



TEDEN SREDOZEMSKÉ OBALE  
IN MAKROREGIONALNIH  
STRATEGIJ

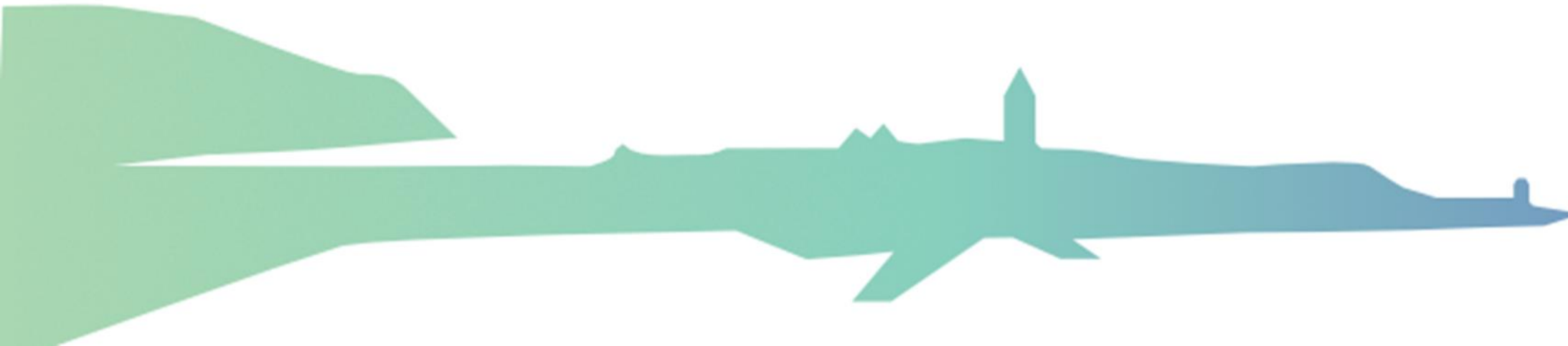
Izola, Slovenija  
18. – 22. september 2023

MEDITERRANEAN COAST  
AND MACRO-REGIONAL  
STRATEGIES WEEK

Izola, Slovenia  
18 – 22 September 2023

# THE ROLE OF MARINE PROTECTED AREA NETWORKS IN THE PROTECTION OF BIODIVERSITY IN THE ADRIATIC IONIAN REGION IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PROPOSED MASTERPLAN

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# TORRE GUACETO

**MARINE PROTECTED AREA**



**EMAS**

GESTIONE AMBIENTALE  
VERIFICATA  
reg. n. I-000412



**BLUEPARKS**



MARINE  
CONSERVATION  
INSTITUTE



**2005**



**2008**



**2019**

**SPAMI**





# Role of the MPAs

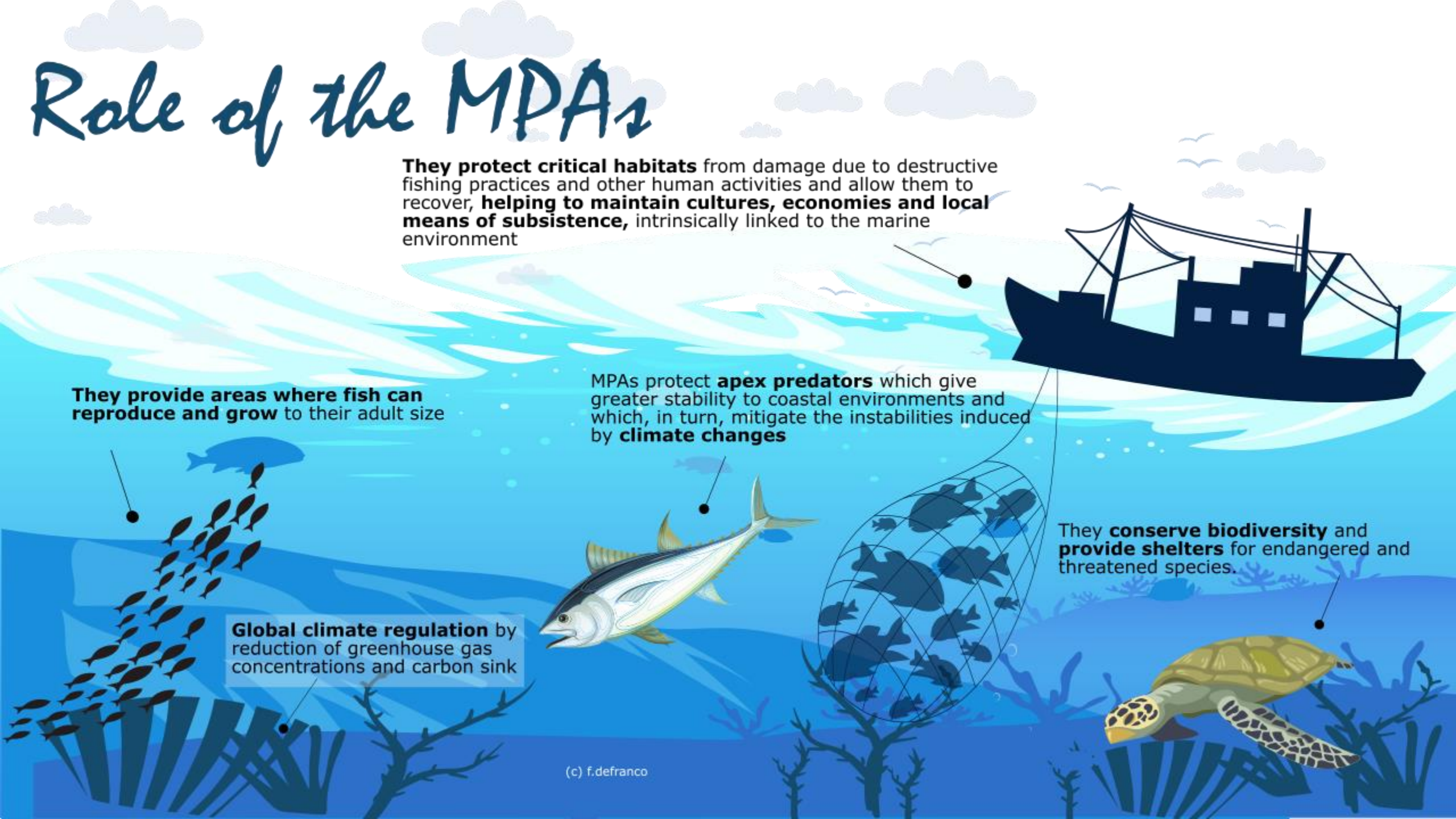
They protect **critical habitats** from damage due to destructive fishing practices and other human activities and allow them to recover, **helping to maintain cultures, economies and local means of subsistence**, intrinsically linked to the marine environment

They provide areas where fish can **reproduce and grow** to their adult size

MPAs protect **apex predators** which give greater stability to coastal environments and which, in turn, mitigate the instabilities induced by **climate changes**

**Global climate regulation** by reduction of greenhouse gas concentrations and carbon sink

They **conserve biodiversity** and **provide shelters** for endangered and threatened species.



# IUCN standards for MPAs

“A protected area is a clearly defined geographical *space*, recognised, dedicated and managed, through *legal or other effective means*, to achieve the *longterm conservation* of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values”



Conservation

Nature as priority



Goals and objectives

Defined and related with nature values



Design

Suitable size, location for values conservation



Management plan  
(or eq)

Address needs for values conservation and objective achievement



Resources

Suitable financial means to implement plan and to reach objectives



Following the European Green Deal, the European Commission adopted, on 20 May 2020, Communication COM/2020/380 on an “EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 – Bringing nature back into our lives”

protect at least *30% of the sea* in the EU,  
of which *10% under strict protection*

*defined conservation objectives and measures*  
to the new areas to be designated but also to all existing areas

assess the *management effectiveness* of protected areas



Number of protected areas in the world

**18.431**

Percentage of oceans covered by protected areas

**8,17%**

Total area under protection

**29.585.205 km<sup>2</sup>**

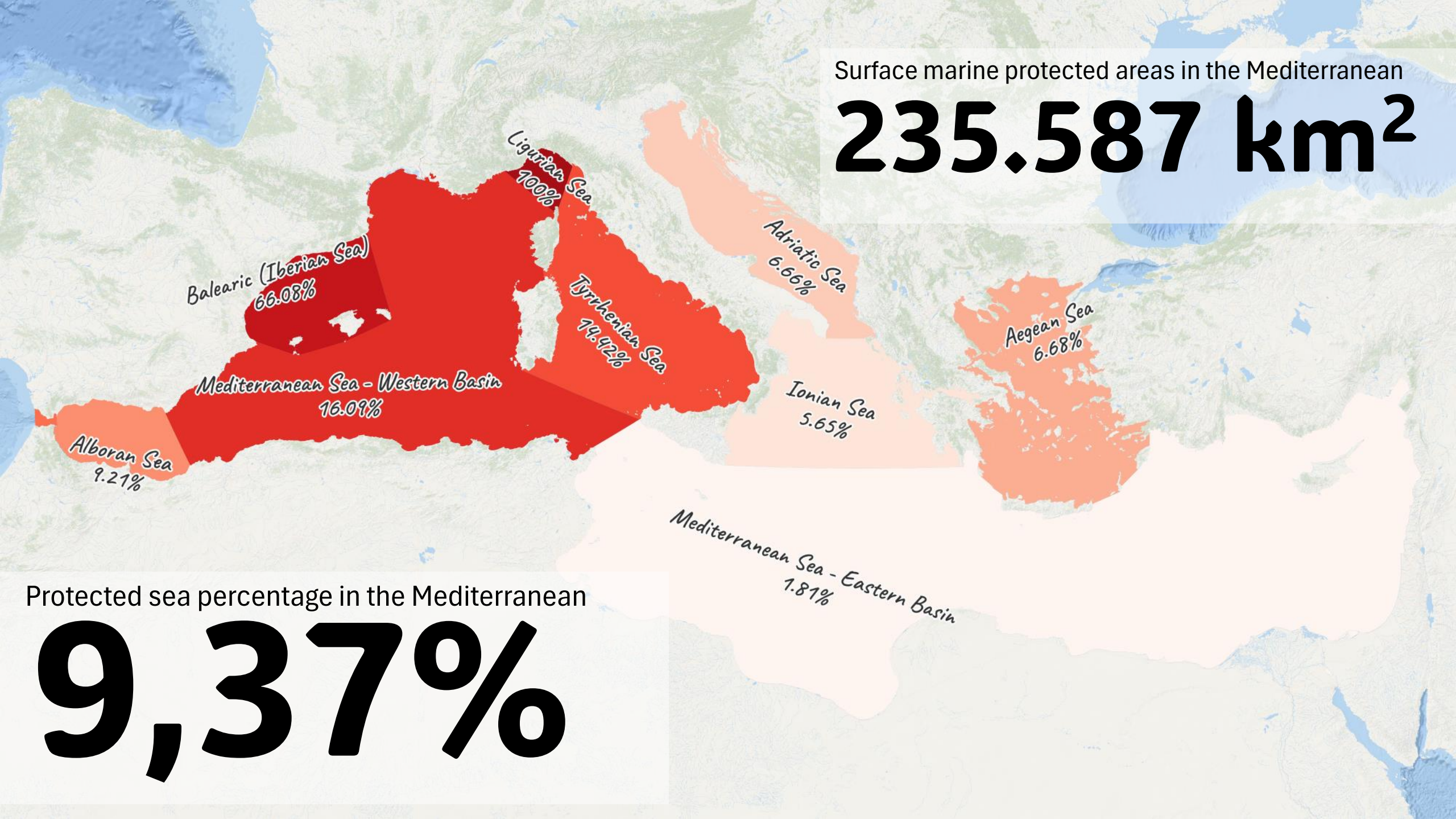


UNEP-WCMC and IUCN (2023), Protected Planet: The World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) [Online], September 2023, Cambridge, UK: UNEP-WCMC and IUCN. Available at: [www.protectedplanet.net](http://www.protectedplanet.net).



Surface marine protected areas in the Mediterranean

**235.587 km<sup>2</sup>**

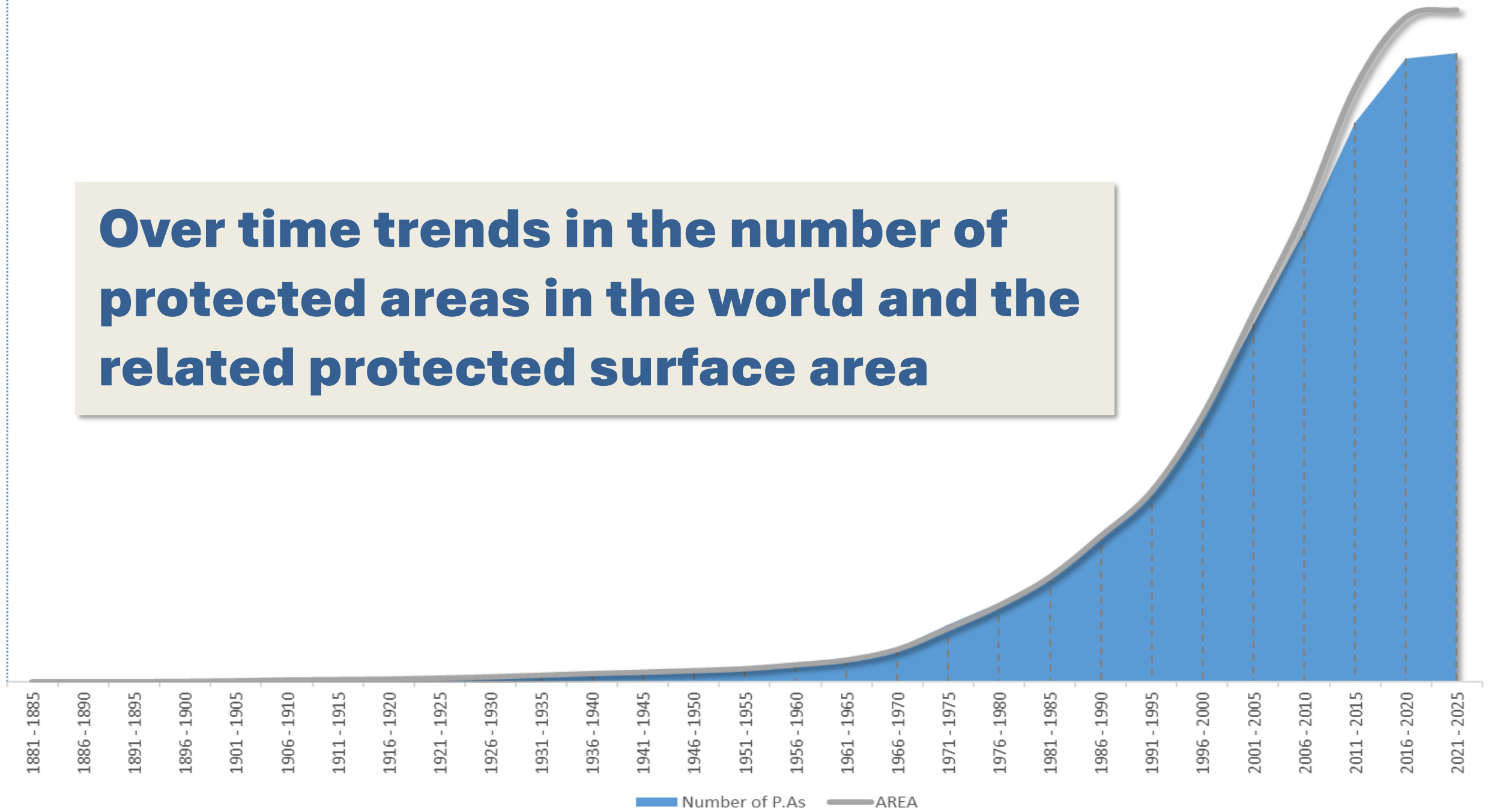


Protected sea percentage in the Mediterranean

**9,37%**



# Over time trends in the number of protected areas in the world and the related protected surface area



# Contribution of Adr-Ion countries in the designation of protected areas from 1950 to today

ALB GRC HRV ITA SVN





# Conservation sites within the Adriatic and Ionian Seas



**MAPAMED**



--> MAPAMED, the database of Marine Protected Areas in the MEDiterranean. 2019 edition. © 2020 by SPA/RAC and MedPAN. Licensed under CC BY-NC-SA 4.0. Available at: <https://www.mapamed.org/>  
 --> Flanders Marine Institute (2018). IHO Sea Areas, version 3. Available online at <https://www.marineregions.org/>. <https://doi.org/10.14284/323>.  
 --> Global Administrative Areas database, version 3.6, May 2018. Available at: <https://www.gadm.org/>

EPSG:3035 (ETRS89-extended / LAEA Europe)  
 MedPAN, June 2022



**12% of MPAs with  
management  
plans**

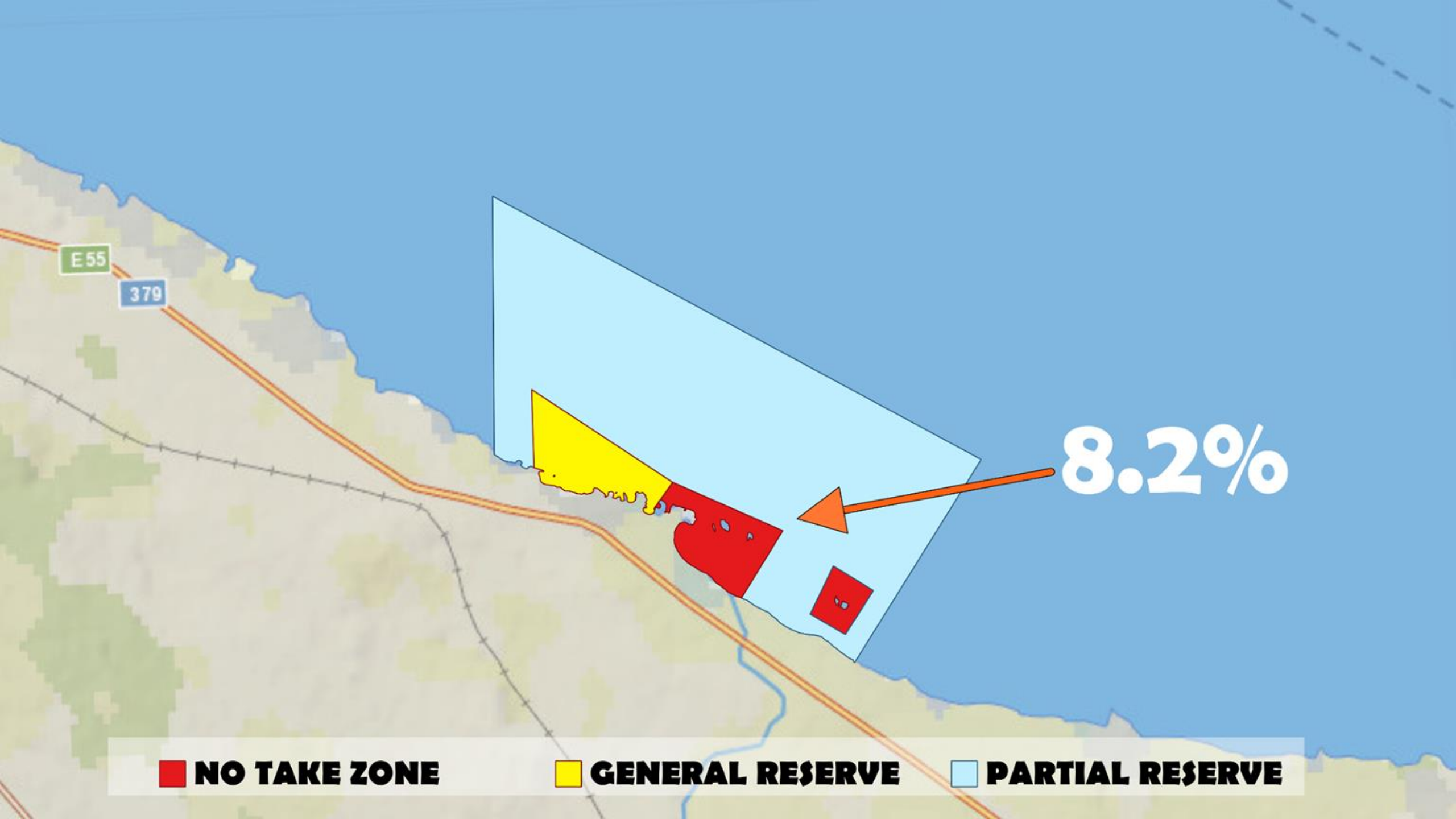
**1% of MPAs with  
sufficient staff**

**4% of MPAs with  
sufficient budget**



0,1%

**NTZs**



8.2%

**■ NO TAKE ZONE**

**■ GENERAL RESERVE**

**■ PARTIAL RESERVE**



Assignment by  
Apulia Regione of  
management since  
2019

No zonation

Conservation  
measures adopted  
by Regional  
Council

Environmental  
impact assessment  
as single  
management tool

No effective  
surveillance and  
adequate law  
enforcement



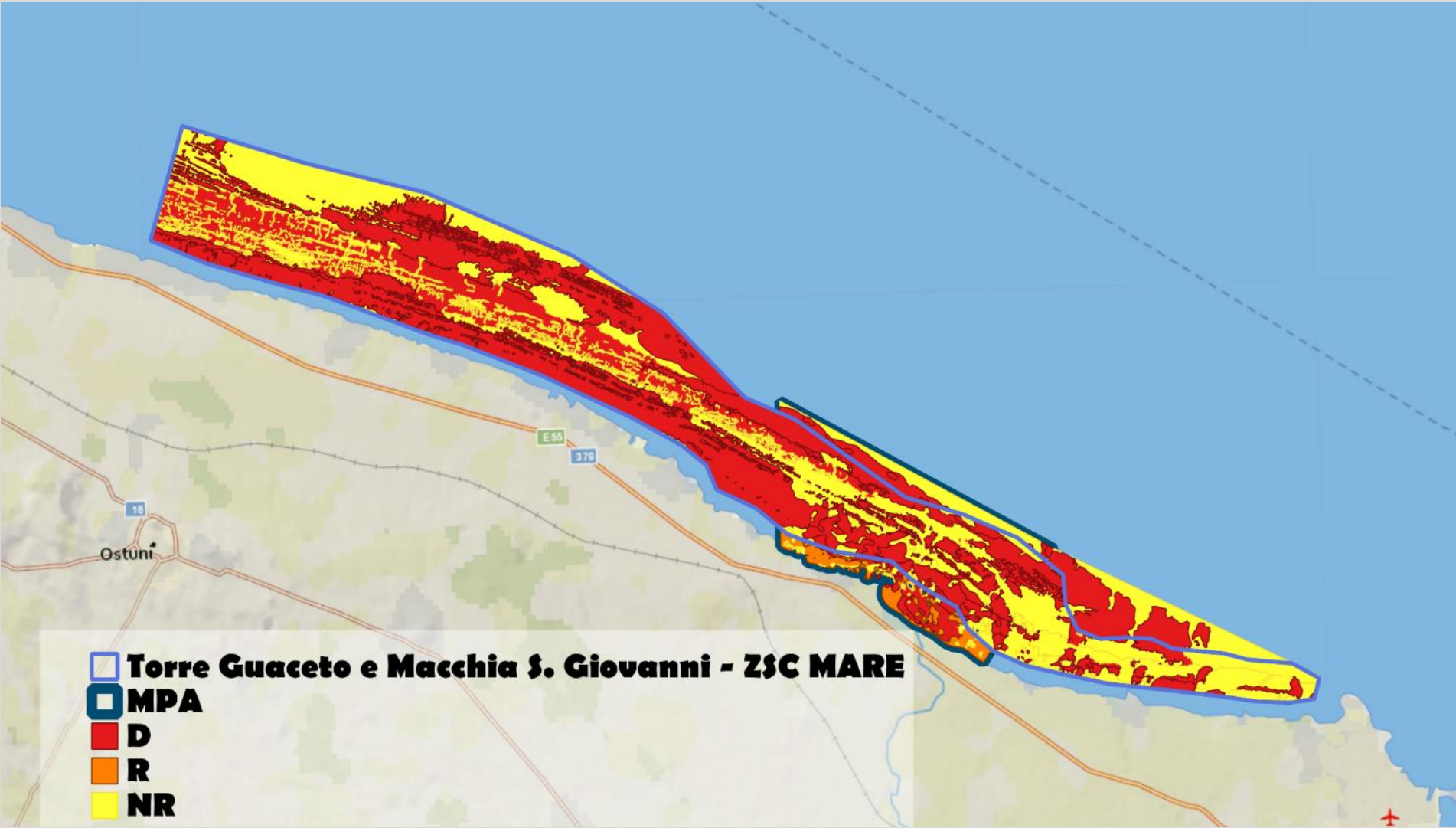
**7.669 hectares**

**NO TAKE ZONE**

**GENERAL RESERVE**

**PARTIAL RESERVE**

**Torre Guaceto e Macchia S. Giovanni - ZSC MARE**



Presence of  
determinant  
biocoenoses  
*outside*  
*MPA*



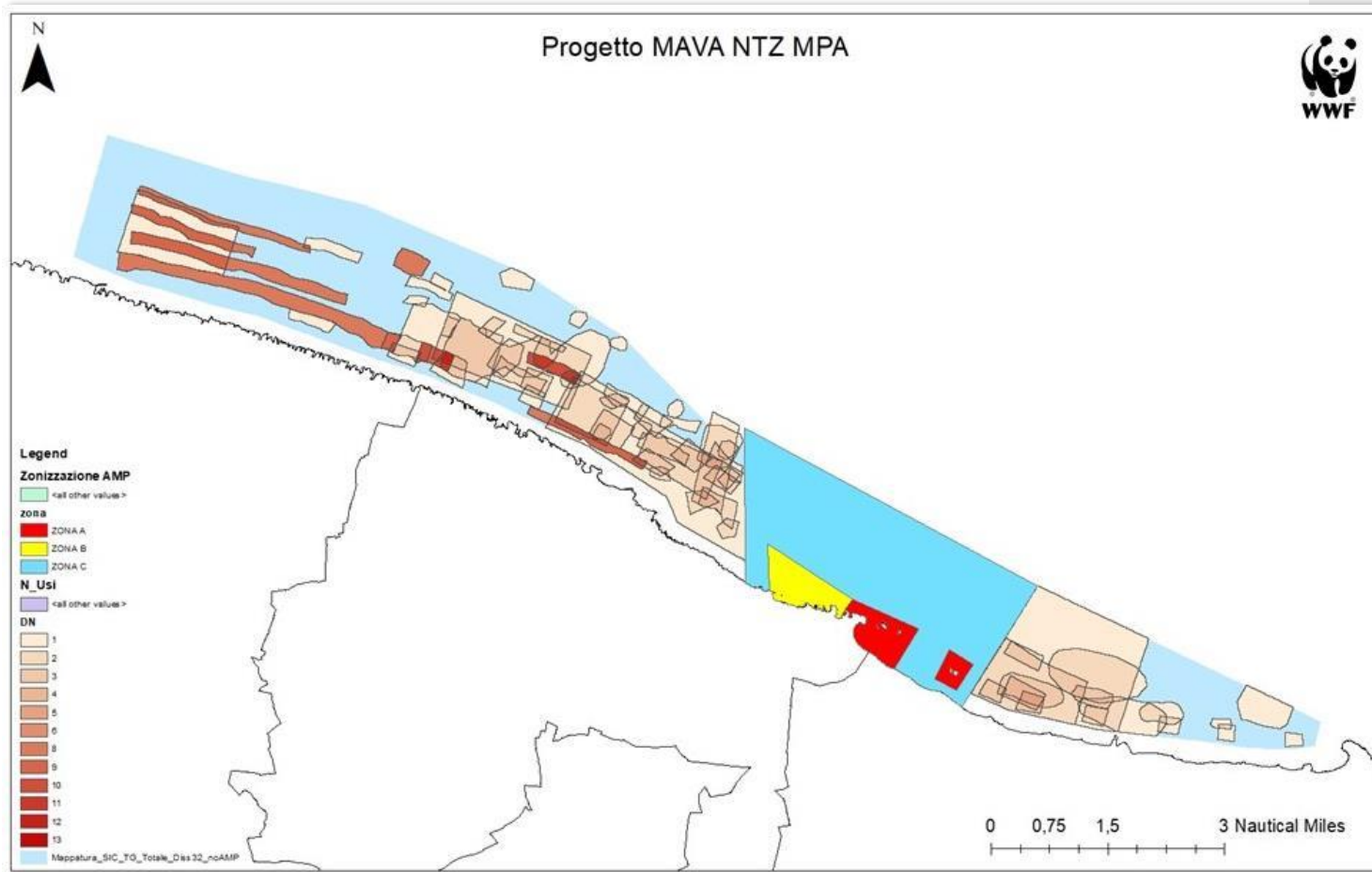




# Participatory proces

In Torre Guaceto, we supported the **enlargement** of the MPA through a **participatory process** that has involved **artisanal fishermen** and local **recreational users**.







SOCIO-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS  
FOR ENVIRONMENTAL  
ACCOUNTING



SURVEYS



FOCUS GROUPS



PLEASURE  
BOATING



BATHING  
FACILITIES



ACCOMMODATION  
FACILITIES



BLUE ECONOMY  
ACTIVITIES



Stakeholder *acceptance* of the benefit of protection  
*Involvement* in the identification of *NTZs*

Protected Surface

22km<sup>2</sup>

90km<sup>2</sup>

4 TIMES

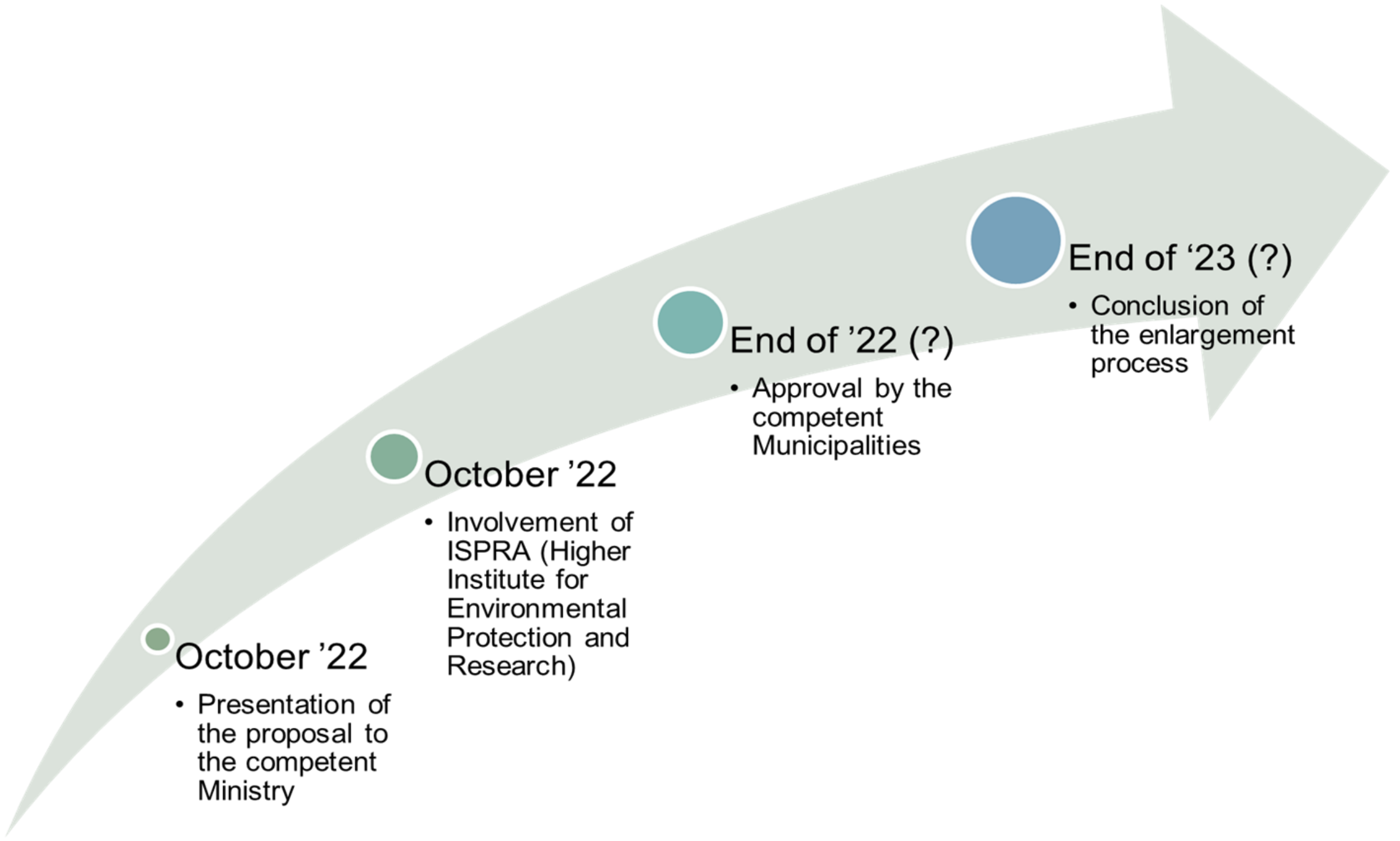
NTZ

1.8km<sup>2</sup>

6.6km<sup>2</sup>

3.6 TIMES





October '22

- Presentation of the proposal to the competent Ministry

October '22

- Involvement of ISPRA (Higher Institute for Environmental Protection and Research)

End of '22 (?)

- Approval by the competent Municipalities

End of '23 (?)

- Conclusion of the enlargement process



**MYSEA project is aimed at strengthening the Sea Turtle Recovery Center Network in the Puglia Region (Torre Guaceto, Manfredonia, Barletta, Raucio e Calimera)**

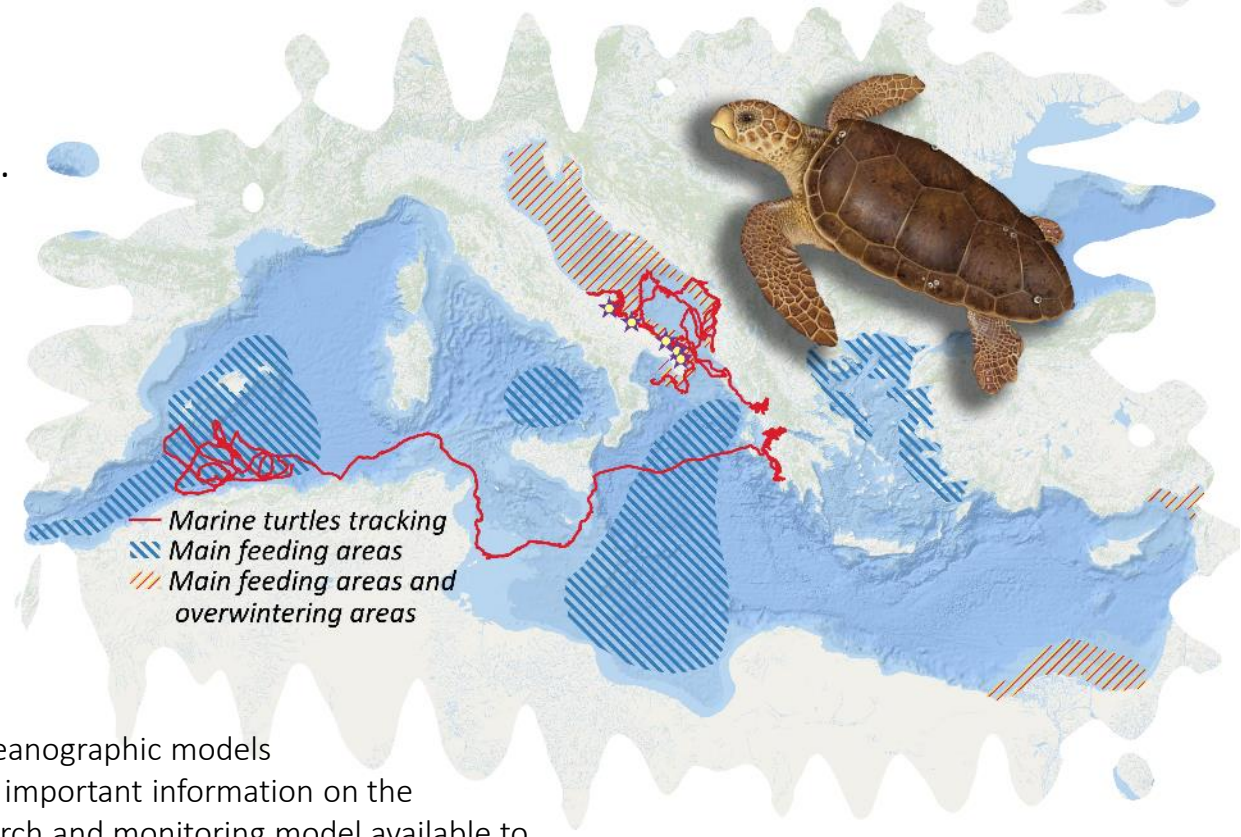
Sea turtles represent a family that is closely linked to environmental variables such as sea temperature and currents.

The activity of monitoring the species with satellite transmitters will be related to an assessment of the marine environmental conditions and how they affect the neritic phase of the species, especially in sub-adult and adult individuals

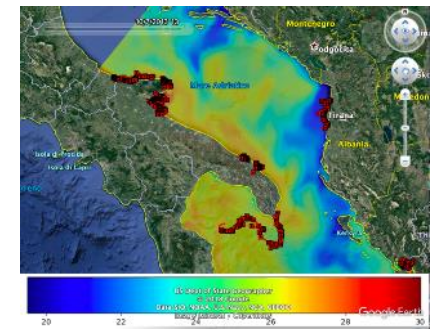


Evaluating the evolution of the routes in relation to the water temperatures recorded by the sensors on the turtles and monitored through the CMCC models will allow to detect possible patterns in the late winter and spring period, fundamental for reproduction

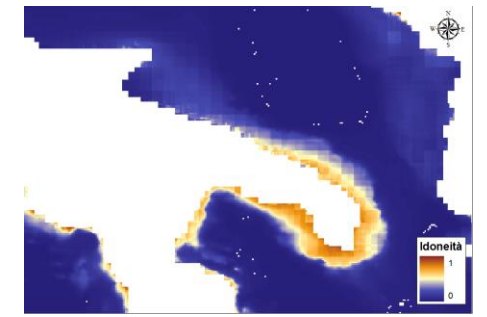
The interaction between the recorded oceanographic information, the oceanographic models provided by the CMCC and the routes detected with the satellite provides important information on the Adriatic-Ionian population of this species, constituting an innovative research and monitoring model available to the regional network of recovery centers



*Sea surface temperature and individual behavior*



*Nesting potentiality*



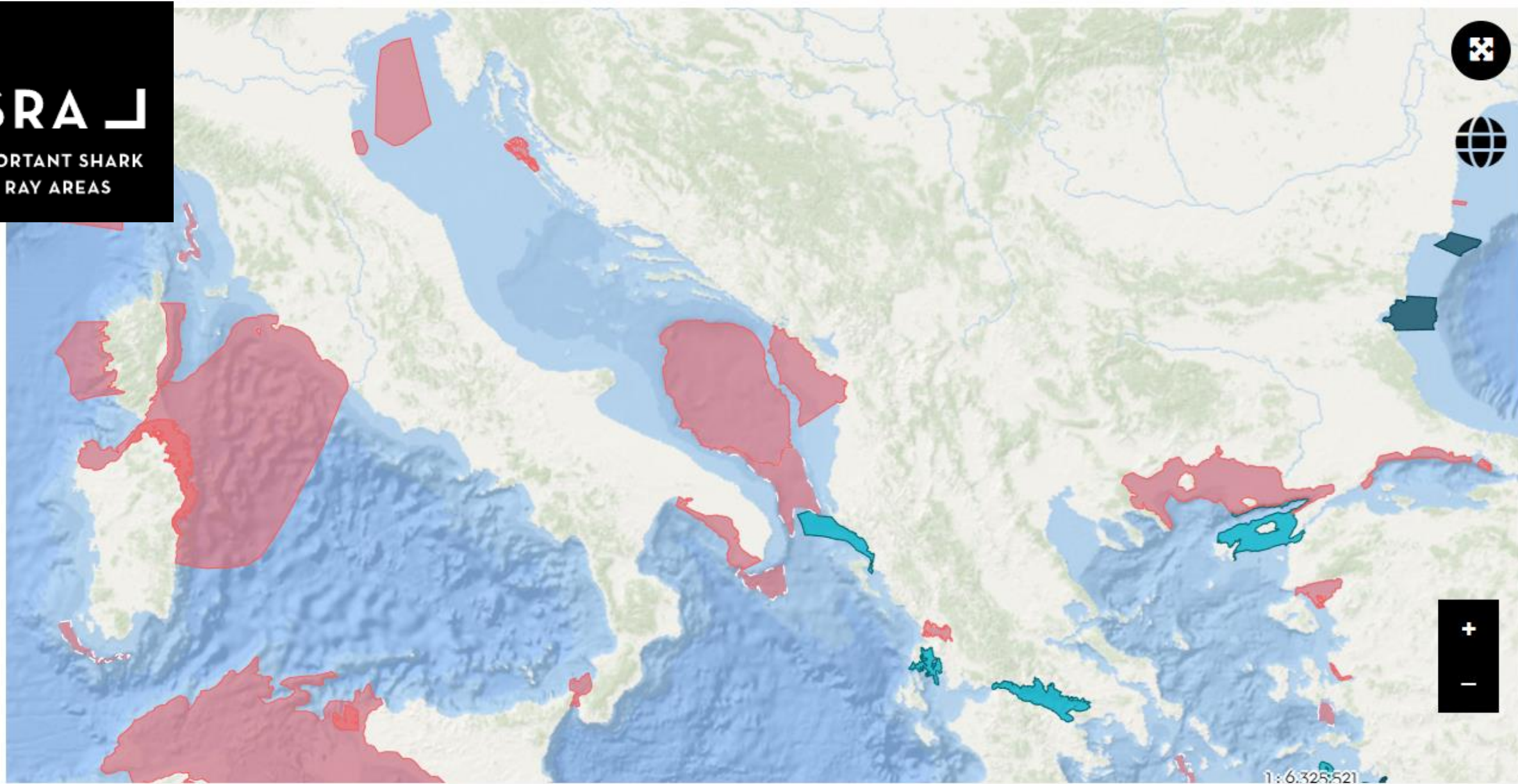


**Turtles monitored between 2020 and 2023 showed high fidelity to the southern Adriatic and Ionian area.**

**This monitoring program allows us to identify high priority areas for this species, where it will be necessary to draw up specific species conservation plans which must involve Italy, Albania, Montenegro and Greece**

# ISRA

IMPORTANT SHARK  
AND RAY AREAS



- Important Shark and Ray Area (Surface)
- Important Shark and Ray Area (Subsurface)
- candidate Important Shark and Ray Area
- Area of Interest
- Region not assessed



**MONTENEGRO**





**PUGLIA**



<https://www.instagram.com/torreguaceto/>

Thanks for your attention