

A FUTURE of INTEGRATED THINKING

MESMA will produce guidance and tools to support the implementation of marine spatial planning in Europe's seas. These will include advice, tools and information on human uses, biotope classifications/distributions (including examples of geospatial data systems), governance processes and different approaches to conflict management.

MESMA WILL PROVIDE A FIRM BASIS FOR THE FURTHER DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING POLICIES, PARTICULARLY THE:

Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD, 2008), which aims to achieve good environmental status of the EU's marine waters by 2021 and protection of the resource base upon which marine-related economic and social activities depend.

AT A GLANCE

TITLE: Monitoring and Evaluation of Spatially Managed Areas (MESMA)

CONSORTIUM: 21 partners from 13 countries

INSTRUMENT: Large Collaborative Project FP7

PROJECT COORDINATOR: IMARES (NL)

PROJECT WEB SITE: <http://www.mesma.org>

TOTAL COST: € 8 517 749

EG CONTRIBUTION: € 6 568 842

KEY WORDS: Marine Spatial Management, Spatially Managed Areas, SMA, ecosystem based approach, planning strategies, sustainable development

DURATION: 48 months

START DATE: 1 November 2009

Locations of MESMA studies in Europe



CASE STUDIES

THE CASE STUDIES COVER THE WHOLE OF EUROPE:

1. Southern North Sea
2. Penland Firth & Orkney Waters
3. Barents Sea & Lofoten area
4. Celtic Sea
5. Basque country continental shelf (SE Bay of Biscay)
6. Strait of Sicily
7. Inner Ionian Archipelago & adjacent gulfs
8. Baltic Sea
9. Black Sea

At the heart of MESMA are the case studies that cover the European Seas: the North Sea, Baltic, Mediterranean, Atlantic, and Black Sea. Here, we specifically focus on competing uses within regions, but also across the different seas. Comparisons on a European scale will help us to come forward with general solutions for conflicts.



Monitoring and Evaluation of Spatially Managed Areas



MESMA is an FP7 project on monitoring and evaluation of spatially managed marine areas (2009-2013).

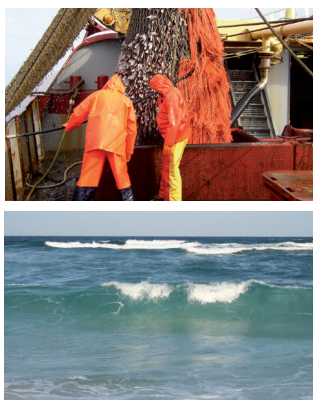
MARINE SPATIAL MANAGEMENT – MULTIPLE USERS

The seas around Europe are home to an exceptionally wide range of marine habitats and at the same time, support a large and increasing range of human activities including conservation, commercial fishing, renewable energy, oil/gas production, aggregate extraction, recreation and shipping.

These multiple uses place increasing cumulative pressures on European seas and coastal areas and can lead to competing interests amongst various user groups. A well planned ecosystem based approach is necessary to balance often competing demands of human use and nature conservation.

MESMA, in consultation with stakeholders, will develop integrated management tools (a generic framework, guidelines, data systems and models) for monitoring, evaluating Spatially Managed Areas (SMAs).

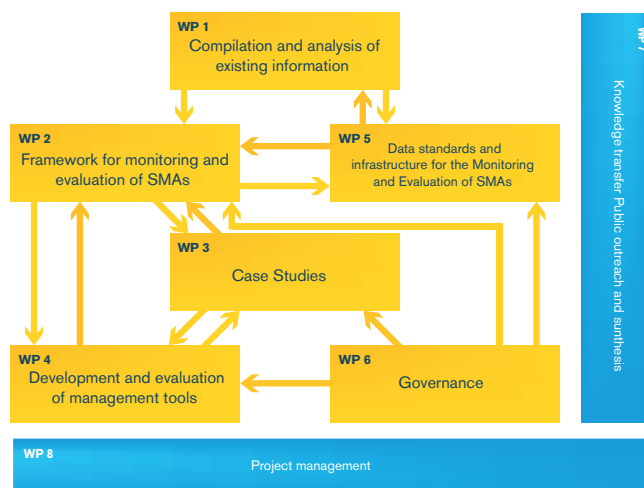
“We work on different scales: local, national, European.”



INTEGRATIVE APPROACH – ACROSS SECTORS

The main tasks of MESMA are information analysis, the development of a generic framework, the testing and evaluation of this framework through case-studies and the development of management tools that contribute to the sustainable use of European seas. All these actions are tackled in different work packages (WPs).

One example is: How do different European regions deal with offshore wind farms in relation to fisheries? In each case study we will identify the uses and the stakeholders and actively discuss and test the concepts that we develop. HERE is where we want YOU, the stakeholder, to GET ACTIVELY INVOLVED! To join, please subscribe at our website: www.mesma.org



CLIENTS, USERS, BENEFICIARIES

MESMA's work will benefit governments, local authorities, the whole range of stakeholders, managerial bodies for planning and decision making and the public in general.

MESMA - for sustainable use of European seas and coastal areas. *Visit our website www.mesma.org*

CONTACT WWW.MESMA.ORG

MESMA partners:

	coordination	www.imares.nl
		www.ucl.ac.uk
		www.senckenberg.de
		www.ugent.be
		www.hcmr.gr
		www.io-bas.bg
		www.imr.no
		cmrc.ucc.ie
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		www.iopan.gda.pl