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What Impacts will this project have?

- Improved criteria for the identification and management of Marine Protected Areas
- Framework to improve the integration of biodiversity in Maritime Spatial Planning
- A Decision Support Tool to improve integration of data in decision making processes
- Policy solutions to strengthen the compatibility of MSP with biodiversity policies (i.e. Green Deal)
- Six site-specific solutions for better integration of MSP and MPA management

Ivana Lukic
Project Coordinator
 s.Pro Sustainable Projects GmbH
 il@sustainable-projects.eu

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www.linkedin.com/company/msp4bio/

www.msp4bio.eu



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MSP4BIO :
Improved Science-Based Maritime Spatial Planning to Safeguard and Restore Biodiversity in a Coherent European MPA Network



Who does this project serve?

- Primary users:
Maritime Spatial Planners, Marine Protected Areas managers, environmental authorities;
- Secondary users:
Authorities for the sectoral planning and project level tendering and permits.



Protecting and restoring biodiversity through maritime planning

What challenges will MSP4BIO address?

The project addresses the limited consideration of biodiversity protection and restoration in maritime spatial planning (MSP) processes.

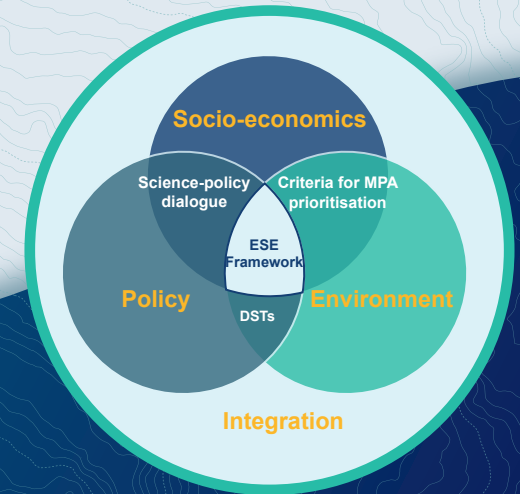
While most of the EU Members States have MSP plans in place, there is only little integration between the designation of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), and the MSP process.

What will MSP4BIO do?

- Improve ecological criteria for MPAs and EBSAs identification, which will facilitate the prioritization of protection and restoration initiatives
- Provide practical tools for decision making processes (DSTs).
- Develop an integrated and modular Ecological-Socio-Economic (ESE) management framework for the protection and restoration of marine ecosystems
- Suggest spatial and strategic solutions in 6 pilot sites to inform implementation and revision of national MSP plans in line with the EU Biodiversity Strategy Targets

How?

Communities of Practice (CoP) composed of MSP and MPAs stakeholders (e.g. planners, regulators, researchers) in 6 pilot locations will co-develop and validate concrete solutions for an improved consideration of biodiversity in maritime spatial planning and related policies.



The Ecological- Socio-Economic management framework (ESE)

The Ecological-Socio-Economic (ESE) management framework for the protection and restoration of marine ecosystems will be the final output of the project. It will address the compatibility of several combination of maritime/coastal uses and protection measures in six pilot sites in five European Sea Basins.

The framework will take into account the criteria and objectives of relevant policies and contribute to the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030 and the Convention on Biological Diversity post-2020 framework.

The resulting solutions (strategic and spatial) will fill gaps on marine biodiversity and better the integration between MSP and MPA management.

