPEND ON NATIONAL, EUROPEAN & INTERNATIONAL AUTHORITIES




Potential EU leader partners (areas)



Workpackage 2 : Integrated Management of MPA through Trial Sites

- o **Spain** => 2 sites in Galicia for fishery management : Os Minarzos Marine Reserve & Ria de Ceidera Marine Reserve (+ two others at early stage)
- o **France** => 3 to 4 sites : Parc Marin de l'Iroise (3550 km²), Archipel de Chausey-Conservatoire du Littoral (50 km²), Glenan Islands N2000 site (km²) and one or two others to find out.
- o **Portugal** => 1 site : parque natural do Sudoeste Alentejano e Costa Vicentina (174 km²)
- o **England ? Belgium ? Netherlands ? Ireland ?**





Potential EU leader partners



Workpackage 3 : To build a Network of european MPAs

- o France, UK, Spain, Portugal, Ireland => all existing and incoming MPA (sites and managers)



RAC = a good scale place to

- o To exchange about fishery policies and marine environmental policies issues
- o To exchange data on uses, on scientific inputs, on living resources exploited in marine areas, ...etc
- o To discuss fisheries Management implications of MPAs
- o To valid each step of the process of designation of area of natural interest within coastal and offshore area.



Question : what is the interRAC point of view for this 3 years program project ?



Thanks you for attention



Photos : L. Flageul, Y. Gladu