

Protecting and conserving the North-East Atlantic and its resources



# OSPAR's Cooperation in the High Seas - and Beyond!

Dr Darius Campbell Executive Secretary

## **OSPAR Convention -** protection of the marine environment of the North East Atlantic

### **Main Objectives**

- Prevent and eliminate pollution
- protect the maritime area against the adverse effects of human activities
- safeguard human health and conserve marine ecosystems
- when practicable, restore marine areas

### **Guiding Principles**

- Ecosystem Approach the overarching concept and basis for OSPAR work
- Precautionary Principle
- Polluter Pays principle
- Best Available Techniques and Best Environmental Practices



### **OSPAR Commission**

#### **16 Contracting Parties**

- Belgium
- Denmark
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Iceland
- Ireland
- Luxembourg
- The Netherlands
- Norway
- Portugal
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- The United Kingdom
- European Union



### **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







#### OSPAR COMMISSION OSPAR MPAs (as of 10/2014) Exclusive Economic Zones \*VLIZ 2014, Version 8.0 Outer Limits of Extended Continental Shelves (as submitted to the UN CLCS) Finland Charlie-Gibbs North Sweden Hatton Bank High Seas MPA Norway Hatton-Rockell Basi Charlie-Gibbs South MPA Mine Seamount Complex MPA Altair Seamount High Seas MPA MAR North of the Azores High Seas MPA Antialtair Seamount High Seas MPA Switzerland Sydrothermal Vent Field Josephine Seamount Spain 15°W 15°E 30°W

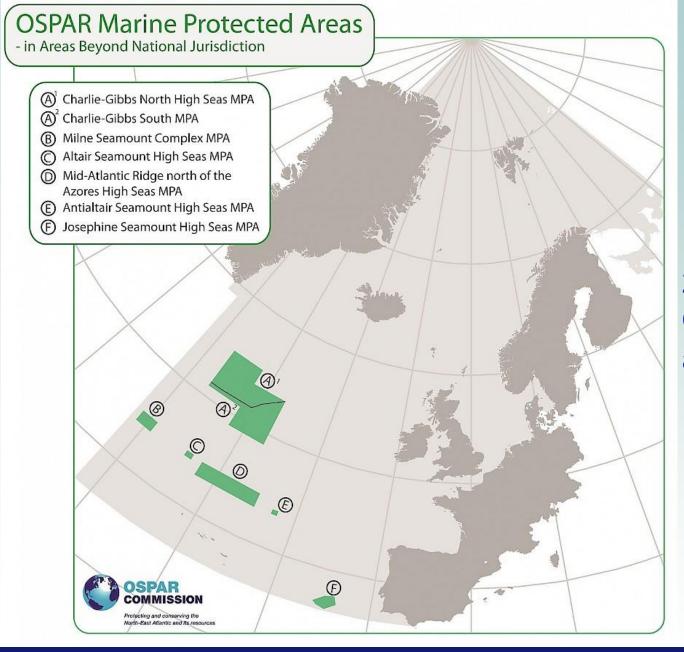
## OSPAR Network of MPAs

410 MPAs

6% of total area.

800,000 sq km





MPA Beyond 200nm = 6 % of OSPAR ABNJ area



## Our friends in fisheries! - Cooperation





## Closer and closer engagement



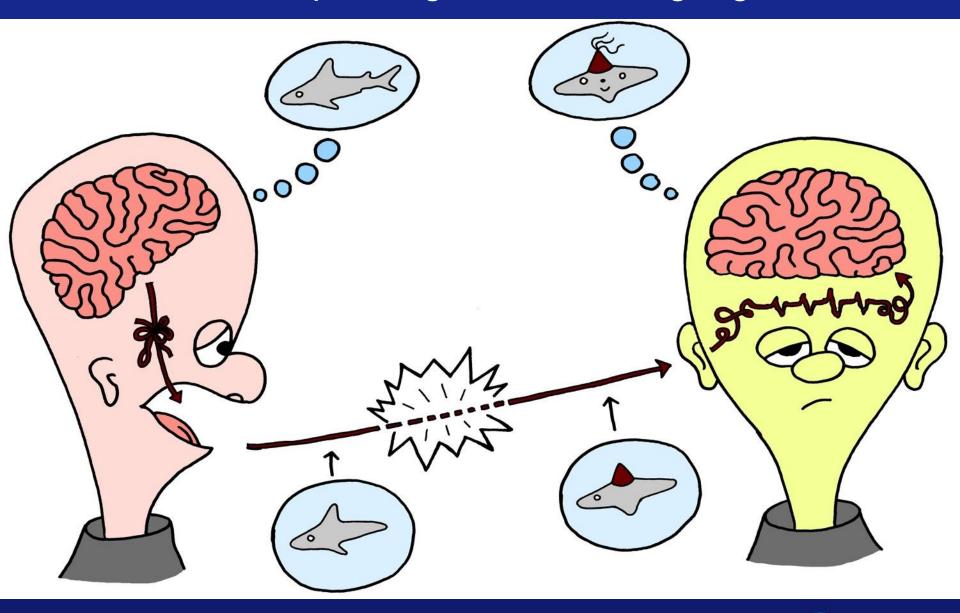


## More practical cooperation – beyond information sharing.





### Are we speaking the same language?





## Complexity is the Norm?

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## Decisions matched to geography and ecosystems





## The Regional Role



