

**PEACEPLUS**

Northern Ireland - Ireland

Co-funded by the



European Union



UK Government

# PEACEPLUS Programme – Investment Area 5.2

## Pre-application Workshop

**28<sup>th</sup> September 2023**  
**Belfast**



Special EU Programmes Body  
Comhlacht na gClár Speisialta AE  
Special EU Skemes Boadie



# Agenda

PEACEPLUS Programme

## Investment Area 5.2 Marine and Coastal Management

- **Introduction & Housekeeping** - Declan McGarrigle, SEUPB
- **Overview of PEACEPLUS Programme** - Declan McGarrigle, SEUPB
- **Overview of Policy Interests from Northern Ireland –** Annika Clements, DAERA
- **Overview of Policy Interests from Ireland –** Tim O’Higgins, DHLGH
- **Pre-Application Support & Concept Note –** Eimear Bush
- **Questions and Answers**

 [linktr.ee/seupb](https://linktr.ee/seupb)

 [seupb.eu/PEACEPLUS](https://seupb.eu/PEACEPLUS)

## PEACEPLUS: Context

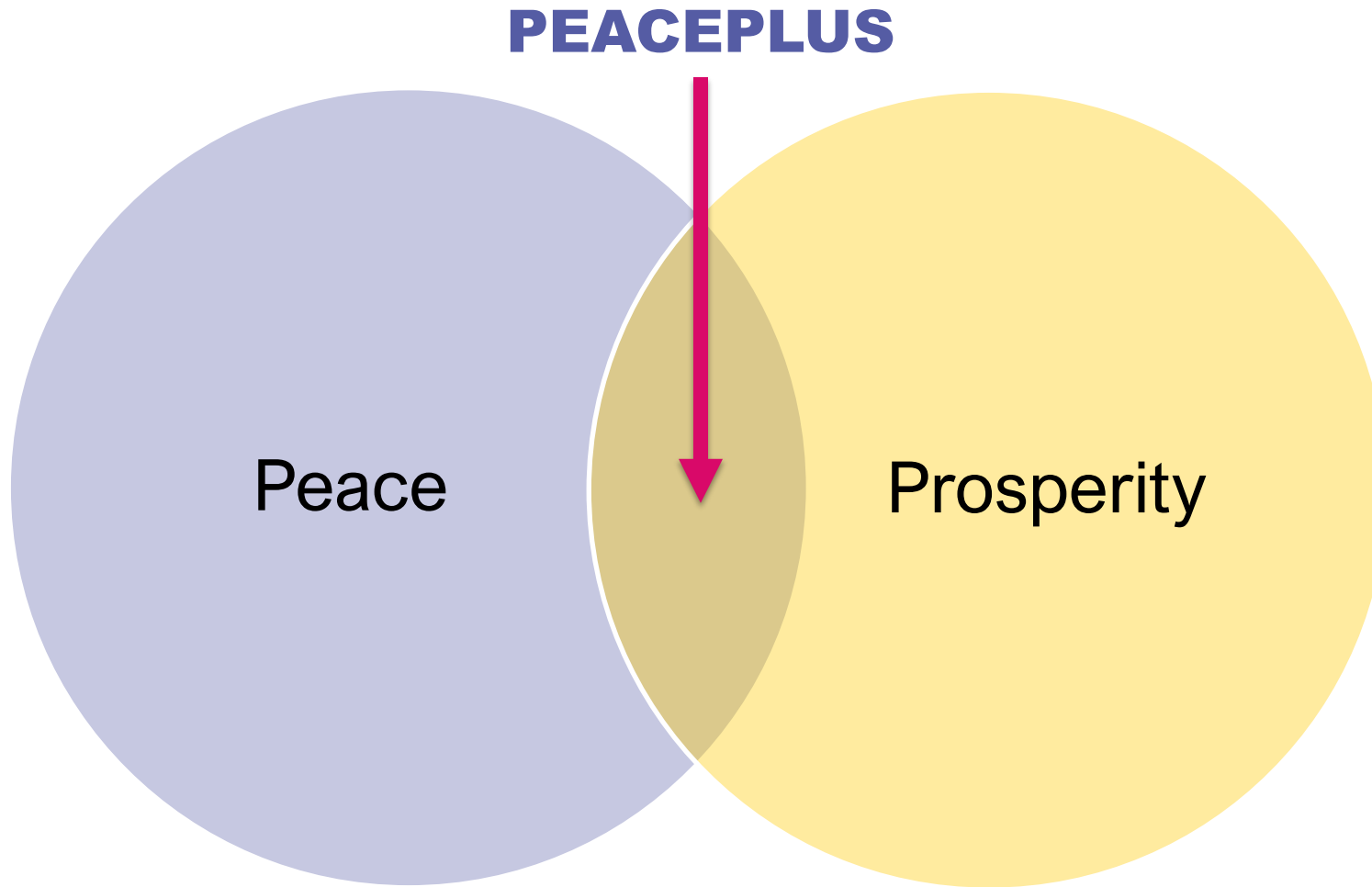
# How did we get here?

- Support of the NI Executive, the Government of Ireland, the UK Government and the European Union.
- Building upon previous PEACE & INTERREG programmes.
- Renewed focus on peace and reconciliation.
- Ensuring all projects contribute to cross-border and economic and territorial development.



The Peace Bridge  
Derry-Londonderry

# PEACEPLUS Programme Overview



# PEACEPLUS (2021-2027)



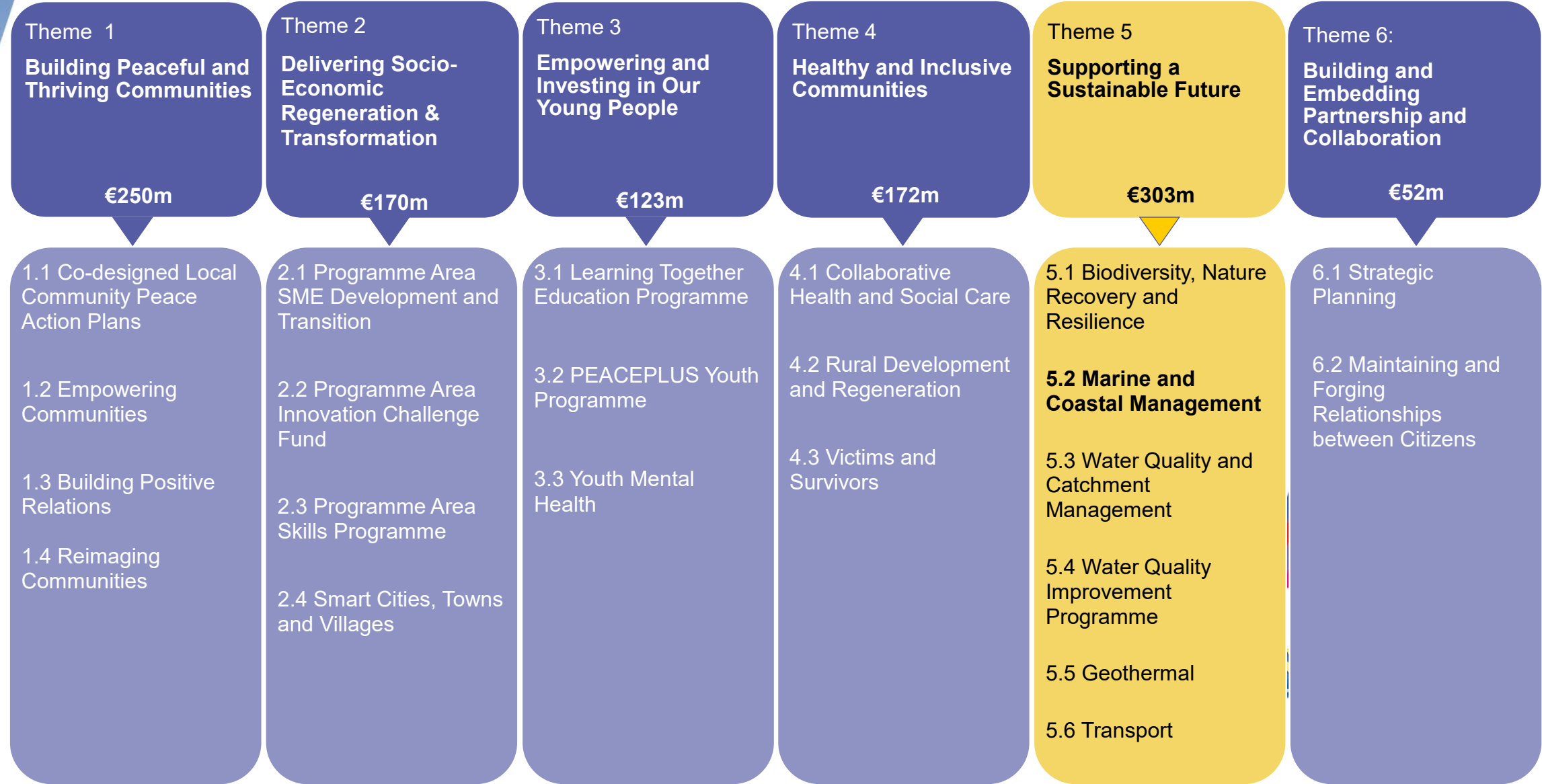
- Programme area: Northern Ireland & the border counties of Ireland
- Participation from partners outside the area
- Programme value: **€1.144 billion**
- Six themes, 22 investment areas – Smaller grants for community activity
- Focus on areas and communities most affected – Rural communities/border areas Social Economy – New emerging technology
- **THINK BIG & THINK DIFFERENTLY!**



# PEACEPLUS – Where does IA5.2 sit within the programme?

Thematic Areas

Investment Areas





# Marine and Coastal Management:



# Northern Ireland Priorities.

Marine & Fisheries Division  
DAERA



Department of  
**Agriculture, Environment  
and Rural Affairs**

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## Key policy drivers: Global and regional frameworks

UN Framework Convention on Climate Change: Paris Agreement

UN Framework Convention on Biological Diversity Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF)

OSPAR: North-East Atlantic Environment Strategy (NEAES) 2030

- Hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels
- GBF Target 2: Ensure that by 2030 at least 30% of areas of degraded terrestrial, inland water, and **marine and coastal ecosystems are under effective restoration**, in order to enhance biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, ecological integrity and connectivity
- GBF Target 3: Ensure and enable that by 2030 at least **30%** of terrestrial and inland water areas, and of **marine and coastal areas**, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, are **effectively conserved and managed through ecologically representative, well-connected and equitably governed systems of protected areas** and other effective area-based conservation measures.



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## Key policy drivers: UK level

UK Marine Strategy (2010) –  
achievement of **Good  
Environmental Status (GES)**

Water Framework Regulations –  
achievement of Good Ecological  
Status

UK Environment Act (2021)

UK Fisheries Act (2020)- Joint  
Fisheries Statement

An ecosystem-based approach is as ‘an approach which

- a) ensures that the collective pressure of human activities is kept within levels compatible with the achievement of GES within the meaning of the Marine Strategy Regulations 2010, and
- b) does not compromise the capacity of **marine ecosystems to respond to human-induced changes**’



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# UK Marine Strategy assessment

4/15 @ GES



GES for eutrophication, hydrographic conditions, contaminants and contaminants in seafood, largely achieved.



Mixed picture for marine mammals, fish populations, food webs and benthic and pelagic habitats



Bird populations remain at risk



GES not achieved for non-indigenous sp. or litter



Uncertain about achievement of GES for noise

**2018 ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS ASSESSMENT**

UKMMAS

Good Environmental Status:   
 - Achieved - Partially achieved - Not achieved   
 Change since 2012 assessment\*:   
 - Improving situation - Declining situation - Stable situation

- CETACEANS (D1 & D6)** - Achieved: The extent to which Good Environmental Status has been achieved for cetaceans remains uncertain. The status of coastal bottlenose dolphin and minke whale are consistent with the achievement of Good Environmental Status in the Greater North Sea, but unknown/uncertain elsewhere. It is unknown if Good Environmental Status has been achieved for other species.
- BENTHIC HABITATS (D1 & D6)** - Not achieved: The levels of physical damage to soft sediment habitats are considered to be consistent with the achievement of Good Environmental Status in UK waters to the west of the Celtic Seas, but not in the Celtic Seas or in the Greater North Sea. The achievement of Good Environmental Status is uncertain for intertidal and soft sediment habitats. For sublittoral rock and biogenic habitats Good Environmental Status has not yet been achieved.
- CHANGES IN HYDROGRAPHICAL CONDITIONS (D7)** - Stable situation: The UK continues to achieve its aim of Good Environmental Status for hydrographical conditions. Developments likely to cause significant long-term impacts on hydrographical conditions undertake environmental impact assessments and mitigate against any risks.
- SEALS (D1 & D4)** - Partially achieved: The UK has achieved its aim of Good Environmental Status for grey seals in the Greater North Sea and Celtic Seas. There was a significant increase in the abundance of harbour seals in West Scotland where the majority of harbour seals are located, but their status in other parts of the Celtic Seas is uncertain. Harbour seals in the Greater North Sea have not yet achieved Good Environmental Status.
- FOOD WEBS (D4)** - Partially achieved: The extent to which Good Environmental Status has been achieved is uncertain: plankton communities are changing, some fish communities are recovering, but others are not; breeding seabird populations are in decline; grey seal numbers are increasing and trends in cetacean populations are unclear. It is known that components of the marine food web are changing, but it is not clear how they are affecting each other.
- CONTAMINANTS (D8)** - Stable situation: The UK has largely achieved its aim of Good Environmental Status for contaminants. Concentration of hazardous substances and their biological effects are generally meeting agreed target thresholds. Highly persistent legacy chemicals are the cause of the few failures, mainly in coastal waters close to polluted sources.
- BIRDS (D1 & D4)** - Partially achieved: The UK has achieved its aim of Good Environmental Status for non-breeding waterbirds in the Greater North Sea. Non-breeding waterbirds in the Celtic Seas and breeding seabirds in the Greater North Sea and Celtic Seas have not yet achieved Good Environmental Status.
- NON-INDIGENOUS SPECIES (D2)** - Not achieved: The UK has not yet achieved its aim of Good Environmental Status for non-indigenous species (NIS). Our ability to detect new NIS has improved but there has been no significant change in the number of new records of NIS made between 2005 and 2014.
- CONTAMINANTS IN SEAFOOD (D9)** - Stable situation: The UK has achieved its aim of Good Environmental Status for contaminants in seafood. There is a high level of compliance with agreed safety levels.
- FISH (D1 & D4)** - Partially achieved: Demersal fish communities are recovering from over-exploitation in the past, but Good Environmental Status has not yet been achieved in either the Greater North Sea or the Celtic Seas. A partial assessment of pelagic shelf fish status did not provide a clear result.
- COMMERCIAL FISH (D3)** - Partially achieved: The UK has achieved its aim of Good Environmental Status for some commercially exploited fish. In 2015, 53% of marine fish (quota) stocks were fished below maximum sustainable yield (MSY). National shellfish stocks have either not yet achieved Good Environmental Status or their status is uncertain.
- LITTER (D10)** - Stable situation: The UK has not yet achieved its aim of Good Environmental Status for litter. Beach litter levels in the Celtic Seas have remained largely stable since the assessment in 2012, whilst beach litter levels in the Greater North Sea have increased.
- PELAGIC HABITATS (D1 & D4)** - Not achieved: Prevailing environmental conditions are likely to be driving the observed changes in plankton communities, but human activities cannot be ruled out. Since 2012, new indicators have been developed which are the first plankton biodiversity indicators operational in the North East Atlantic, but it is not clear whether Good Environmental Status has been achieved.
- EUTROPHICATION (D5)** - Stable situation: The UK has largely achieved its aim of Good Environmental Status for eutrophication. A small number of eutrophication problems remain in coastal and estuarine waters, representing 0.03% of the UK Exclusive Economic Zone.
- INPUT OF ANTHROPOGENIC SOUND (D11)** - Stable situation: The achievement of Good Environmental Status for underwater noise in the UK is uncertain. Research and monitoring programmes established since 2012 have provided an improved understanding of the impacts of sound on marine ecosystems.

\*These arrows provide our best judgement of whether there has been progress towards achieving Good Environmental Status (GES) for the development of indicators comparison concerned. In some cases, they reflect a situation where over-exploitation results reveal a mixed picture, with some showing an improving situation, some being stable and some being in decline. In these cases, the arrows indicate our estimate of the combined position. Full details can be found in the individual indicator assessments.

Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs | The Scottish Government | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs

Species (Common Name)		Greater North Sea	Celtic Seas
Surface feeders	Northern Fulmar	↑	↓
	Black-headed Gull	↓	↓
	Common Gull	↓	↓
	Herring gull	↑	↓
	Lesser black-backed gull	↓	↓
	Great Black-backed Gull	↓	↑
	Mediterranean Gull	↑	↓
	Black-legged kittiwake	↑	↔
	Arctic skua	↑	↓
	Great Skua	↑	↓
	Roseate tern	↑	↓
	Common tern	↓	↓
	Arctic tern	↑	↓
	Sandwich tern	↔	↑
Little Tern	↓	↓	
Water column feeders	Northern gannet	↓	↓
	European shag	↓	↓
	Great Cormorant	↑	↓
	Common Guillemot	↑	↑
	Razorbill	↓	↑
	Black Guillemot	↓	↓
Atlantic puffin	↑	↑	

Population change 2014-2015	Species assessment
↑ strong increase (>5% p.a.)	Relative abundance in 2015 <0.7 or 0.8 (depending on clutch size)
↑ weak increase (2-5% p.a.)	Relative abundance in 2015 $\times \geq 0.7$ or 0.8 (depending on clutch size)
↔ no change (<2% p.a.)	Relative abundance in year $x \geq 1.3$
↓ weak decrease (2-5% p.a.)	Insufficient data
↓ strong decrease (>5% p.a.)	

Figure 2. Species-specific assessment of relative breeding abundance of seabirds in 2014 in the Greater North Sea and in 2015 in the Celtic Seas. Species grouped by functional group.

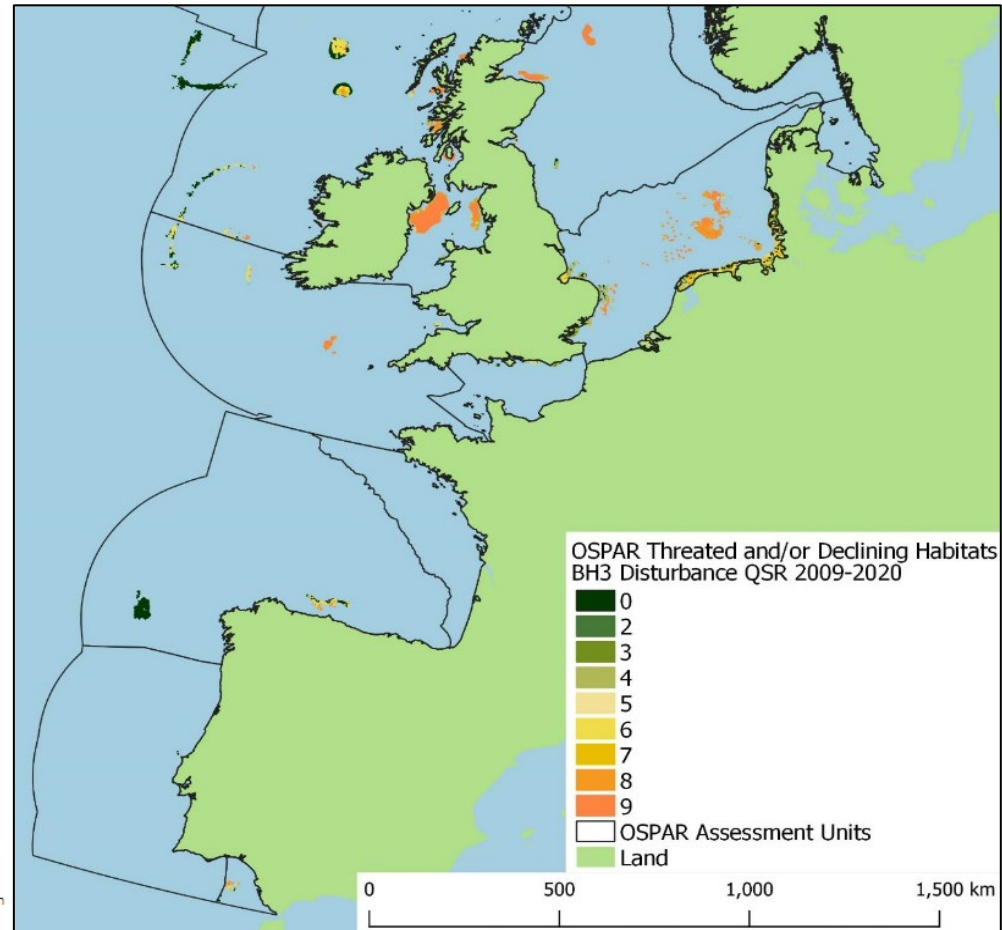


Figure bq: Spatial distribution of aggregated disturbance for OSPAR Threatened and/or Declining Habitats in the 2009 to 2020 assessment period



# THE STATE OF PELAGIC HABITATS

## KEY:



## CELTIC SEAS



VARIABLE SALINITY HABITATS



COASTAL HABITATS



SHELF HABITATS

## PELAGIC HABITAT



## PRESSURES AFFECTING PELAGIC HABITATS IN THE NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC

- Changes in nutrients
- Input of organic matter
- Increased sea temperatures
- Acidification
- Changes in upwelling intensity
- Open ocean stratification



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# MARINE BIRDS ARE NOT IN GOOD STATUS

## KEY:



BIRD SPECIES GROUP



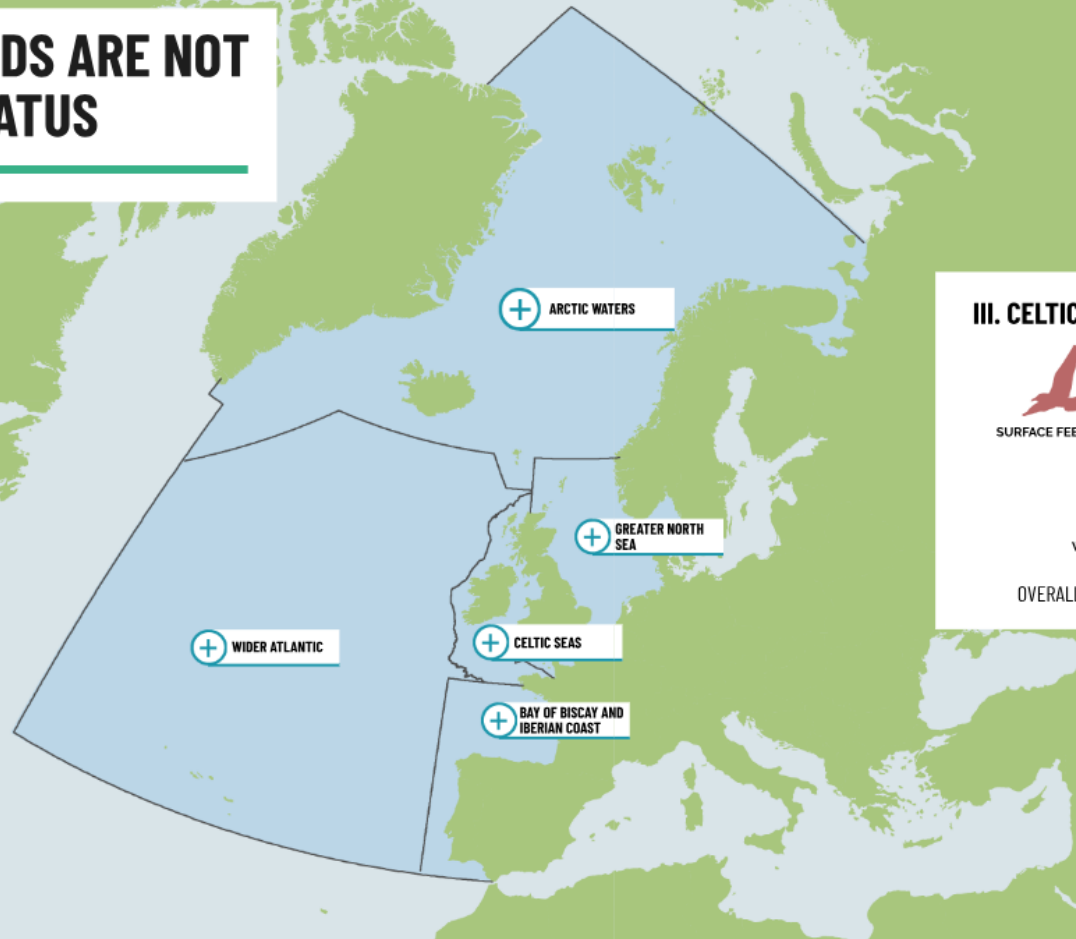
GOOD ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS



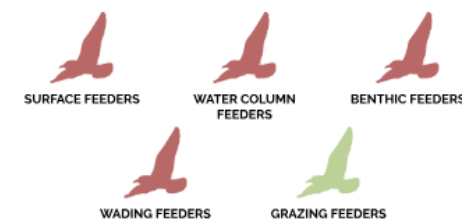
NOT GOOD ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS



NOT ASSESSED



## III. CELTIC SEAS



OVERALL STATUS: **NOT GOOD ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS**

## PRESSURES AFFECTING BIRDS IN THE NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC MARINE PROTECTED AREA

- Prey depletion
- Extraction of, or mortality/injury to, marine birds
- Disturbance of species
- Input or spread of Non-Indigenous Species
- Input of litter
- Availability of prey affected by climate change
- Overfishing of prey species
- Accidental catch in fishing gear
- Marine litter ingestion and entanglement
- Invasive predatory mammals in breeding colonies
- Habitat loss and degradation

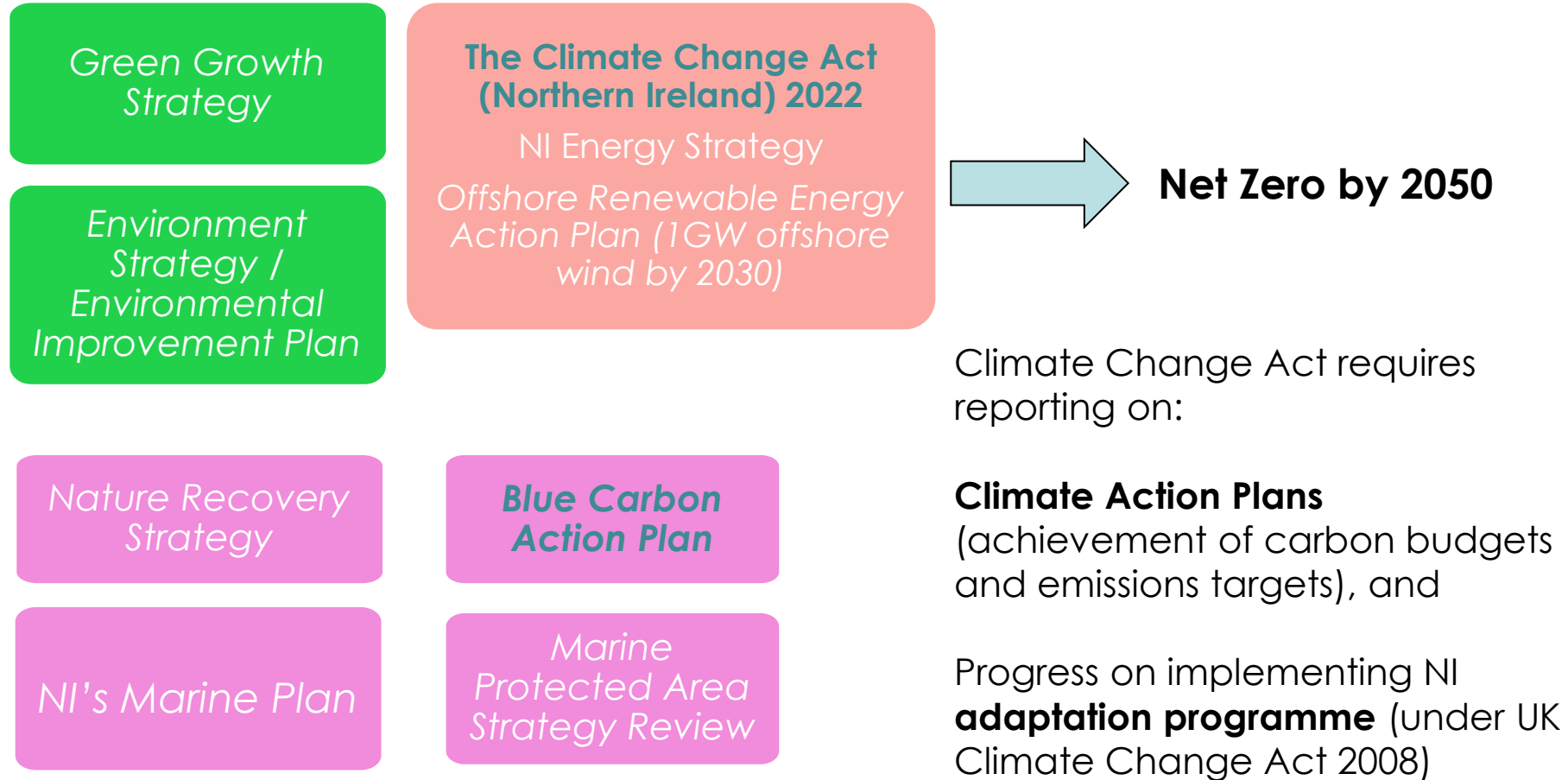


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## Key policy drivers: Northern Ireland level



# Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022

Acts of the Northern Ireland Assembly ▶ 2022 c. 31 ▶ PART 3 ▶ Carbon budgets ▶ Section 34

Table of Contents	Content	Explanatory Notes ?	More Resources ?
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◀ Previous: Provision    Next: Provision ▶    Plain View    Print Options

**What Version** ?

Latest available (Revised)

Original (As enacted)

**Advanced Features**

Show Explanatory Sections

Opening Options ▾

More Resources ▾

**Status:** This is the original version (as it was originally enacted). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.

### Proposals and policies: nature based solutions

34. Proposals and policies under section 29<sup>\*</sup> shall as far as is practicable, support nature based projects that enhance biodiversity, protect and restore ecosystems, and seek to reduce, or increase the removal of, greenhouse gas emissions or support climate resilience.

<sup>\*</sup> proposals and policies for meeting the carbon budget for that period

# Adapting to climate change – Progress in Northern Ireland



Climate Change Committee recommendations

(<https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/adapting-to-climate-change-progress-in-northern-ireland/>):

- Focus attention on **improving the ecological health of Northern Ireland’s habitats**, including supporting their biodiversity
- Include changes in average climate conditions and climate extremes expected over the coming decades in any nature recovery conservation strategies.
- Set interim adaptation targets to drive early action to **improve climate resilience of nature**
- Undertake **coastal vulnerability assessments** to build on the comprehensive evidence base on coastal erosion.
- Invest in **facilitating restoration of marine habitats (including seagrass and saltmarsh)** [...] and **stronger protection of Marine Protected Areas** to provide nursery areas to strengthen the resilience of threatened commercial wild fish stocks.
- Research into maximising co-benefits and minimising trade-offs between the multiple uses of lands and seas, such as for renewable energy, climate resilience, nature recovery, food [...] production and recreation.





An Roinn Tithíochta,  
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht  
Department of Housing,  
Local Government and Heritage

# Marine Environment Section:

Overview of work priorities

- Sep 2023- PEACEPLUS, Belfast



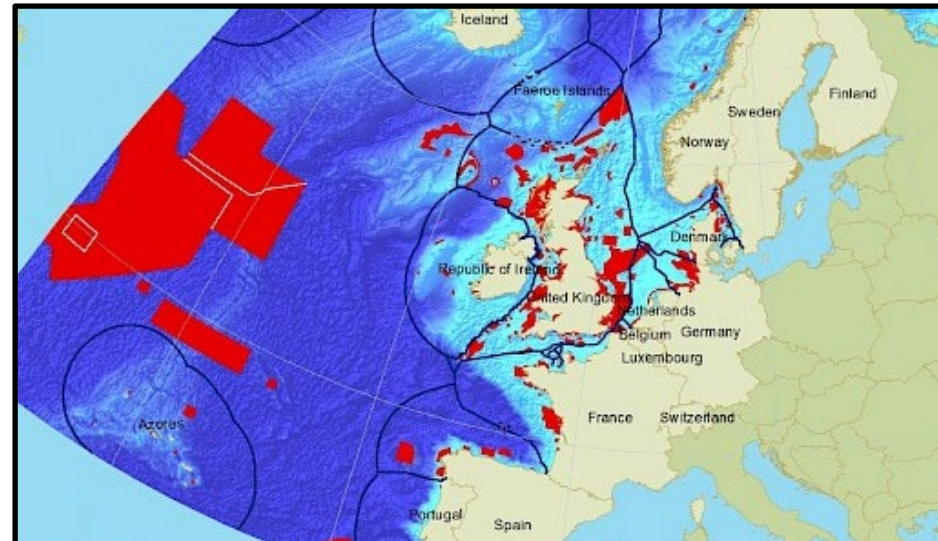
# Marine Environment Section Scope of Work

## European Union :

- *Marine Strategy Framework Directive – Technical Groups (e.g. noise, IAS, POMESA)*
- *EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030 (30% coverage of EU marine waters, incl. 10% “strict protection” provision)-*
- *Nature Restoration Law*
- *Action plan protecting and restoring marine ecosystems for sustainable and resilient fisheries*

## OSPAR:

- *NACES MPA*
- *QSR*



# *Marine Environment Section Scope of Work*

## **INTERNATIONAL:**

*UN SDG14 - Life Below Water ;*

- *UN Convention on Biological Diversity: 10% cover by 2020 (Aichi target) & 2030 Kunming Montreal Protocol (Aug-Sept\* 2022);*
- *International Plastics Treaty*
- *Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction*
- *International Seabed Authority- deep sea mining*



**Convention on  
Biological Diversity**



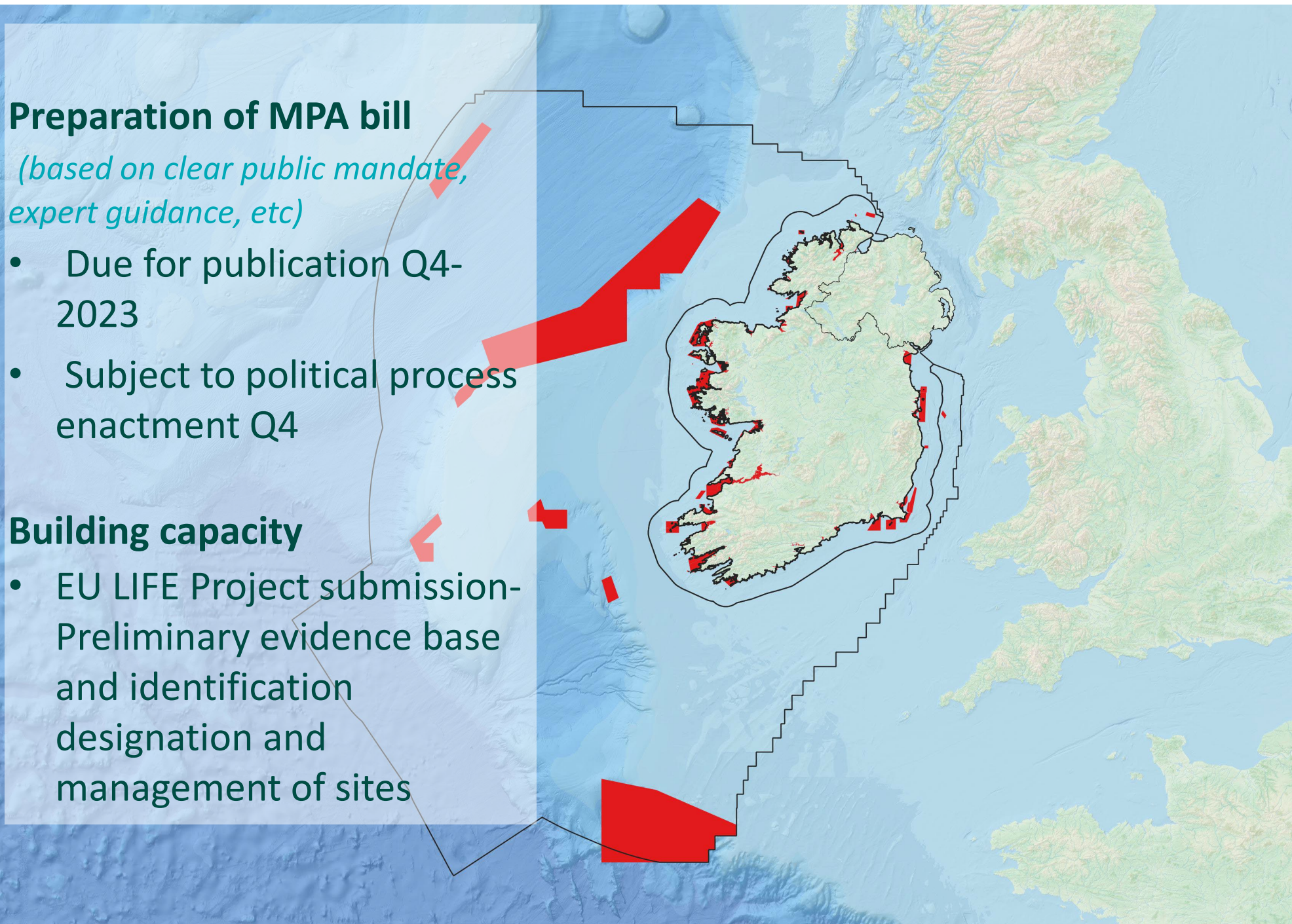
## Preparation of MPA bill

*(based on clear public mandate, expert guidance, etc)*

- Due for publication Q4-2023
- Subject to political process enactment Q4

## Building capacity

- EU LIFE Project submission- Preliminary evidence base and identification designation and management of sites



Exclusive Economic Zone and Extended Continental Shelf and 12nm

Bathymetric contours 200m and 800m



Natura sites MPAs and SACs

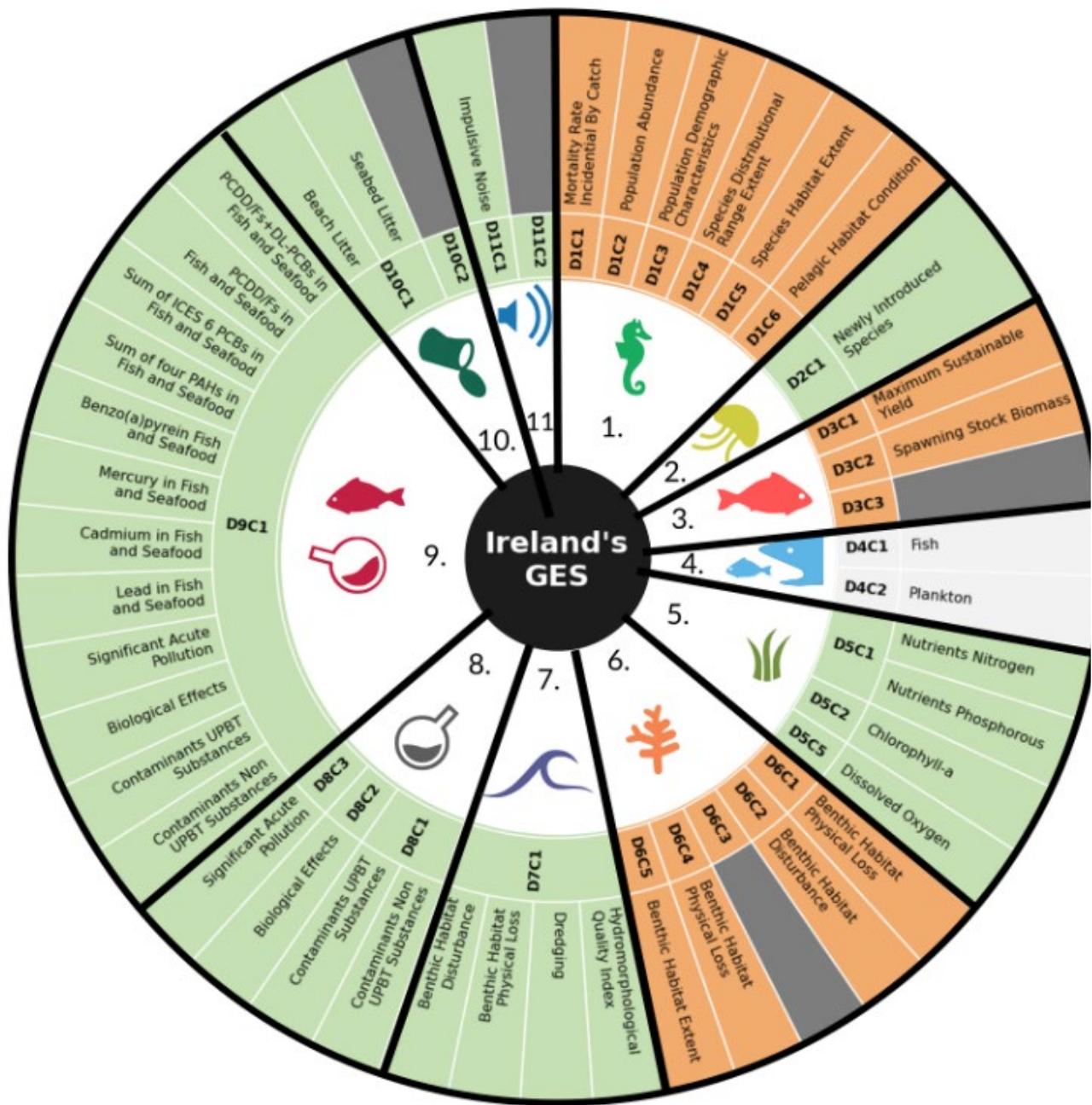


**MPA Network will be built around Ecosystem-based Management.**

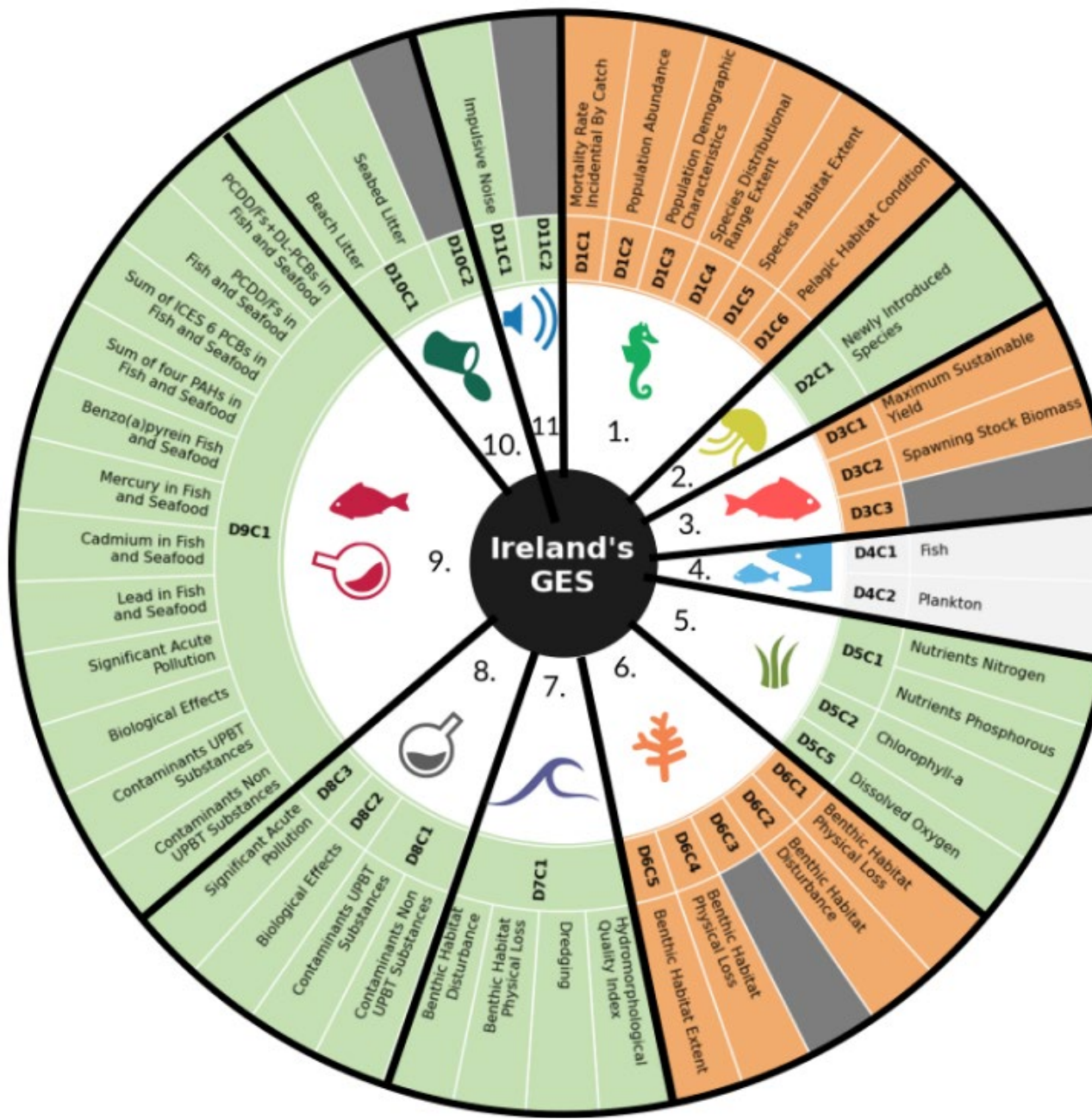
**Marine Environment Team currently has 8 staff**

**LIFE project will hire about 20 staff for 10 years**

All outputs and actions that can help us hit our targets are welcome.



Area of Benefit	Priority Habitat, Species or Activity	Focus	Potential Actions
Coastal Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Seafloor Habitats</li> <li>•coastal infrastructure</li> <li>•nearshore zones</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Impacts of climate change and ocean acidification</li> <li>•Evidence based knowledge of seabed lost associated with human actions and infrastructure developments</li> <li>•Ecosystem resilience to climate change</li> <li>•Habitat restoration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Joint coastal change strategy for the region developed and adopted</li> <li>•Area-based coastal change studies</li> </ul>
Climate and Pelagic Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Leatherback turtle ecology</li> <li>•Coast-Ocean condition and methods</li> <li>•Phytoplankton and Zooplankton</li> <li>•Sandeels &amp; sprat</li> <li>•Sharks, Skates and Rays</li> <li>•Seabirds</li> <li>•Seals</li> <li>•Cetaceans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Addressing decline in and pressures on habitats</li> <li>•Foodweb methodology</li> <li>•Coordinated monitoring</li> <li>•Incidental bycatch of non-commercial species</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Joint pelagic habitat action plans developed and adopted (Phytoplankton/Zooplankton)</li> <li>•Joint Species action plans developed and adopted</li> <li>•Joint Seabird conservation strategies developed and adopted</li> </ul>



Area of Benefit	Priority Habitat, Species or Activity	Focus	Potential Actions
Natural Capital, Habitats and Human Behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Harbour seals</li> <li>•Habitat condition assessments</li> <li>•Understanding of human impacts on sea floor beyond fishing</li> <li>•Nature based solutions for carbon storage, habitat restoration, coastal protection and nutrient sequestration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Understanding seal population trends, abundance, history, species competition and responses to human induced and natural pressures (eg, predation, noise, algae)</li> <li>•Improve monitoring and data availability using new technologies</li> <li>•Improving evidence and methodologies for data collection</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Joint action plan/strategy on marine ecosystem services developed and adopted</li> <li>•Joint action plan on integrating natural capital processes into decision-making developed and adopted</li> <li>•Joint blue carbon habitat strategies developed and adopted</li> <li>•Pilot actions for blue carbon habitat restoration</li> <li>•Joint action plan for marine litter developed and adopted</li> <li>•Pilot study on chemical synergies</li> <li>•Joint strategy on chemicals of emerging concern developed and adopted</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Marine litter and microplastics</li> <li>•Chemicals of emerging concern</li> <li>•Cumulative effects of multiple pressures (human and non-human) on marine ecosystems</li> <li>•Blue carbon environments (eg, seagrass, kelp forest, mudflat)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Ecosystem services accounting</li> </ul>	
Protection of biodiversity, coastal and maritime heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Harbour seals</li> <li>•Black-legged kittiwake</li> <li>•Baleen Whales</li> <li>•Incidental catch of non-commercial species</li> <li>•Western Irish Sea</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Improved understanding of population trends, abundance, dynamics, life history, competition and impacts of human and non-human pressures</li> <li>•Improved understanding of key anthropogenic pressures and climatic drivers on pelagic habitats and food webs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Joint pilot on large scale monitoring of key threatened and declining species developed and adopted</li> <li>•Joint strategy on the impacts of climate change on key threatened and declining species developed and adopted</li> </ul>





Thank You  
Any Questions

[tim.ohiggins@housing.gov.ie](mailto:tim.ohiggins@housing.gov.ie)



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Special EU Skemes Boadie

# Theme 5: Supporting a Sustainable and Better Connected Future

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## Investment Area 5.2: Marine and Coastal Management



# Pre-Application Support

## 5.2, Marine and Coastal Management

From today, 28<sup>th</sup> September, any organisation interested in becoming a Lead Partner under IA 5.2 may complete and submit a Concept Note for comment, advice and support.

### The Concept Note:

- covers some (but not all) of the questions that will be in the application proper;
- will help you put in place the foundations of your project so that you are better prepared when the call opens;
- will give an indication if this is the right fund for your project;
- is not a formal application;
- is not scored.



# Why Marine and Coastal Management? (i)

- Government committed to addressing climate change.
- PEACE PLUS has role in development of a greener and resilient Europe.
- Strategic cross-border investment shall protect and enhance our natural environment.
- Marine and coastal environment under pressure from both human activities and climate change – impacting habitats and species.
- Stress on Ireland and Northern Ireland's biodiversity, natural resources, coastal infrastructure.
- Climate change is accelerating coastal erosion -- coastlines affected by storms and other extreme weather.



## Why Marine and Coastal Management? (ii)

- Concern about marine birds – impact of said changes on wintering water birds and spring/summer breeding birds.
- Concern about impacts human activities, ocean acidification and rising temperatures are having on foodwebs and pelagic ecosystems.
- Climate change = threat to marine and coastal heritage; increasing need for the development of mitigation and adaptation plans for heritage assets.
- Marine litter poses significant threat to the biodiversity of marine environment.
- IA 5.2 seeks to reach grass roots, social actions, citizen science.

We envisage funding circa 3-4 successful projects for this IA

- €24.8 million available
- Grant size likely to be between €5- €11 million



# Objective and Result

## 5.2, Marine and Coastal Management

This **objective** will enable a cross-border approach to the protection of the marine and coastal environment from potentially damaging human activities and support the development of climate change adaptation plans which will increase the resilience of ecosystems, coastal communities, infrastructure and the marine economy. It will promote climate change adaptation and sustainable marine and coastal management.

It will **result** in improved knowledge and management of the transboundary marine environment, and a Programme Area which is more resilient and responsive to climate change and threats from human activities.



# What does it seek to achieve?

## 5.2, Marine and Coastal Management

- **protect and restore habitats** that provide coastal protection and carbon storage, such as sand dunes, salt marshes, seagrass, kelp and shellfish beds
- **new measurement tools** to ensure marine renewable energy provides opportunities moving us towards the net zero emissions target whilst considering potential impacts to marine environment
- **area-based studies** will be required to develop bespoke, place-based solutions
- **collaboration** that results in an improved performance in achieving related targets set at national and European levels
- **economic, social and environmental benefits** with a view to having a sustainable, lasting legacy across the Programme Area



# Four Categories of Initiative

## Initiative 1: Coastal Change

Improved evidence-based knowledge and understanding of the rate of coastal change and coastal vulnerability, including better understanding of hydrographical conditions in the nearshore zone, impacts of significant infrastructure developments, seafloor habitat types and seafloor integrity. This evidence should inform policy and practices, resulting in more resilient coastal areas.

### Anticipated Actions

- improved evidence bases related to coastal change
- pilot programmes, e.g. modelling solutions or interventions for habitat recovering
- activities leading to the development of adaptation and resilience plans
- development and implementation of teaching and awareness raising resources





## Initiative 2: Climate and Pelagic Systems

Improved evidence-based knowledge and understanding of coastal, oceanographic and sediment transport dynamics in the changing climate context, including effects of key climatic drivers on pelagic habitats and foodwebs; improved knowledge of current impacts and impact of potential climate change scenarios on seabirds and other key species and habitats; improved understanding of the risks to and impacts upon the pelagic ecosystem and human activities reliant upon it including fisheries and conservation; and improvement in the effectiveness of monitoring of marine life and habitats.

### Anticipated Actions

- improved evidence bases related to oceanographic and hydrodynamic modelling
- enhanced monitoring/sampling activities
- development of assessment and evaluation methods for pelagic habitats and food webs
- improved evidence bases for pelagic species protection
- development of transboundary action plans on climate and pelagic systems.



# Initiative 3: Natural Capital, Habitats and Human Behaviour

Improved understanding of coastal and marine habitats and their role as nature based solutions to climate change adaptation and mitigation; Improved evidence based knowledge to support decision-making in marine spatial planning, fisheries management, marine protected area identification and management, and support of the recovery and/or restoration of impacted habitat types; Improved awareness of the impact of marine litter and the benefits of reducing inputs through a circular economy; expanding understanding of human activities (besides fishing) on marine habitats and generation of innovative methodologies for assessing habitat condition.

## Anticipated Actions

- Improved evidence bases on issues such as marine bird activities, scope for renewable energy and benthic habitat.
- *Mapping of existing services and action plans* across themes such as marine ecosystem services and geohazards
- surveys to *improve the evidence* base of underwater cultural heritage and historic environment records.
- Development of *strategies or protocols* relating to the circular economy with a view to reduce marine litter.



## Initiative 4: Local Actions

Improved sense of local and transboundary responsibility regarding marine biodiversity and heritage, including understanding population trends of protected species and human impacts.

Improved understanding of underwater cultural heritage resources to support marine planning, heritage asset management and improved public awareness and appreciation with the aim of better outcomes for communities and the marine environment.

### Anticipated Actions

- public engagement and community action on related issues and themes
- network development and management to support local adoption of marine biodiversity protection and coastal/marine heritage

**Local actions are mandatory for all projects**



# Data Management/Legacy

## 5.2, Marine and Coastal Management

### Think about your project legacy

- The models, interventions and data generated through this Programme should be designed in a manner which ensures the knowledge is usable and transferable beyond the lifecycle of the project.
- Strong data management, integrated from start, should be clearly demonstrated in project design.
- This should include plans for data transfer to competent authorities throughout the process and at end of projects.
- Funded projects should liaise and share learning



# Intro to the Concept Note

## 5.2, Marine and Coastal Management

Is downloadable from <https://seupb.eu/PEACEPLUS>

Short form, seeking high level project details.

Advice is available pre- and post-completion.

Avoids putting you through an onerous process if full application not for you.

Complete and return no later than **27<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

Email to [eimear.bush@seupb.eu](mailto:eimear.bush@seupb.eu)



# Concept Note, Question 1

## Contribution to PEACEPLUS and Specific Objective

How has project need been identified, how does it align with the stated objectives of 5.2, how will it enhance peace?

### Tell Us:

- How your project builds on existing practices and contributes to wider strategies.
- How it contributes to the IA objective: a cross-border approach to the protection of the marine and coastal environment
- How it contributes to the IA result: improved knowledge and management of the transboundary marine environment, and a Programme Area which is more resilient and responsive to climate change and threats from human activities.
- How your project makes a direct contribution to peace and prosperity for the region.



# Concept Note, Question 1 (continued)

## Contribution to PEACEPLUS and specific objective

### Outputs and Results

Tell us how your proposed project will contribute to the output and result indicators for IA 5.2.

Output Indictors:

- 17 x strategies and action plans jointly developed;
- 10 x Pilot actions developed and jointly implemented in projects.

Result Indictors:

- 13 x Joint strategies and action plans taken up by organisations;
- 8 x Solutions taken up or upscaled by organisations.



# Concept Note, Question 2

## Quality of Project Design

The quality of the project design is about the actions you'll take to achieve your outputs and results. Your actions shall address one or more of four areas:

1. Coastal Change
2. Climate and pelagic systems
3. Natural capital, habitats and human behaviour
4. Local action to protect marine biodiversity and coastal and marine heritage

We want to know how many people you will reach through actions  
Participation, local engagement, is paramount





# Concept Note, Question 2 (continued)

## Quality of Project Design

Projects should closely review the ***Priority Habitats and Species and Associated Anticipated Actions*** - an annex to the call document, available on the SEUPB website which provides specific examples for each of the four areas including:

- the priority habitat, species or activity
- the focus of the work proposed
- the actions for this area of work



# Concept Note, Question 3

## Cross-border and Cross-community collaboration

How is your project **cross-border** and **cross-community**?

1. What geographical area/s will your project cover? What is the proposed action for this cross-border area?
2. How your project is cross-border on the basis of:
  - How it has been developed and will be implemented.
  - Its use of staff from both sides of the border working together for a common goal.
  - Community focus on environmental learning from both sides of the border, inclusive of multiple communities.
  - Using a shared approach / design on both sides of the border.
  - Demonstrates collaboration as clear, measurable outcome.
  - The people and communities you will engage
  - The legacy you will leave



# Concept Note, Question 3 (cont.)

## Duplication and Displacement

1. Have issues of duplication and displacement been considered for your project?
2. What added-value would EU funding bring?
3. Does your project show an evolution of ideas?
4. Is your project likely to impact upon and/or complement similar existing or planned provision?
5. How will you avoid/mitigate unintended consequences?



# Concept Note, Question 4

## Partnership and Implementing Arrangements

- Outline the team that will manage the project.
- How are they suitably qualified and experienced?
- Has the Lead Partner and supporting partners the necessary organisational capacity to manage a multi-annual, large-scale EU project with multiple stakeholders?
- Have the main project partners worked together in partnership on similar projects in the past?
- How you will be accountable for the smooth project delivery?
- How will you adequately resource the project / allocate responsibility for each action?
- What practical arrangements do you have in place to identify and manage risk?



# Concept Note, Question 5

## Value for Money

The CN asks for a high-level budget, in completing it ensure:

- Staff positions are pitched at the appropriate grade
- Competitive tendering processes is planned (where appropriate)
- You know how each budget line has been arrived at
- Supporting info. on assumptions applied
- It demonstrates economical use of public resources.

Projects should be costed over 4 years

This is include a lead-in and wind-down period



# Lead Partner Role

The Lead Partner accepts overall responsibility for ensuring implementation of entire project.

The role is wide-ranging, detailed and technical; it covers:

- Project Coordination
- Financial Management (Control Function)
- Reporting
- Communication (internal/external/with SEUPB/with other funded projects)
- Training
- Policies & Procedures
- Evaluation



# Concluding Remarks

- Take this time to build your partnership, be clear on who is doing what
- Use today to network, talk, find out about each others' ideas, ensure complementarity.
- Think about finance: can you manage the cash flows? deliver on this scale?
- Local engagement is key
- Have clarity of purpose; your project must meet all requirements of 5.2 but do not forget your focus on peace and prosperity.
- Know how you are going to monitor your targets and evaluate impact.
- We shall manage this IA collectively, think about how you will link with other funded projects



# Thanks for listening

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