

marine
spatial
planning
global



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MSPglobal 2.0 National Training in Fiji

Suva, 1-2 April 2025

Organised by:



Pacific
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With the support of:



Introduction to MSP

Speaker, IOC-UNESCO

Human impacts the Ocean

Just because you can't see it, it
doesn't mean it isn't there



And the Ocean also impacts us



The Ocean is **not** homogeneous



**Some areas are
more important
than others in relation
to specific aspects**



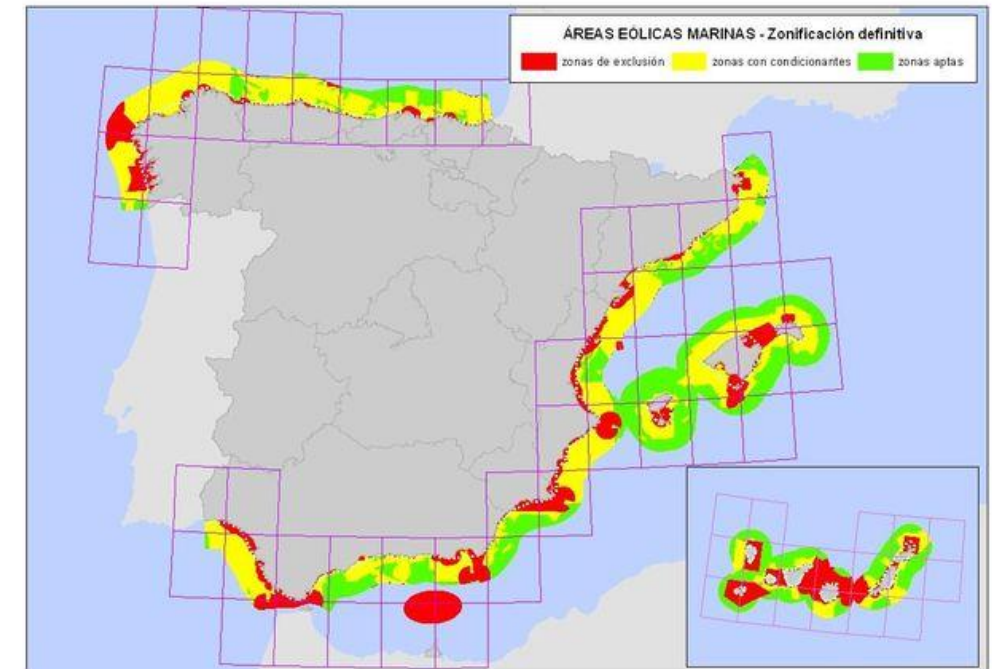
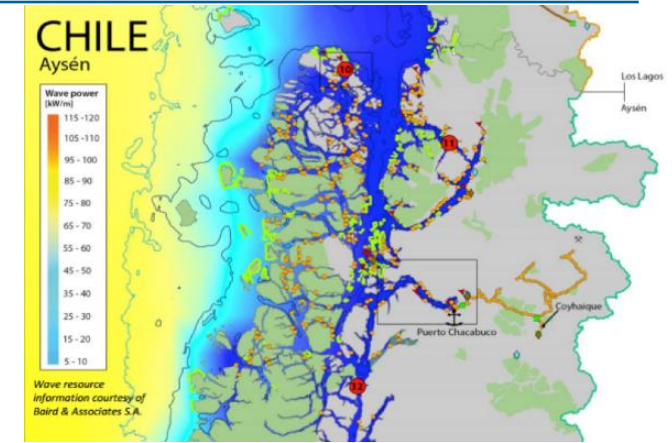
Some areas are more ecologically important than others

- Areas of High Biodiversity
- Areas of High Endemism
- Areas of High Productivity
- Spawning Areas
- Nursery Areas
- Migration Corridors and Stopover Points

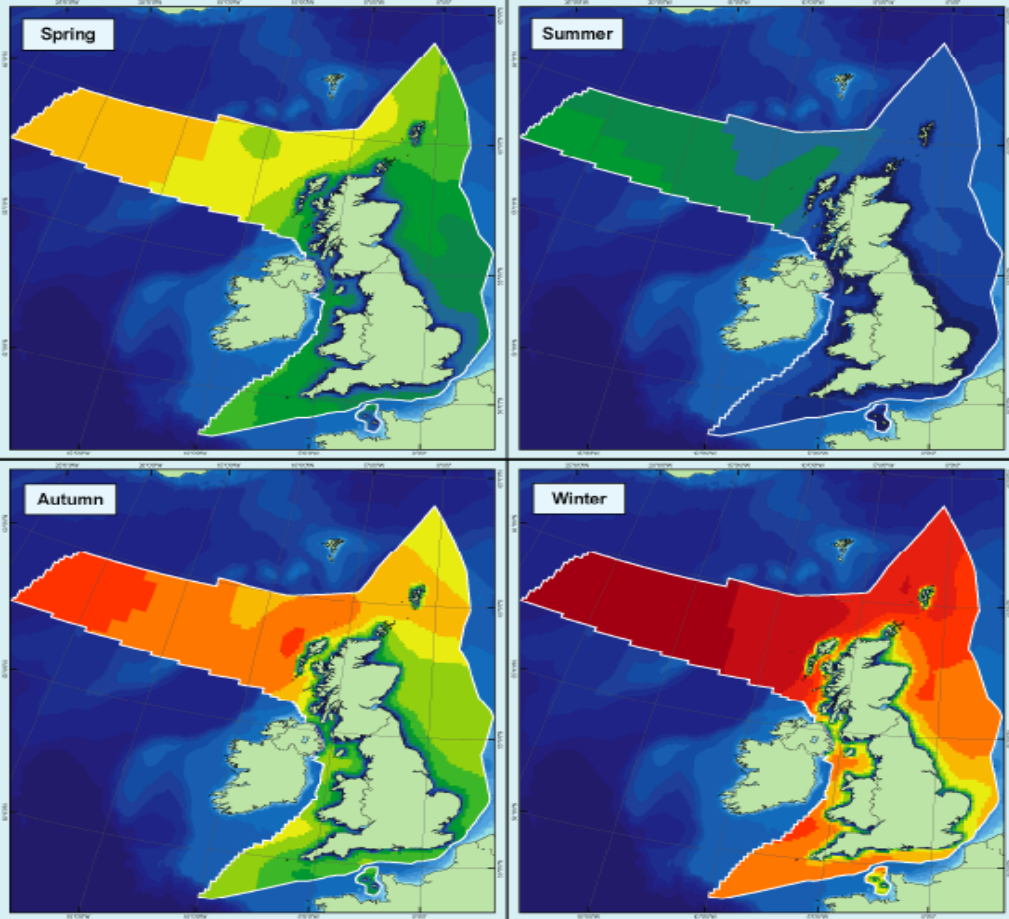


Some areas are more economically important than others

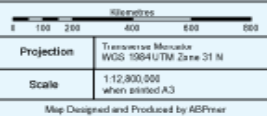
- Oil & Gas Deposits
- Sand & Gravel Deposits
- Fishing Grounds
- Transportation Routes
- Areas of Sustained Winds
- Areas of Sustained Waves



Effective governance must address spatial and temporal heterogeneity

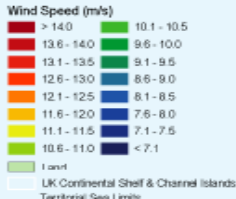


Seasonal Mean Wind Speed at 100m

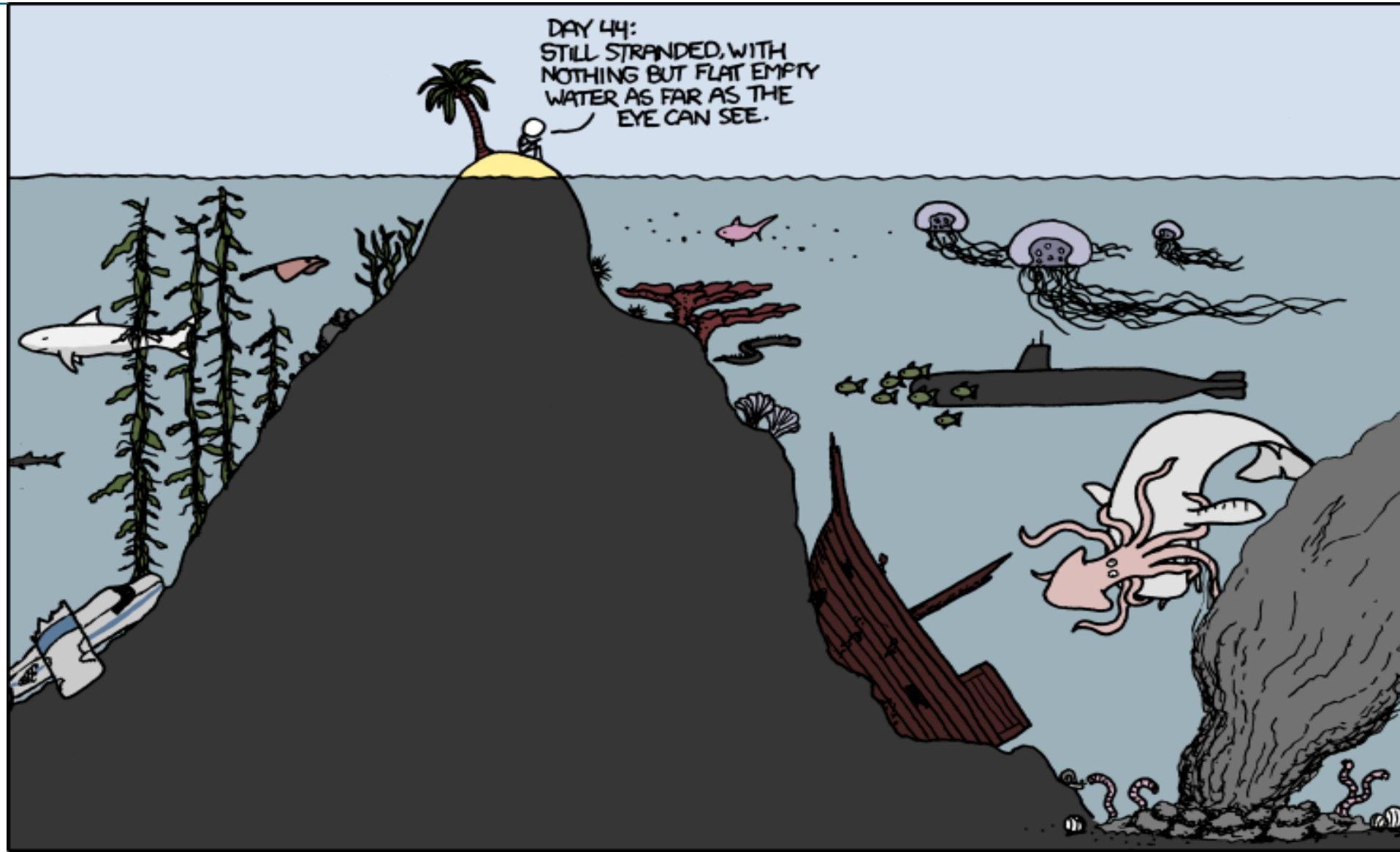


Atlas of UK Marine Renewable Energy Resources

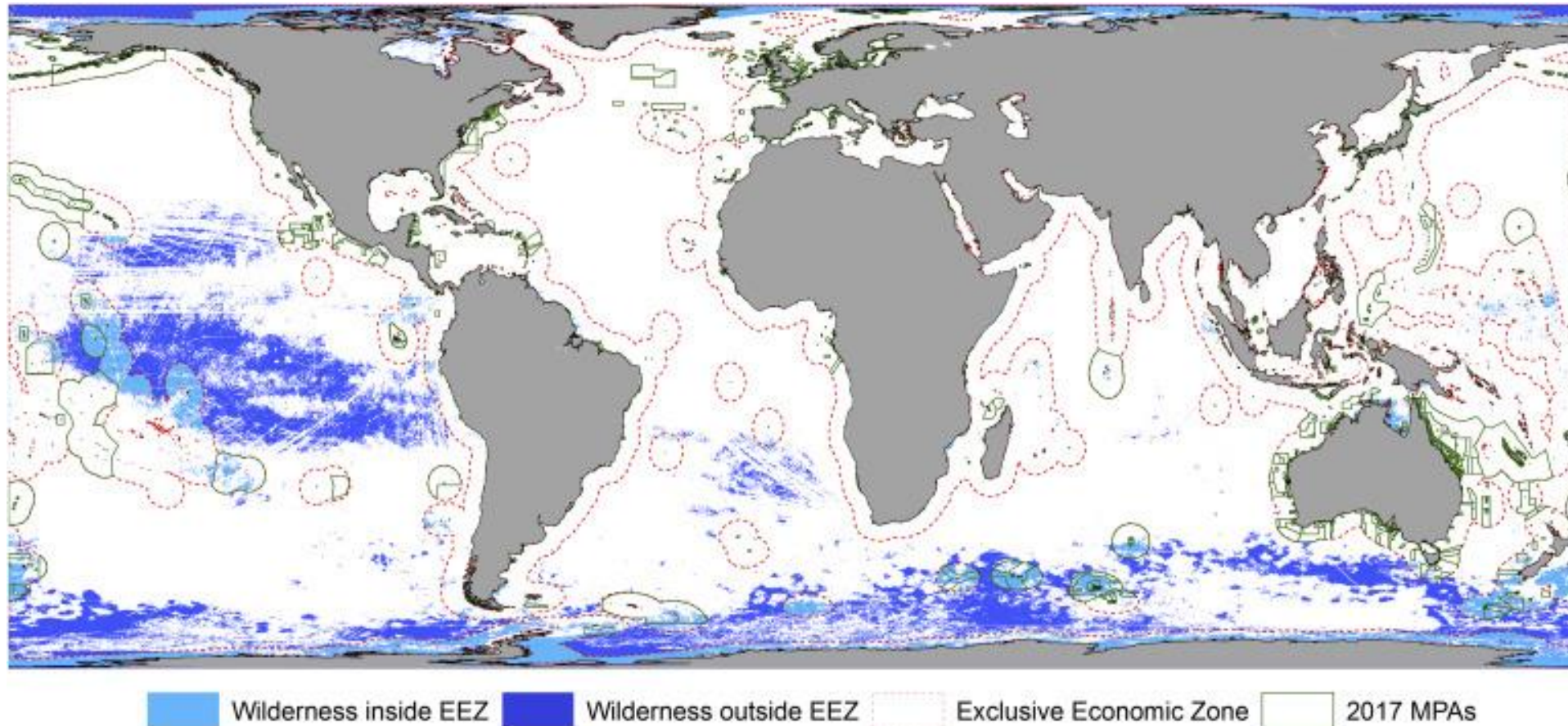
- Notes:
1. North of 63°N and West of 12°W, model cell size approximately 60km. Model cell size approximately 12km in all other areas.
 2. Modelled wind data will be less robust at land-sea boundary points.
 3. Wind data are based on hourly model hindcast values over 7 years.
 4. Wind speed at 100 metres above sea level.
 5. March 2008, Version 2.0.
 6. © Crown copyright. All rights reserved.



Society is not always aware



Just 13% of the world's oceans are untouched by human activity...



... and many marine places are under increasing development pressures...

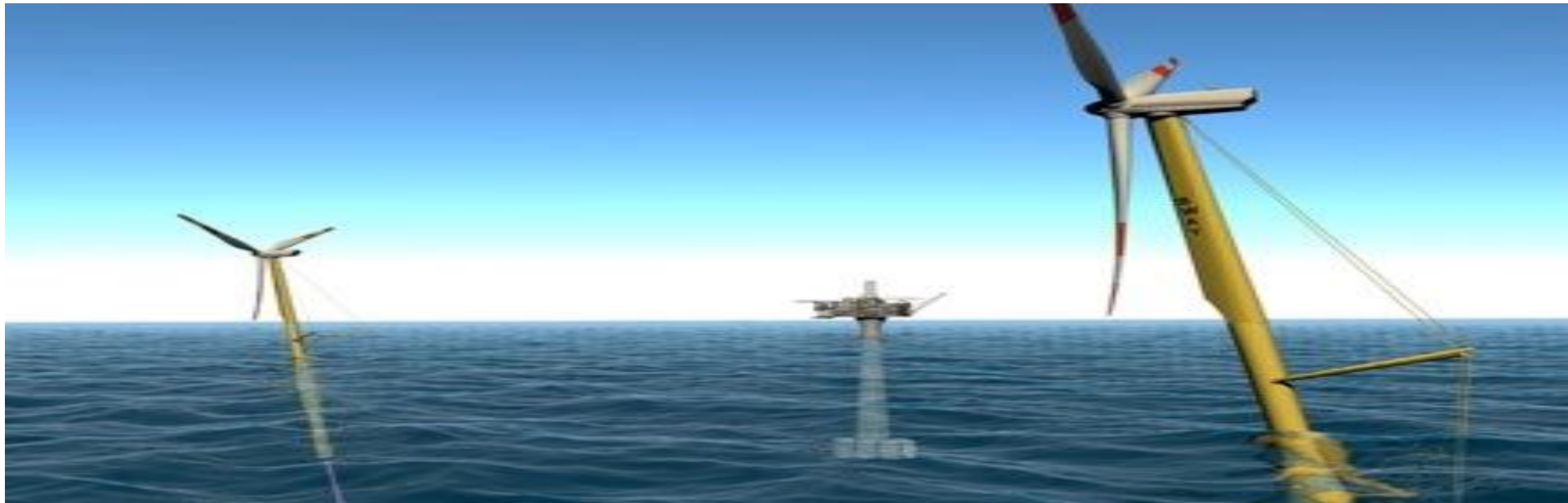
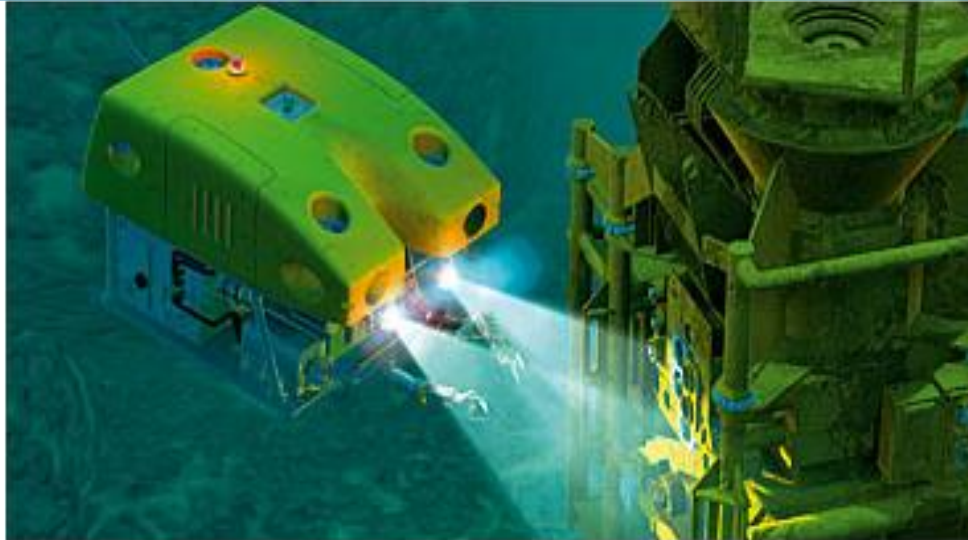
Due to traditional uses



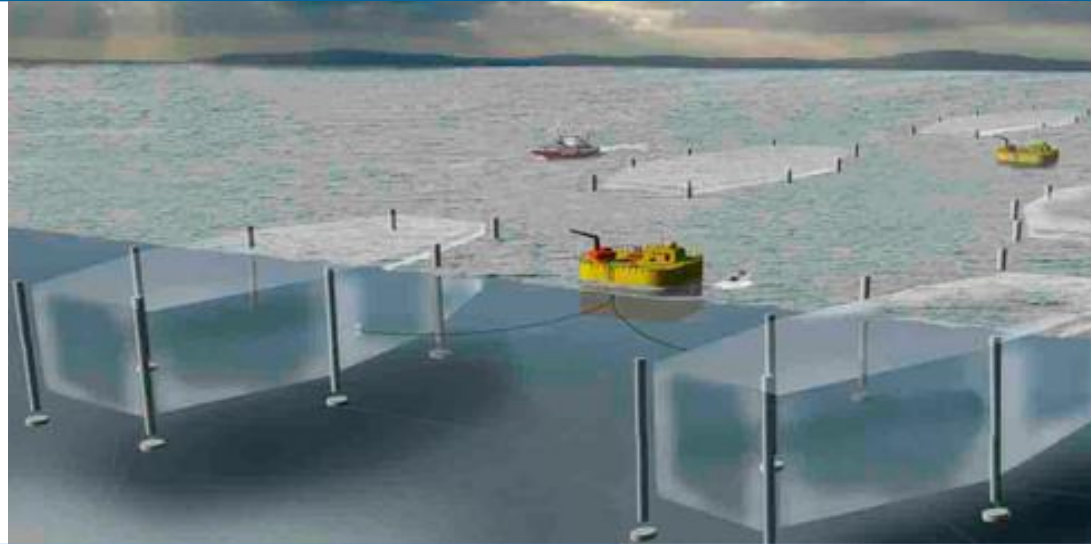
Due to recreational activities



Due to the technological progress



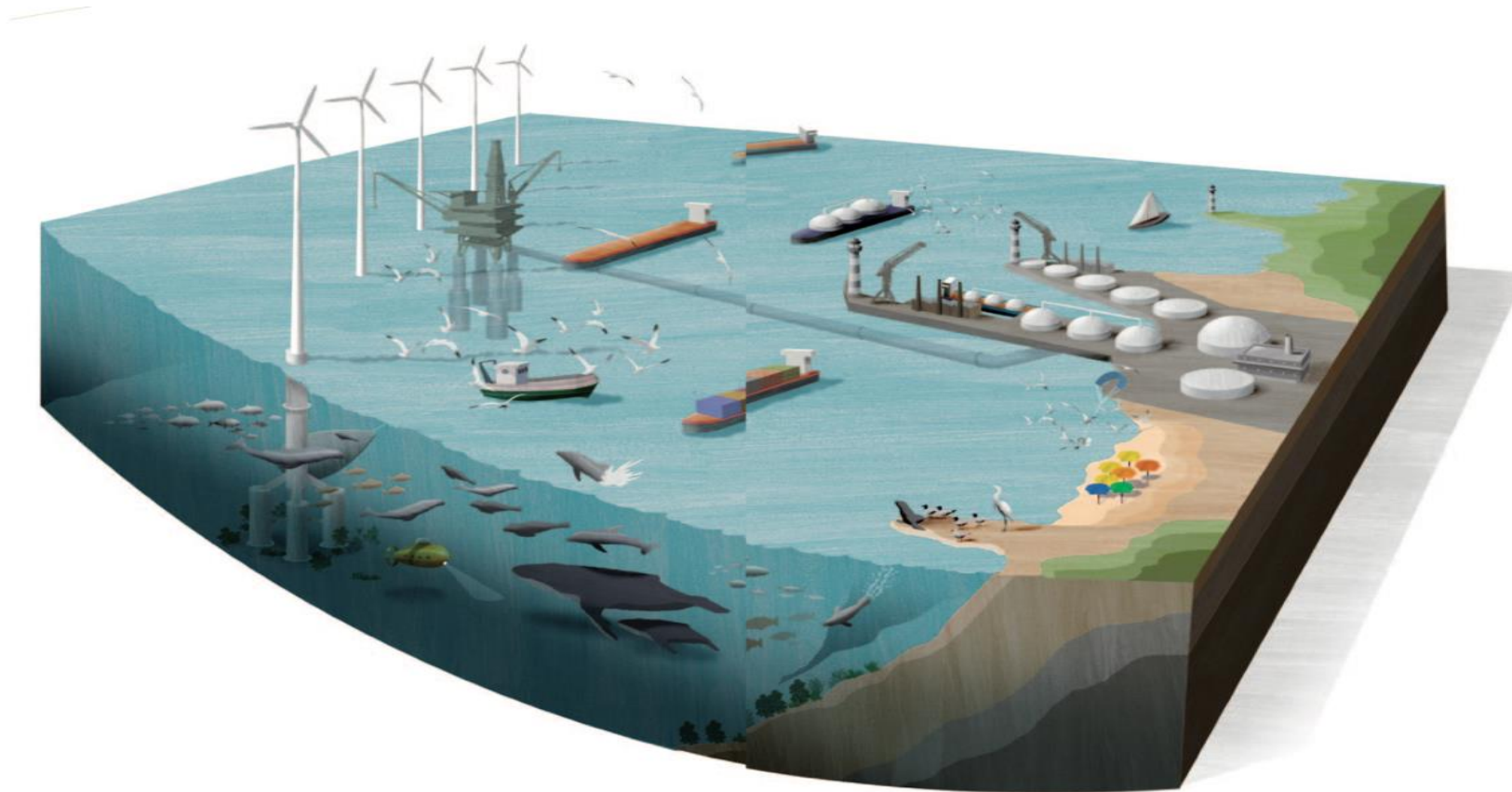
Due to new demands



Due to the uncontrolled urban sprawl



Marine Spatial Planning, the challenge!



Changing the views on historical marine management



- Focused on **individual sectors**
- **Separate regimes** for fisheries, aquaculture, marine mammal conservation, shipping, oil and gas, and mining, for example
- Decision-making has often been *ad hoc*
- **Lack of clear authority to resolve conflicts** across sectors or to deal with cumulative effects
- Incremental improvements in sectoral governance can reduce some problems (e.g., overfishing of target species), but they generally **cannot address it in an integrated way**



What is MSP?

What is MSP?



IOC-UNESCO definition:

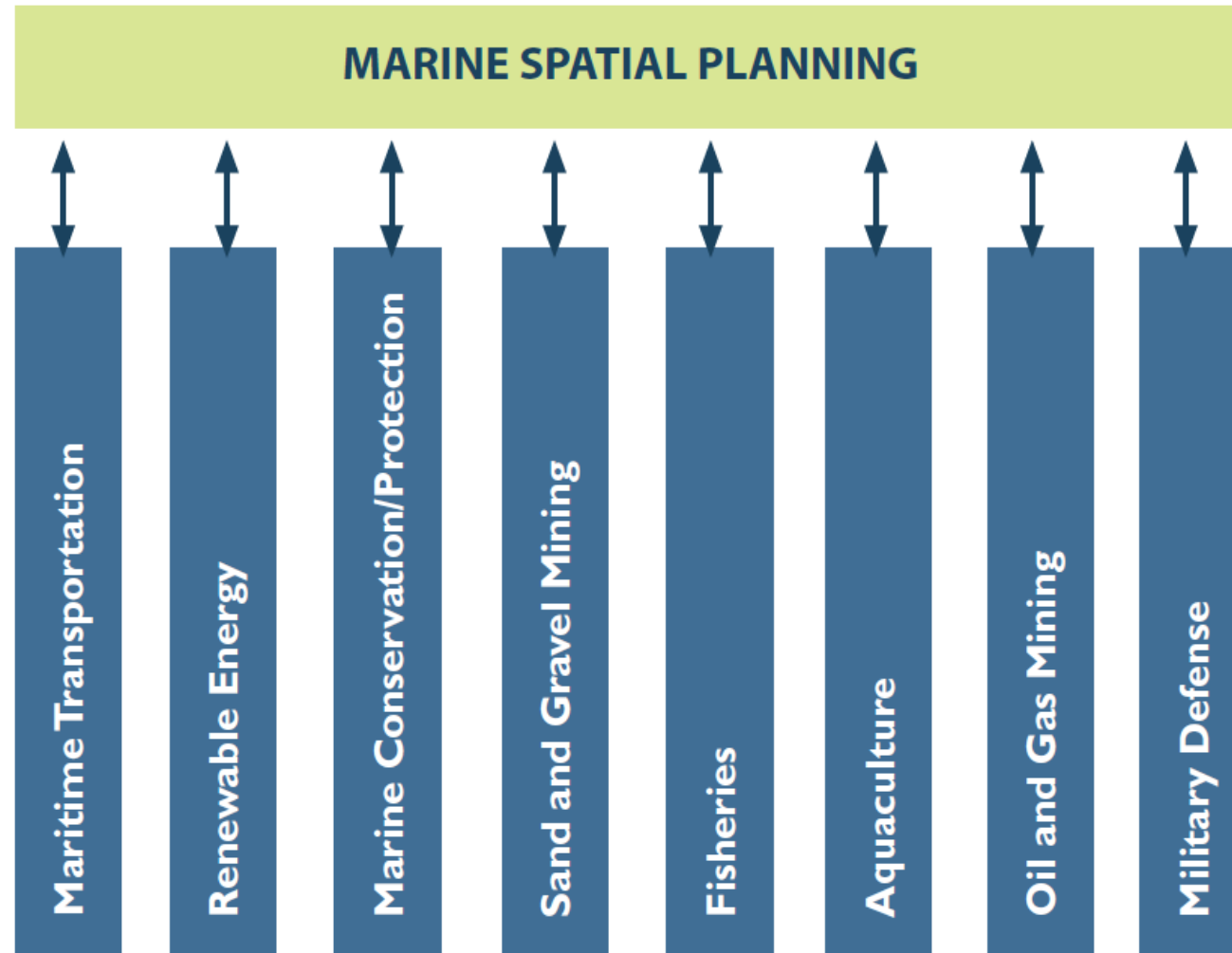
*“The **public process** of analyzing and allocating the spatial and temporal **distribution of human activities** to achieve **ecological, economic, and social objectives** that are usually specified through a **political process**.”*

MSP is a multisectoral and participatory process.

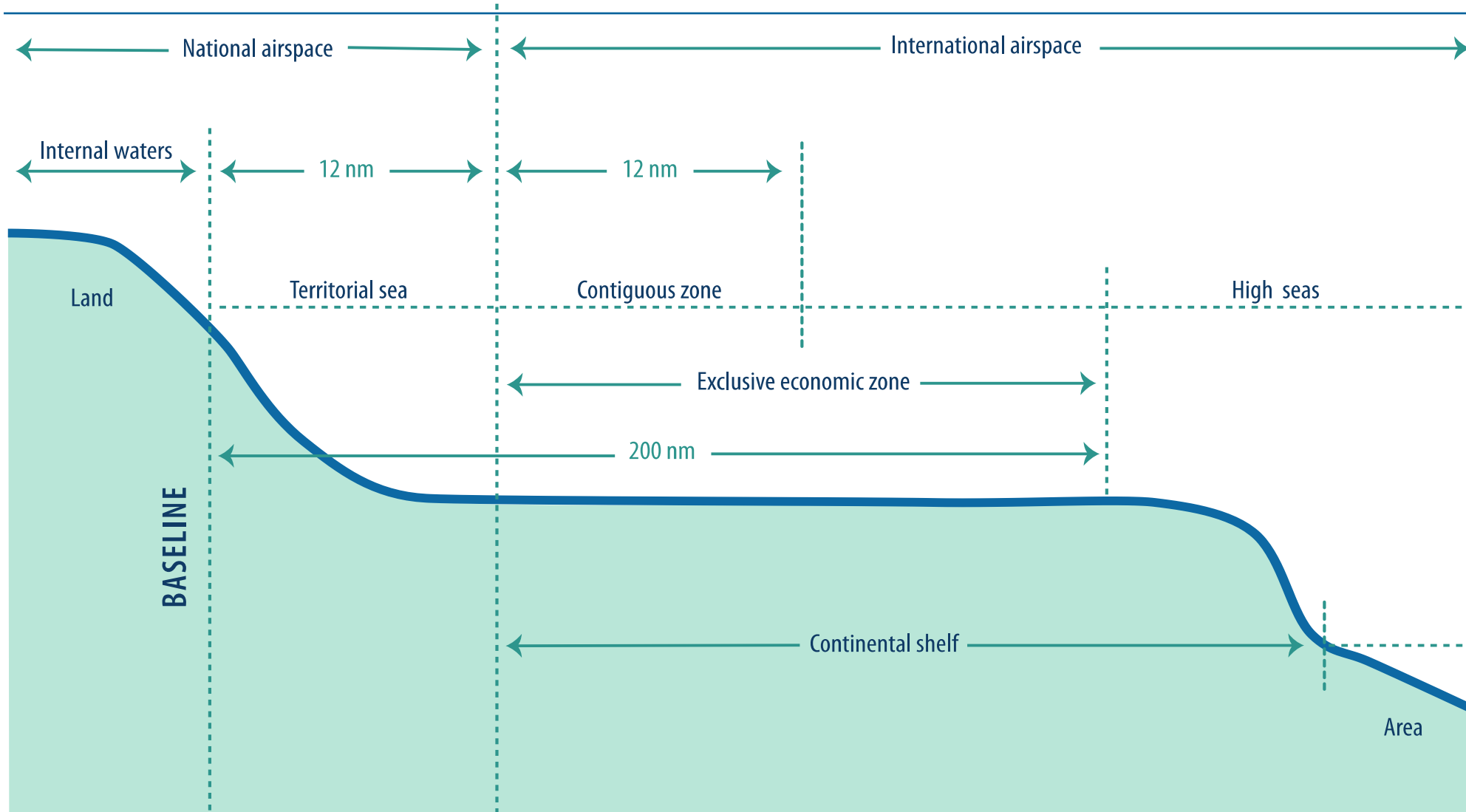
The **MSP plan** is the instrument.

- **Integrated and multi-objective**, *including all important economic sectors; economic and social objectives as well as ecological ones*
- **Strategic and future-oriented**, *considering alternative means to achieve a vision*
- **Continuing and adaptive**, *with an emphasis on performance monitoring and evaluation--and learning by doing*
- **Participatory**, *building a broad base of stakeholders to ensure long-term support for management*
- **Ecosystem-based**, *with a focus on maintaining ecosystem services over time*
- **Place-based**, *with a focus on marine spaces that people can understand, relate to, and care for*

Integration for multisectoral consensus



Maritime jurisdiction and delimitation

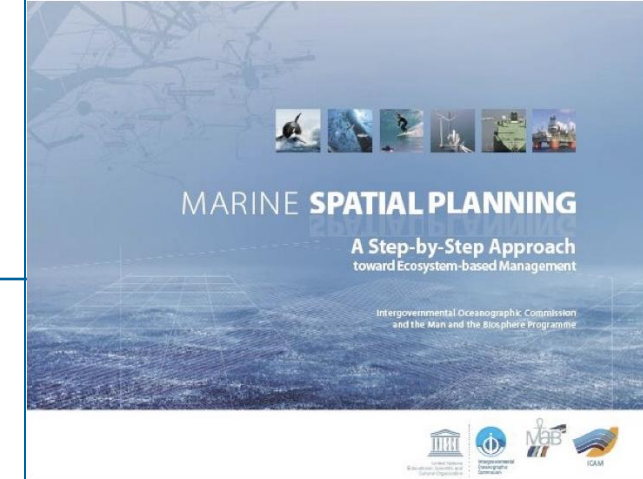
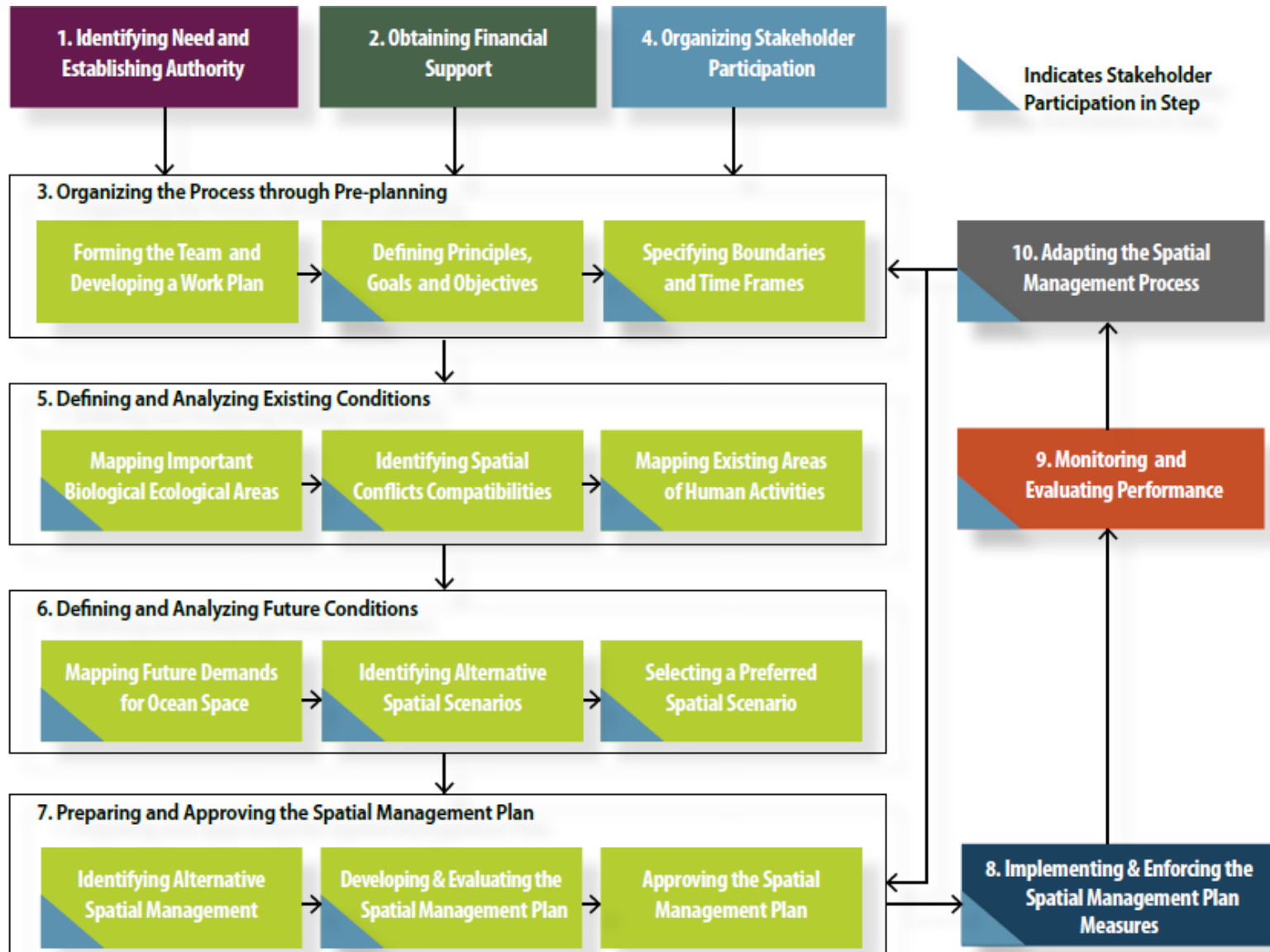


**MSP usually
covers the
Territorial
Sea and EEZ**

nm = nautical mile

Source: : UNESCO-IOC/European Commission, 2021

MSP step by step



MSP phases (simplified)



IOC-UNESCO's MSP phases



SETTING THE SCENE



DESIGNING THE
PLANNING PROCESS



ASSESSMENT
FOR PLANNING



DEVELOPING THE
PLAN



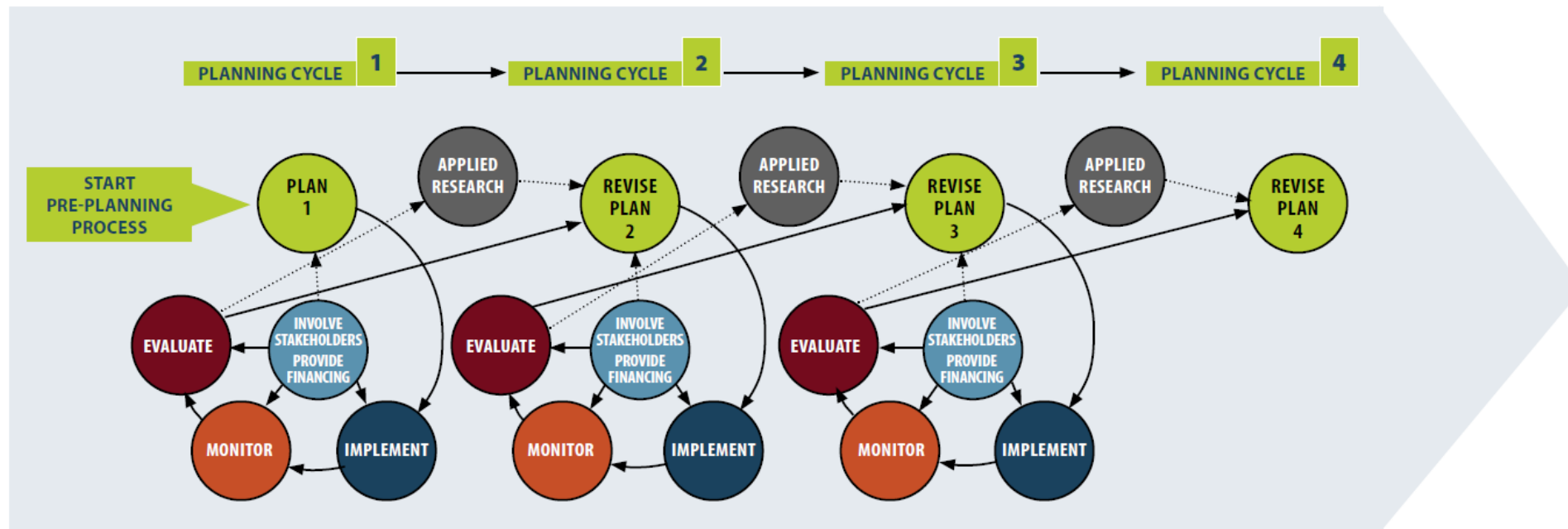
ENABLING
IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE PLAN



MONITORING,
EVALUATION &
ADAPTATION

➤ **Stakeholder
Participation**

Continuous adaptive process

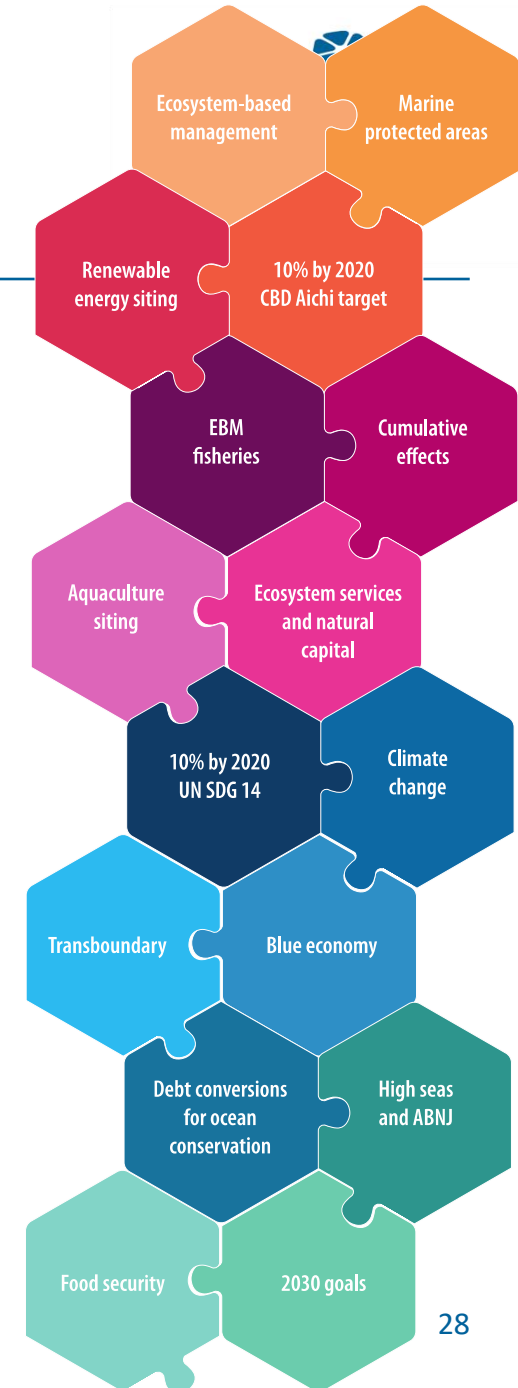


Evolution of MSP from 2009

Following the pioneering initiative of IOC-UNESCO's 'step-by-step' approach, various

- international organisations
- governmental
- non-governmental
- academia and
- private sector

have produced documents of different types at the international, national or subnational level that directly or indirectly inform the advancement of MSP





Spatial uses



Uses & Activities



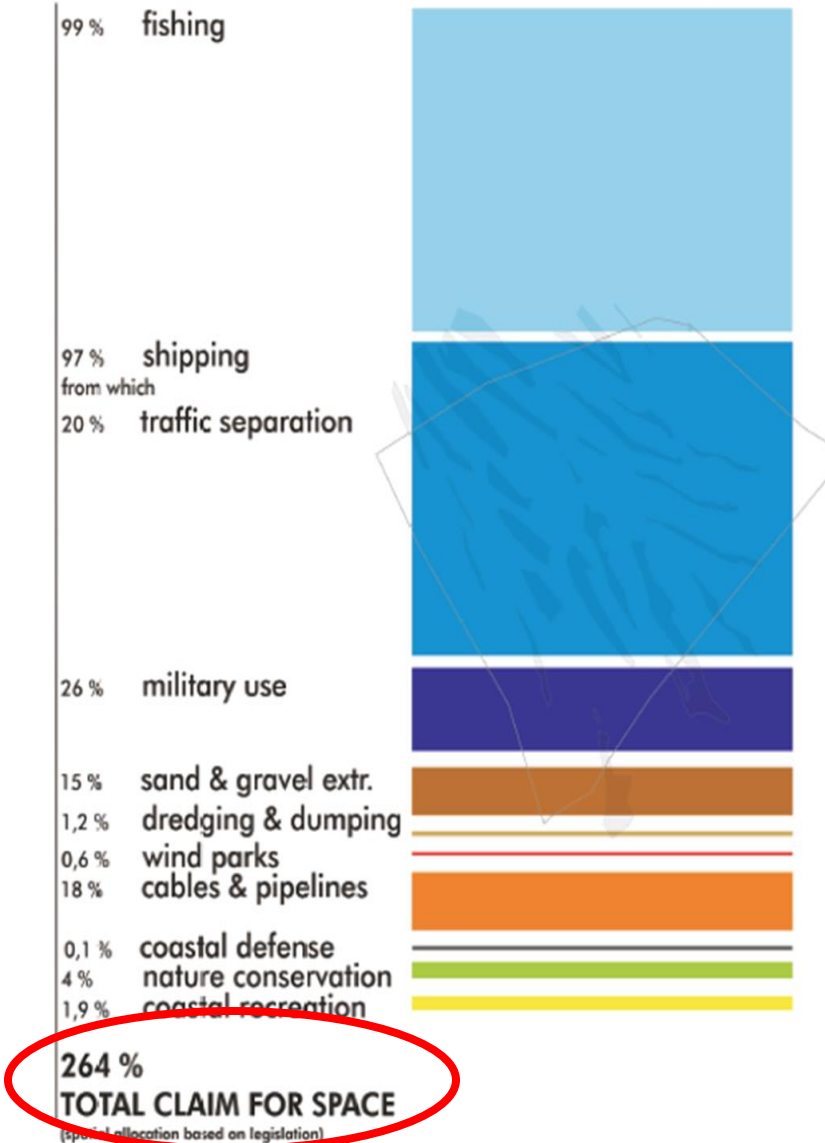
Multi-use

The application of the ocean multi-use concept can contribute to a more space efficient and sustainable use of the ocean, bringing in additional environmental and socio-economic benefits.



The spatial problems

Figure III.1.4.1a. Demand for space in the BPNS, based on legislation and on the condition that all space would be both available and suitable (abstract and simplified scheme)
(Maritime Institute - Gent University)





Lessons learnt

Political will



- ✓ You need to find a **political champion** to support MSP

Clear authority and leadership

Leadership



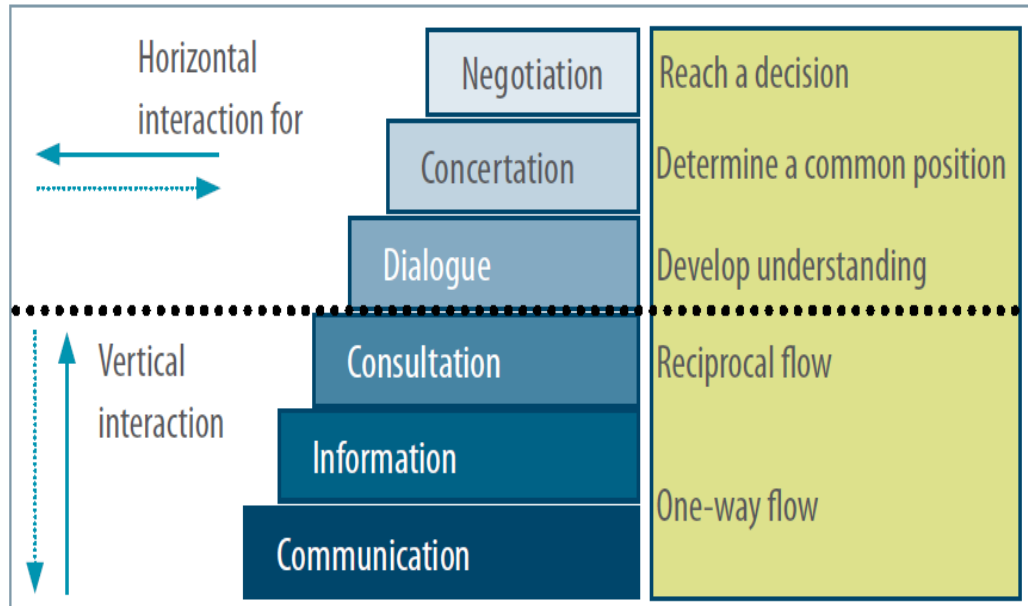
- ✓ To take decisions and
to **guarantee the
implementation**

Financial sustainability



✓ **Diversified financing**
includes government funds,
user charges, grants from
charitable foundations,
endowments

Participation



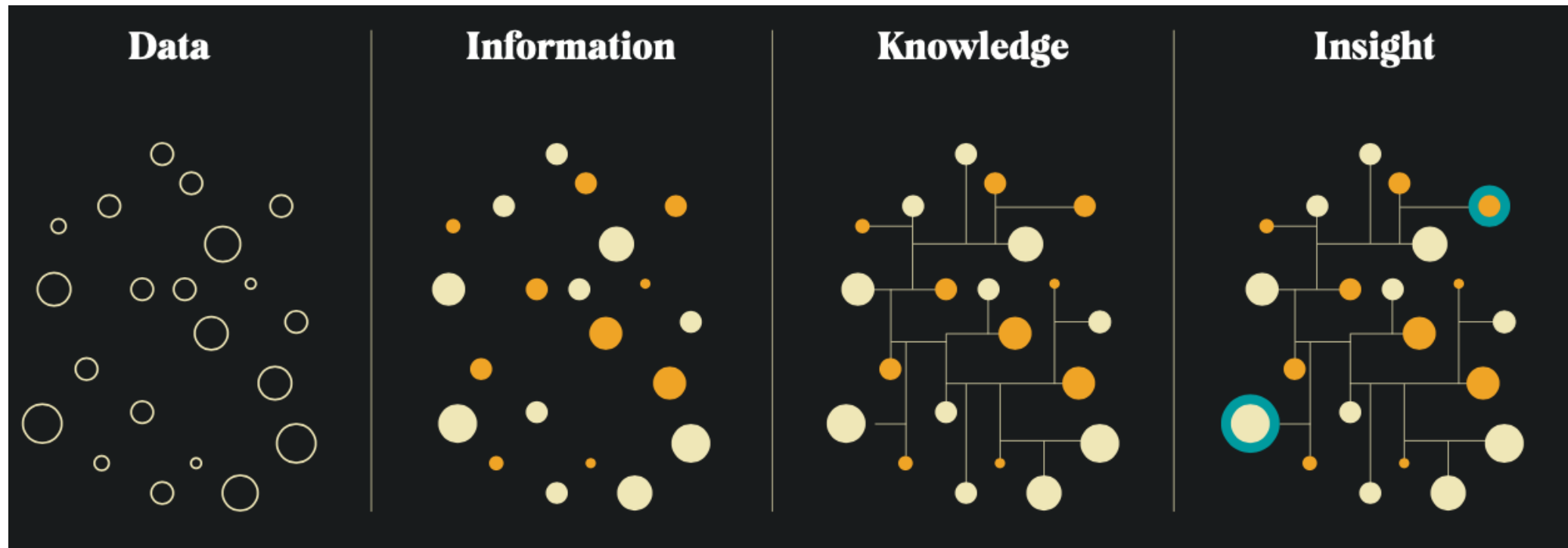
- ✓ MSP implies **social and political interactions** to key governance principles

Clear and measurable objectives

Ecological + Economic + Social

S	M	A	R	T	I	E
SPECIFIC	MEASURABLE	ACHIEVABLE	RELEVANT	TIME-BOUND	INCLUSIVE	EQUITABLE
When the objective is precise and concrete enough not to be open to varying interpretations by different people.	When the objective allows verification of its achievement through indicators. Such objectives are either quantified or based on a combination of description and scoring scales.	When the objective is set at a level which is ambitious but at the same time realistically achievable within the context, knowledge and resources available.	When the objective is directly linked to the drivers and vision.	When the objective is related to a fixed date or precise time period to allow an evaluation of its achievement.	When everyone is welcomed – particularly those most impacted – into processes, activities, and decision/ policymaking in a way that shares power.	When the elements of fairness are included seeking to address systemic injustice and inequity.

From Data to Insight



Best available information



- ✓ **Lack of information is not an excuse** to delay starting to plan
- ✓ **Stakeholders often know more** than the government and might be willing to share information if they understand the purpose
 - ✓ **No fear to mapping**

“Maps are power. Either you will map or you will be mapped”
(Nietschmann, 1997)

Define a vision and evaluate alternative futures

- **Future:** Trends, new demands of ocean space, suitability maps, potential areas for biodiversity conservation, climate change
- **Alternative scenarios**

The Sea: An Economic Resource to Exploit



The Sea: A Space for Leisure



The Sea: Protected by its Value



Adaptive management

- ✓ learning by doing (or by walking 😊)

**TRAVELERS, THERE IS
NO PATH, PATHS ARE
MADE BY WALKING.**

Antonio Machado
Spanish Poet

Summary of MSP benefits



- **Reduce conflicts** *between sectors and create synergies between different activities*
- **Encourage investment** *by instilling predictability, transparency and clearer rules*
- **Increase coordination** *between administrations in each country, using a single instrument to balance the development of a range of maritime activities*
- **Increase cooperation** *between countries and sectors*
- **Protect the environment** *through early identification of impact and opportunities for multiple use of space*
- **Improvement and reduction of the cost** *of project level planning and information collection, storage, and retrieval*

Thank You!



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