



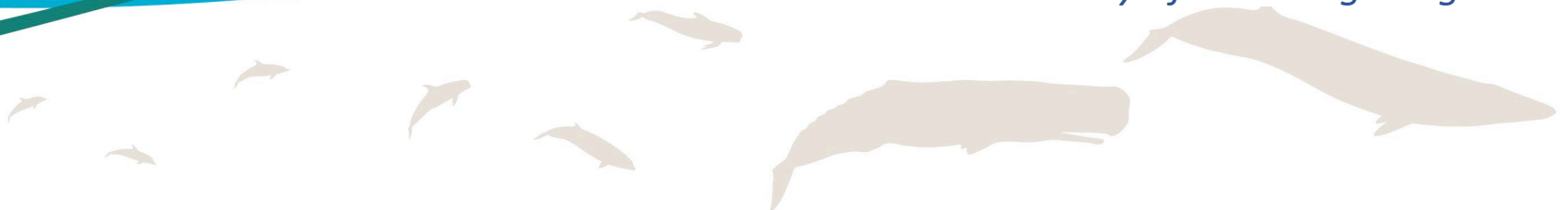
Accord Pelagos relatif à la création en Méditerranée
d'un Sanctuaire pour les mammifères marins

Pelagos Agreement

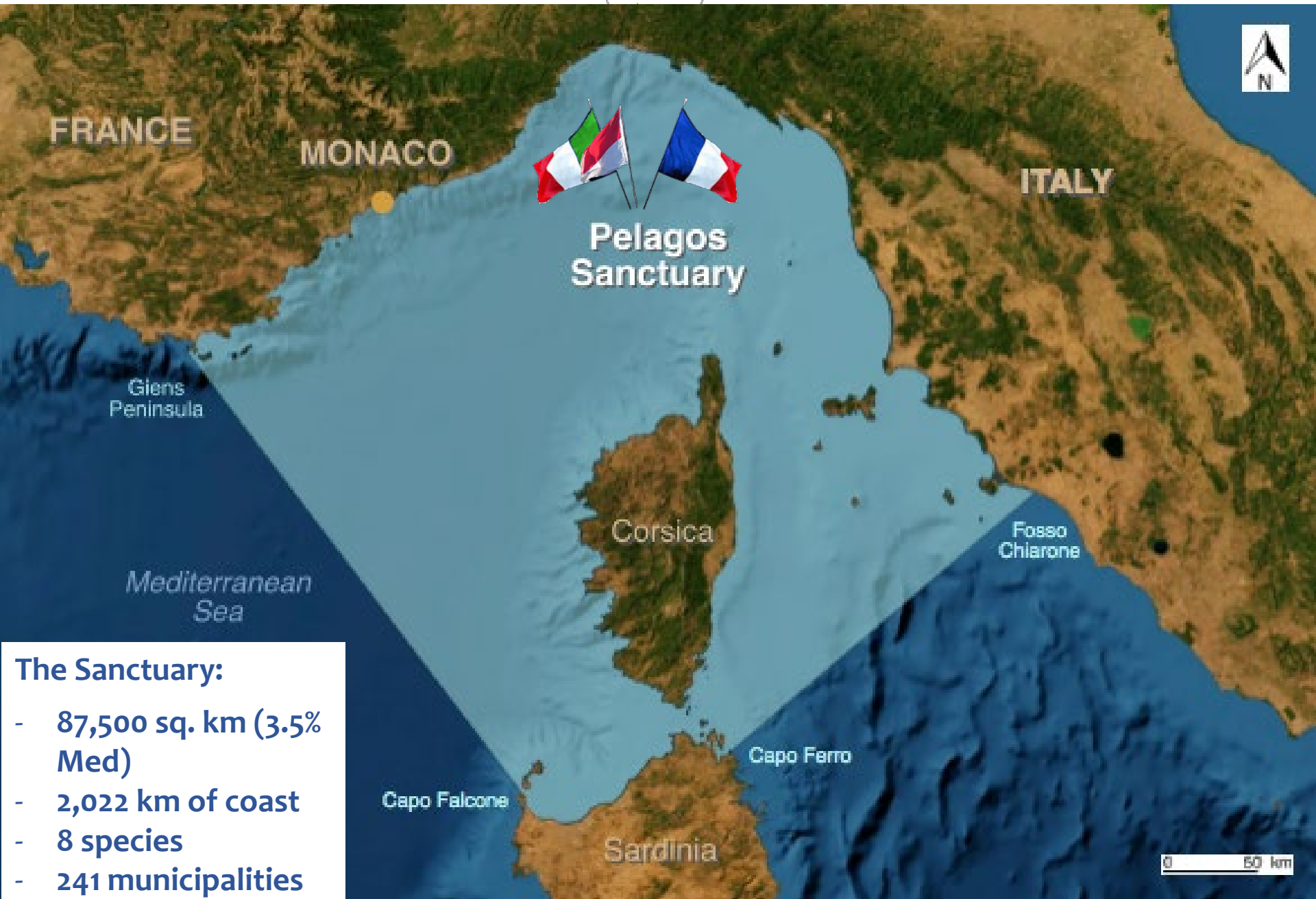
on the creation in the Mediterranean Sea of a Sanctuary for Marine mammals

An example of a transboundary cooperation in the Mediterranean Sea

Costanza Favilli
Executive Secretary of the Pelagos Agreement



The Pelagos Sanctuary



The Sanctuary:

- 87,500 sq. km (3.5% Med)
- 2,022 km of coast
- 8 species
- 241 municipalities



History of Pelagos

- *November 1999*: The **Pelagos Agreement** is signed.
- *November 2001*: **Pelagos** becomes the **first** and only **International SPAMI**
- *February 2002*: the **Pelagos Agreement** enters **into force**

The Sanctuary is:

- a **precursor of the Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP)**;
- a **pilot area of Accobams** (Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and contiguous Atlantic area)

Objective

- **improving conservation** by assessing and managing the impact of humans on the species and habitat of marine mammals;
- **strengthening multilateral cooperation** in carrying out conservational activities and ensuring that each Party applies the provisions within their own territory.

Why this area?

- Originally the area was identified to be **particularly rich of pelagic charismatic cetacean species**: the **fin whale**, the **Cuvier's beaked whale**, the **Sperm whale**, the **Pilot whale**.



Why this area?

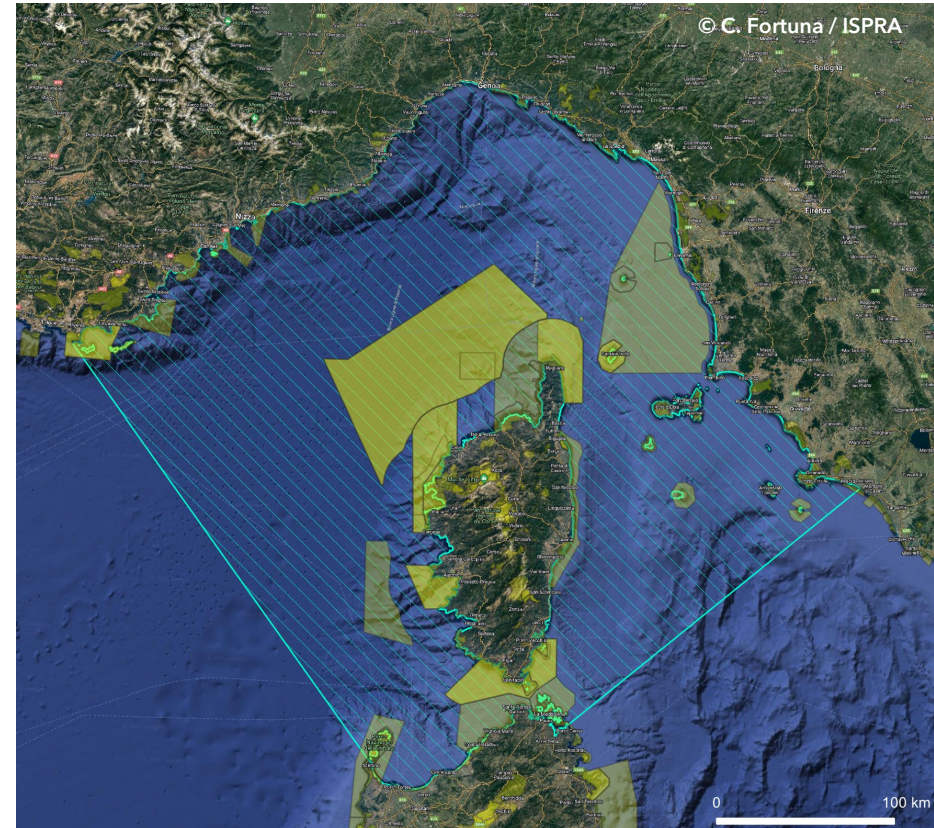


Why this area?



Broader importance

- The **importance** of this **ecosystem** is clearly **ecologically broader** and **more complex** to be able to sustain such diversity
 - >100 Marine Protected Areas, Marine Parks, and Natura 2000 sites of various sizes + 3 SPAMIs + 2 EBSAs



Main threats

- Pollution
 - Noise
- Ship strikes
 - Bycatch
- Disturbances
- Climate change
- Habitat loss
 - Diseases



Juvenile, Cargèse (Corsica) April 16th, 2004 © I. Clémenceau DIREN Corse



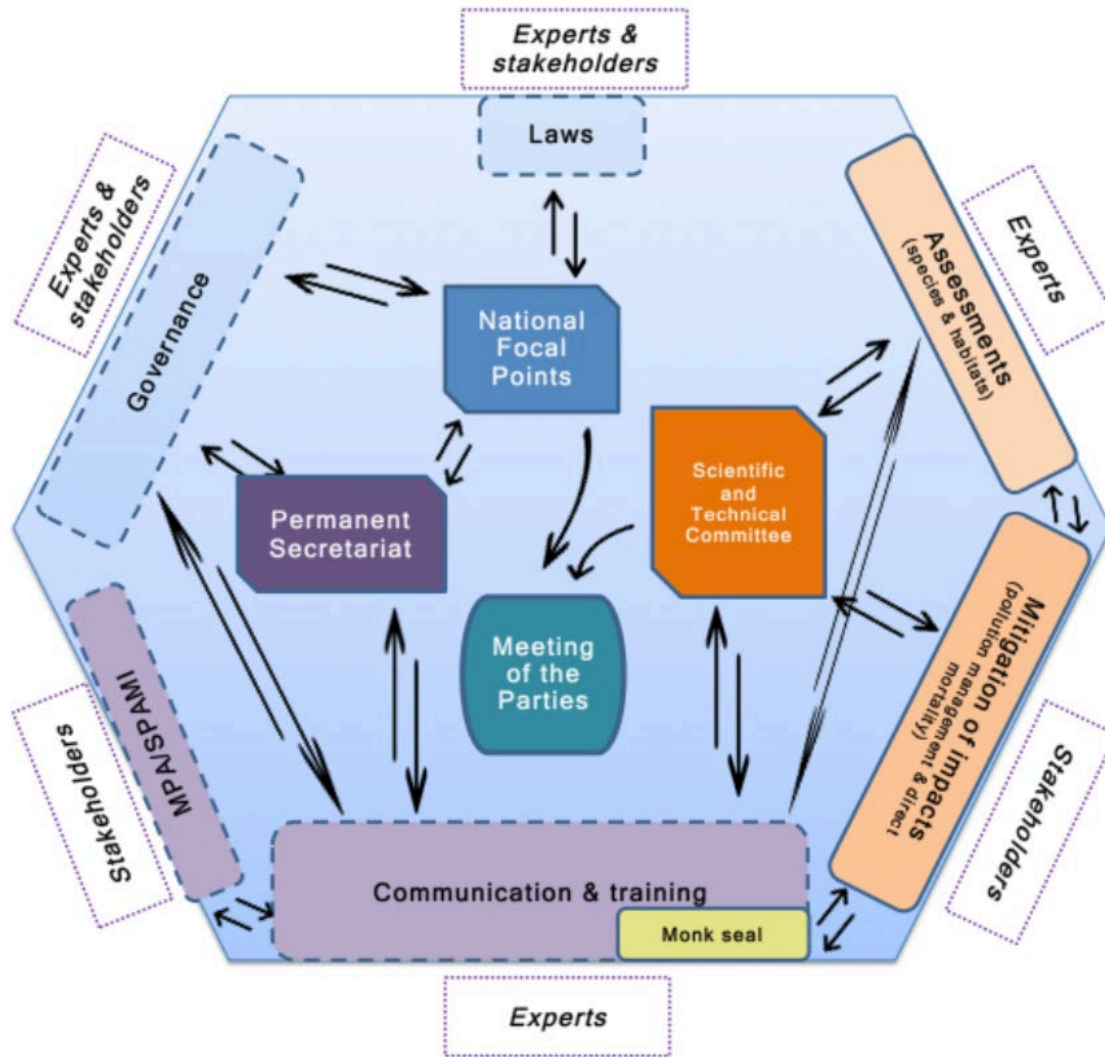
Toulon, september 1993 © JM. Bompar GECM



The Pelagos Agreement – General Organization Chart



Pelagos Working Groups



Technical and Scientific Committee



Meeting of the Parties

Art. 14

Each State Party shall be responsible for ensuring the implementation of the provisions of this Agreement in the part of the Sanctuary located in the waters under its sovereignty or jurisdiction



Binding measures

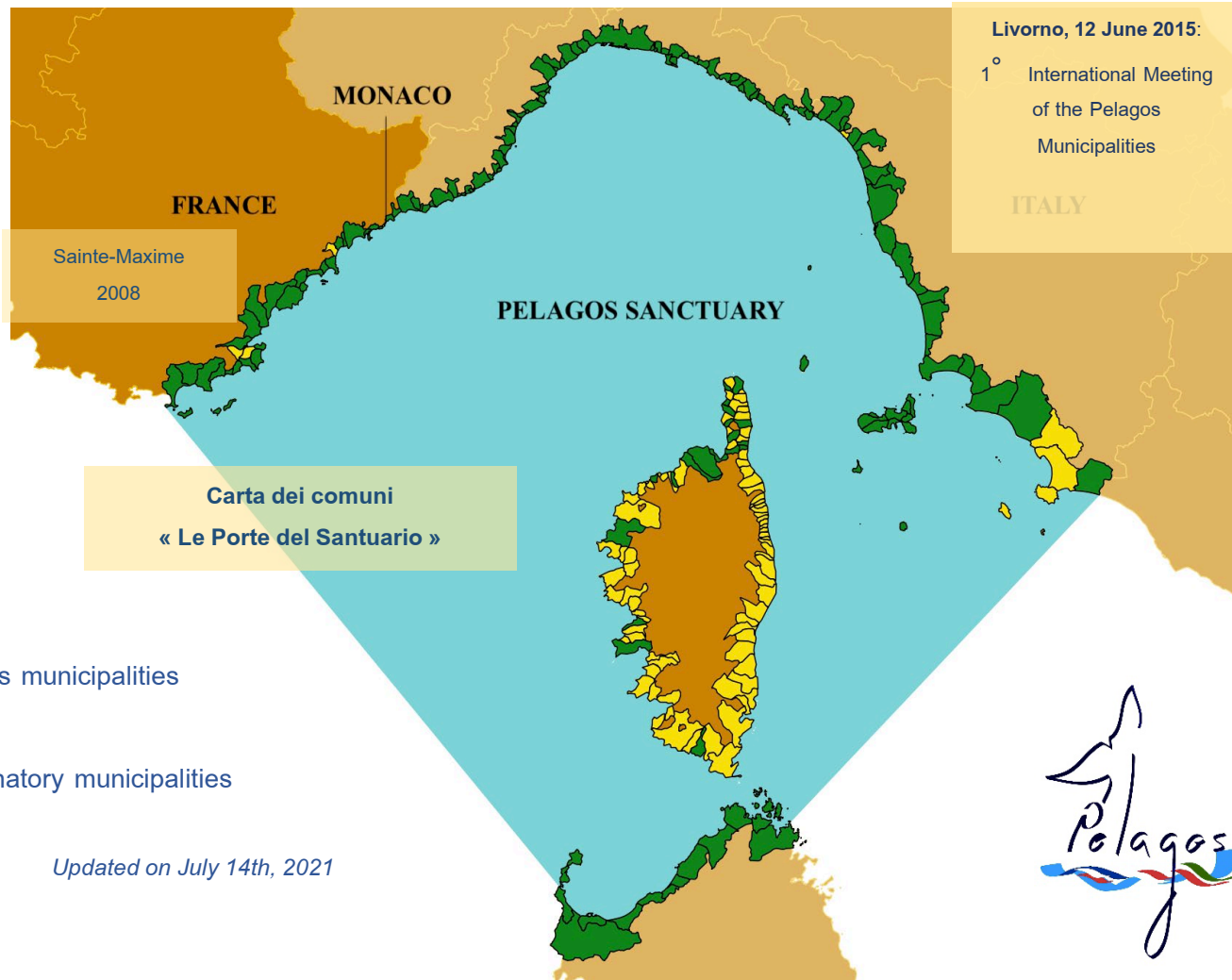
- **All marine mammals protected by the laws** of the Parties to the Agreement
- Ban of **drifnets**
- **Motorboat racing** regulated or prohibited
- Prohibition of **seismic prospecting activities**
- Obligation of **anti-collision systems** (FR)
- **Intentional disturbance prohibited:** every approach of the individuals to less than 100 meters is considered as intentional disturbance (FR)

Soft law measures

- Pelagos Partnership Charter
- Pelagos Ambassadors
- Code of Good Conduct
- Etc.

Pelagos Charter

- Outreach & conservation tool
- Extended and tailored to marine protected areas



Public awareness

- **Protected areas** are themselves **powerful tools** to rise **environmental awareness**.
- **Marine mammals** as charismatic species make environmental public awareness even easier.

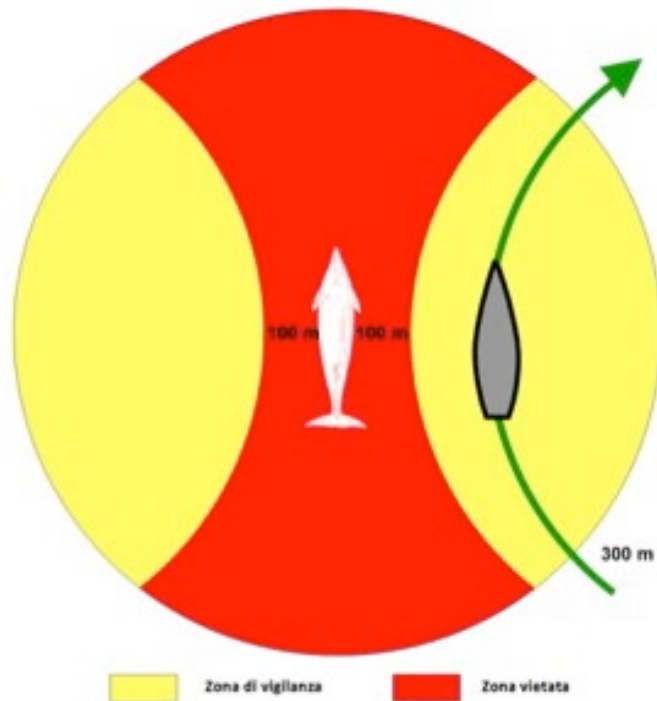




Pelagos Ambassadors

- Outreach & participatory conservation tool
- > 700 members
- Adhere to and disseminate the Pelagos code of conduct





Legislation within Pelagos

- **Intentional disturbance prohibited** (in France, every approach of the individuals to less than 100 meters is considered as intentional disturbance).

Pelagos Code of Conduct

- > 5 miles for the coast
- $V < 10$ knots
- $D > 100$ m
- $T = 30$ min (15 min)
- Do not touch, feed or swim with cetaceans

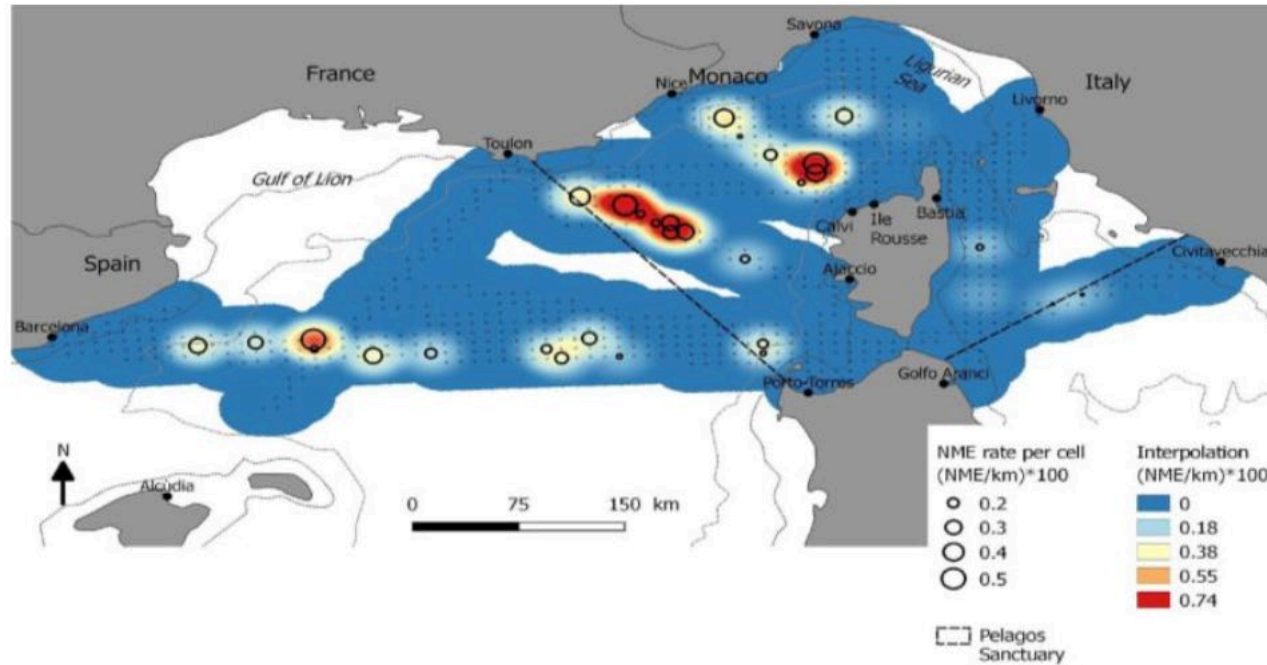


Management Plan and Action Plan 2022-2027

New objectives & New methods

- New modus operandi = strengthening the international collaboration between the Parties
- Enhance a participative governance;
- Creating Pelagos network of experts/stakeholders = Working Groups, partnerships, etc.;
- Shifting of the rational = from species to pressures;
- Creation of the “Pelagos Voluntary Fund”;
- Efforts towards harmonization = procedures, governance, measures, etc.;
- Implementation of high priority themes, led by the Parties: “Pelagos fights against pollution” and “Pelagos Slow Travel” to mitigate the impacts of pollution of different sources and the ship strikes with large cetaceans.
- Implementation of mitigation measures;
- Partnerships with IGOs, NGOs, Universities, territorial administrations, etc.;
- Mapping of the species and threats;
- Initial assessment of species and pressures;
- ...

Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) in the North-Western Mediterranean Sea



- ***Need of solid and shared scientific data*** justifying:
 - the creation
 - the exact delimitation of the area
 - the management measures to put in place

➤ ***Involvement of stakeholder***
(since the preliminary stages of the discussion relating to the designation process)

Thank you for your attention!

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@Pelagos_



Pelagos Sanctuary



Pelagos Agreement



Sanctuaire Pelagos / Santuario Pelagos

www.pelagos-sanctuary.org

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