

Actions for Marine Protected Areas AMAre PLUS Kick off Meeting

13 July 2021
Hosting Institution
CoNISMa CNR

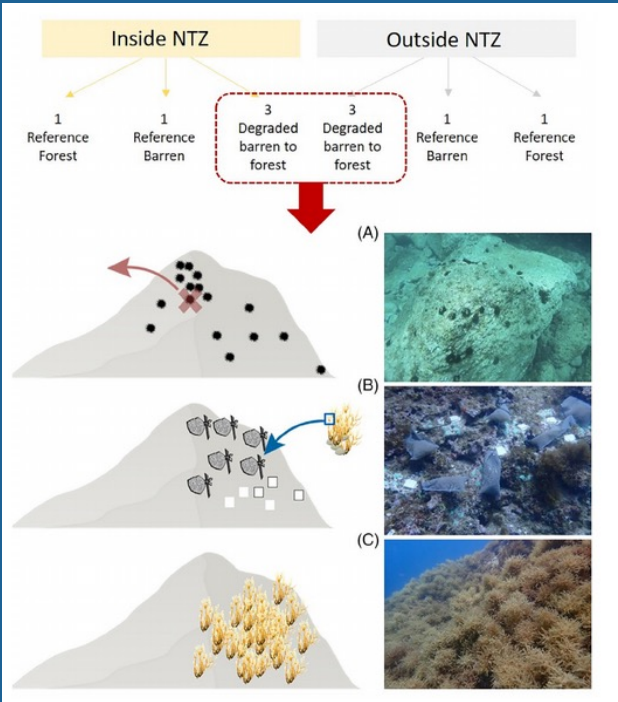


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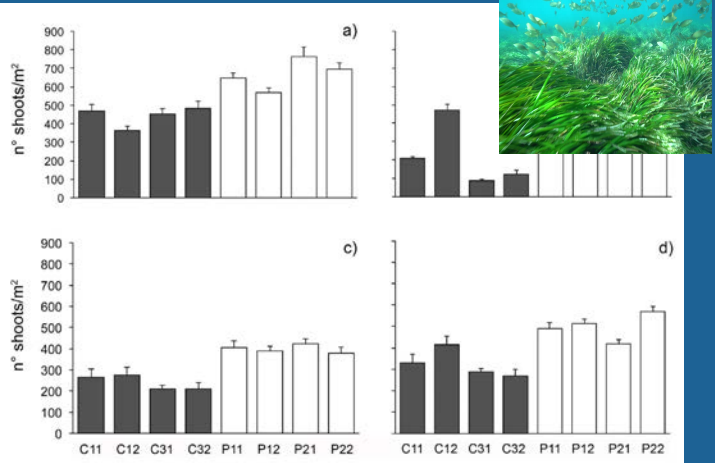


The rationale: Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) are crucial for the conservation of the Mediterranean Sea

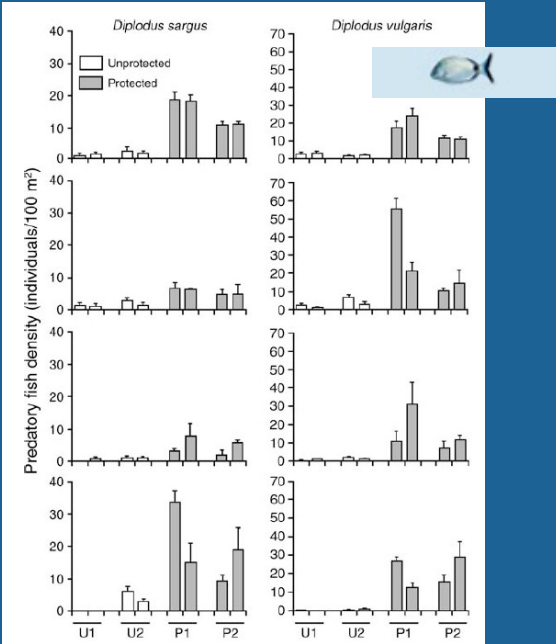
MPAs, when enforced, can be very effective in protecting biodiversity
 Even small MPAs can be very effective
 MPAs can restore species interactions
 Long-term protection is needed for full recovery



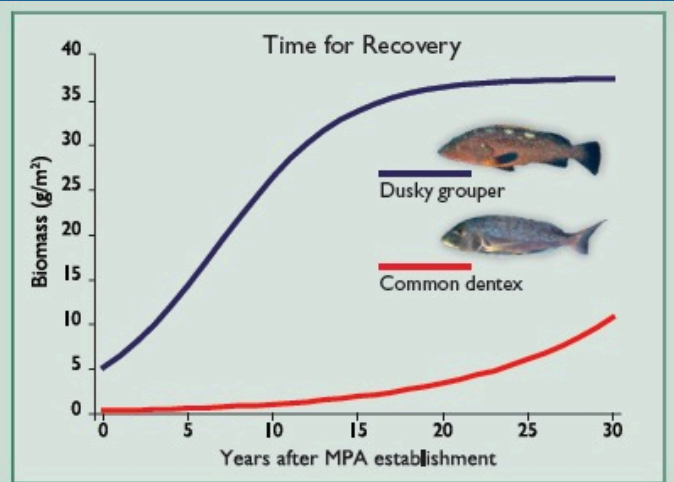
Medrano et. al. 2018



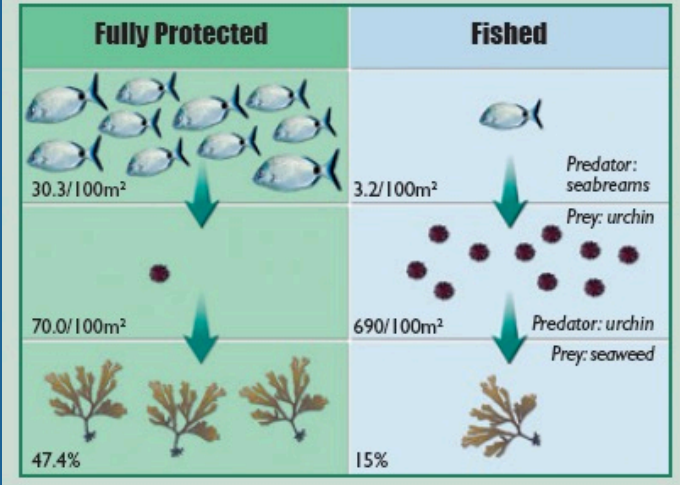
Fraschetti et al. 2013



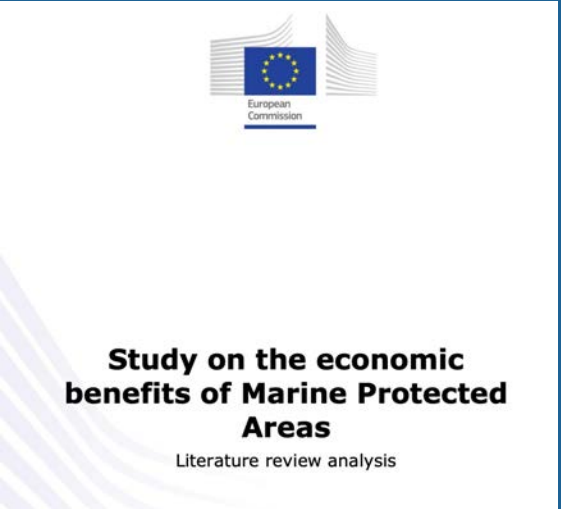
Guidetti et al. 2008



Recovery of biomass for the common dentex (red line) and dusky grouper (blue line) in the Medes Islands MPA in Spain. Data: Ref. 11



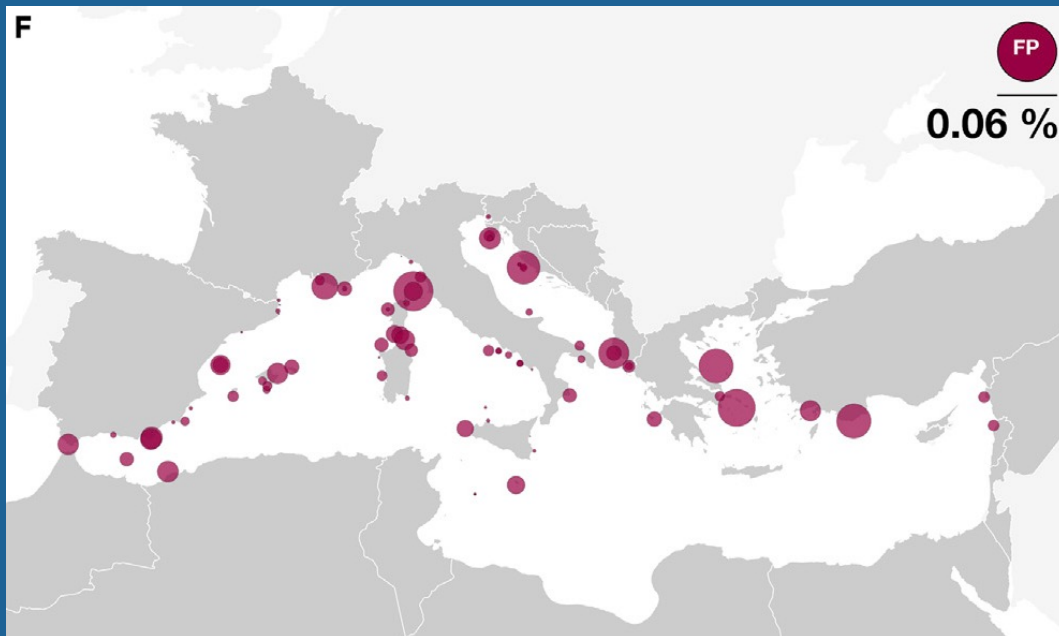
Hynes et al.2018



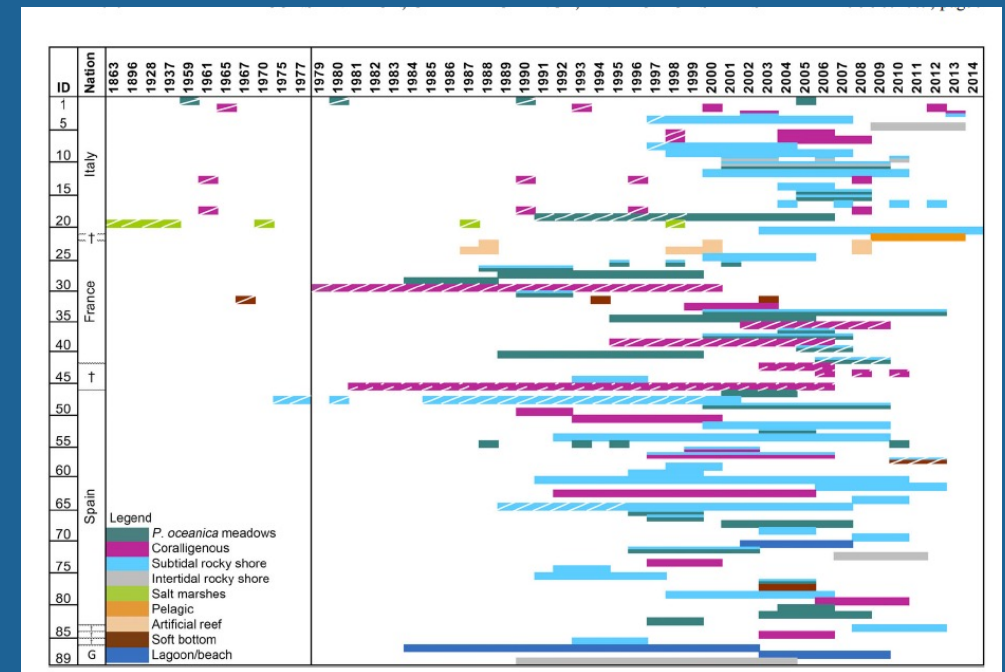
But not all of them are working

Baseline knowledge on biodiversity status is still lacking, monitoring is not systematically carried out, management is insufficient

The intensive use of marine space calls for coordinated actions aimed at reducing multiple stressors



Claudet et al. 2020



Rilov et al. 2020

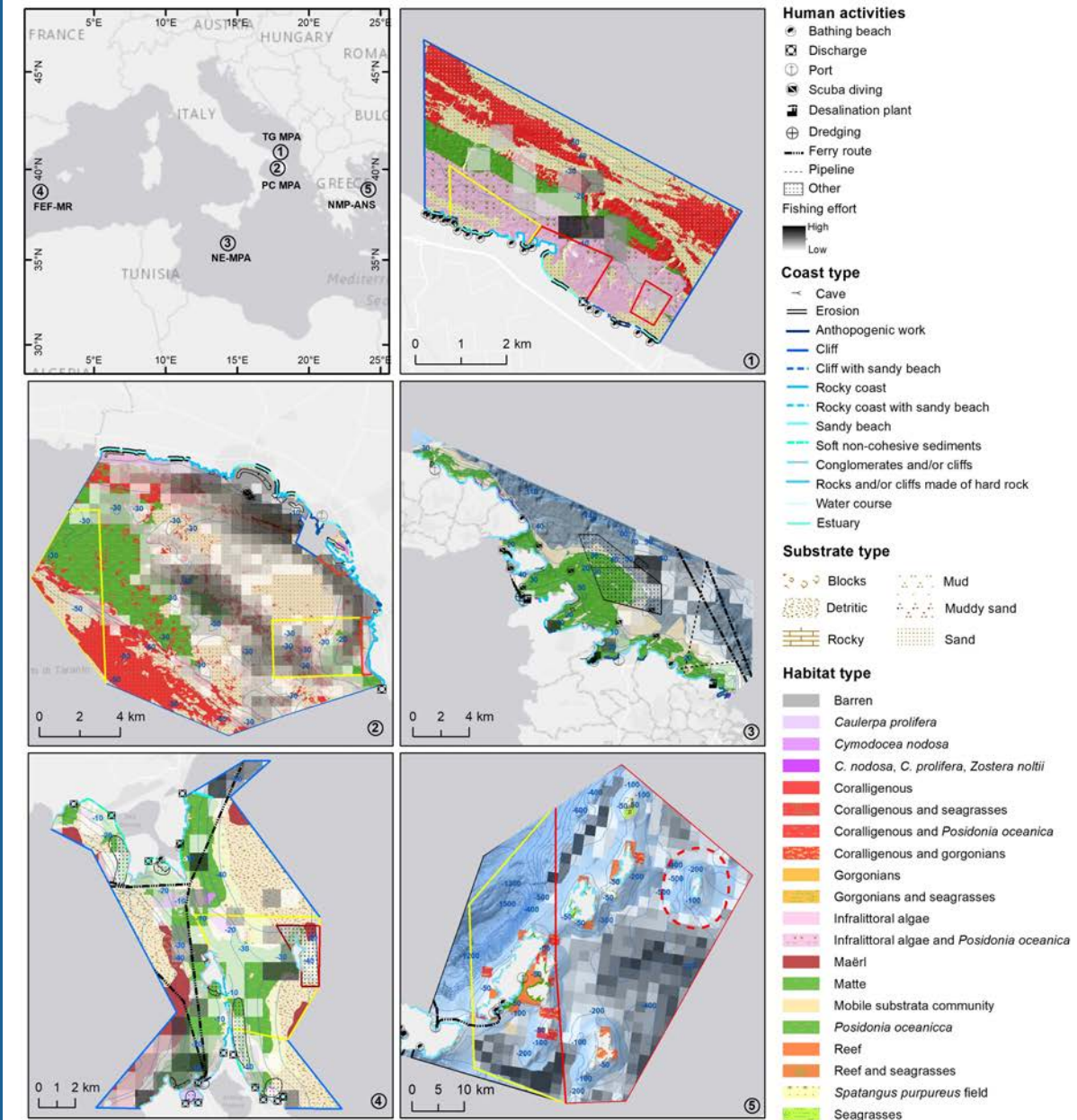
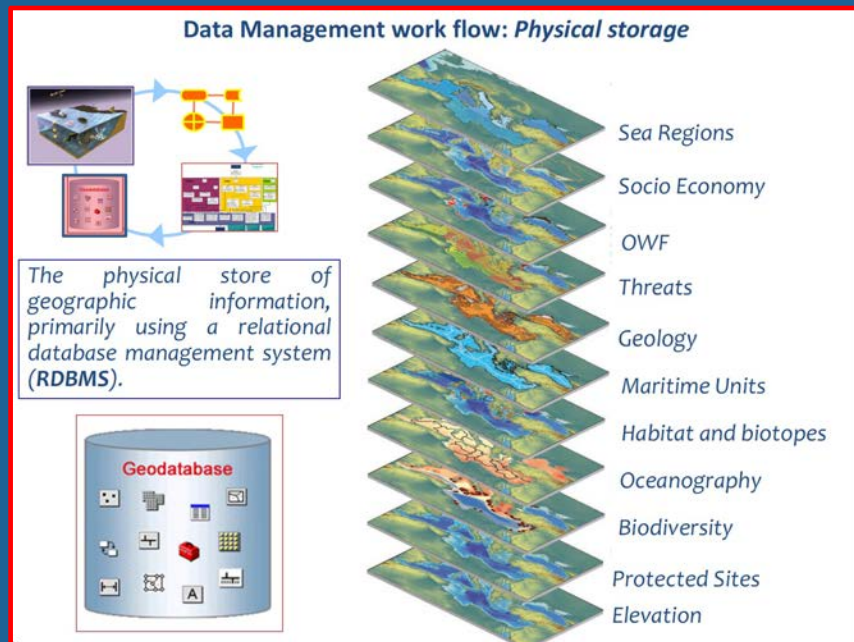
AMAre (2017-2020): the solutions

- ▶ 1- combine and standardize all the available spatial information on biodiversity components, environmental variables and human uses
- ▶ 2- explore potential effects of human uses on the good environmental status of vulnerable habitats
- ▶ 3- provide flexible, alternative, cost-effective planning options to reduce conflicts and increase synergies in agreement with relevant stakeholders
- ▶ 4- individuate early warning signals of ecosystem collapse

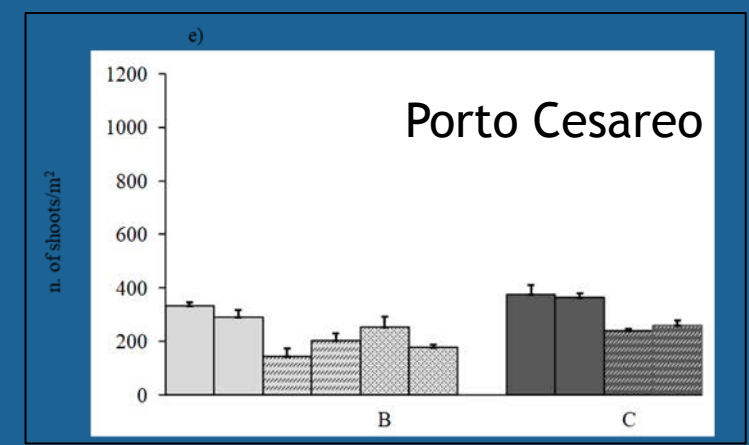
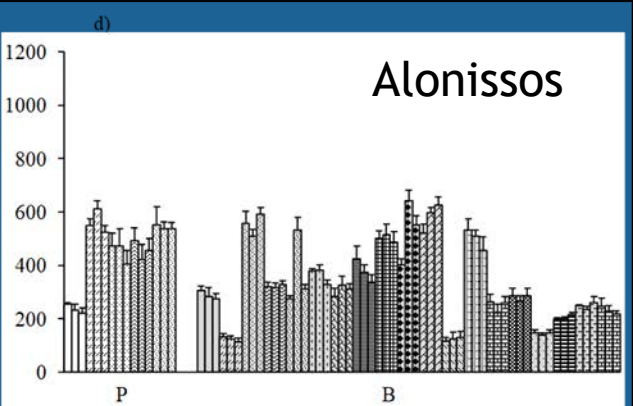
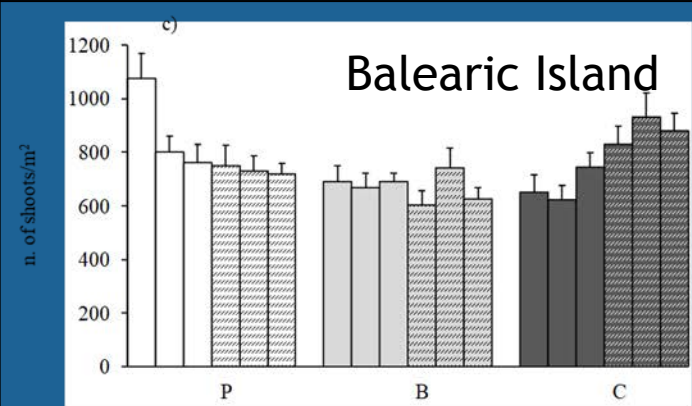
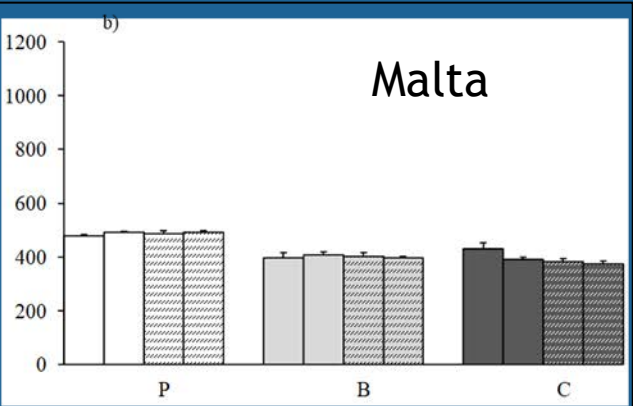
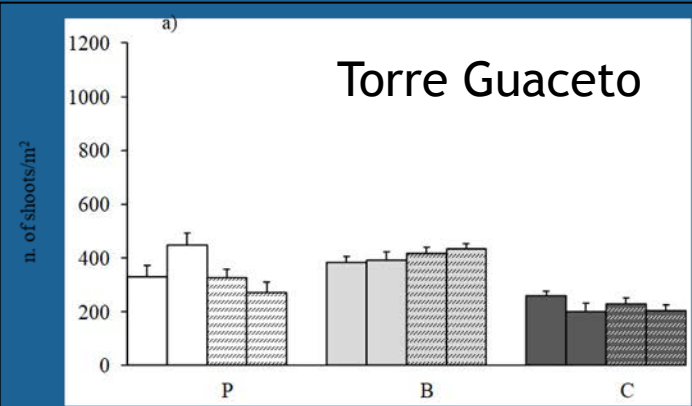
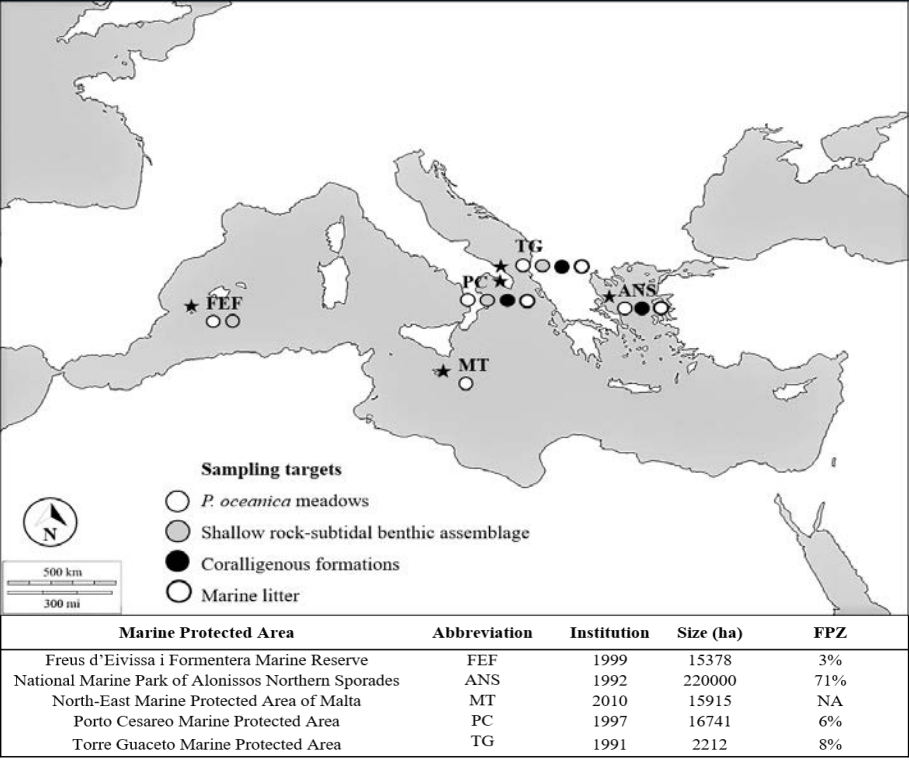


AMAre: the solutions

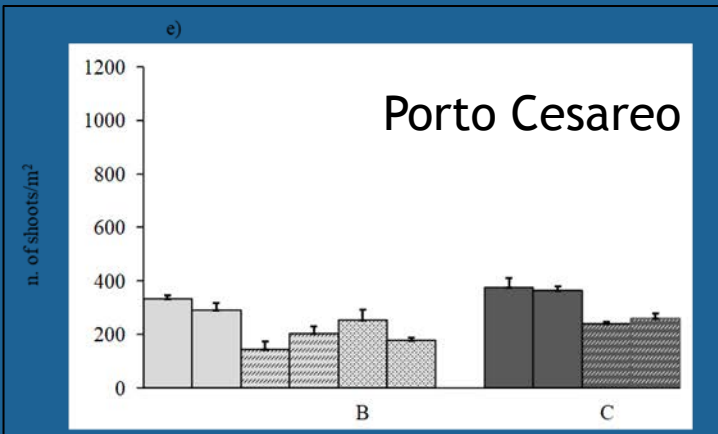
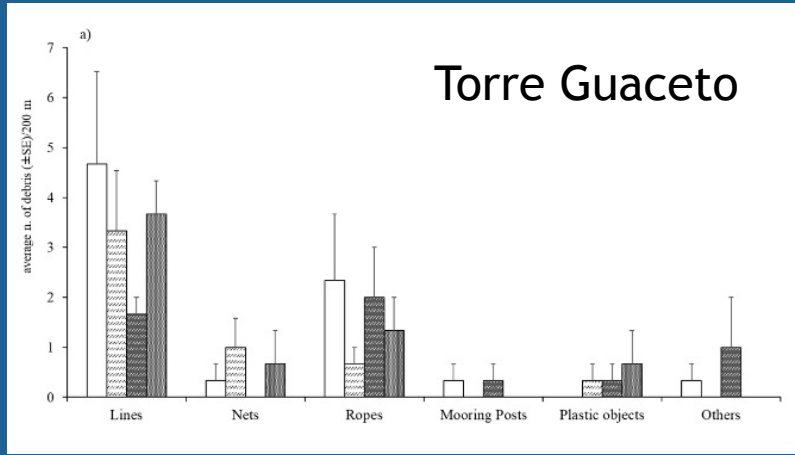
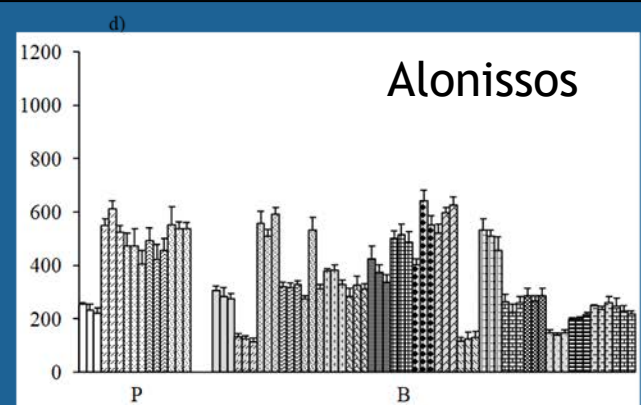
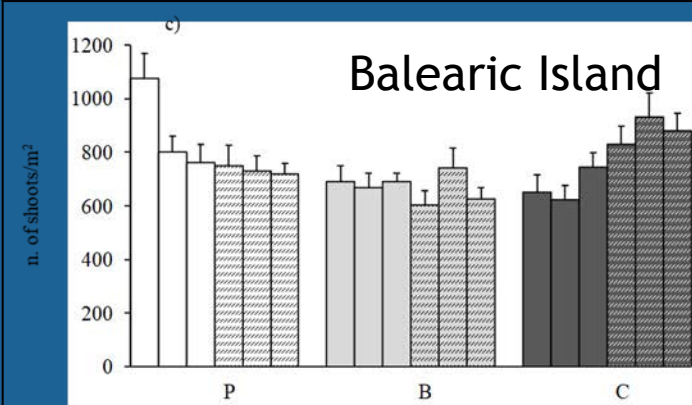
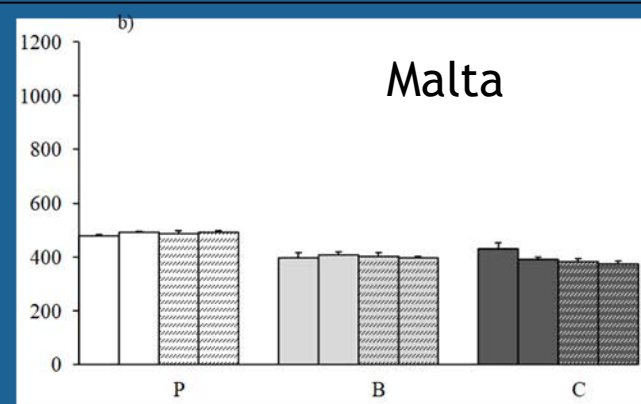
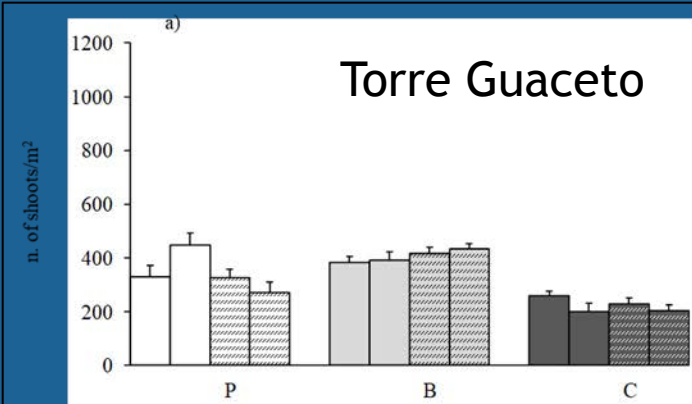
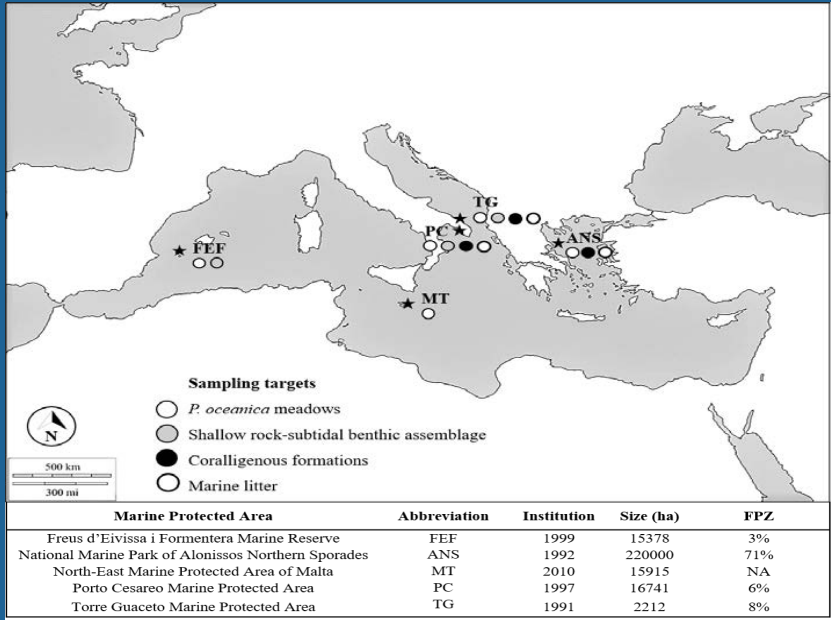
The spatial geoportal: systematic data collection at fine scale on response variables relevant to management



Common monitoring on the same response variables

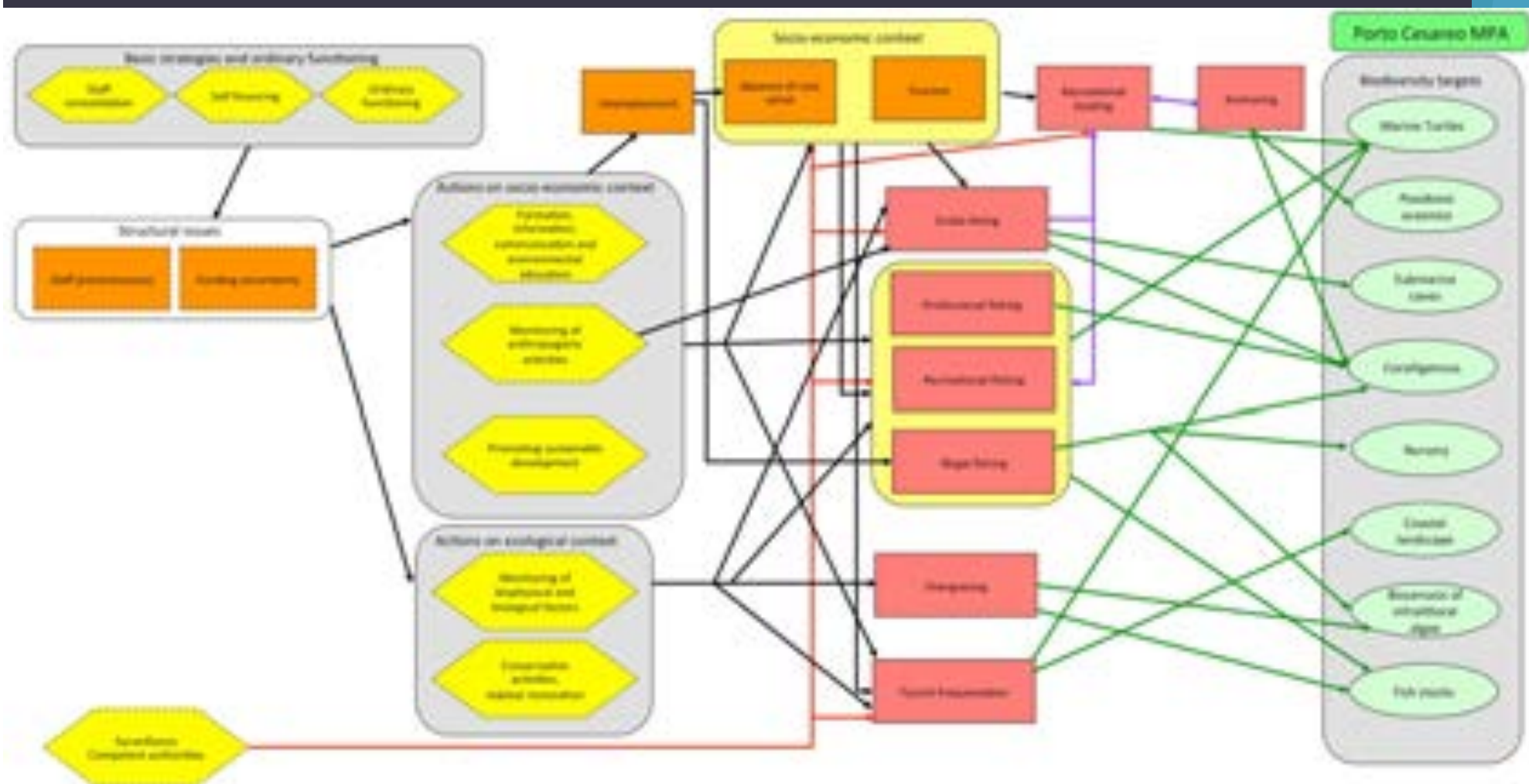


Common monitoring on the same response variables



Best practices for the management of human uses

General framework for the management of MPAs (the ISEA scheme "Standardized Interventions for the Effective Management within MPAs")



AMAre (2017-2020): the recommendations

Interreg
Mediterranean



Fine scale data on biodiversity within and outside MPAs are needed to assess their performance to reach biodiversity targets.

MPA managers should better coordinate their activities across MPAs.

Improving data availability and accessibility.

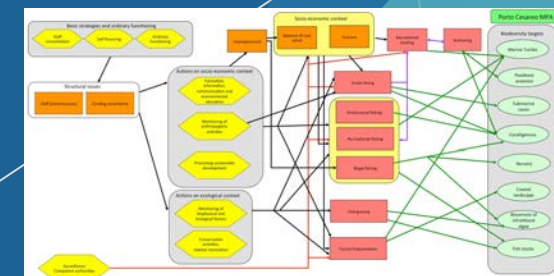
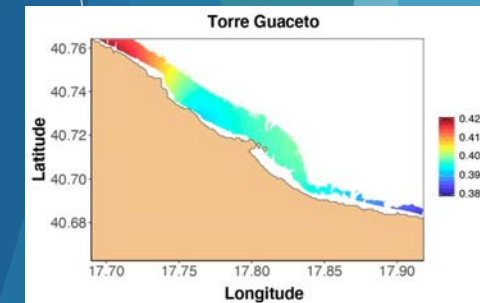
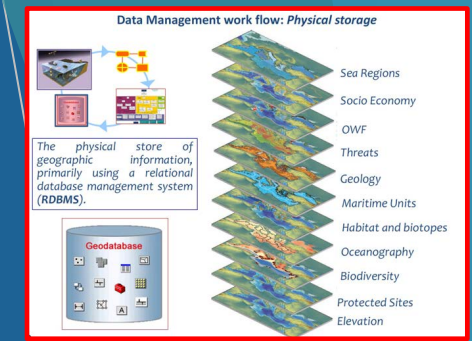
MPA managers must work closely with other actors that use space in the proximity of their MPAs, with effects on the status of biodiversity within their MPA.

Implementation of integrated land-sea conservation and management.

Systematic reporting about human uses and refinement of threat assessments within and outside MPAs will enhance management and conservation capacity.

AMAre PLUS (2021-2022): Transferring

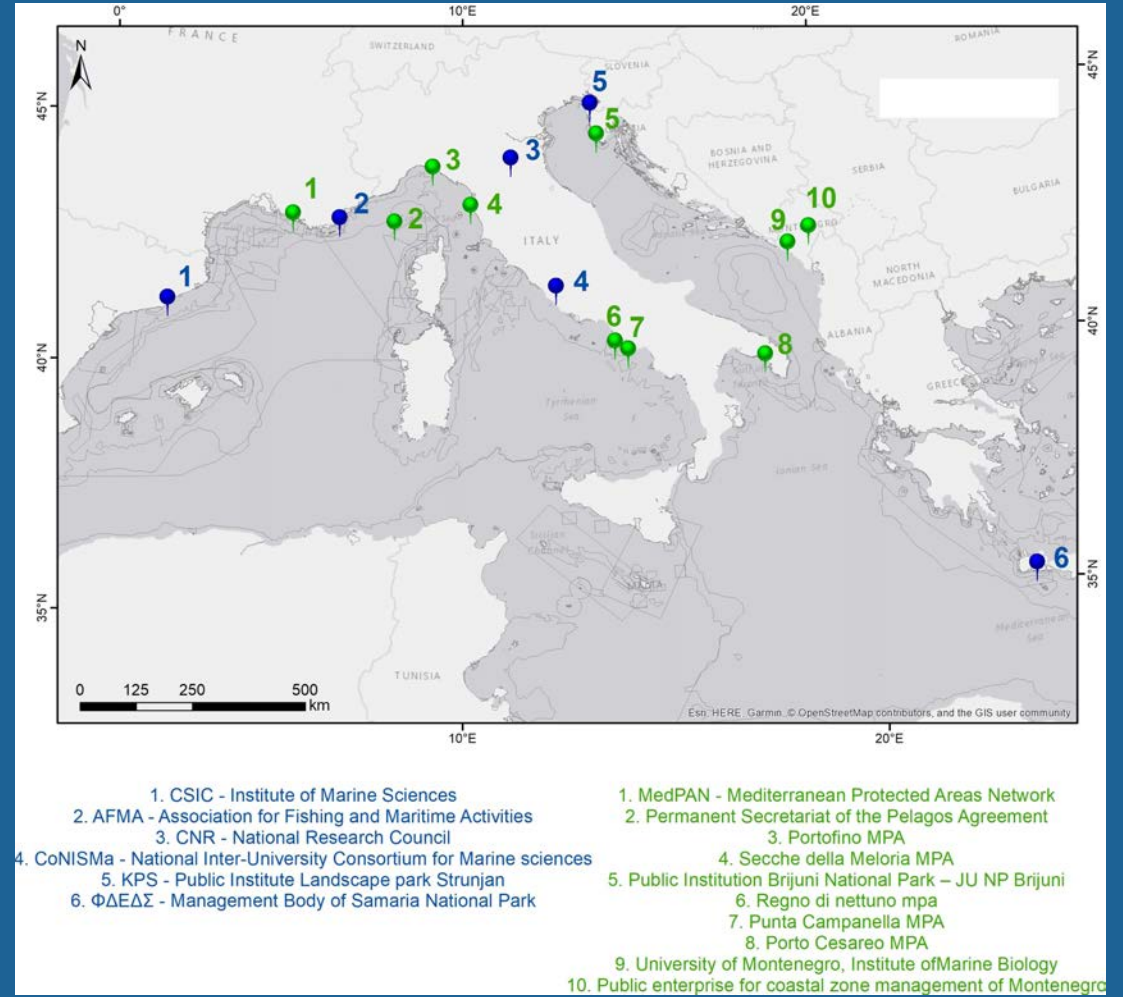
- ▶ a geospatial tool to exchange information among MPAs on biodiversity distribution and status, with a focus on vulnerable habitats of EU importance, environmental variables, human uses
- ▶ EU protocols for ecological monitoring, allowing the collection and the comparison of fine-scale ecological data
- ▶ guidelines for the assessment of early warning indicators of regime shift for monitoring the risk of collapse of benthic ecosystems;
- ▶ a general framework for the management of MPAs (the ISEA scheme "Standardized Interventions for the Effective Management within MPAs")



AMAre PLUS: transferring

The aim is to transfer standards to harmonize the high monitoring/management heterogeneity characterizing Mediterranean MPAs, contributing to the implementation of effective MPA networks, instrumental to maximize the effects of protection on biodiversity

Interactions with other projects sharing the same vision



How and When

1-evaluation of receiver territorial needs, carried out by a questionnaire to analyse existing data, infrastructures, protocols and best practices, followed by "face-to-face" meetings

(from 1-06 to 30-09-2021)

2-adjustment of the outputs to match specific contexts of the “receiver” MPA, integrating the existing AMAre products according to the feedbacks of step 1 with the development of 9 new Geodatabases and Web Apps

(1-10 to 31-01-2022)

3- an on-line event showing the AMAre products potential

(first week of December)

How and When

4-organization of 1 training module on the Geoportal (3 sessions), 1 training module for implementing monitoring protocols (2 sessions), 1 training module on the ISEA scheme Standardized Interventions for the Effective Management within MPAs, including a summary of recommendations arisen from AMAre.

(15-01 to 31-05-2022)

5-one plenary meeting will be organized, in which receivers will show how the new products can be integrated in the MPA. The effective take up of the transferred output by the “receiver”, will be concretized through the final production of the MoU for each MPA.

(second half of June 2022)

Virtual regular meetings both with individual MPAs and all partners to facilitate transferring of best practices
In all activities Associated Partners will be fully involved.
Meetings will be generally by remote.

Only the final plenary will be in presence, according to COVID restrictions.

Reducing the effects of multiple stressors is one of the most important territorial challenges facing marine conservation

First step towards the New Green Deal where digitalization, data sharing and ecological transition are central to improve biodiversity status

