

The UK Marine Protected Areas Network



Tom Blasdale - JNCC

What is the purpose of this presentation?

To inform you of UK's current Marine Protected Area (MPA) plans for UK waters

To outline the identification and designation processes

To discuss opportunities for your participation

Why?

UK Government's Aim:

'to recover and protect the richness of our marine environment and wildlife through the development of a strong, ecologically coherent and well managed network of marine protected areas, that is well understood and supported by all sea users, by 2012'

What will be included in the network?

➤ Existing European sites

- SACs
- SPAs

➤ New European sites required to complete the UK's Natura network

➤ Additional UK Designations –

- Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs)
- Scottish MPAs.

The existing MPA network

Includes:

European sites

- SACs
- SPAs

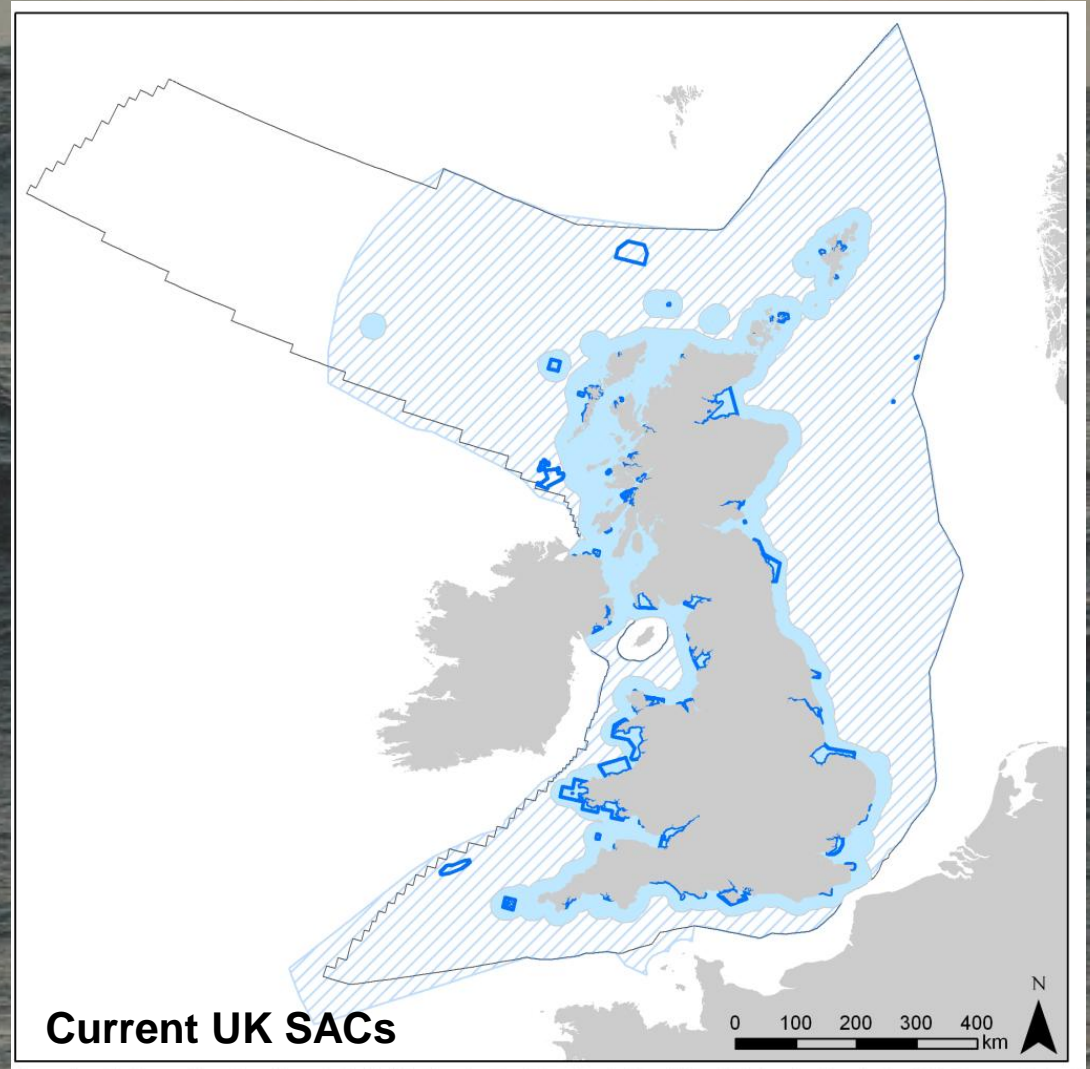
National sites

- SSSIs

Ramsar sites

MNR

Covers ~2% of UK
Seas



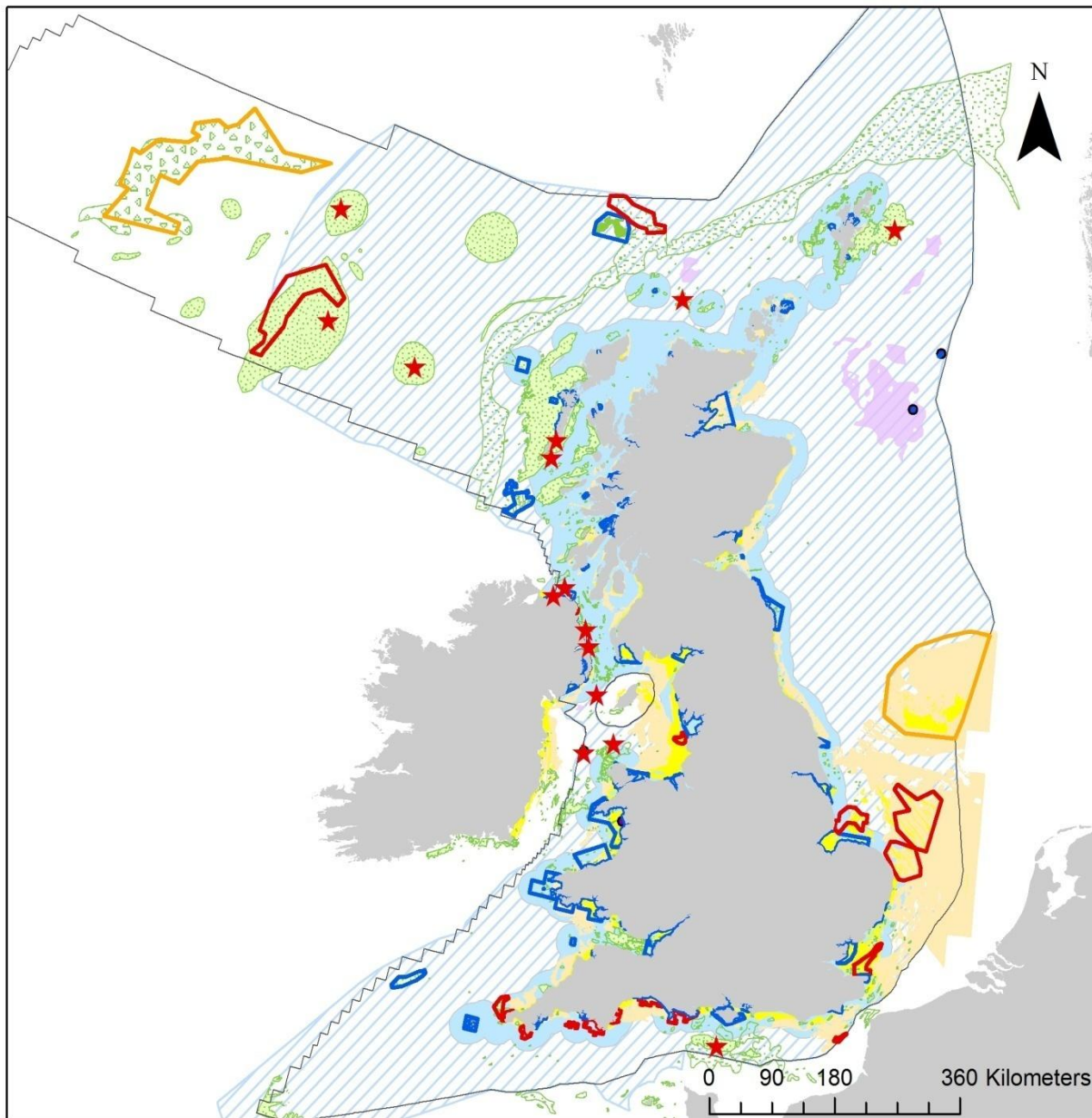
Why do we need more sites?

To complete the UK's contribution to the Natura network

To protect species and habitats important to the UK but not covered by the Natura network

To achieve an ecologically coherent network

Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Areas of Search (AoS) for Annex I habitats for SACs in UK waters



Legend

- ★ AoS
 - ▭ draft SAC
 - ▭ possible SAC
 - ▭ candidate SAC/ SAC
 - ▭ 12nm Territorial Sea
 - ▭ British Fishery Limit
 - ▭ UK Continental Shelf Designated Area
 - ▭ Land
- ### Potential Annex I Habitat
- ▭ Bedrock, Stony and Biogenic Reef
 - ▭ Bedrock Reef
 - ▭ Stony Reef
 - ▭ Biogenic Reef
 - Known Locations of Submarine Structures
 - ▭ Fluid Seep Areas
 - ▭ Sandy sediment in <20m water depth
 - ▭ Sandy sediment in <50m water depth adjoining sandy sediment in <20m



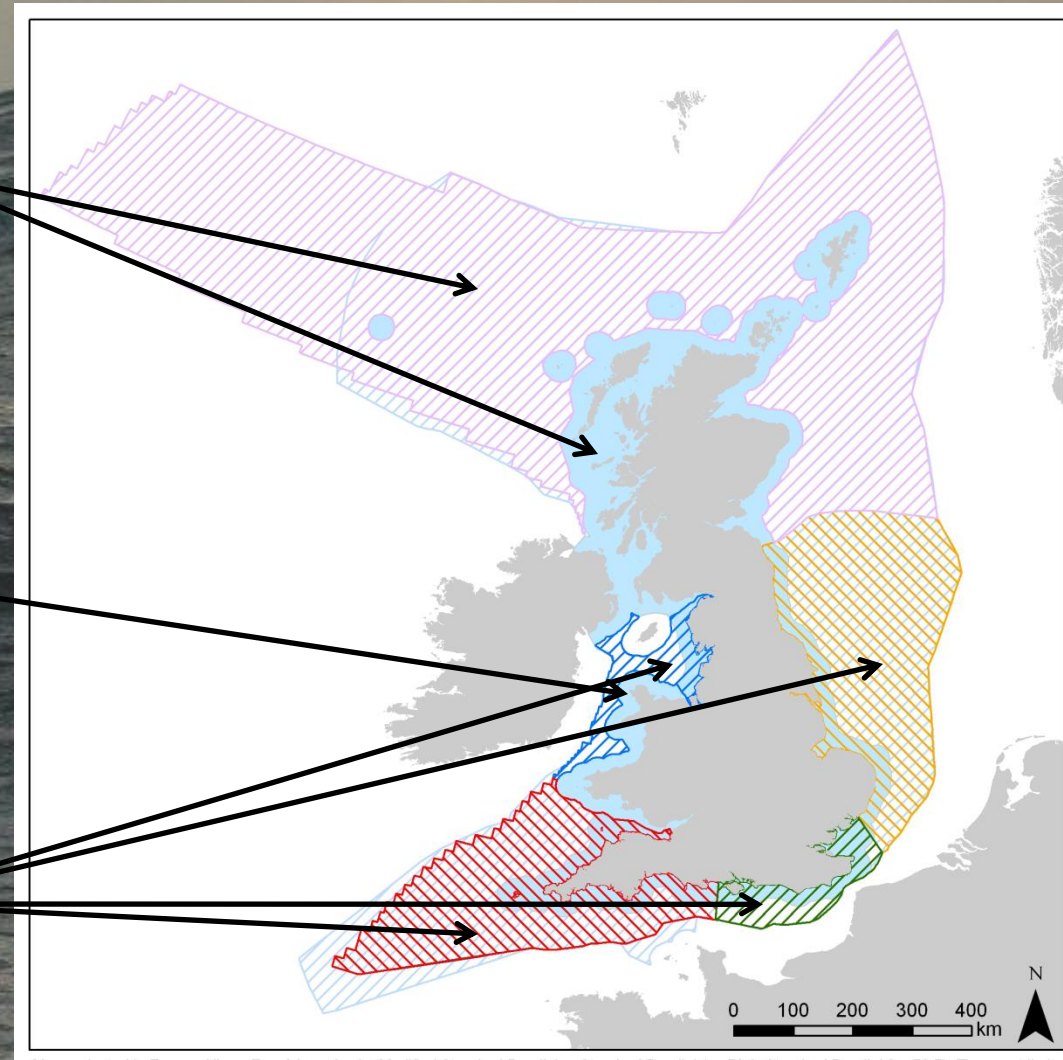
Date published 19.01.2010

The new UK MPAs

**Scottish Marine
Bill MPA's**

**Welsh Marine
conservation zones
(MCZs)**

**UK Marine
Conservation
zones (MCZs)**



Marine Conservation Zones (MCZ)

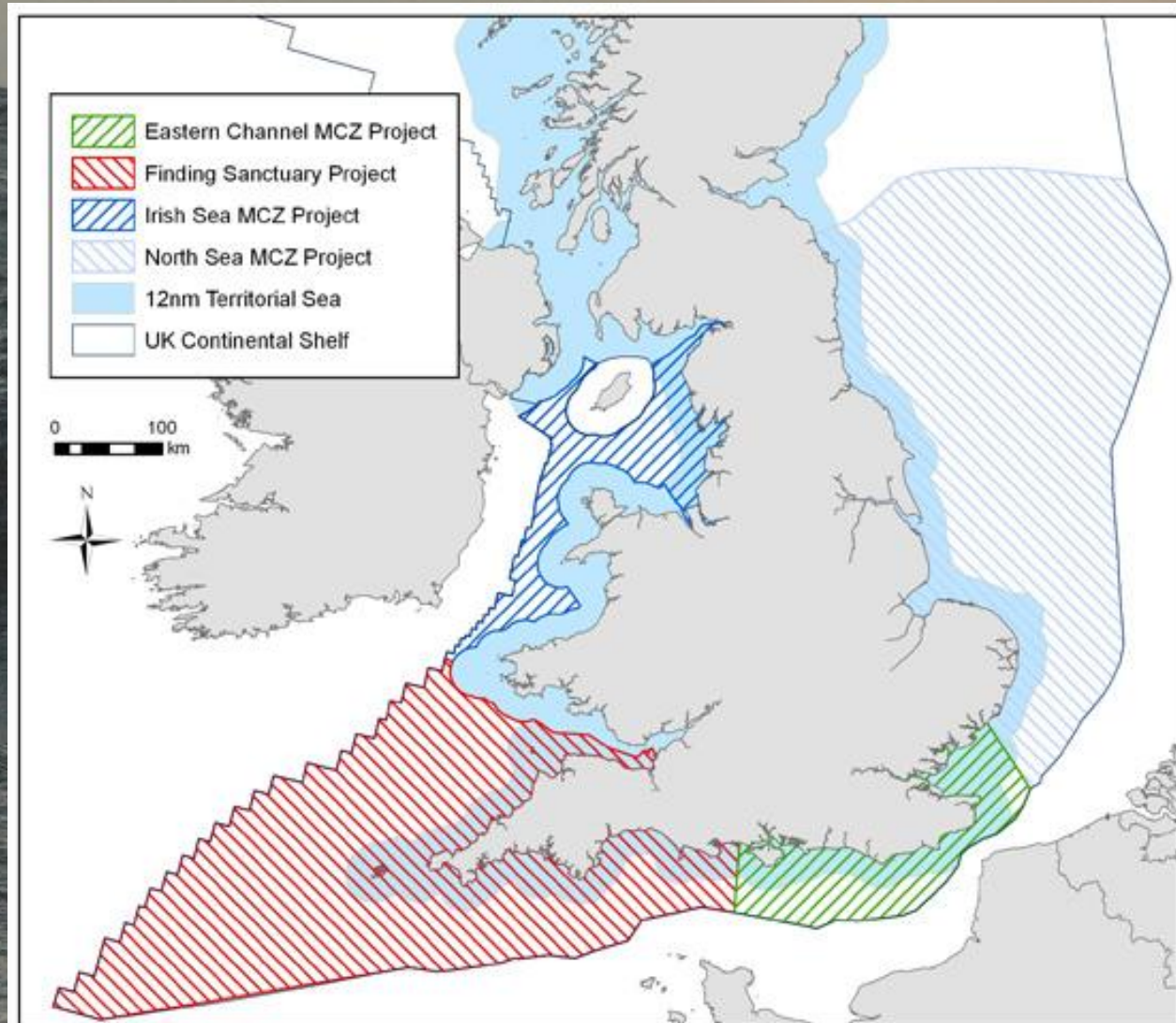
Aims

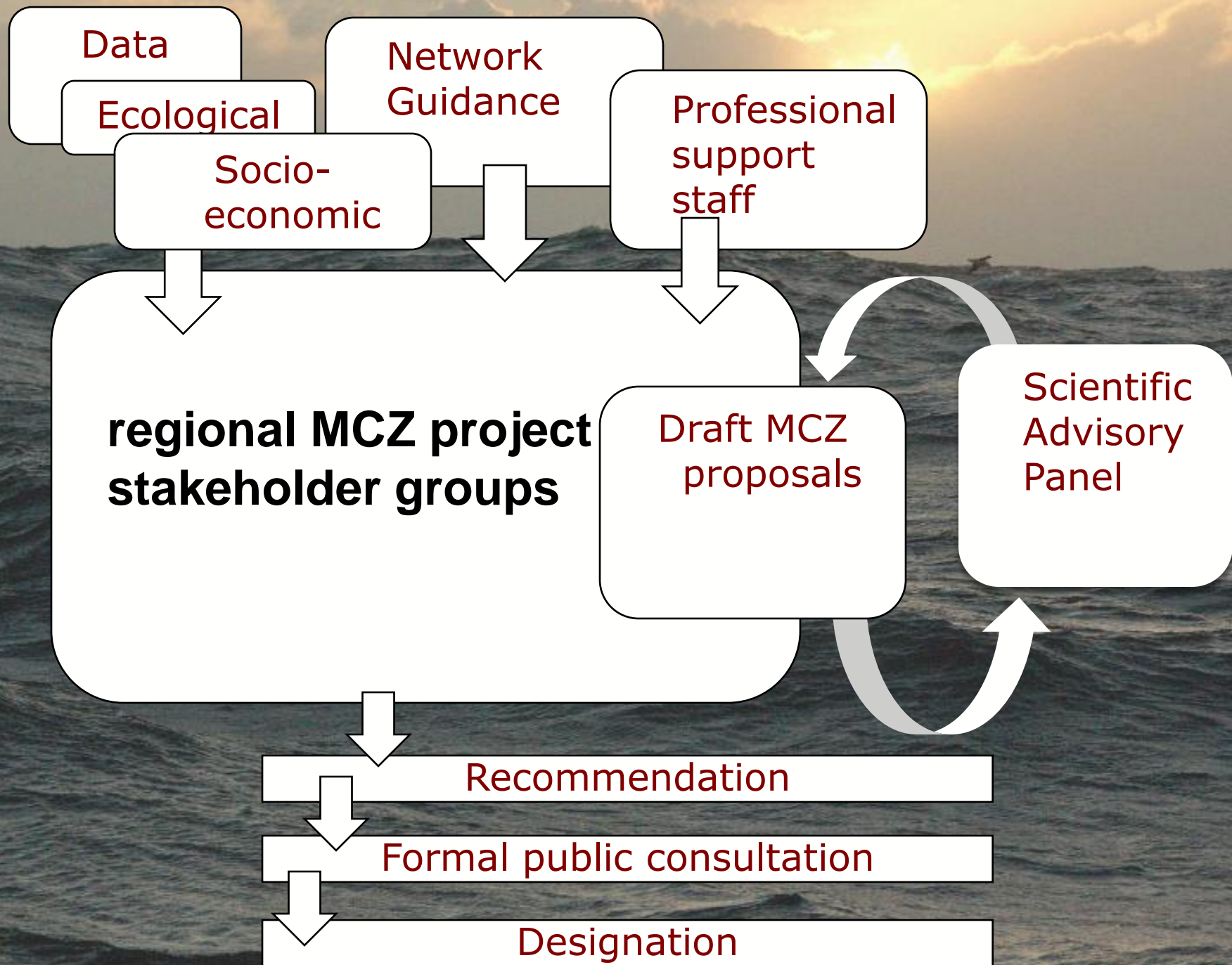
Contribute to UK's objective of an ecologically coherent network .

Engage with stakeholders at an early stage to encourage support

Where possible, minimise the impacts on stakeholders who are already using the sea.

The MCZ Project





International Stakeholder participation

JNCC will be responsible for liaison with international stakeholders.

We are recruiting a dedicated “Fisheries Liaison Officer” to support engagement

We need -

Input data; We need to know where your fishing grounds are

Your input to the identification of sites for MCZs

Data requirements




We will produce -

- Maps of VMS data
- Maps Official landings data by ICES rectangle

We would like fishermen to -

- Validate of the VMS and landings data
- Add detail to the data – eg. more information on gear, catches, seasonality etc.
- Tell us what is missing
- Indicate of the (relative) value of fishing areas

Topics for discussion

A background image showing a sunset over the ocean. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow over the sky and the dark, choppy water. The sky is filled with soft, golden light, and the water has a textured, wavy appearance.

- Natura consultations
- Who should we be talking to for data gathering?
- Do we need special arrangements for small scale fleets?
- How would you like your views be communicated to the regional MCZ projects?

The UK Marine Protected Area Network

Thank you for listening

