



EUROPEAN UNION



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RESTORE OUR OCEAN AND WATERS



Governance and stakeholders engagement in a french mediterranean MPA *Côte agathoise MPA, Natura 2000 site*

Renaud Dupuy de la Grandrive

Director marine service Agde municipality and MPA

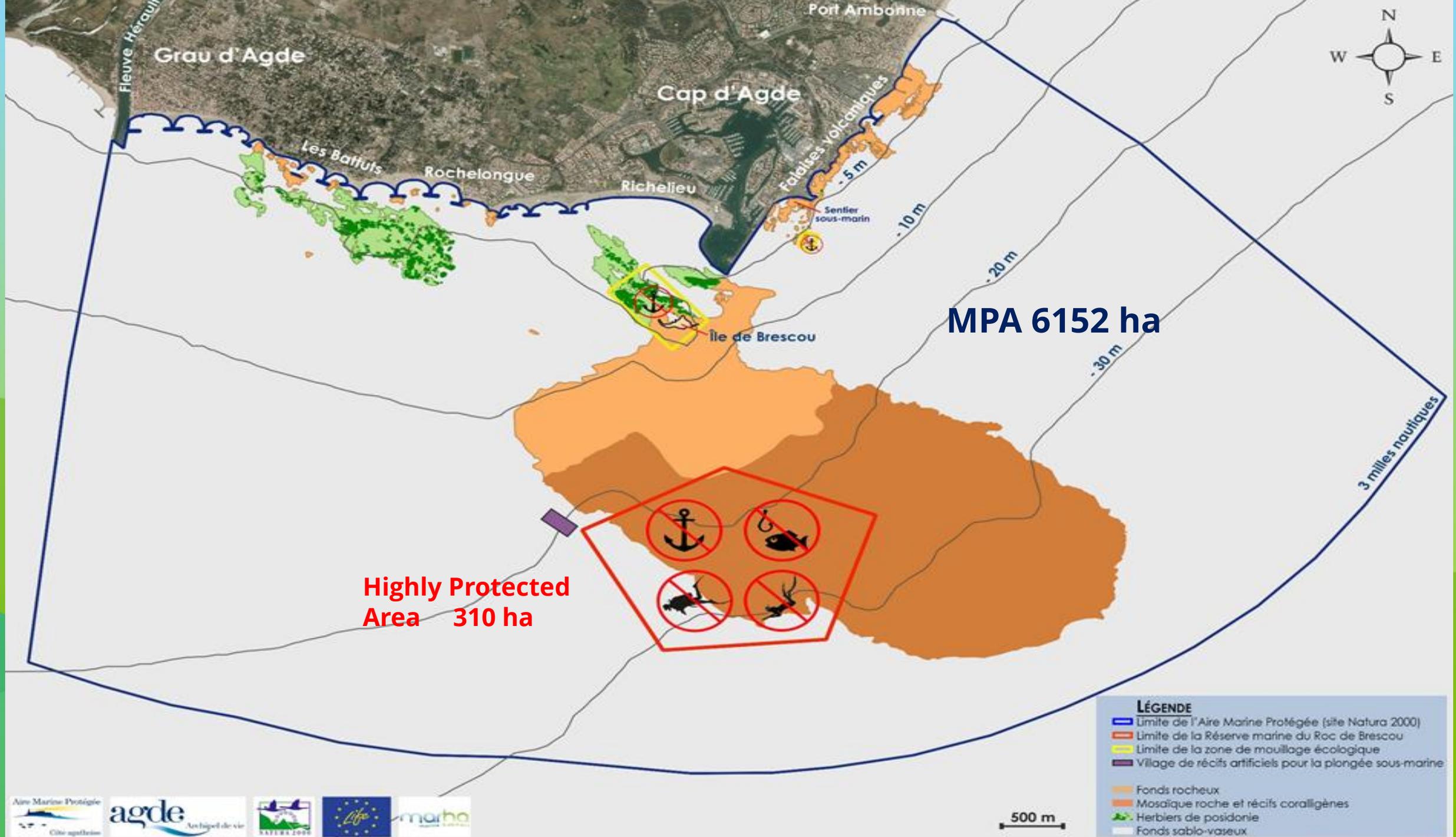




Agde 30 000 inhabitants

> 250 000 in summer

High tourism area Cap d'Agde



MPA 6152 ha

Highly Protected Area 310 ha

LÉGENDE

- Limite de l'Aire Marine Protégée (site Natura 2000)
- Limite de la Réserve marine du Roc de Brescou
- Limite de la zone de mouillage écologique
- Village de récifs artificiels pour la plongée sous-marine
- Fonds rocheux
- Mosaïque roche et récifs coralligènes
- Herbiers de posidonie
- Fonds sablo-vaseux

500 m

Habitats and species of interest





- Cap d'Agde marina (> 4000 boats)
- 30 small-scale fishermen
- 8 diving centers (15 000 dives / year)
- Recreational fishermen
- Nautical activities



- Management MPA by the municipality since 12 years (before it was an association)
- Strong local political will
- Lead by the marine service of the municipality :
 - Included in a General Technical Direction
 - The team : 3 permanent agents in 2013 > 9 in 2024
6 professional divers / marine biologists, technicians
> > polyvalence
 - In summer 4/5 seasonal staff and interns
 - The team does not have the power to legally control the maritime activities >> focus on information / public awareness and sensibilisation at sea >> mobile application



Technical means :
Office « Maison de la Mer » (floating house with meeting room, radar), 3 boats, scientific, diving and technical materials



Internal governance inside the municipality

- Link with other municipality services (environment, beaches and coast, finances, communication...)
- MPA is considered as part of the global management project of the city



Governance of the MPA and stakeholders :

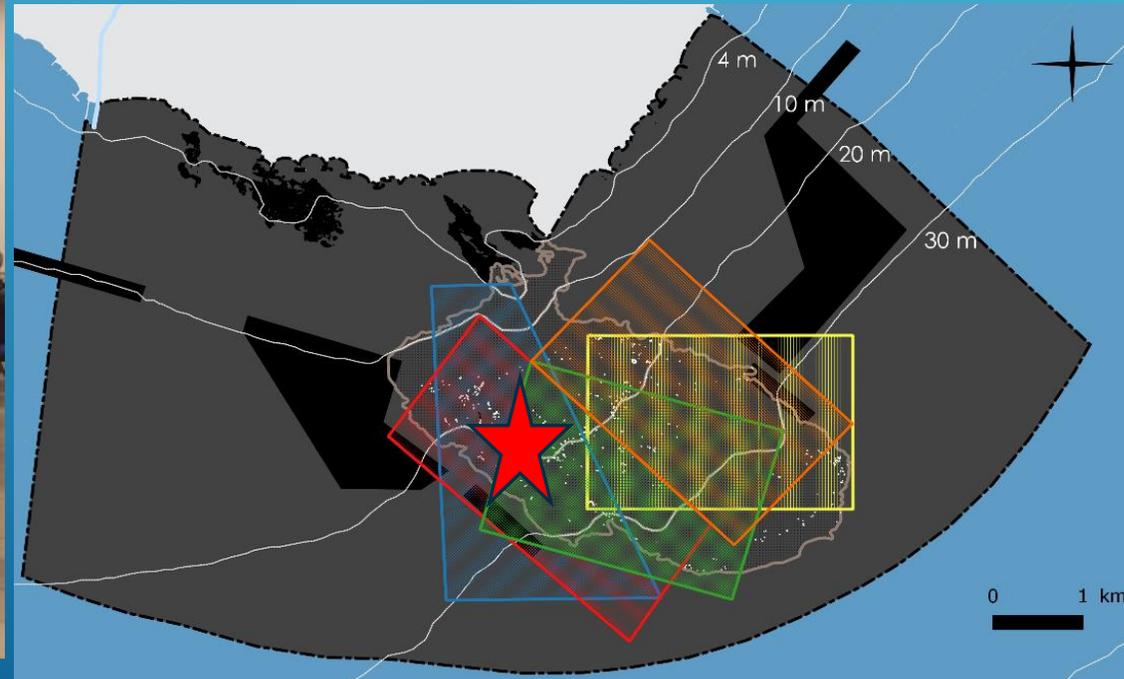
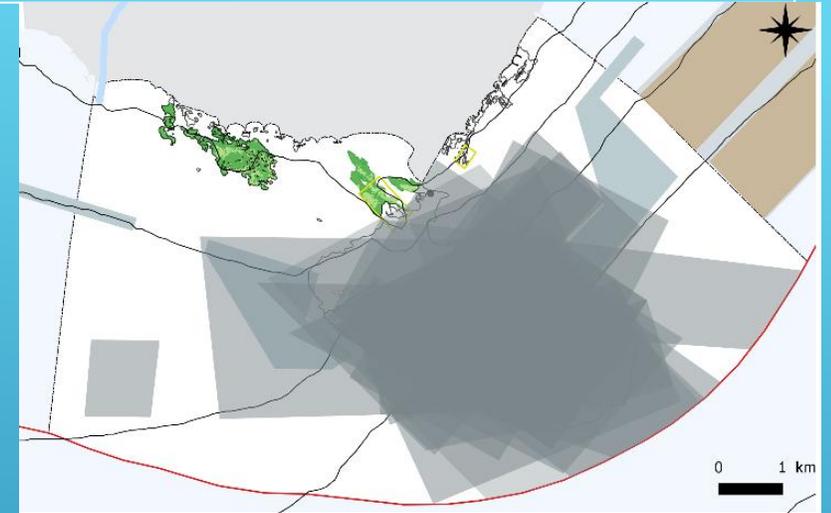
- Steering Committee (50 members) lead by maritime and land prefecture, meeting once a year : all representative stakeholders are members
- High level of relationships with maritime and environment authorities
- Working Groups : fishermen (professional and leisure ones), nautical stakeholders (diving clubs, renting boats...), public awareness
 - Close and direct relationships with stakeholders
 - > = ground and « proximity » management

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#MissionOcean



Ex 1: Fishing cantonnement project > Strict marine protected area

- Meetings with every small scale fisherman (30)
- Carried out of four scenarios with an multi-criteria analyse
- Workshop with all fishermen :
 - Show the results of the study
 - Discuss about the four scenarios
 - Approved only one fishermen scenario



Fishing cantonnement project > Strict marine protected area

Co-create the fishing cantonnement with recreational activities

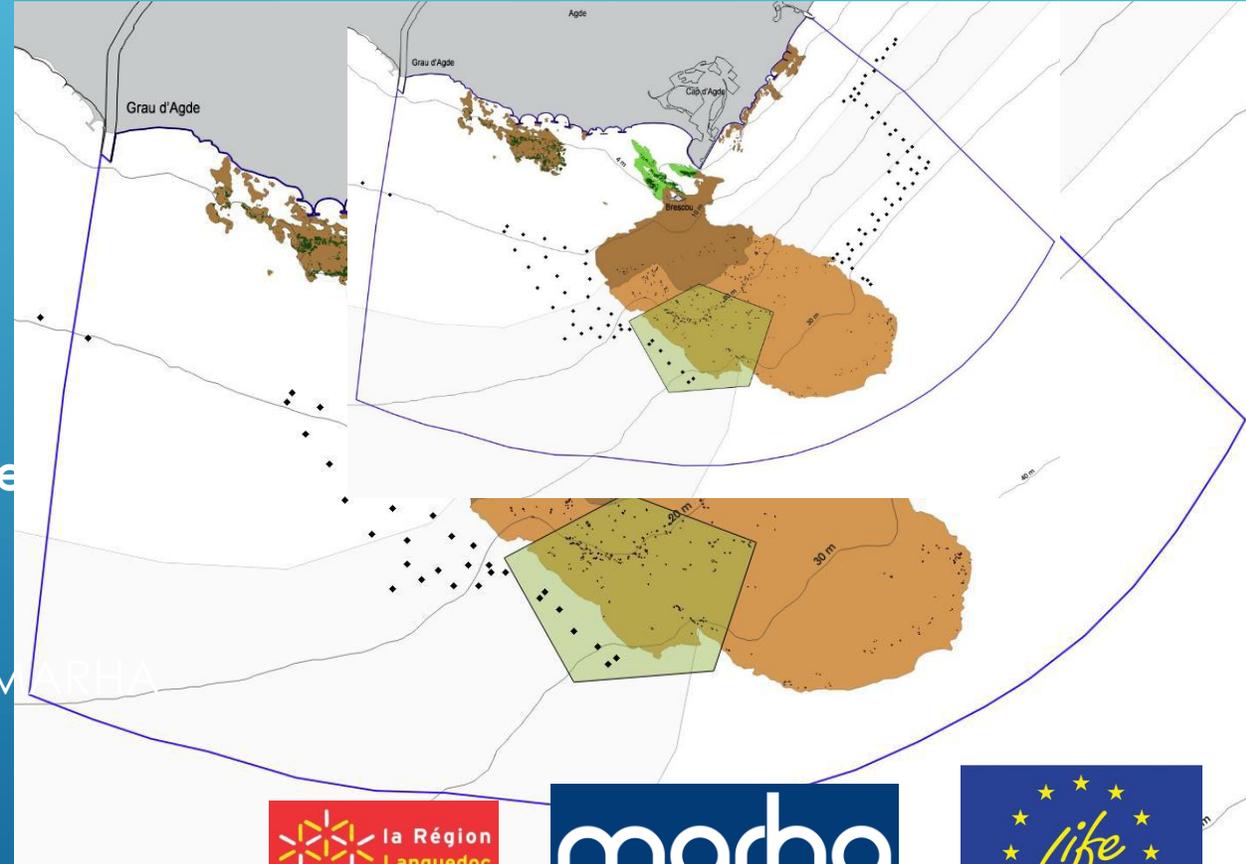
- Carried out workshops with all stakeholders
- Bring some modifications
- Surface : 310 ha
- 45 % of Agde coralligenous
- **All activities forbidden**
- A project proposed and validated during the annual steering committee

Finally : Implementation and management of the fishing cantonnement

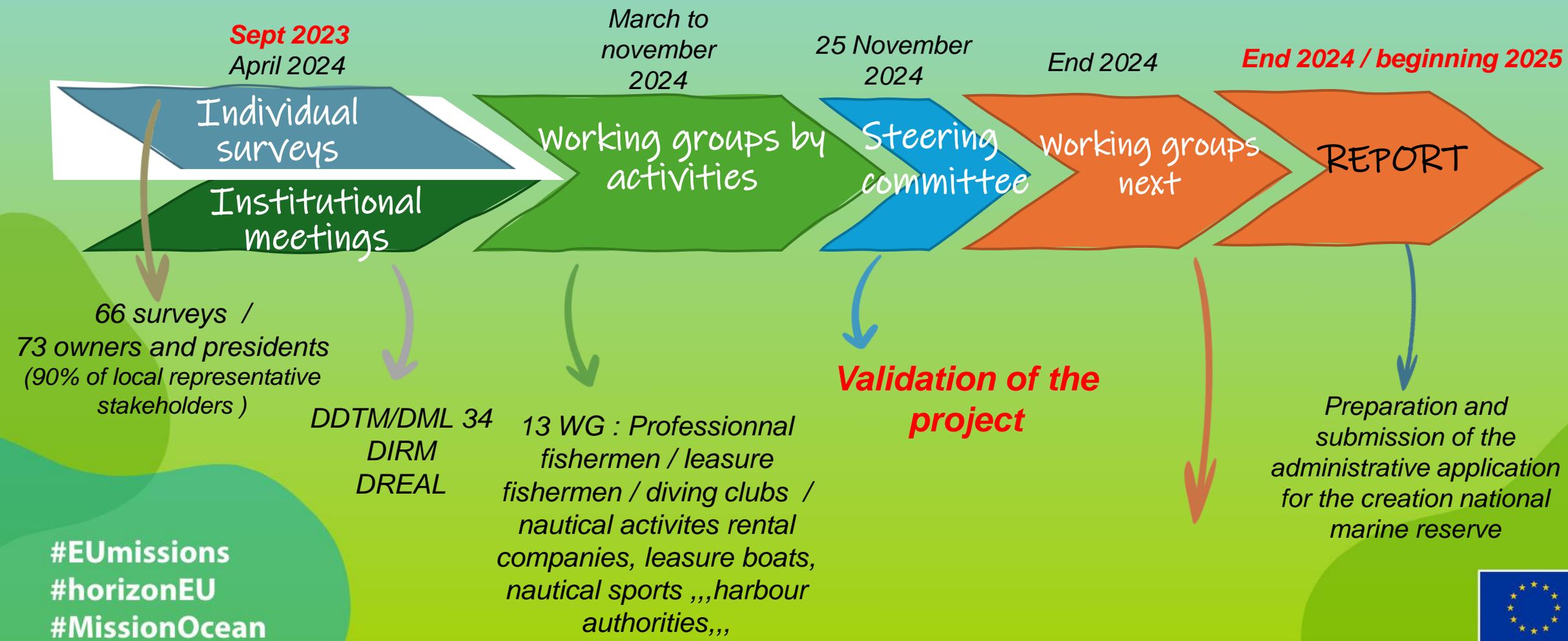
Start of the protection in january 2020

Financed by the European Founding Life MARHA

- Administrative part
- New boat
- Scientific monitoring
- Carry out the management



Ex 2 : Towards a National Marine Reserve



A composite image featuring a jellyfish in the foreground and a lighthouse on a cliff in the background. The jellyfish is a large, translucent, bell-shaped creature with a white body and a dark purple border, swimming in clear, greenish-blue water. The background shows a rocky cliff with a lighthouse on top, under a clear blue sky. The lighthouse is white with a red top. The overall scene is a mix of marine life and coastal architecture.

• Thanks for your attention !