

“Fishing governance in MPAs: potentialities for Blue Economy 2” (FishMPABlue2 project)

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Assumption

WELL MANAGED MARINE PROTECTED AREAS SUPPORT FISHERIES

MPA

IN EUROPEAN WATERS

evidence shows that well-managed MPAs benefit fish and invertebrates.

+13%
SIZE

+19%
DIVERSITY

+121%
DENSITY

+251%
BIOMASS

EXAMPLE: TORRE GUACETO PROTECTED AREA, ITALY

15x

The MPA not only exports adults and juveniles, large-sized spawners produce **15 times** more eggs and larvae within the MPA than outside.

100 km

Sea breams move up to 100 km into fishing grounds.

ADULTS, LARVAE AND EGGS SPILL OVER INTO FISHING GROUNDS

Larger individuals inside MPAs produce significantly more eggs and larvae. Some larvae and eggs then drift to fished areas outside the MPA, up to hundreds of kilometers depending on the species.

2x

Catches double where the MPA is co-managed with fishermen

EXAMPLE: COLUMBRETES ISLANDS PROTECTED AREA, SPAIN

20x

The spawning potential of lobsters within the MPA has increased by up to **20 times** compared to exploited areas.

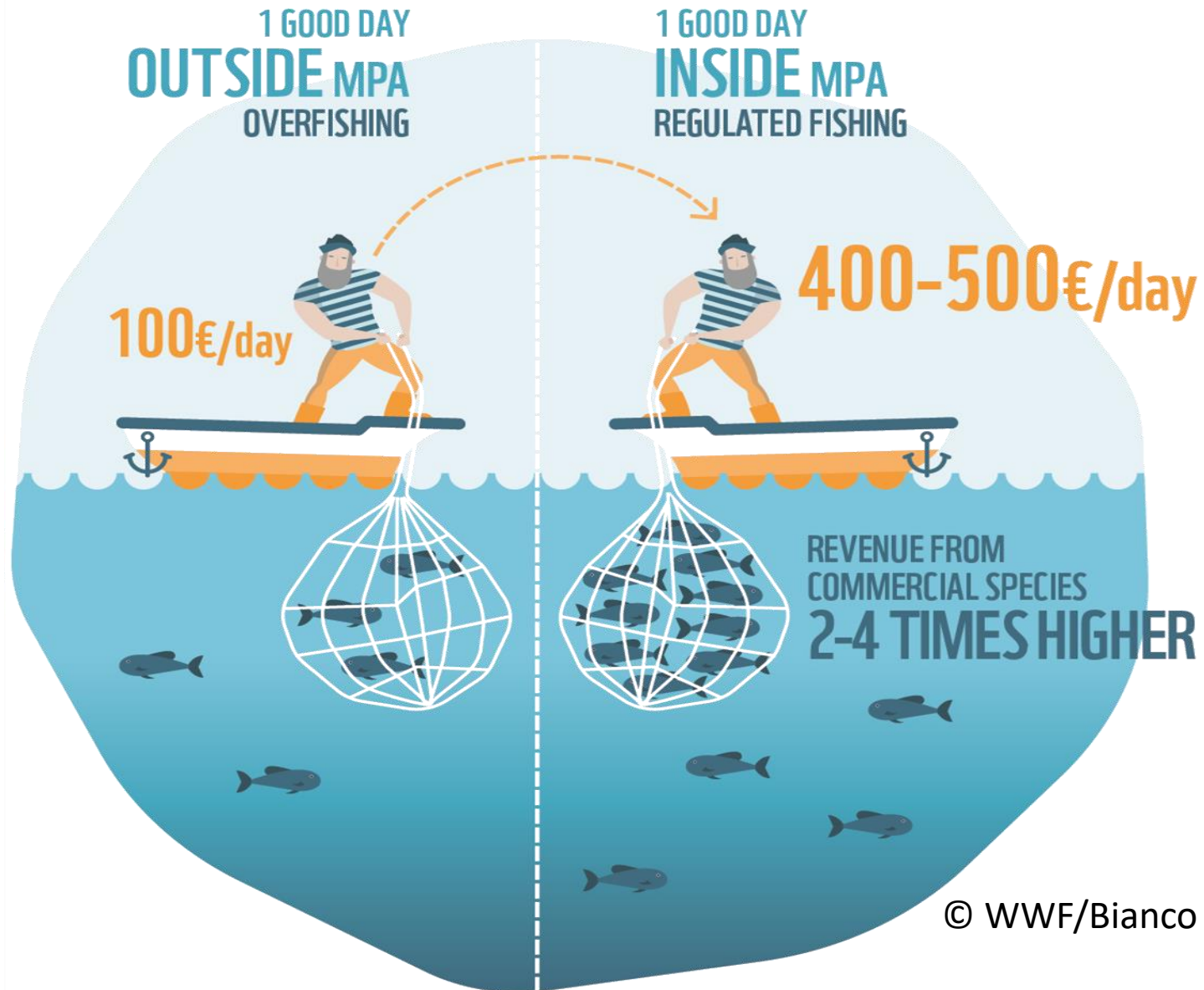
4 km

Individuals move up to 4 km into fishing grounds.

10%

Lobsters from MPAs are larger, generating a 10% net income for fishermen

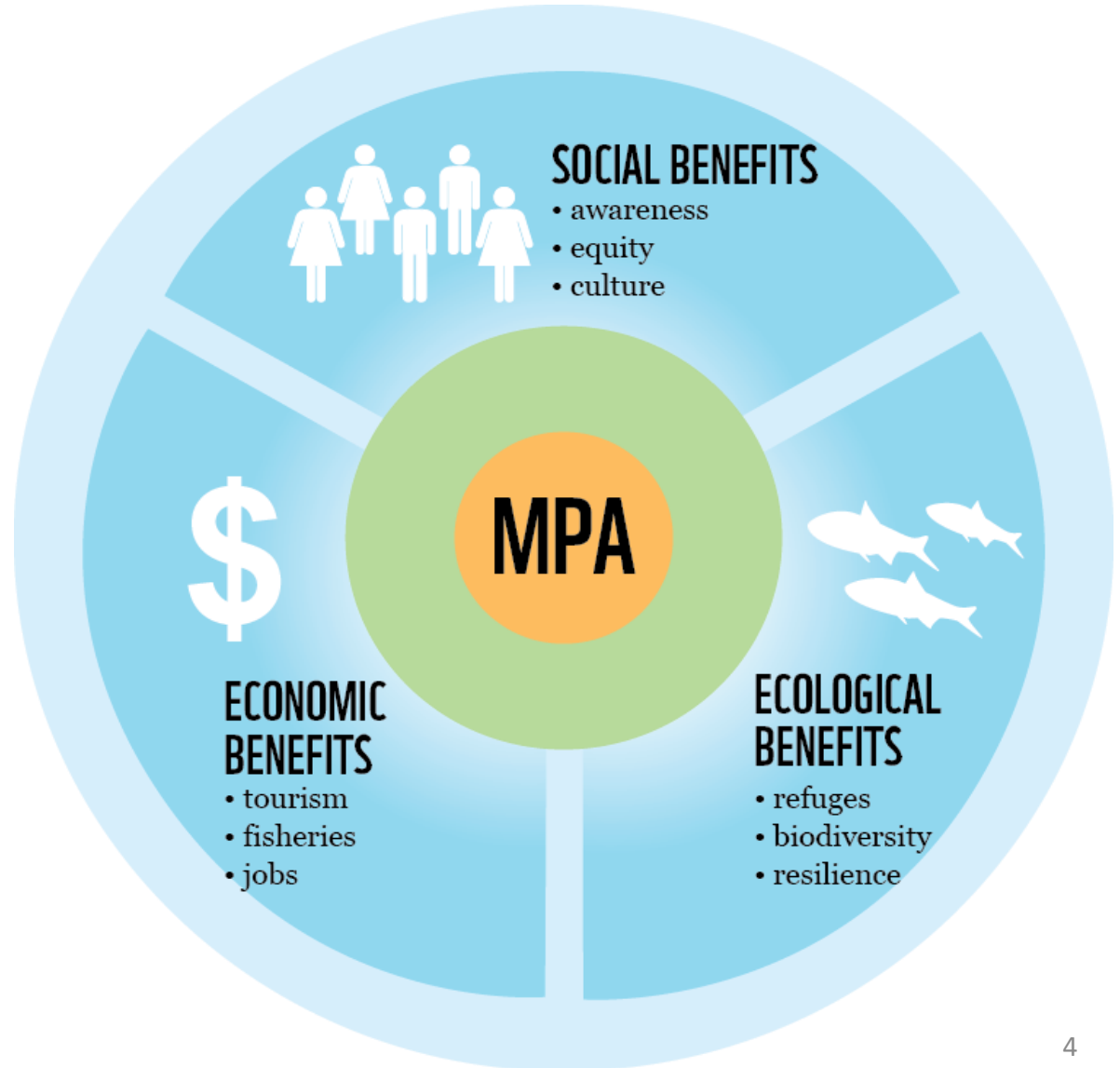
Assumption (2)



Assumption (3)

MPA benefits Small Scale Fishery (SSF) in its 3 components.

SSF is defined as
“fishing carried out
by fishing **vessel** of
an overall **length of**
less than 12m and
not using towed
fishing gear”



Partnership



Adria



Project co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund



Advisory Panel (Associates)

NAME OF THE ORGANISATION	COUNTRY	TPOLOGY
GFCM-FAO	Italy	International Organization
Croatian Ministry of Environment and Energy	Croatia	National policy maker
MedWet	France	International Organization
French Biodiversity Agency	France	National Agency
RAC/SPA-UNEP	Tunisia	International Organization
Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature conservation	Slovenia	National Agency
Spanish Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Environment	Spain	National policy maker
Greek Ministry of Rural Development & Food	France	National policy maker
Italian Ministry of Agriculture and fishery	Italy	National policy maker
CRPM	Belgium	International Organization

11 pilot MPAs from 6 countries



Overall Goal

**To increase the capacities of
Mediterranean MPAs to sustainably
govern small scale fisheries**

Specific Objectives

- A. To **test** the “**Governance toolkit for small scale fishery**” in different typologies of MPAs, in order to have an upgraded version of it
- B. To **disseminate** the **tested toolkit** among the maximum feasible number of Med MPAs
- C. To enhance **integration** of principles and recommendations **in national and international policies** to ease informal/formal engagement of stakeholders in SSF management within MPAs

FishMPABlue1 results

Five KEY-FEATURES potentially determining successful management of SSF in MPAs



1. Enforcement



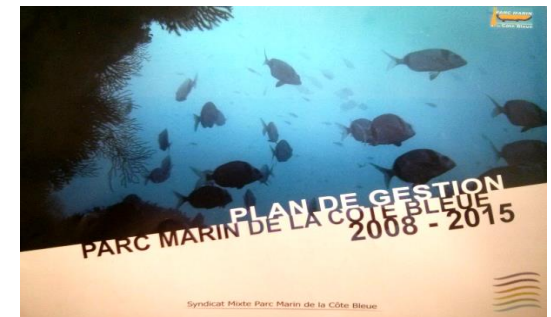
2. Fishermen in the management board



3. Fisherman engagement



4. Activities promoting sustainable fishing



5. Management plan

Management tools tested in FishMPABlue2

MPA	MPA enforcement	Fishers engagement in decision making	Increase knowledge	Sustainable fishing	Raising awareness	Economic support
Egadi	Involvement of 31 fishing vessels in patrolling	10 meetings, 65% fishers participation	Training on protected species		Public event on sea biodiversity	
Torre Guaceto	Reducing fishing entries; 5 fishers	5 meetings, 100% fishers, supporting MPA enlargement	Training on protected species			
Portofino	9 fishers ; NTZ on voluntary basis	4 meetings, very few fishers				
Zakynthos	30% increase patrolling hours	3 meetings, 40% fishers	IAS monitoring by fishers	Ice machine		local IAS consumption
Es Freus	Video-cameras	3 meetings, 40% fishers				
Cabo de Palos	Hired one fishing vessel for patrolling	1 meeting, 40% fishers			“raising awareness” trips	
Cap Roux	<i>Garde jurè</i> (MPA ranger)	3 meetings, 90% fishers				
Cote Bleue	patrolling Increase in winter and night	2 meetings, 70% fishers				Valorization of local fish
Bonifacio		4 meetings, 80% fishers		Traps for new species		
Strunjan	Video-cameras; 9 fishers	Several meetings on the dock			Promotional videos	
Telascica	Territorial rights of use for fishers (TURFs)	2 meetings, 80% fishers, SSF mgt Plan	Training on pr. species	Larger mesh size nets		“pesca-tourism”

Feasibility of tested tools

Attribute	Tool	Cost	Time needed	local stakeholders involvement	MPAs that implemented the tool
Enforcement	increase of surveillance by MPA staff and infrastructure	€ €	⌚ ⌚ ⌚	👤 👤	6 (Cabo de Palos, Cote Bleue, Es Freus, Strunjan, Telascica and Zakynthos)
	increase of surveillance through the involvement of the local fishers	€ €	⌚ ⌚ ⌚	👤 👤 👤	8 (Cabo de Palos, Cap Roux, Cote Bleue, Egadi, Portofino, Strunjan, Telascica, Zakynthos)
	increase of surveillance through the cooperation with relevant authorities	€ €	⌚ ⌚ ⌚	👤 👤 👤	3 (Cap Roux, Cote Bleue, Torre Guaceto).
Fishers involvement in decision making	Creating collaborative platforms to engage fishers in decision-making	€	⌚ ⌚	👤 👤	11 (Bonifacio, Cabo de Palos, Cap Roux, Cote Bleue, Egadi, Es Freus, Strunjan, Telascica, Torre Guaceto and Zakynthos)

Upgraded «SSF Governance Toolkit»

Theme 1

- Fishers involvement in decision-making

Theme 2

- MPA enforcement

Theme 3

- Knowledge & Ownership

Theme 4

- Environmental Sustainability of SSF

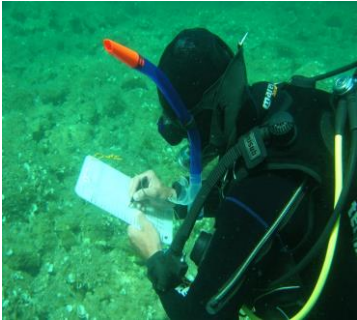
Theme 5

- Profitability of SSF

Multidimensional assessment

Assessment of SSF status in each MPA
before and after the implementation of the governance tools

**Ecological
Assessment**



**Economic
assessment**



**Social
assessment**



Quick recap of the approach

Ecological assessment

Assess the 'reserve effect' on fish assemblages

Comparison of Diversity, Abundance and Biomass between MPA (no-take and buffer) and unprotected locations

2 TECHNIQUES: high complementarity

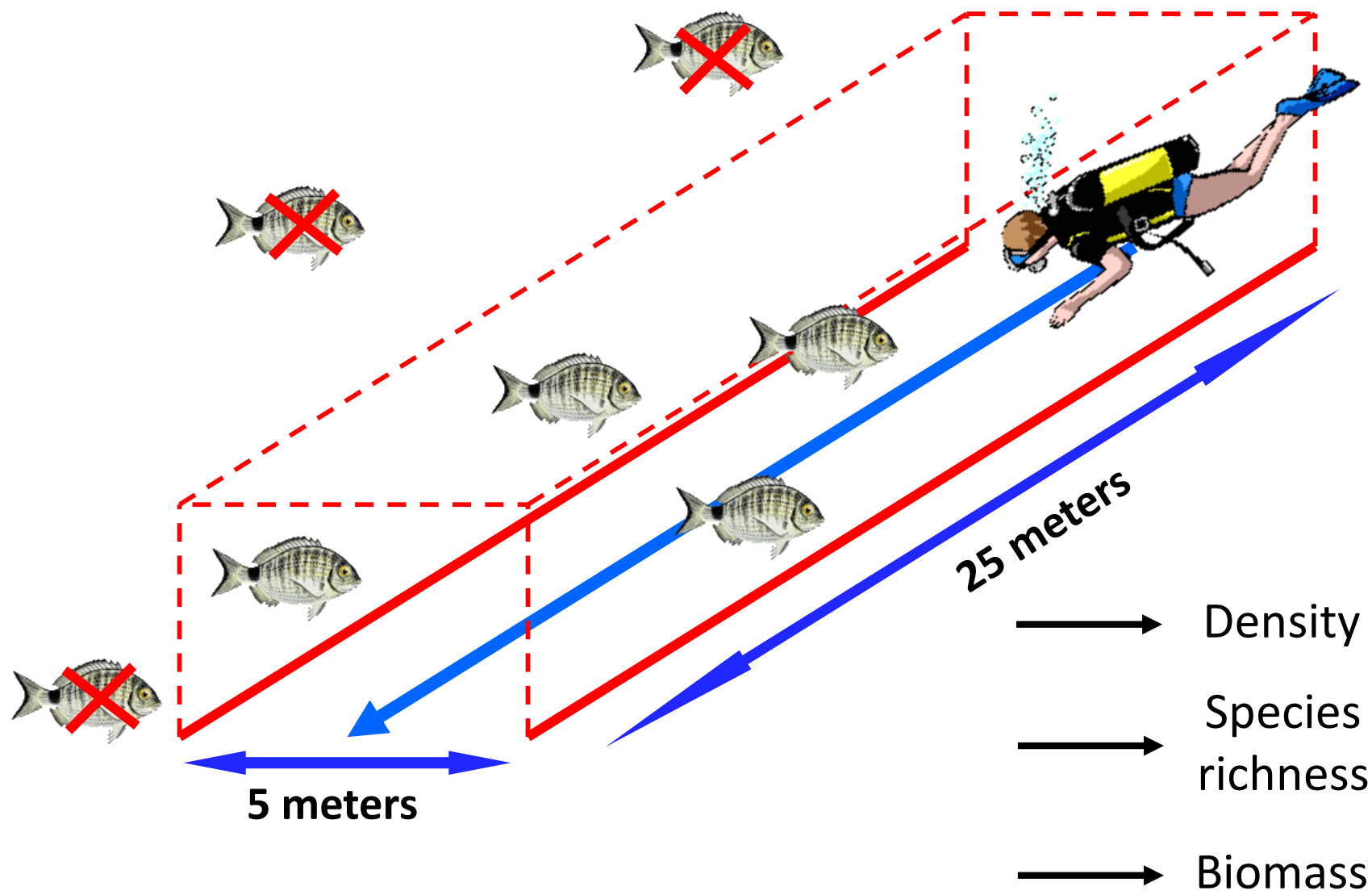
UNDERWATER VISUAL
CENSUS



BAITED UNDERWATER
VIDEO



Underwater visual census (UVC)



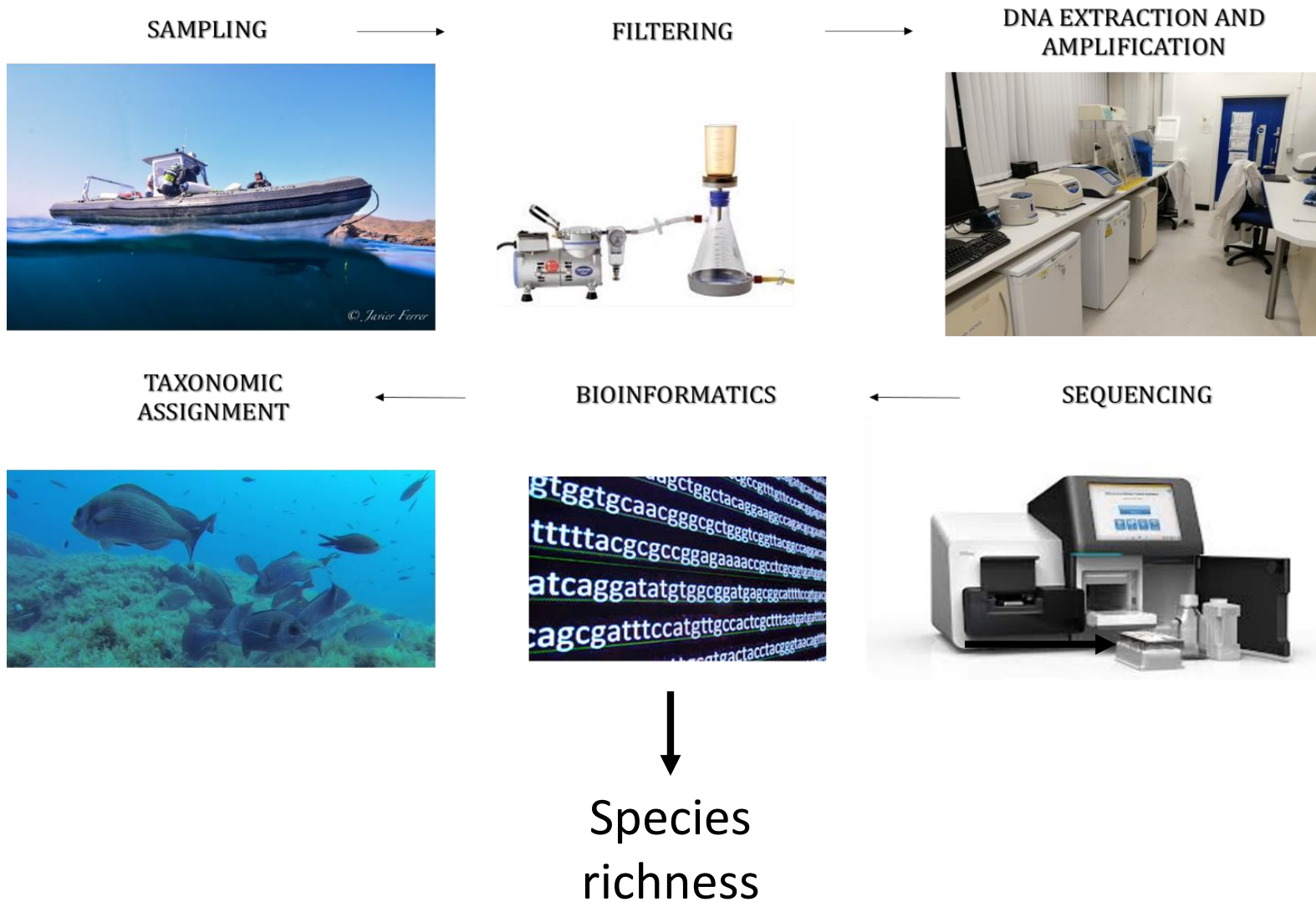
Baited underwater videos (BUVs)



→ Density

→ Species
richness

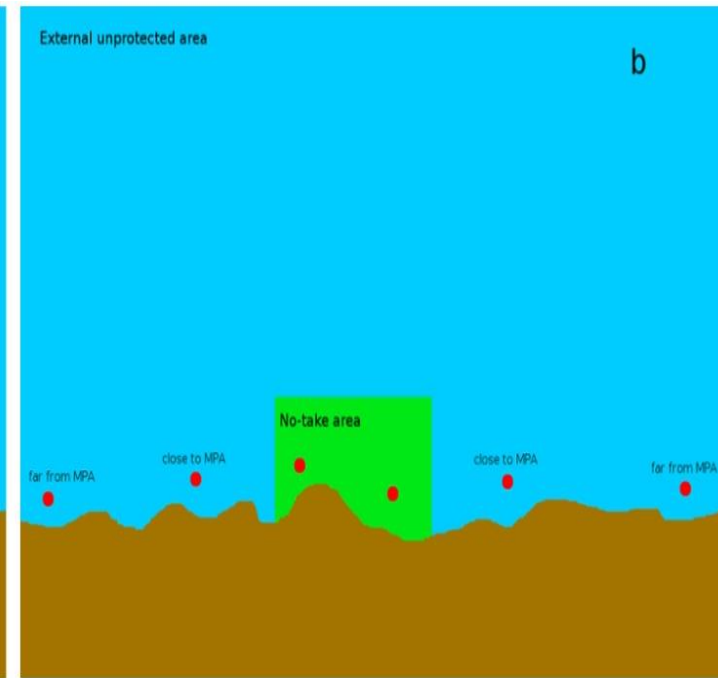
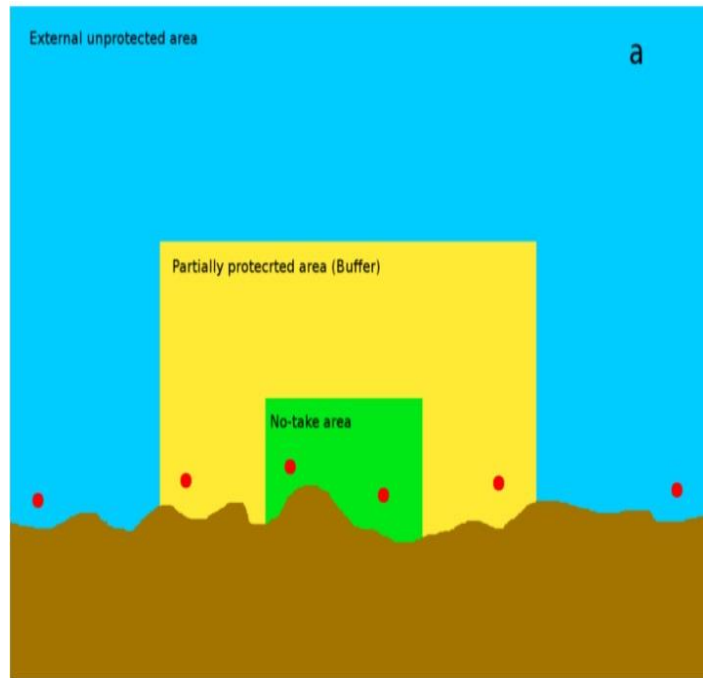
Environmental DNA (eDNA) Metabarcoding



Quick recap of the approach

SAMPLING DESIGN

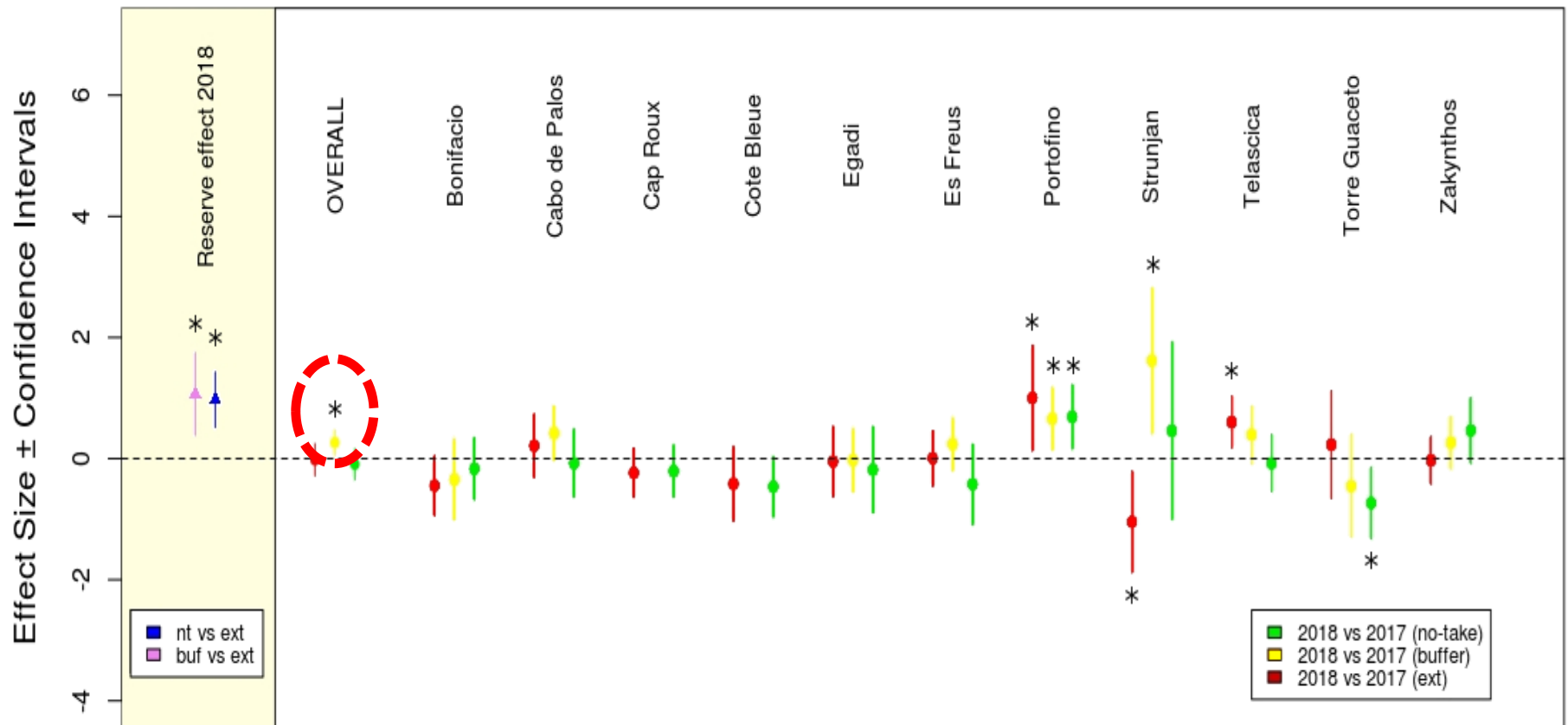
UVC and BUV
3 levels of
protection
2 sites per level



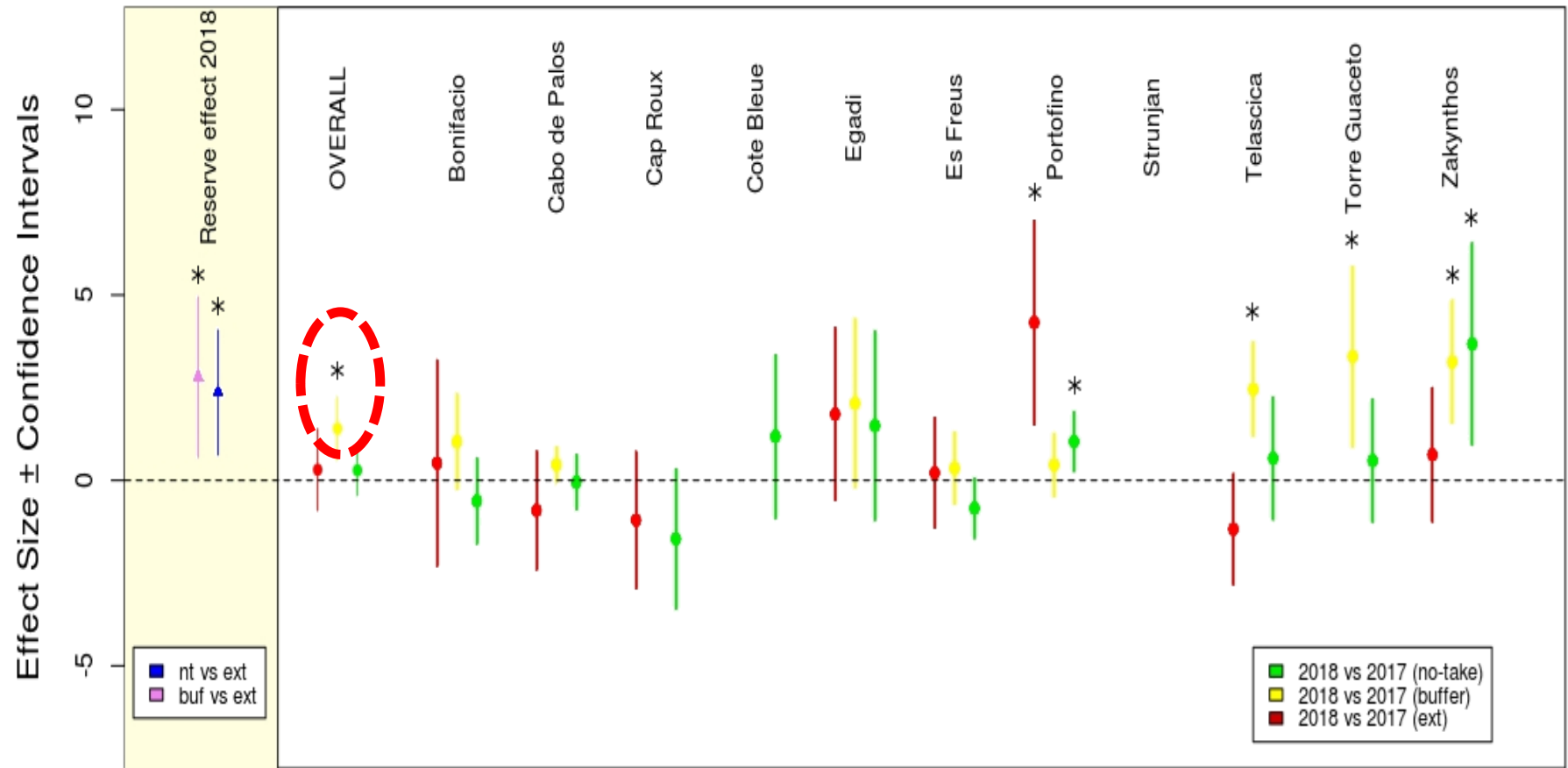
~1800 replicates

Results of toolkit implementation

Ecological effects - fish biomass – all species



Ecological effects - fish biomass high level predators



Quick recap of methods used - economic



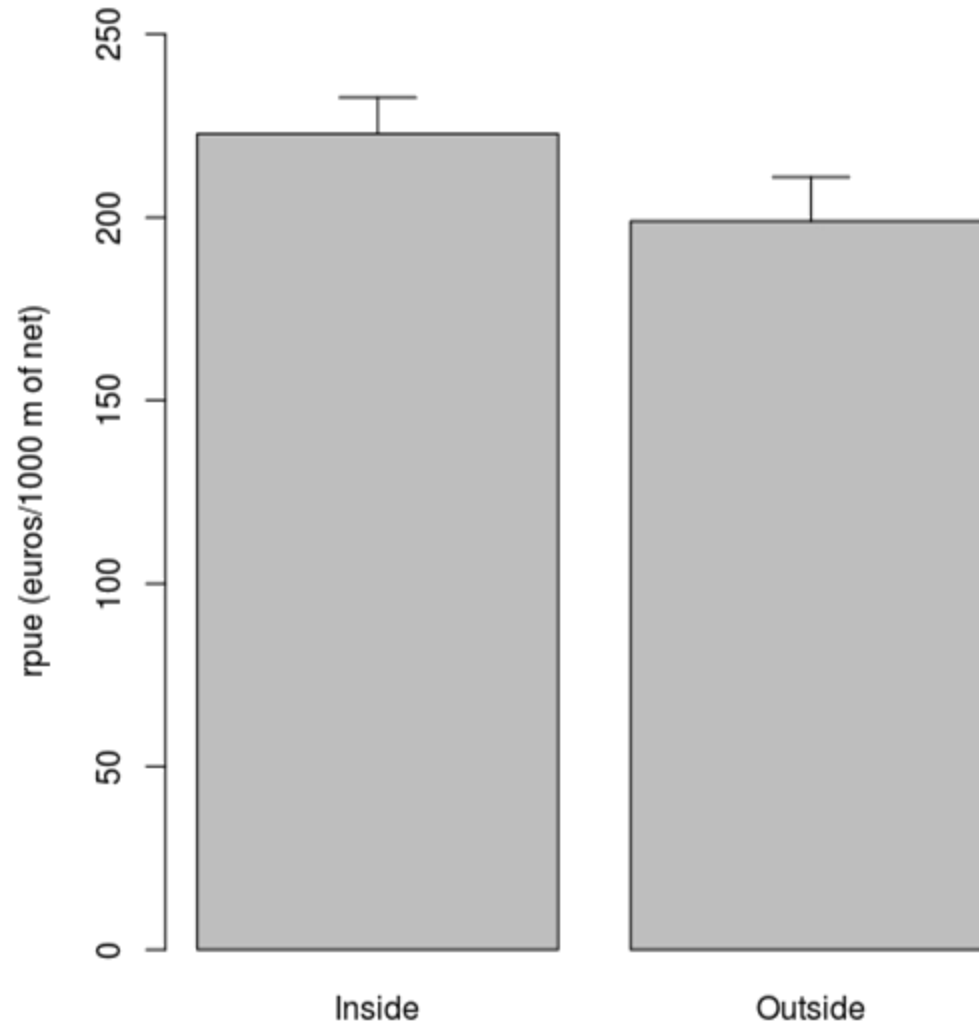
Quick recap of methods used - economic

Unique ID:	Sampling Date:	Landing location:
Fishing site (position + MPA/outside):	Port of departure:	Distance travelled to fish (compiled a posteriori):
Type of net:	Net length:	Mesh size:
Duration of fishing operation (in hours):	Fishing Depth (min-max)	Vessel features (length and engine power):
Other notes:		
Species (latin name)/category (e.g. soup)	Biomass (in grams)	Notes

Cost estimation

Results of toolkit implementation

Effects on small scale fisheries revenues



Number of questionnaires administered

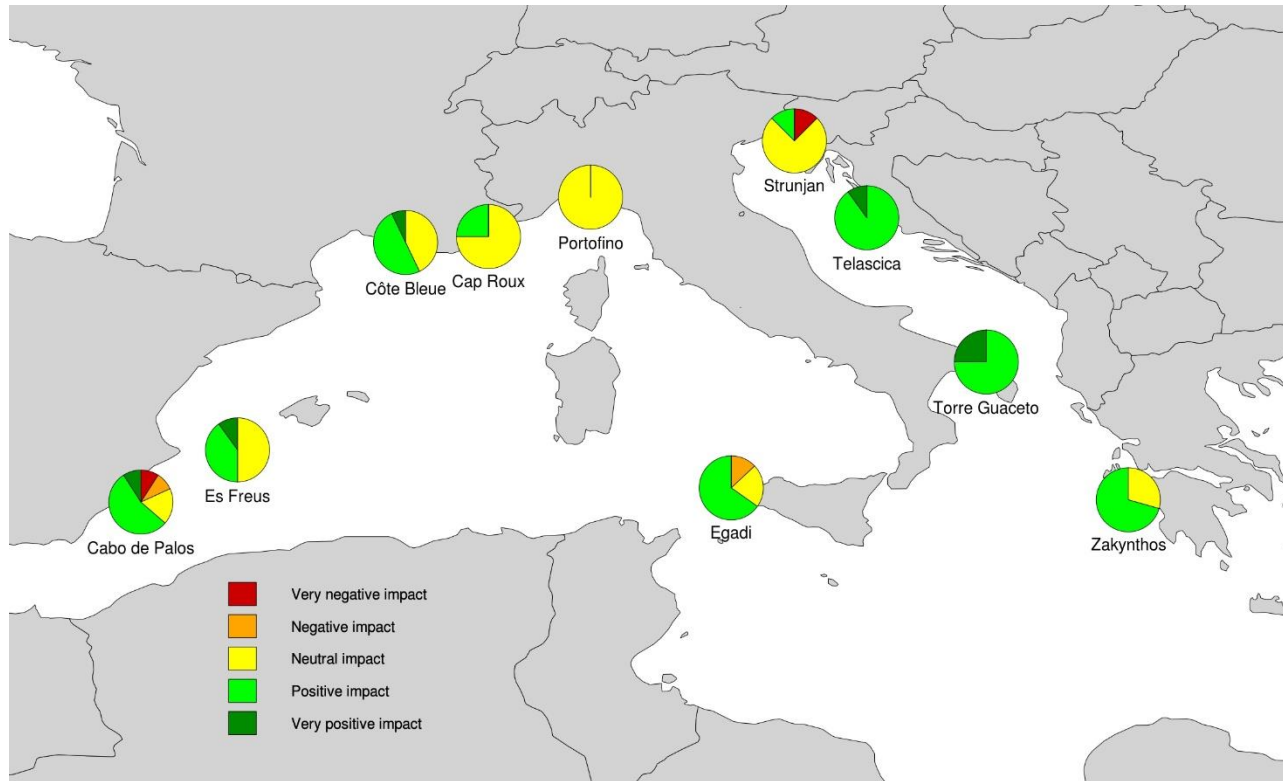
121 questionnaires administered



≥30% of each community sampled

Results of toolkit implementation

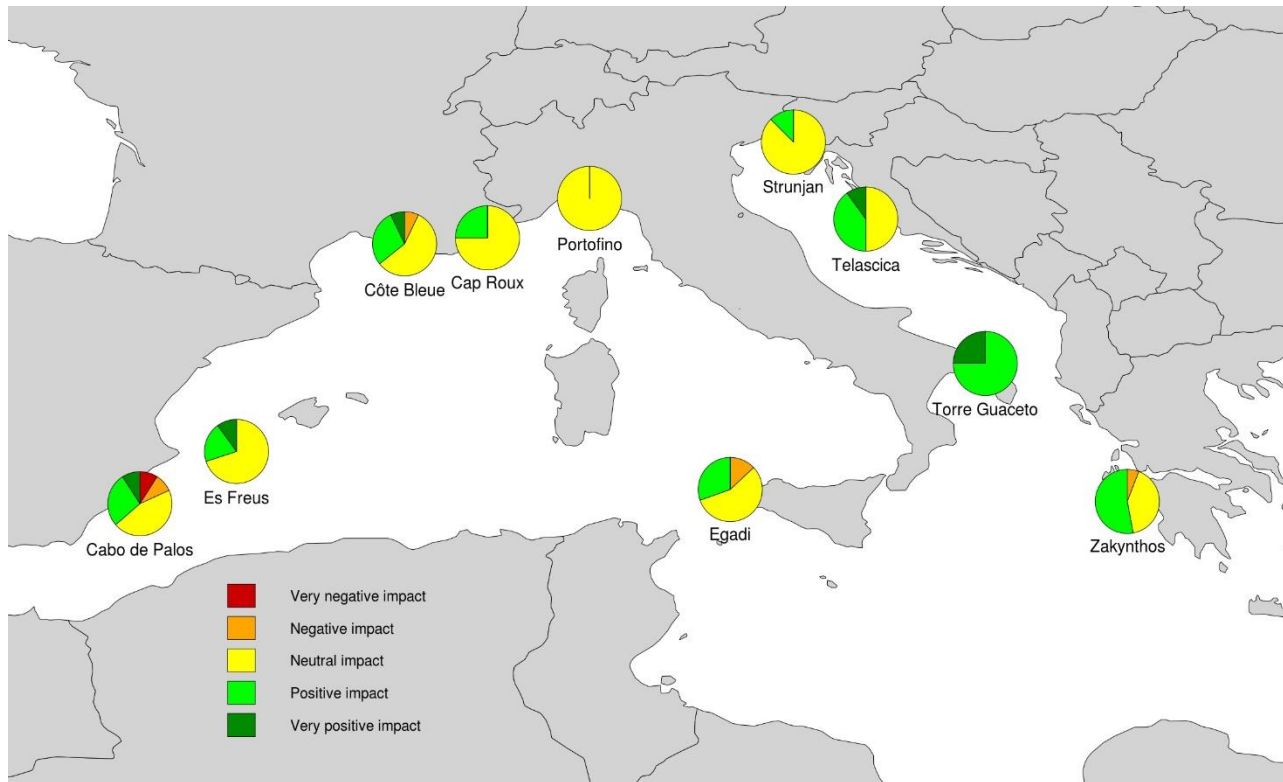
Fishers perceptions about the effects of toolkit measures on the amount of fish that they can catch



~57% fishers stated that the toolkit can produce positive or very positive benefits on their catches while about 40% perceived neutral impact

Results of toolkit implementation

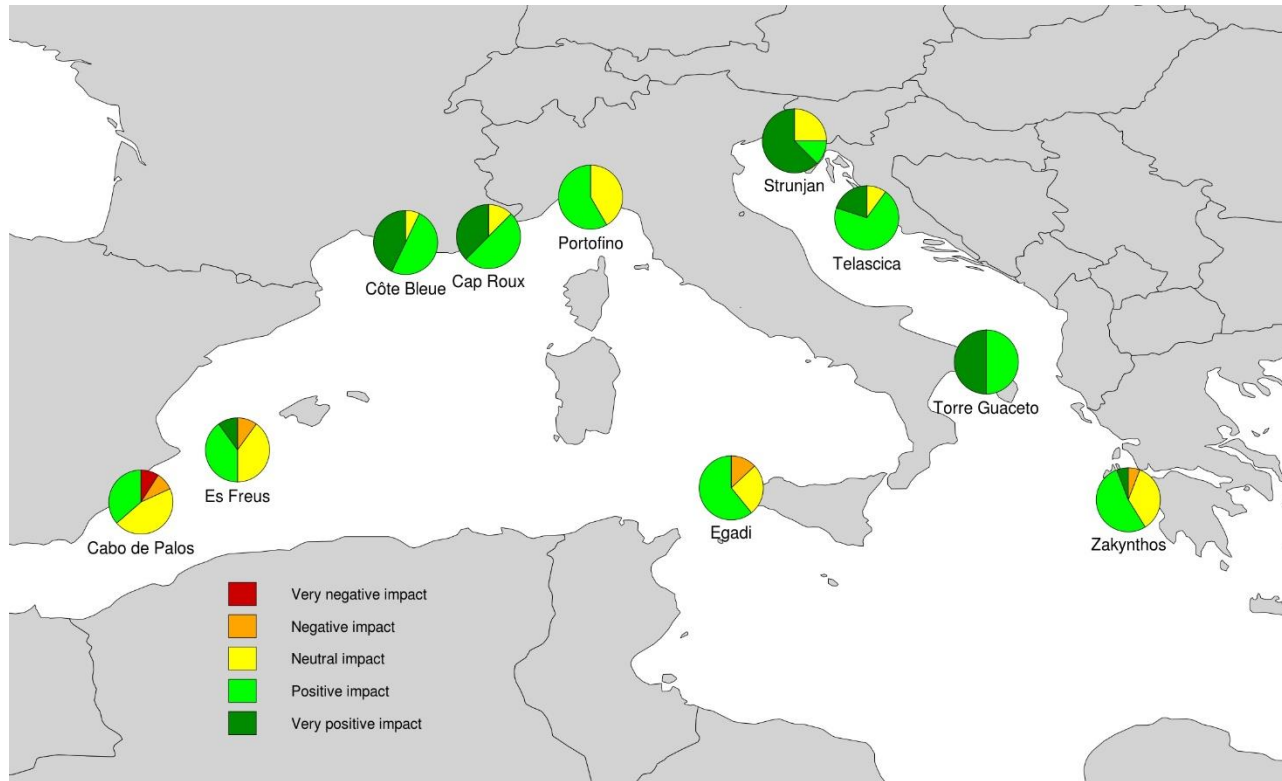
Fishers perceptions about the effects of toolkit measures on fishers incomes



35% of fishers perceived a positive or very positive impact, while 40% think that no impacts (either positive or negative) are going to be produced

Results of toolkit implementation

Fishers perceptions about the effects of toolkit measures on their relationship with MPA managers



~67% thinks that the new set of measures is enhancing (or will enhance) their relationship with the management boards of their MPA. 26% neutral

Specific Objectives

- A. To **test** the “**Governance toolkit for small scale fishery**” in different typologies of MPAs, in order to have an upgraded version of it (WP3)
- B. To **disseminate** the **tested toolkit** among the maximum feasible number of Med MPAs (WP4)
- C. To enhance **integration** of principles and recommendations **in national and international policies** to ease informal/formal engagement of stakeholders in small scale fishery management within MPAs (WP5)

Tips for a participative approach in engaging fishers in decision making

- A. Look at them as “**citizens of the sea**”
- B. Identify reciprocal potential benefits (**win-win game**)
- C. «Fix the rules», esp. the actual «power» of each step of the participative process (**accountability**)
- D. “Sensibilize” fishers towards other economic activities (**multi-activities SME**)
- E. Implement some «flagship» actions (**evidence-based**)
- F. Set up a monitoring system (**effectiveness**)

Contacts

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<https://fishmpablue-2.interreg-med.eu/>