



EUROPARC CONFERENCE  
ONLINE 8 - 9  
SEPTEMBER 2020  
OUR NEW FUTURE: HOW READY ARE WE?

# Workshop 5:

## Marine Protected Areas - why does our marine environment merit special attention?

**Moderated by:**

Fernando Pinillos - *EUROPARC Federation's Communication Officer.*

Stefania Petrosillo - *EUROPARC Federation's Policy Officer.*

**Invited Speaker:**

Paloma Pacheco - *LIFE IP INTEMARES project Coordinator.*



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# Workshop's Agenda

## 1. Introduction:

The Biodiversity Strategy  
and its implications for  
the marine environment  
(15min)

## 2. Discussion:

Impacts arising from the  
Biodiversity Strategy –  
(20min)

## 3. Case study:

LIFE IP INTEMARES –  
Capacity building of MPA  
Managers and SH  
(20min + 5min Q&A)

## 4. Discussion in groups:

Capacity building needs  
in other regions of  
Europe  
(40 min)

## Presentation of results:

Presentation and  
collection of results  
(20min)



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# Why we need biodiversity?

**Biodiversity:** the variety of life on Earth...

- clean the water and purify the air;
- pollinate the crops;
- absorb vast quantities of carbon;
- regulate the climate;
- keep soils fertile,
- provide us with food and medicine,
- deliver many of the basic building blocks for industry.

**Biodiversity loss main drivers:**

- Changes in land and sea use;
- Overexploitation of natural resources;
- Climate change;
- Pollution;
- Invasive alien species.

**The Biodiversity Strategy (since 2010):**  
A long-term plan for protecting nature and reversing the degradation of ecosystems.



**EU Green Deal - Vision in 2050**



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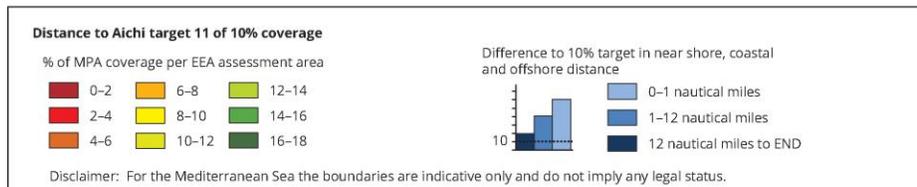
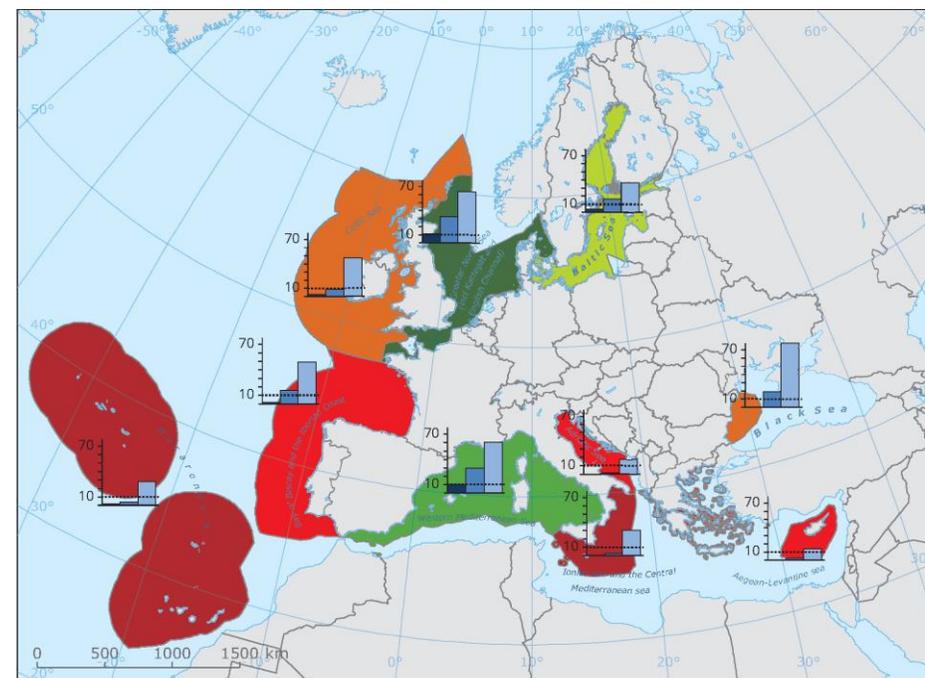
# The Biodiversity Strategy 2020

By 2020, at least ... **10 % of coastal and marine areas**, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems\*

By the end of 2016, 10.8 % of the surface of Europe's seas had been designated as MPAs\*\*

However, the current network of legally protected areas, including those under strict protection, **is not sufficiently large to safeguard biodiversity...**

\*Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 -2020 - Aichi Target. \*\* European Environmental Agency





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# The Biodiversity Strategy 2030

*Protecting and restoring biodiversity and well-functioning ecosystems is therefore key to **boost our resilience and prevent the emergence and spread of future diseases.***

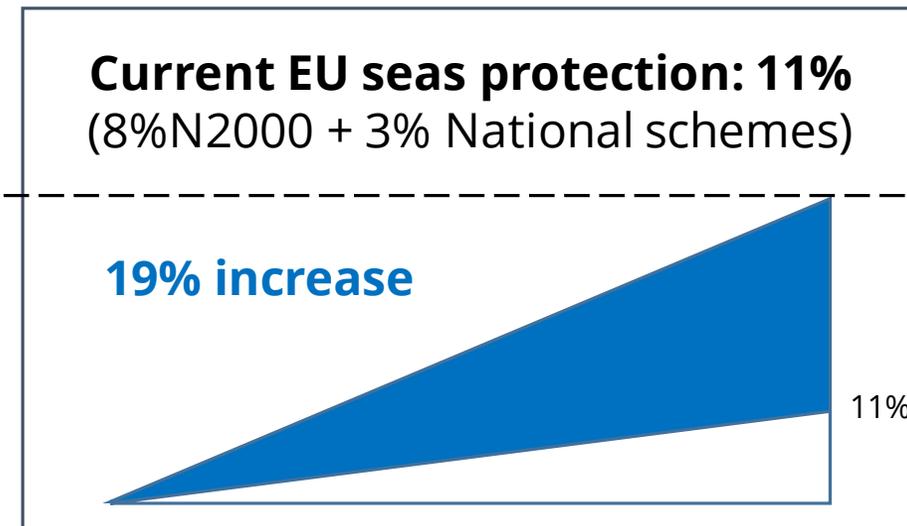
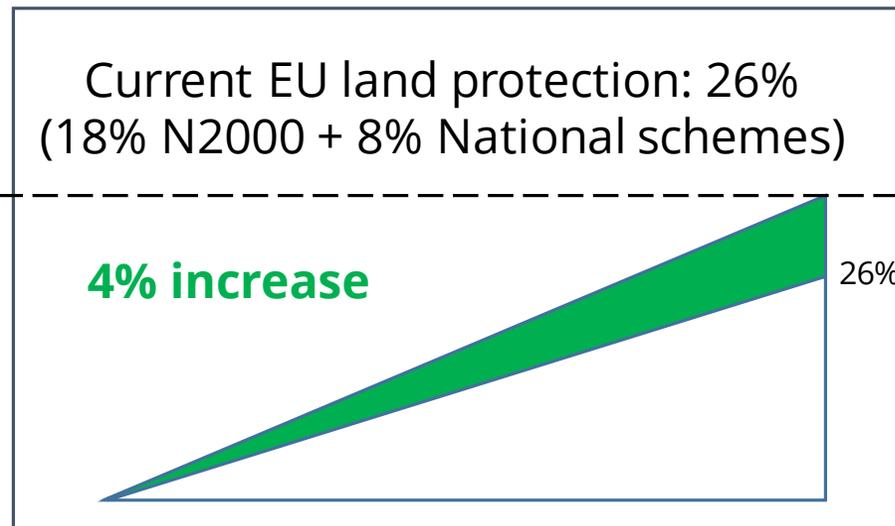
## Main elements:

- Establish a larger **EU-wide network of protected areas** on land and at sea;
- **EU Nature Restoration Plan** - concrete commitments and actions to RESTORE degraded ecosystems and manage them sustainably;
- Measures to enable the necessary **transformative change** – improved governance framework and tackle the global biodiversity challenge.



# Highlights of the Biodiversity Strategy 2030 for the marine environment

- Legally protect a minimum of **30% of the EU's sea** area and integrate ecological corridors, as part of a true **Trans-European Nature Network**.
- Strictly protect at least a third of the EU's protected areas **10% of MPAs**.
- **Effectively manage all protected areas**, defining clear conservation objectives and measures, and monitoring them appropriately.



30%



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# Other important implications of the Biodiversity Strategy

- **Relevance:** Marine Protected Areas are increasingly gaining relevance in European Policies to protect marine environments and halt biodiversity lost.
- **Restoration:** Protection of nature is not enough anymore.
- **Farm to Fork Strategy “for a fair, healthy and envi-friendly food system”**  
Production, market, distribution of sea food: sust. fishery, aquaculture and algae industry (what role/impact for MPAs and N2000? They are not mentioned in the strategy)



# Impacts arising from the Biodiversity Strategy



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## **Regarding the protection of 30% of the EU's seas/ 10% strict protection of MPAs?**

- 30% of protection on each biogeographical region/regional seas must be achieved?
- Does strictly protected mean No-Take? Is this realistic?
- What does it mean in regards to the overseas and EU territories overseas?

## **Regarding the 19% increase (on sea) from the current protection levels...**

- What are the expected impacts at social level? Increased conflicts,...
- What implications has for MPA users and stakeholders, especially fishermen?

## **Regarding Farm to Fork Strategy**

- How to push fishermen towards sustainability?
- Is aquaculture a viable alternative and safe for biodiversity?
- Algae industry: what risks?
- MPAs: what role?



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# Thank you – Questions?

In regards of needs and competencies for MPA Managers and Stakeholders:

**Q1. What are the potential impacts arising from the Biodiversity Strategy implementation?**

**Q.2 What roles do PAs have in their practical implementation?**



# LIFE INTEMARES



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An example on expanding MPAs in Spain and building competencies for an effective management of MPAs.

# INTEMARES





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# Discussion in groups

Q3. Apart from what we learned from INTEMARES project, what other capacity building tools and programmes are needed for an effective MPAs co-management - all levels?

Q4. What practical competencies Protected Areas staff need to be able to do their work?

