



OSPAR
COMMISSION

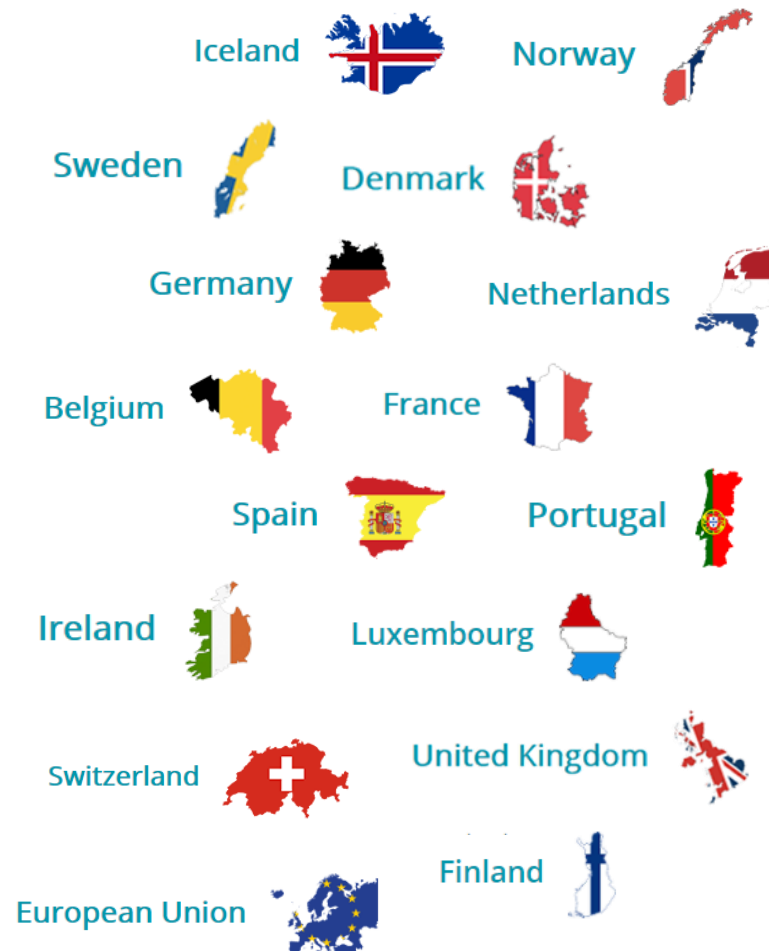
North Sea as shared space: Cross-border cooperation through the OSPAR Regional Sea Convention

MSP Workshop – North Sea Perspective

Brussels, 3 May 2023

Philip Stamp, OSPAR Secretariat

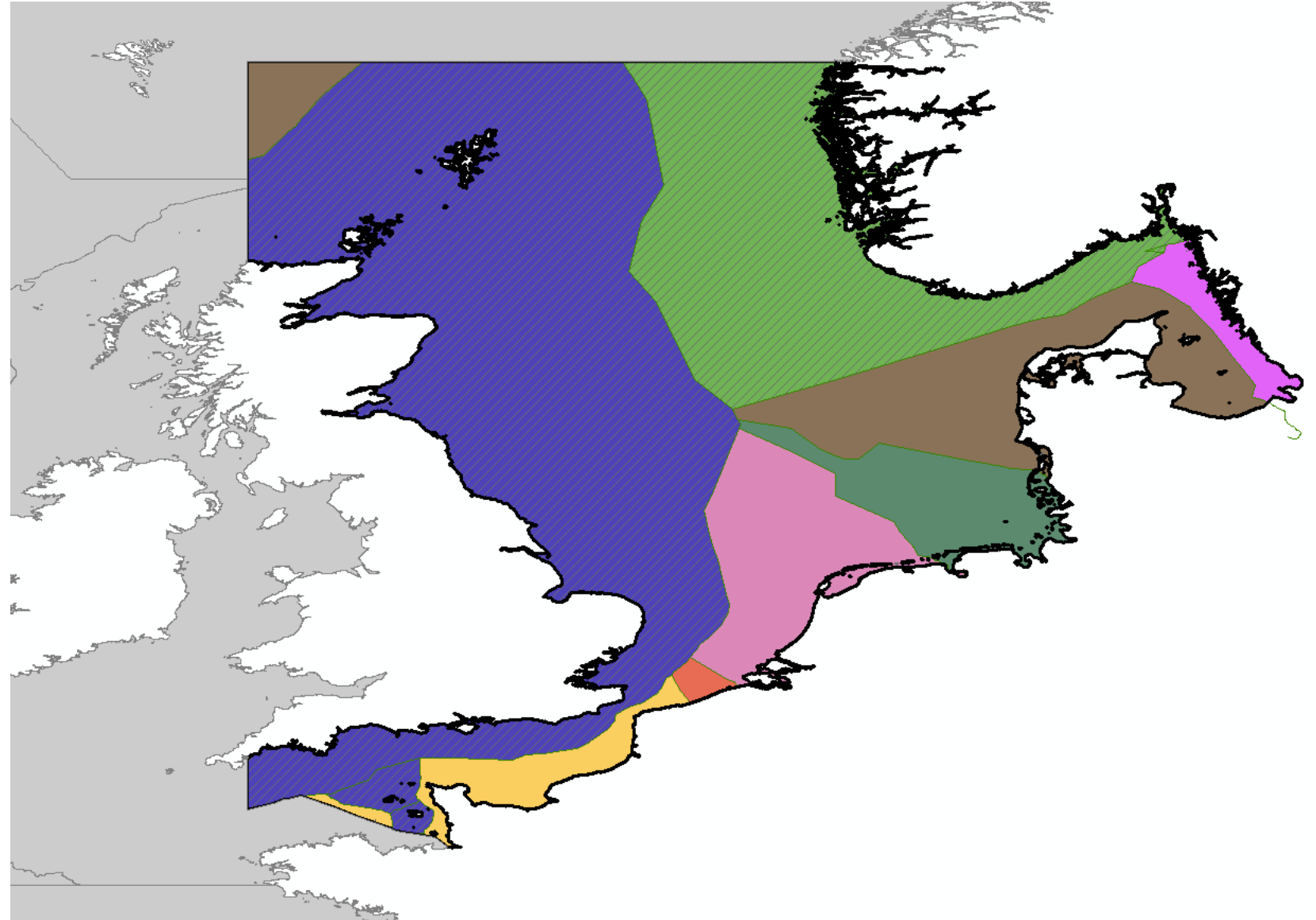
Contracting Parties of the OSPAR Convention



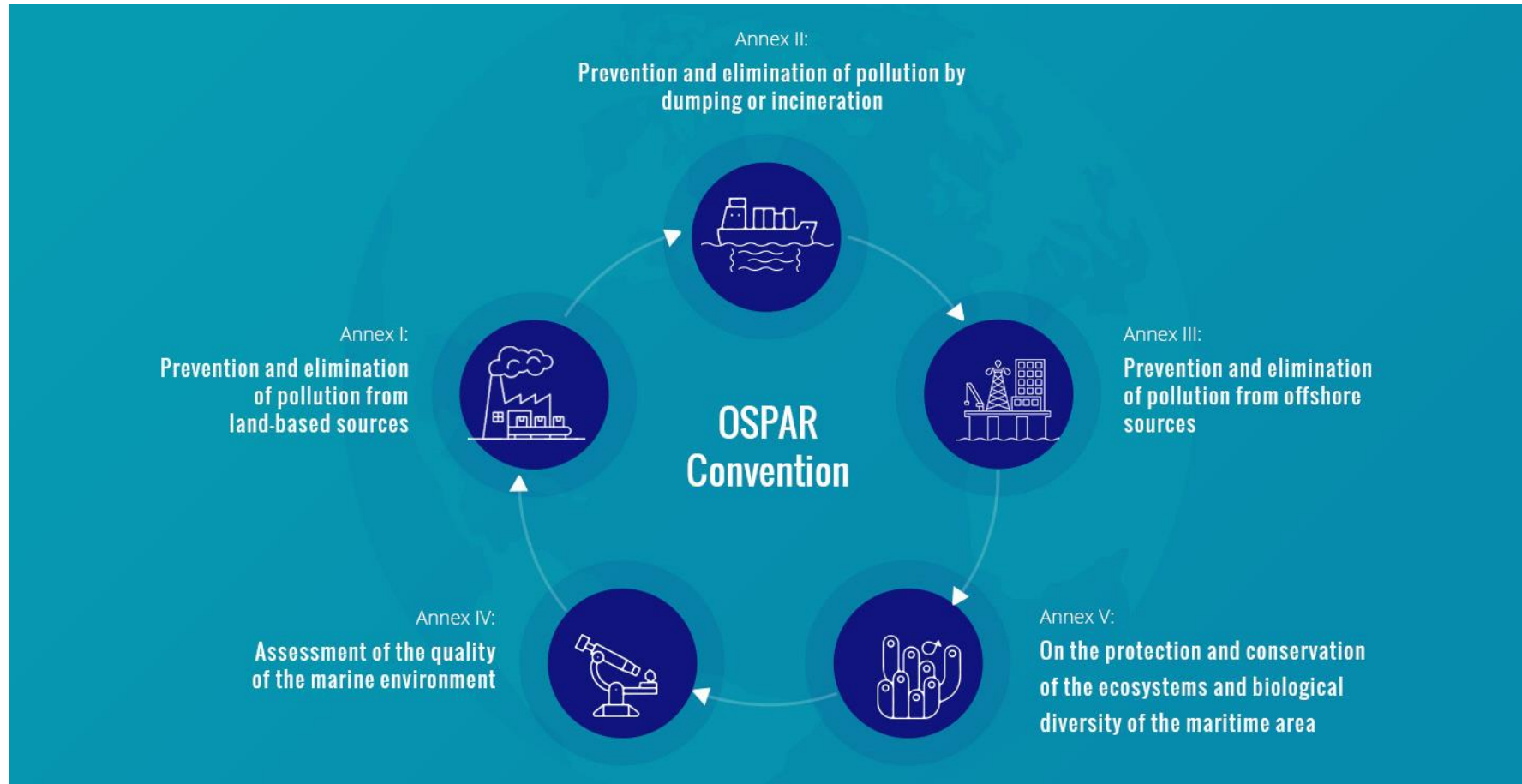
OSPAR Maritime Area and Regions:

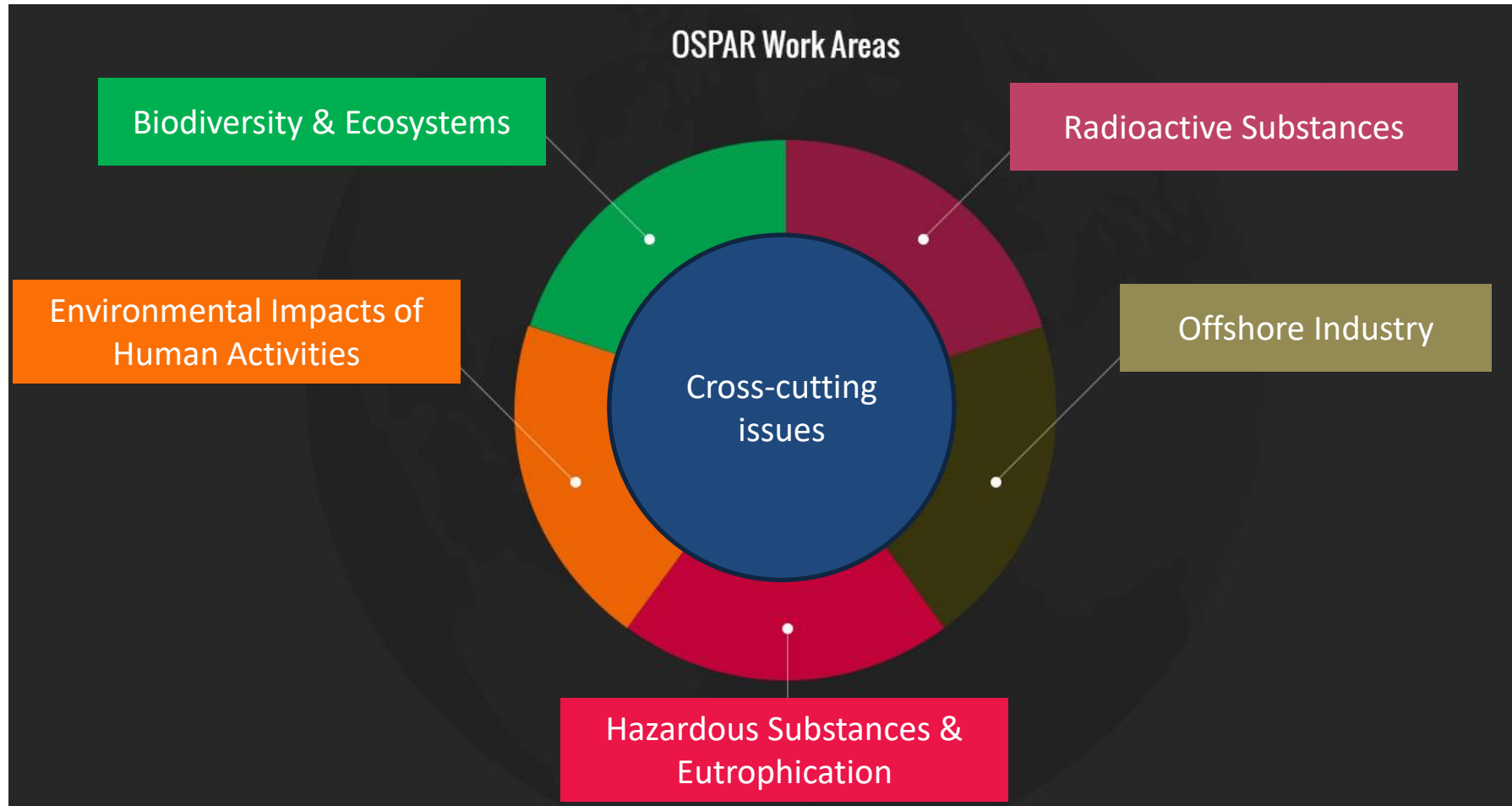
- Region I: Arctic Waters
- Region II: Greater North Sea
- Region III: Celtic Seas
- Region IV: Bay of Biscay / Iberian Coast
- Region V: Wider Atlantic

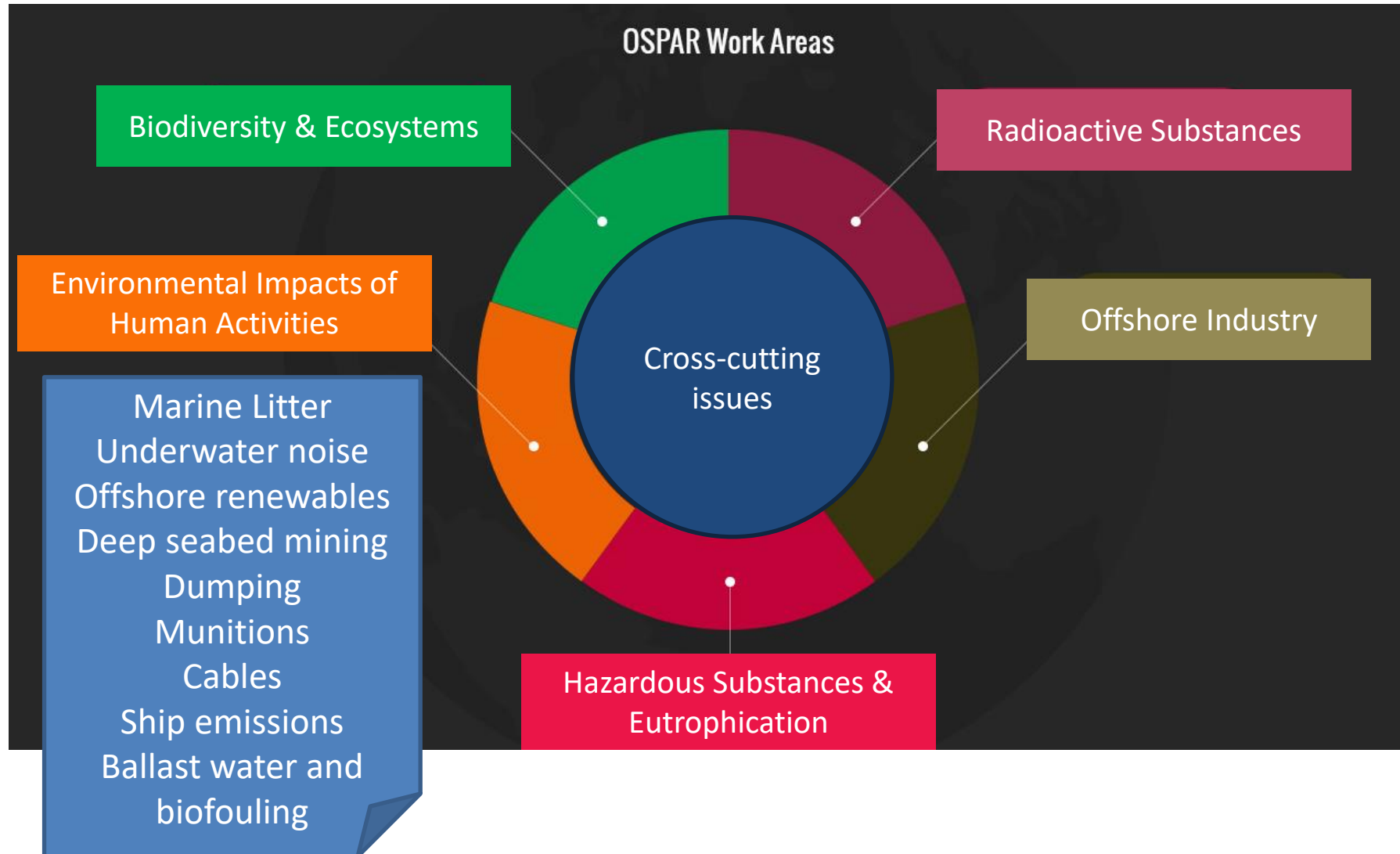
Slide to show Eezs in region II - % of
non-EU waters

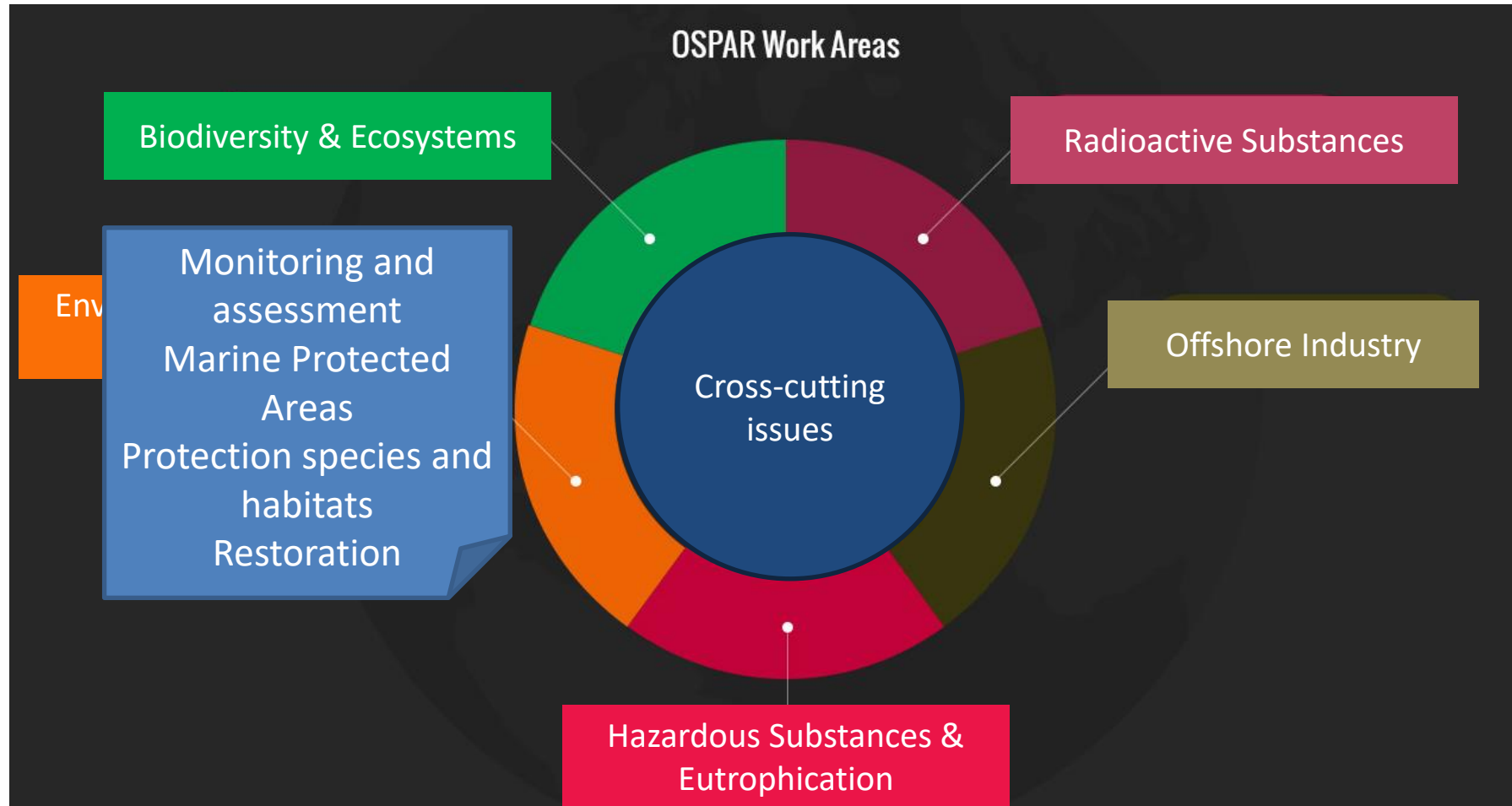


Flanders Marine Institute (2019). Maritime Boundaries Geodatabase: Maritime Boundaries and Exclusive Economic Zones (200NM), version 11.
Available online at <https://www.marineregions.org/>. <https://doi.org/10.14284/386>









OSPAR Data



OSPAR Data & Information Management System

Use the tiles on the right to navigate the data using different categories:

Submissions

Data are divided into packages when they are uploaded to the site- submissions is our name for these packages. A submission usually includes spatial data, tabulated data (in MS Excel format) and metadata.

Maps

Data are available for browsing, aggregating and styling to generate maps. Note, you won't be able to save the map to the site but if you record the URL, you can refer back to your map and even embed it into another site!

Layers

Data with a geospatial element can be viewed and downloaded via the map interface. There is a host of other information available about the layers too. |

Committees

If you're familiar with the OSPAR Committee structure, you can find data organised by committee under this tile.

813 submissions	62 maps	691 layers
6 committees	11 organisations	41 datastreams
8 data themes	13 web services	1 contact

OSPAR Data



Benthic habitats
MPAs
Threatened and declining
habitats
Dumping
Impulsive noise
Offshore renewables
Litter
Riverine inputs
Marine contaminants
Offshore oil and gas
Radionuclides

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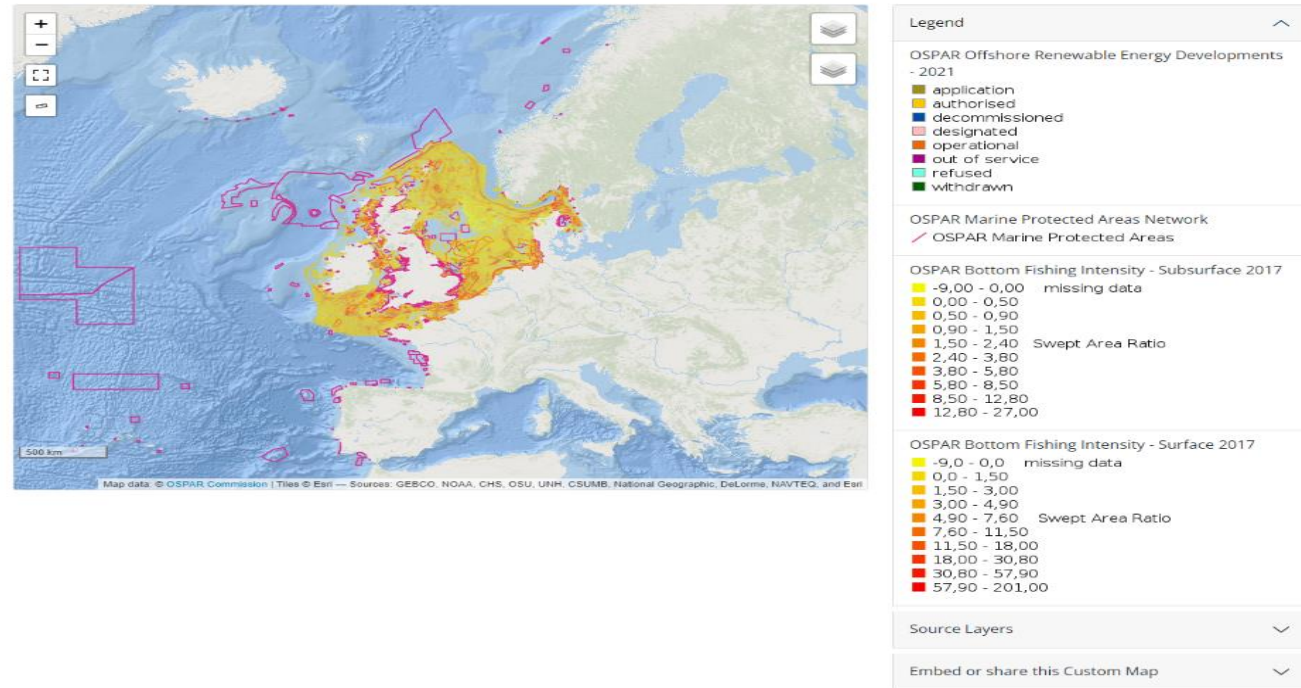
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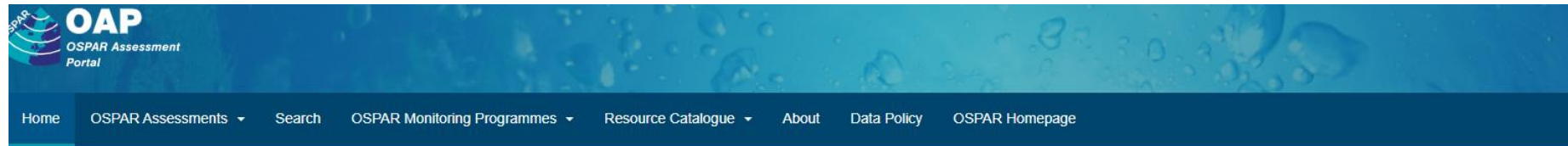
[Home](#)
[Maps](#)
[Custom Map](#)

Custom Map

Source Layers: OSPAR Offshore Renewable Energy Developments - 2021, OSPAR Marine Protected Areas Network, OSPAR Bottom Fishing Intensity - Subsurface 2017, OSPAR Bottom Fishing Intensity - Surface 2017



OSPAR Assessments



Welcome to OAP

OSPAR's Assessment Portal

:



OSPAR and fisheries

Thematic assessments on fish, benthic habitats, pelagic habitats, food webs – to be published 2023

Indicator assessments: e.g. fish abundance, size composition

Fisheries Feeder Report 2021

Status assessments on threatened and declining species: allis shad, angel shark, Atlantic salmon, basking shark, common skate, sturgeon, eel, gulper shark, porbeagle, Portuguese dogfish, sea lamprey, spotted ray, spurdog, thornback ray, white skate



OSPAR
QUALITY STATUS REPORT 2023

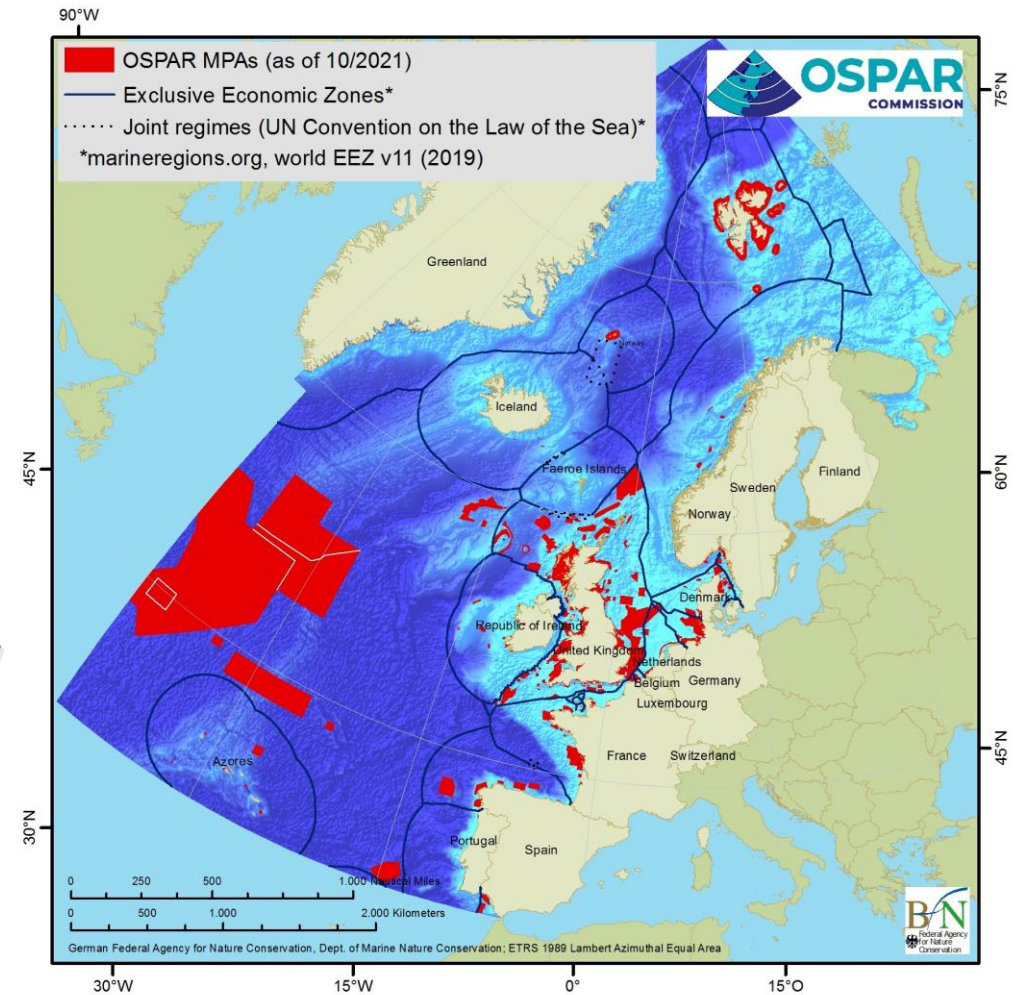


OSPAR Evidence reports (examples from EIHA Committee)

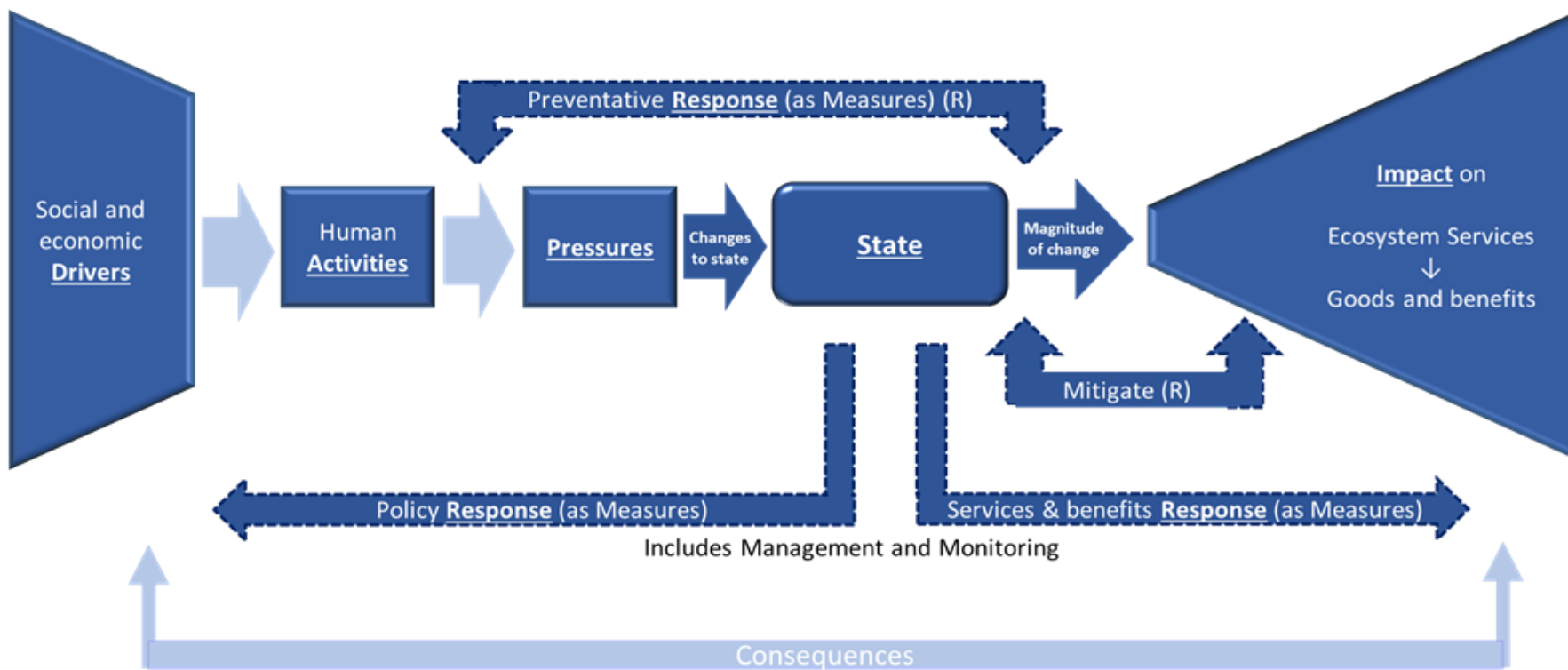
- Modelling of discharges to the marine environment from open circuit flue gas scrubbers on ships in the OSPAR Maritime Area (2022);
- Impacts of marine litter on biota in the OSPAR Maritime Area (2022);
- OSPAR technical report on current understanding of deep seabed mining resources, technology, potential impacts and regulation along with the current global demand for minerals (2021);
- Report and inventory of measures to mitigate the emission and environmental impact of underwater noise (2020 update);
- OSPAR scoping study on best practices for the design and recycling of fishing gear as a means to reduce quantities of fishing gear found as marine litter in the North-East Atlantic (2020);
- OSPAR Background document on pre-production Plastic Pellets (2018)

OSPAR Actions and measures

- OSPAR network of MPAs
- Recommendations on threatened and declining species and habitats
- Marine litter action plan – Recommendations on fishing for litter, education, pellets
- Regulation of offshore industry (oil and gas) – Decision on decommissioning
- Under development: action plans on underwater noise and recovery of marine birds



Integration and the eco-system approach



North-East Atlantic Environment Strategy 2030

By 2028 OSPAR will **further develop methods for the analysis of cumulative effects** in the marine ecosystems of the North-East Atlantic, taking into account relevant spatial and temporal information on human activities, pressures, sensitive receptors and habitats, and use the results to inform the establishment of measures and actions to prevent, reduce or otherwise manage impacts.

By 2025 OSPAR will start **accounting for ecosystem services and natural capital** by making maximum use of existing frameworks in order to recognise, assess and consistently account for human activities and their consequences in the implementation of ecosystem-based management.

By 2024 OSPAR will initiate discussions on the development of a **practical approach for regional-scale ecosystem-based management**, including through the 'Collective Arrangement' and in cooperation with fisheries management bodies and other competent organisations, in order to strengthen ecosystem resilience to climate change and to safeguard the marine environment, its biodiversity and ecosystem services.

North-East Atlantic Environment Strategy 2030

By 2028 OSPAR will further develop the North-East Atlantic, taking into account pressures, sensitive receptors and human activities, and actions to prevent, reduce or otherwise manage risks.

By 2025 OSPAR will start accounting for the impacts of existing frameworks in order to record and assess consequences in the implementation of the Strategy.

By 2024 OSPAR will initiate discussions on ecosystem-based management, in cooperation with fisheries management bodies and other stakeholders, to enhance resilience to climate change and to improve ecosystem services.

- Project to assess cumulative effects of offshore wind farm development on bird species;
- Second version of natural capital accounts framework;
- Concept actions on ecosystem based management in ABNJ, and review of on-going EBM pilot projects

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Conclusions

- OSPAR provides a forum for cross-border cooperation in North Sea (and N-E Atlantic) across wide range of human activities, bringing together EU and non-EU Parties;
- There is a legal basis for adopting new recommendations and decisions where needed;
- There is a capability for cross-sectoral analysis using ODIMS and the programme of assessments;
- OSPAR does not work directly on MSP but many of its products and groups are highly relevant;
- OSPAR does not manage fisheries, but it should be a key partner in promoting ecosystem-based management; there are commitments in the North-East Atlantic Environment Strategy to develop a practical approach for EBM;
- Cross-sectoral working is challenging in any organisation – MSP provides an excellent mechanism to promote long-term EBM, especially when supported by high quality data and analysis.