

Co-production of knowledge: A case study of some European science-policy expert groups networks involved in marine biodiversity management challenges

Lessons learnt from 12+10+10 years of experiences in the life and holy Grail scientific quest of Sea habitats' experts involved in science-policy interactions for marine ecology of European Seas

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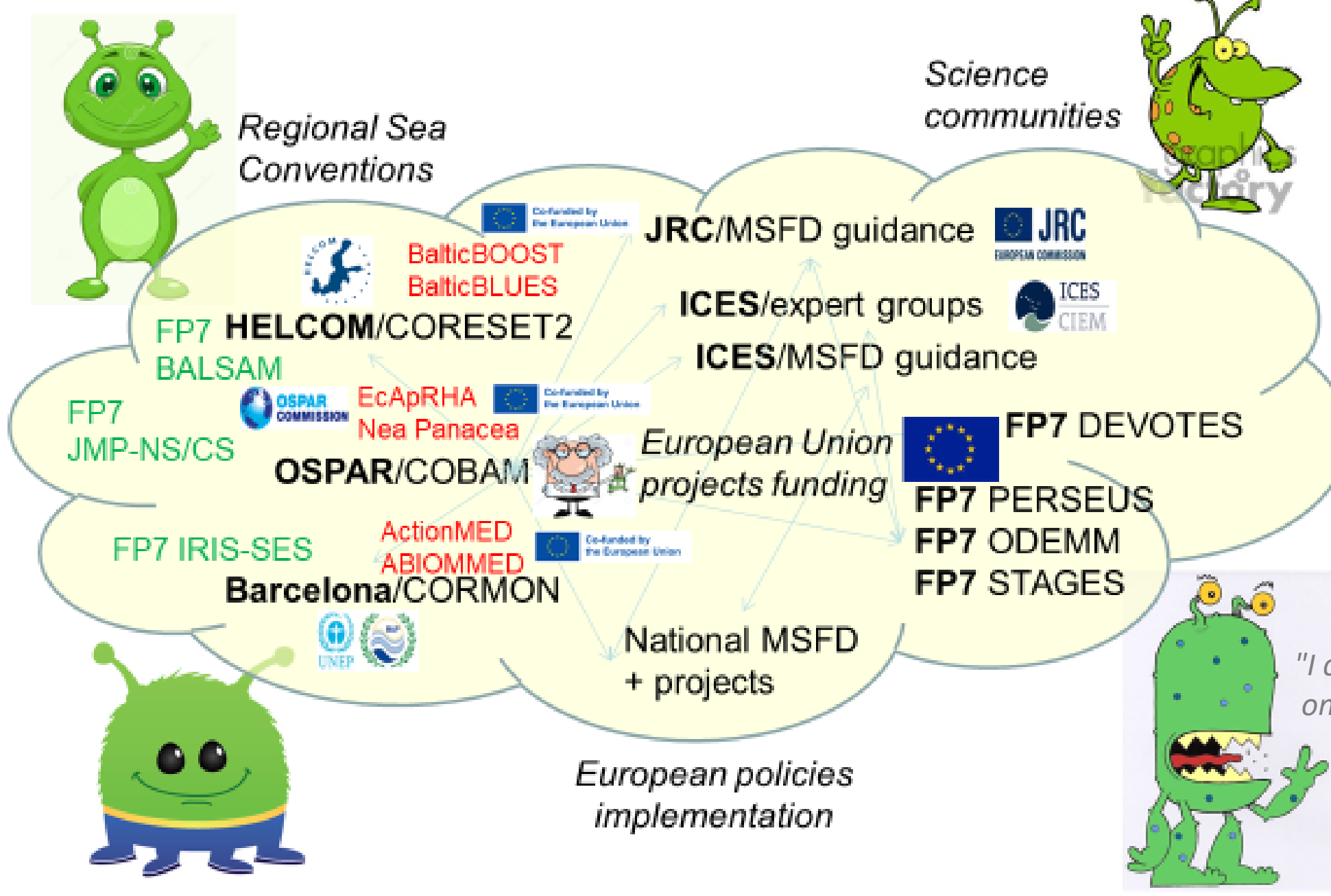
Welcome to the matrix!

"The body cannot live without the mind" – Morpheus



A long time ago (in the 2010s, and early 2020s) in Europe (far, far away) a lot of works were, and are still driven by the European Union Policies (Directives) and Regional Seas Conventions, notably to implement the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD).

Most of the various Scientific expert groups were at this time more or less involved, and even committed, to defining and implementing the ecosystem-based and risk-based approach



"I can only show you the door, you're the one that has to walk through it" – Morpheus

Interactive Poster: clic and scan QR code for bonus materials, But just ask and discuss with the attending human authors about these schematic and the hidden secrets and sagas hidden behind ;)

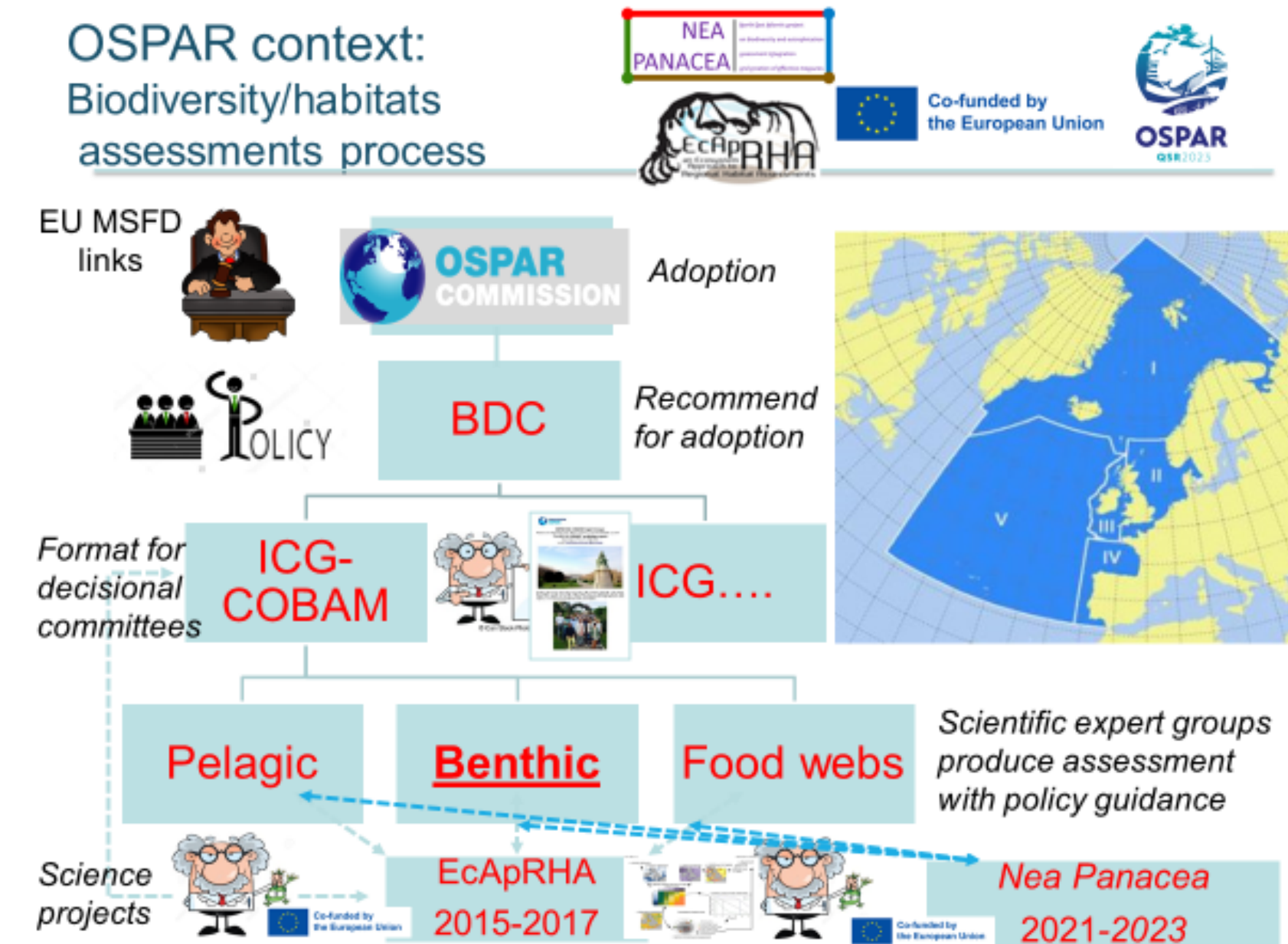
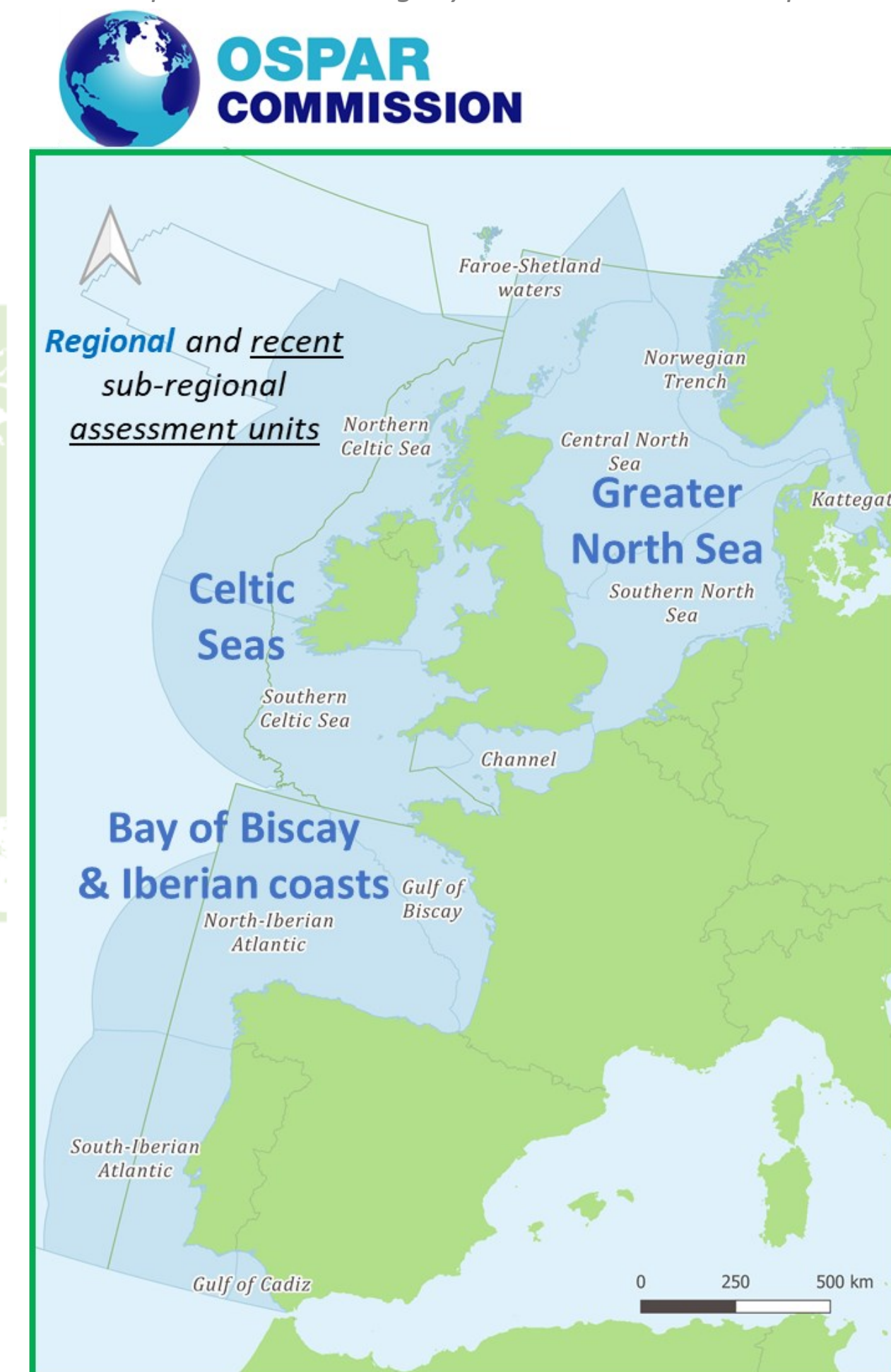
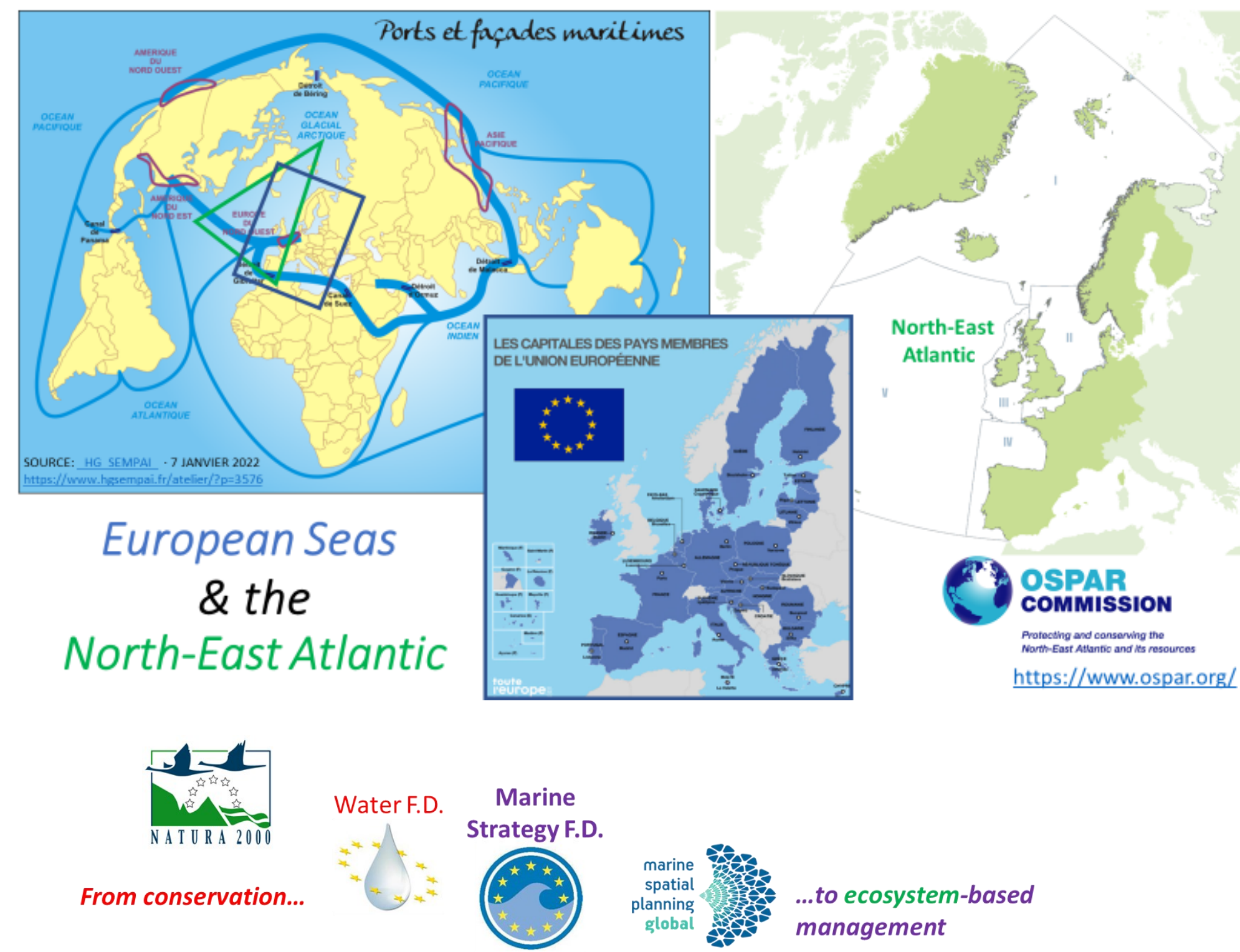
Interactive game: google or ask for all the acronyms, institutes and projects, and how these OSPAR/COBAM experts were involved in all these groups...

Once upon a time, in the North-East Atlantic...

"It's the question that drives us, Neo. It's the question that brought you here. You know the question, just as I did" – Trinity

Assessment scales and methods

- Semi-quantitative method
- Thresholds used where available (i.e. some birds, some fish)
- Expert opinion/weight of evidence used in absence of



Interactive game: google or ask for all the acronyms, committees and projects, and how these OSPAR/COBAM experts were involved in all these groups...

What we learnt, what we progressed, and why we'll still hold on!

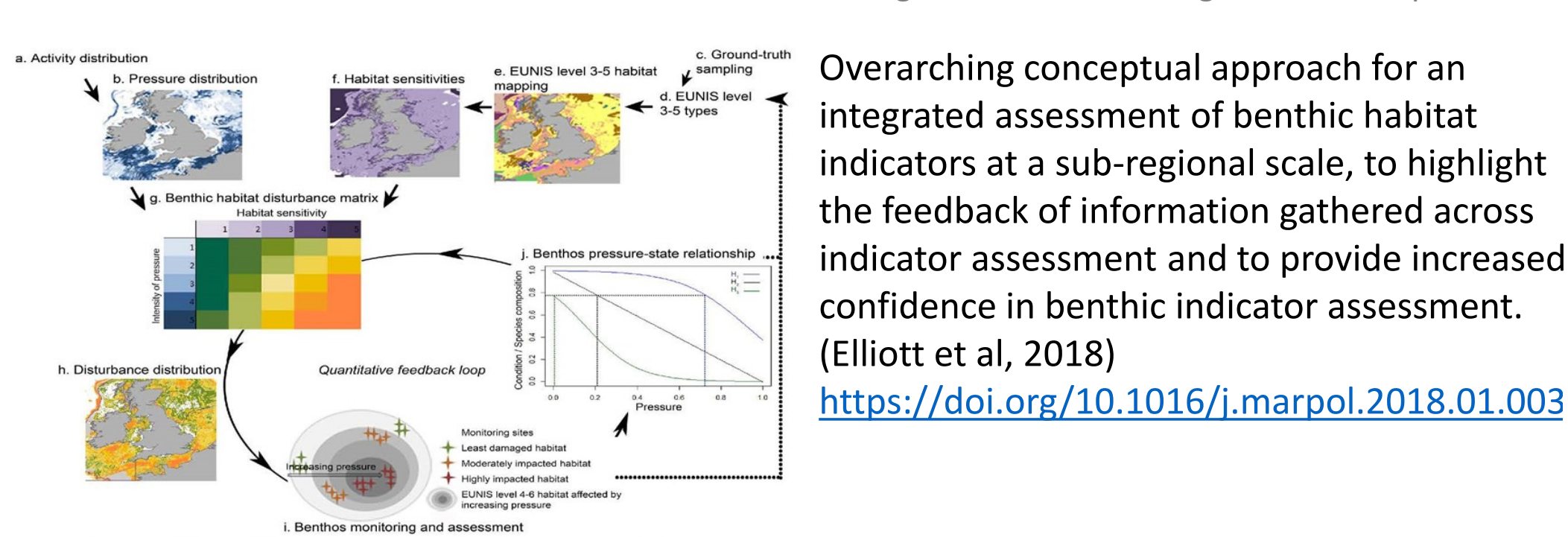
"Choice. The problem is choice" – Neo

Interactive game: QRscan or ask for all the symbols, results and steps, and how these OSPAR/COBAM experts were involved (or not ;)) in all this process

Science perspectives

Towards more integrated quantitative assessments

"Remember... all I'm offering is the truth. Nothing more" – Morpheus



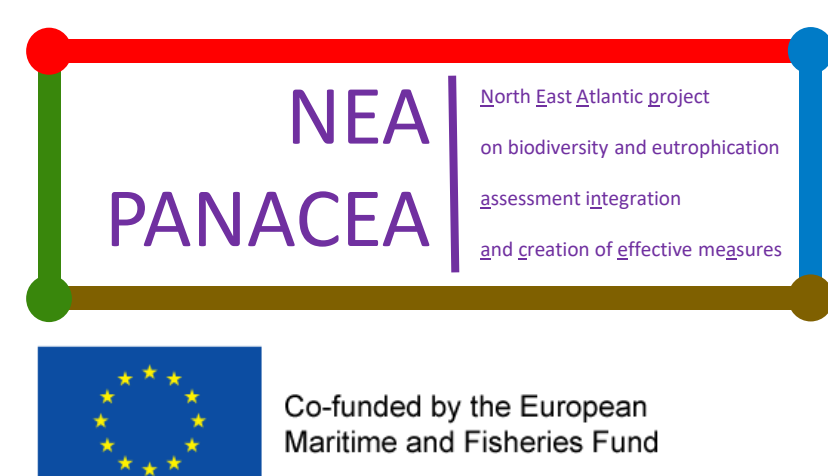
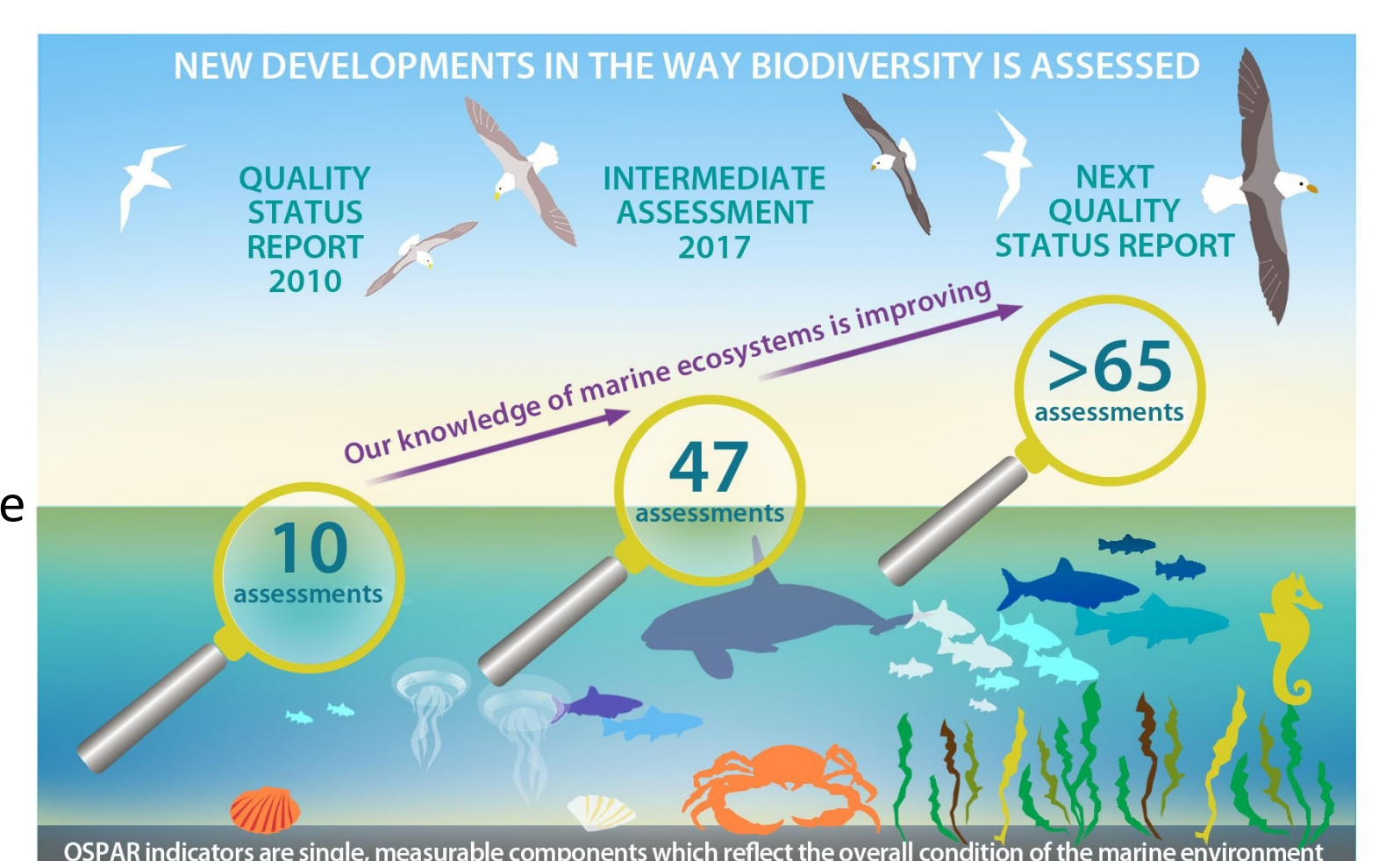
Overarching conceptual approach for an integrated assessment of benthic habitat indicators at a sub-regional scale, to highlight the feedback of information gathered across indicator assessment and to provide increased confidence in benthic indicator assessment. (Elliott et al, 2018)
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marpol.2018.01.003>



Policy perspectives

- Lessons learnt from the OSPAR QSR2023 & science-policy process (aka "sorry, some just panicked ;)!)
- North-East Atlantic Environmental Political Strategy - updated OSPAR assessment in 2028
- Huge advances in knowledge since QSR2010 & IA2017
- More integrated assessments = better evidence/confidence
- Science-policy interaction to be improved for political respect=acceptance of experts' judgment
- Classing indicators as in GES or not is **still** a big and challenging science-policy step!

"Neo, sooner or later you're going to realise just as I did that there's a difference between knowing the path and walking the path" – Morpheus



Coming "soon": future publications of these collective works & processes
 • Science Journal articles & conferences: Guérin, Lizińska and Schmitt, in prep; Guérin et al, in prep (North-East Atlantic's benthic and biodiversity QSR2023 assessments & Science-policy processes) + IMCC2024 (Capetown)
 • OSPAR 2028 Quality status assessment (including Benthic habitats updated assessments methods and results) <https://oap.ospar.org/en/>

"We are still here!" – Morpheus

