

Woman's view of the sea

Theme 11

Spatial mechanism for ocean protection

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The ocean is the "new economic frontier". Everyone wants to extend their business into blue space and benefit from the ocean. Preserving marine ecosystems while promoting sustainable development of the blue economy requires a delicate balance between conservation and economic activities. Designating marine protected areas (MPAs) through systematic conservation planning and establish a coherent network of MPAs strategically located to protect a wide range of species and habitats, while minimizing conflicts with other marine activities, are key components of science-based marine spatial planning in European seas.

