Stakeholder Engagement Across Borders:

Experiences from the Celtic Seas Partnership and land-sea interface

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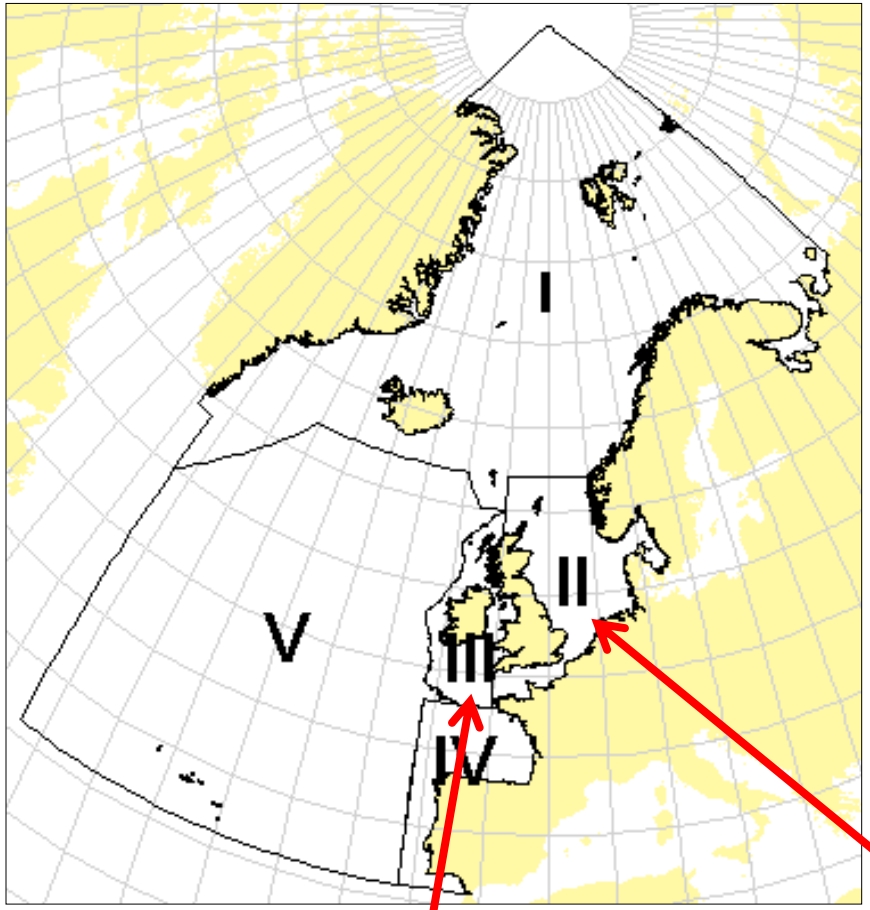
Stakeholder Engagement in Marine Spatial Planning

- Why? **Better planning, better outcome**
- Who? **Engagement across sectors & countries**
- How? **Consultation vs participation**
- What, When, Where?

  Scale of network(s) & participation mechanisms

→ **Engagement for MSP is most challenging across borders.**

UK government co-ordination



MARINE REGIONS
The Baltic Sea
The North East Atlantic Ocean
The Mediterranean Sea
The Black Sea

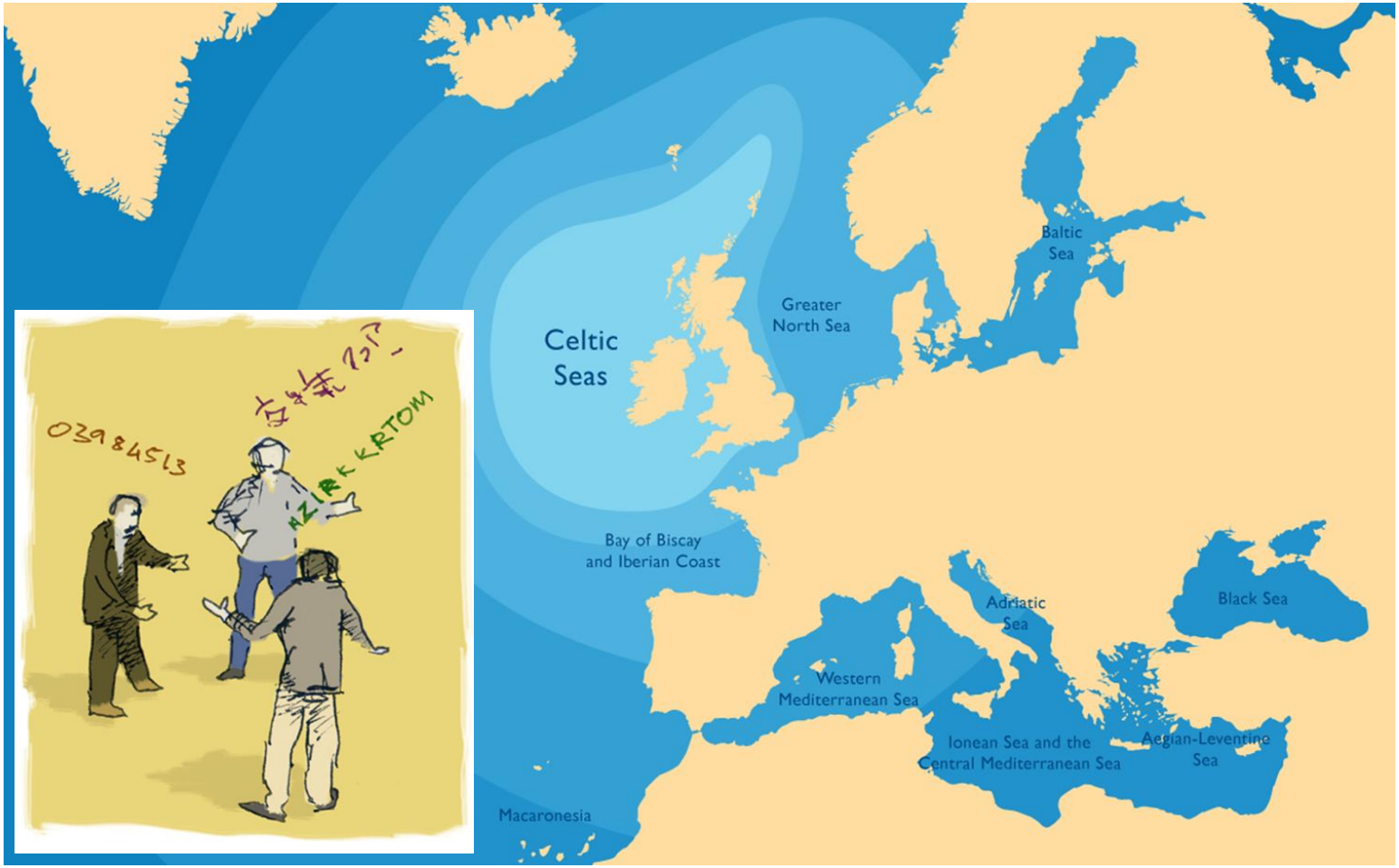
Member States sharing a marine region must cooperate to ensure a coherent and coordinated approach to implementation

Celtic Seas

Greater North Sea

CELTIC SEAS PARTNERSHIP

Celtic Seas



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Celtic Seas Partnership

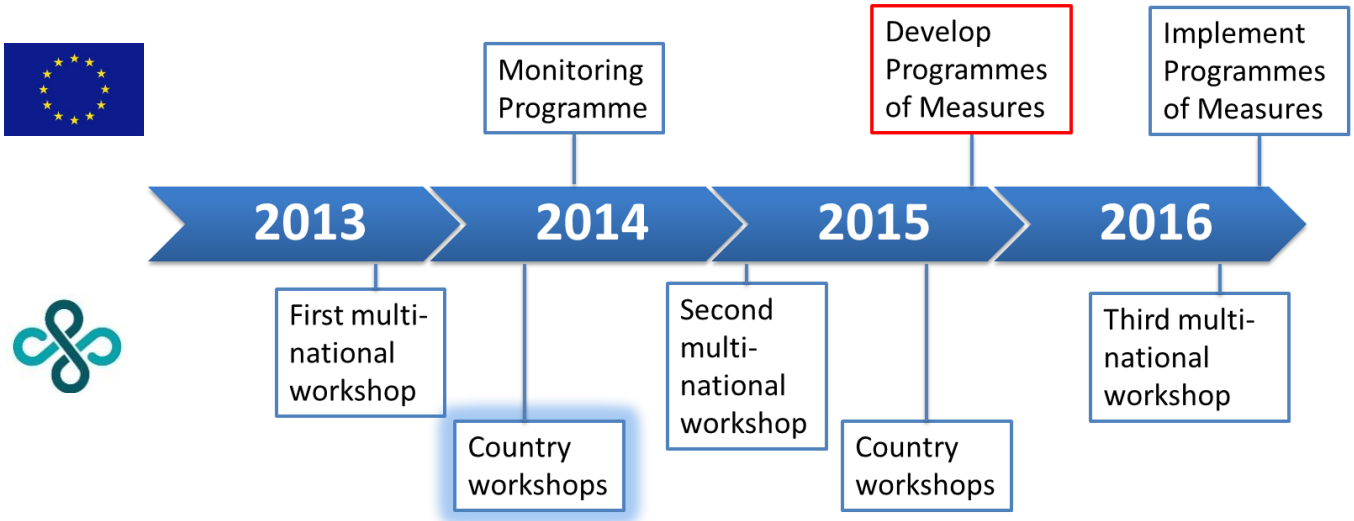
Aim: to support the delivery of **Good Environmental Status** in the Celtic Seas, by **facilitating engagement between sectors and across borders** to ensure the long term future of the environment, while safeguarding people's livelihoods and the communities that have a **relationship with the sea**.

Statutory consultation + voluntary participation in MSP

Celtic Seas Partnership aims to:

1. Increase stakeholder **understanding of marine policy**
2. Build & develop **relationships between sectors and countries**
3. Influence **management practices**
4. Increase **stakeholder involvement** in marine policy & decision-making
5. Improve the availability of **information at Celtic Seas scale**.

Marine Strategy Framework Directive & Celtic Seas Partnership timeline



Case Studies to support maritime policy implementation

Transboundary Governance

- Loughs Agency (NI/RoI)
- Solway Firth Partnership (Scotland/England)
- Irish Sea Maritime Forum (UK/RoI)
- Regen SW MOUs with Invest NI & Pembs
- Severn Estuary Partnership (England/Wales)
- Alderney Renewable Energy (CI/France, UK)
- Merific Interreg project (Scotland, NI, RoI)
- Wadden Sea

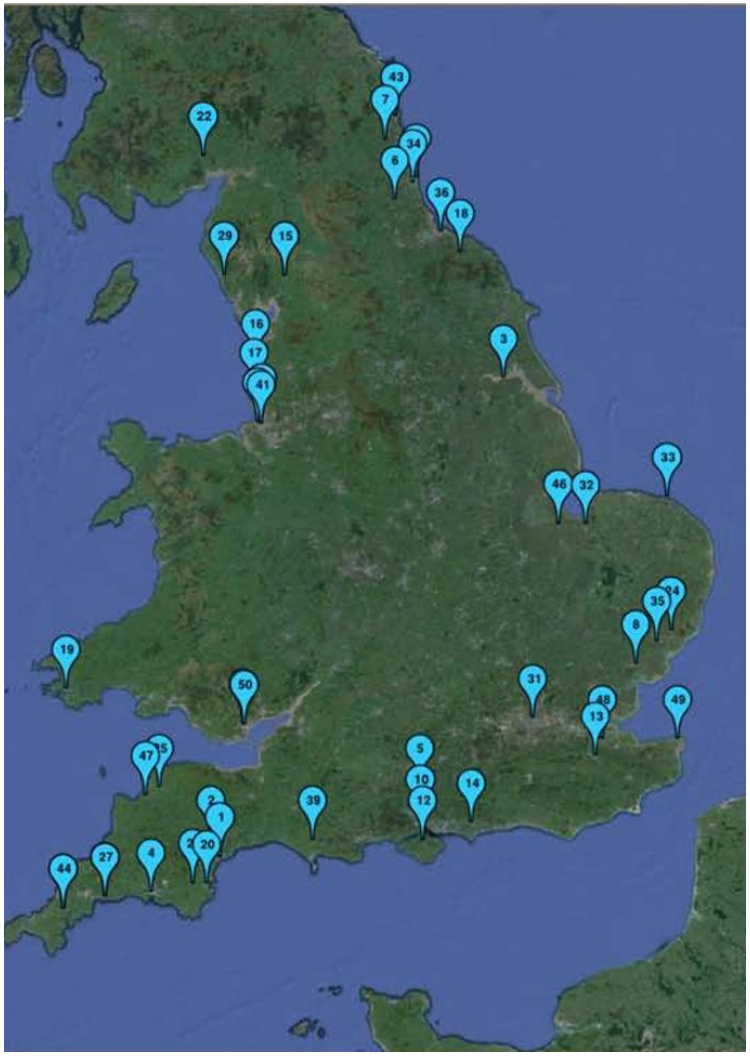
Marine Renewables Co-location

- Seagen-Brehat (Fr)
- Alderney Renewable Energy (CI/Fr/UK)
- Raz Blanchard/Open Hydro/Energies Nouvelles, Normandy (Fr)
- Deltastream/Tidal Energy Ltd (Wales)
- Wavehub (Eng)
- Sabella (French MPA Agency).

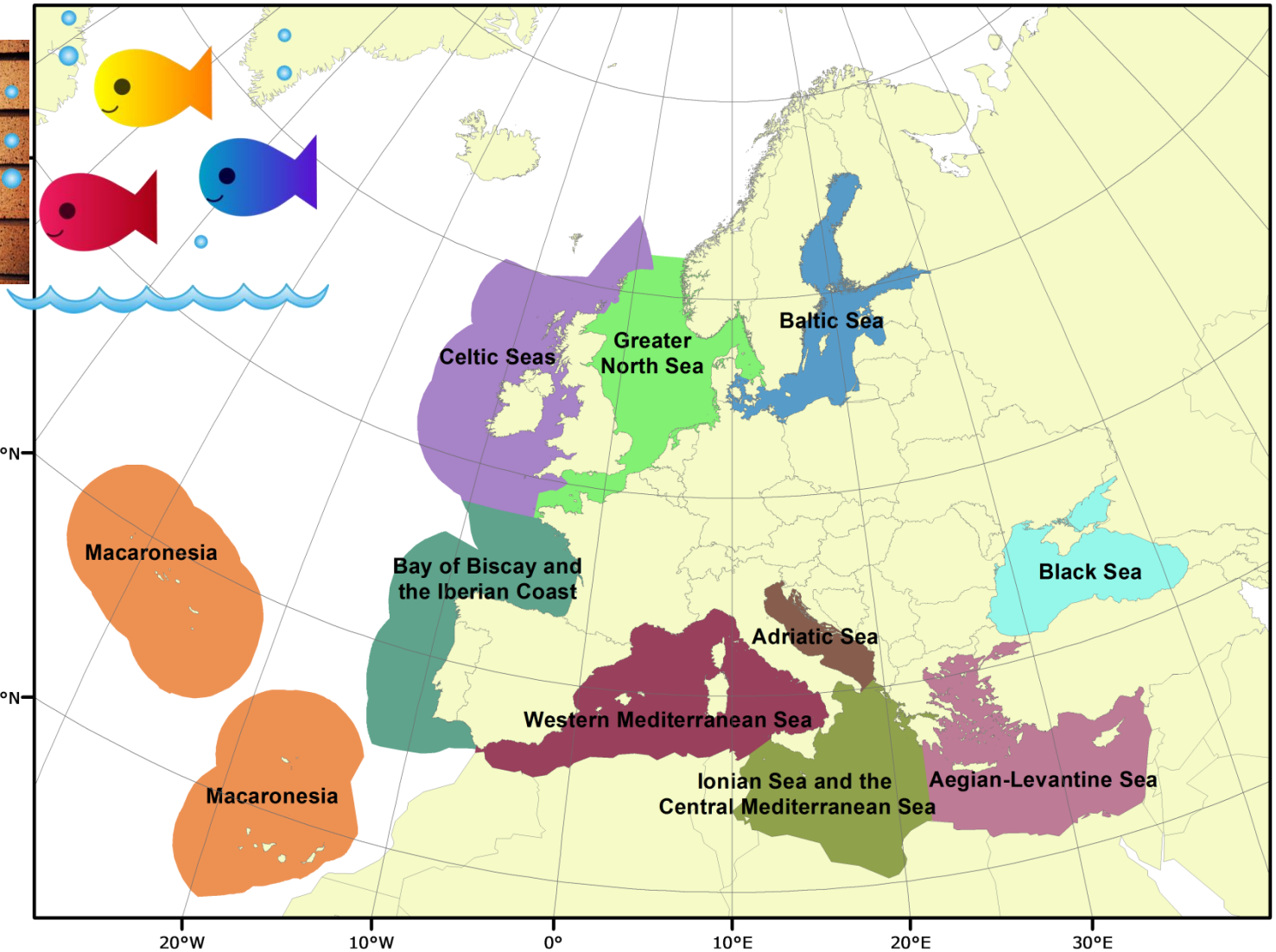
Conflict Resolution

- Fish Map Mon (Wales)
- Orkney Sound (Scotland)
- SMILE – Sustainable Mariculture in Irish Sea Loughs (NI/RoI)

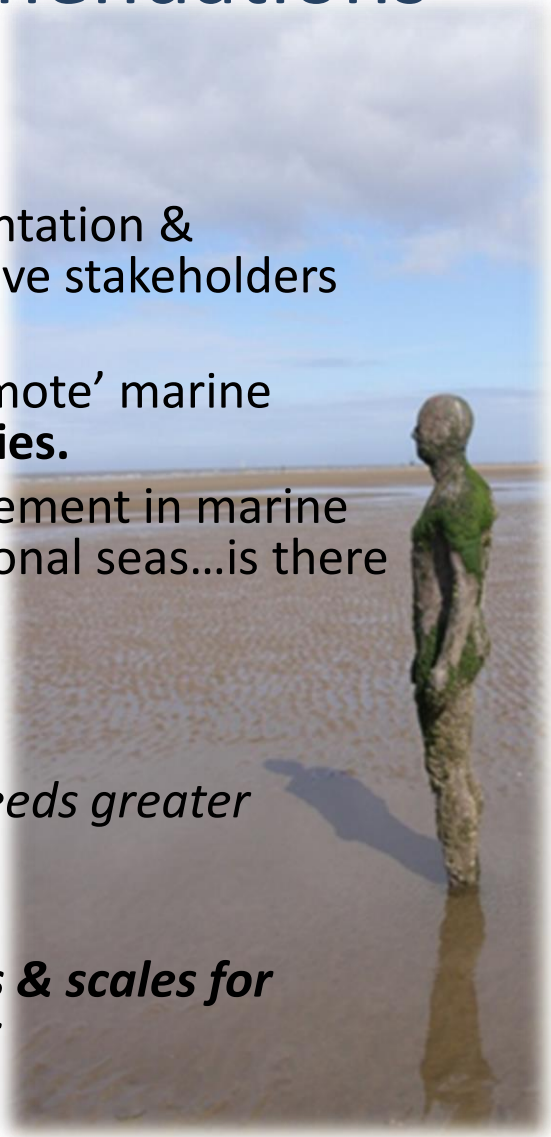
Scales for engagement: local/coastal to regional sea basin



Regional Sea Basins / MSFD sub-regions
At what scale do we need stakeholder forums?



Key Messages & Recommendations



KEY MESSAGES

- Policy is mainly top-down initiated, but for implementation & enforcement **we need bottom-up processes** to involve stakeholders early in the process.
- Stakeholder engagement is most challenging for 'remote' marine environment: we need to **involve coastal communities.**
- Consider the relevant scale(s) for stakeholder engagement in marine policy implementation: from local to national & regional seas…is there a need for **'nested' scales for engaging sectors**?

RECOMMENDATIONS

→ Engagement is recognised as important, but ***how*** *needs greater consideration.*

→ *EC advise would be useful on* ***successful mechanisms & scales for facilitating stakeholder engagement across borders***

→ ***EC & MS need to support cross-border and cross-sector engagement.***

CELTIC SEAS PARTNERSHIP

Thank you.

Sign up to our e-newsletter for ongoing information.

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